



Italian National Agency for New Technologies,
Energy and Sustainable Economic Development

A methodology for benchmarking of energy consumption in municipal wastewater treatment plants

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Generic methodological aspects

Objectives: Classification, benchmarking and labelling of WWTPs on the basis of the energy consumptions.

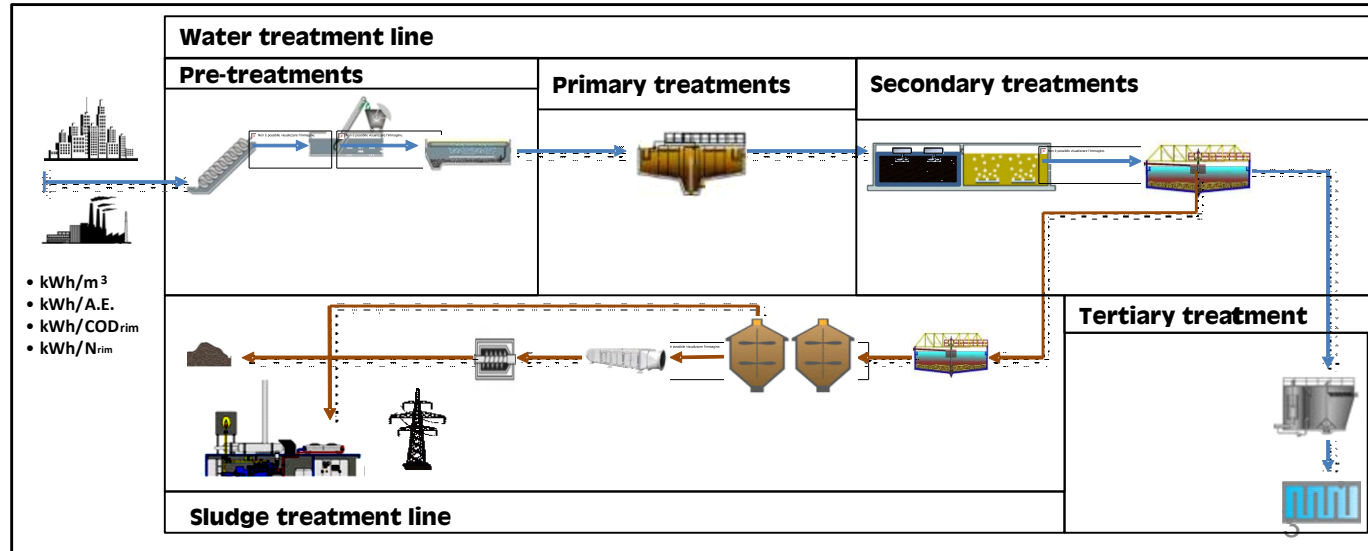
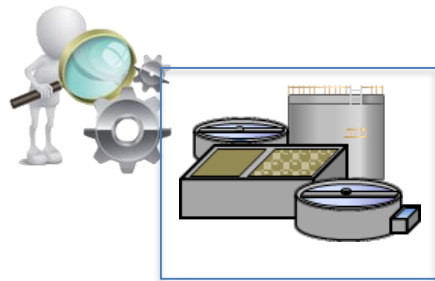
The methodology resorts to the use of statistical techniques requiring input data for:

- **analyzing WWTP energy performances** on the basis of the calculation of *Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)* and the linear aggregation of the related informative content in a *Global Energy Index (GEI)*.
- **evaluating WWTP energy balance efficiencies** by carrying out comparative analysis with *sectorial data used as reference*;
- **classifying WWTPs** according to the definition of **performance efficiency classes**.
- estimating potential margins for **energy performance improvements**.

Premises on applicable approaches and data sources: top-down and bottom-up models

- a) The **top-down** approach provides a global overview (*at aggregated level*) of the energy consumptions of the systems and requires *minimum data inputs*.
- b) For the WWTP sector, data on WWTP global energy consumptions are generally available (from electricity bills, sales, direct POD readings) as well data on plant size, inner and output volumetric loads, pollutant loads and removal rates.

Weak point: these data deliver typically no information about energy uses (i.e. where and for what?).

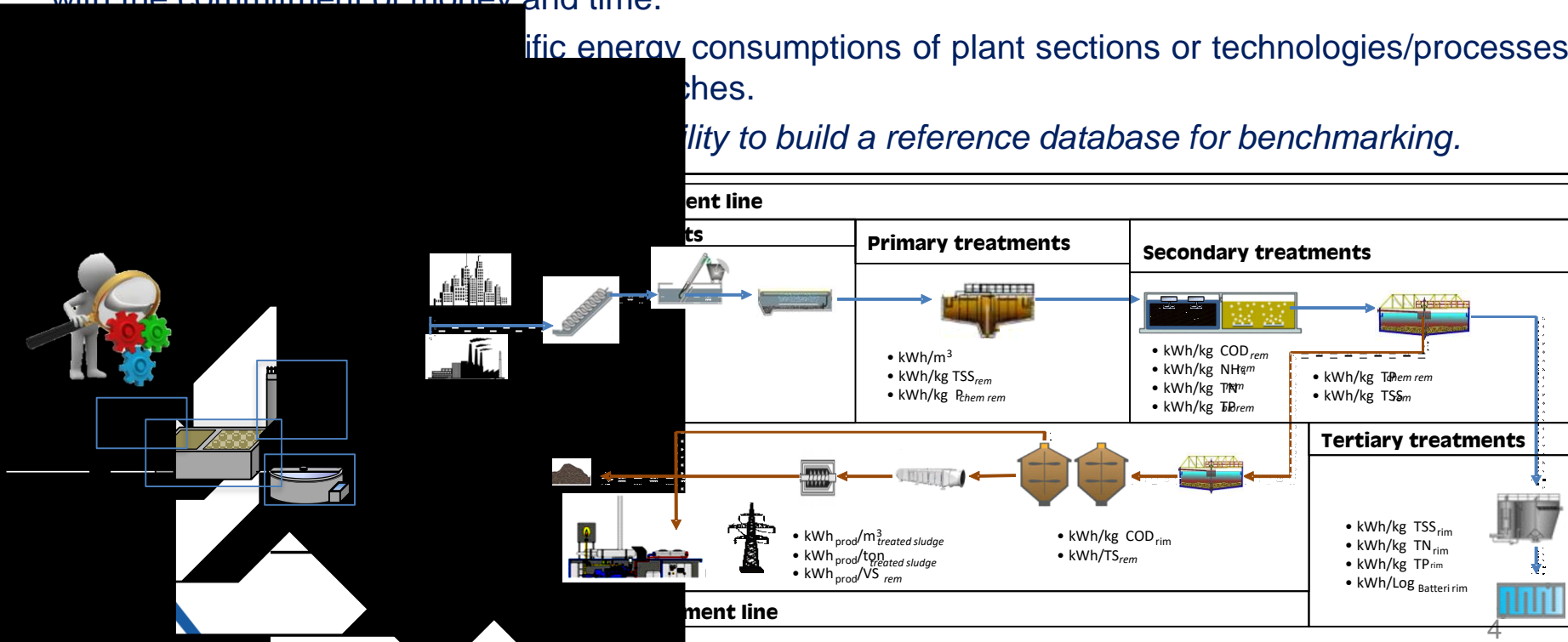


Premises on applicable approaches and data sources: top-down and bottom-up models

b) The **bottom-up** approach is based on the calculation of the energy use of each component or plant section, but it is far *data-demanding* and requires the carrying out of specific on-site measurements with the commitment of money and time.

Specific energy consumptions of plant sections or technologies/processes

Ability to build a reference database for benchmarking.



Methodological approach and steps (1):

- Adoption of a **top-down approach** (larger data availability) by using global KPIs calculated relating the WWTP energy use to influent flow rates, plant design capacity, organic loads and removal rates.
- Definition of a **reference data-base** collecting data on WWTP energy consumptions at national and European level (i.e. 250 WWTPs);

- KPIs calculation:**

$$KPI_1 = E.E./V_{in} \text{ (kWh/m}^3\text{)}$$

$$KPI_2 = E.E./P.E. \text{ (kWh/P.E. *y)}$$

$$KPI_3 = E.E./COD_{rem} \text{ (kWh/kgCOD}_{rem}\text{)}$$

- Data normalization according to a min-max criteria.
- Subset data organization according to a plan size criteria (5 sub-matrices):

$ID \leq 2k \text{ P.E.}; 2k < ID \leq 10k \text{ P.E.}; 10k < ID \leq 50k \text{ P.E.}; 50k < ID \leq 200k \text{ P.E.}; ID > 200k \text{ P.E.}$

- Application of **statistical analysis techniques** for the **validation and control of source data** with the deletion of multivariate outliers

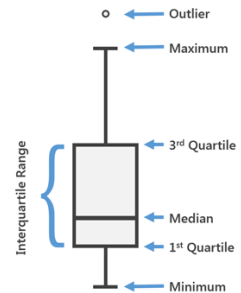
Applied tests: Mahalanobis distance and the Chauvenet's criterion

WWTP ID	Energy	Size	Volumetric loads	Organic loads	KPI ₁	KPI ₂	KPI ₃
ID 01							
ID02							

ID _n							

WWTP ID	Energy	Size	Volumetric loads	Organic loads	KPI ₁	KPI ₂	KPI ₃
ID 01							
ID02							

ID _n							



Methodological approach and steps (2):

- Verification of the **applicability of Factorial Analysis (FA)** to the sub-matrices for KPI weighting factors calculation.

Applied tests:

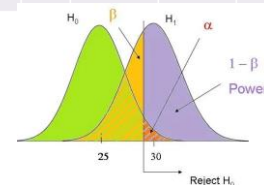
Bartlett's test of sphericity

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy (KMO).

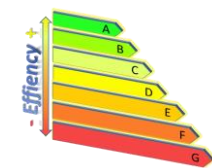
- Calculation of **the Global Energy INDEX (GEI)** by linearly aggregating KPIs.

- Ranking and definition of **efficiency energy classes** on the basis of the GEI distributions for labelling on **classes A to G**.

WWTP ID	Energy	Size	Volumetric	Organic	KPI ₁	KPI ₂	KPI ₃
ID01							
ID02							
...							
ID _n							



$$GEI = \sum w_j * KPI_j$$



The methodology has been **validated evaluating** the correspondence of results a WWTP lists reported in in ENERWATER project (Horizon 2020, 2015/18)

Deliverable 3.4 Evaluation Report: Rapid Audit.

WWTP ID	KPI ₁	KPI ₂	KPI ₃	GEI	Rank	Label	WTEI Enerwater	Rank	Label
ID01						D	ID01		D
ID _n						B	ID _n		A

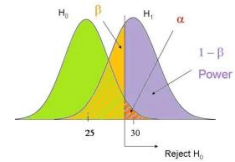
Case study applied to 10 selected ID_{CS} WWTPs:

Principal steps applied (retracing the procedure):

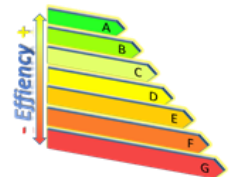
- Definition of a **Check list** and data requested to water utilities operators.
- Monthly data (for 1 year) elaborated to **calculate of KPI values**.
- Insertion of ID_{CS} into the reference database and matrix normalization.
- Reorganization of the matrix into the defined sub-matrices.
- **Weights definition** by means FA and aggregation of KPIs for **GEIs calculations**.
- WWTP **ranking** on the basis of GEI values.
- Definition of the **energy classes** according to GEI ranges.
- Labelling of the WWTPs.

WWTP ID	Energy	Size	Volumetric loads	Organic loads	KPI ₁	KPI ₂	KPI ₃
ID 01							
ID02							

ID _n							



$$GEI = \sum w_i * KPI_i$$



Results for size plant 10-50K P.E.

Statistical test results for the verification of the FA applicability to the sub-matrix:

Bartlett's spherical test verified for p-value <0.05;

KMO test verified for values > 0.5

Energy classes definition:

Interval ranges based on the GEI distribution median value and according to UNI EN ISO 52003-1:2018 .

GEI values, ranking and labelling.

The method used to define the ranking is in descending order, so that in the lower positions are allocated ID with lower GEI index values corresponding to lower energy consumption.

Statistica tests

Bartlett's Test of Sphericity

p-value < 2.22e-16

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Statistics

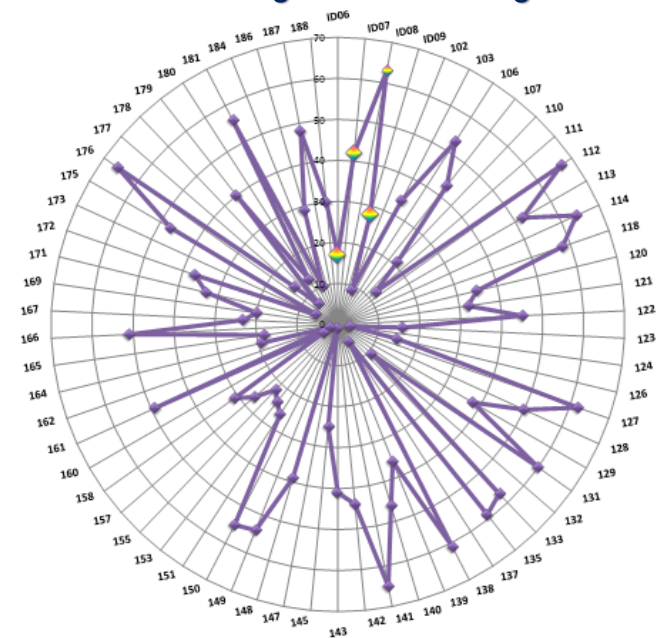
KMO-Criterion: 0.675

	Classes
A	<0,04
B	0,04-0,08
C	0,08-0,11
D	0,11-0,15
E	0,15-0,19
F	0,19-0,23
G	>0,23

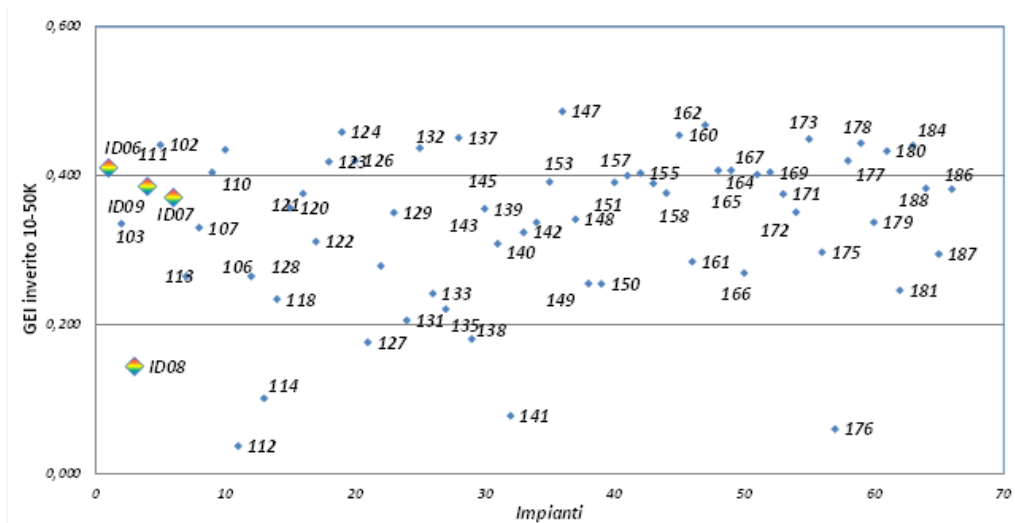
	GEI	Rank ↓	Label 1
ID _{cs} 06	0,11	17	C
ID _{cs} 07	0,19	42	E
ID _{cs} 08	0,38	63	G
ID _{cs} 09	0,14	28	D
ID.Ref 5	0,08	9	C
ID.Ref 6	0,15	34	D
ID.Ref 7	0,26	53	G
ID.Ref 8	0,19	43	F
ID.Ref 70	0,12	21	D

Results for size plant 10-50K P.E.

ID rankings in descending order



Inverted GEI Index values for IDs => The parameter is designed to detect performance differences between ID in terms of "distances" (ID with greater GEI_{inv} = better performance)



ID_{CS} (in yellow) show a general disparate level of energy efficiency, in particular:

ID_{CS}08 reveals more critical issues (Rank = 63 of 66) with relative margins for energy efficiency recovery;

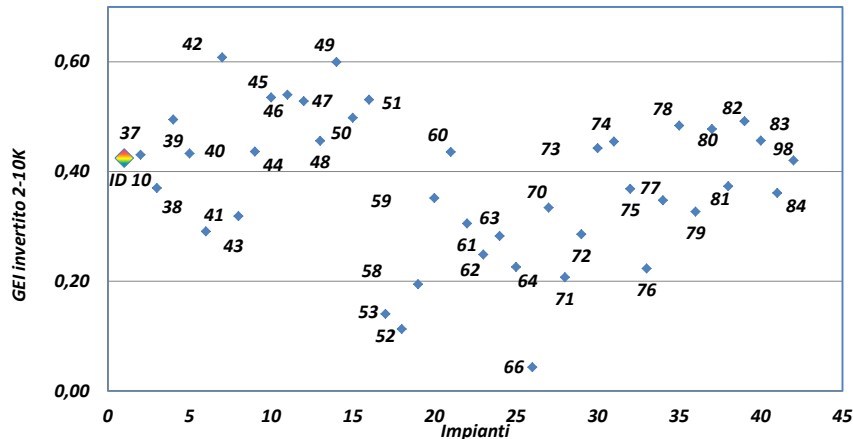
ID_{CS}06 results to be among the CS WWTPs the best performingt although the "distance" from the vertices.

Results for size plant 2-10K P.E.

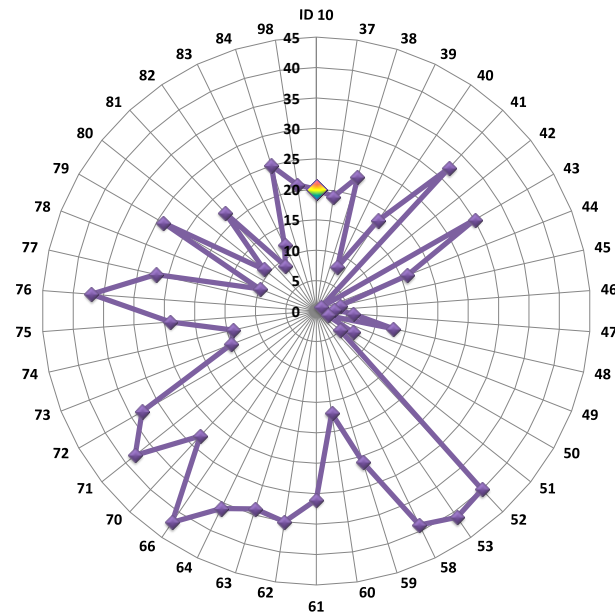
GEI values, ranking and labelling.

	GEI	Rank ↓	Label 1
ID_{cs}10	0,23	7	C
ID.Ref 2	0,22	6	C
ID.Ref 3	0,28	15	D
ID.Ref4	0,23	8	C
ID.Ref 43	0,31	22	E

Inverted GEI Index values for IDs



ID rankings in descending order



ID_{cs}10 falls among the plants with lower energy consumptions

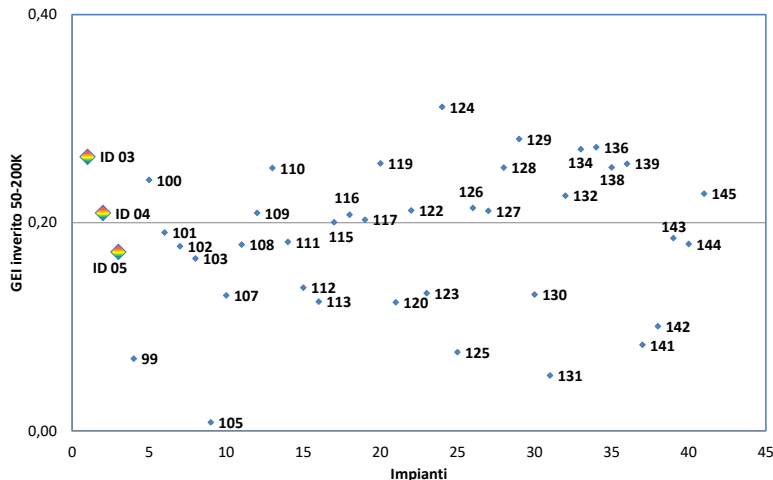
The analysis of the GEI distribution shows that 36% of WWTPs have values lower than 25th percentile. IDcs10 has energy performances comparable to the most of WWTPs.

Results for size plant 50-200K P.E.

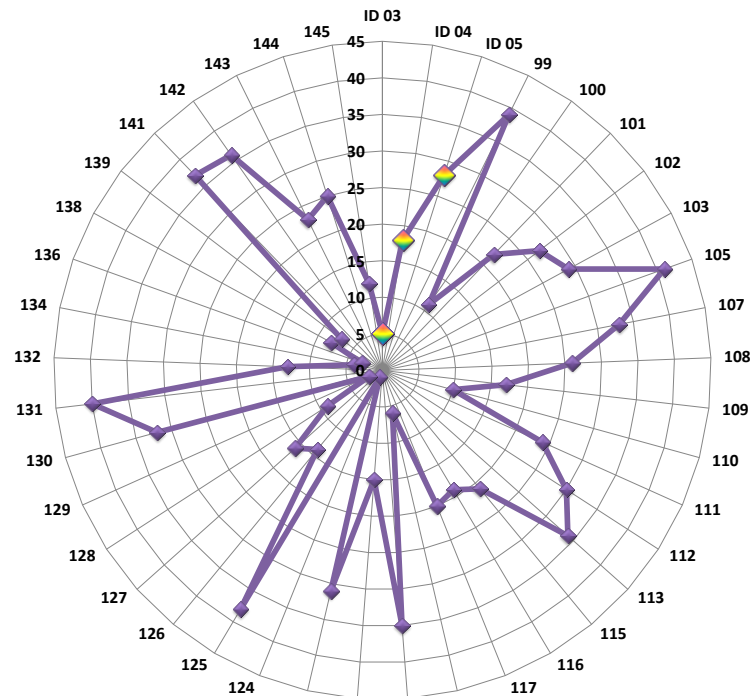
GEI values, ranking and labelling

	GEI	Rank ↓	Label 1
ID _{cs} 03	0,06	5	B
ID _{cs} 04	0,11	18	D
ID _{cs} 05	0,15	28	E
ID.Ref 7	0,14	27	E
ID.Ref 41	0,15	29	E

Inverted GEI Index values for IDs



ID rankings in descending order



ID_{cs} energy performances are evenly distributed among WWTPs,

ID_{cs}03 showed good performances with a rank positioning as 5 of 46

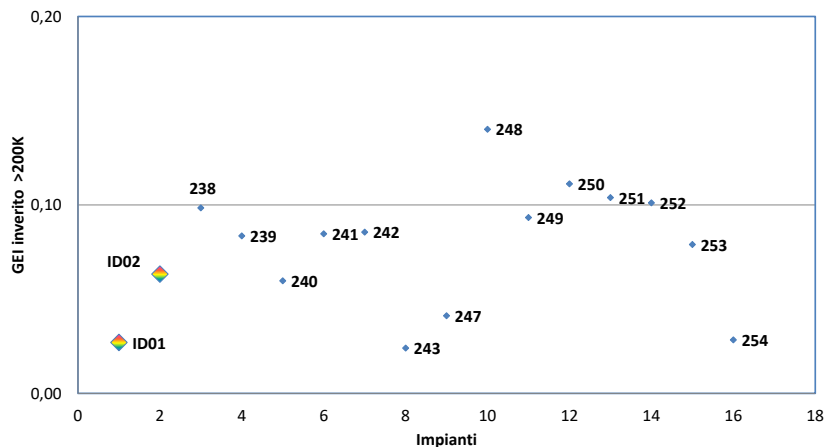
ID_{cs}04 and ID_{cs}05 with a lower performance, suggest greater margins for energy balance improvements.

Results for size plant >200K P.E.

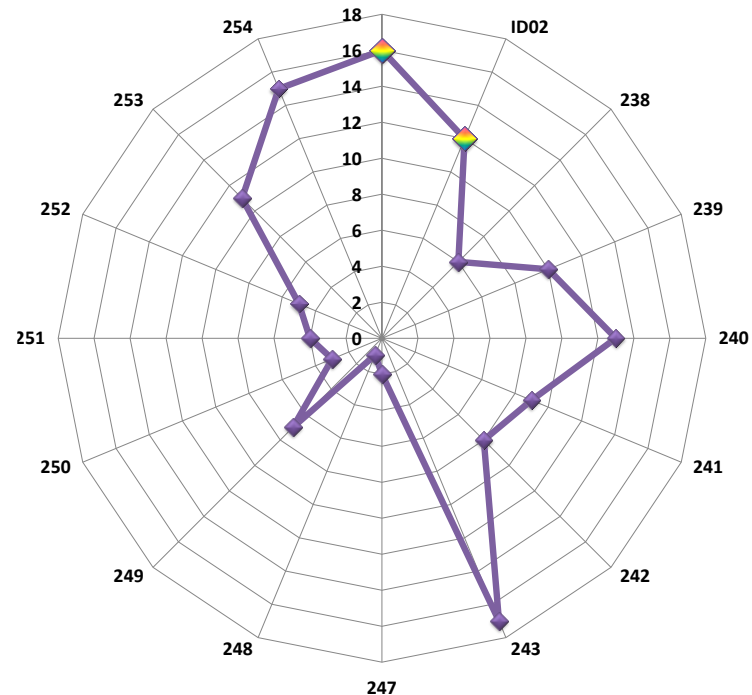
GEI values, ranking and labelling.

	GEI	Rank ↓	Label 1
ID_{cs}01	0,14	16	G
ID_{cs}02	0,10	12	F
ID.Ref 1	0,07	6	D
ID.Ref 2	0,08	10	E
ID.Ref 16	0,14	17	G

Inverted GEI Index values for IDs



ID rankings in descending order



ID_{cs}01 and **ID_{cs}02** are not so energy performing.

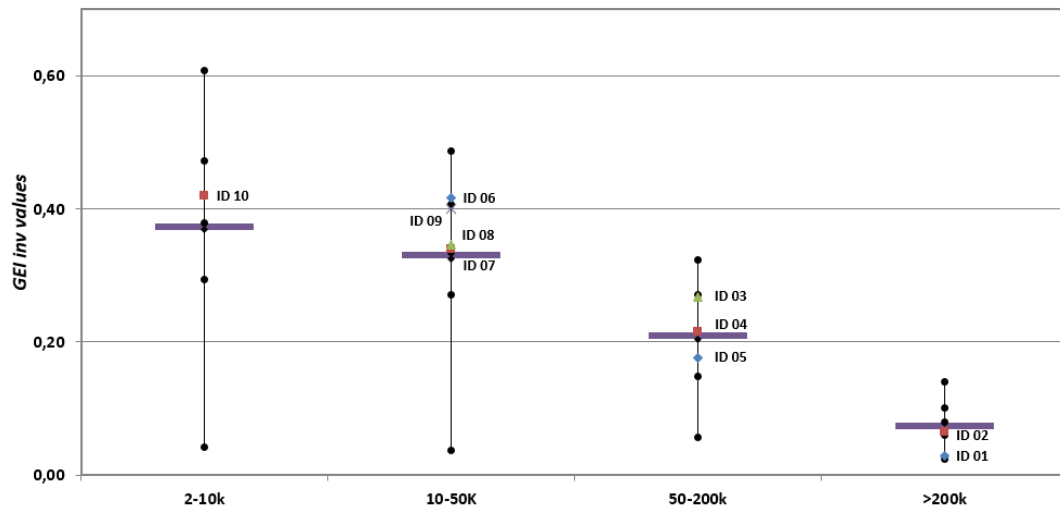
To take into account potential result distortions related to the sub-matrix database characteristics (16 WWTPs with potentiality up to 800 kP.E.)

Final results and Conclusions

Result summary

	GEI	GEI Range	Label	Rank ↓	n. WWTPs	Size (P.E.)
ID _{cs} 01	0,14	0,02-0,14	G	16	17	>200k
ID _{cs} 02	0,10		F	12		
ID _{cs} 03	0,06	0,01-0,31	B	5	41	50-200k
ID _{cs} 04	0,11		D	18		
ID _{cs} 05	0,15		E	28		
ID _{cs} 06	0,11		C	17		
ID _{cs} 07	0,19	0,04-0,49	E	42	66	10-50K
ID _{cs} 08	0,14		G	63		
ID _{cs} 09	0,38		D	28		
ID _{cs} 10	0,23	0,21-0,59	C	7	42	2-10k

Box Plot on GEI_{inv}- ID_{cs} positioning according to the energy efficiency



- The proposed methodology allows to frame the plants in accordance with the energy performance.
- The ID falling in the lower positions of the box-plot graph result to be less efficient in energy management.
- The overall picture shows the good energy performance of the ID_{cs}03 and, on the contrary, the low performance of the size class plants > 200K P.E. (ID_{cs}01 and ID_{cs}02).
- ***A more detailed analysis is needed for less performing plants in order to identify the specific existing critical issues and potential interventions.***

Work in progress (Preliminary version)

Implementation of a software tool in VBA to classify WWTPs on the basis of the energy performances and in accordance with the proposed methodology.

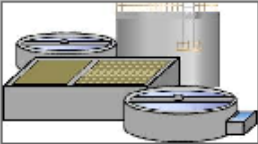
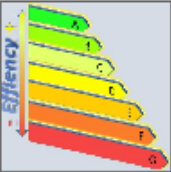
Invitation to share data

Questions?

Calcolo classe ENERGETICA ? X

Nome impianto

Taglia (AE>=2 k) di progetto
 reale

KPI1 (kWh/m3) KPI2 (kWh/AE anno) KPI3 (kWh/COD rem)

Calcola Classe Energetica

Close



Thank you for the attention