

Recycling water

Problem

Nowadays it is well known and verified that there is an increase in water consumption in an unsustainable way, despite the amount of information available concerning this subject. The behavioral changes that would be required to improve this situation are not verified. This happens partly due to the amount of effort that these measures require. Another element to take into account that contributes to this general inactivity is the common belief that water is not a scarce resource.

The city of Sadabell is undergoing a problem of excessive consumption of potable water and due to that fact, it is necessary if not imperative to implement measures to reduce this consumption. The question is how.

Solution

Most of drinking water consumed is conveyed to wastewater treatment plants after being discharged once it has undergone through a treatment process in the rivers. However, this water could be used for urban purposes (such as street cleaning and irrigation) besides being possible to use it in domestic consumption (for uses that don not require potable water) through a distribution networks of this water.

In order to encourage a broader and more conscientious use of this water, it's cost ought to be lower than the price of drinking water.

Diogo Borges Sousa

db.sousa@campus.fct.unl.pt