Horizon2020 SPIRE project **CoPro**

# Kick-off Meeting in Brussels



**The CoPro kick-off was hosted by the European Commission**

**Brussels – 40 Representatives from the 17 partners of the CoPro consortium and from the European Commission met for the project kick-off in Brussels on November 23rd and 24th, 2016. In the upcoming 3.5 years, leading large and small companies, research institutes and universities from eight European countries will jointly work on improving resource and energy efficiency in the process industries by better coordination of production.**

The HORIZON 2020 project CoPro – "Improved energy and resource efficiency by better coordination of production in the process industries" which is led by Prof. Sebastian Engell (Department of Biochemical and Chemical Engineering of TU Dortmund, Germany), has started on November 1st, 2016.

The aim of the project is to develop methods and tools for better management of industrial plants and chemical parks under dynamically changing market conditions. The goal of the coordination is to save energy and resources and to improve the competitiveness of the European process industries. The CoPro consortium has been granted funding of up to 6 million € from the European Commission under the SPIRE public private partnership until the end of April 2020.

The technical developments are motivated by the practical needs of industry and will be demonstrated in five different use cases across Europe from various sectors of the European process industries. At the sites of COVESTRO and INEOS in Dormagen and Cologne, Germany the coordination of production processes of base chemicals will be evaluated. At Lenzing, Austria, the leading European manufacturer of cellulose fibers, complex evaporation and recycle networks of their wood-based production process will be optimized. Further use cases come from FRINSA, a Spanish food packaging company, and from Procter & Gamble. The CoPro team also plans to perform feasibility studies in other sectors of the process industry with partners outside the consortium.

Several leading small and medium enterprises, like LeiKon GmbH, Germany will develop new computer tools for process modelling and process management.

The stimulating discussions during the two day kick-off meeting provided an excellent start into an ambitious project that will contribute significantly to the sustainability of the process industries in Europe.

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