



Year 7 Nº 38



15 June 2015

---

### EU-funded project on ceramic tiles waste in Spain

Lifeceram-Zero is a project co-funded by the European Commission via the LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance Programme. It is coordinated by Instituto de Tecnología Cerámica (ITC) with the participation of the Spanish Ceramic Tile Manufacturers' Association (ASCER) and the companies Chumillas Tarongi S.L., Ker-os Cerámica S.A. and Vernís S.A.

The manufacturing of ceramic tiles in the EU generates waste at different stages of the production process. The estimated total amount of process waste is more than 3 million tons per year. A share of this waste cannot be recycled into the current ceramic products and processes due to the change in the behaviour of the ceramic compositions during the manufacturing process and in the tile's final properties. As a result, a significant amount of waste is destined for landfills or used as very low added-value fillers.

The project's objective is to achieve zero-waste in the manufacture of ceramic tiles with the following main goals: **1.)** Developing a new type of ceramic tile for outdoor application (urban paving) that can incorporate a high content of ceramic waste in the body and glaze. Other energy-intensive process waste (from power plants or glass manufacturing) will also be considered; **2.)** Designing a highly sustainable body preparation process for manufacturing the above ceramic tiles, based on dry milling technologies, capable of recycling all type of ceramic waste. For further information on the project, please visit the [website](#).

*Thanks to ASCER for submitting this article.*

---