

## The EU's evaluation of the Horizon 2020 Project

Despite the delay in the project owing to the sanitary situation all over the world, Applicant has completed the project successfully! Big compliments for this great achievement. As mentioned in the first report, it has been decided and agreed upon to change the scope of the project into three verticals, viz. UPW-polishing, IPA-polishing and Resource Recovery. They focus on the application of smaller purification units, but giving a higher chance for market uptake, as these systems are much affordable (>100.000 Euro) and could be implemented much easier in current operations. Applicant has developed the Nanocap UPW equipment, which has been extensively tested by third parties and is considered as the current global state-of-the-art in ultrapurification.

It was a wise decision to adjust the scope from large water purification units for the production of semiconductors to smaller systems, applicable for three niche markets with high potential. It will definitely increase both the market acceptance for the membrane distillation technology as such and the reputation of Applicant XZero. It has been clearly demonstrated that there is a rapidly emerging demand for nano technologies. Efficient purification is pivotal for the success of implementation. The systems according to this SME-2 proposal meet all the criteria for the near future nano technologies. The evaluation is based on 28 deliverables and several other reports, comprising a official finance assessment as well as an impressive official valuation report. Applicant has convincingly proven to have excellent scientific skills combined with sound entrepreneurship.

The proposal as well as all the reports and deliverables show a very strong professionalism of the Applicant. The project has been clearly presented, issues have been adequately addressed and solutions have been duly elaborated. No recommendations for this period.

The recommendation for the future work is to keep focus on the three verticals. Owing to the successful introduction of the Nanocap system, other opportunities will appear. It is very tempting to diversify and enter new markets. However, it can be very difficult to manage everything. Good luck and looking forward to see the XZero systems all over the world.