

Conference on Microplastics in drinking water – from source to tap

Organizer - EU Strategy for the Danube Region Water Quality Priority Area

Date and Venue:

3 October 2024

European Youth Center Budapest (H-1024 Budapest Zivatar utca 1.)

To register: <https://forms.gle/nT8Y6iih9ysWF5yPA>

ZOOM link of the event:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89475773660?pwd=g8q2V41vb8Cw1xTYEp22MC3tn6Wwx2.1>

	<p>Main goal of the conference</p> <p>„The Commission adopted recently two new measures to enhance the EU’s water resilience and to improve water quality and quantity throughout the continent. They include a standard methodology to measure the presence of microplastics in water and a delegated act to ensure that reusing treated wastewater for agricultural irrigation is safe.” EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) Water Quality Priority Area (PA4) aims to discuss on the topic of plastics and microplastics in drinking water from source to tap in line with the obligations of EU directives. It also aims to capitalise the results of relevant projects (DRP, DTP, LIFE, Horizon etc.)</p> <p>Moderator: Zsuzsanna Kocsis-Kupper (EUSDR PA4)</p>
9:00	<p>Opening words</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome notes: EUSDR targets and objectives (PA4 PACs) - Márton Pesel (HU – General Water Directorate) and Danko Thalmeinerová (SK - Ministry of Environment).
9:15	<p>Setting the scene - Why this issue is urging us to act?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU Mission Ocean and Waters and Microplastics (Marcin Sadowski, DG MARE) Health based activities and regulations for water safety and quality regarding microplastics (Jennifer De France, WHO Team leader, drinking-water quality and safety) Tackling plastic pollution in the Danube River Basin – Coordinated transboundary actions (Ádám Kovács, ICPDR) Microplastics in the Danube region – towards standardised routine analysis (Gábor Bordós, Eurofins) <p>Discussion (Questions and answers)</p>
10:30	<p><i>Coffee Break</i></p>
11:00	<p>Water resilience in the focus in 2024 - Harmonised methodology to measure presence of microplastics in water</p> <p>Keynote presentation: Methodology to measure microplastics in drinking water (Claudia Cella, EU Joint Research Center)</p> <p>Relevant projects and initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NANOPlastics project (Dr. Dušan Materić - Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ Head of research group Microplastics, Nanoplastics and Elements) MicroDrink (Mirna Švec, Croatian Geological Survey)

- NET4mPLASTIC project and ADRIPLAST -Adriatic Sea and plastic and microplastic pollution from freshwaters – an Adriatic territorial challenge (Dr. Corinne Corbau, University of Ferrara)

Discussion (Questions and answers)

12:30 *Lunch break*

Moderator: Danka Thalmeinerová (SK - Ministry of Environment)

13:30 **Water resilience in the focus in 2024** – *How does microplastic content affect the reuse of wastewater*

Keynote presentation: Plasticsphere-microplastics in the environment/environment on the microplastics (Dr. István Szabó, Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences)

Relevant projects and initiatives:

- RISKMP - Microplastics in wastewater treatment plants: fate and removal (Viktória Pitás, University of Pannonia)
- Microplastic monitoring along the Tisza River: environmental take-home messages (Dr. Tímea Kiss, Aquatic Plastic project & University of Szeged)
- Analysis of microplastic load and material composition in the Danube and at a wastewater treatment plant effluent (Dr. Sándor Baranya, Budapest University of Technology and Economics, National Laboratory for Water Science and Water Security)
- LIFE EMPORE project - contaminants of emerging concern (Beatriz Vallejo, Laboratorios Tecnológicos de Levante)
- Microplastics from the viewpoint of the sewage networks (Anikó Bezsenyi - Csenge Nagy-Mezei, Budapest Sewage Works)

Discussion (Questions and answers)

15:00 -15.45 **Community actions and citizen's involvement towards the reduction of plastic bottle consumption**

How can households participate in the reduction plastic bottle consumption?

Keynote presentation: Awareness raising and citizens involvement – Zita Gáspár, KÖVET Association

Relevant projects and initiatives:

- Citizen science applications to monitor plastic pollution in rivers (Dr. Dávid A. Molnár, PET Kupa / Plastic Cup Association, DALIA Danube Lighthouse project)

Discussion (Questions and answers)

16:00 **Wrap up – Closing the conference**