

Building a European Network: Collaborative Approaches to Advancing Microplastic Research

Abstract breve: The increasing concern over environmental plastic pollution has necessitated a coordinated effort to address the challenges posed by micro- and nanoplastics. The COST Action CA20101 “Plastics Monitoring Detection Remediation Recovery” (PRIORITY) aims to establish a robust European network of experts dedicated to advancing microplastic research through collaborative approaches. Funded by COST, this initiative unites diverse fields including chemistry, physics, life sciences, engineering, economics, and law to tackle the multifaceted issues associated with micro- and nanoplastics. By fostering scientific communication, exchange, and innovation, PRIORITY not only supports the harmonization of European regulations but also strengthens research activities and citizen science efforts across the continent. This network plays a critical role in developing and implementing strategies for hazard assessment, analytical methods, regulatory science, and remediation, ultimately contributing to the protection of ecosystems, food safety, and public health.