

Stockholm World Water Week Event on Addressing emerging pollutants to achieve the SDGs

Thursday 14:00-15:30
FH Congress Hall A

The event focuses on science and policy approaches to address the challenge of emerging pollutants in support of achievement of the SDGs, in developed and developing countries. Case studies on the needs and solutions to address potential risks and trade-offs will be presented through the work of UNESCO and OECD.

A growing water quality challenge across the globe is the management of a wide variety of emerging pollutants found in water resources that pose a risk to human and environmental health. The current scientific understanding on the fate, transport and risk of emerging pollutants, individually and in combination, is limited, and identifying priority pollutants for policy action is therefore problematic.

Addressing the challenge of emerging pollutants is necessary in order to achieve the SDG Target 12.4 to “... reduce the release of chemicals to air, water and soil in order to minimise their adverse impacts on human health and the environment”, and other related SDGs on water (Target 6.3), human health (target 3.3), ecosystem protection, poverty alleviation, sustainable consumption and production, and sustainable agriculture, amongst others.

The event will provide a platform for a multi-stakeholder discussion on science and policy approaches to better understand and manage the challenge of emerging pollutants to support the achievement of the SDGs.

Programme

- 14:00 Introduction and moderator: **Sarantuyaa Zandaryaa**, UNESCO
- 14:10 Swedish priorities for international cooperation on water sciences: **Claire Lynga**, Sida
- 14:15 Update on the scientific understanding of EPs and the risks posed to human and environmental health:
Prof. Alistair Boxall, University of York
- 14:25 UNESCO case studies:
- Status report on pharmaceuticals in the Baltic Sea region:
Dmitry Frank-Kamenetsky, HELCOM
 - Emerging Pollutants in Water and Wastewater of East Ukraine - Occurrence, Fate and Regulation:
Yuliya Vystavna, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic
 - Modelling the chemical fate of emerging contaminants in waterways of Africa, Asia, and Latin America for rapid risk assessments, geospatial exposure mapping, and screening purposes:
Usman Khan, McGill University
 - Microplastics in freshwater environments:
Michiel Roscam Abbing, Plastic Soup Foundation
 - Harnessing Scientific Research Based Outcomes for Effective Monitoring and Regulation of Emerging Pollutants: A Case Study of Emerging Pollutants in Water and Wastewater in Nigeria:
Simone Grego, UNESCO Abuja Regional Office, Nigeria (TBC)
- 15:00 Policy perspectives: **Hannah Leckie**, OECD
- 15:05 Interactive panel discussion
- 15:25 Closing remarks: **Sarantuyaa Zandaryaa**, UNESCO, and **Hannah Leckie**, OECD

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