

Atlantic Plastics 2026

Third International Symposium on Marine Plastic Pollution

Arctic to the Antarctic

#AtlanticPlastics

Harpa Conference Centre, 20-22 October 2026

Draft program 1st of July 2026

All times are in GMT

Conference Presenter: TBD

20th October 2026

08:30-09:30

Registration, Harpa 2nd floor

09:30 -11:30

PLENARY: Welcoming, Opening Addresses and a keynote speech

Location: Silfurberg

11:30 – 12:30

Lunch

Location: Hörpuhorn

12:30-17:30

Two parallel sessions on thematic discussions, themes 1 & 2

12:30 – 15:00

THEME 1: Innovative plastic pollution monitoring and assessment across multi-scales

Location: Silfurberg A

Moderator:

Rapporteur:

12:30- 12:50

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Thomais Vlachogiorganni TBC

12:50- 13:05

First systematic tracking of plastiglomerate in the southwestern Atlantic Ocean.

Fernanda Avelar Santos, São Paulo State University (UNESP)

13:05- 13:20

Development of a new OSPAR common indicator for microlitter (including microplastics) on the seafloor – from development to first pilot assessment. *Adil Bakir*, Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas)

13:20- 13:35	Advanced Beach Litter Monitoring Across Scales: Harmonisation, Source Assessment, and Indicator Development in the OSPAR Region. <i>Eva Blidberg</i> , Keep Sweden Tidy Foundation (tbc)
13:35- 13:50	Multidimensional Assessment of Beach Litter Pollution in the Northeast Atlantic. <i>Juan Ceballo</i> , University of Cadiz
13:50- 14:05	Method development for microplastic detection in fish fillet. <i>France Collard</i> , Norwegian Institute for Water Research (NIVA)
14:05- 14:20	From Citizen Science to Action: What 1 Million Citizen Science Findings Reveal About Norway's Litter Challenge. <i>Malin Stapnes Dahl</i> , Keep Norway Beautiful
14:20- 14:35	From clean-up to science: an in-depth diagnostic approach to Arctic marine litter. <i>Barbara Jóźwiak</i> , forScience Foundation
14:35- 14:50	TBD
14:50- 15:00	Integrated Monitoring of Macro- and Mesoplastics on Urban Oslofjord Beaches: Evaluating OSPAR and Mesoplastic Protocols. <i>Amy Lusher</i> , Norwegian Institute for Water Research

12:30 – 15:00

THEME 2: Modelling Sources, Pathways and Fate of Plastics in the environment

Location: Silfurberg B

Moderator:

Rapporteur:

12:30- 12:50	<i>Keynote speaker: Dr, Delphine Lobelle TBC</i>
12:50- 13:05	Wet wipes in untreated wastewater are a source of litter pollution to the Arctic marine environment - A case study on the loads of litter and microplastics in wastewater effluents in Greenland. <i>Lis Bach</i> , Aarhus University
13:05- 13:20	Four-Dimensional Modelling of Microplastics in Þingvallavatn, Iceland's Largest Lake. <i>Mathis Blache</i> , University of Iceland
13:20- 13:35	Modelling Marine Litter in the Irish waters. <i>Sara Cloux</i> , Marine Institute
13:35- 13:50	Including decision makers in development of cost-efficient litter monitoring - A three step process. <i>Jannike Falk-Andersson</i> , UiT Arctic University of Norway
13:50- 14:05	Towards a standard practice for microplastics identification in snow and ice samples: a systematic review. <i>Sydney Fox</i> , Reykjavik University/University of Iceland
14:05- 14:20	Co-exposure of microplastics and endocrine-disrupting chemicals in subantarctic seabirds. <i>Joana Fragão</i> , University of Coimbra - CFE
14:20- 14:35	Citizen science reveals Iceland's first baseline of floating microplastics to support marine protection. <i>Belén García Ovide</i> , University of Iceland (tbc)
14:35- 14:50	Sea ice and fresh water regulate what you find in Arctic surface seawater. <i>Ingeborg Hallanger</i> , Norwegian Polar Institute
14:50- 15:00	Evidence of Microplastic Ingestion in Ringed Seals (<i>Pusa hispida</i>) from the Canadian Arctic. <i>Haylee Hatton</i> , MacEwan University

15:00 – 15:30

Coffee break

Location: Hörpuhorn

15:30 – 17:30

THEME 1: Innovative plastic pollution monitoring and assessment across multi-scales

Location: Silfurberg A

15:30- 15:45	Using High-Resolution Drone Imagery and Machine Learning to Support Beach Litter Monitoring in Remote Arctic Areas. <i>Carolyn Leluschko</i> , German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence GmbH
15:45- 16:00	Advancing Marine Microplastic Monitoring: Raman Spectral Mapping Combined with Machine Learning. <i>Lara Mikac</i> , Rudjer Boskovic Institute (tbc)
16:00- 16:15	Reconstructing a Century of Microplastic Pollution Using Sediment Cores. <i>Rocío Quintana</i> , University of Cádiz
16:15- 16:30	From Stakeholder Needs to Monitoring Practice: Best-Practice Guidance for Drone-Based Beach Litter Monitoring in the Arctic. <i>Marc Schnurawa</i> , BioConsult SH GmbH & Co. KG
16:30- 16:45	Advances in Seafloor Litter Research: From Detection to Environmental Assessment. <i>Josie Russell</i> , Centre of Environment for Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas)
16:45- 17:00	Plastic chemicals in tissues of Arctic animals with and without ingested plastics. <i>Katrin Vorkamp</i> , Aarhus University (tbc)
17:00- 17:15	Contribution to the Assessment of Microplastics in the Digestive Tract of Small Pelagic Fish from the North Atlantic of Morocco. <i>Ali Benhra</i> , National Institute of Fisheries Research (tbc)
17:15- 17:30	Microplastics contamination in Isinuka Springs and CO2 seeping freshwater systems in South Africa: A baseline study. <i>Thendo Mutshekwa</i> , Rhodes University

15:30 – 17:30

THEME 2: Modelling Sources, Pathways and Fate of Plastics in the environment

Location: Silfurberg B

15:30- 15:45	Ecological effects of micro/nanoplastics on plant-associated food webs. <i>Ilyas Muhammad</i> , Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences
15:45- 16:00	Citizen Science for our Polar Oceans: a hybrid cruise ship-citizen science-university-NGO partnership to rapidly expand geographic microplastic/microfiber concentration, potential source knowledge in surface water and air in the Arctic and Antarctica and public engagement. <i>Rachael Miller</i> , Rozalia Project for a Clean Ocean
16:00- 16:15	Patterns in marine litter in northern Canada across regions between 2017 and 2025. <i>Jennifer Provencher</i> , Environment and Climate Change Canada
16:15- 16:30	Towards a Harmonised Global Beach Litter Monitoring Protocol: Integrating IAEA, UNEP, and GESAMP Approaches at Strandfontein, South Africa. <i>Keshnee Pillay</i> , Department of Fisheries, Forestry and the Environment
16:30- 16:45	Sampling volume as a source of methodological bias in microplastic concentration estimates. <i>Miguel Jorge Sánchez-Guerrero-Hernández</i> , University of Cádiz, UCA - INMAR, Department of Biology (tbc)
16:45- 17:00	Tracing Microplastic Inputs and Environmental Pathways in Rural Iceland Using Lake Sediment Archives and Glacier Snow Cores. <i>Ásta Margrét Ásmundsdóttir</i> , University of Akureyri, Iceland
17:00- 17:15	Distribution of Chemicals of Emerging Arctic Concern in the Canadian Arctic. <i>Aaron McQuaid</i> , Toronto Metropolitan University
17:15- 17:30	TBD

17:30 – 19:30

Reception

Location: Hörpuhorn

21st October 2026

08:30 – 12:30

Two parallel sessions on thematic discussions, themes 3 & 4

08:30 – 10:05

THEME 3: Assessing Impacts of Plastic Pollution

Location: Silfurberg A

Moderator:

Rapporteur:

08:30- 08:50	<i>Keynote speaker: TBD</i>
08:50- 09:05	Biodiversity and Plastics: What's the Risk? Expert Elicitation and Spatial Mapping in Fiji. <i>Bella Charlesworth</i> , University of New South Wales (Australia) and Central European university (Austria)
09:05- 09:20	Navigating knowledge gaps: towards a quantitative assessment of plastic emissions from international shipping. <i>Maartje Folbert</i> , Open Universiteit
09:20- 09:35	Gannets in a Plastic World. <i>Sindri Gíslason</i> , Southwest Iceland Nature Research Centre
09:35- 09:50	Floating 'Plastisphere' in the Pacific-Arctic Ocean and the western North Pacific. <i>Takahito Ikenoue</i> , Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC)
09:50- 10:05	Trapped in trash: Entanglement of terrestrial Svalbard reindeer (<i>Rangifer tarandus platyrhynchus</i>) in marine debris. <i>Marthe Larsen Haarr</i> , Salt Lofoten AS

08:30 – 10:05

THEME 4: Circular Economy, Innovation, and Industry Solutions

Location: Silfurberg B

Moderator:

Rapporteur:

08:30- 08:50	<i>Keynote speaker: Haraldur Einarsson</i> , Senior Scientist, Marine and Freshwater Research Institute & Fishing Gear Expert, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
08:50- 09:05	Do We Know Enough About Plastic Flows in Aquaculture? A Comprehensive Material Flow Analysis of Plastics in Norway's Sea-Based Aquaculture Sector. <i>Toluse Priscilla Ashaolu</i> , NTNU Norwegian University of Science and Technology
09:05- 09:20	Advanced Thermochemical Upscaling of Heterogeneous Polyolefin Waste via Catalytic Pyrolysis for Monomer Recovery and High-Value Hydrocarbon Synthesis. <i>Nishchal Baniya</i> , Everest Sustainability Foundation (tbc)
09:20- 09:35	Ocean Innovations to Tackle Plastic Pollution and Its Impact on Marine Biodiversity in West Africa. <i>Peter Teye Busumprah</i> , Ocean Rock Base
09:35- 09:50	The Design Against Litter Guide: how design can prevent litter. <i>Malin Stapnes Dahl</i> , Hold Norge Rent
09:50- 10:05	Untangling marine debris impacts on southeast Alaska's coastlines. <i>Zofia Danielson</i> , Sitka Sound Science Center

10:05 – 10:30

Coffee break

Location: Hörpuhorn

10:30 – 12:30

THEME 3: Assessing Impacts of Plastic Pollution

Location: Silfurberg A

10:30- 10:45	Tracking Wildlife—Plastic Interactions Through Citizen Science. <i>Diana M. Matos</i> , Aarhus University
10:45- 11:00	Plastic pollution: Effects on Arctic animals. <i>Jennifer Provencher</i> , Environment and Climate Change Canada
11:00- 11:15	Jellies – microplastics ferries? Diel shifts in microplastic burden of gelatinous zooplankton across the water column, Scotia Sea. <i>Alena Sakovich</i> , British Antarctic Survey / University of Durham
11:15- 11:30	Assessment of plasticizer contamination in sicklefin devil rays (<i>Mobula tarapacana</i>) from the remote Azores Archipelago. <i>Lena Schaffeld</i> , Okeanos Research Institute
11:30- 11:45	Unveiling Hidden Risks in Sustainable Polymers: Metal Additive Release Across Material Lifecycles. <i>Javier Terán Baamonde</i> , Applied Analytical Chemistry research group (QANAP), Chemistry Department – Environmental University Institute (IUMA) – Center for Technological Innovation in Construction and Civil Engineering (CITEEC) - University of A Coruña (UDC) – A Coruña (Spain) (tbc)
11:45- 12:00	Tracing Plastic-Associated Chemical Exposure from Coastal Systems to Seafood: Evidence from African Marine Environments. <i>Stacey Webb</i> , Sustainable Seas Trust
12:00- 12:15	Shipping, Contaminants, and Plastics: Understanding a growing environmental pressure across the Circumpolar North. <i>Bonnie Hamilton</i> , University of Ottawa
12:15- 12:30	TBD

10:30 – 12:30

THEME 4: Circular Economy, Innovation, and Industry Solutions

Location: Silfurberg B

10:30- 10:45	From Evidence to Action? Examining the Knowledge Base for Extended Producer Responsibility in Norway's Aquaculture Sector. <i>Paritosh Chakor Deshpande</i> , NTNU Norwegian University of Science and Technology
10:45- 11:00	Studying Temporal Trends of Microplastic Pollution in the St. Lawrence River Basin: a Case Study. <i>Iselle Flores Ruiz</i> , Ocean Diagnostics Inc
11:00- 11:15	The Ones that Get Away: Investigating the Leaching of Persistent, Mobile, and Toxic Plastic Additives from New and Weathered Plastic Products. <i>Eric Fries</i> , Toronto Metropolitan University
11:15- 11:30	Citizens of a Changing Coast: A Socio-ecological Analysis of Marine Plastic Pollution in Scottish Island Communities. <i>Chloe McKenna</i> , Hebridean Coastal Stories
11:30- 11:45	Quantifying Coastal Restoration and Plastic Leakage Reduction through Community-Integrated Systems: Evidence from the RestorationX10000 Initiative (2021–2025) in LMIC Contexts. <i>Ahmed Tiamiyu</i> , Community Action Against Plastic Waste (CAPWs)
11:45- 12:00	A Novel Mechanochemistry Treatment for Sustainable Plastic Waste Management. <i>Jessica Zhang</i> , University of North Texas (tbc)
12:00- 12:15	Biodegradable Innovations and Recycling Challenges in Fisheries. <i>Christian Karl</i> , SINTEF Industry, Forskningsveien 1, 0373 Oslo
12:15- 12:30	TBD

12:30 – 13:30

Lunch

Location: Hörpuhorn

13:30 – 17:30

Two parallel sessions on thematic discussions, themes 5 & 6

13:30 – 15:15

THEME 5: Mitigation, Management, and Restoration

Location: Silfurberg A

Moderator:

Rapporteur:

13:30- 13:50	<i>Keynote speaker: TBD</i>
13:50- 14:05	Greening the Blue: A Multi-Criteria Decision-Making Framework for Circular Fishing Gear Management in Norway. <i>Paritosh Chakor Deshpande</i> , NTNU Norwegian University of Science and Technology
14:05- 14:20	The Circular Economy of Fishing Gear in Nordic Fisheries. <i>Haraldur Einarsson</i> , MFRI
14:20- 14:35	Structure Driven Strategies to Reduce Microplastic Emissions from Elastomers and Plastics. <i>Peyman Ezzati</i> , ERA Co., Ltd 公元, Science and Technology Center, P.O. Box: 318020, Taizhou, Zhejiang, China (tbc)
14:35- 14:50	The role of regenerative design practice in reducing plastic pollution from net mending. <i>Jannike Falk-Andersson</i> , UiT Arctic University of Norway
14:50- 15:05	Technological Readiness for Environmental Impact: Global policy is only as effective as the available technological alternatives. <i>Thelma Gonzalez Cruz</i> , National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) (tbc)
15:05- 15:15	Recycling fishing gear: Building circular pathways for marine plastics in Scotland. <i>Zoe Scott-Green</i> , KIMO International

13:30 – 15:15

THEME 6: Science-Policy Interface and Capacity Building

Location: Silfurberg B

Moderator:

Rapporteur:

13:30- 13:50	<i>Keynote speaker: Dr. Thomas Maes TBC</i>
13:50- 14:05	Alaska Pacific University Microplastics Research and Education Center: Partnering with NASA. <i>Dee Barker</i> , Alaska Pacific University
14:05- 14:20	Youth as Agents of Change in Ocean Governance: Building Capacity for Young People to Lead on Plastic Pollution and Marine Environmental Policy. <i>Manal Bidar</i> , Water Youth Network
14:20- 14:35	Invisible emissions at sea: Fishing gear abrasion and Global Plastics Treaty (GPT) responses. <i>Emily Cowan</i> , SINTEF Ocean
14:35- 14:50	Beyond Collection: Lessons from Beach Cleanup Initiatives in Brazil. <i>Johanna Franke</i> , Icelandic Arctic Cooperation Network
14:50- 15:05	The Integrated Marine Debris Observing System: Coordinated global monitoring to support research and decision-making. <i>Amy Lusher</i> , Norwegian Institute for Water Research
15:05- 15:15	TBD

15:15 – 15:45

Coffee break

Location: Hörpuhorn

15:45 – 17:30

THEME 5: Mitigation, Management, and Restoration

Location: Silfurberg A

15:45- 16:00	De-Implementing Household Plastic Waste Burning: Effectiveness of a Community-Led Behavior Change Intervention in Rural Villages in Jalapa, Guatemala. <i>Margaret Handley</i> , University of California San Francisco
16:00- 16:15	Communicating Microplastics in the digital age: Global Perspectives on People and Practices. <i>Lesley Henderson</i> , University of Strathclyde
16:15- 16:30	Environmental Guardians: A community-based model for waste prevention and ocean stewardship in Arctic regions. <i>Christina Koch</i> , Our Ocean Foundation/ Stiftelsen Vårt Hav
16:30- 16:45	Indigenous Youth-Led Eco-Literacy and Community-Based Solutions to Plastic Pollution in Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems. <i>Justin Langan</i> , O'KANATA (tbc)
16:45- 17:00	Ethnoknowledge of Ghost Fishing (ALDFG) in the Delta do Parnaíba Environmental Protection Area – Brazilian Equatorial Margin. <i>Cezar Fernandes</i> , Federal University of Delta of Parnaiba (UFDFPar) (tbc)
17:00- 17:15	Rights, Resilience & Arctic Frontlines: Local Voices, Global Resonance. <i>Michelle Calcatelli</i> , Artica Svalbard (for Phase I)
17:15- 17:30	TBD

15:45 – 17:30

THEME 6: Science-Policy Interface and Capacity Building

Location: Silfurberg B

15:45- 16:00	Fishing-related marine debris in Ghana: is it really a problem? <i>Peter Randall</i> , Cefas - Centre of Environment Fisheries and Aquaculture Science
16:00- 16:15	From Local Knowledge to Action: Strengthening Capacity Through Arctic Cleanup Collaboration. <i>Ingeborg Rønning</i> , Keep Norway Beautiful
16:15- 16:30	Governance and stakeholder perspectives for micro- and nanoplastic mitigation: a One Health approach from the Helgeland Water Region in Northern Norway. <i>Salina Magdalena Spiering</i> , Nordland Research Institute
16:30- 16:45	When Does EPR Work? Cost, Logistics, and Material Constraints in Circular Plastic Systems — Evidence from Aquaculture Netting in Norway. <i>Rasa Zuzeviciute</i> , NTNU – Norwegian University of Science and Technology
16:45- 17:00	The importance of including car tire particles in microplastic monitoring. <i>Marie-Fleurine Olsen</i> , Norwegian Environment Agency
17:00- 17:15	Low-cost preventative measures can effectively mitigate microplastic release from scientific research facilities in Antarctica. <i>Aanchal Jain</i> , BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY
17:15- 17:30	Presentation NB

22nd October 2026

08:30 – 12:15

Final PLENARY Session: Presentation of main messages on the conference themes and showcase of successful projects and positive developments from industry and/or administrations

12:15 – 12:30

Symposium Closing Remarks
Icelandic Government Representative