

The first QUASIMEME/NORMAN Workshop on Analysis of Microplastics

Amsterdam, 27-28 November 2018

Co-organisers: Dept. of Environment & Health, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam; Norwegian Institute for Water Research, Norway

Purpose of the Workshop

Microplastics are currently of utmost importance to the environmental analyst. They are being found in high volumes in the marine and freshwater environment, they are under discussion worldwide and there is an urgent need to analyse them properly. However, analytical methods are far from validation. Hence, for the first time, an open workshop on the analysis of microplastics will be organized. The purpose of this workshop on the analysis of microplastics is to bring the analytical community together to discuss the available methods and how to possibly improve the quality and reliability of the analysis as well as to achieve better harmonization of microplastics data being produced. In particular input will be gathered from the expert analytical community for the design of an interlaboratory study that would meet the needs of the laboratories who are up for the analytical challenge that plastic particles present. An interlaboratory study will be prepared following the workshop (expected in 2019).

Organisers

This workshop will be held at the Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. This workshop is organized by QUASIMEME, Wageningen, The Netherlands, and NORMAN, in collaboration with the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and the Norwegian Institute for Water Research, Oslo, Norway.

For whom?

The workshop is open to everyone and will be beneficial for technicians and scientists working in the field of analysis of microplastics in environmental matrices. Feel free to share this flyer with other people who might be interested.

Date and venue

Date: 27 November 2018 (09:30-17:00) and 28 November 2018 (9:00 to 12:30)

Venue: Vrije Universiteit, O|2 Building, Auditorium, De Boelelaan 1108, 1081 HV Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Scientific program - topics

The workshop will cover all aspects of the analysis of microplastics in environmental samples including:

- Sampling
- Identification of polymers
- Instrumental analysis
- Quantification
- QA/QC

Key-note speakers

Dr. Heather Leslie (Vrije Universiteit), former coordinator of the European project CleanSea and highly experienced in microplastics analysis, will give a keynote presentation on the need for methods for microplastics analysis. Prof. Dr. Bert van Bavel (Norwegian Institute for Water Research) will present a proposal for materials to be used in an interlaboratory study.

Your contributions and your questions

There is room for contributing lectures and posters. Titles and abstracts (200 words) of oral and poster presentations should be submitted via email to quasimeme@wur.nl by 29 September 2018. If you have specific questions on analytical issues, please send them to the QUASIMEME Project Office prior to the workshop, together with your registration, so that we can include those in the discussion sessions at the workshop.

In addition to the presentations there will be ample time for discussions and exchange of information among workshop participants.

A detailed program will be disseminated two weeks before the workshop. For further questions on the workshop, please contact the QUASIMEME Project Office (quasimeme@wur.nl).

Registration

Participants can join the workshop and later register separately for the interlaboratory study (expected in 2019). Participants can register for the workshop until 29 September 2018. The registration fee is 350 Euro with 10% reduction for regular participants in the QUASIMEME proficiency program (315 Euro) and NORMAN members. There will also be a limited number of early bird tickets available for 310 Euro (279 Euro for QUASIMEME participants and Norman members). The fee includes attendance of the workshop, report of the workshop, coffee, tea, lunch on 27 and 28 November as well as a workshop dinner on Wednesday evening 27 November. Registration can be done by completing the registration form and submitting it by e-mail to quasimeme@wur.nl. The maximum number of participants is 100. Participants will be registered on a first come first served basis. Registered participants will receive confirmation of their registration by email.

Hotel

You are kindly asked to book your own room. As Amsterdam is an attractive city for tourists, we recommend an early booking.

About the organisers

QUASIMEME, part of Wageningen University and Research Quality Assurance of Information in Marine Environmental Monitoring in Europe operates a series of Proficiency Testing Studies for institutes making chemical measurements worldwide. As part of the improvement programme, QUASIMEME co-operates with centres of excellence to provide workshops for discussion, and “hands on” experience to complement the development programmes in the Laboratory Performance Studies. <http://www.quasimeme.org>

Dept. of Environment & Health, Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam acts as a Centre of Excellence for QUASIMEME. It contributes to biological test material testing for proficiency tests on environmental organic contaminants and microplastics. In addition, scientific advice is given to the annual QUASIMEME programmes through the Scientific Assessment Group. It assists in organizing workshops on specific analytical topics. E&H combines knowledge on analytical chemistry and toxicology to address a broad range of chemical pollution issues. More information: <https://science.vu.nl/environmentandhealth>

NIVA the Norwegian Institute for Water Research, Oslo, is Norway’s leading institute for fundamental and applied research on marine and freshwaters. Its research comprises a wide array of environmental, climatic and resource-related fields. NIVA’s world-class expertise is multidisciplinary with a broad scientific scope. It

combines research, monitoring, evaluation, problem-solving and advisory services at international, national and local levels. <https://www.niva.no/en>

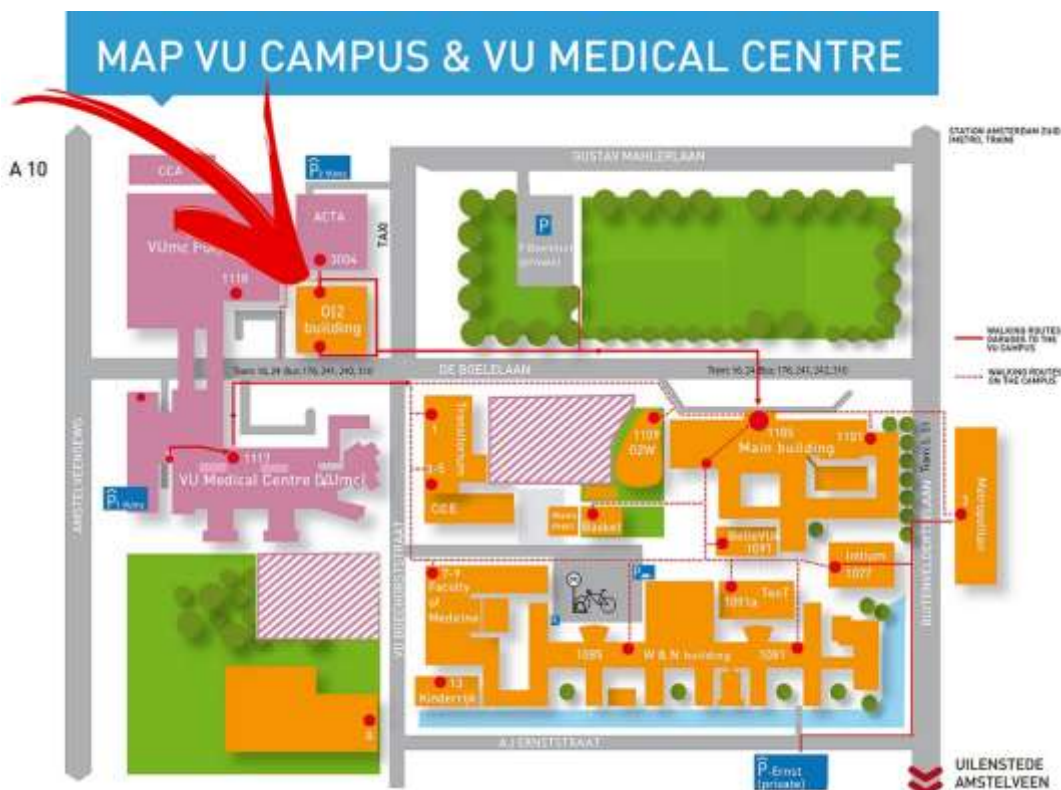
The NORMAN Network enhances the exchange of information on emerging environmental substances and encourages the validation and harmonization of common measurement methods and monitoring tools so that the requirements of risk assessors and risk managers can be better met. It specifically seeks both to promote and to benefit from the synergies between research teams from different countries in the field of emerging substances. NORMAN organizes a range of activities, including expert group meetings, workshops, databases and methods validation exercises, all of which are included in its Annual Joint Program of Activities. <https://www.norman-network.net/>

Directions to the QUASIMEME Analysis of Microplastics Workshop venue

Venue address O|2 Building

Vrije Universiteit
De Boelelaan 1108
1081 HZ Amsterdam
The Netherlands

O|2 Building Reception desk: +31(0)6 52 440359
<https://science.vu.nl/en/research/environment-andhealth/contact/o2-building-map-directions.aspx>





The main visitor entrance is on the **De Boelelaan** side of the building (see black arrow at the blue flag).

By car

The O2 building is accessible from all directions via the A 10 Amsterdam ring road. Follow the ring road to the S108 (Oud Zuid/Buitenveldert/Olympic stadium) exit. At the end of the slip road turn left onto Amstelveenseweg (in the direction of VUmc/Zuidas/Amsterdamse bos/Amstelveen). Follow the signs to the P2/VUmc car park.

Parking

You can park in the P2 car park on Gustav Mahlerlaan. The entrance is located next to the ACTA building (see the P on the map). Parking fees are €1 per 17 minutes, or € 30 for a day ticket. You can find information and parking options near VU Amsterdam on www.parkerenbijvu.nl.

The lift or stairs lead you to the O2 building's staff entrance on the side of the ACTA building.

By public transport

There are diverse ways to reach the O2 building by public transport. See also <https://goo.gl/maps/t17tCqzosXt> to plan your route.

- • Amsterdam Zuid NS station (approx. 15 minute walk)
- • Metro line 50, Amstelveenseweg stop (approx. five-minute walk)
- • Metro line 51, De Boelelaan/VU Amsterdam stop (approx. five-minute walk)
- • Tram line 5, De Boelelaan/VU Amsterdam stop (approx. five-minute walk)
- • Tram lines 16 and 24, VUmc stop (approx. one-minute walk)
- • Bus lines 62, 166, 171, 176 and 310, VUmc stop (approx. one-minute walk)
- • Bus lines 142, 170 and 172, De Boelelaan stop (approx. five-minute walk)



Contact

QUASIMEME Laboratory Performance Studies
Wageningen UR
Alterra CWK PO
Box 47
6700 AA Wageningen
The Netherlands
Tel: +31 (0)317 48 65 46
E-mail: QUASIMEME@wur.nl
<http://www.quasimeme.org>