

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON “WHAT DO YOU REALLY KNOW ABOUT WASTE AND HEALTH: THE RISKS OF THE NIMBY SYNDROME”

Wednesday 14th July 2021, 14.30-18.00 – SALA ULISSE Padiglione C3 – Sala C3



Termovalorizzatore o discarica? Economia circolare o discarica sostenibile? Si può continuare veramente a porsi di fronte a scelte da fede calcistica, spesso dettate da ignoranza totale di quanto si osteggia o non è il momento di documentarsi attraverso un approccio scientifico, chiaro e completo?

La conferenza internazionale “**What do you really know about waste and health: the risks of the NIMBY Syndrome**” ci porterà dentro al vastissimo tema del rapporto tra rifiuti e salute, un campo minato nel quale il rischio saltare in aria su una fake news è altissimo con conseguenze letali per la comprensione della realtà dei fatti e la libertà di scelta consapevole.

L’incontro è ideato dal **Comitato Scientifico di Catania 2030**, in partnership con l’**Università Politecnica di Atene**, l’**Università di Catania**, il **Comitato Interdisciplinare Rifiuti e Salute (CIRS)** e l’**Associazione nazionale di Ingegneria per l’Ambiente e il Territorio (AIAT)**.

I relatori internazionali ci condurranno nel confronto tra le diverse alternative di gestione dei rifiuti prendendo esempio dalle migliori esperienze di gestione a livello mondiale. Attraverso una riuscita fusione tra il mondo dei tecnici, dei gestori di impianti, dei ricercatori e il mondo della medicina - quella vera - si comprenderà quanto delle paure più diffuse è realmente fondato, quanto è strumentale e quali rischi effettivi quelle stesse paure paradossalmente comportano portando sempre più spesso e sempre più imprudentemente a rifiutare impianti necessari e sicuri

Waste-to-energy plant or landfill? Circular economy or sustainable landfill? Can we really continue to face rigid and hypocritically alternative choices of “football faith”, often dictated by total ignorance? or it is not the time to get a clear knowledge of the different but complementary options and related issues through a scientific, robust and holistic approach?

The international conference “**What do you really know about waste and health: the risks of the NIMBY Syndrome**” will bring us into the broad but still little explored issue of the relationship between waste and health, a minefield in which the risk of blowing up on fake news is very high with lethal consequences for understanding the reality of the facts and freedom of conscious (political) choice.

The Conference is organized by the **Scientific Committee of Catania 2030**, in partnership with the **Technical University of Athens**, the **University of Catania**, the **Italian Interdisciplinary Committee on Waste and Health (CIRS)** and the **Italian Association of Engineer for Environment and Territory (AIAT)**. Prestigious international

speakers will lead us through a comparison between the different waste management alternatives showing the best management experiences in the world. Through a successful fusion between the world of technicians, plant operators, researchers and the world of medicine we will understand how much of the most widespread fears is really founded, how instrumental are some fake news and what real risks, those same fears, paradoxically entail leading more and more often and recklessly to refuse necessary and safe plants on our territories.

OPENING GREETINGS

Gunnar Åkerblom - Co-chair ESRA Europe at ESRA - Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group

Alfio di Costa - Rotary District 2110 Sicily and Malta Past Governor (PDG)

Gaetano De Bernardis - Rotary District 2110 Sicily and Malta Governor

Giuseppe Mancini President of Italian National Association of Environmental Engineering

INTRODUCTION TO WASTE-HEALTH ISSUES

Waste management and common beliefs on health issues - Raffaello Cossu, Italy

Waste and policy perspectives in Greece/Europe - Maria Loizidou, Greece

Policies in Europe - George Kremlis, Greece

SESSION I WASTE MANAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS (COMPARATIVE)

Circular Economy: applications and open issues - Andreas Bartl, Austria

Role of Waste Minimisation in Circular Economy - Rainer Stegmann, Germany

Contaminants recycling or Health risks from and uncontrolled Circular Economy -Konstantin Pivnenko, Denmark (TBC)

Relevance of Biowaste management in Circular Economy - David Bolzonella, Italy

Role of Thermal treatment in Circular Economy - Christophe Cord'homme, France

Sustainable Landfilling role in Circular Economy - Raffaello Cossu, Italy

SESSION II WASTE MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH RELATED IMPACTS

Health issues: a comparison between waste management alternatives - Margherita Ferrante, Gea Oliveri, Antonio Cristaldi, Italy

Waste and Health: examples from Greece with a focus on plastics - D. A. Sarigiannis, Greece

Waste and Health – methodological issues - Marco Vinceti, Italy

CONCLUSIONS

Maria Loizidou Margherita Ferrante, Raffaello Cossu