

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON “THE FUTURE OF THE OCEANS: RETHINKING PLASTICS MANAGEMENT”

Friday 16^h July 2021, 14.30-18.00 – Sala Ulisse – Padiglione C3 – Sala C3



National
Technical
University
of Athens



UNIVERSITÀ
degli STUDI
di CATANIA



**CATANIA
2030** Comitati
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Ideata dal **Comitato Scientifico di Catania 2030** e dal **gruppo di lavoro su Plastic Free Waters dell'IYFR**, in partnership con l'**Università Politecnica di Atene**, l'**Università di Catania**, il **Rotary Distretto 2110 Sicilia e Malta**, e **AIAT** la conferenza internazionale **“The future of the Oceans: rethinking plastics management”** ci condurrà nei diversi angoli e mari del mondo per parlare di gestione sostenibile della plastica e dell'impatto della sua attuale gestione sugli oceani.

Grazie a relatori e ricercatori di alto profilo provenienti da importanti Università europee, a Catania 2030 - Green Expo del Mediterraneo si affronterà a 360° **il problema della cattiva gestione della plastica, la conseguente presenza di micro e nanoplastiche in mare e nelle forme di vita acquatica – anche quelle destinate al consumo - e i conseguenti rischi per la salute.** Saranno illustrate le azioni da intraprendere con urgenza e confrontate criticamente le soluzioni tecnologiche ad oggi disponibili senza trascurare **l'importanza delle campagne di sensibilizzazione e informazione.** Il tutto senza criminalizzare ottusamente la plastica e i suoi innumerevoli benefici.

Conceived by the **Scientific Committee of Catania 2030** and the **IYFR's Working Group on Plastic Free Waters**, in partnership with the **Polytechnic University of Athens**, the **University of Catania**, **Rotary district 2110 Sicily and Malta**, and **AIAT** (Italian National Association of Environmental Engineering) the international conference **“The future of the Oceans: rethinking plastics management”** will lead us to the different corners and seas of the world to talk about sustainable plastic management and the impact of its current management on the oceans.

Thanks to high-profile speakers and researchers from important European universities, catania 2030 - Green Expo of the Mediterranean will tackle at 360 ° **the problem of plastic mismanagement, the consequent presence of micro and nanoplastics at sea and in aquatic life forms – even those intended for consumption – and the consequent health risks.**

Actions to be taken urgently and critical comparisons of the technological solutions available to date will be illustrated without neglecting **the importance of awareness-raising and information campaigns.** All without obtusely criminalizing plastic and its countless benefits.

OPENING GREETINGS

Gunnar Åkerblom - Co-chair ESRAG Europe at ESRAG - 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

Maurizio D'Angelo Rotary District 2110 Sicily and Malta Delegate Plastic Free Waters

Maria Loizidou - National Technical University of Athens

Giuseppe Mancini President of Italian National Association of Environmental Engineering

CONFERENCE OPENING REMARKS

Sergio Santi, Sandro D'Onofrio - International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians

FOCUS ON PLASTIC POLLUTION FROM THE WORD

1. Philippine
2. Uruguay
3. Kenya
4. Sweden
5. Poland/Croatia
6. Germany
7. Israele
8. Greece
9. Italy (experience on the Tevere river - Edoardo Roberto)

TECHNICAL SPEECHES

Plastics in a Circular Economy" Eleni Iacovidou, Brunel University London (UK)

Which alternatives to conventional plastics in the field of food packaging? Hélène Angellier-Coussy Université de Montpellier (FR)

Advances in quantifying marine litter to support waste management decision-making in local authorities of the Global South - Costas Velis University of Leeds (UK)

Stop to plastic in H2O! An EU Project to investigate the state of the port environment (TBC)

Investigations of micro- and nanoplastic and their potential risks to health- Margherita Ferrante, Gea Oliveri, Antonio Cristaldi, Research Centre "L'ora del mare" -University of Catania (IT)

River Barriers, where are they effective? Sergio Santi, Sandro D'Onofrio, PFW IYFR

Floating plastic river, Castalia is going ahead to help both rivers and seas: case study – Lorenzo Barone Maurizio De Pirro, CASTALIA

Are awareness and information campaigns beneficial for the marine environment? The case of LIFE DEBAG- Stavroula Kordella, University of Patras (GR)

POLICIES, ACTIONS AND FINAL REMARKS

Gunnar Åkerblom ESRAG

Pietro Fiocchi member of ENVI (Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Commission) In European Parliament

Paola Brambilla WWF