

**PRESENTAZIONE DEL LAVORO DEL  
GRUPPO MICROINQUINANTI  
EMERGENTI E MICROPLASTICHE DEL  
CLUSTER LE2C**

**PRESENTATION OF THE WORK OF THE  
EMERGING MICROPOLLUTANTS AND  
MICROPLASTICS GROUP OF THE LE2C  
CLUSTER**

**GIANNI TARTARI**

**CO-ORDINATORE AREA WATER ENERGY NEXUS DEL  
CLUSTER LE2C E GIÀ DIRIGENTE DI RICERCA CNR**



# LE2C FROM 2009 TO TODAY



2009

Lombardy Energy Cleantech Cluster is established with 8 companies from energy sector



2014

Becomes a «**Recognised Association**» by the Regione Lombardia and one of the 9 Technology Clusters in Lombardy



2015

First Italian cluster to obtain the **Gold Label** from ESCA, certifying the excellence of its work



2020

LE2C **Strategic plan 2021-2027** and open VAT number



Today

LE2C is a partner of **6 European projects**, **2 national projects** and **2 regional projects**

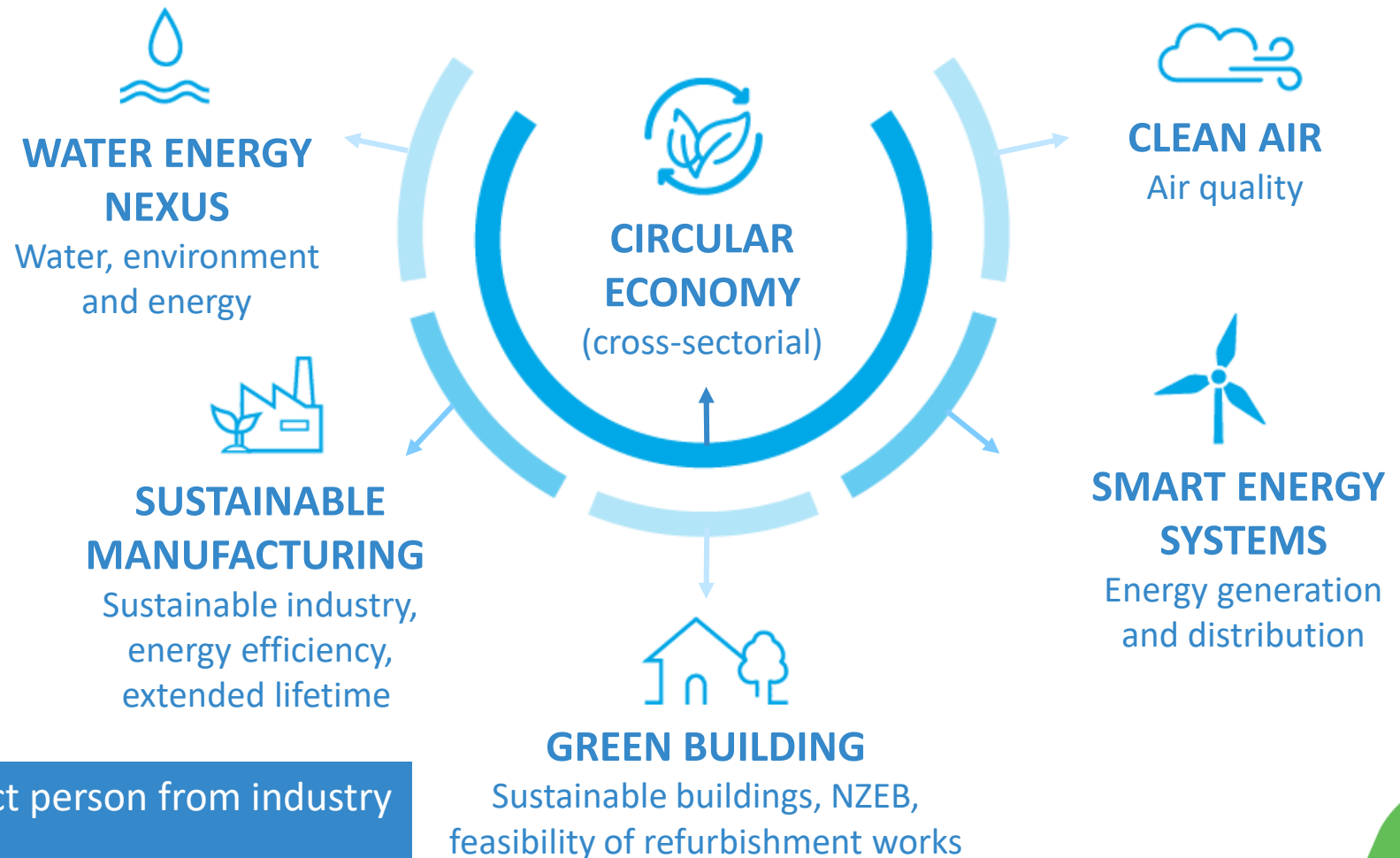
LE2C supports growth, innovation and competitiveness of the production system in Lombardy in the **Energy** and **Environment** sectors

# 6 THEMATIC AREAS

LE2C has identified **6 Thematic Areas** where research centers and companies work together to **foster innovation, technology transfer and create business opportunities.**

**153**  
MEMBERS

-  **116**  
Companies
-  **11**  
Research  
Centres
-  **26**  
Other  
entities



Each area has at least one contact person from industry and one from research.

# EMERGING ISSUES IN WATER ANALYSIS: 1998-2024



Reviews by **Susan D. Richardson**, with the collaboration of Thomas A. Ternes and Susana Y. Kimura

Selected issues in biannual "Review contents" of Analytical Chemistry	Water analysis		Water analysis: Emerging contaminants and current issues										
	1999	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022	2024
Nutrients	●												
Inorganic Pollutants		●											
Surfactants		●											
Disinfectants, Disinfection (drinking waters)		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Pesticides		●											
Pesticides Degradation/Transformation products				●	●	●	●	●					
Pharmaceuticals, Hormones, Endocrine Disrupting Compounds		●	●	●	●	●							
Pharmaceuticals and Hormones							●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Perfluorinated Compounds				●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Brominated and Emerging Flame Retardants				●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Musks						●	●	●					
Sunscreens				●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Algal Toxins		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Nanomaterials						●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Microplastics											●	●	●
SARS-CoV-2													●

**Review carried out for 25 years by the same person (+collaborators)**



# CHAPTERS OF 1ST REPORT OF GDL MIE 2020

## Chapter 1

Data of **micropollutants** in Lombardy's water bodies carried out by ARPAL, SII Companies and Research Institutes (2009-2019)

## Chapter 3

**Microplastics** in water bodies: available knowledge, need for research and treatment technologies

Questionnaire sent to SII

Questionnaire sent to SII

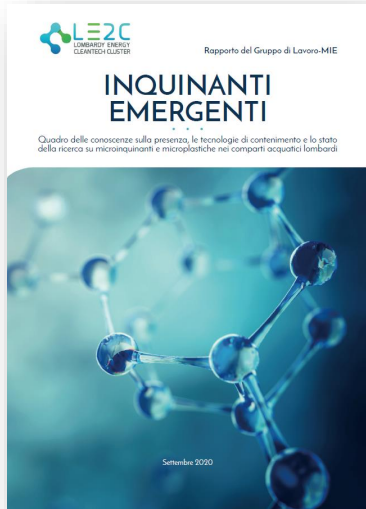
**Treatment technologies:** efficiency in containing emerging micropollutants and research needs

Chapter 2

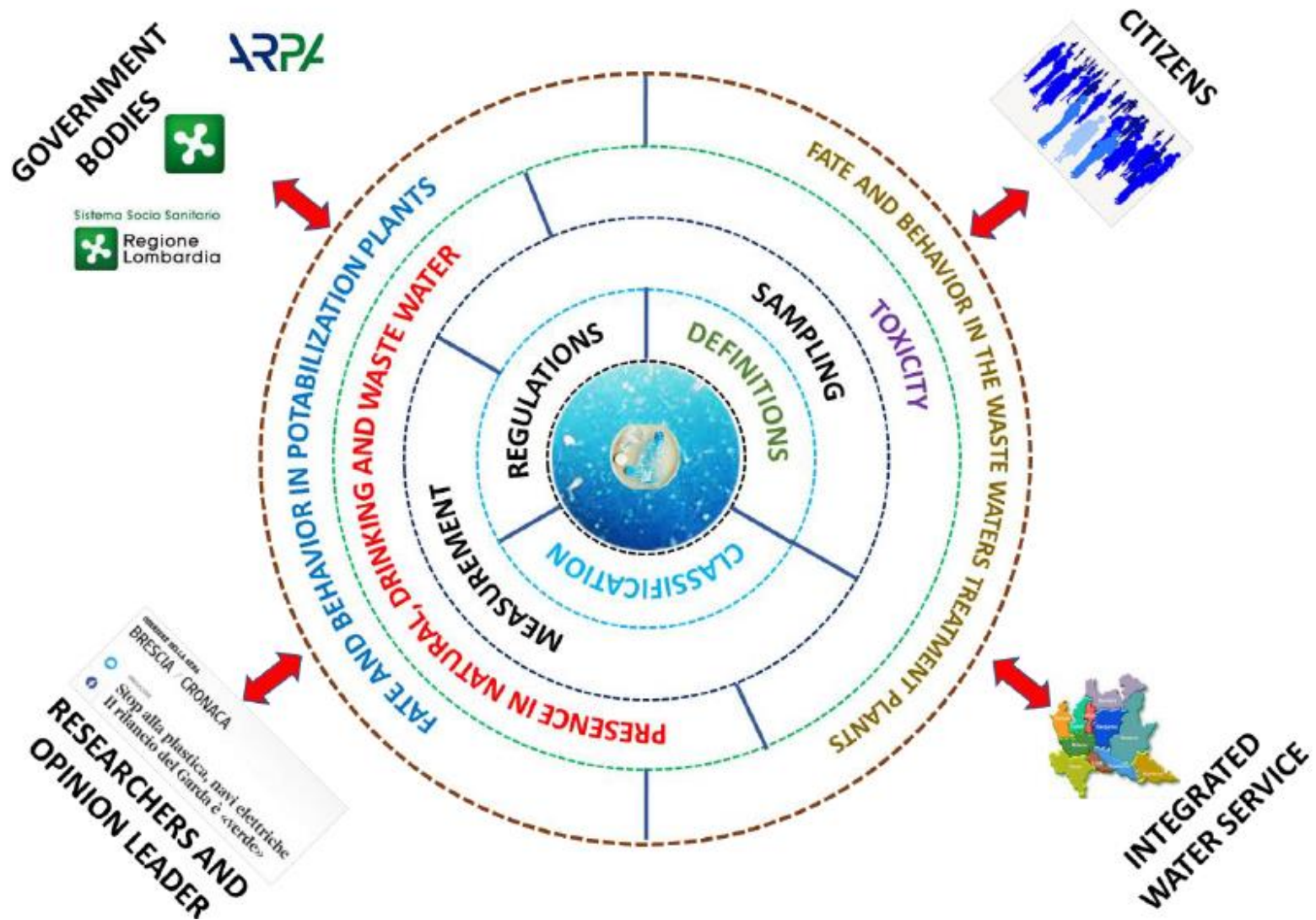
Report  
**«Emerging pollutants»**

Reviewed publications

Appendix 1

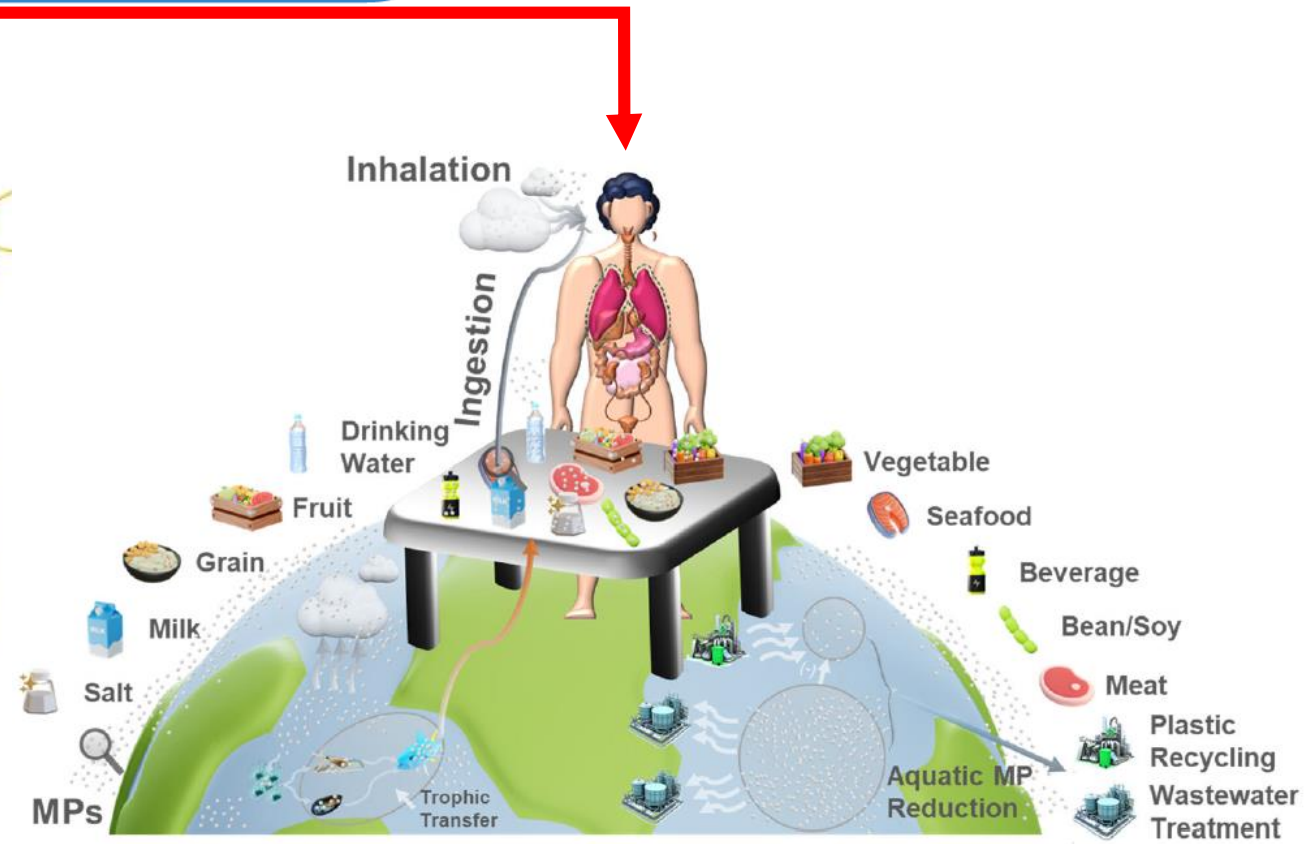
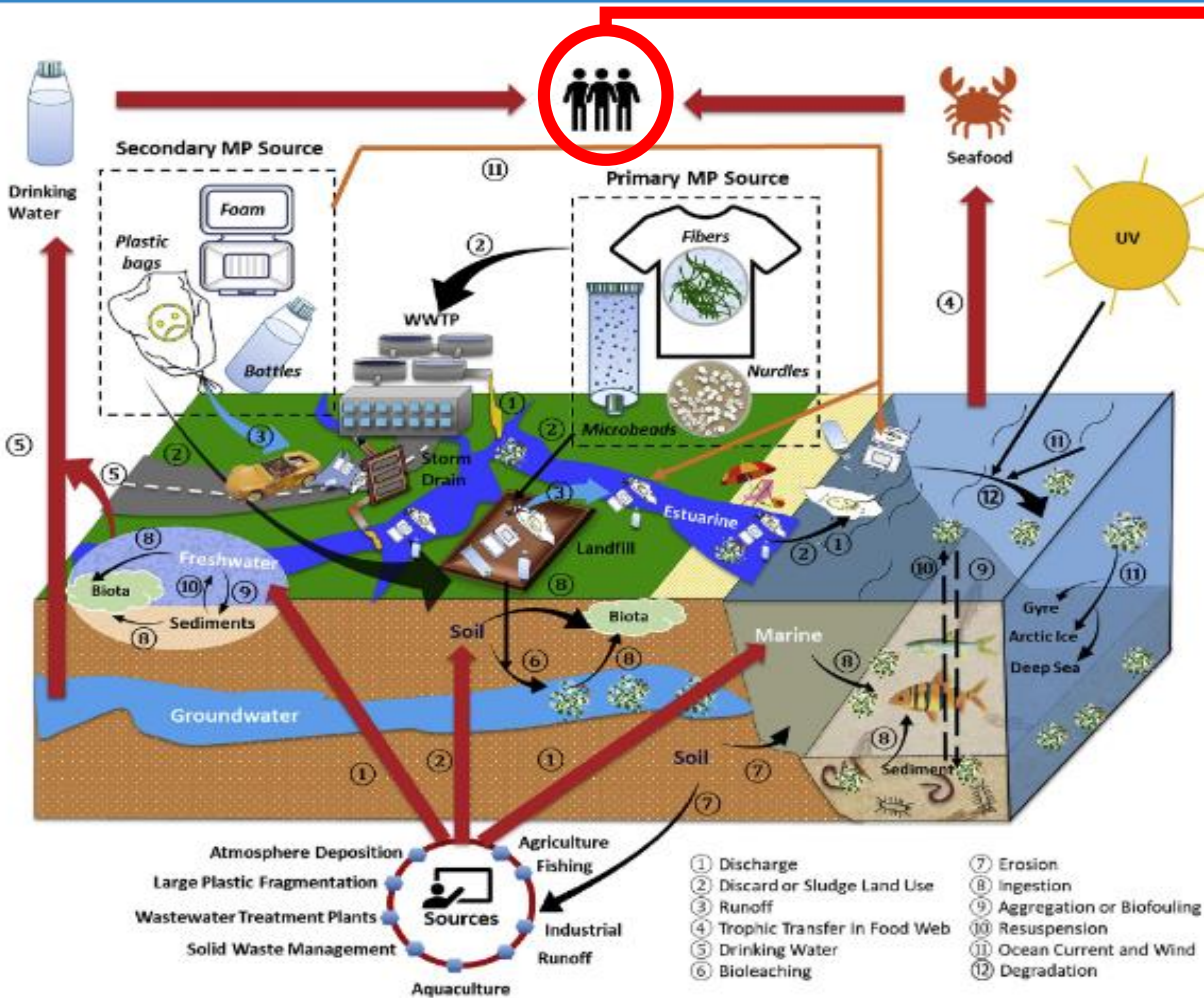


# STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED AND TARGET TOPICS



Microplastics in the aquatic compartment are on the attention of many stakeholders

# PLASTIC FATE: ENVIRONMENT & HUMAN



**MPs: 1 μm – 1 (5) mm**

**Before 2020**

Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety  
Volume 184, 30 November 2019, 109612

Review  
Environmental occurrences, fate, and impacts of microplastics

Panfeng Wu <sup>a,b,1</sup>, Jinchang Huang <sup>a,1</sup>, Yuling Zheng <sup>a</sup>, Yichang Yang <sup>a</sup>, Yue Zhang <sup>a</sup>, Fang He <sup>a</sup>, Hao Chen <sup>a</sup>, Gulixiang Quan <sup>a,\*</sup>, Jinlong Yan <sup>a</sup>, Tianjian Li <sup>a</sup>, Bin Gao <sup>a</sup>, & B.

**After 2020**

ENVIRONMENTAL Science & Technology

This article is licensed under CC-BY-NC-ND 4.0

Microplastic Human Dietary Uptake from 1990 to 2018 Grew across 109 Major Developing and Industrialized Countries but Can Be Halved by Plastic Debris Removal

Xiang Zhao and Fengqi You\*



# PRESENCE IN THE ENVIRONMENT

Aquatic compartment	Italy/Europe	World
Rivers (MPs/m <sup>3</sup> )	1- 300	< 1 – 1,6·10 <sup>6</sup>
Lakes (MPs/km <sup>2</sup> )	(< 1 – 5,5)·10 <sup>4</sup>	(2 – 19) ·10 <sup>4</sup>
Oceans (MPs/km <sup>2</sup> )	(< 1 – 25) Until 1,3·10 <sup>5</sup> in Mediterranean sea	1,7·10 <sup>6</sup> Japanese sea
Sediments (MP/kg <sub>SS</sub> )	185 - 2.175	178 - 980

## Uncertainties and goals

- **research** and **innovative products**;
- sampling and analysis **methods** (size ranges...);
- **units of measurement** (volumes / surfaces / weights);
- extent of **environmental contamination**
- **legislation** and **regulation**;
- coordinated and innovative **management** and **treatment**
- **socio-economic aspects** / **education**;
- etc.





## 3 Technical Working Sub-groups

### Monitoring and Analytical Techniques

Analyzing guidelines and protocols for **emerging micropollutants (EMPs)** and **microplastics (MPs)**.

Comparing criteria for the **optimal execution of analyses on wastewater and drinking water** treatment systems. **Assessing analytical sensitivities** in relation to **matrix types** and the challenges associated with **pollutant identification**.

### Technologies for Wastewater and Drinking Water

**Evaluating the fate and removal of EMPs and MPs** in wastewater treatment plants and water for human consumption, including treatment residues, with the aim of **promoting knowledge in the field for the improvement of existing facilities and the implementation and planning of new interventions**.

### Environmental and Human Risk

Identifying **actions aimed at understanding the environmental fate of EMPs and MPs** and their **ecotoxicological and human health effects**.

SECOND REPORT

"Emerging Pollutants and Microplastics – Strategies looking to the risk"

# INDEX OF THE 2ND VOLUME: MIE & MPS



- ***Preface***
- **Summary of the Report**
- **Premise**
- **Introduction**

## **1. Monitoring and Analytical Techniques**

1. Perfluorates in the environment
2. Antibiotics and antibiotic resistance
3. Fragrances in the aquatic environment
4. 1.3 Fragrances in the aquatic environment

## **2. Environmental and human risk**

- FIRST PART - Exposure, effects and risk assessment of MIEs and MPs
- SECOND PART - Toxicity assays for wastewater and water for human consumption
- PART THREE - Evaluation of assay results, regulations and criteria

## **3. Wastewater and drinking water technologies.**

1. Treatment processes for removal of emerging micropollutants (MIEs) and microplastics (MPs)
2. Required removal efficiencies and criteria for setting up treatment chains for MIEs
3. Risk analysis as a decision support tool in ONE-HEALTH perspective
4. Case studies from companies

- **Conclusions and perspectives in the management of micropollutants and microplastics**
- **Appendices**
- **Bibliography**

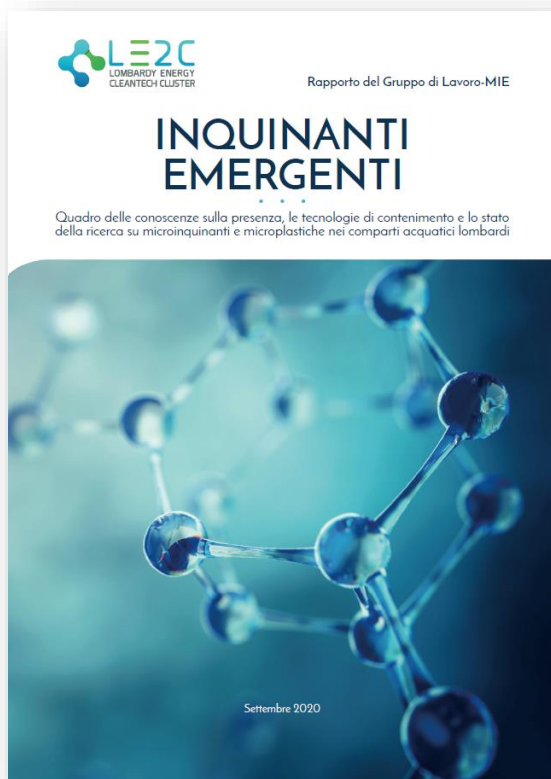
To address the problem of EMPs and MPs, it is necessary to operate by interacting between **companies** (water service managers and technology suppliers), **public bodies** (planning and control), **academia** and **citizens** to identify sustainable solutions.

The challenges of removing EMPs and MPs will have to be addressed, planned and managed in a **system logic** with the adoption of **integrated solutions**, considering the interests of the actors in order to guarantee:

- protection of human health;
- environmental preservation;
- sustainability linked with economic development;
- optimizing and preserve the use of the natural and economic resources of the territory.

# MIE REPORTS AVAILABLE (& NEXT)

*IN PROGRESS*





# THANK YOU!



## Info & Contacts

LE2C | Via Pantano, 9 - 20122 Milano (M3 Missori)  
tel. +39.02.58370816 - info@energycluster.it  
[www.energycluster.it](http://www.energycluster.it)

Follow us

