



Workshop



Perspectives for a European-Global South Partnership on Chemical Pollution under the Umbrella of the NORMAN Network

Chemical pollution is a global problem jeopardizing the quality of water, air, soil and marine environments as key resources for healthy ecosystems and humans, biodiversity, healthy food production and sustainable economic development. NORMAN is a mostly European science-policy network compiling enormous data on chemical pollution in Europe together with tools and guidance on monitoring, evaluation and prioritization of chemicals in different matrices, often helping shape European regulation on chemical pollution and monitoring. Many countries of the Global South are sharing challenges of chemical pollution and limited data, capacities and a lack of functional networks bringing scientists, monitoring agencies and decision makers together.

WORKSHOP GOALS:

The NORMAN Workshop is designed to explore opportunities for involving Global South partners and perspectives into the network to address chemical pollution on a planetary scale. To this end, the workshop will develop strategies to bridge gaps, offer network and database facilities and mutually benefits from bringing together researchers and practitioners from Europe and the Global South and their scientific excellence, enthusiasm and valuable experiences under the umbrella of NORMAN.

EVENT INFORMATION

CHECK-IN:	22.10.2026, 8:30-9:00	ORGANISING TEAM:	Werner Brack (UFZ), Celia Martins Bento (WUR), Sicco Brandsma (VU), Christina Pietruska (UFZ)
END:	23.10.2026, 16:00		
VENUE:	Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research UFZ Permoserstr. 15 04318 Leipzig Germany	CONTACTS:	werner.brack@ufz.de christina.pietruska@ufz.de
MEETING LINK:	https://ufz-de.zoom-x.de/j/64421891641?pwd=bOZ336ImfyPifgbgewSsqWarQO41au.1		

AGENDA DAY 1 – Thursday, 22.10.2026

08:30	Check-in: Coffee & Arrival
09:00	Welcome: Introduction to the aims of the workshop, including the agenda Werner Brack
09:20	Meet, Move and Expectations all
SESSION 1: NORMAN and other networks. History, Vision, Mission, Success Stories Chair: Celia Martins Bento	
09:40	The NORMAN Network: History, Vision, Mission, Success Stories, Data Base System Jaroslav Slobodnik
10:00	The NORMAN Network: Organisation, Working Groups, Membership, Joint Programme Activities Valeria Dulio
10:20	Discussion
10:30	Coffee Break
10:50	UNEP Chemicals and Waste. Experience on North-South collaboration Ludovic Bernaudat
11:10	FAO/INSOP: Experiences from Asian and Pacific soil and land management and from the International Network on Soil Pollution Lucrezia Caon/Natalia Rodriguez Eugenio
11:30	Global Chemical Monitoring Network (GloChem): A low-budget bottom-up initiative meets global interest Werner Brack
11:50	Discussion
12:00	Lunch Break
SESSION 2: Chemical Monitoring in the Global South. Why should NORMAN play a role Chair: Sicco Brandsma	
13:00	Results and Challenges for the implementation of the Brazilian Program for Monitoring Pesticides in Surface Freshwater to evaluate Risks to the Aquatic Biota: the key role of the NORMAN Database Gisela Umbuzeiro

13:10	From POPs to microplastics, and sacrifice zones: Two decades of chemical monitoring in Chile. Perspectives for NORMAN Ricardo O Barra
13:20	Monitoring of organic contaminants in aquatic environment: Case study in Red River Delta, Vietnam Bui van Hoi
13:30	Understanding Contaminants of Emerging Concern in Indian Water Systems: Emerging Evidence and Research Needs Arya Vijayanadan
13:40	Discussion
13:50	Environmental Monitoring in Zambia: A work in progress Nosiku Spilanyambe Munyinda
14:00	Rethinking Capacity Building for Sustainable Science in the Global South Saada Mohammed
14:10	Tracking the Unseen: Advancing Emerging Contaminant Monitoring in Kenya Through Collaboration Faith Kandie
14:20	Unlocking Water Safety: South Africa's path to effect-based bioassays for water quality through global collaboration Natalie Aneck-Hahn
14:30	Discussion
14:40	Coffee Break
SESSION 3: Perspectives for the Extension of NORMAN towards Global South partners Chair: Werner Brack	
15:00	Presentation of the results from the surveys Celia Martins Bentos
15:20	Plenary Discussion: What do we learn from surveys. Collection of critical points to be clarified for NORMAN extension
16:00	Group Discussion to further shape critical points and requirements in two groups: Group 1 NORMAN members Jan Koschorreck , Group 2 Global partners Gisela Umbuzeiro
17:00	Plenary Presentation and discussion of outcome from group discussions. Agreement on World Café Topics on Day 2
18:00	End of the Programme
19:30	Dinner

AGENDA DAY 2 – Friday, 23.10.2026

08:30	Coffee & Arrival
08:55	Welcome Werner
09:00	Opportunities of citizen science in pollution monitoring in Africa and a possible role of NORMAN Enock Kiminta
09:20	Recap of Day 1, including World Café topics Celia , Sicco , Werner
SESSION 4: WORLD CAFÉ ON SELECTED TOPICS Chair: Valeria Dulio	
09:50	World Café Part 1. 3 Topics. Examples: Vision/Mission of an extended NORMAN network, Science-Policy function of an extended network (role for UNEP, FAO etc.), implications for NORMAN Database System
11:05	World Café Part 2. 3 Topics. Examples: Structure of an extended network (e.g. distribution of new members on WGs, new WG on Global South, Cross-Cutting WG etc.), Membership conditions, JPAs, implications for GAs etc.
12:20	Group foto and Lunch Break
13:20	Reporting from World Café Discussions and Conclusions
16:00	End of the event