

Work Package 4

CAPACITY BUILDING

WP4 Leader: INCDM – NIMRD



Partners: NIVA, CNR, STICHTING VU, CSIC, NILU, AWI, AU, AFNOR



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WP4 to achieve EUROqCHARM's specific objective 5

EUROqCHARM's overall objective: to develop **optimised, validated and harmonised methods for monitoring and assessment** of plastics in the environment, as well as **blueprints for standards and recommendations** for policy and legislation.

EUROqCHARM's specific objectives :

SO1. Identification of state-of-the-art methods for **sample collection, sample preparation and analysis of plastics (nano-, micro-, macro-) in four different environmental matrices (water, soil/sediment, air and biota)** currently in use by research institutes, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) and other relevant research units through a systematic review of current practices amongst researchers, institutions and international working groups.

SO2. Identification of state-of-the-art protocols, recommendations and guidelines, which are currently being used for **monitoring and assessment of plastics in different environmental matrices** by European member states, through a systematic review of current practices of international working groups and institutions.

SO3. **Harmonising sample preparation, analysis and data reporting formats as recommendations for standards** through validation and quality assurance of identified candidate standard methods in a European wide intercalibration exercise, using newly prepared certified reference materials and quality assured and controlled studies.

SO4. **Harmonising monitoring methods** that can be used by stakeholders to formulate and implement **policy and legislation** at European and international levels, through the development of recommended guidelines.

SO5. **Capacity building to facilitate and accelerate adoption of developed standards and guidelines** by EU policy and legislation through the creation of a platform for knowledge exchange between **scientists, industry, standardisation bodies (CEN, ISO etc)** and **governance**.

The EUROqCHARM project uses the following **working definition of capacity building (CB)**:
“learning and being capable of adding something new relevant to a previously defined perspective” .

The EUROqCHARM capacity building strategy distinguishes individual, institutional and infrastructure capacity development. The strategy aims to coordinate and elaborate an existing efforts.

The EUROqCHARM project aims to make this strategy operational.



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WP4 aims to build capacity for geographically distributed plastics monitoring activities & the assessment of plastic pollution at national levels in EU member states.

WP4 focuses on *best practice dissemination*, in particular, in European countries that currently lack skills and resources.

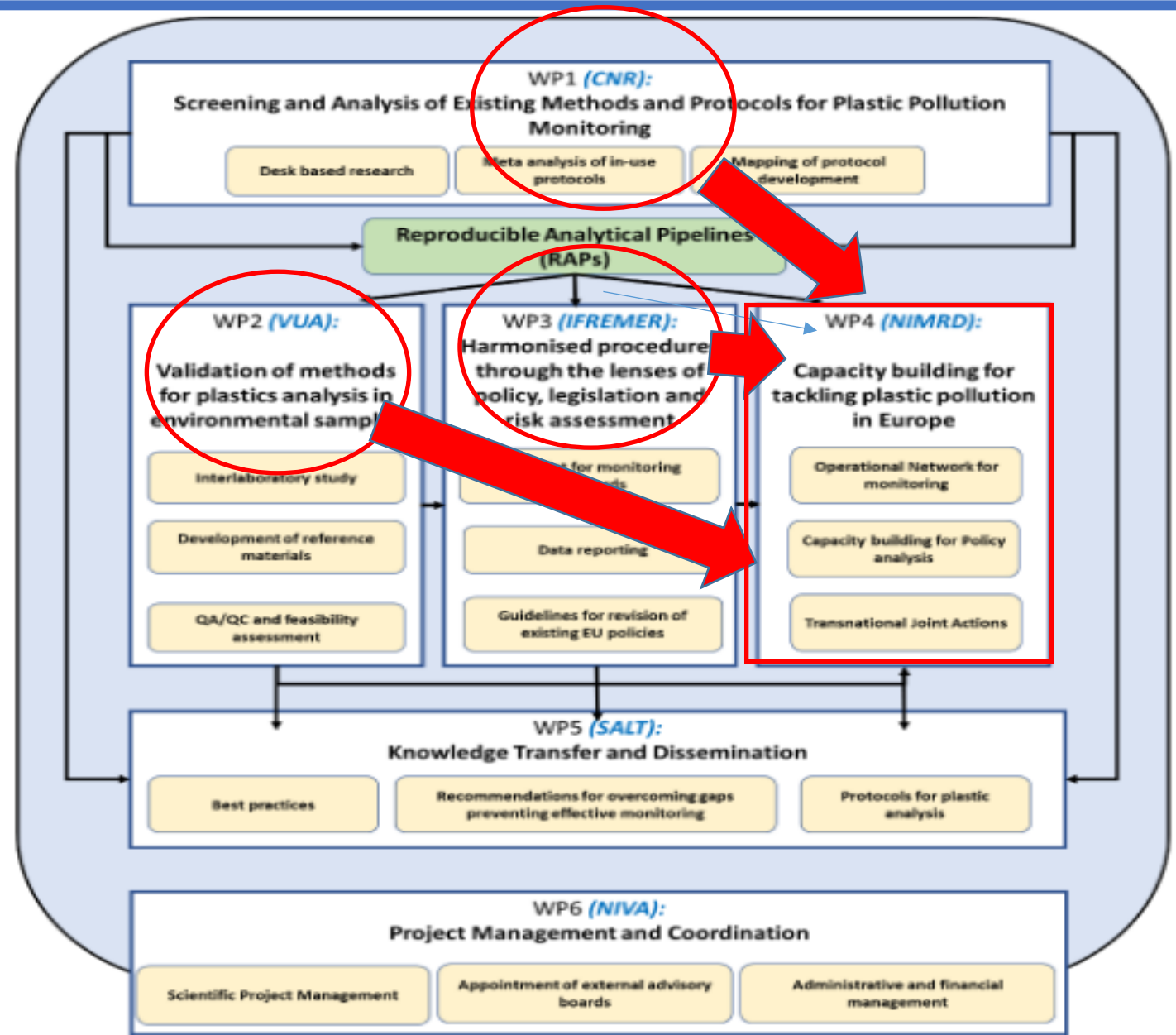
To maximise impact, EUROqCHARM will also establish and consolidate *an operational network for plastic monitoring, stimulating Transnational Joint Actions* built on existing and future European and international initiatives.



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Dependencies on other WPs and Tasks

Based on the outcomes of **WP1**, **WP2** and **WP3**, **the WP4 main objective** is to support European laboratories in acquiring and improving skills, tools and knowledge and other resources necessary for monitoring programmes to support the amendment of current legislation.



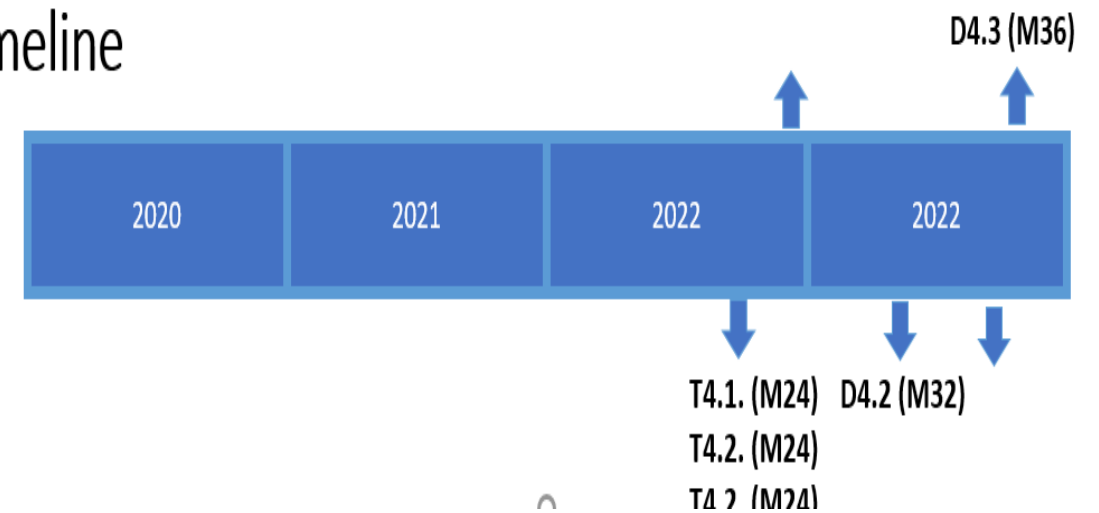
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Task 4.1. Operational Network of Plastic Monitoring (Lead: NIMRD; Partners: NIVA, CNR, AWI, VUA, AU, CSIC) (**Months 24-36**).

Task 4.2. Capacity building for policy analysis and policy coherence (Lead: NIMRD; Partners: NIVA, AFNOR, CSIC) (**Months 24-36**).

Task 4.3. Transnational Joint Actions (Lead: NIMRD; Partners: NIVA, NILU, AWI) (**Months 24-36**)

Timeline



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The expected outcomes from WP4

Task 4.1. Operational Network of Plastic Monitoring (*Lead: NIMRD; Partners: NIVA, CNR, AWI, VUA, AU, CSIC*) (Months 24-36).

The goal of the **Operational Network** is to develop and implement a **Knowledge Transfer and Best Practices Plan**, which will enable the dialogue amongst the national and international key players: universities and research centres and institutes, private companies, funders, public agencies and ministerial institutions, clusters, SMEs, NGOs, international organizations.

D4.1 Report on the establishment of Operational Network for Plastic Monitoring (M28)

D4.2 Handbook of relevant European plastic monitoring entities, projects and initiatives (M32)



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Task 4.2. Capacity building for policy analysis and policy coherence (Lead: NIMRD; Partners: NIVA, AFNOR, CSIC) (Months 24-36).

Tasks 4.2 aims to strengthen the capacity of academia, governments and private sector to initiate a dialogue on: (1) how plastic pollution problem can be properly addressed by existing and new policies targeting the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); and (2) how policy proposals emerging from international stakeholder fora can be implemented at national and EU level. This task will focus on: (1) raising awareness of the implications of multilateral commitments for domestic policies; (2) mainstreaming international commitments into national policy frameworks; (3) ensuring consistency between international commitments and domestic policies; and (4) lessons learnt and formulation of recommendations for a coherent policy framework tackling plastic pollution.

D4.3: Report on development of national and regional plastic litter capacity building action plans (M32)



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Task 4.3. Transnational Joint Actions (Lead: NIMRD; Partners: NIVA, NILU, AWI) (Months 24-36).

TJAs will include at least three actions along three general themes: (1) **Education** – with the scope to develop and share best practices and innovative approaches in the fields of terrestrial, freshwater and marine plastic education and training; (2) **Ecosystem** – with the scope to focus on ecosystem-based management, in a broader scale.; and (3) **Innovation** – aiming to promote novel approaches regarding optimisation of existing monitoring activities.

D4.4: Report on the Transnational Joint Actions (M36)



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