







D7.6 Cluster Brochure

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Executive Summary

The Micro- and Nanoplastics Cluster – now known as CUSP "The European Research Cluster to Understand the Health Impacts of Micro- and Nanoplastics" - has been formed to facilitate collaborations between five research projects funded under Horizon 2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, SC1-BHC-36-2020 - Micro- and nanoplastics in our environment: Understanding exposures and impacts on human health.

These initiatives are working together to enhance impact by synergizing communication and dissemination strategies, and sharing expertise such as analytical methods, exposure assessments, inter-lab comparisons, representative materials, and data exchange. The cluster will also collaborate closely with the JRC, and annual cluster meetings will be organized to report on joint activities within and beyond the cluster.

This document describes the Cluster Brochure development and production as a common deliverable of the five CUSP projects. The text has been extracted from D7.4 Common Communication and Dissemination Strategy for the Cluster.

¹ Nature: ¹ Dissemination level:	R = Report, P = Prototype, D = Demonstrator, O = Other PU = Public PP = Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
	RE = Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services) CO = Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services) Restraint UE = Classified with the classification level "Restraint UE" according to Commission Decision 2001/844 and amendments	
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1. Introduction

1.1 An Overview of CUSP

CUSP is a cluster of micro- and nanoplastics (MNPs) research projects comprising 75 organizations from 21 countries forming five large-scale projects funded by the European Commission with EUR 30 million. Partners include multidisciplinary teams of scientists, researchers, industry, and policymakers who will collaborate in this unprecedented research effort over the next five years. Within CUSP, the five different projects will investigate different aspects of the complex relationship between MNPs and human health, focusing particularly on exposure routes, hazard and risk assessment, and the development of new analytical tools to measure, characterize and quantify MNPs. This will improve our present understanding of the impact of MNPs and associated additives/adsorbed contaminants (A/C) in the human body.

The five projects are:

- AURORA Grant No. 964827
 Actionable eUropean ROadmap for early-life health Risk Assessment of micro- and nanoplastics
- ImpTox Grant No. No. 965173
 An Innovative analytical platform to investigate the effect and toxicity of micro and nano plastics combined with environmental contaminants on the risk of allergic disease
- PLASTICHEAL Grant No. No. 965196
 Innovative tools to study the impact and mode of action of micro and nanoplastics on human health: towards a knowledge base for risk assessment
- PlasticsFatE Grant No. No. 965367
 Plastics Fate and Effects in the human body
- POLYRISK Grant No. No.964766
 Understanding human exposure and health hazards of micro- and nanoplastic contaminants in our environment

This work entails the development of human health hazard and risk assessment methodologies, including preliminary investigations into long-term impacts. CUSP research results will contribute to the health-relevant aims of the European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy and the Bioeconomy Strategy, as well as the REACH restrictions on intentionally added MNPs to products, by providing new evidence for effective preventive policies.



2. The Cluster Brochure

Among the promotional materials to be developed to support dissemination and communication is the CUSP brochure/flyer. This will be updated through the course of the projects and will be made available in electronic form to partners to complement online activities and to distribute at live events. The brochure/flyer will convey essential information and contact details using the CUSP branding and will be published in English but translatable to other languages.

Figure 1 shows the draft of the front cover.



Figure 1 Draft Brochure – front page