

Workshop: “Young Researchers for a Plastic Free Baltic Sea Region”

HAMBURG, GERMANY

22-24th September 2025

HOST INSTITUTION DETAILS

Name of the University: Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (HAW)

Faculty: Life Sciences

Department: Research + Transfer Centre “Sustainable Development & Climate Change Management” (FTZ-NK)

Division: Environmental Management & Circular Economy (EMCE)

CONTACT PERSON DETAILS

Name: Dr. Jelena Barbir

Position: Director of Environmental Management & Circular Economy Division (EMCE)

Address: Ulmenliet 20, 21033, Hamburg

Email: jelena.barbir@haw-hamburg.de

Phone: +49 40 428 75 6362

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION

Title: Workshop: “Young Researchers for a Plastic Free Baltic Sea Region”

Location: Hamburg, Germany

Dates: 22-24 September 2025 (arrival 21st and departure 24th September 2025)

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

21st September - SUNDAY

Arrival of the participants

22nd September - MONDAY

Topic: Environmental Management and Plastics Pollution across the BSR

Morning (9:00 – 12.30h): BALTIPLAST project & plastic pollution (Hybrid session: available for online participants)

8:30-9:00 – Registration & morning coffee

9:00-9:10 – Opening and welcome note (*Jelena Barbir, HAW-Hamburg, Germany*)

9:10-9:30 – The Plastic Crisis and Environmental Threats: What can be done? (*Walter Leal, HAW-HAMBURG, Germany*)

9:30-10:00 – KEYNOTE: Microplastic release in the sea from refineries, and which policies can incentivize the adoption of technologies to reduce it (*Domenico Buccella, Kozminski University, Poland*)

10:00 – 10:30 - BALTIPLAST SOLUTIONS and PLATFORM– How can we reduce plastic waste in the BSR? (*Andrea Dobri, HAW-HAMBURG, Germany*)

10:30 – 11:00 – COFFEE BREAK

11:00 – 11:30h – Implementing BALTIPLAST solutions in households (*Jelena Barbir, HAW-HAMBURG, Germany*)

11:30 – 12:00h – Implementing BALTIPLAST solutions in businesses (*Johanna Gäbken, KUBUS, Germany*)

12:00 – 12:30h – Implementing BALTIPLAST solutions in schools (*Andrea Dobri, HAW-HAMBURG, Germany*)

12:30-13:30h – LUNCH BREAK

SESSION: IN PERSON ONLY

13:30-15:00 **Workshop: PROJECT2SOCIETY – PART1** - Developing plans to implement BALTIPLAST SOLUTIONS to reduce single-use plastic pollution in schools, businesses, and households across the BSR

15:00-15:30 – COFFEE BREAK

15:30-16:30 – **ESCAPE GAME by KuBuS e.V.** – Brosnar Rodriguez & Estefania Carpio (*HAW-HAMBURG, Germany*)

18:00h Welcome Dinner

23rd September - TUESDAY

TOPIC: Technical Solutions: Circularity and Bio-Based Plastics

Morning (9:00 – 12.30h): Circular economy and bio-based plastics across the BSR (Hybrid session: available for online participants)

8:30-9:00 – Registration & morning coffee

9:00-9:30 – BALTIPLAST – technological solutions – what project offers and how to implement it across the BSR (*Estefania Carpio, HAW-HAMBURG, Germany*)

9:30-10:00 – Impact assessments in BALTIPLAST project (*Pavlo Lyshtva, TalTech, Estonia*)

10:00-10:30 - Putting "bio" in plastics: from renewable feedstocks to advanced end-of-life management strategies (*Kristine Meile, Latvian State Institute of Wood Chemistry, Latvia*)

10:30 – 11:00 – COFFEE BREAK

11:00-11:30 - Quality deterioration factors of the plastics closed-loop recycling (*Ayah Alassali, TUHH, Germany*)

11:30-12:30 - Poster presentations & Joint discussion about technical solutions in the BSR

12:30-13:30h – LUNCH BREAK

13:30-15:00 - **Workshop: PROJECT2SOCIETY – PART2** - Developing action plans for implementing solutions across the BSR (*coordinated by HAW-HAMBURG, Germany*)

16:00h Social event: visit to the Hamburg Harbor (including boat ride)

19:00h Farewell Dinner

24th September - WEDNESDAY

TOPIC: New opportunities: joining forces to create new projects and local actions with communities across the BSR

Morning (9:00 – 12.30h): New opportunities and networks across the BSR to reduce plastic pollution (Hybrid session from 10.30-12.30h: available for online participants)

8:30-9:00 – Registration & morning coffee

9:00-10:00h - **Short pitch of the action plans: Diagram – MIRO board** (*HAW-HAMBURG, Germany*)

10:00-10:30 - Discussion about the action plans developed: How to implement developed solutions within your communities? (*HAW-HAMBURG, Germany*)

10:30-11:00 – COFFEE BREAK

11:00-11.20 – The Baltic University Programme - current and future opportunities (*BUP Team, Sweden*)

11.20-11.40 – From Isolation to Collaboration: Building a Community for PhD Researchers in Circular Economy (*Priya Saikumar, Teresa Holfeld, Academics for Circular Economy, Germany*)

11.40-12:20 – Long-term collaboration to reduce plastics in the BSR - Bio4Circularity Network (*Jelena Barbir HAW-HAMBURG, Germany*)

12:20-12:30 - Closing of the meeting (*Jelena Barbir HAW-HAMBURG, Germany*)

12:30-13:30h – LUNCH

Afternoon: departure of the participants