



**Northwest
Pacific
Action Plan**

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Northwest Pacific Action Plan
Pollution Monitoring Regional Activity Center

The Fourteenth NOWPAP POMRAC Focal Points Meeting
Vladivostok, Russian Federation, 25-26 October, 2017

**Workplan and budget for POMRAC Marine Litter Activities for the
2018-2019 biennium**

PROPOSAL OUTLINE

1. **Project title:** Microplastics abundance in river runoff and coastal waters of the NOWPAP region with a case study in the Russian part of NOWPAP area.
2. **Leading implementing RAC:** NOWPAP POMRAC
3. **Participating NOWPAP members:** People's Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea and Russian Federation.
4. **Supervising body of the project:** NOWPAP POMRAC
5. **Project period:** January 2018 - December 2019.
6. **Total budget:** US\$ 46,000.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Goals of the project

Pollution by plastic microparticles (microplastics) is recognized as an issue of increasing concern in the NOWPAP region though data about microplastics abundance and transport are very limited. Especially limited information is available for the Russian part of the NOWPAP region. Rather low population density, modest level of industrial development, and restricted research/monitoring capabilities are the reasons for that limitation. It is suggested that the abundance of microplastics in the coastal waters within the Russian part of the NOWPAP region could reflect the regional "background" pollution level. At the same time, comparison with the data on microplastics obtained in coastal waters of other NOWPAP member states might allow to assess regional distribution of microplastics.

The main goal of this project is to collect existing data on microplastics quantity and composition in the coastal waters within the NOWPAP region and to obtain background information on the distribution of different kinds of microplastics in the coastal waters of the Russian part of the NOWPAP region.

Another goal of this project is to obtain data on the concentrations of microplastics in the rivers of the Russian part of the NOWPAP region and try to assess the microplastics input to the sea with river runoff. Collecting similar existing data from other NOWPAP countries might allow to estimate the role of river runoff in the microplastics transport. The compilation and regional synthesis of the data on this issue is expected to be done in the next (2020-2021) biennium.

Overview on microplastics in the NOWPAP region during next biennium)									
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Project budget

Activities	Budget allocation (US\$)
Experts from each NOWPAP member state (collecting data and preparing National Inputs)	16,000 (4,000x4)
Workshop (travel and accommodation of experts, etc.)	18,000
Seasonal surveys within the Russian part of the NOWPAP region	10,000
Finalization of the National Inputs by national experts	2,000 (500x4)
Total	US\$ 46,000