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#### SusWater in a nutshell

A description of the project and the consortium of participants.

### Workshop

Exploitation of Polymeric Hydrogels for wastewater remediation and biomedical applications.

28<sup>th</sup> February-1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 -Turin (Italy) - Politecnico di Torino

# Secondment experiences

Monica Rigoletto talks about her secondment in Japan

#### **Next** event

Mini-Symposium on Advanced Materials for Environmental Cleanup 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 & other

Other info on the website: www.suswater.eu

## The Project: SusWater in a nutshell

SusWater is a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary consortium aiming to promotes the development of sustainable integrated approaches to achieve contaminants of emerging concern (CECs) and potentially toxic elements (PTEs) removal from contaminated waters.

SusWater assess the quality of water in a pilot wastewater treatment plant (in Spain) and in two aquaculture sites (Italy, Thailand) by monitoring CECs and PTEs

## Workshop

A Workshop on Exploitation of Polymeric Hydrogels for wastewater remediation and biomedical applications

was held on 28<sup>th</sup> February - 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 in Turin (Italy) at Politecnico di Torino. The workshop was organized by POLITO and UNITO and was attended by ERs/ESRs from UNITO, URJC and POLITO. Lectures were given by 8 ERs and 2 ESRs involved in SusWater from POLITO, URJC and UNITO and were attended by 40 PhD students.

During the workshop, different methods for the preparation, characterization and use of hydrogels in the treatment of environmental pollution were presented and discussed by the participants.





## **ER/ESR Experiences**

### Episode 2 - Monica Rigoletto

It's always nice to look back on your experiences, especially those that leave their mark and help you grow professionally and personally.

I started my PhD in autumn 2021 and had the pleasure of taking part in the Suswater project straight away. This allowed me to experience periods of research in international laboratories and to come into contact with different ways of working and different cultures.

Certainly the most stimulating experience was the one in Japan, at the Kyushu Institute of Technology in Kitakyushu. You surely have already read about the experience of my colleague Elisa Gaggero, traveling companion and friend with whom I shared these two months in Japan in autumn 2022. Today I will try to integrate her story with the point of view of a young researcher who decided to make Japan the first foreign experience of her academic career.

As you can imagine it was a somewhat shocking but also wonderful experience and one that I will never forget in my life.

It is very difficult to summarize all the emotions we experienced in the first days in Kitakyushu. Between curiosity and disorientation, we slowly learned about the habits of Japanese daily life. Thinking about it today it makes me laugh when I remember the first attempt to do a washing machine in our apartment: which ideogram would be the one for turning it on?

Besides the personal aspect, this period in Japan has certainly been a unique professional opportunity. Working with Prof. Ohno's research group allowed me to experiment with fields of study different from my usual ones and to learn new synthesis and analysis techniques. It undoubtedly represented a stimulating environment that made me a more mature researcher.

Even today, after more than a year, I am still in contact with some researchers from the Japanese group, confirming how much these experiences help to create international working but also personal relationships.

### **NEXT EVENTS**

# The European Researchers' Night - 29th September 2023

The European Researcher's Night is a Europe-wide public event, which displays the diversity of science and its impact on citizens' daily lives in fun, inspiring ways.

### **Mini-Symposium**

Mini-Symposium on Advanced Materials for Environmental Cleanup 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at Kitakyushu Inst. of Technology, Kitakyushu (Japan)

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