

## **Pollutants and debris**

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The deep sea is likely the ultimate sink for a variety of chemical pollutants and solid debris, such as microplastics. Many of these pollutants and debris are known to negatively impact shallow-water ecosystems and will likely have negative effects on the health of deep-sea ecosystems. It is thus considered crucial to improve the knowledge on the presence and potential risks to fauna of pollutants and debris in the deep sea. In light of increasing anthropogenic activities and recognition of the consequences of these activities on the deep sea, baseline studies and EIA need to consider potential cumulative impacts including from pollutants and debris. The Deep-Ocean Stewardship Initiative (DOSI) - Pollution and Debris working group invites contributions on new knowledge on pollutants and debris presence in the deep sea, their effects on deep-sea fauna either in situ, or ex-situ or using proxy species, as well as on new methodological frameworks to improve the knowledge on and robustness in this field.