

Understanding microplastic emissions from textiles in the Netherlands

**Short name**

META+

Formal name

Understanding microplastic emissions from textiles in the Netherlands

Contact person

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<https://www.meta-citizenscience.nl>

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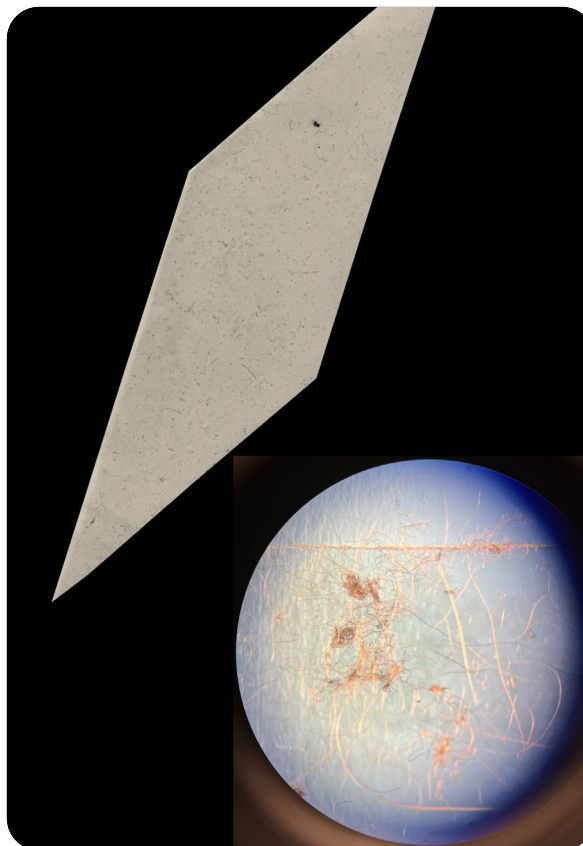
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In META+, citizen scientists investigate the release of plastic microfibers released from laundry, across Dutch socio-economic and geographic gradients

**Summary**

Microfibers released from textiles are a major source of microplastic pollution in the Netherlands. Reducing these emissions can thus only be tackled through research integrated across disciplines. In this proposal, we build on META (www.meta-citizenscience.nl), a transdisciplinary collaboration launched in 2022 that integrates methods in synthetic microfiber sampling, Citizen Science, and environmental psychology. We propose to extend and diversify the META Citizen Science network. This will allow us to broaden our dataset on microfiber release and driving factors that can ultimately result in an emission model for microfibers. Simultaneously we aim to increase awareness of microplastic pollution through the establishment of a sustainable and growing network of citizen scientists engaged in microfiber research. Finally, we wish to boost our outreach activities and the production of classroom material to particularly engage children, youth and young adults.