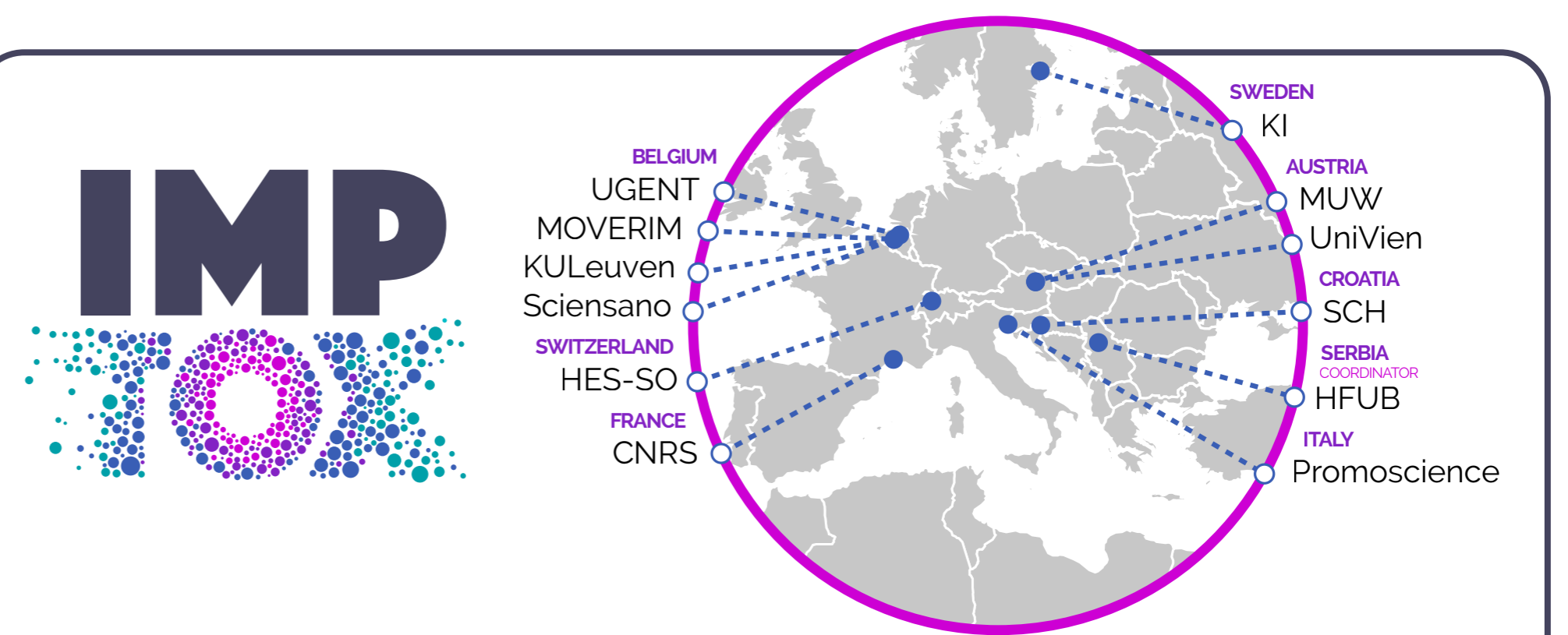


An IMPTOX experiment TO BETTER UNDERSTAND BACTERIAL COLONIZATION OF MICROPLASTICS

THE EXPERIMENT

In this experiment CNRS will incubate different types of microplastics in various seawaters throughout the seasons to analyse the bacteria that will settle on them. With this study the scientists hope to gain better insights on microbial colonization depending on the material, location and season.



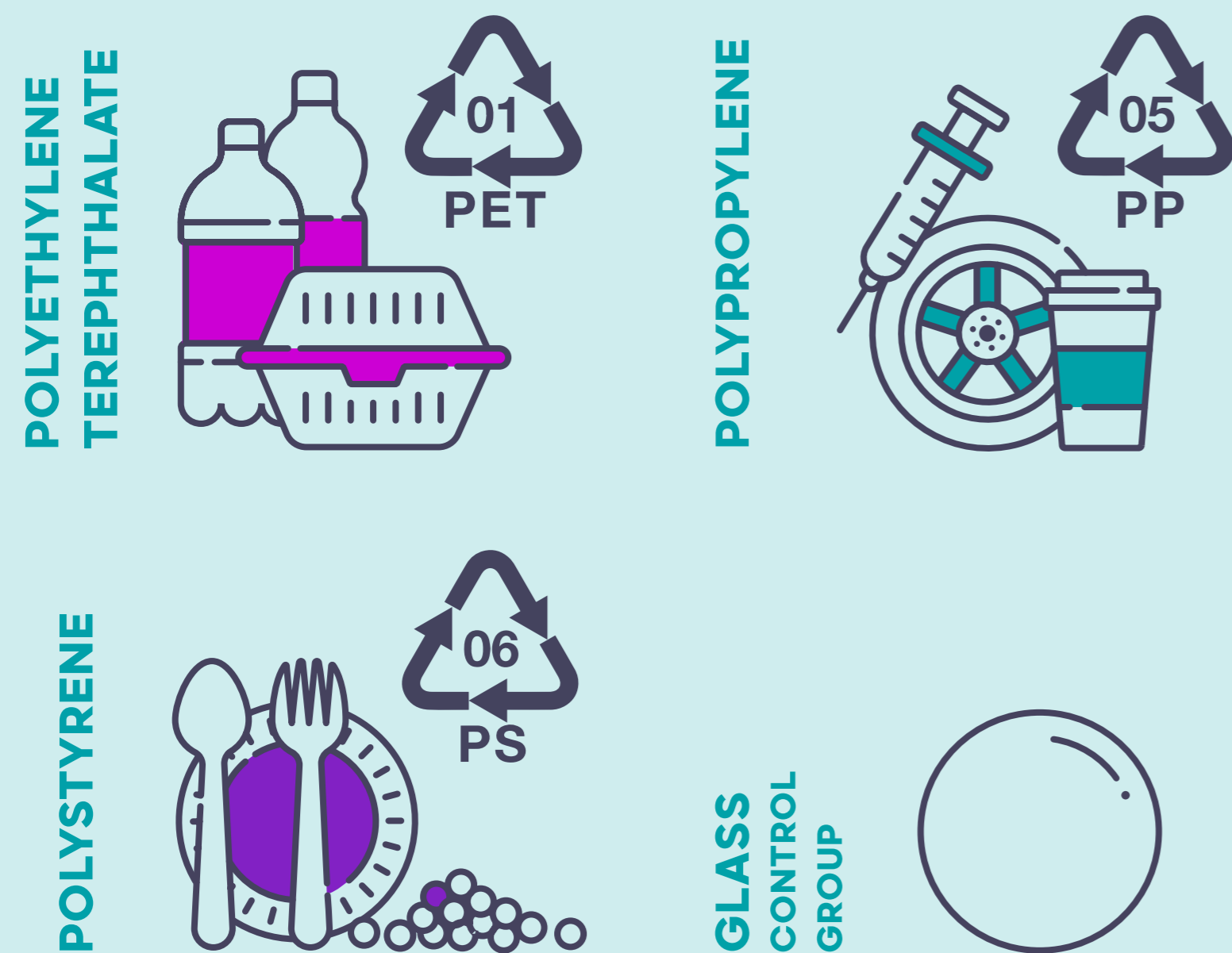
THE IMPTOX PROJECT

Imptox is a scientific project involving 12 international partners studying the impact of micro- and nanoplastics (MNPs) on food safety and human health while focusing in particular on allergies and asthma.

MNPs AS VECTORS FOR CONTAMINANTS

In a dedicated working group, CNRS, together with their Imptox colleagues from UGent, UBFC, KU Leuven and Sciensano study the impact of MNPs as carriers of potentially toxic material adsorbed to their surface.

MATERIALS



LOCATIONS

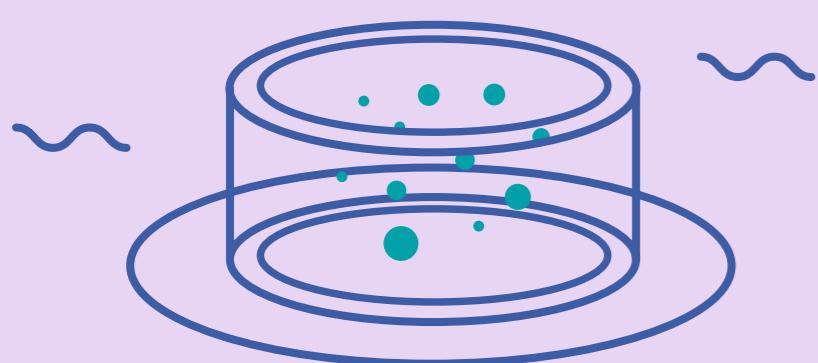


SEASONS



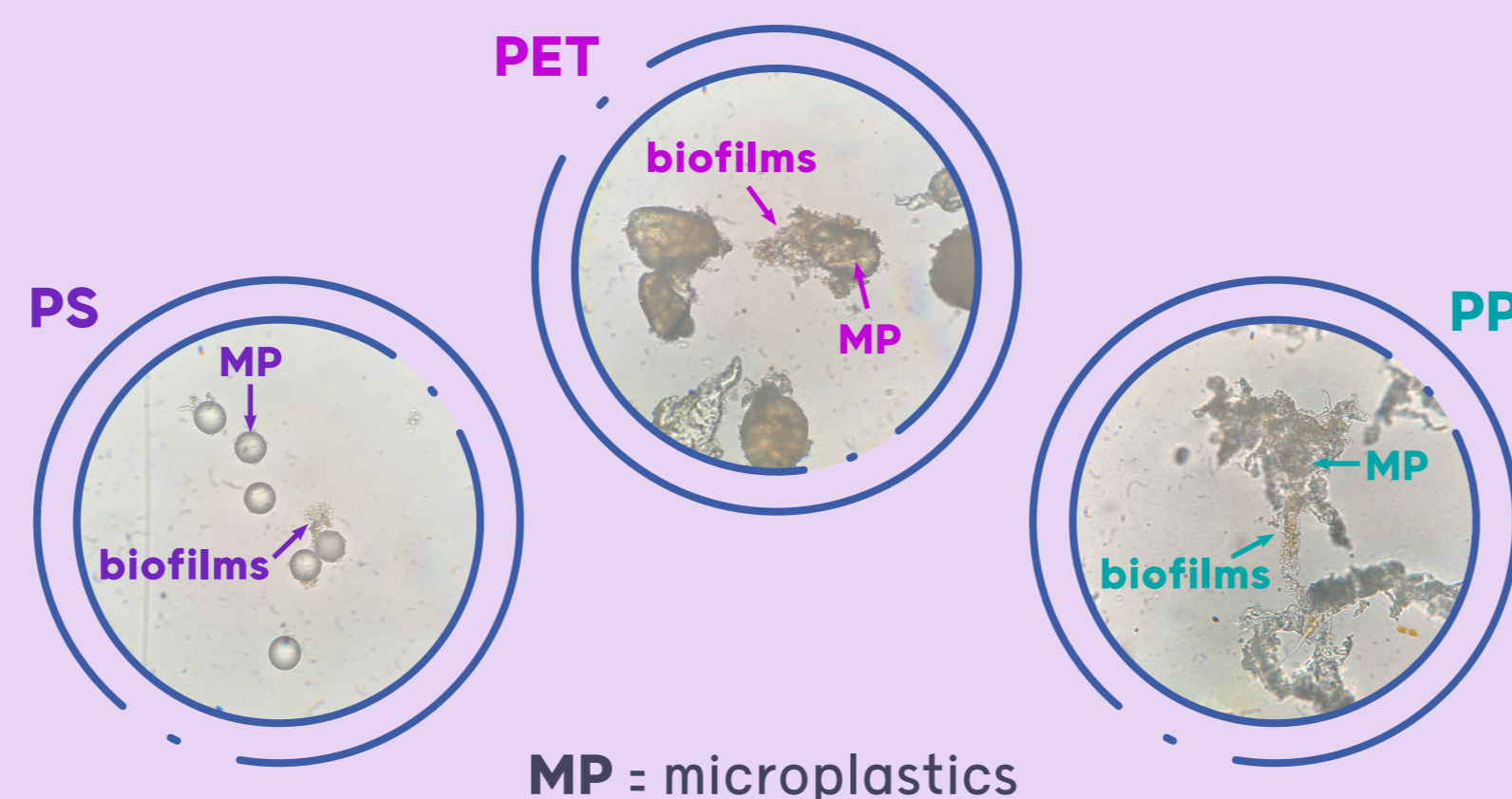
INCUBATE

materials in marine environments throughout the four seasons



COLLECT

microbial communities associated with microplastics



MP = microplastics

CHARACTERIZE

microbial communities by shotgun metagenomic sequencing to find out, among others:

Which bacteria are present on microplastics ?

Do they change according to season & locality ?

To which **antibiotics** are the bacteria **resistant** to ?

Which **virulence genes** are present ?



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