

The Third Symposium on New Contaminant Control convenes in China

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The Third Symposium on New Contaminant Control was successfully held in Shanghai, China, on September 13–14, 2025. Jointly organized by the Chinese Society for Environmental Sciences, and the Chinese Academy of Environmental Planning, the event brought together over 600 researchers, experts, government officials, and industry leaders dedicated to addressing new contaminants in China.

New contaminants have garnered significant global attention due to their persistent, bioaccumulative, and hazardous characteristics. Since 2020, controlling these pollutants has become a critical environmental priority in China, motivating action among policymakers and researchers alike. Against this backdrop, the Committee on New Contaminant Control was established under the Chinese Society for Environmental Sciences in 2023. Since then, the committee has successfully hosted the Symposium on New Contaminant Control for three consecutive years, with this year marking the third installment.

The symposium covered eight critical topics. Four focused on controlling specific contaminants of global concern, including persistent organic pollutants, endocrine disruptors, antibiotics, and microplastics. The remaining four addressed fundamental aspects of contamination control: identification, screening, and monitoring; hazard and risk assessment; risk control and co-treatment with traditional pollutants; and the development of management systems and support platforms. The symposium also featured the launch and inaugural editorial board meeting of the journal, *New Contaminants*.

The symposium served to acknowledge China's preliminary progress in controlling new contaminant control, while also stressing that addressing these pollutants remains a critical long-term task for achieving national pollution reduction goals, and the 'Beautiful China Initiative'. The successful event has provided significant momentum for advancing technological innovation and translating research into practical solutions.

Author contributions

The author confirms sole responsibility for the news preparation.

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Declarations

Competing interests

The author declares that she has no conflict of interest.

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