

Monitoring of Coastal and Transitional Waters in Europe

Broad Analytical Spectrum and Professional Sample Logistics

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Project

Trace contaminant monitoring focused on WFD priority substances at European coastal and transitional waters.

Client

Hrvatske Vode, Zagreb (Croatia)
Marine Institute, Galway (Rep. Ireland)



Project description

The European Water Framework Directive (WFD) prescribes among other important measures a complex analytical monitoring of all water bodies in the EU member states. In the past few years, especially transitional and marine waters have been subject of intense investigations. Prior to that, the focus laid on inland surface waters like lakes and rivers.

Besides the important survey of biological, ecological and nutritional parameters the monitoring of priority substances and other trace pollutants plays an important role. The EU member states are requested to include also locally or regionally relevant pollutants into their monitoring programmes.

As a consequence of this broad spectrum of substances of concern the involved expert labs have to cope with complex analytical tasks and challenges on a high quality management level. The main chal-

lenge is to meet the very low detection limits and other performance data which are necessary to monitor the extremely low environmentally quality standards (EQS). Finally yet importantly just a few labs are accredited for these purposes. IWW fulfils all formal requirements and has established an efficient sample logistics team for the handling of samples from the various European projects.

It is self-evident that a professional management of large environmental projects can only be achieved in an interdisciplinary team with local partners with in-depth knowledge on the water basins to be monitored. The IWW team brings in the expertise from more than 25 years of high quality trace analysis. The local partners in Zagreb and Split are highly experienced with the

estuary and coastal areas of the Adriatic Sea.

Current project Croatia

The Croatian project was centrally coordinated by the „Institut za oceanografiju i ribarstvo“ (Institute for Oceanography and Fishery) in Split and by the Ruđer Bošković Institute in Zagreb. IWW Water Centre contributed substantially to the sample logistics and in particular to the challenging trace analysis of priority substances and data evaluation.

Project duration

Monitoring programmes are typically designed for two up to three years.

Contact at IWW

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