



**FIELD MONITORING AND EFFECT ASSESSMENT OF  
EMERGING SUBSTANCES IN THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT:  
INTEGRATED APPROACHES AND FUTURE CHALLENGES**

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# Content

- Review status of integrated methods for chemical-biological effects monitoring of major emerging substances in the marine environment under OSPAR
- Present an integrated method that can be used for preliminary hazard assessment of emerging substances in WFD
- Discuss future challenges and opportunities

# Integrated chemical-biological effects monitoring under OSPAR- why?

- A much more effective assessment of ecosystem health
- Important for assessment under the Marine Strategy Directive
- Improved scope for interpretation and understanding of monitoring results
- Cost-saving aspects

# Integrated chemical-biological effects monitoring - how?

## Preconditions

- Simultaneous measurement of biological effects and chemical parameters, and primary or support parameters
- AQC and assessment tools
- Selection of appropriate packages of chemical and biological methods for monitoring that **explicitly link** each of the chemical determinands with the effects which they may cause

# OSPAR chemicals for priority action for which monitoring strategies have been adopted by OSPAR

cadmium	nonylphenol/nonylphenol-ethoxylates
certain brominated flame retardant	octylphenol
certain phthalates	organic tin compounds
clotrimazole	pentachlorophenol (PCP)
dicofol (Finland)	perfluorooctane sulphonate (PFOS)
4-(dimethylbutylamino)diphenylamine (6PPD)	polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)
dioxins and furans	polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)
endosulphan	short-chained chlorinated paraffins
lead and organic lead compounds	tetrabromobisphenol-A (TBBPA)
HCH-isomers, including lindane	trichlorobenzenes
mercury and organic mercury compounds	trifluralin
methoxychlor	2,4,6 tri- <i>tert</i> -butylphenol
musk xylenes and other musks	

# Packages of methods for chemical-biological effects monitoring

## Emerging substances reviewed

Organotins, estrogenic substances, PAHs and alkylated PAHs, PCBs, PC dibenzodioxins and furans, Brominated flame retardants, PFOS, Nanoparticles

## Guidelines/literature used

- JAMP Guidelines for Monitoring Contaminants in sediment and biota
- JAMP guidelines for General Biological Effects Monitoring
- JAMP guidelines for Contaminant-specific Biological Effects Monitoring
  - TBT-specific (gastropods)
  - metal-specific
  - PAH-specific
- Reports of the ICES/OSPAR Workshops on Integrated Monitoring of Contaminants and their Effects in Coastal and Open-sea Areas (WKIMON)

## OSPAR JAMP biological effects techniques – review and status

Technique	JAMP	CEMP	AQC
		cat/status	
<b>TBT-Specific Biological Effects</b>			
Imposex/intersex in gastropods	Yes	I - Mandatory	Q
<b>PAH-Specific Biological Effects</b>			
CYP1A	Yes	II	Yes
PAH metabolites	Yes	II	Q
DNA adducts	Yes	II	B-a
Liver pathology	Yes	I - Voluntary	Yes
<b>Metal Specific Biological Effects</b>			
Metallothionein	Yes	II	
ALA-D	Yes	II	
Oxidative stress	Yes	II	
<b>Endocrine disruption</b>			
Vitellogenin in cod			Yes
Vitellogenin in flounder			
Intersex in male flounder			B-a

CEMP Cat I: QA in place; appropriate for Covention-wide assessments

CEMP Cat II: QA not in place; may be used for monitoring although with caution.

B=BEQUALM current; B-a= available via BEQUALM; Q= QUASIMEME current



# OSPAR JAMP biological effects techniques – review and status

Technique	JAMP	CEMP	AQC
		cat/status	
<b>General Biological Effects</b>			
<b>INVERTEBRATES</b>			
Whole sediment bioassays	Yes	II	B
Sediment pore water bioassays	Yes	II	B
Sediment sea water elutriates	Yes	II	
Water bioassays OEB/ Tisbe		II	B
Lysosomal integrity NRR mussel			B-a
MXR/MDR in mussel			
SFG in mussel			B-a
AChE in mussel			
MT in mussel			
Histopathology in mussel			
<b>FISH</b>			
AChE			
Lysosomal stability	Yes	II	B-a
CYP1A	Yes	II	B
Liver neoplasms	Yes	I - Voluntary	B
Externally visible fish diseases	Yes	I - Voluntary	B
Reproductive succes	Yes	II	B-a

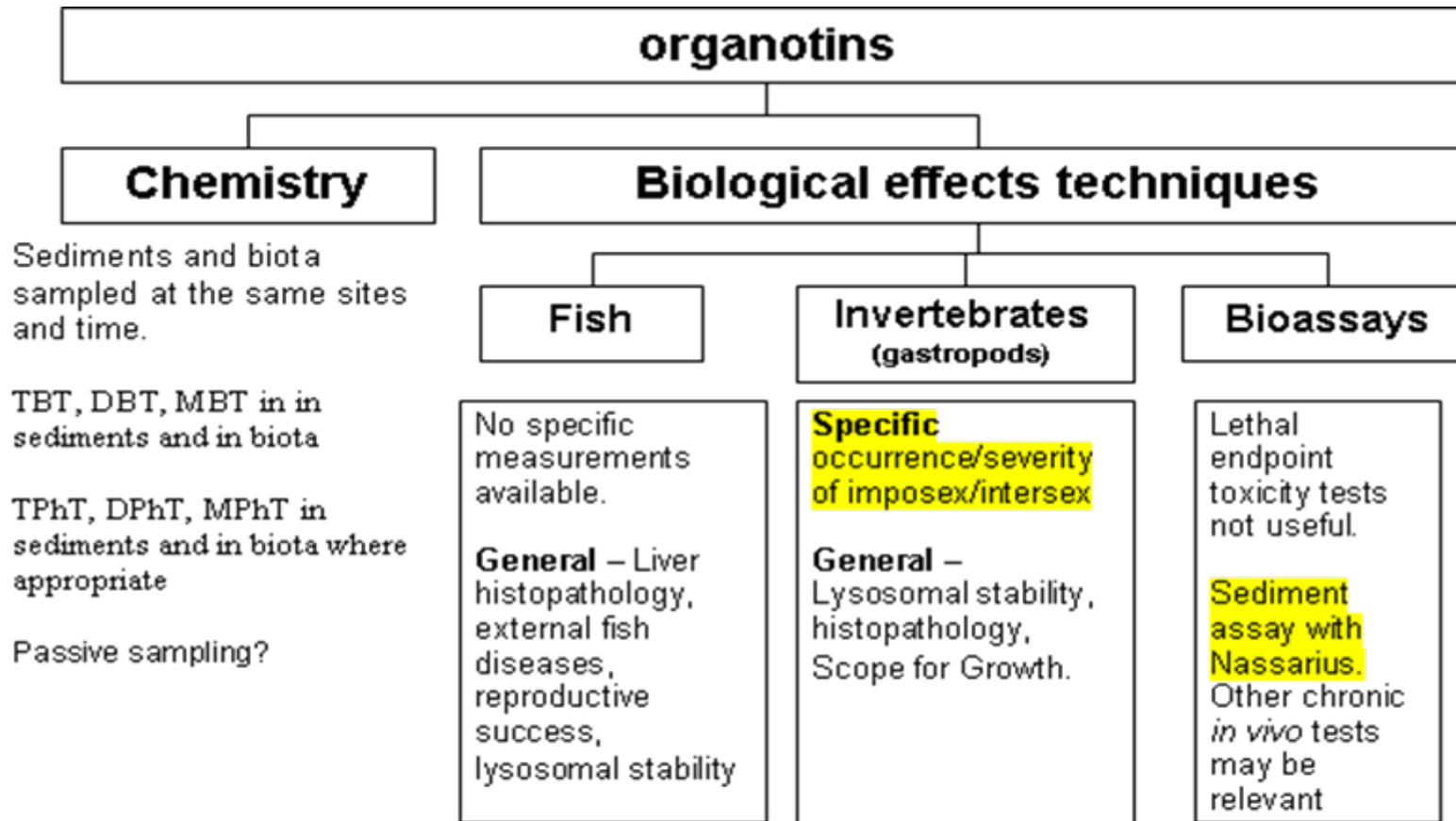
# OSPAR JAMP biological effects technique – review and status

Short-term bioassays and screening tools	AQC
<b>In vivo water / extracts of water or sediment</b>	
oyster embryo	B
mussel embryo	
<i>Tisbe</i>	B
<i>Daphnia</i>	B
<i>Nitocra</i>	
<i>Acartia</i>	
echinoderm embryo	
fish embryo	
algal growth	B
algal PAM	

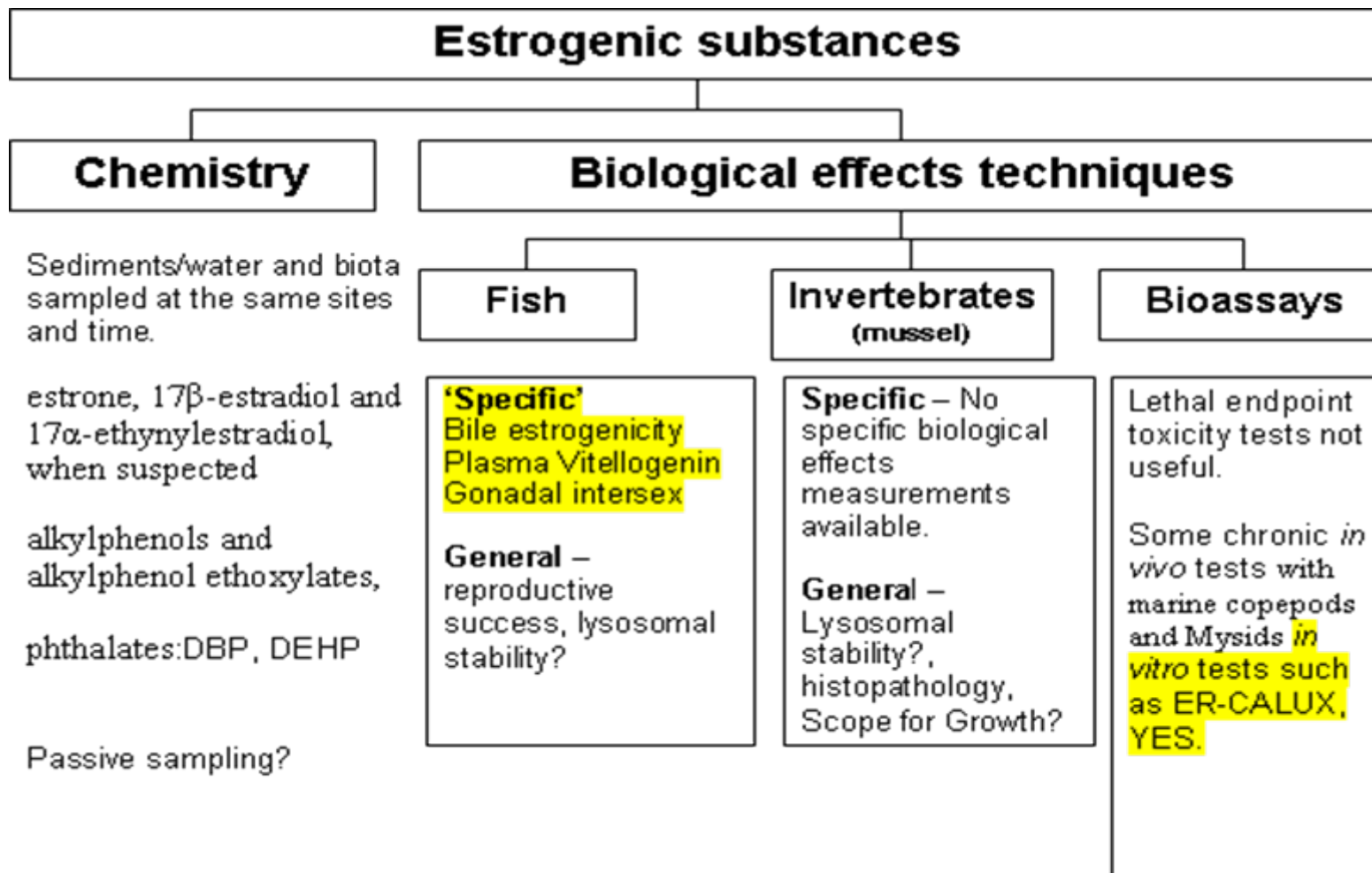
<b>In vitro / extracts of water or sediment</b>	
Microtox	intercalibrated B-a
Mutatox	
YES	intercalibrated
YAS	
DR CALUX	intercalibrated?
ER CALUX	
Fish cell lines	

B=BEQUALM current; B-a= available via BEQUALM; Q= QUASIMEME current

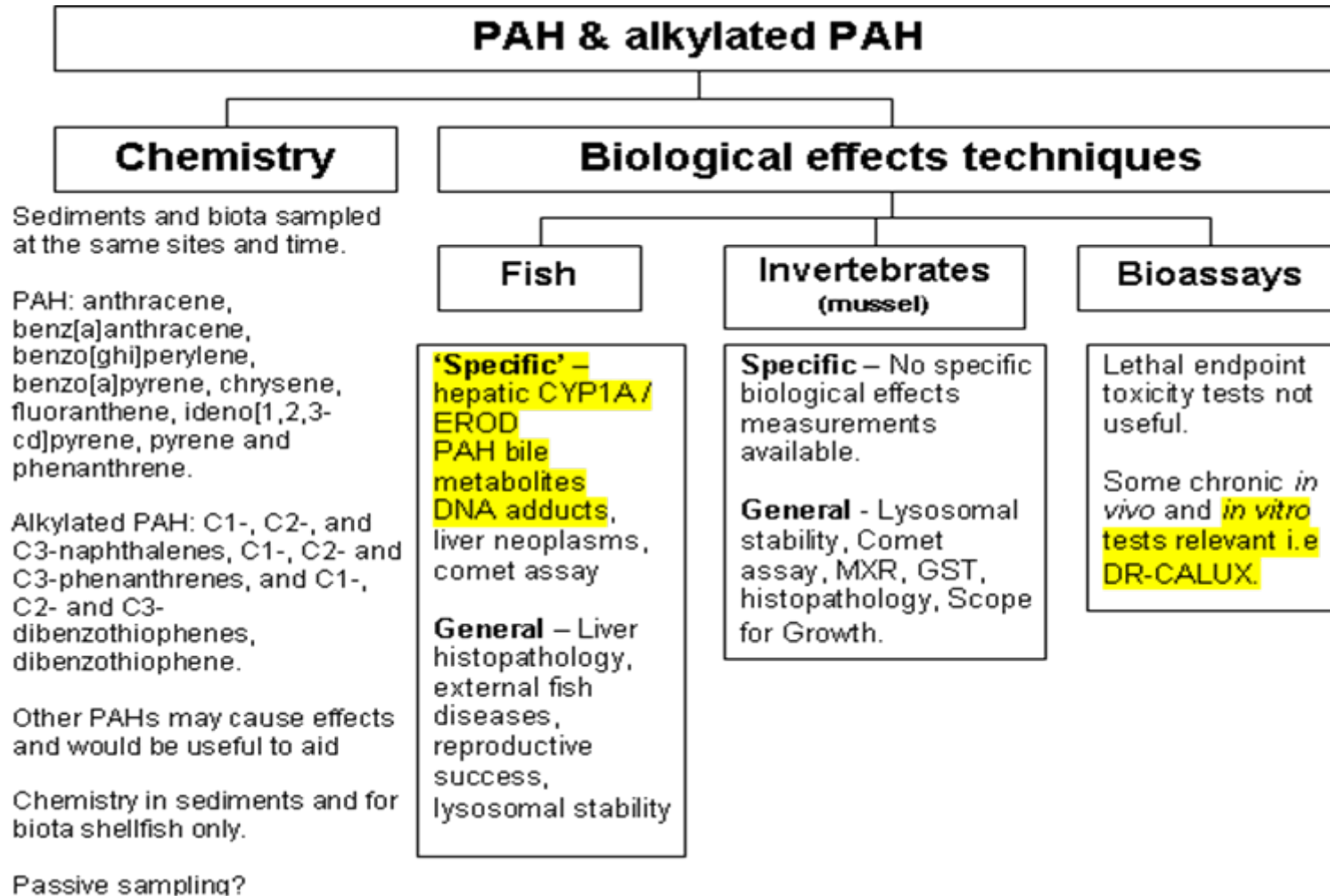
# Package of methods relevant to monitoring for



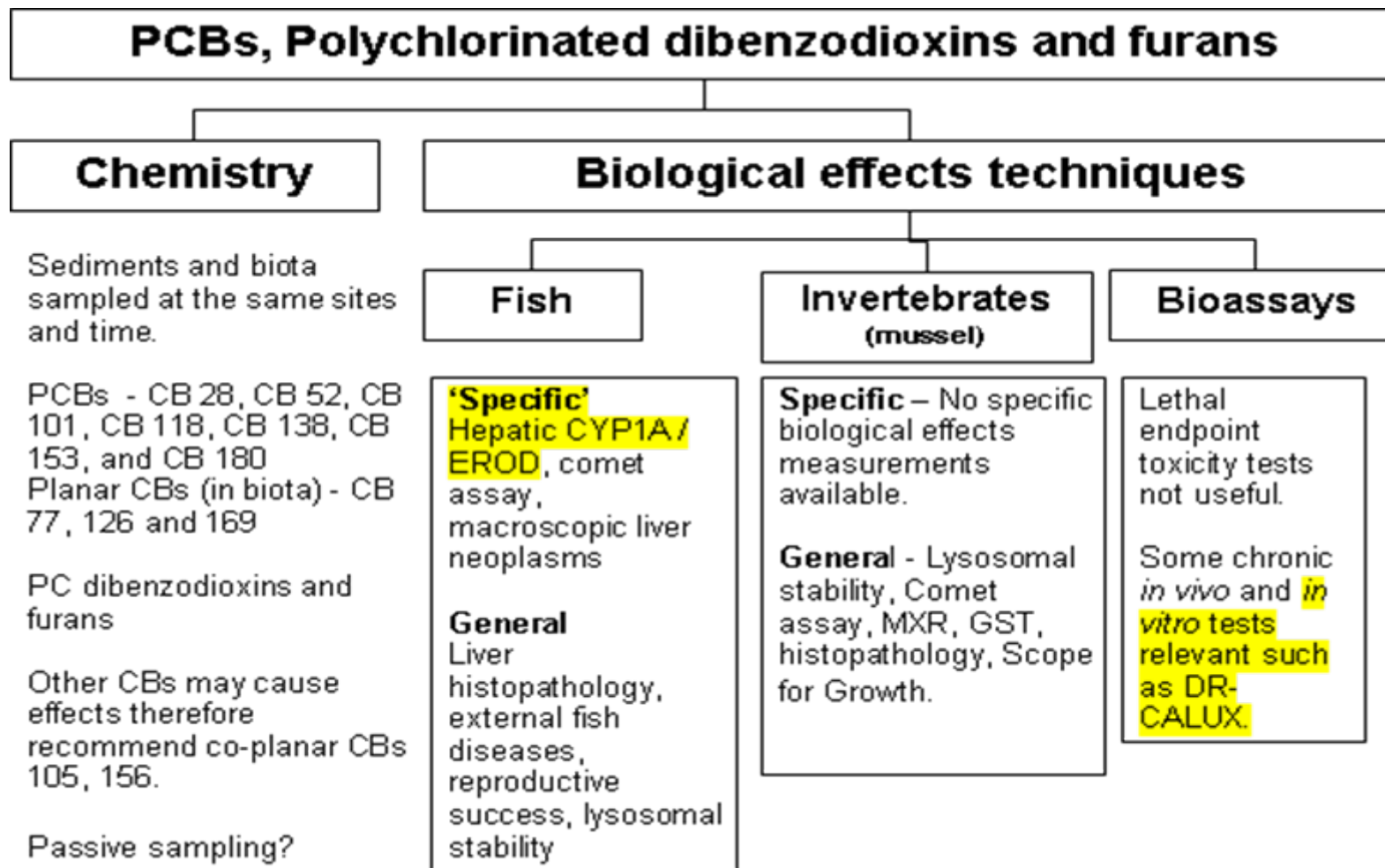
# Package of methods relevant to monitoring for



# Package of methods relevant to monitoring for



# Package of methods relevant to monitoring for



# Package of methods relevant to monitoring for new emerging substances

## Brominated flame retardants

- chemical methods for sediment and biota available (PBDEs, HBCD)
- no specific biological effects methods available. Thyroid hormone receptor assays in fish blood are relevant but lack field testing
- general biological effect measurements, such as induction of CYP1A/EROD activity, lysosomal stability and reproductive success may be appropriate

## Perfluorooctane Sulphonate (PFOS)

- chemical methods for water, sediment and biota available
- no specific biological effects methods available
- some ED-relevant endpoints may be appropriate, such as reproductive success.

## Nanoparticles

- both chemical analyses and biological effects methodologies are not available.
- general biological effect measurements, such as oxidative stress and embryo-larval bioassay may be appropriate.

## Some conclusions

- Integrated packages of chemical and biological effects methods appropriate for monitoring specific groups of emerging substances in the marine environment are only partly available and coverage for fish and (selected) invertebrates is incomplete.
- Instead, “general” biological effects methods which are indicative of stress or the health status of organisms, or general toxicity bioassays that are likely to respond to these contaminants can be used.
- There is a need to develop specific biological effects techniques for several (groups of) emerging substances. These techniques when available should be validated and internationally standardized, and existing monitoring such as CEMP should be augmented.



# Passive sampling devices as time integrating tool (1)

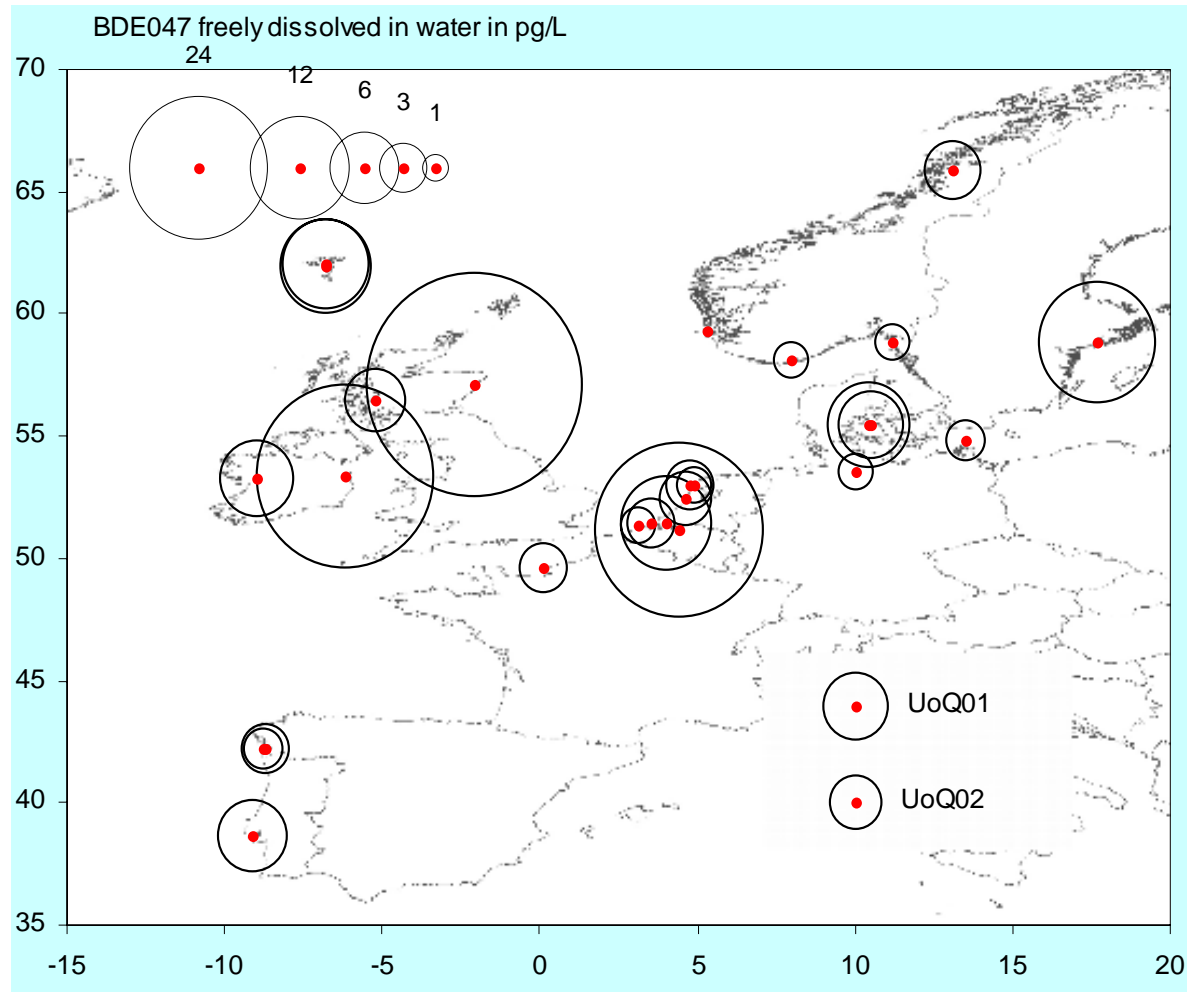
A variety of passive sampling devices offer the potential for temporally integrated sampling of emerging Contaminants in water and assessment of their availability in sediments

## Principle of PS

- Hydrophobic compounds in organisms are mainly accumulated in the body lipid
- Passive sampling mimics the body lipid and when deployed will passively accumulate dissolved compounds
- The higher concentration in the water the higher the uptake



# Passive sampling of BDE047 in water (pg/l)



Source: ICES Passive sampling trial survey for water and sediment (PSTS) 2006 – 2007

# Passive sampling devices as time integrating tool (2)

## Passive samplers:

- do not metabolise
- toxic conditions - no mortality
- have no start concentration
- apply to all salinities
- no geographical limitations
- uptake varies with flow conditions



- OSPAR is currently considering some of these tools (e.g. silicone rubber) for application in its monitoring programmes.
- The potential role of passive samplers in WFD monitoring?

# Opportunities for biological effects measurements in WFD monitoring

Biological effects measurements are not required in WFD monitoring, but there are several opportunities

Monitoring in the WFD is an important tool to ensure that the good water status is reached in 2015.

The WFD monitoring programme will consist of both chemical parameters (priority substances, other relevant compounds) and ecological parameters.

The subsequent challenge to be met is two fold:

1. How can chemical and ecological information be linked into an overall insight in the quality of a water body?
2. how do we meet the monitoring requirements in a both cost-efficient and cost-effective way?

## The WFD requires three kinds of monitoring

1. **surveillance monitoring** (status and trend monitoring) assesses whether GES is being achieved. If this is not the case,
2. **operational monitoring** is needed to assess the degree to which the actual status deviates from GES and whether any measures taken have had an effect.
3. **investigative monitoring** (usually project-based). To identify causes and appropriate measures

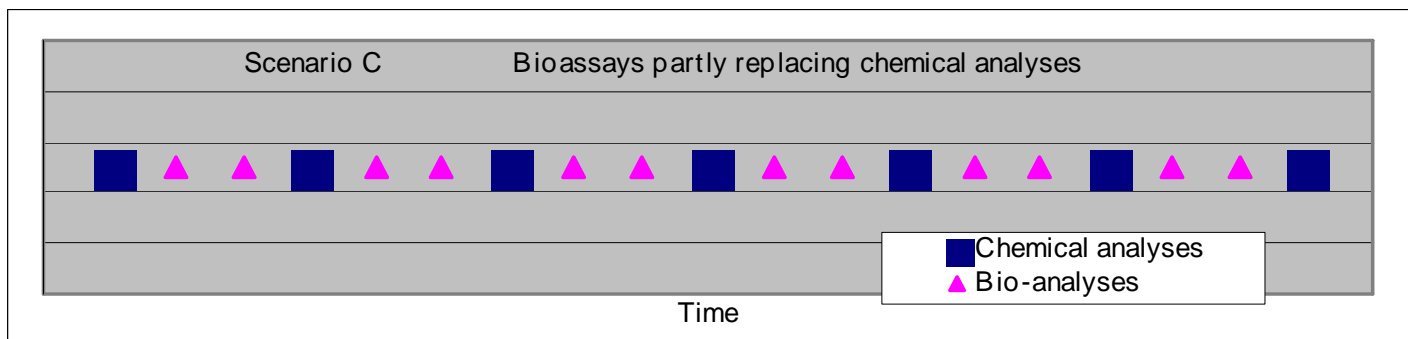
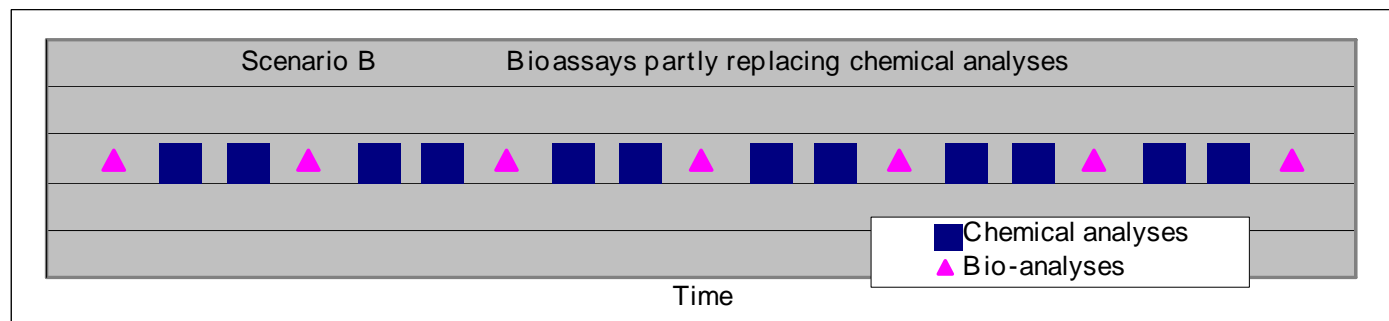
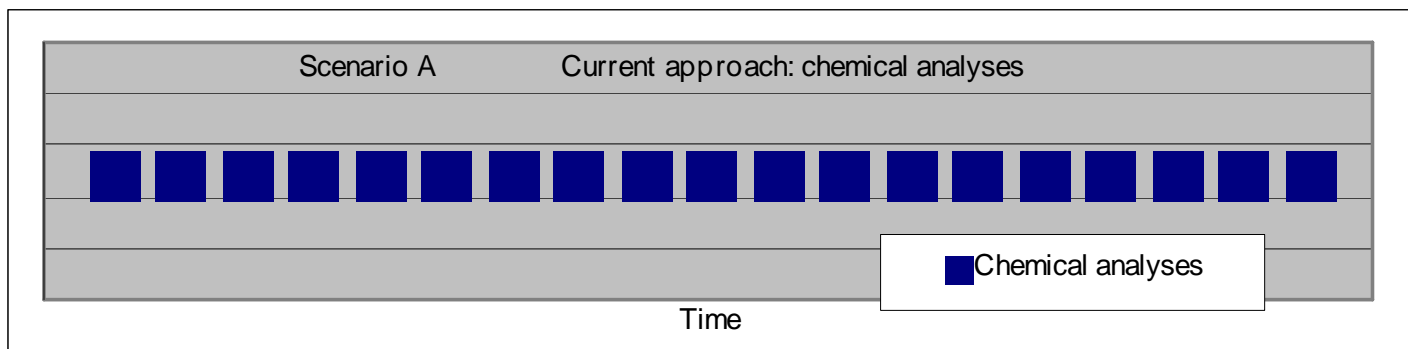
## What is bioanalysis?

**Bio-analysis** is the use of a bioassay or a limited set of bioassays for the rapid screening of effects to indicate hazards of complex mixtures of toxic chemicals and not-analyzed toxicants.

Screenings assays, especially those based on chemical sum parameters, may, at least in part, replace chemical analysis and yield a broader coverage of ecologically relevant compounds than can be achieved by chemical analysis alone.

The purpose here is to reduce monitoring costs and a better indication of hazard.

# Scenarios for the use of bio-analysis in operational monitoring



Proposed model combining bio-analysis and chemical analysis of priority and other relevant compounds at large interval time points, with bioassays applied at smaller interval time points as trend monitoring.

# Selection of bioassays and associated toxic modes of action

Bio-analysis	Toxic mode of action
Microtox®	Broad-spectrum acute toxicity – Cytotoxicity (narcosis)
Daphnia IQ	Broad-spectrum acute toxicity – Cytotoxicity (narcosis)
Daphnia 24-48 hr	Broad-spectrum acute toxicity – Neurotoxicity
Algal growth, 72 hr	Broad-spectrum acute toxicity – Cytotoxicity and specific toxicity mech.
Algal PAM	Mechanism-based – Photosynthetic toxicity
Umu-C, Mutatox®	Mechanism-based – Genotoxicity
DR-CALUX	Mechanism-based - Dioxin-like activity (AhR binding)
ER-CALUX	Mechanism-based – Estrogenic activity (ER binding)

## Selection criteria

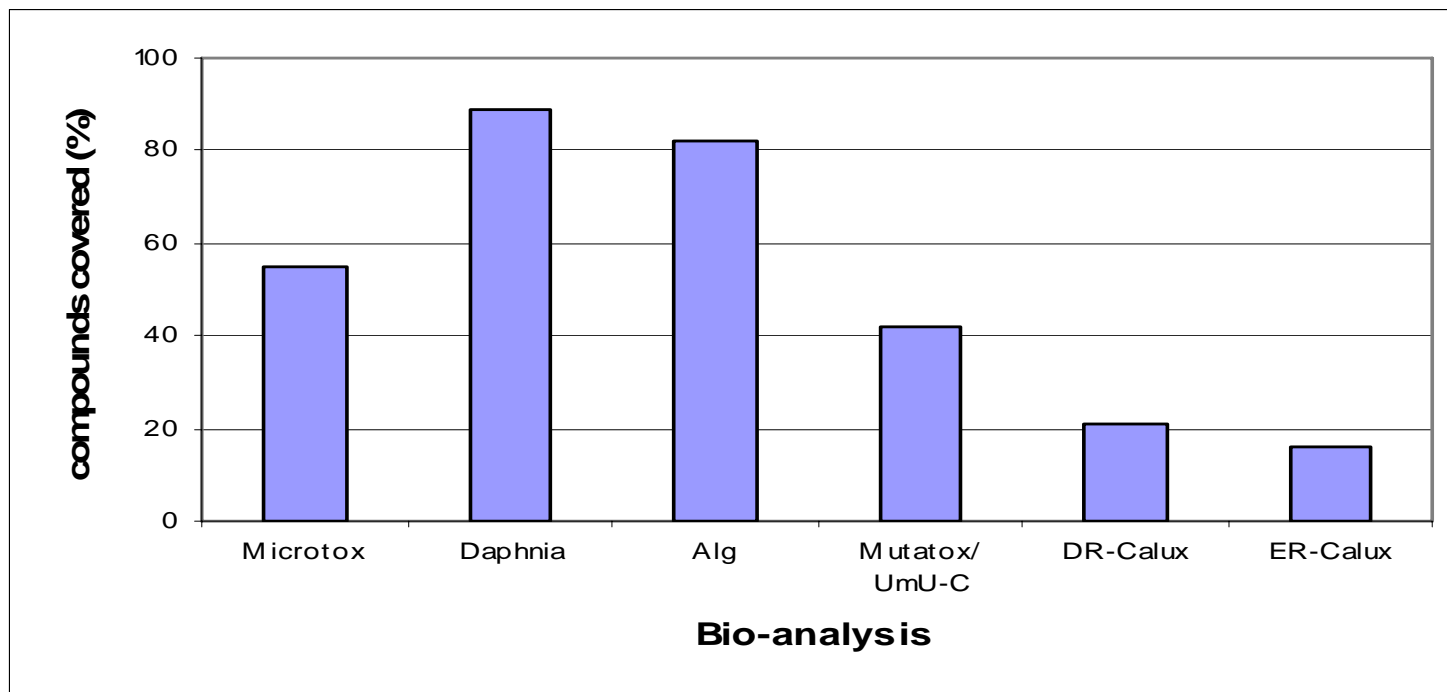
- relevance of toxic modes of action
- duration (acute vs chronic)
- toxicity data
- relatively fast (0.5-72 h) and cheap (€ 40-250)

## Extraction procedure and toxicity testing

- test run on water/SM extracts prepared for analytical chemistry after solvent exchange
- comparison with chemistry is valid and opens opportunities for EDA
- restricted to organic compounds



# Relevance of selected bio-analysis to WFD priority compounds



Total % of coverage of WFD priority compounds for each selected bio-analysis based on a compound/bioanalysis response matrix

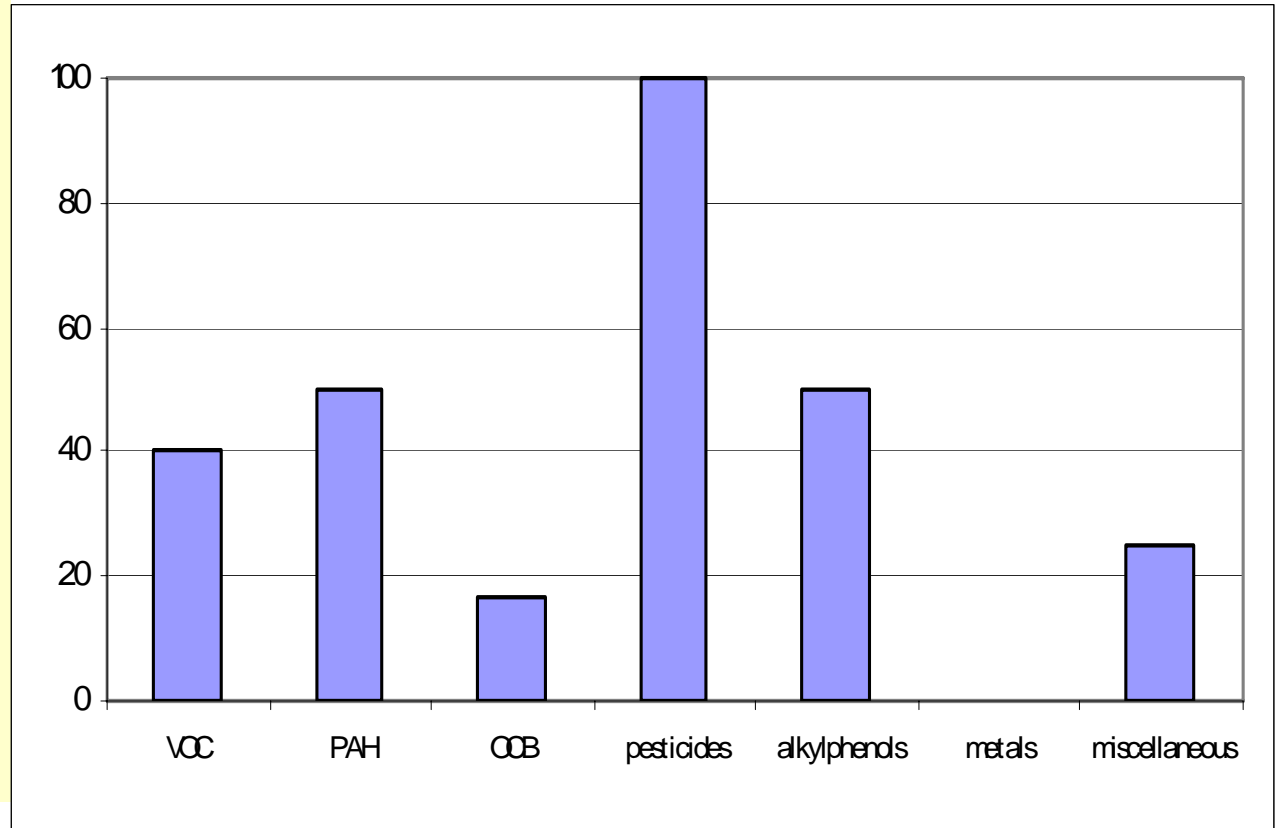
## Findings

All the WFD priority compounds are covered by one or more of the selected assays. For mechanism-based bioanalysis, the coverage is small.

# Sensitivity of bioanalysis to WFD compound groups

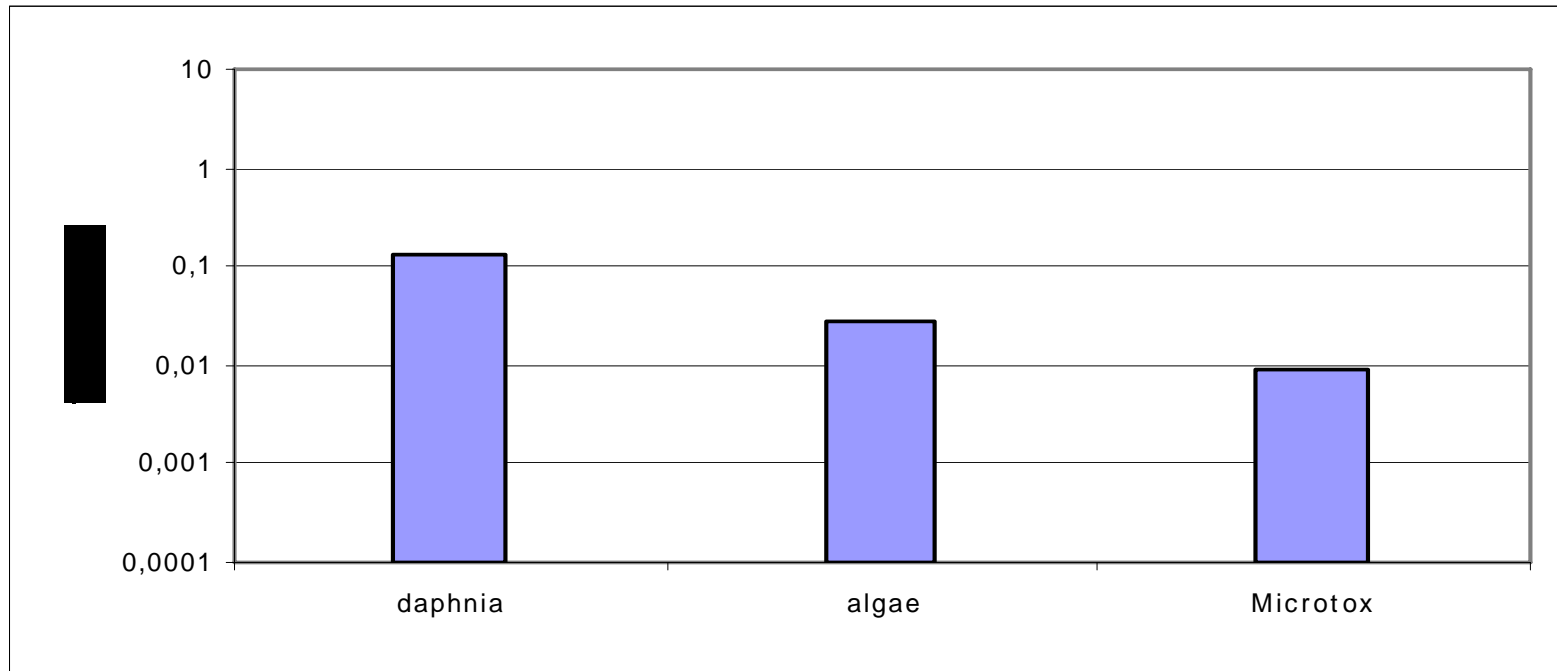
## Findings

- Pesticides are the most likely group in which chemical analyses may be replaced by bio-analysis
- For some groups, eg alkylphenols, sampling procedure is inadequate
- The other compounds are undetectable due to low sensitivity or lack of available data.



% of WFD compounds that are detectable by bio-analyses using water samples after 1000-fold concentration. Based on Microtox, Daphnia (24-48 h) and algal growth (72-96 h) tests.

# Toxicity response in the artificial sample



Observed toxicity in the artificial sample containing WFD priority pollutants at their maximum permissible level.

## Findings

ER-CALUX response very low (0.052 EEQ)

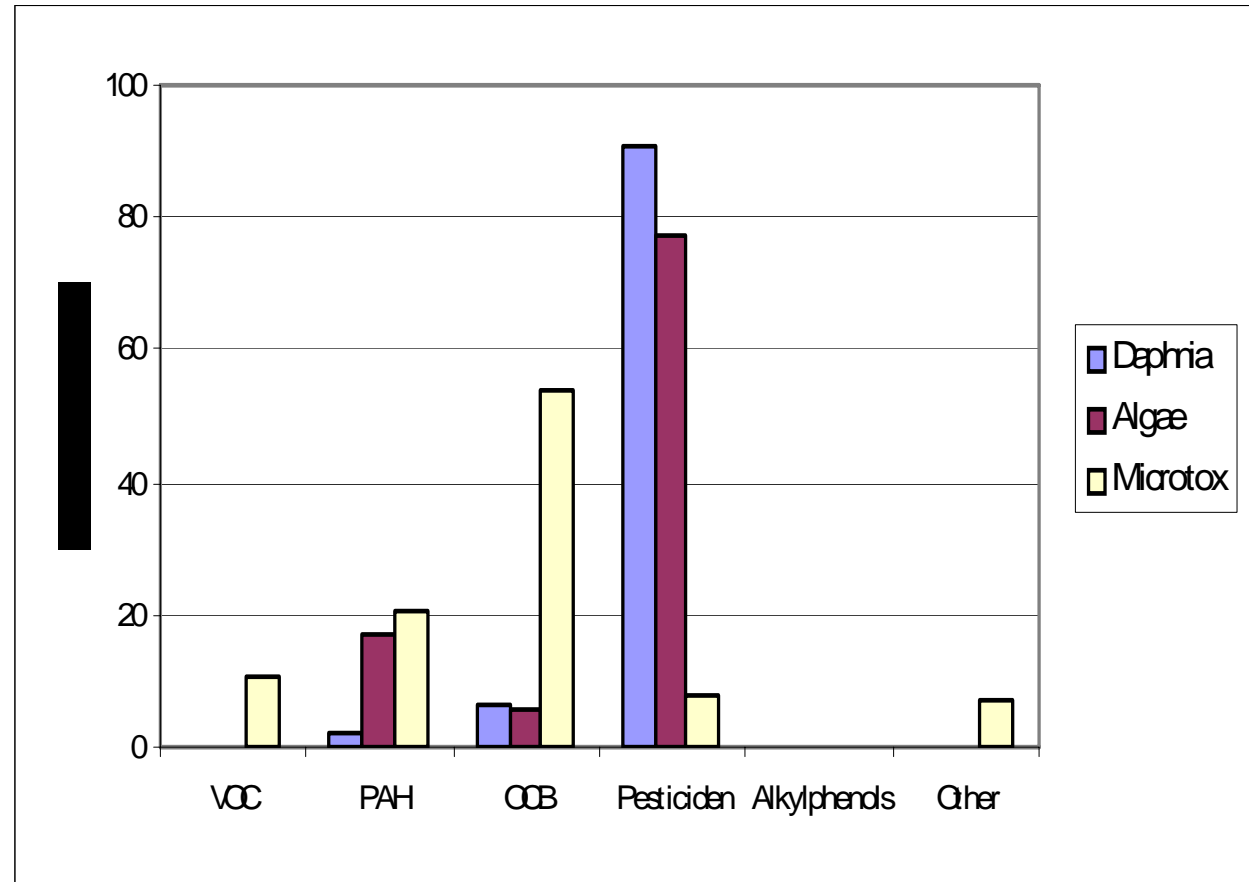
no response for UmU-C and Mutatox

DR-CALUX was not performed

# Sensitivity of bio-analysis to the extracted priority pollutants

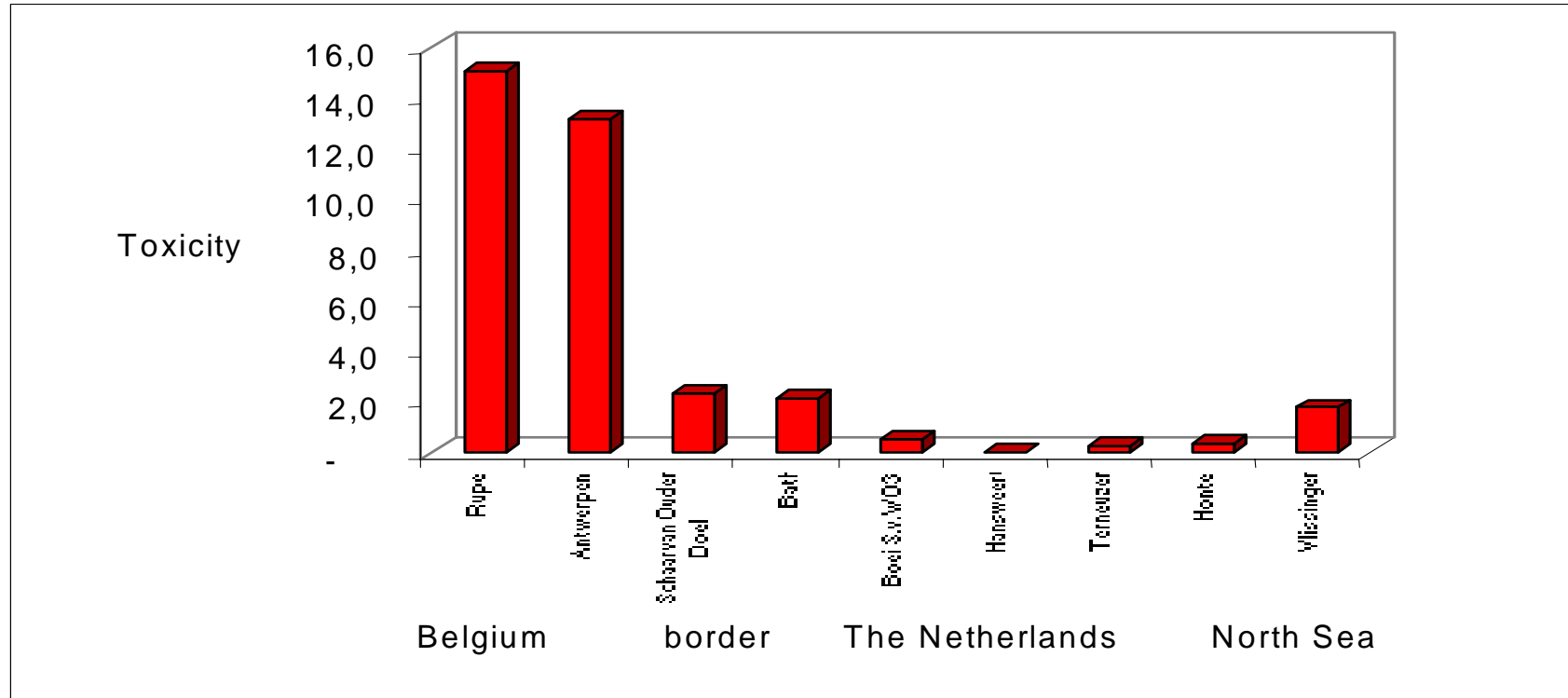
## Findings

- Pesticides are responsible for the main response by daphnia and algae, but PAHs and OCBs also contribute
- The response of Microtox is divided over various pollutants, except alkylphenols



Comparative responses for Daphnia, algae and Microtox® when exposed to the different groups of priority pollutants in the artificial water concentrate. Based on measured concentrations in XAD concentrate and toxicity data from literature.

## Comparison with field data



Overall toxicity in the Scheldt estuary measured by bioanalysis using Daphnia IQ, Algae PAM and microtox (De Groot et al., 2004).

**Conclusion:** concentrations of priority compounds in water mostly below d.l.  
>>> other compounds besides priority pollutants must be responsible

## Preliminary effect assessment using bioanalysis

location		Cf (ECf50)*			Cf (MTE) (from PAF5)
		Daphnia	Algae	Micro- tox	
Vlissingen		416	52	15	2.0
		180	56	38	3.2
		403	28	57	4.0
		243	16	84	17.2
		271	15	97	3.2
		271	9	52	1.8
		92	9	50	1.6
Antwerpen		144	2	23	0.4



**expected chronic effect:**  
green = NE  
yellow = NE < effect < MPE  
red = SE

Indication of toxicity in surface water of the Western Scheldt estuary on basis of 3 different bioassay responses allowing a preliminary effect assessment (Maas et al., 2003)

## Opportunities for bio-analysis - summary

- Several selected bio-analyses are sensitive enough to measure effects of priority pollutants and can be used in cost effective monitoring
- Combined bioanalysis and chemical assessment enable the effects of compounds other than the selected priority pollutants to be monitored
- Bioanalysis can be applied to all salinities and have no geographical limitations
- Bioanalysis is logistically and technically feasible, but some further work is needed (eg. extraction methodology)

### Reference

Opportunities for bio-analysis in WFD chemical monitoring using bioassays  
by Maas and van den Heuvel-Greve. RIZA 2005.053X.

## Conclusions and future challenges

- Integrated packages of chemical and biological effects methods appropriate for monitoring specific groups of emerging substances in the marine environment are only partly available and provide incomplete coverage for fish and invertebrates.
- This underpins the need for an “overall” integrated monitoring package with high effect level stress indicators and different ecosystem components.
- The combined use of bioanalysis and chemical measurements can be used for preliminary assessment and identification of hazard of complex mixtures of toxic and not-analysed toxicants.
- There is a need for consistent pan-European screening programmes designed for hazard assessment, including the application of bioanalysis, passive samplers, novel sensors and micro-arrays, when they become available, and instrumental methods to identify causal compounds.
- In this connection, NORMAN should promote to the European Commission, the additional value of passive samplers and bioanalysis in WFD and their potential role as connective link between WFD and the Marine Strategy Directive. Both methods are generic and can be applied to a wide variety of environments.



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