

Proposals for NORMAN Joint Programme of Activities 2023

Title	A “one-stop shop” for PS
Type of activity	Assembling information/increased visibility
Leader	Dublin City University (Fiona Regan) and Marine Institute Ireland (Brendan Mc Hugh) in collaboration with a team of those with an interest in operationalising passive sampling
Topic / activities	<p>Background / Justification for the proposed activity:</p> <p>Recent years has seen increased research and monitoring interest in the application of passive sampling techniques for the measurement of pollutant levels in the aquatic environment. While high interest levels exist in various passive sampling methodologies, individual research institutes and monitoring agencies often work on one-off or specific projects independent of similar initiatives taking place within the research community. As a consequence much of the monitoring and research data can remain hidden within the “grey” literature and thus can either be lost or underutilised in supporting the applicability of passive sampling as a monitoring tool.</p> <p>This proposal seeks to develop a “one-stop shop” approach to collate relevant passive sampling study information into a central repository. It is proposed that a draft reporting template will be developed that would not overly focus on the collation of analytical data itself but more so on key validation / modelling information underpinning these studies (e.g. scope of analysis, robustness, the influence of biofouling, KpW etc) for a wide range of passive sampling techniques. The template will meet the requirements of existing data management systems so that sharing is somewhat seamless. The discussions in 2022 and the IPSW meeting in Utrecht, allowed the development of this concept further. The original inclusion of water and biota to this JPA has been modified based on critical comments and valuable opinions regarding passive sampling of contributors at the IPSW meeting.</p> <p>This information is fundamental to supporting PS as a monitoring tool/matrix. It is proposed to critically evaluate passive sampling as a monitoring technique – providing good examples of successful monitoring carried out and previously published. In addition to this being a useful resource collating these data, it is envisaged that research gaps can then be identified through this process.</p> <p>Description of the proposed activity and expected outcomes for 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a template detailing passive sampling key performance criteria - Assemble relevant information to, link to papers, to potentially promote PS – identifying for example suitable case studies. - Create a repository for this information - Critically assess key performance criteria in relation to passive sampling - Promote the reporting of PS information - Increase the visibility of PS - Create synergies with RSC and ICES working group activities - Identify research gaps and needs <p>For 2023, this activity will focus on the design of the “one stop” shop interface that will be connected to the NORMAN Database system and to the passive sampling module. It will focus on the following tasks :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We establish a template for gathering PS data/ methods etc with some examples to show how the data can be gathered and what is required; (short term) - We ask what are the potential user queries - how can we make the database searchable? - We have in the one-stop-shop an area where protocols/SOPs/methodologies (PRCs, spiking, cleaning materials, coefficients etc) can be stored while being easily accessible for practical use; (medium-term) - We have a section showing a couple of examples of the use of PS for policy/stakeholder value examples from UK, France, Ireland etc. (medium-term) - Scope a paper giving recommendations for potential users on how PS might be implemented. (medium-long-term) which can be written in the next phase. <p>Added value / Link with other NORMAN activities and / or other projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Closely aligned with existing NORMAN priority area aims in the promotion of PS as a monitoring tool - Closer alignment with other regional sea and related convention activities <p>Potential for a related ITN application to be further investigated.</p>
Participants	MI, DCU, NIVA, INRAe ++, BRGM, ISSeP, AAFC, QAEHS UQ, AZTI. ICES Marine Chemistry WG
Proposed in-kind contribution	Collaboration with passive sampling group members to collate relevant info. Work in parallel with ICES working group on marine Chemistry
Contribution needed from NORMAN	<p>€7,611 to DCU to provide partial support to a post-graduate (5 person months) or 2.5 person months of a research assistant to collate the relevant information and act as an interface with the team involved. The responsible person will arrange regular meetings and monthly updates and reminders in order to meet the deadlines.</p> <p>Additional contributions from the wider network would be in the form of identification and supply of relevant studies that are relevant to the template.</p>



Association ¹	Assistance with design and modification of the web-interface in the passive sampling web-page of the Norman Website will be needed.
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¹ Please, provide here a transparent justification of the requested resources and of the in-kind contribution, thereby distinguishing between the costs associated with “person-months” for the organisation, the “travelling costs” for invited speakers and the costs for the logistics (e.g. meals, room rental etc.)