MONITOOL: new tools for monitoring the chemical status in transitional and coastal waters under the Water Framework Directive

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The WFD (2000/60/EC) establishes that the chemical status of water bodies must be determined by the comparison of the concentrations of priority substances with Environmental Quality Standards (EQSs). Nowadays, regulatory monitoring is mainly based on the collection of spot water samples, sediments and biota. Diffusive Gradients in Thin-films (DGTs) passive samplers might overcome some of their limitations, providing time-integrated labile metal concentrations during the deployment time. The main barrier hindering the acceptance of DGTs for compliance checking is the lack of appropriate EQSs.

**Overall Objective:** to adapt the already existing EQSs to DGTs, enabling their use for regulatory monitoring.

1) To define Environmental Quality Standards and protocols for the use of DGTs in chemical monitoring within the European Water Framework Directive.

2) To develop a network of laboratories focused on the use of DGTs within the European Water Framework Directive.