



# Global Aquatic Passive sampling (AQUA-GAPS)

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## Participation in AQUA-GAPS

March 2017

*Are you interested in participating in the AQUA-GAPS passive sampling program?*

For the proof-of-concept studies in our first year (2017), we need to be particular selective in how many sites we can operate, so we will not accept many new sites anymore. Going forward, our aim is to expand AQUA-GAPS to get a good geographical coverage and also re-allocate to other sites, as possible and needed. To be able to select best sites, we came up with several criteria to help us make decisions.

The AQUA-GAPS team has developed the following checklist to be considered for adding sites to the AQUA-GAPS network:

1. You are enthusiastic about AQUA-GAPS and so is your manager (if you have one)
2. Your proposed deployment station is rather safe, i.e. little chance somebody is stealing the sampler or the cage, or it being vandalized
3. The station is central in some larger water; the site represents the region well.
4. The site is not close to pollution point sources or impacted areas.
5. The site can sustainably be used in the long term; annual or bi-annual monitoring is feasible.
6. Metadata are regularly availability for your site (temperature, salinity, etc)
7. There is no similar AQUA-GAPS station nearby, or yours is better (why?)
8. Is there additional monitoring being performed for organic contaminants (such as biological or air monitoring), e.g. the GAPS atmospheric network? Or can atmospheric monitoring also be supported from your group?
9. Are other aqueous monitoring activities being performed at your site using passive samplers that would help to understand spatial distributions better?
10. AQUA-GAPS gets permission to use the data obtained from your site for interpretation in global assessments

Sustainability and data gaps for the considered area are important criteria for the AQUA-GAPS coordination team to include your proposed station.

Occasionally, One-off stations may be included if they can contribute to better knowledge of spatial distributions or long range transport.

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