

# Water quality and standards

7<sup>th</sup> WRHC  
**Open Space Workshop**  
28 June 2016  
15:30 – 17:30  
UBA, Dessau

**German Environment Agency (UBA)**  
Lilian Busse  
**Technical University of Munich**  
Jörg E. Drewes  
*moderator / organiser*  
*et al.* (as listed below)

*Purpose* Identify research needs to adjust water quality monitoring programs to address current shortcomings and to address emerging water quality issues

*Perspective outcome* Position paper with suggestions for future research needs to develop new approaches for comprehensive water quality monitoring programs to improve conditions in freshwater and marine environments.

## **Summary**

The Water Framework Directive and the Marine Strategy Framework Directive require good ecological conditions in streams and rivers by 2015 and in the marine environment by 2020. Most recent data show that only 10 % of the streams and rivers reached the good ecological conditions by 2015. There was only little improvement in reaching the good ecological conditions over the last few years although there were many management activities conducted to improve the conditions. This workshop will discuss the environmental quality standards and ecological indicators, the reference conditions and goals, the current management activities, and new potential approaches. The outcome of the workshop should summarize which research is needed in order to improve the conditions in freshwater and marine environments.

This open space workshop will start with **three short presentations** (10 min) to kick-off subsequent discussions in three **breakout groups** addressing the following questions:

1. **Environmental Quality Standards and Ecological Indicators:**  
Are the limits of the environmental quality standards and ecological indicators set appropriately? Should we use a single pollutant approach? Do we need surrogate parameters? Is the current watch list complete? Should parameters on the watch list be handled more flexible?
2. **Reference Conditions and Goals:**  
Are the conditions to be reached set appropriately? Which conditions can we realistically achieve? Which conditions should be met for surface waters in urbanized areas?
3. **Management Activities and Implementation:**  
Are the current management activities successful? If they are not successful why not? Are new approaches needed?

**Speakers (10 min each):**

**Volker Mohaupt**, Department Head Surface Water at the German Environment Agency: *Surface Waters in Germany: What is the current state?*

**Gerald Schernewski**, Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research: *Water Quality Targets for Baltic Coastal Waters and the Sea: State, Challenges and Policy Implications.*

**Philipp Michel**, Technical University Munich, Chair of Urban Water Systems Engineering: *Data-driven water quality modeling approaches and their potential to support an holistic real-time monitoring of wastewater treatment operation and discharge to receiving streams.*

**Schedule**

- 15.30 – 16.00 Presentations Mohaupt, Schernewski, Michel
- 16.00 – 17.00 Discussion in breakout groups
- 17:00 – 17.30 Report-back from breakout groups; Summary