

# COST 626 WG1 Subgroup

## Macro-invertebrates

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# *1. Objectives*

- General ecology of the system
- Assess water/habitat quality
- Nature conservation (biodiversity)

## *2. Sampling sites and protocols*

### **2.1. Protocols and standardisation**

2.1.1. Training

2.1.2. Sampling

2.1.3. Sample processing

2.1.4. Identification

2.1.5. Database set up and maintenance

## *2. Sampling sites and protocols*

### **2.2. Scale (spatial/temporal resolution)**

2.2.1. Micro-habitats (size of sample)

2.2.2. Meso-habitats (morphological entities : riffles, pools, ...)

2.2.3. Macro-habitats (river stretch)

2.2.4. Different identification level and additional measurements (shear stress)

## *2. Sampling sites and protocols*

### **2.3. Sampling design**

stratified, randomised, ...

qualitative versus quantitative

### **2.4. Sampling methods**

Hand net, artificial substrates, ...

### **2.5. Comparison of standard methods between different European countries**

## *3. Identification level*

3.1. Taxonomists (identification keys)

3.2. Identification costs

## *4. Relations between physical and biological components*

- Additional measurements (weather conditions, structural characteristics, special remarks, pollution sources, disturbing activities, ...)
- Habitat features
- Link with other communities (macrophytes, algae, fish)

# *5. Quality control (QA/QC)*

5.1. Training

5.2. Sampling

5.3. Sample processing

5.4. Identification

5.5. Database set up and maintenance