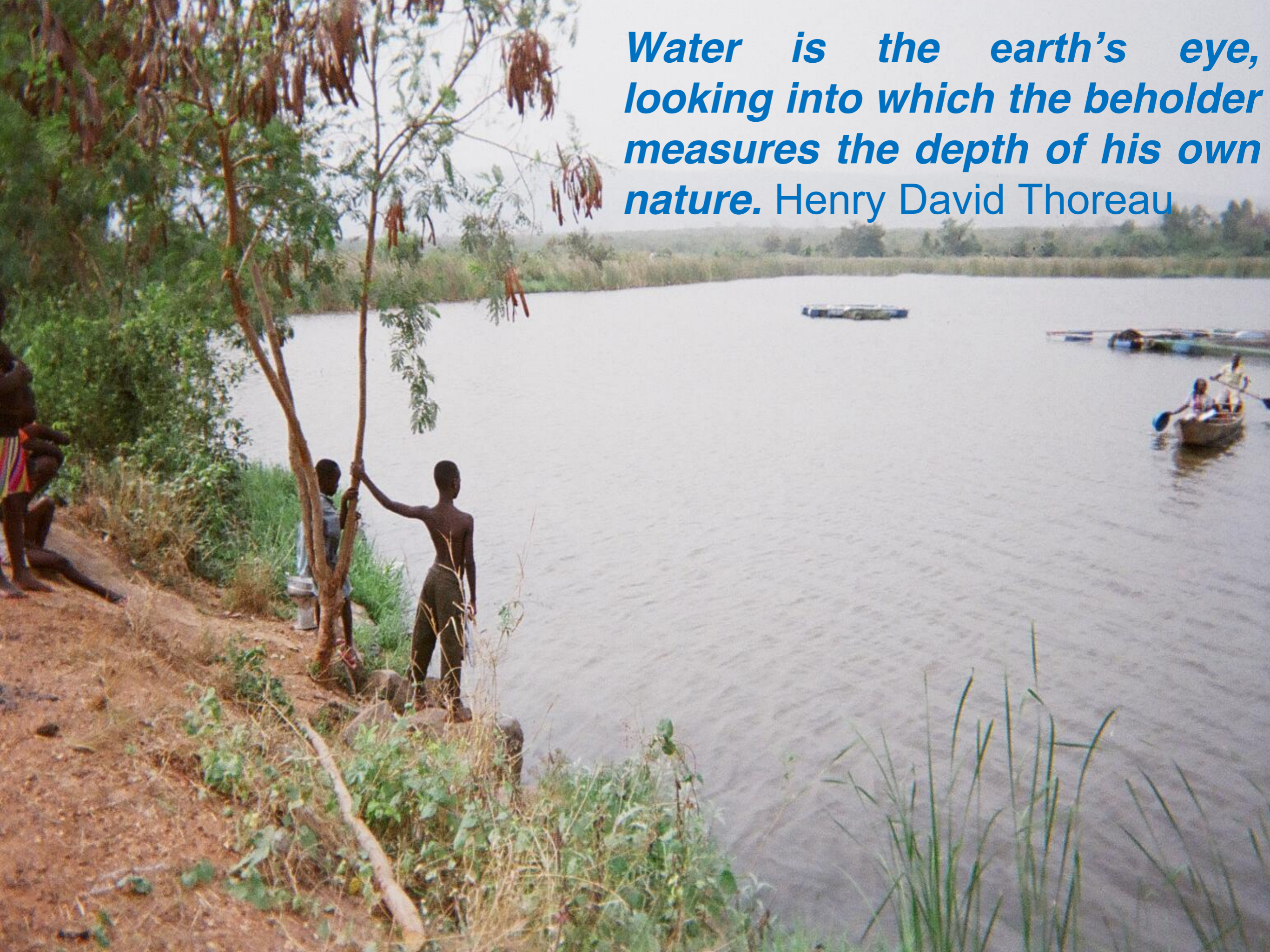


*Water is the earth's eye,  
looking into which the beholder  
measures the depth of his own  
nature.* Henry David Thoreau



# Outline

- I. Background
- II. Objective
- III. Methodology
- IV. Results
- V. Conclusions
- VI. References
- VII. Acknowledgements



# Environmental Pollution in Densu Estuary, Ghana

Akita, L.G.,<sup>1</sup> Mahu, E.,<sup>1</sup> Akrong, M.O.,<sup>2</sup> Alivernini, M.,<sup>3</sup> Frenzel, P.J.,<sup>3</sup>  
Banu, R.A.,<sup>2</sup> Klubi, E.,<sup>1</sup> Biehl, T.,<sup>3</sup> Biehler, J.,<sup>3</sup> Laudien, J.<sup>4</sup>, Appeaning-  
Addo, K.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Ghana, Ghana

<sup>2</sup> CSIR-Water Research Institute, Ghana

<sup>3</sup> Friedrich-Schiller University Jena, Germany

<sup>4</sup> Alfred-Wegener Polar Institute of Marine Science, Germany

# I. Background



- Exponential increases in pollution of inland and coastal water bodies

- Disposal of untreated waste and solid waste into water bodies

- Extensive over-exploitation of resources → habitat degradation

# I. Background: Why coastal monitoring?

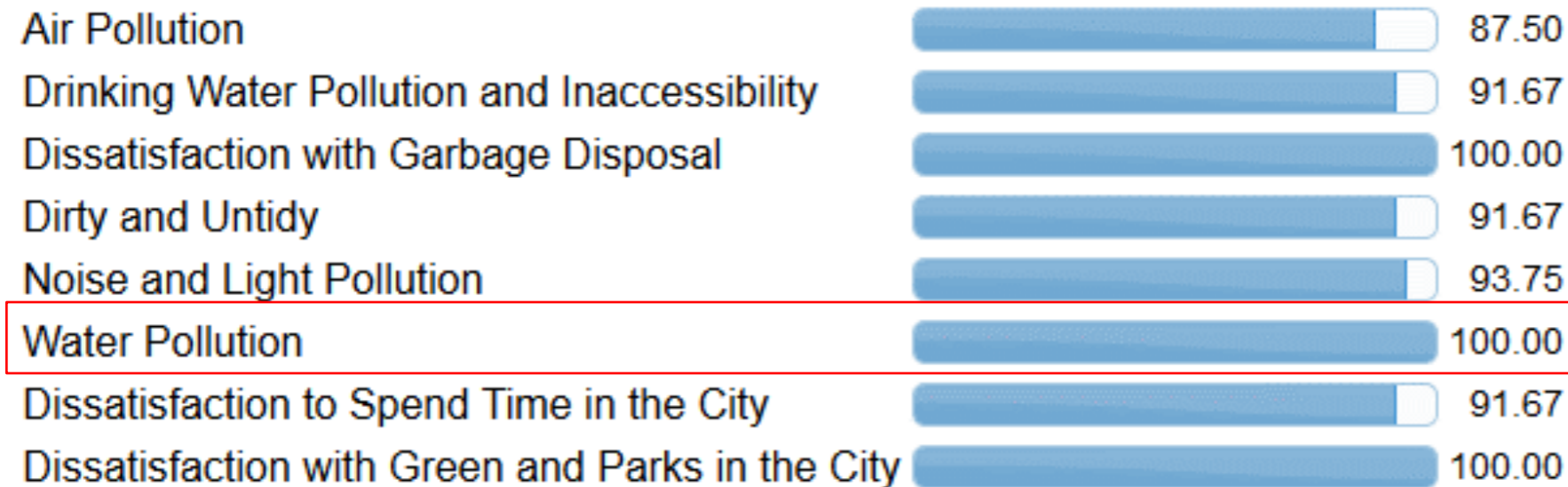


Agbloshe in Ghana's capital Accra has been ranked in the **top 10 most polluted places in the world**, thanks to toxic fumes, which are a result of consistent dumping of electronic goods.

[Source: E-waste, pollution plagues Accra's Agbloshe | West Africa](#)

[www.theafricareport.com](http://www.theafricareport.com) 17.06.2014

## Pollution in Accra, Ghana



[www.numbeo.com](http://www.numbeo.com) 17.06.2014

**Water Pollution causes 14, 000 death per day**

<http://www.ghananewsagency.org/science/water-pollution-caus-14-000-deaths-per-day-61736>

# I. Background: Why coastal monitoring?



- Marine and coastal ecosystems – local economies (Sindermann, 2005) (e.g., coastal development , agricultural and urban waste, fisheries)
- Changes in the ecosystems – **anthropogenic disturbances** (e.g., pollution, land use changes) or natural stressors
- **All species** tolerate a **limited range** of environmental variables (Holt & Muller, 2010)
- Coastal water quality – **sensitive** organisms (e.g., benthos) with specific tolerances

# Water pollution



Fertilizers  
and pesticides

Sewage and food  
processing waste



Chemical wastes

Heavy metals such as  
lead, mercury etc.

# II. Densu Estuary

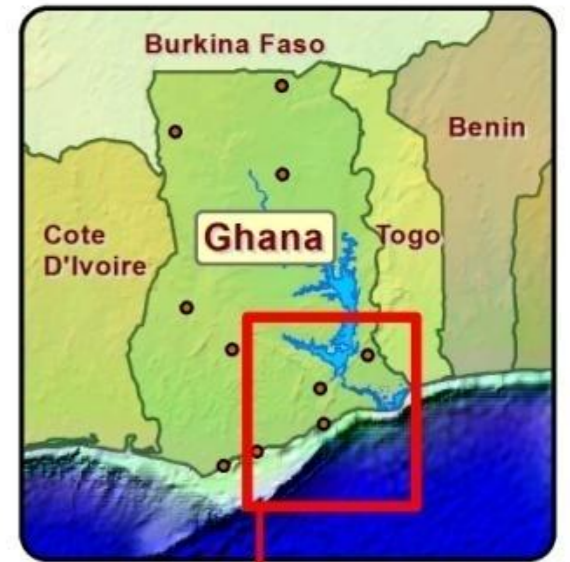


The Densu Estuary lies between latitude  $5^{\circ} 30' N$  to  $6^{\circ} 20' N$  and longitude  $0^{\circ} 10' W$  to  $0^{\circ} 35' W$

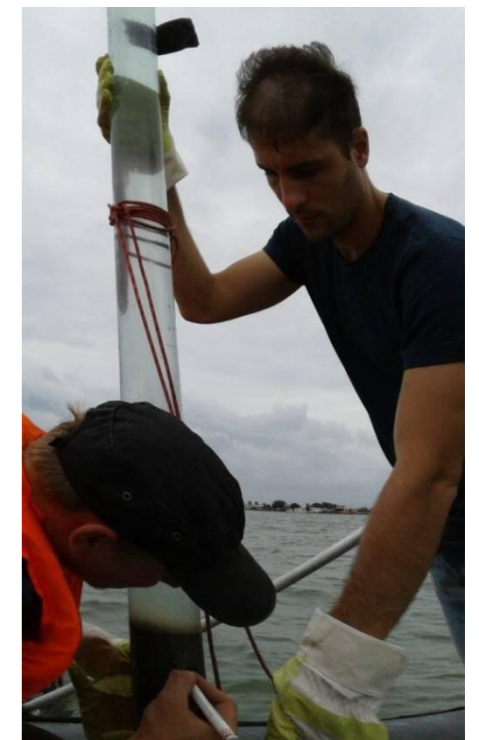
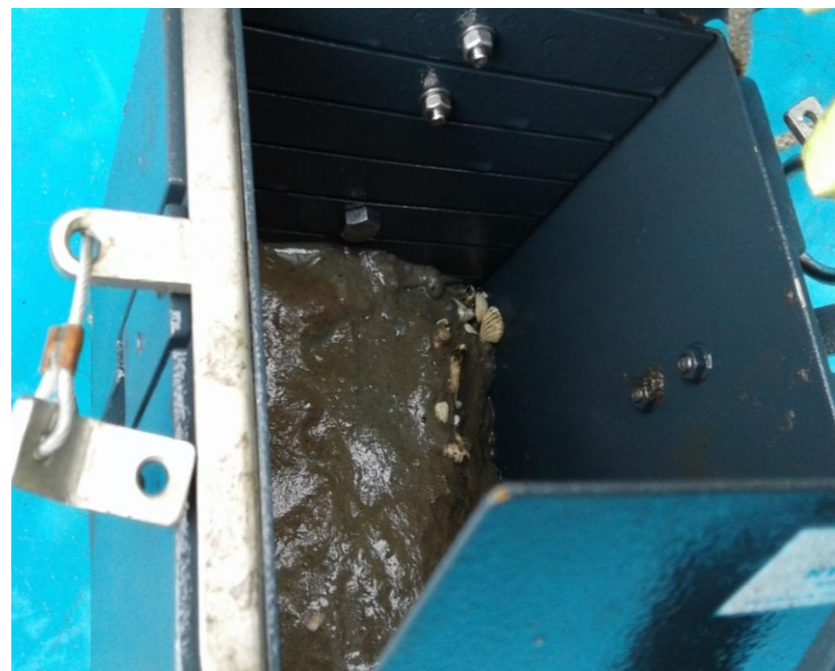
## Objective:

- **Assessment of environmental quality of Densu estuary**





# III. Methodology: Sampling gears




# III. Methodology: Statistical Analysis

- PAST ([Hammer et al., 2001](#)) – environmental factors driving the distribution of taxa
- Hammer, U., Harper, D. A. T., Ryan, P. D. 2001. PAST: Paleontological statistics software package for education and data analysis. *Palaeontologia Electronica* 4(1): 9pp.
- [http://palaeo-electronica.org/2001\\_1/past/issue1\\_01.htm](http://palaeo-electronica.org/2001_1/past/issue1_01.htm)

# IV. Results

Parameters	N	Min	Max	Mean	Stand. dev
Temp [°C]	10	30.74	34.10	32.17	0.95
pH	10	8.31	8.39	8.35	0.03
EC [mS/cm]	10	35.80	52.60	43.85	5.54
Sal	10	22.80	34.70	28.31	4.03
DO [mg/l]	10	6.44	18.81	10.48	3.27
DO Sat [%]	10	109.60	301.70	171.24	50.18
TDS [g/L]	10	21.90	31.60	27.18	3.33
TSS[mg/l]	10	18.00	38.00	23.60	6.70
Alk[mmol/l]	10	3.20	3.90	3.66	0.24
PO3-4 [mg/l]	10	0.05	1.10	0.33	0.29
NO-3 [mg/l]	10	1.70	7.50	2.98	1.74
SO2-4 [mg/l]	10	15.00	37.00	25.10	7.20
Chl A [µg/l]	9	0.96	4.38	2.25	1.32
% OC	10	0.49	2.05	1.28	0.51
% TN	10	0.06	0.15	0.09	0.03
% C:N	10	8.00	34.81	16.33	9.42
%TP	10	0.44	1.38	0.70	0.31
%SOM	10	0.85	3.53	2.20	0.89
% LOI	10	1.12	1.71	1.51	0.21
Zn (mg/kg)	10	7.30	158.30	46.93	45.01
Pb (mg/kg)	10	1.90	84.70	50.88	24.33
Hg (mg/kg)	10	0.01	0.05	0.02	0.01
% Sand	10	53.00	87.00	62.30	9.25
% Silt	10	10.00	41.00	33.60	8.96
% Clay	10	2.00	8.00	4.10	2.08
E.coli_w [cfu	10	0.00	4400.00	560.00	1360.72
Ent.spp_w [cf	10	0.00	2200.00	330.00	702.46
E.coli_s [cfu/	9	0.00	3.00	1.67	1.32
Ent.spp_s [cft	9	0.00	46.00	6.56	15.14

## IV. Water Quality Index:

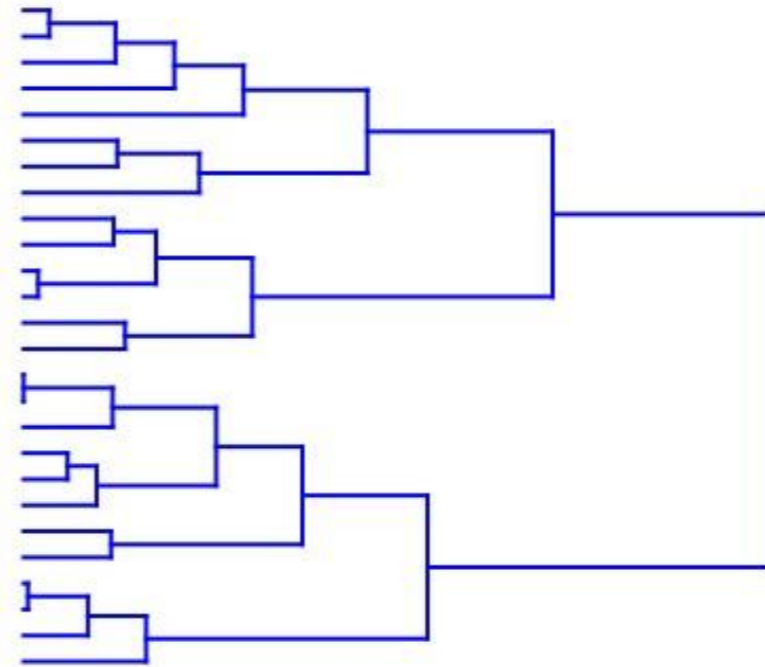
- **Water Quality Index**  **single number like grade** that expresses the overall water quality at a certain area and time based on **several water quality parameters** (Ramakrishnaiah, 2009).
- **The computed WQI values:**
- classified as <50 = Excellent; 50-100 = Good; 100-200 = Poor; 200-300 = Very poor; >300 = Unsuitable (Ramakrishnaiah et al., 2009).
- **Densu Estuary ( WQI) =  $416 \pm 44.06$  (Mean+ SD)**

# Other ecological Indicators

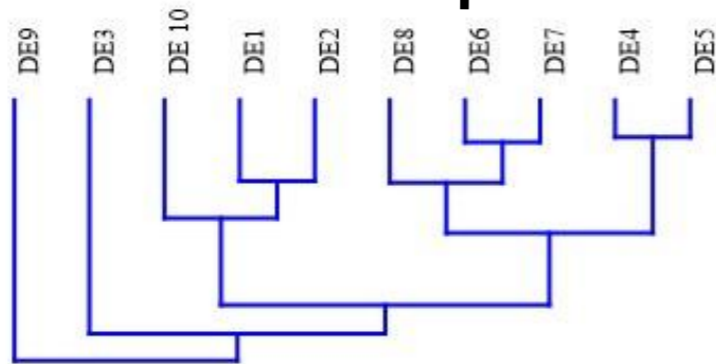
- The concentrations of heavy metals in the sediment followed the trend Zn >Pb> Hg with Cd below detection.
- Faecal bacteria (e.g., *E. coli* and *Enterococcus sp*).

# IV. Results : Cluster Analysis

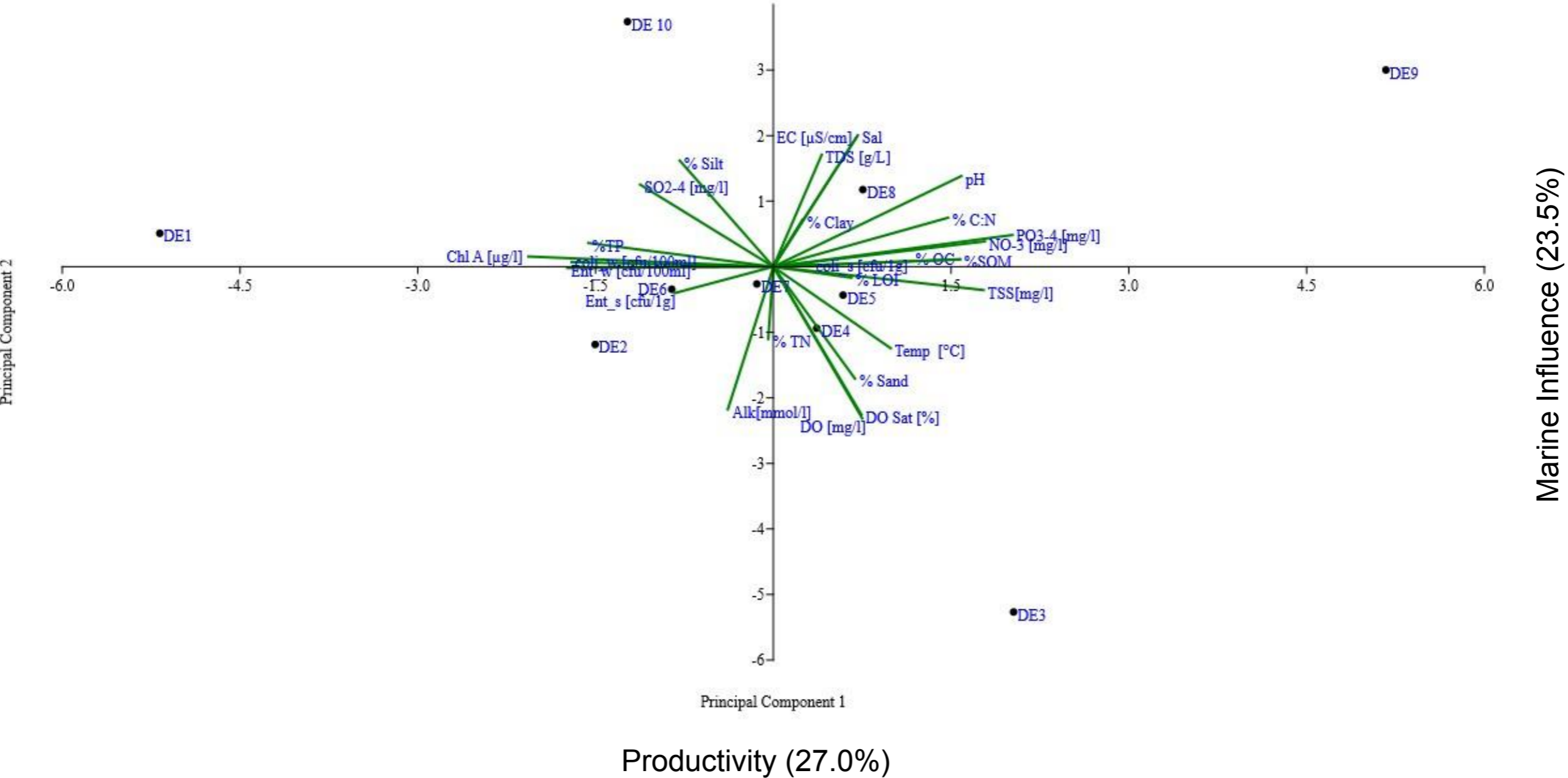
-0.4698	-0.3274	-0.4698	2.662	0.6691	-0.1851	-0.4698	-0.4698	-0.4698	Ent w [cfu/100ml]
-0.4115	-0.2646	0.3381	2.822	0.0294	-0.3381	-0.4115	-0.4115	-0.3381	coli_w [cfu/100ml]
-0.8326	0.2407	1.249	2.225	-0.6049	-0.3447	-0.735	-0.7676	-0.3447	%TP
-0.0138	0.8469	0.6803	1.652	-0.4304	0.8191	-0.0138	0.8191	-1.402	SO2-4 [mg/l]
0.2194	-2.621	0.0600	0.6943	-0.2275	-0.0499	0.5951	0.6277	0.8732	% Silt
-0.4329	-0.4329	-0.4329	0.2275	2.605	-0.4329	-0.4329	-0.3009	-0.3669	Ent s [cfu/1g]
-1.702	-0.977	0.6733	1.615	1.426	-0.7462	-0.5631	-0.7462	0.0369	Chl A [ug/l]
0.252	0.252	1.008	-1.26	1.008	-1.26	1.008	-1.26	0.252	coli_s [cfu/1g]
-0.8589	1.374	-0.773	0.0858	0.3436	1.89	-0.773	0.3436	-0.6871	% TN
-0.3473	2.673	-0.251	-0.5974	0.1006	0.3178	-0.2958	-0.3678	-0.9474	% Sand
-0.3754	2.6	-1.228	-0.6185	0.0829	-0.1562	0.1008	0.1347	-0.3156	DO Sat [%]
-0.4399	2.551	-1.236	-0.7613	0.3132	-0.2042	0.1142	-0.0786	0.146	DO [mg/l]
-1.099	1.014	-1.944	0.169	0.5916	-1.099	0.5916	0.5916	0.5916	Alk[mmol/l]
-0.0251	0.7618	-1.505	-1.326	-0.3295	-0.0986	0.4365	2.021	0.0482	Temp [°C]
1.498	0.2436	-1.011	-0.4945	-0.5683	1.203	-1.528	-0.6421	0.834	%SOM
1.498	0.2436	-1.011	-0.4945	-0.5683	1.203	-1.528	-0.6421	0.834	% OC
1.963	-0.6018	-0.4267	-0.5206	-0.6656	-0.3774	-0.884	-0.7067	1.079	% C:N
2.596	0.5859	-0.2183	-0.6778	0.0689	0.7353	-0.3332	-0.7353	-0.448	NO-3 [mg/l]
2.662	0.2919	-0.5667	-0.9444	-0.3263	-0.2232	-0.2576	-0.2232	0.1545	PO3-4 [mg/l]
2.148	1.104	-0.8354	-0.8354	0.6564	-0.2387	-0.8354	-0.2387	-0.2387	TSS[mg/l]
0.5799	-0.7955	0.8068	-0.2491	0.4773	-1.124	-1.112	-0.9416	0.5013	% Clay
0.9106	0.9554	0.8374	-0.0516	0.3928	-1.915	-0.8725	-0.9427	0.7729	% LOI
1.386	-0.8208	1.585	-0.548	-0.5976	0.9398	-0.0768	0.1711	-1.366	Sal
1.381	-0.7493	1.58	-0.4966	-0.6049	0.9299	-0.0993	0.1535	-1.454	EC [uS/cm]
1.146	-0.9538	1.326	-0.6239	0.8758	0.8159	-0.2939	0.0659	1.584	TDS [g/L]
1.499	-0.8073	0.346	-1.576	-1.192	1.115	0.346	0.7304	-0.4229	pH



Landward | Seaward

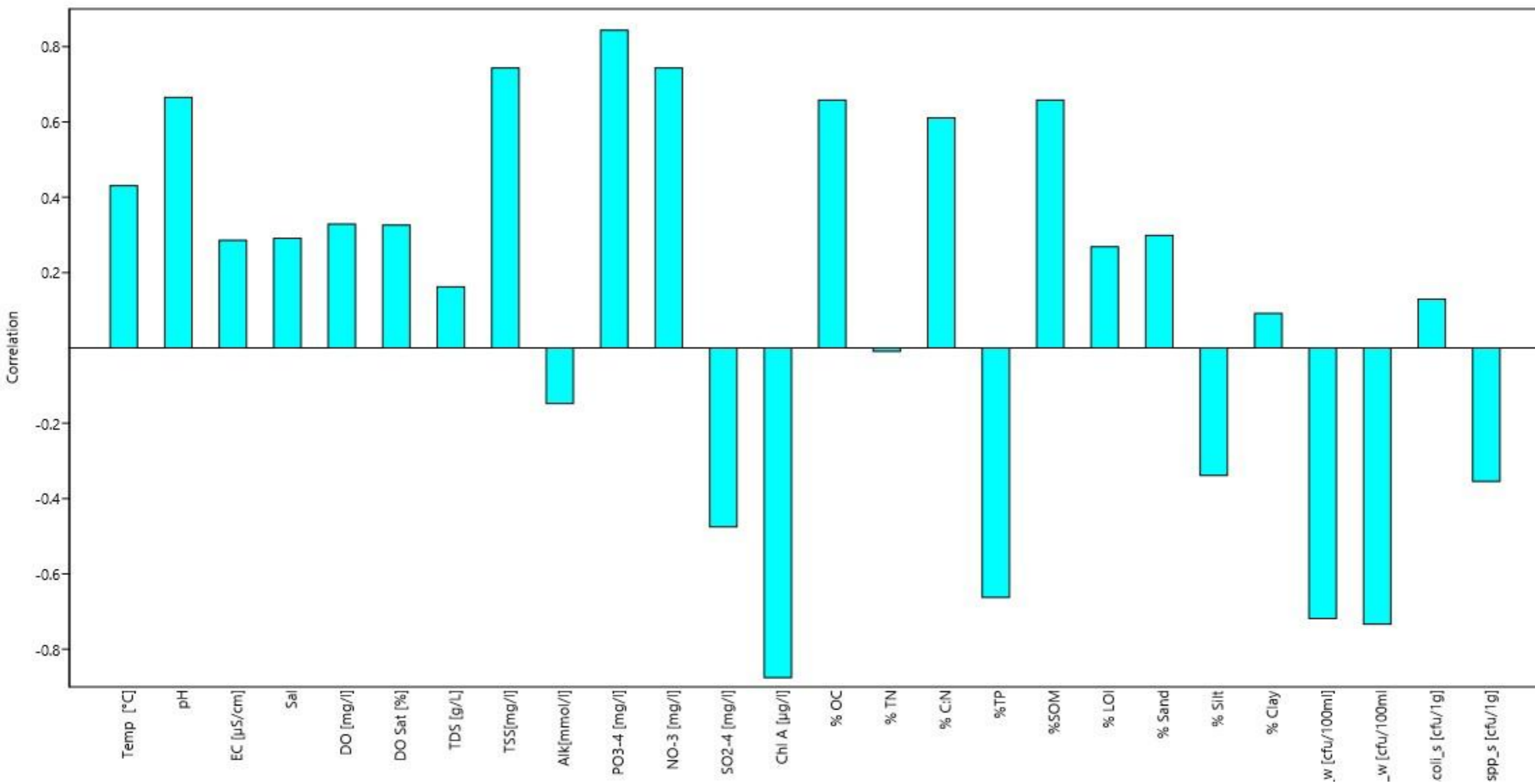


# IV. Results: Principal Components Analysis





# IV. Results: Correlation



# V. Conclusion

- Metals in soil [mg/g]: Zn-76.80 to 158.30, highest **S1**; Pb-84.70 to 35.10, highest **S5**; Hg-0.029 to 0.045 highest **S1**.
- Organics [%] in sediment: C; 0.76 to 2.05 with highest **S9**, TN; 0.06 to 0.015; C:N; 12.31 to 34.81, highest **S9**); TP; 0.44 to 1.38, highest **S1**).
- The bacterial count (highest **S1 and S2**) in water (*E. coli*; 4400 CFU/100ml and *Enterococcus sp*; 2200 CFU/100ml) was significantly higher than in sediment (2 CFU/g and 46 CFU/g) than in water.
- These types of microbes indicate faecal pollution, which can pose human health risks. Contaminated sites (S1 and S2) were influenced by anthropogenic activities.
- The use of **multiple indicators** is useful for the detection of different sources of contamination, water pollution and environmental stresses in Densu estuary, Gulf of Guinea coast, Ghana.

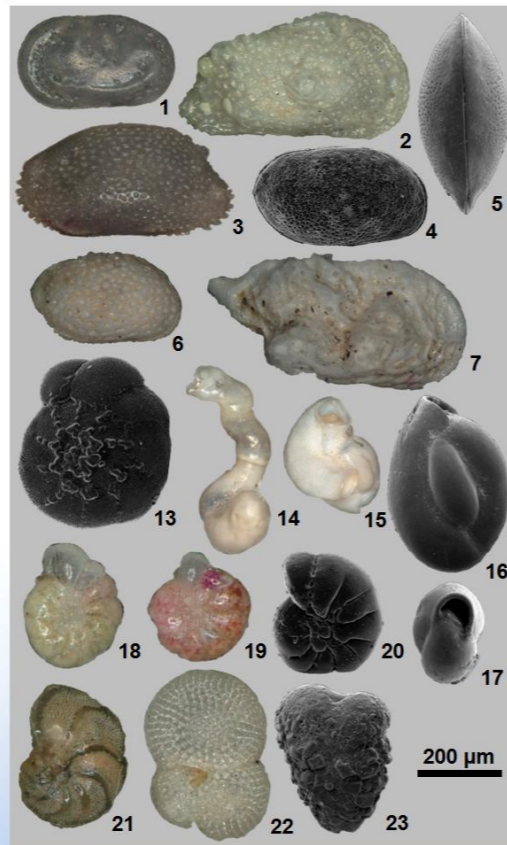
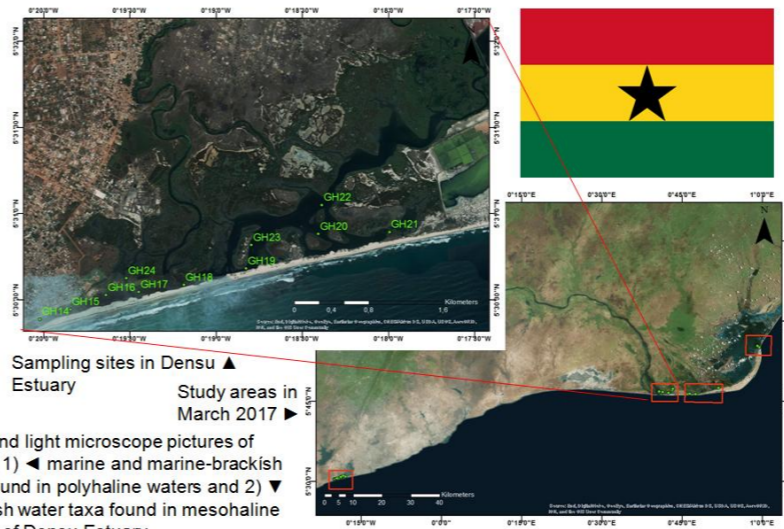
# Recent brackish water Ostracoda and Foraminifera of Ghana – first results from Densu Estuary



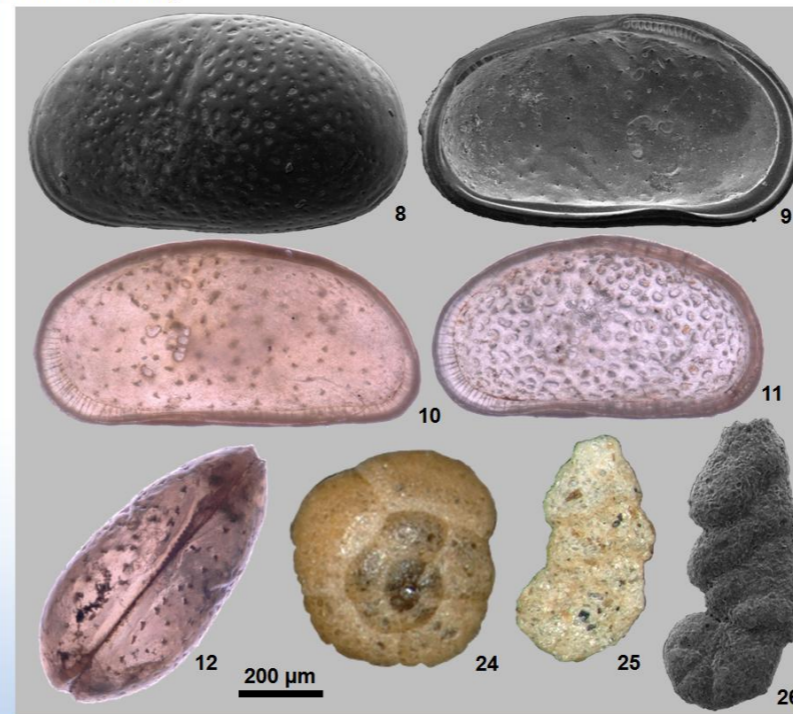
Peter Frenzel<sup>1</sup>, Johannes Biehler<sup>1</sup>, Mauro Alivernini<sup>1</sup> & Lailah Gifty Akita<sup>2</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Institute of Geosciences, University of Jena, Germany  
<sup>2</sup>Institute of Marine and Fisheries Sciences, University of Ghana



In order to calibrate Ostracoda and Foraminifera, two classical microfossil groups in geosciences, for applications in water quality monitoring and palaeoenvironmental reconstructions, we started to document their diversity, to map their Recent distribution and to collect ecological data in Ghanaian coastal waters. Most data are available from Densu Estuary so far. The brackish foraminifer fauna is composed of cosmopolitan species commonly found in either South or North African coasts. But the Ostracoda differ remarkably in species inventory although it is similar to North African faunas. A future faunistic and ecological synopsis of Ostracoda and Foraminifera of Ghanaian brackish waters, West Africa, is intended to contribute to the national and international biodiversity database.



SEM and light microscope pictures of typical 1) marine and marine-brackish taxa found in polyhaline waters and 2) brackish water taxa found in mesohaline waters of Densu Estuary



**Fig. 1-12 Ostracoda:** 1) *Cytherella* sp., left valve, external, GH14; 2) Trachyleberidinae gen. et sp. inc., right valve, external, GH24; 3) *Neonesidea* sp., left valve, external, GH14; 4-5) *Loxococoncha* sp. 1, right valve, external, and carapace, dorsal, both GH24; 6) *Loxococoncha* sp. 2, right valve, external, GH14; 7) *Paracytheridea laundensis* Hartmann, 1974, right valve, external, GH14; 8-12) *Cyprideis nigeriensis* Omatzola, 1970, 8/9/11) female left valves external, internal and in transmitted light, 10/12) male left valve in transmitted light and carapace dorsal, GH17 and GH24  
**Fig. 13-26 Foraminifera:** 13) *Rotalinoides gaimardi* (d'Orbigny in Fornasini, 1904), spiral, GH24; 14-17) Miliolinae, 14/15) malformed specimens, 16/17) *Quinqueloculina* sp., lateral and apertural, GH24; 18-20) *Criboelphidium sandiegoense* (Lankford, 1973), lateral, 19) malformed, GH24; 21) *Hyalinea balthica* (Schröter in Gmelin, 1791), umbilical, GH24; 22) allochthonous planktic foraminifer, GH14; 23) *Textularia* sp., lateral, GH24; 24) *Trochammina inflata* (Montagu, 1808); 25-26) *Ammotium salsum* (Cushman & Brönnimann, 1948), lateral, GH24



# VI. References

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# VII. Acknowledgments: Partners



UNIVERSITY OF GHANA



Alfred-Wegener-Institut  
für Polar- und Meeresforschung  
in der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft



**THE MORE CLEARLY WE CAN FOCUS  
OUR ATTENTION ON THE WONDERS  
AND REALITIES OF THE UNIVERSE  
ABOUT US, THE LESS TASTE WE  
SHALL HAVE FOR DESTRUCTION**



“The road we have long been traveling is deceptively easy, a smooth superhighway on which we progress with great speed, but at its end lies disaster. The other fork of the road — the one ‘less traveled by’ — offers our last, our only chance to reach a destination that assures the preservation of our earth.”

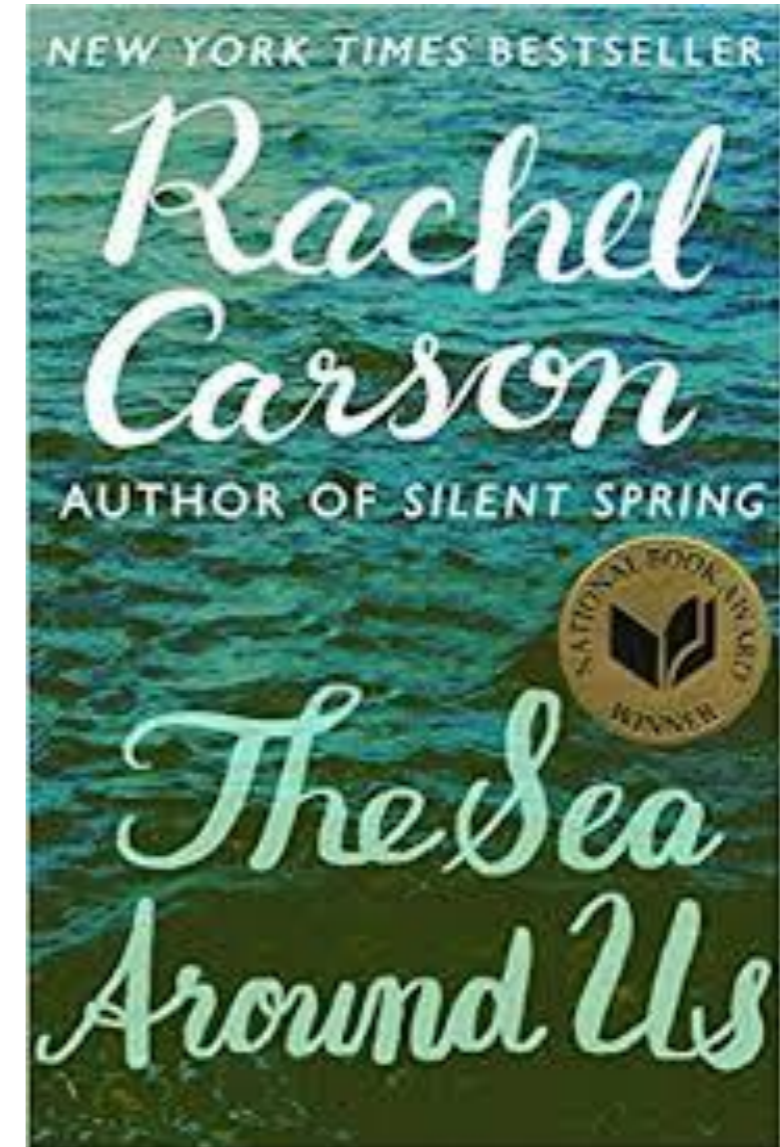
From *Silent Spring* 1962



*Rachel Carson*

# Rachel Carson

- Wrote "*Silent Spring*"
- Biologist, ecologist, Writer
- Protested the use of chemicals, Pesticides in the environment for farming, etc.
- Resulted in the Water Quality Act
- Triggered the Modern Environmental Movement





# Opportunities for graduates students:

- Coastal Ocean Environment Summer School in Ghana

<https://coessing.org/>

- Volkswagen Foundation

<https://www.volkswagenstiftung.de/en/foundation>

- PhD Program IMPRS for Global Biogeochemical Cycles

<https://www.bgc-jena.mpg.de/index.php/IMPRS/IMPRS>

- NF-POGO Centre of Excellence in Observational Oceanography

<http://www.ocean-partners.org/centre-of-excellence>