



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM: MARINE WATER QUALITY MONITORING NETWORK

The Environmental Quality Monitoring Program (EQMP) is a program that consists of a air quality monitoring stations network as well as river and marine water quality that generates environmental quality data throughout the country. The EQMP program is an important element in creating effective and sustainable environmental management. The marine water quality monitoring component of the EQMP consists of 368 **manual marine water quality monitoring (MMWQM)** stations located throughout the country.

The objective of MMWQM stations is to provide marine water quality trend data in long-term and subsequently as a basis for marine water quality assessment, encompassing coastal, river estuaries and islands in Malaysia. Based on this objective, the MMWQM network located in national waters represents a high value of biodiversity including in areas where there is a threat of pollution.

For marine water quality data at manual monitoring stations, there are two sampling methods carried out, namely *in-situ* measurement and accredited laboratory analysis. The frequency of sampling at the manual stations is six (6) times a year. The Malaysian Marine Water Quality Index (MMWQI) generated from the MMWQM stations is representative of the marine water quality monitored during sampling or when data measurements are performed.

Data from the MMWQM network is subjected to quality control protocols and tight operating procedures to ensure the generated data is valid and accurate.