Preliminary project name:

Reduction of nutrients discharge in the areas highly vulnerable to nutrient losses.

Objective: reduction of nutrients discharge to the Baltic Sea from intensive animal farming in catchment areas highly vulnerable to nutrient losses

Legal background

2013 HELCOM Ministerial Declaration

Priority implementation of measures aimed to reduction of nutrient losses as a first step in areas critical to nutrient losses.

Helsinki Convention Annex III Part II

6 month minimum storage capacity for animal manure.

Application rates for organic fertilizers (170 kgN/ha and 25 kgP/ha)

Nitrate Directive

designate as vulnerable zones all known areas of land in their territories which drain into the waters identified according to paragraph 1 and which contribute to pollution.

establish action programmes in respect of designated vulnerable zones.

Why the project is needed?

- The requirements of the EU Nitrates Directive only address nitrate pollution, while phosphorus runoff from agricultural areas is equally or even more important, especially in relation to prevention of pollution from manure handling.
- A report on the implementation of the Nitrates Directive shows that since 2008, the designation of NVZ has not progressed much with several countries and, respectively, the situation with nitrate pollution has not improved and shows even negative trend for some countries.
- Neither Russia nor Belarus are applying similar requirements for designation of Nitrate Vulnerable Zones due to lacking legal provisions for establishment of such areas.

The scope of the project

The project is aimed to facilitate implementation of the agri-environment legislation in catchment areas highly vulnerable to nutrient losses from intensive animal farming.

- The areas with greatest risk of manure-based nutrients ending up in BS marine environment will be identified.
- The priority measures aimed to implementation of the current legislation in the most sensitive areas will be developed.
- Manure handling practices and related facilities in pilot cases will be upgraded to the quality which complies current agri-environment legislation.

Project work packages.

WP 1. Project management.

WP 2. Communication and dissemination.

WP 3. Evaluation of the compliance of the current manure handling practices in BS catchment area to existing agri-environment legislation.

WP 4. Scientifically based identification of nutrient vulnerable areas.

WP 5. Prioritization of measures and identification of pilot cases for comprehensive development of manure handling practice.

WP 6. Establishing agri-environment investment facility and enhancing monitoring capacity.

WP 3. Evaluation of the compliance of the current manure handling practices in BS catchment area to existing agri-environment legislation.

Nr	Action	Participants	Input	Outcomes
3.1	Evaluating the legal frameworks across the BSR concerning definition of priority geographic areas for stricter environmental legislation taking into account comparable & relevant RU and BY regimes.		Current national and international legal documents related to manure handling practices.	A report on the legal frameworks across the BSR
3.2	Establishing state of the art of implementation and enforcement of current existing legislation with protection of the waters from nutrients losses		Outcomes 3.1 Projects BASE, BALTHAZAR, Baltic MANURE, Baltic COMPASS communication with competent authorities and stakeholders.	A report on state of the art of implementation of current legislation.

WP 4. Scientifically based identification of nutrient vulnerable areas (NVA).

Nr	Action	Participants	Input	Outcomes
4.1	Setting up criteria for identification of the NVA (areas critical to nitrogen and phosphorus losses) for the Baltic sea catchment are.		Outcomes of 3.1 Geographical data (Geo/hydro/topo). Pressure from livestock manure.	The document defining "nutrient vulnerable zones" and criteria for its identification
4.2	Compilation of data required for the NVA (areas critical to nitrogen and phosphorus losses) identification.		Outcomes 4.1. Available geographical data, data on N and P load, land use, farming.	The report on required data availability. Spatial database compilation.
4.3	Development of an integrated common guidelines for mapping of nutrient vulnerable areas		Outcomes 4.1 and 4.2.	Guidelines for mapping of nutrient vulnerable areas
4.4	Mapping of the NVA (areas critical to nitrogen and phosphorus losses) according to the criteria.		Outcomes of 4.3.	Digital maps of NVZ.

WP. 5. Prioritization of measures and identification of pilot cases for comprehensive development of manure handling practice.

Nr	Action	Participants	Input	Outcomes
5.1	Identification of manure handling practices (storage capacity and/or handling procedures).		Outcomes of 3.2, Projects BASE, Baltic MANURE, Baltic COMPASS Gathering data though communication with stakeholders.	The report describing measures which have to be implemented at the farms.
5.2	Identification of measures and mapping of possibilities and needs to develop manure handle practices for single farms and for the selected NVZ(s).		Outcomes of 4.4 and 5.1. Outcome of Baltic MANURE, Baltic COMPASS.	Priority list of the measures on facilities or manure handling practice improvement for single farms in for the NVZ(s)
5.3	Implementation of the measures on best environmental practices integration and manure storages improvement.		Outcomes of 5.1 and 5.3.	XX facilities improved and XX practices implemented.

WP 6. Development proposals for establishing agri-environment investment facility and enhancing monitoring capacity.

Nr	Action	Participants	Input	Outcomes
6.1	Identification of national and international financial tools for supporting implementation legal environmental requirements in animal farming (or agriculture)			A report on available financial tools.
6.2	Engineering of grant and loan mechanisms and establishing criteria and capacity for project evaluation.			
6.3	Developing proposals for establishing an agri-investment facility providing comprehensive services on integration of cost-efficient environmental practises		Outcomes of 6.1 and 6.2.	
6.4	Enhancing nutrient load monitoring capacity and developing a system to follow up measures implemented in the NVZs.		Outcomes of WP4 and WP5.	

Potential project partners

Belarus

- Central Research Institute for water management

Finland

- Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE)
- MTT Agrifood Research Finland

Latvia

- ZSA-Latvian Farmers' Parliament

Poland

- Warsaw University of Life Sciences (WULS)

Russia

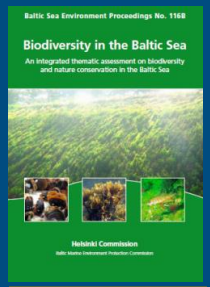
- NW Research Institute of Agricultural Engineering and Electrification

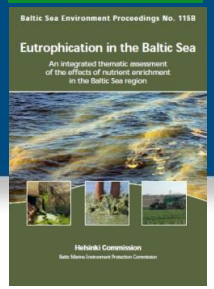
Sweden

- Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
- JTI (Agro-technological institute in Uppsala)

Helsinki commission

Thank you for your attention! Спасибо за внимание!





Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission