

Implementation of the Archipelago Sea Programme 2024-2027

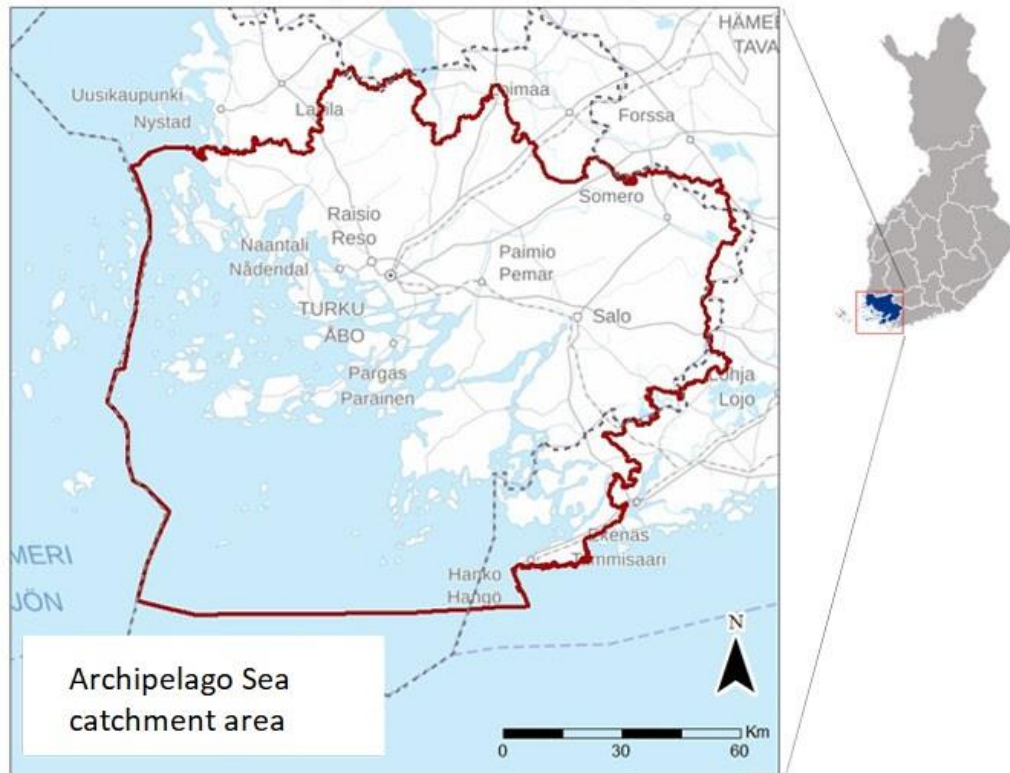
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Background of the programme

Finland's last remaining HELCOM Hot Spot



- The agricultural runoff to the Archipelago Sea is Finland's last remaining HELCOM Hot Spot.
- The aim of the Archipelago Sea programme is **to reduce diffuse pollution in the Archipelago Sea catchment area** so that the area can be removed from the HELCOM's hot spot list by 2027 at the latest.
- In long run, the aim is **good status of water in Archipelago sea.**

Political will

- Archipelago Sea programme launched 2021 (previous Government)

First step: Archipelago Sea Hot Spot Road Map project

- The aim was to find the way and measures to remove the catchment area (nutrient loads from agriculture) of Archipelago Sea from the HELCOM Hot Spot list.
- The main result from this first phase was the Road Map of the Water Protection in Agriculture
- The programme continues at least ongoing Governmental period until 2027

Second step: Implement the Road Map of the Water Protection in Agriculture

- Implement the efficient measures and resolve bottlenecks identified in the road map of the water protection in agriculture
- Make the catchment area of Archipelago Sea as a pilot area of nutrient cycling
- Remove the Archipelago Sea catchment area from the HELCOM Hot Spot list latest in 2027

Pilot area of nutrient cycling

- Based on the Government Programme, actions in Archipelago Sea catchment area focus on measures which leads to significant improvements in the nutrient cycle
 - circulation of nutrients of animal origin
 - improving the retention capacity and growth condition of soil
 - removing nutrients from waters



Activities and measures in Archipelago Sea Work Programme 2024-2027



The focus is promoting water protection in agriculture

Actions and measures in Archipelago Sea Programme is based on

- **Prime Minister Orpo's Government Programme**, which underline nutrient cycling
- **Road Map of the Water Protection in Agriculture**, which describes the significant measures to be taken in the agricultural environment, but which financing and operating model still have lacks and improvement needs.
- **River Basin Management Plans (RBMP) and Marine Strategy and Programme of Measures (PoM)**, which include information on the status of the Archipelago sea area and coastal waters, environmental status and pressure reduction goals and general level actions.

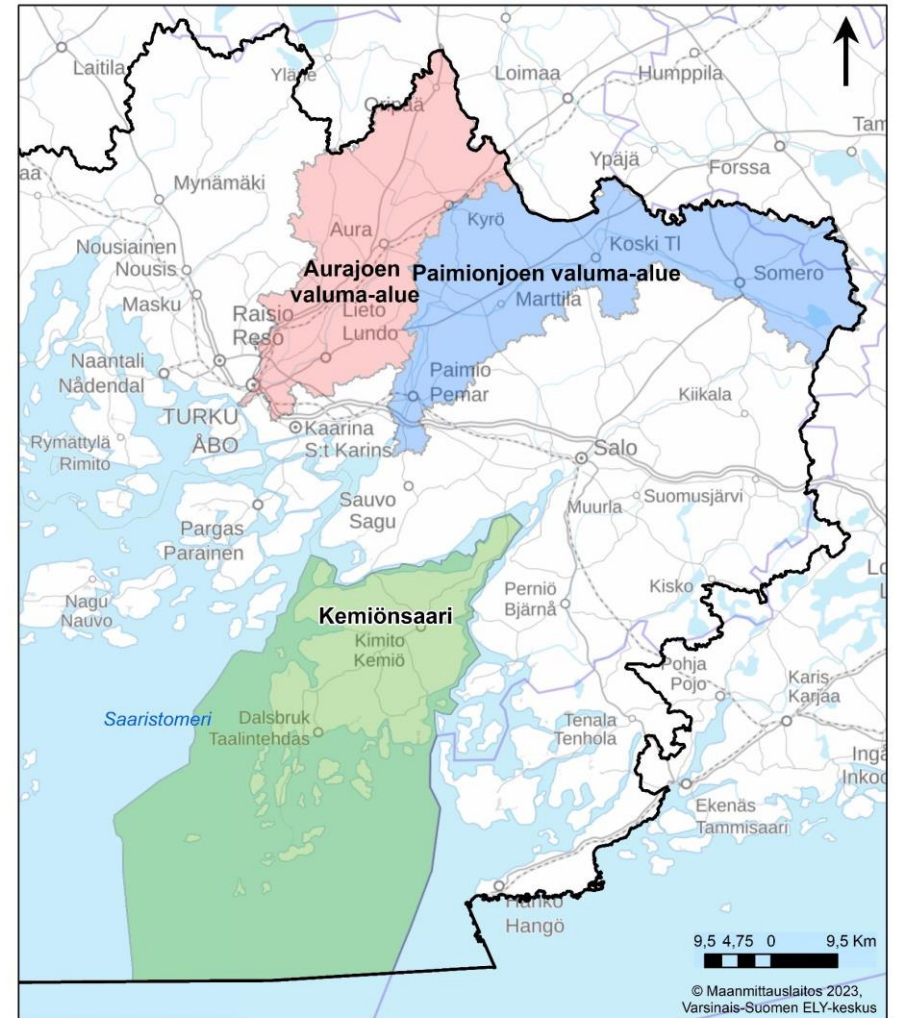
Main topics in Archipelago Sea Programme 2024-2027

1. Environmental measures financed from Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) plan
2. Promote and add the use of soil conditioners
3. Nutrient cycling and transfer
4. Water restoration projects
5. Company cooperation in water protection
6. Increase of know-how and enhance advising services



Implementation of the Programme

- Measures are taken in the whole catchment area of the Archipelago Sea
- Focus is on the three pilot areas and the purpose is to target a large numbers of measures as intensive as possible to a smaller geographical area → efficiency in implementation
- The aim is
 - achieve visible change on the soil, the state of waters and the efficiency of the implementation of measures
 - experiment and implement new operating methods
 - monitor the effectiveness of the joint use of different measures based on catchment-based planning



Monitoring of the Programme

- Monitoring of water quality
- The target for load reduction (long-term) will be defined for the pilot areas
- Monitoring efficiency of measures implemented in sub-catchment areas
- The amounts of implemented measures and activities
 - Implementation of measures described River Basin Management Plans (RBMP) and Marine Strategy and Programme of Measures (PoM),
 - Implementation of CAP environmental measures
 - Measures and development work carried out in projects, especially in pilot areas
- Number of companies committed to water stewardship



How to do this?

- Activities related to water protection in agriculture are voluntary for farmers.
- Many measures can be financed from existing funding (CAP e.g.)
- Changes in thinking and doing takes time
- We need to find the way
 - Activate and motivate
 - Make benefits visible
 - Increase knowledge and know-how
 - Cut of the rumors and misinformation
 - Increase cooperation



Thank you!

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