

Ympäristöministeriö Miljöministeriet Ministry of the Environment

Implementation of WFD in Finland

Nordic WFD meeting 23th of September 2015 Challenges and good practice in implementation of Water Framework Directive in Nordic countries

Achievements

- Comprehensive picture on the status of water bodies and measures required to achieve good water quality status established
- Water protection strategies and programmes enhanced
- PoM`s have influenced on permits and agri-environmental measures based on CAP reform
- Planning process has provided forum for broad cooperation with different stakeholders and sectors



Achievements

- Improvements in monitoring, range of water bodies, classification etc., assessment of cost effectiveness
- Enhanched focus on climate change
- Win-win solutions with the MSP and FRMP`s
- Stronger local engagement, new innovative projects to improve water quality



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Tools to identify cost-effective measures

- To assess the present state of the waterbody based on either observations or modelling
- How much nutrient loading should be reduced to achieve good ecological status.
- Assess the effect of different combinations of measures to the loading and to the status of a waterbody. In this way, the most cost-effective measures can be identified.
- Costs of river basin management and benefits for recreational use from improving the water quality can be evaluated.



There is still a lot to do

100 %

90 %

80 % 70 % 60 %

50 % 40 % 30 % 20 % 10 % 0 %

Unclassified

Moderate

Bad

Poor

Good

High



Achievement of environmental objectives



- In one fourth of the planned area the objectives will be reached later than 2015
- In the Gulf of Finland and Archipelago Sea the good status will be reached by 2027
- In coastal rivers the good status will be reached by 2021 or 2027
- In big lakes the good status will be reached by 2015 or they are already now in good status
- In small lakes with heavy agricultural loading the good status will be reached later than 2015

Challenges

- Better tools for implementation, improved horizontal cooperation
- How to make plans more attractive for the public?
- Progress to improve water quality is slow and difficult to show, how convince the decision makers to finance?
- Assessments of benefits and costs of non action
- Better use of EU financing instruments
- Address to increasing pressures of economic growth, climate change etc.
- Assessment of chemical status, objectives and measures to manage chemical impacts

EU challenges

WFD revision

- How to address the gap in achievements of environmental objectives in the WPD revision 2019? Extended deadlines beyond 2027? - ecological recovery takes long time;
- Less stringent quality objectives are really destructive policy message!

How to make the planning process less resource consuming? Exchange of experiences and good practices is important Performance reviews are useful, but need better harminzation of criteria

Coordination with MSD, FD and Nature Directives Providing finacial instruments to implement RBMP's Horizontal coordination within EU