

# Project “Integrated Nitrogen Management System for the Gulf of Riga” (GURINIMAS): **Interim Results of Project**

Tanel Mätlik  
Project Manager

*Disclaimer:*

# Background

- Stringent environmental legislation to curb emissions of ammonia and NO<sub>x</sub>, and losses of nitrate by leaching in Estonia and Latvia
- HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan targets to reduce annual nitrogen load - Estonia by 1800 tonnes and Latvia 1670 tonnes by 2021
- Challenge - how to effectively control nitrogen transport in the catchment and to the sea and to better understand mechanisms for transformation of N<sub>r</sub>

# Objective

- Develop an integrated nitrogen management system for the Gulf of Riga in close cooperation between Estonian and Latvian authorities and research institutions
  - involves economy wide inventory of the nitrogen cycle and definition of the risk areas in the Gulf of Riga catchment where to act
  - additional, cost-effective measures to control internal flows between sectors of the economy/ ecosystems; for this, cost of possible measures has to be compared with the realistic expected outcome, and the most effective measures have to be identified
  - provides a harmonised framework for Estonia and Latvia, to be implemented afterwards by Estonia and Latvian authorities.

# Stakeholders

- State institutions and agencies, incl.: Estonian Environmental Board, Estonian Environment Agency, Estonian Ministry of Rural Affairs, Latvian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, Latvian Ministry of Agriculture
- Research/ academic institutions, incl.: Estonian University of Life Sciences, University of Latvia, Riga Technical University
- Local authorities, private and non-governmental sector organisations, incl.: Municipalities close to the area of Gulf of Riga, Agricultural producers, producers associations, water companies

# Activities – state of affairs:

## T1 –Development of Methodology

Planned result	What has been done
<p>Joint model for analysis that will provide coherent data in both countries, by analysing and modifying the existing OECD research methodology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Overview of studies, databases, etc – July '17</li><li>•Description of methodology for data analysis – Dec '17</li><li>•Metadata gathering form – Dec '17</li><li>•2 feedback seminars – 10.01.18 Riga, 19.01.18 Pärnu</li></ul>

# Activities – state of affairs:

## T2 – Data Analysis

Planned result	What has been done
Preparation of nitrogen balance and definition of risk areas in the Gulf of Riga, based on inventories of nitrogen sources and flows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Gathering of data, checking the validity - Sept '18</li><li>•Analysis of data, developed balance by pools – Oct '18</li><li>•Report of Comparative Analysis – Nov '18</li><li>•2 feedback seminars – 06.11.18 Pärnu, 08.11.18 Riga</li></ul>

# Activities – state of affairs:

## T3 - Development of GURINIMAS and Dissemination of Results

Planned result	Will be done
<p>Organisational arrangements for joint monitoring of nitrogen load and additional cost-effective measures to reduce the input to the Gulf of Riga Regional seminars, final conferences and a web-based solution to introduce the system</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Development of monitoring system and a set of additional measures to reduce nitrogen load in Gulf of Riga – May '19</li><li>•2 feedback seminars – June '19</li><li>•2 final conferences to introduce results - Aug/ Sept '19</li></ul>



# Partners and Budget

Project is implemented in the framework of Interreg Estonia-Latvia programme in the period April 2017 – September 2019, incl. programme contribution EUR 363 196,50 EUR and partners' self-contribution EUR 64 093,50.

Partner	Budget
1 – Ministry of Environment of Estonia	€89 790,00
2 – Tallinn University of Technology	€125 000,00
3 – Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre	€87 000,00
4 – Latvian University of Life Sciences and Technologies	€35 000,00
5 – Latvian State Forest Research Institute "Silava"	€50 500,00
6 – Latvian Institute of Aquatic Ecology	€40 000,00