

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

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Background

- Stringent environmental legislation to curb emissions of ammonia and NO_x, 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_r

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">•Overview of studies, databases, etc – July '17•Description of methodology for data analysis – Dec '17•Metadata gathering form – Dec '17•2 feedback seminars – 10.01.18 Riga, 19.01.18 Pärnu

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">•Gathering of data, checking the validity - Sept '18•Analysis of data, developed balance by pools – Oct '18•Report of Comparative Analysis – Nov '18•2 feedback seminars – 06.11.18 Pärnu, 08.11.18 Riga

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</p> <p>Regional seminars, final conferences and a web-based solution to introduce the system</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Integrated nitrogen management system for Gulf of Riga (GURINIMAS) – July '19• 2 feedback seminars – 19.06.19 in Riga, 20.06.19 in Pärnu• 2 final events to introduce results – 11.09.19 in Tartu, 13.09.19 in Riga



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