



VALTIONEUVOSTO
STATSRÅDET

New developments in Finnish policies – Sanna Tikander, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Finland

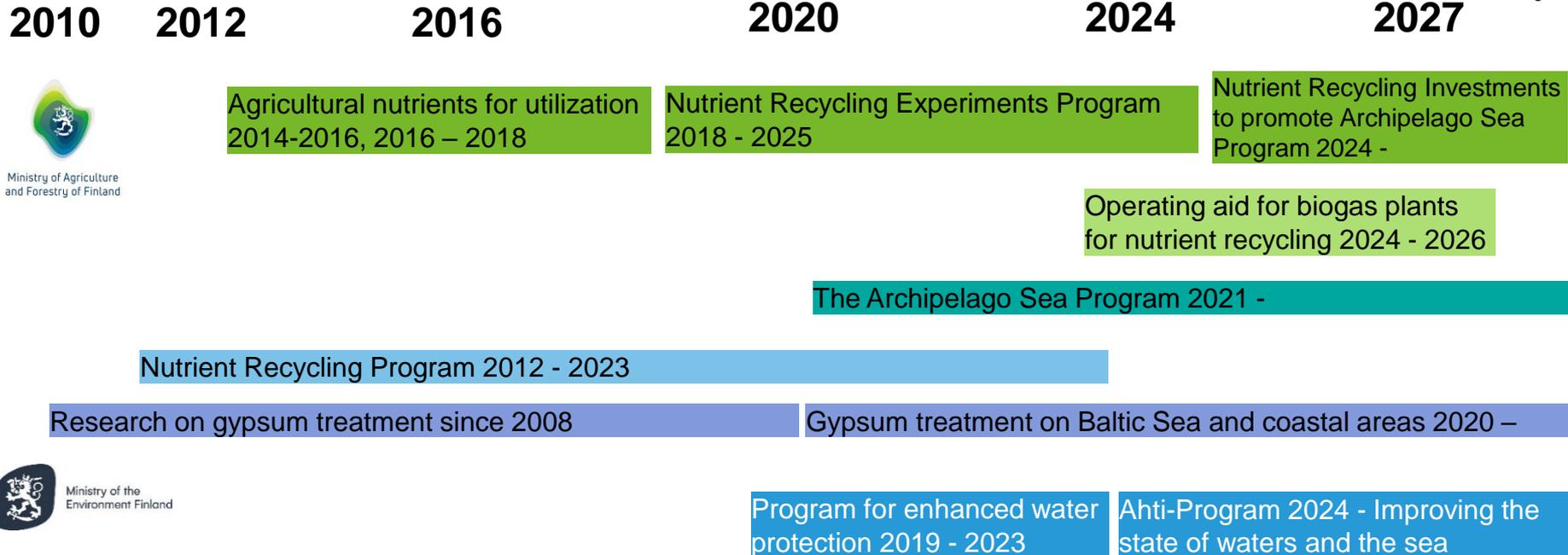
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PA Nutri Talks 9.6.2025

Finnish national programs for nutrient recycling



International agreements, EU legislation and strategies, e.g. CAP, EUSBSR, HELCOM, WFD & MFD



Ahti Program – Improving the state of waters and the sea, Ministry of the Environment



Getting nutrient loading under control

Catchment area-based water management and restoration of water bodies



Storing and using resources

Recycling of nutrients in communities and bodies of water and improving energy efficiency in waste water treatment



Getting soil structure in order

Soil conditioners and water information and advice



Getting harmful substances under control

Urban waters, groundwater protection and cleaning of wrecks

We place particular emphasis on activities in the Archipelago Sea



Programs for nutrient recycling,

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

The experimental Pilot Programme for Nutrient Recycling

- supports biogas production, manure processing, nutrient recycling and carbon sequestration activities from testing innovations and product development to production scale activities.
- Security of supply and sustainability of food production
- Over 20 milj. eur and over 80 projects since 2020. From 2024 onwards the focus will be on supporting investments but much less funding will be available

Operational Grant for Nutrient Cycles

- A new type of aid based on performance. Granted based on competitive tendering.
- The idea is to promote recycling and further processing of phosphorus into recycled fertilizer products on a commercial scale.
- The first auction was organized in 2024.
- Aid for other nutrient recycling plants (without bioenergy production) is currently being investigated.



Pilot equipment to test nutrient recovery

Pellets processed from digestates

Field soil improvement fiber treatment



National CAP plan and subsidies for aquatic environment

- The funding through **the national CAP plan** and measures respond in many ways to the need for water protection measures.
 - Start-up for young farmers and agricultural investment grants and environmental payments, organic production, advisory services and non-productive investments
 - Riparian zones, winter vegetation cover, catch crops, good soil management, accurate use of nutrients and promotion of recycling are all important water protection measures to which the CAP Plan contributes. In addition, the guidance (Neuvo 2030), will increase information on the importance of implementing the measures in agriculture.
- In addition, there are various subsidies for the use and improvement of the aquatic environment and for water management and flood protection as well as funding for development of fisheries logistics and product development contribute to efforts to improve the state of waters and the utilization of nutrients.

Archipelago Sea Program 2021 -

- Joint program of four ministries: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment and Ministry of Transport and Communications
- Archipelago Sea is a focus area of nutrient recycling measures – “pilot area for nutrient recycling”
- Agricultural load to Archipelago Sea is the last HELCOM hot spot in Finland.
- Work programme for 2024-2027 includes intensive activities in a highly targeted manner to reduce the loads.
- Cooperation with all sectors, especially private companies in the food sector
- Assessment of the possibilities to removing from the hot spot list is underway.



“New” developments in Finnish policies

- Long-term efforts, various activities and good cooperation are needed for lasting results
- Improving nutrient recycling requires actions across the society – from catchment area to politics

“NEW” developments in Finland

- New openings will be developed to increase the effectiveness of funding alongside and instead of direct project subsidies or cost-based subsidies:
 - production subsidies and performance-based funding (e.g. Operational Grant for Nutrient Cycles), impact funding and many others
- We need steps towards systemic change
 - How to take a systemic step in nutrient recycling that supports the food system of the future in improving competitiveness and crisis resilience.
 - National project call this spring and projects will start autumn.
- Roadmap for nutrient recycling and fertiliser self-sufficiency
 - The aim is to link existing and ongoing measures to promote nutrient recycling to strengthening the self-sufficiency of inputs.

Key messages

- A systemic change is needed, in which nutrient recycling measures are closely interlinked and complementary. No partial optimization.
- The measures should meet the objectives of self-sufficiency in primary production, national and EU competitiveness and resilience, and improving the state of the environment.
- Nutrient recycling is part of the bioeconomy, at the heart of the circular economy and key to environmental objectives

Thank you!



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