

# Implementing the key issues of EU blue Print on 2nd cycle and the Nordic relevance – WGs Ecostat, Chemicals WG (priority substances)

How to improve resource effective implementation  
of the WFD in Nordic countries

19 March 2014

Oulu, Big ballroom: Vanha Paloaseman Ullakko  
Ansa Pilke, Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE)

# Ecostat

## ■ Main Tasks

- 'Intercalibration' of ecological potential

- Preparative phase, this spring 3 workshops

- Water bodies affected by water storage (including water supply, hydropower and other reservoirs)

- Water bodies affected by estuaries and lagoons

- Land drainage modifications, irrigation and flood defence

# Ecostat 2

## ■ Main Tasks

- Follow-up of the **intercalibration exercise**
  - **Task 2.1:** Completion of intercalibration for BQEs not included in the COM Decision
    - Northern GIG only river macrophytes for Nordic countries*
    - Large rivers: possibly fish, continuation of benthic invertebrates, macrophytes?*
    - Coastal in Baltic GIG, NEA GIG*
  - **Task 2.2:** Completion of intercalibration for BQEs included in Annex 2 of the COM Decision
    - Coastal in Baltic GIG, NEA GIG*
  - **Task 2.3:** Intercalibration of new and updated methods for BQEs included in Annex 1 of the COM Decision => executed by countries themselves, additional guidance

# Ecostat 3

- Other tasks:

- Recommendations on biological monitoring methods, including on biological monitoring methods for which **harmonisation** is needed and where **standardisation** is possible, and on which standardised methods should be added to Annex V 1.3.6 of the WFD
- Information exchange on the **comparability of classification methods**.

The following topics are covered:

- further information exchange and facilitation of better harmonisation on **nutrient standards and coordination of biotic and abiotic monitoring**
- further information exchange on approaches for **combining quality elements into water-body level classification**
- approaches for dealing with **uncertainty** in classification
- further topics?

# Ecostat 4

## ■ Other tasks:

- Improving coherence of assessment between EU policies:
  - **Eutrophication assessment and nutrient standards** including assessment and coherence with descriptor 5 for “good environmental status” under the **Marine Strategy Framework Directive** and the assessment of eutrophic waters under the **Urban Waste Water and Nitrates Directives**
  - **Hydro-morphological** parameters including assessment and coherence with descriptor 6 and 7 for “good environmental status”
  - **Invasive alien species (IAS)** including the assessment and coherence with descriptor 2 “non-indigenous species” for “good environmental status”.

# Ecostat 5

- Other tasks:
  - Science-Policy Interface
  - Contribution and considerations on EEA/EIONET reporting of biological/ecological data

# WG Chemicals (former E)

Many tasks related to implementation of **existing** legislation and tasks related to **new legislation**.

- One item common with Ecostat on River Basin Specific Pollutants RBSPs in **ecological status** assessment
  - ECOSTAT proposes that WG Chemicals take responsibility for RBSPs.... -> substance-specific issues in WG Chemicals

# WG Chemicals (former E) 2

## Work programme deliverables

- List of substances to include in the first Watch List, with technical specifications for monitoring them, by 2014
- Supplementary guidance on biota sampling and monitoring by 2014
- Analytical methods for priority substances by 2014

# WG Chemicals 3

Work programme deliverables are **PREPARATION** of:

- Watch List monitoring, including work on **identifying substances to include in the first Watch List** and agreeing technical specifications for monitoring them
  
- **Guidance on analytical methods for**
  - newly identified priority substances and for
  - existing priority substances with new EQS
  
- **Supplementary guidance on biota sampling and monitoring**, taking into account MSFD needs
  
- **Guidance on how to select and apply appropriate biotic ligand models (BLMs)**

# WG Chemicals 4

Tasks related to future developments

- Continued exploration of the potential to apply **passive sampling** and bioanalytical tools also for MSFD needs (with a view to developing guidance).
- Closer collaboration with ecological status colleagues on **effect-based tools and the potential impacts of chemical mixtures**.
- Contribution to the Information Platform on Chemical Monitoring (IPChem)
- Work on approaches to **natural background concentrations**
- Identification of best available techniques not entailing **excessive costs**
- Exploration of the relevance of marine litter **from land-based sources, in particular microplastics**.

# WG Chemicals 5

Tasks related to measures addressing chemical pollution

- Identification of **substance-specific and general measures** for implementation at MS level;
- Ensuring **links/synergies with other regulatory activities**, e.g. IPPC/IED - E-PRTR;
- Development and implementation of **source-control measures** under REACH, PPP Regulation etc, relevant to meeting EQS and to achieving phase-out of emissions (PHS);
- Development of a **strategic approach** to addressing the risks from **pharmaceutical substances** in the environment (subject to adoption of new Priority Substances Directive)
- Work on **predicting the effects of measures**;
- Ensuring coherence and consistency **in risk management** approaches under other legislation (e.g. drinking water requirements)

Thank you

