



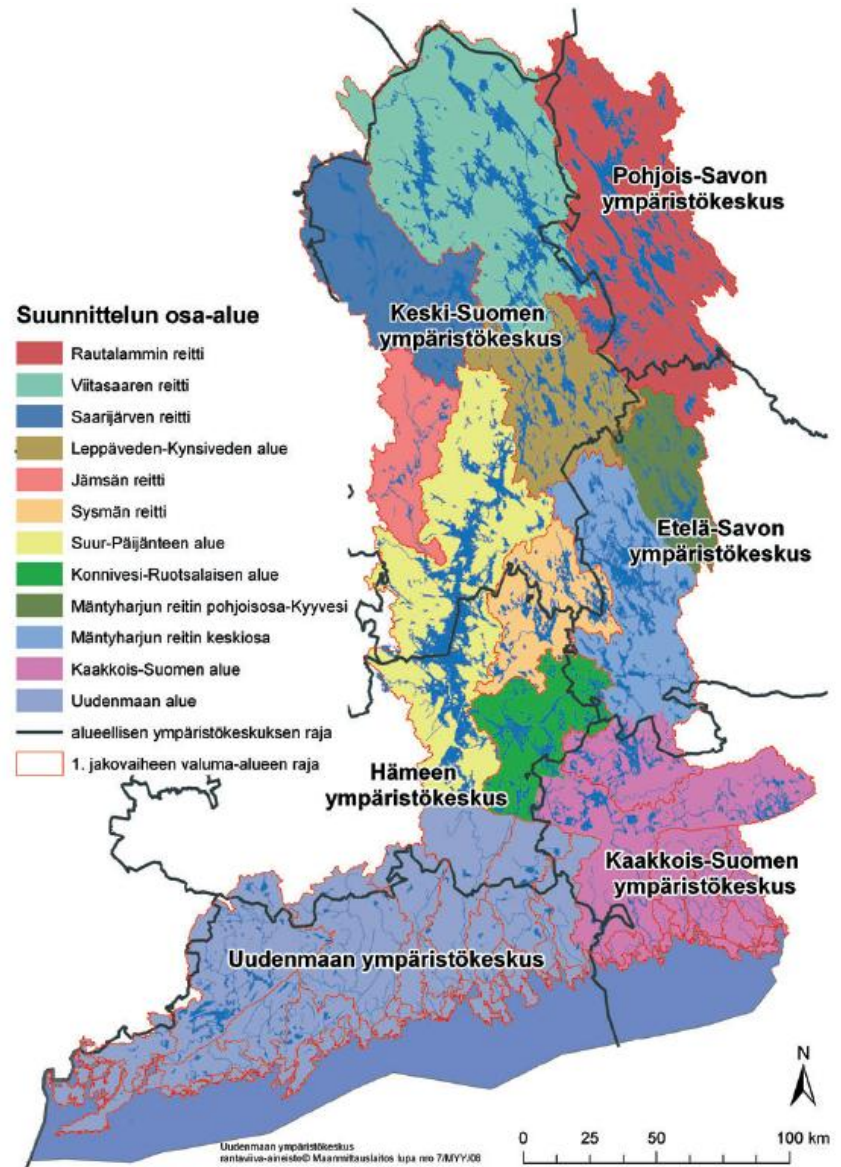
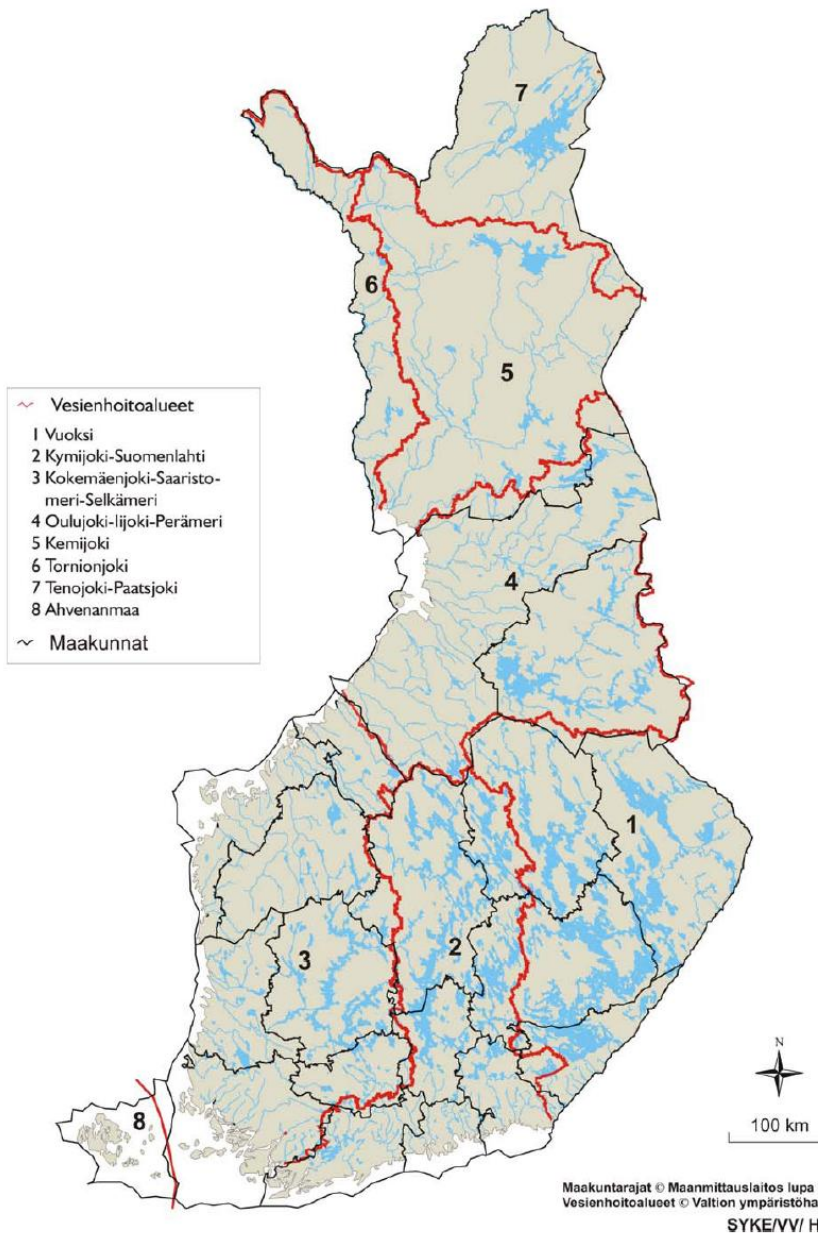
UUSIMAA REGIONAL
ENVIRONMENT CENTRE

*Experiences of a decade
of the implementation of
the WFD in Finland*

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SYKE 27.10.2009

● Planning and co-operation in river basin districts

- **Finland's eight river basin districts (RBD's):**
 - 1. **Vuoksi RBD**
 - 2. **Kymijoki-Gulf of Finland RBD**
 - 3. **Kokemäenjoki-Archipelago Sea-Bothnian Sea RBD**
 - 4. **Oulujoki-Iijoki RBD**
 - 5. **Kemijoki RBD**
- Two international river basin districts (*IRBD*) have also been designated covering parts of Finland:
- 6. **Tornionjoki IRBD** (shared with Sweden)
- 7. **Teno, Näätämöjoki and Paatsjoki IRBD** (shared with Norway)
- 8. A separate RBD has been defined to cover the autonomous **Åland Islands** province, where the WFD is being implemented by the provincial government.



Kuva 8. Suunnittelun osa-alueet Kymijoen-Suomenlahden vesienhoitoalueella

● Key role for regional environment centres

- Finland's 13 regional environment centres (REC's) are responsible for the planning of river basin management in their respective districts.
- One REC in each RBD is appointed as the competent authority to co-ordinate the management of each of the five RBD's, together with a steering group.
- All REC's in each RBD participate in the work of the steering groups, together with a representative of the fisheries administration.
- The REC's have additionally set up joint working groups, whose other members include invited representatives of the main regional and local authorities, organisations, landowners and business interests responsible for the use, protection and state of water bodies.

Water users actively involved in planning

- River basin management planning procedures have been designed to promote transparency, participation and dialogue.
- RBMP planning system is based on co-operation between the authorities, stakeholder groups and citizens, as defined in the national legislation.
- Planning processes are led by the REC's and organised through joint working groups whose members also include invited representatives of the main regional and local authorities, organisations, water and land owners and business interests responsible for the use, protection and state of water bodies.
- All REC's have arranged several information occasions, seminars and so on in connection to the three public consultations in 2006,2007 and 2008.
- Some REC's have also had additional working groups for important sectors or for important river basins.
- The participation of the local people has been challenging.

● Public and stakeholder consultation

- Work programme
22.6.-22.12.2006
- Significant RBM issues
21.6.-21.12.2007
- Draft RBMP set for public consultation
30.9.2008-30.3.2009

Kymijoki – Gulf of Finland River Basin District

- River basins flowing into the Gulf of Finland from the Finnish side form The Kymijoki – Gulf of Finland RBD
- The biggest river in the RBD is River Kymijoki. The biggest lake in the RBD is Lake Päijänne, the central lake in the River Kymijoki river basin. The coast waters of the Gulf of Finland are part of the RBD. The RBD also comprises several groundwater areas.
- In the Kymijoki-Gulf of Finland RBD information, RBMP and POM's have been prepared by six REC's (Uusimaa, Kymi, Häme, Southern Savo, Central Finland and Northern Savo) for the implementation of the WFD.
- Numbers for Kymijoki-Gulf of Finland RBD:
 - 135 Towns /municipalities 2,1 million inhabitants
 - 43500 km² land area 6100 km² sea area
 - 7439 km² inland water area 1500 km² important groundwater areas

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- **The significant issues for Kymijoki-Gulf of Finland RBD**

- Eutrophication caused by diffuse (non-point) pollution
- Risks for groundwaters
- Eutrophication caused by point source pollution and harmful substances
- Water construction, dams and regulation of waters
- Drought, flooding and the increasing of the extreme flow situations
- Oil spill risk in the Gulf of Finland

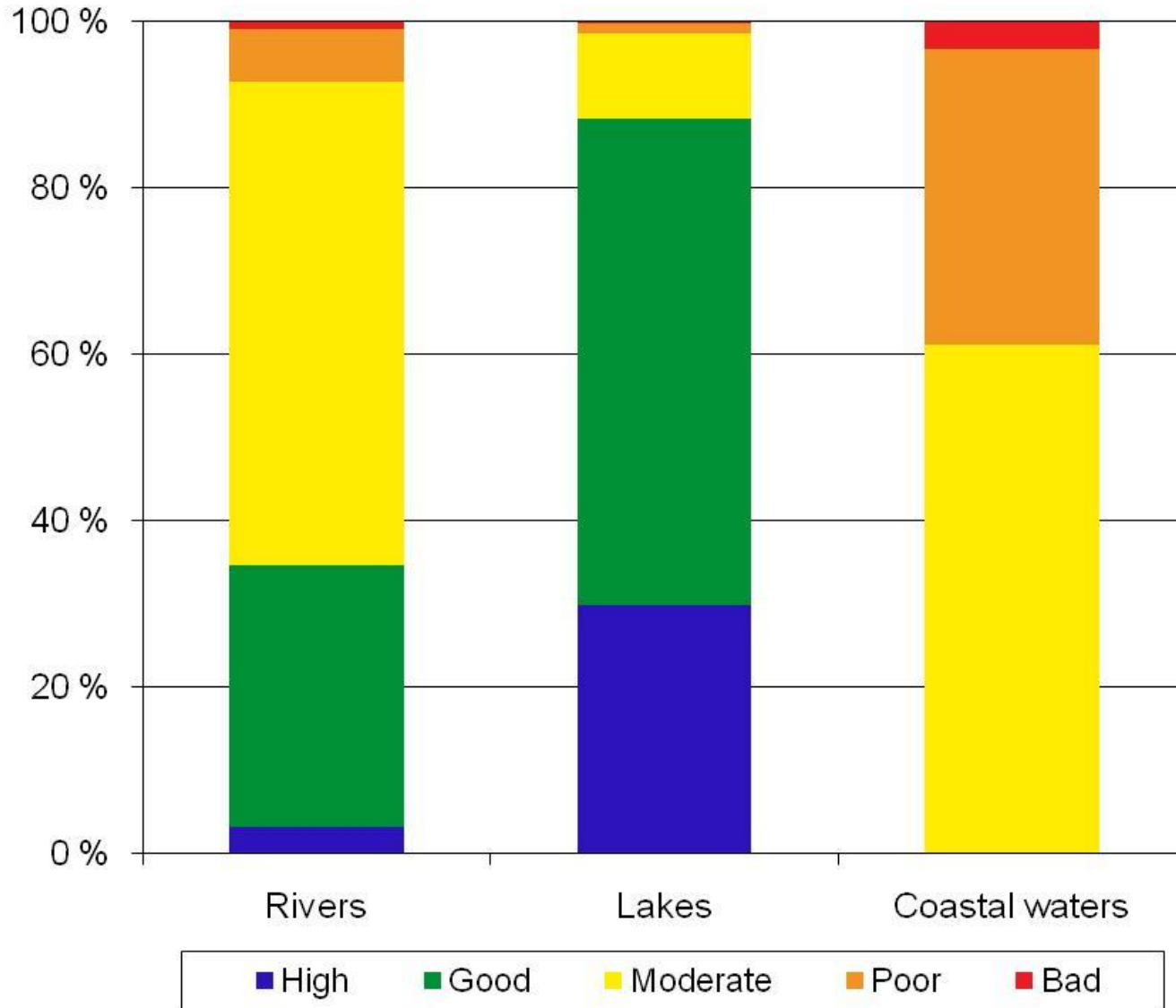
● ● ● The RBMP of Kymijoki-Gulf of Finland RBD

- The final version of the RBMP for the RBD will be published in the end of November 2009. All six REC's have prepared their own POM's for groundwater and for surface water.
- All sectors have been analyzed in the POM's (such as agriculture, forestry, urban and industrial sectors, restoration of waters, nature conservation issues, construction and flood prevention issues)
- Measures for every sector have been presented in each POM and the costs of the implementation have been evaluated in the POM's.
- All important data is presented in the RBMP. We are interested in the additional measures that are included in the POM's.
- We will need some serious legal and financial development to be done before all measures can actually be taken.
- All RECs complain about too tight timetable and missing or too late guidance for the planning process.
- Some major questions have been open on national level up to now.

● ● ● The status

- The ecological status of water is in high or good in 61 % and 39 % in worse than good status of the total number of classified surface waters (lakes, rivers and coastal areas, 903 in all) in the Kymijoki-Gulf of Finland RBD.
- The corresponding figures are for area of lakes 90 %/ 10% and coastal waters 0 % / 100 % and for length of rivers 36 % / 64 %. In general, the water quality in rivers is worse than in lakes, because human activities, such as agriculture and development, are concentrated along rivers.
- Moreover, many rivers are sensitive to the effects of nutrient loading because of their low flow rates. Water quality is also affected by weather conditions and variations in runoff. The global climate change will affect this in the future.

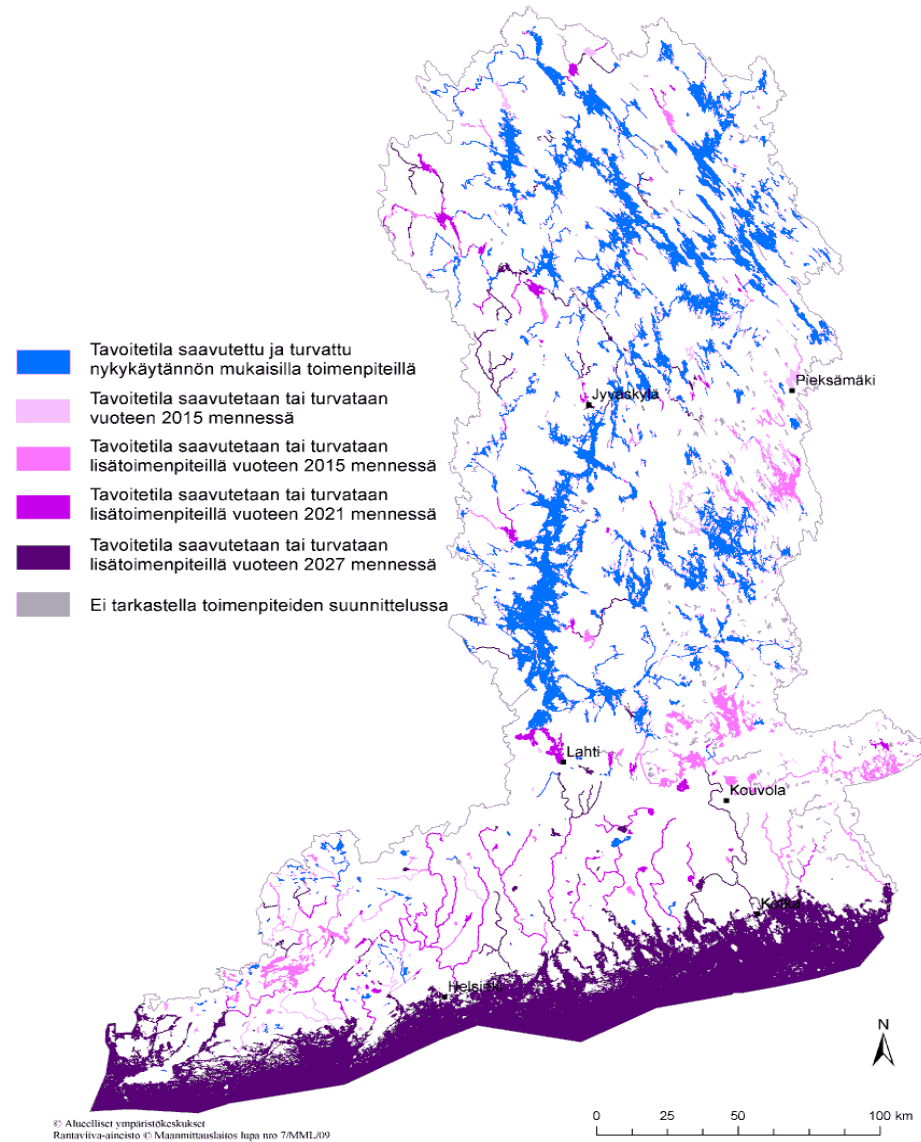
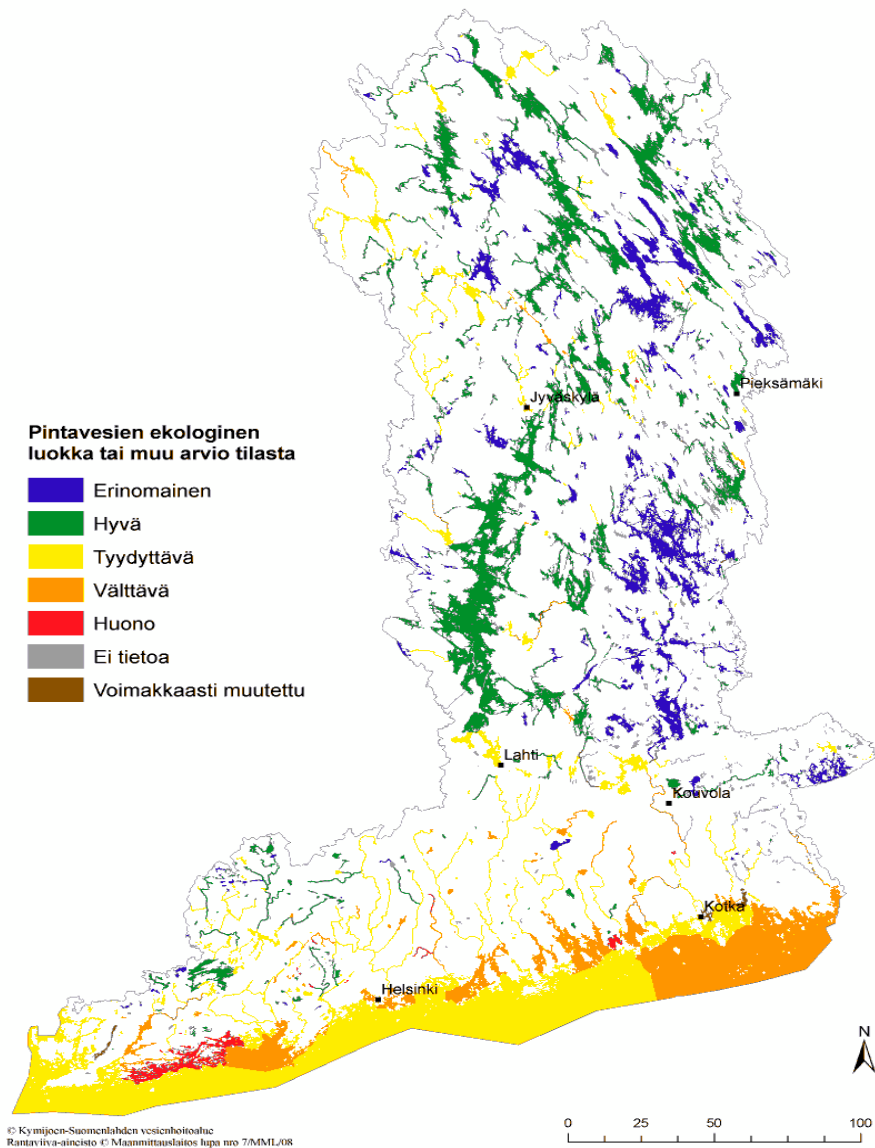
Ecological status



● ● ● Environmental objectives vs reality

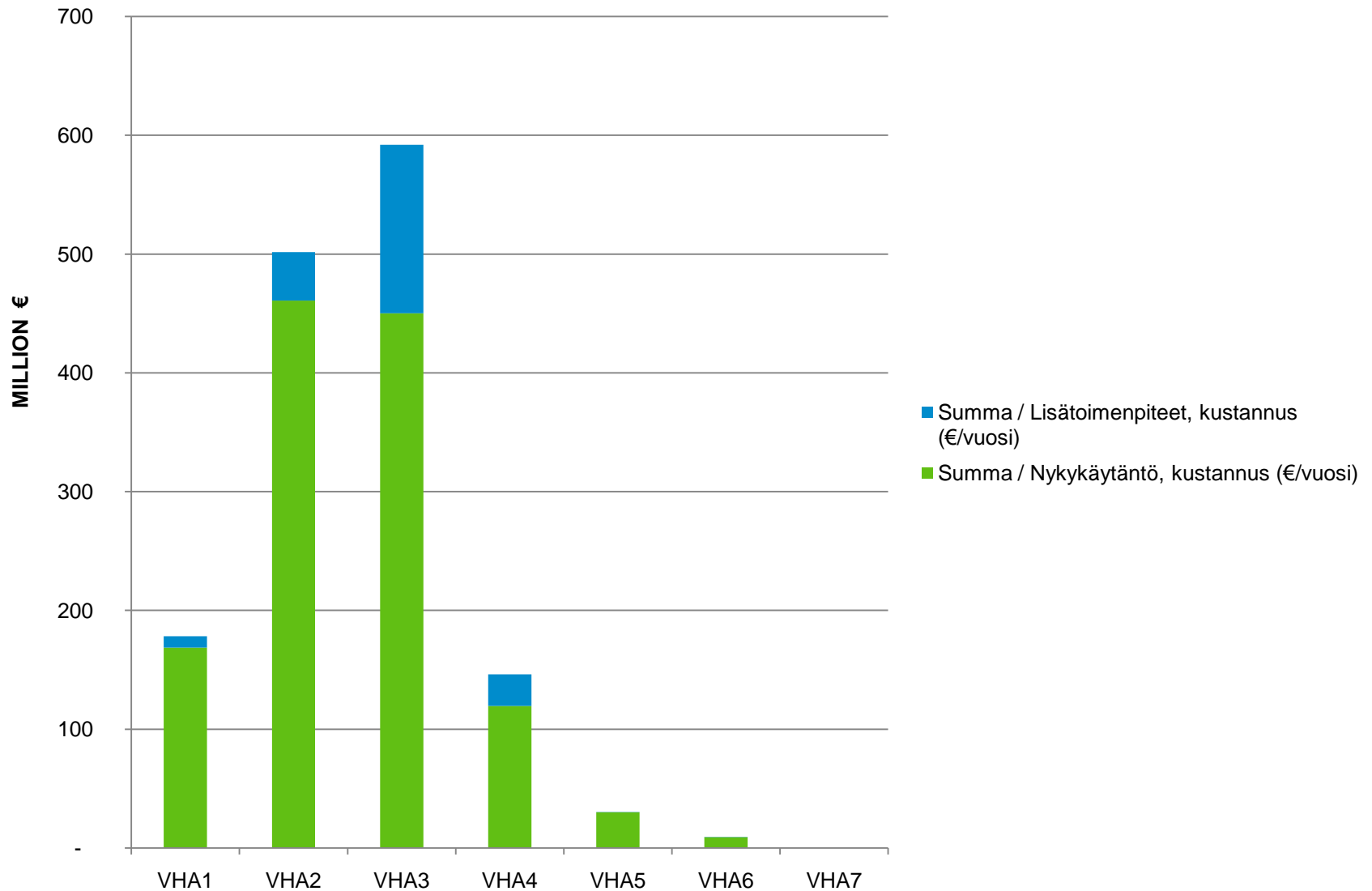
- The ultimate environmental objective is good ecological state of surface waters and good chemical and quantitative state of groundwaters by year 2015.
- Only a part of our waters can achieve those objectives by 2015 without additional measures and therefore we have had to set up more realistic timetables for the ultimate objectives.
- A big part of our surface waters will achieve good ecological status by 2021 or 2027, such as all coastal waters of the Gulf of Finland and nearly all rivers flowing into it. The main reason for this is that the waters are in so poor ecological status and the main reason for this is diffuse source pollution from agriculture in most cases.

Ecological classification and timetable



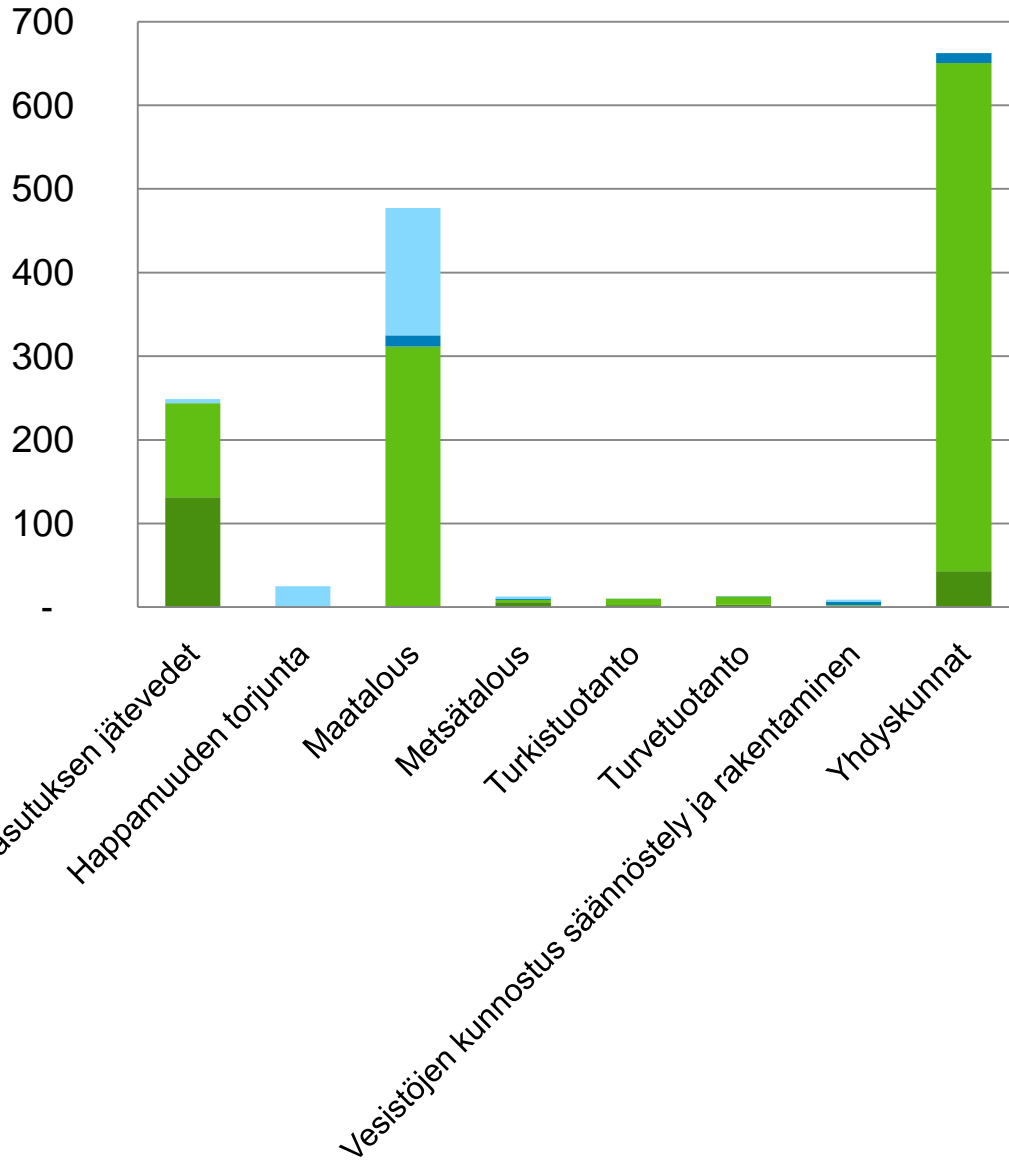
SECTOR	PRESENT MEASURES (1000 €/YR)	ADDITIONAL MEASURES (1000 €/YR)	TOTAL (1000 €/YR)
MUNICIPALITIES	653 000	12 000	665 000
SCATTERED AND HOLIDAY SETTLEMENT	244 000	5 000	249 000
INDUSTRY	194 000	0	194 000
FISH FARMING	17 000	0	17 000
PEAT PRODUCTION	12 500	300	12 800
FUR PRODUCTION	9 900	100	10 000
AGRICULTURE*	325 000	169 000	494 000
FORESTRY	8 500	4 500	13 000
ACIDITY CONTROL	30	24 800	24 830
TRAFFIC	3 600	4 600	8 200
SOIL EXTRACTION	4 200	800	5 000
POLLUTED LAND AND SEDIMENTS	4 000	3 700	7 700
RESTAURATION, REGULATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF WATERS	11 500	6 600	18 100
GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION PLANS	250	2 000	2 250
TOTAL	1 487 500	233 400	1 720 900

Annual costs per River Basin District



Annual costs per sector

MILLION €



- Summa / Lisätoimenpiteiden vuosittainen käyttökustannus (€/vuosi)
- Summa / Lisätoimenpiteiden keskim. investointikustannukset (€/vuosi)
- Summa / Nykykäytännön vuosittainen käyttökustannus (€/vuosi)
- Summa / Nykykäytännön keskim. investointikustannukset (€/vuosi)

● ● ● International issues of RBMP

- Kymijoki-Gulf of Finland RBD shares river systems with Russia. Issues related to these waters are dealt with by transboundary water commissions set up through bilateral agreements.
- All river basins in eastern Finland shared with Russia are covered by the bilateral agreement on transboundary river basin management, with co-operation overseen by the joint Finnish-Russian commission on the utilisation of transboundary river basins.
- EU legislation does not bind Russia, but Finland strives to ensure that measures set out in the Water Framework Directive are implemented in transboundary river basins shared with Russia.
- Another issue is the Gulf of Finland as a part of the Baltic Sea. In the RBMP we can only deal with national inland and coastal issues, not the international issues of the Baltic area. This can be changed with the implementation of the Marine strategy directive.

What's new ?

- Systematic planning process, better communication and participation of stakeholders and citizens, analysis of combinations of measures
- Better overall picture of the ecological status of surface WBs, overall impacts of different environmental pressures and occurrence of harmful substances in WBs
- Reducing discharges and losses of nutrients from agriculture and forestry – supplementary measures in problem areas, development of new policy instruments
- Industrial activities: for some significant polluting activities the conditions of the environmental permits need to be reviewed
- In problematic groundwater WBs supplementary measures are established
- In some heavily modified WBs the living conditions of fish need to be improved
- A good starting point!