28 September 2020

OUR BALTIC CONFERENCE
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#OurBaltic
How is HELCOM coordinating action – and what are the main achievements and challenges?
97% of the Baltic Sea is affected by eutrophication, causing excessive growth of algae and upsetting biodiversity.

Source: HELCOM State of the Baltic Sea report

Total losses attributed to eutrophication are estimated at 3.8-4.4 billion euros annually for the Baltic Sea region.
Nitrogen and phosphorous inputs to the Baltic Sea

Figure 8. Total Nitrogen input to the Baltic Sea.

Figure 9. Total Phosphorous input to the Baltic Sea.

Figure 10. Reduction of nitrogen (N) and phosphorus (P) inputs achieved in 2017 since the reference period (2007-2011), with classification of achieving MUs.

Bothnian Bay
-9.1% N
-6.4% P

Baltic Sea (entire waterbody)
-14% N
-24% P

Bothnian Sea
-21% N
-6.0% P

Gulf of Finland
-18% N
-51% P

Gulf of Riga
-0% N
+4% P

Kattegatt
-21% N
-15% P

Danish Straits
-24% N
-7.5% P

Baltic Proper

Classification of achieving MUs:
- Green: fulfilled
- Yellow: not yet fulfilled due to statistical uncertainty
- Red: not fulfilled

Decrease of input:
N = Nitrogen (blue)
P = Phosphorus (orange)
- Significant change of input
- Non-significant change of input
- = Below trend limit
Nutritionally speaking, it's nutty to put nutrients in the sea?

YEP! Instead, we need a strategy to recycle them safely.

Hooray!
THANK YOU