

Water management and transboundary co-operation. The future role of ERB.

3rd of December 2005, kl 09.00-12.30

Moderator: Mr Bo Frank, Vice Mayor of City of Vaxjo

Transboundary water co-operation within the ERB region.

Based on a co-operation between Kaliningrad and Poland.

Mr Andrzej Lewandowski, Ph. D., Geosciences and Marine research & consulting

REDUCTION OF NUTRIENT

DIFFUSE SOURCES agriculture and other:

Proper fertilization of fields (less mineral more natural)

Proper storage of manure, urine, slurry

Education of farmers in good agricultural practices (financial support: cheap loans, etc.)

ATMOSPHERE

Reduction of N emissions

SEDIMENT / WATER INTERACTIONS

Studies necessary

CONCLUSIONS

AS IT HAS BEEN PROVED BY RESULTS OF SCENARIOS CALCULATIONS IN ORDER TO MITIGATE THE NEGATIVE EFFECT OF POTENTIAL ANIMAL AND YIELD PRODUCTION INCREASE SOME ACTIONS AND CHANGES IN EXISTING AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES SHOULD TAKE PLACE:

- Straw should be incorporated in the soil – not burned how it is now a very common practice
- Crop rotation should change a little from cereals after cereals rotation
- Manure should be stored on appropriately prepared places – not on bared soil
- Urine and slurry tanks should be thigh and has sufficient storage capacity (at least 6 months according to Nutrient Directive)

Shared watersheds and legislative issues as a realm of cooperation between Kaliningrad and EU members in ERB

Mr. Boris Chubarenko, Ph.D., Atlantic Branch of P.P.Shirshov Institute of Oceanology of Russian Academy of Sciences

EU Water Framework Directive (2000)	Russian Water Code (1996)
Water basin is to be defined and is a elementary object of management	Basin approach is announced only
Ecosystem approach	Resources exploitation approach
Explicit formulation of necessity for elaboration of environmental objectives and development of the action plans	No demands on objectives and planning
Individual approach for water objects and basins	The same approach for all water objects in the country
Including wetlands and ground waters in the managed basin	Separate treating of groundwater resources
Clear document regulated the way toward “desirable future”	Not an all-sufficient document, many references to other legislative acts (some of them are still not putted into action)

<u>EU Water Framework Directive</u>	<u>Russian Water Code</u>
Overall goal is the same	
Objectives are to be defined for each water object and basin	Objectives = water quality standards already defined for different types of water
<i>Methods</i>	
Basin approach Clear procedure written in a form of order Time schedule	Basin approach Recommendation mood No time schedule
Both legislation are in agreement	
Harmonization is possible and needed with using of WFD as basis document !!!	

Where to co-operate?

Transboundary basins and coastal waters

Pilot areas for cooperation between EU members and Kaliningrad in water sector in ERB

What to do?

Projects aiming to organization of transboundary basin councils (commissions), joint water management plans, their implementations and monitoring

The Transboundary Waters Programme of the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency 1997-2002 – Results and Conclusions

General conclusions on transboundary water management

Although each basin is unique, the development of transboundary co-operation may be described as different phases:

1. Assessing the national institutional and legal framework, and resources and needs.
2. Developing relevant legal and institutional framework
3. Elaborating a basin management plan
4. Implementing the management plan
5. Compliance monitoring and evaluation.

Water within ERB

Status report and input to the Joint Transnational Development Programme
Ms Carolina Gunnarsson, project leader Seagull Water

Discussions

Water management and transboundary co-operation Important fields for future ERB co-operation Suggestion from water workshop, Gdansk December 2004

- **Drinking water**
- **Eutrophication**
 - Agriculture
 - Education of farmers
 - Small and private WWT
- **Oil pollution**
 - Maritime Safety
- **Hot Spots**
 - Kaliningrad WWT
 - Curonian and Vistula Lagoons
- **River basin based co-operation**
 - Water User Partnerships
- **Competence building activities**
 - Exchange civil servants
 - Water Forum (regional level) as a common platform
- **Monitoring and modelling (under development)**
- **Mobilisation**
 - Academic education
 - Use mass media!
 - Co-operation
 - Schools
 - NGOs
- **Economy, financing**
 - Preparing investments
 - Cost effective operation
 - Recovering of costs
- **Kaliningrad region**
 - Pilot area EU WFD
- **Trends for the future**

Most important: Water quality in general (WFD)
Strategy: Good structure, network co-operation etc, as a base to reach real results.
Add responsible WFD institutions to the future co-operation

Many concrete suggestions for the JTDP were presented (see above). The workshop decided to highlight three issues.

1. Environmental adapted agriculture

The future development of the agriculture, especially in the new EU countries and Kaliningrad region, is a most strategic question for water and for the Baltic Sea. There is a need of education of farmers and advisers, how to adapt modern and ecological methods for farming, to decrease the eutrophication and avoid destroyed waters.

2. Creation of an ERB Water Forum

There are many different initiatives and ongoing projects concerning water and water management, but no place for exchange of experiences, information and contact between experts, project leaders and decision makers at different levels. The workshop suggests that ERB takes an initiative to an ERB Water Forum, as a way to avoid double work and as a way for the Euroregion to be more effective and co-ordinated.

3. Support to Kaliningrad region

There is also a huge need in supporting Kaliningrad Region in their work for a cleaner water. Kaliningrad Region is our “hot spot” and has huge needs for improvements in environmental infrastructure. This is a common interest for the whole ERB area.

Suggested changes in the draft JTDP:

Page 12:

Since Russia is not a member of the European Union it would be better to also express this strategic goal in terms of “*modern environment and energy policies*” in stead of only referring to the European Union.

Page 13, under Environment:

- *Promotion for development of water management plans for transboundary basins.*

Page 16:

Establishment of river basin water management bodies, *with great extend of public and academic participation*, is necessary in line with....

/Carolina Gunnarsson