

POLICY-MAKING OF WATER RESOURCES AND SERVICES IN FINLAND

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CONTENT OF THE PRESENTATION

- General of water resources
- Institutional capacities and administration
- Legislation
- Water resources management
- Water protection
- Water Services
- Water Framework Directive

Water resource usage in European countries (billion cubic metres per year)

	Renewable water resources	Water usage	Intensity of water usage (%)
Belgium	12.0	9.0	75
Spain	111.8	35.5	32
Italy	160.7	47.9	30
Denmark	6.0	0.9	15
Greece	54.0	7.0	13
England	145.0	9.3	6
Switzerland	40.0	2.6	6
Russia	4 312.7	77.1	2
Finland	107.0	2.4	2
Sweden	178.0	2.7	2
Norway	382.2	2.0	1
<u>Estonia</u>	<u>12.7</u>	<u>0.2</u>	<u>1</u>

Source: Statistics Finland (2003)



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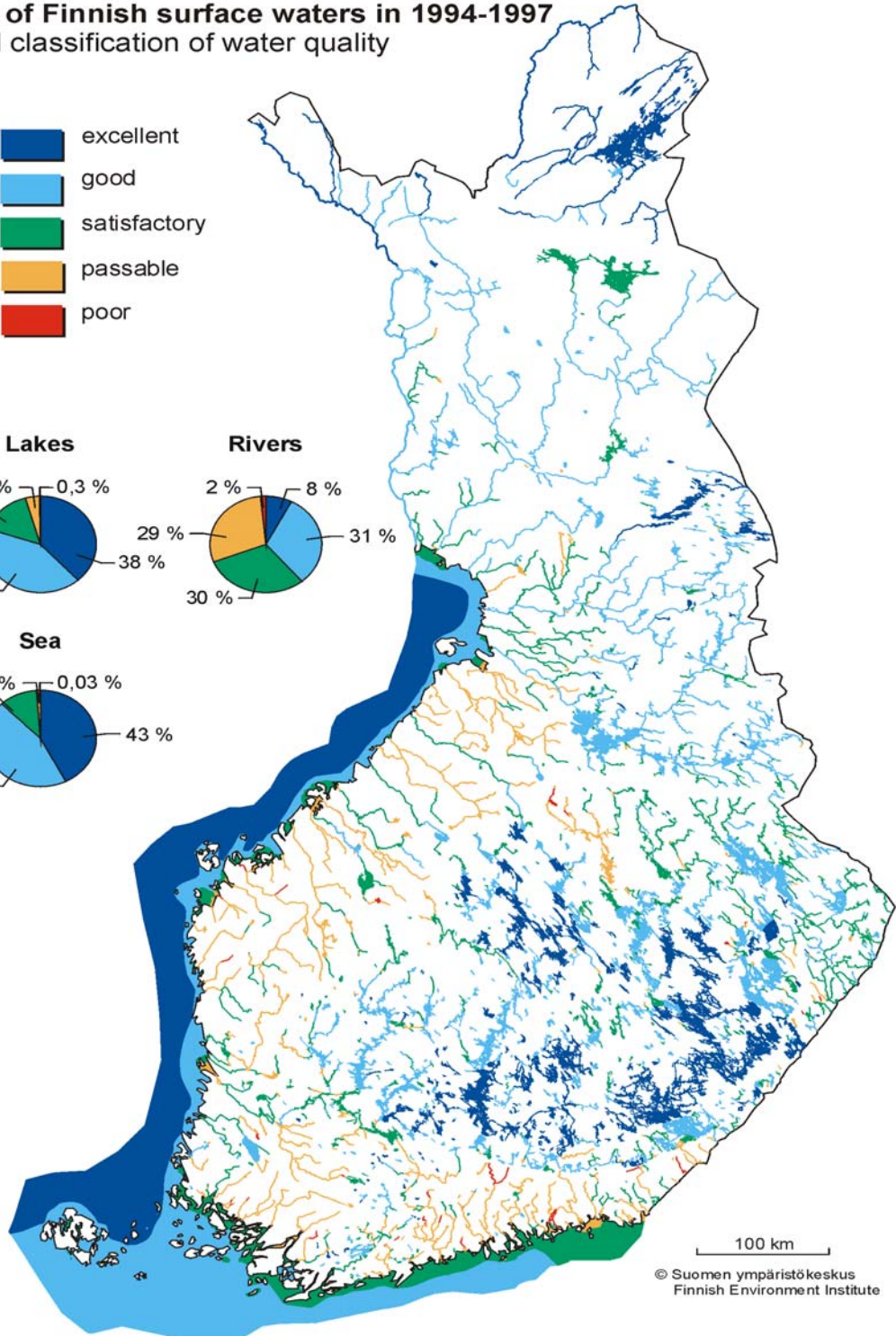
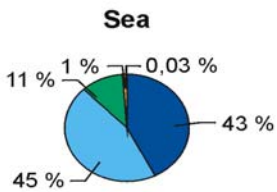
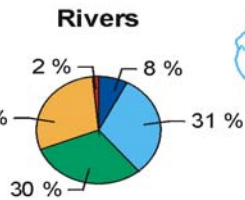
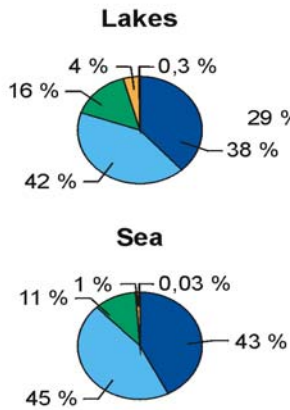
SECTORAL WATER USE IN EUROPE (%)

	URBAN USE	AGRI- CULTURE	INDUSTRY	COOLING AND OTHERS
UNITED KINGDOM	53	14	7	26
DENMARK	49	43	8	-
SWEDEN	35	7	54	4
NORWAY	27	3	70	-
POLAND	22	11	67	
FRANCE	14	12	10	64
GERMANY	13	3	22	62
FINLAND	13	2	33	52
ESTONIA	5	1	94	-
LITHUANIA	4	-	96	-

Source: EEA (1999)

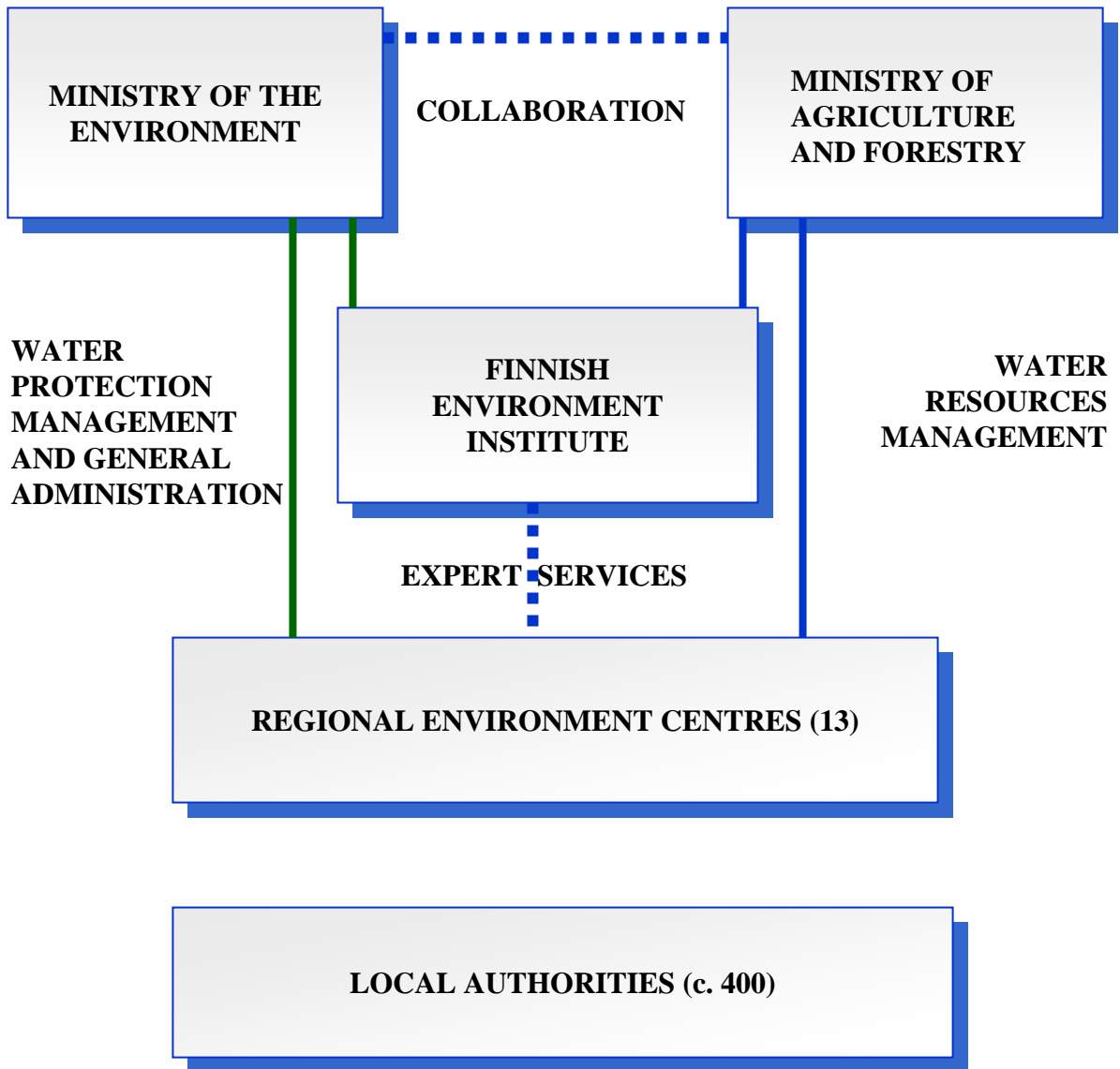
Quality of Finnish surface waters in 1994-1997

General classification of water quality



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WATER ADMINISTRATION IN FINLAND



MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION IN WATER RESOURCES POLICY

1. NATIONAL COORDINATION

The Ministry of the Environment
The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
The Finnish Environment Institute
Regional Environment Centres
Environment Permit Authorities
Municipal environment authorities
Ministry for Social Affairs and Health

2. LEGISLATION

Environmental Protection Act
Water Act
Specific EU Directives concerning
urban wastewater treatment, nitrates,
groundwater protection, drinking water
and bathing water quality
Water Services Act
Waste Water Decree for Sparsely
Populated Areas

WATER RESOURCES STRATEGY

- Made by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in 1999
- Targets are set up to the year 2010
- Covers the spheres of the Ministry:
 - water services
 - watercourse management exc. regulation or river systems, flood control, dam safety, drainage
- The main target is socially, economically and ecologically sustainable use of water resources



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ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSE REGULATION SCHEMES

- The most common original goals:
water power and flood protection
- Target to diminish the negative effects of
watercourse regulations
- Since 1985 over 80 watercourses have been
studied in development projects
- The idea is the multipurpose development
- Voluntary action and co-operation
- Participants:
 - water administration
 - water power company
 - universities
 - nature protection and other
stakeholder
organisations
 - communities
 - fishermen
 - local people



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WATER PROTECTION POLICY

- Efficient measures from the beginning of the 1970's
- Based on long-term goals and proactive strategies
- Until 1995 based on national policy- making and legislation
- Since 1995 the EU the community regulation has provided a framework
- The 3 rd national water protection programme up to 2005 was adopted by the Government in 1998
- Finland's National Programme for the protection of the Baltic Sea in 2002
- Based on extensive research and monitoring
- Targets have been prepared in co- operation with stakeholders

TARGETS OF THE PROTECTION PROGRAMMES

- The implementation of the programme for the year 2005 shows that discharges from industry, municipalities and fish farms have been mostly reduced according to targets
- The most urgent action concerns the eutrophication. Loads from diffuse sources have not been reduced significantly especially from agriculture
- The aim of the Baltic Sea Programme is to improve the ecological state of waters around the Finnish coast and to halve the load compared with the early 1990s.
- The measures will be carried out over the next 10 – 15 years.



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WATER SERVICES

- About 90 % of the population is served by municipal water works and 80 % by municipal treatment plants
- In rural areas small water cooperatives often take care of drinking water services
- The purpose of the Water Services Act is that everyone will have access to healthy, high-quality household water at reasonable cost and that sewerage and purification of waste water is appropriately organised in terms of health and the environment.
- The control authorities are Regional Environment Centres both municipal health and environmental authorities
- According to the act the fees should correspond the real cost and services may provide only fair return on capital.
- The act contains as well provisions on consumer protection
- The government supports the investments especially in rural areas and as well municipalities exc. incentives for regional co-operation



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EU:S WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE (WFD)

- In Finland national implementing act will be adopted this year.
- WFD shall develop integrated, sustainable water policies based on ecosystem approach.
- Interaction between governmental actors, stakeholders and citizen become more important.
- The implementation is ambitious task and a lot of work and many skills are needed in making the River Basin Management Plans



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