



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA  
MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

# Estonia Financial Assistance Priorities

## Period 2014-2020

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14/05/2015

# Themes

- Background information
- Financing of water supply and wastewater collection/ treatment
- Results so far
- EU financing period 2014-2020

## Some facts about Estonia:

- 1 313 271 inhabitants (January 2015)
- 213 local municipalities
- **57 agglomerations of more than 2000 p.e**
- 462 agglomerations of less than 2000 p.e
- **52 water supplies serving more than 2000 inhabitants**
- 673 water supplies serving 50 – 2000 inhabitants

# Financing of water supply and wastewater collection/treatment

**Considerable amount of investments have been channelled to upgrade water management in Estonia within the last decade:**

- Small Municipalities Investment programme (SMIP) 2000-2006
  - the total cost of the SMIP was approx 35 MEUR, 17 municipalities were involved
- 2000(2004)-2006 EU programming period
  - 239 MEUR from ISPA/Cohesion Fund allocated for water infrastructure projects involving 80 municipalities
- 2007-2013 EU programming period
  - 468 MEUR allocated from Cohesion Fund for water infrastructure projects involving approx 105 municipalities
  - 6 calls, end of the eligibility period is 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2015
- Since 2001 Environmental Investment Centre (EIC)\* has supported water infrastructure projects with approx 159 MEUR

*\*EIC channels money from the use of the environment into environmental projects and performs as the implementing agency for the environmental projects funded by EU funds*

# Reconstructed WWTP in Paide

Funded from Cohesion Fund 2007-2013

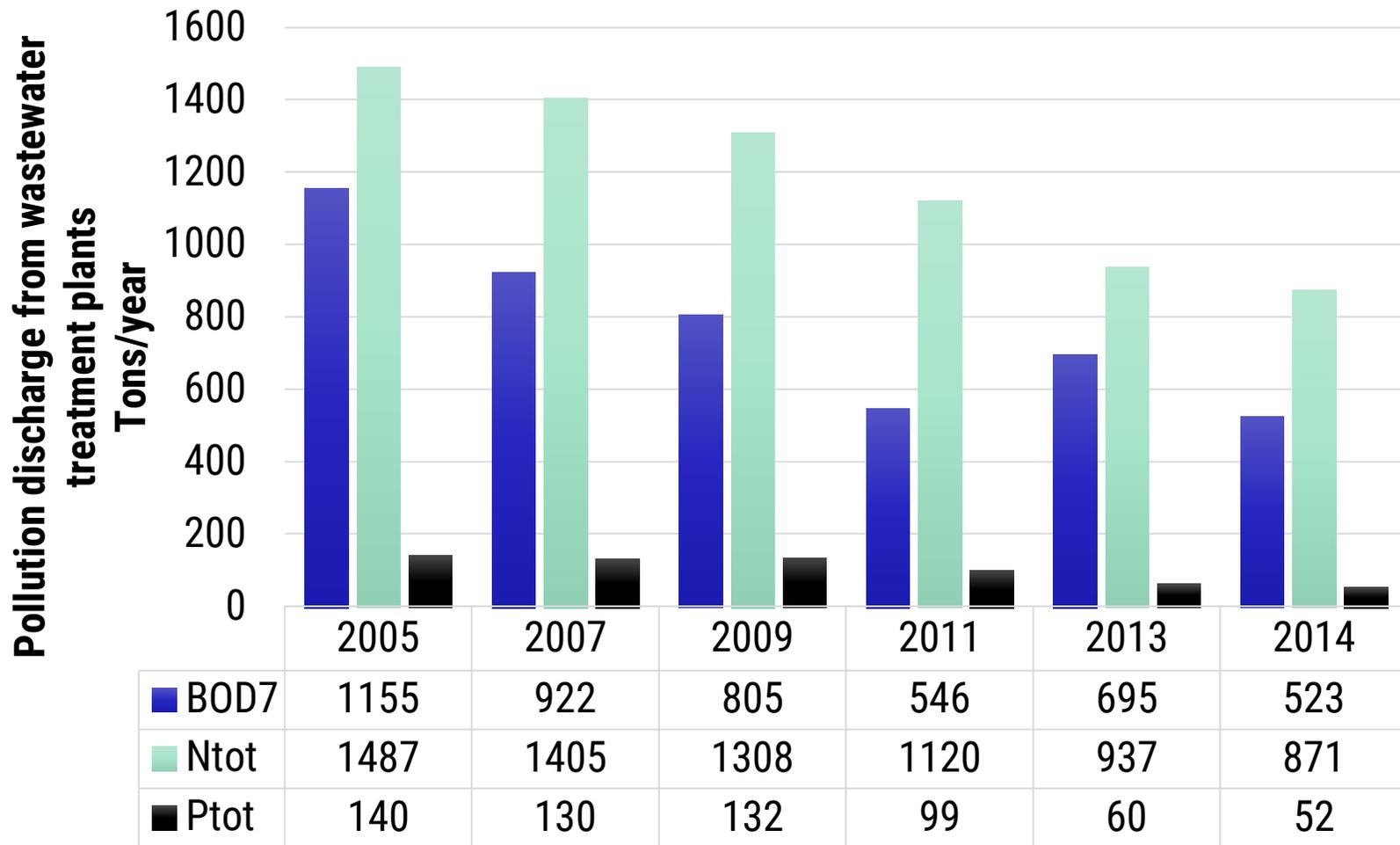


# Results of water and wastewater projects

Indicator/ year	2004	2007	2014
The share of Estonian population connected to public water supply system	77%	84%	88%
The amount of inhabitants connected to public water system	1 035 000	1 115 000	1 262 700
Share of connected population receiving drinking water meeting all the requirements	68%	65%	88%
The amount of connected inhabitants receiving drinking water meeting all the requirements	703 800	724 750	1 026 980
The share of Estonian population connected to public sewerage system	72%	75%	84%
The amount of inhabitants connected to public sewerage system	968 000	995 000	1 084 550

- During 2004 – 2013 the connection rate with public water supply system increased by **140 000** inhabitants
- During 2004 – 2013 the connection rate with public sewerage system increased by **132 000** inhabitants

# Results of water and wastewater projects



# Input for future investments

- Inventory of the agglomerations
  - 2014-2015 over 2000 p.e
  - 2015-2016 under 2000 p.e
- Evaluation of the waste water treatment plants constructed and reconstructed in 2004-2014 with EU and EIC grant
- Investigation of the sludge management strategy in Estonia

# EU financing period 2014-2020

Cohesion Fund

**Grant** for the period: 144 MEUR

**Eligible are:**

- Investments on agglomerations of more than 2000 p.e:
  - Construction and reconstruction of the public sewage
  - Construction and reconstruction of the public water supply
- Reconstruction of the public water supply serving more than 2000 inhabitants
  - Doesn't have to be on agglomeration

**Activities are prioritised as more and less important**

# EU financing period 2014-2020

## Priorities:

1. Construction and reconstruction of water and waste water treatment plants, reconstruction of public intakes
2. Reconstruction of the public water supply pipelines and construction of public waste water pipelines
3. Reconstruction of the public waste water pipelines and construction of the public water supply pipelines in the same trench with waste water pipes
4. Construction of public intakes and public water supply pipelines in separate trench with public waste water pipes

# EU financing period 2014-2020

## Financing rules:

- EU financial assistance is state aid
- Max grant is 85%, depends on financial analysis
- Max grant of de minimis is 85%
- Min sum for eligible costs is 0,2 MEUR
- Max sum for eligible costs is 15 MEUR
- Max sum for Priority 3 and 4 eligible cost is 2 MEUR
  - Projects that involve only those activities that are named as Priority 3 and 4 can be in some cases ineligible

# EU financing period 2014-2020

**Applicant** can be a water utility that:

- Is 100% owned by municipality(-ies)
- Owns the water management system in Project area

Regional water utilities are favoured

**Eligibility period** lasts til 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2023

**1st call opens on 18<sup>th</sup> of May**

## Further future

- After the 2014-2020 period financial support will not be provided for water infrastructure on agglomerations of more than 2000 p.e
- EIC grant 7-10 MEUR/year for water infrastructure on agglomerations of less than 2000 p.e continue

# Summary

Even though we don't live in the developing countries where the lack of drinking water is a daily concern, we too in some areas face the same problem.

Thus we must not forget that our concern is not only to implement the EU directives but also keep in mind that **safe drinking water and adequate sanitation has to be made available to everyone** irrespective of the fact whether person lives in town or on the countryside.

**Thank you for your attention!**

