



Coastal Protection and Development Policy in Finland

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**The Finnish Association for Nature
Conservation**

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Finland and International Agreements

- Member of EU
- Member of UN
- Member of Helcom
- etc.

Finland and International Agreements

•Protection of the Marine Environment and Watercourses

- Convention on the protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, 1992 (1995)
- Convention for the protection of the North East Atlantic, 1992 (2000)
- Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, 1992 (1996)
- International Convention Relating to Intervention on the High Seas in Cases of Oil Pollution Casualties, 1969 (1976)
- Protocol relating to Intervention to the High Seas in Cases of Pollution by Substances Other than Oil, 1973 (1986)
- International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation, 1990 (1995)
- The Protocol on Preparedness, Response and Co-operation to pollution Incidents by Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS Protocol) (not in force yet)
- Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and other Matter, 1972 (1979)

• Agreement on the Implementation of a Project on Pollution "Sewage Sludge Processing", 1971 (1972)

Finland and International Agreements

- Protection of Flora and Fauna and Biological Diversity

- Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992 (1994) *
Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, 2000 (2004)
- International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, 1946 (1983)
- Statutes of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, 1984 (1967)
- Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention), 1971 (1975)
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), 1973 (1976)
- Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, 1979 (1989)
- Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas, 1992 (1999)
- Agreement on the Conservation of Bats in Europe, 1991 (1999)
- African-Eurasian Migratory Water Bird Agreement, 1996 (2000)
- Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (the Bern Convention), 1979 (1986)

What's happening ?

- Several projects under title - Baltic Sea which relate to coastal areas

What's happening ?

- NordStream gas pipeline
 - EIA; environment or politics ?
 - Common problem for all members
 - Construction time issues in EIA ?

VELMU - project

- The Finnish Inventory Programme for the Underwater Marine Environment, (VELMU) collects data on the diversity of underwater marine biotopes and species. The inventories are being conducted in the Archipelago Sea, the Quark area, the Gulf of Finland, the Bothnian Bay and the Bothnian Sea during 2004-2014.

VELMU-project

- VELMU is a co-operational programme between seven ministries (internal affairs, defence, education, communication, agriculture and forestry, trade and industry and environment)
- <http://www.ymparisto.fi/default.asp?contentid=296256&lan=EN>

Wind-atlas

- Aim to find suitable sites for wind power
- Consult work, pressure from industries
- Markings already in some county level land use plans (in some was taken away)

Use of sand, gravel and stone

- Soft sea bottoms,
 - spawning areas
 - Islands and erosion
- Maritime ways in archipelago
- Some large bridge plans, ferries too
"expensive"

Island Committee

- The Island Development Programme
 - is a key tool in island policy and one of the four regional development programmes mentioned in the Government Decree on Regional Development
 - The ongoing programme is from 2007 to 2010
 - <http://www.tem.fi/index.phtml?l=en&s=2173>

Building on shorelines

- Buildings (mostly summer cottages) close the shoreline from other use (like from nature ;-()
- Finnish average 41%, if only island > 1ha then 48%
- In 22 coastal municipalities > 60%, and in worst 6 municipalities 70% or more
- Report 2008 but only in Finnish

PARAS program and other "development" programs

- Bigger municipalities
- More than 20000 inhabitants
- Regional development etc.

- Goals; the get decision making far away of citizens, to dilute Environmental authorities in other sectors etc.

Conclusions

- Diversity of projects and programs;
 - Only partly SEA done,
 - Financing and manpower lacking or deficient
 - Sustainability issues ?
 - Communications ?
 - Nobody knows ?



The End - Finland

**Thank You of Your Attention
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