

Waterdrive

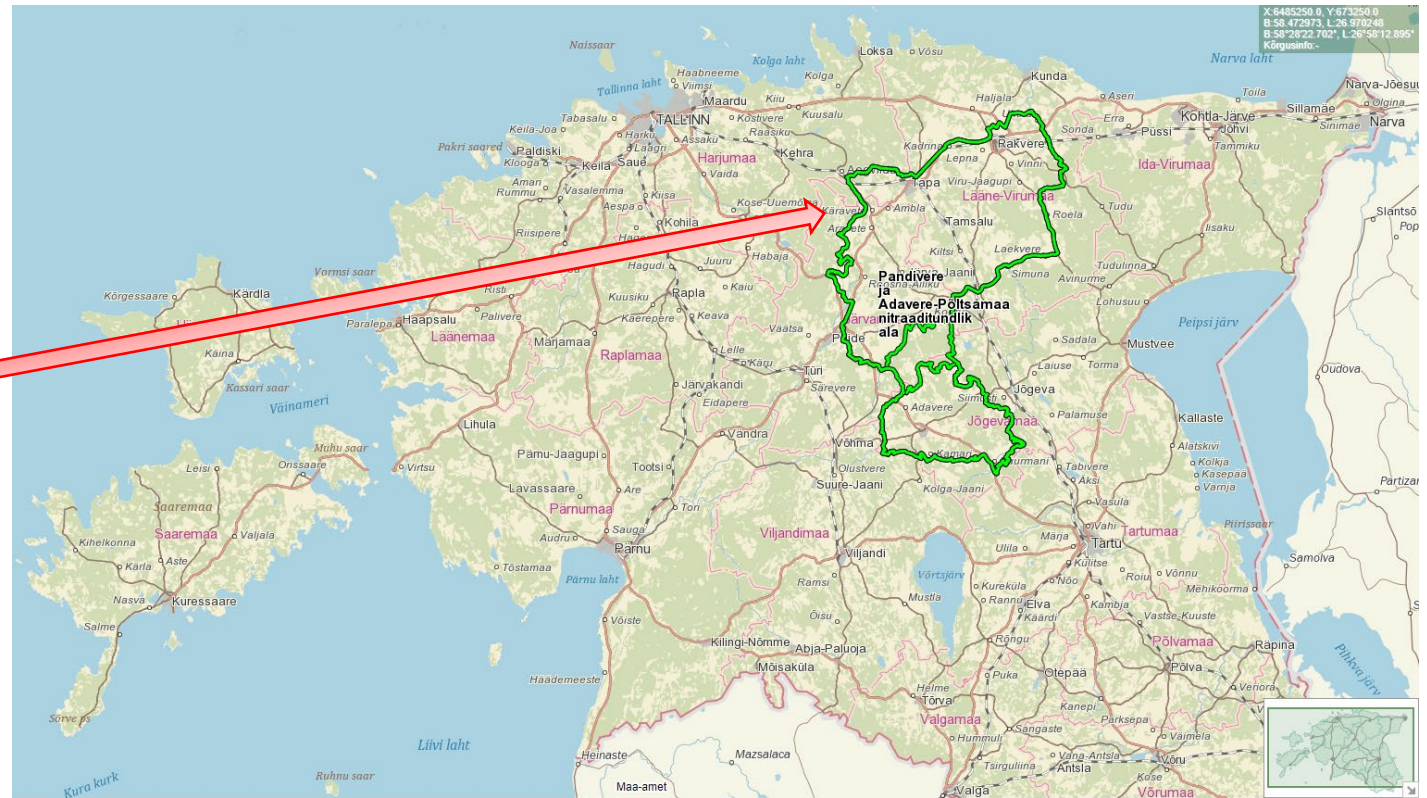
Water-driven rural development in the Baltic Sea Region

Case area

Nitrate Vulnerable Zone (NVZ) in Estonia

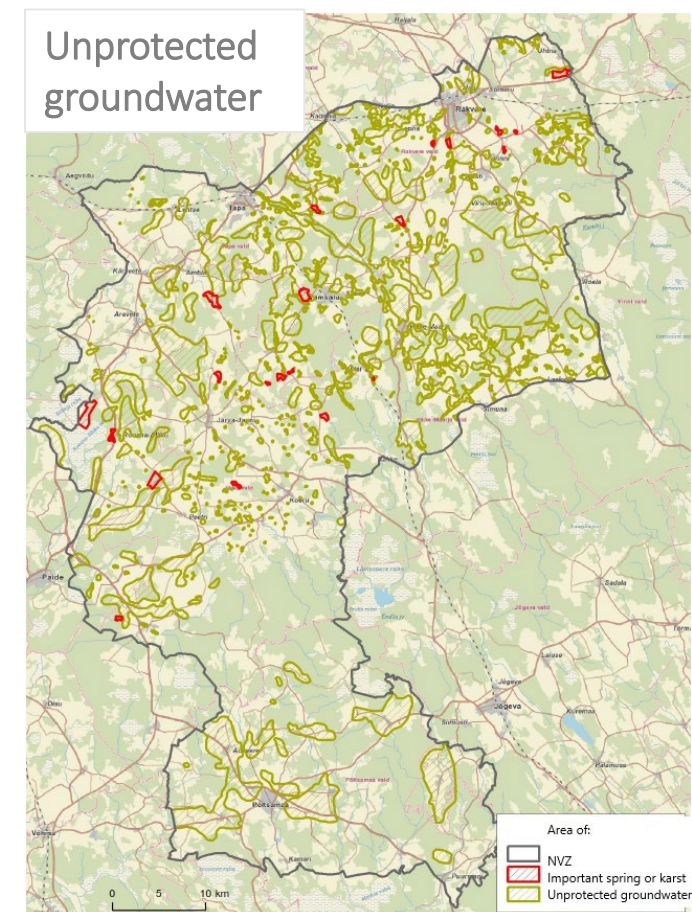
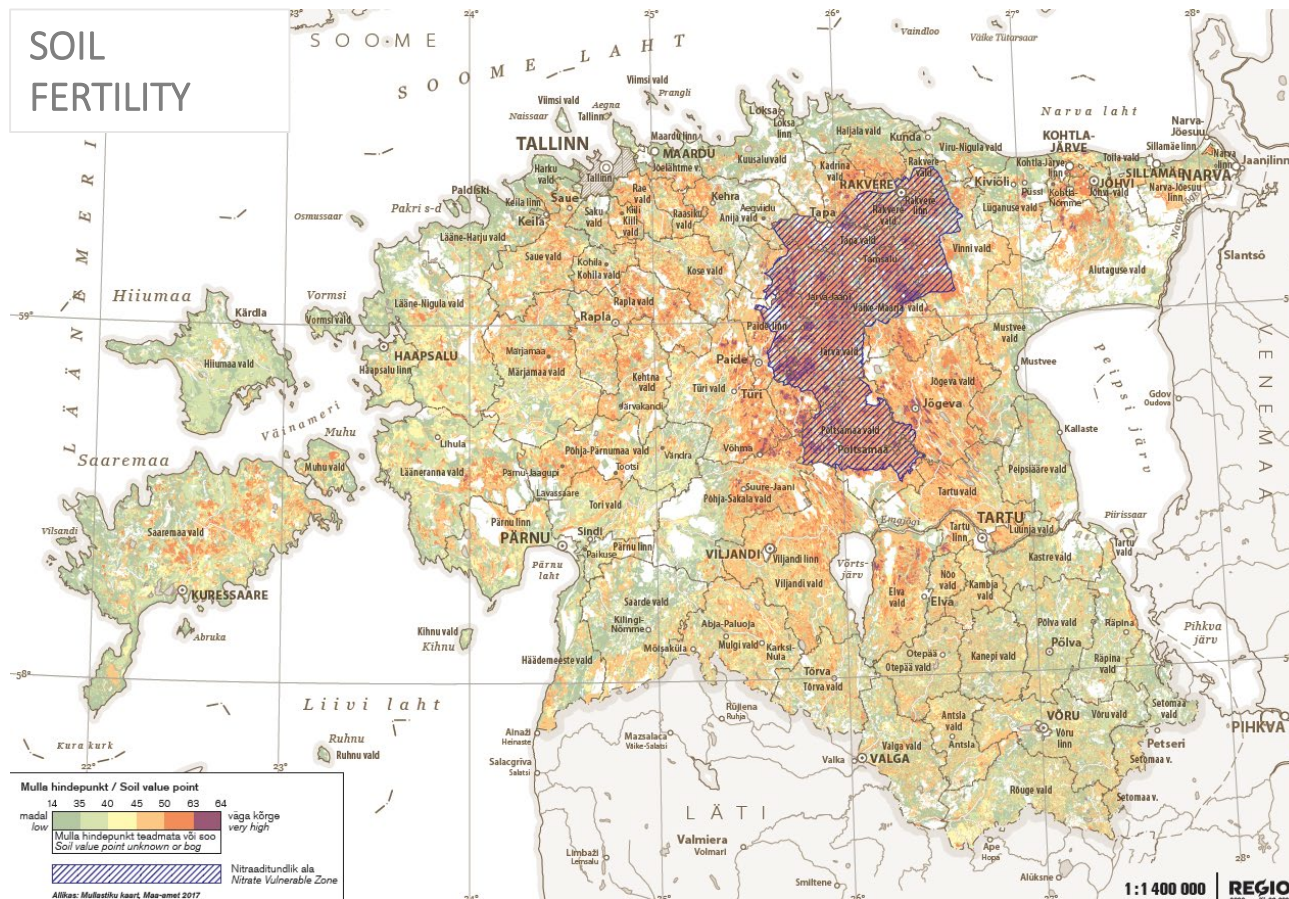
How to motivate farmers to adopt environmentally friendly practices?

Case area Nitrate Vulnerable Zone in Estonia in the Baltic Sea Region



Pandivere and Adavere-Põltsamaa nitrate vulnerable zone in Estonia
(Land Board Geoportal, 2020)

NVZ in Estonia: high soil fertility, intensive agriculture, however large share of unprotected groundwater



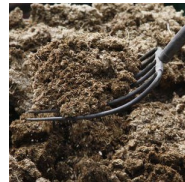
The Problem:

Nitrate Vulnerable Zone (NVZ) water quality has not significantly improved (NVZ Action Plan, 2016-2020)



Manure storage

Storages missing or not meeting the regulatory standards



Composition of manure

Methodology to calculate the composition of nutrients in manure



Fertilisation

Methodology of application of fertilisers



Application of manure

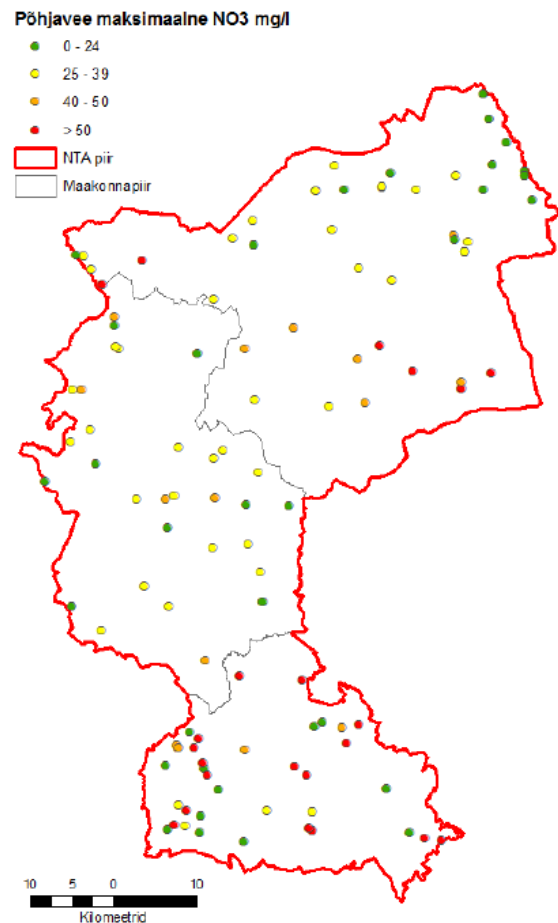
Timing of application



Nitrate in surface and ground water







Elevated concentrations

Assessment of the implementation of NVZ Action Plan 2012 -2015



Joonis 1 NTA seirekohtade suurim nitraadisaldus 2012-2014 III kvartal

NO₃ mg/l in NVZ monitoring sites

Groups of measures	Status in 2014 (last report*)	Meeting the targets
1.Ensuring high quality drinking water		Largely unmet
2. Application of environmentally important farming technologies		Partly met-unmet
3. Surveys and monitoring of impacts of farming		Partly met-unmet
4. Enhancing legal framework and cooperation		Partly met-unmet
5. Awareness raising and expertise development locally		Partly met-unmet
6. Enforcement/Inspection		Partly met-unmet

* Maves, 2014

The stakeholders to be involved in the pilot case

- Farmers of the NVZ
- Forest owners of the NVZ
- The NVZ working group (Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of the Rural Affairs, farmers associations, forest owners associations, drainage associations, local governments, experts, local communities-villages, etc)
- The environmental NGOs



Internet pictures

Expected results

- **Better cooperation** between stakeholders in NVZ
- **Better understanding** of farmers motivations to adopt conservation agriculture measures in NVZ
- **Enhancing the ownership** of the good status of the water by NVZ farmers
- **Revision** of the NVZ Action Plan and **proposal for the enhancement** of the plan



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