

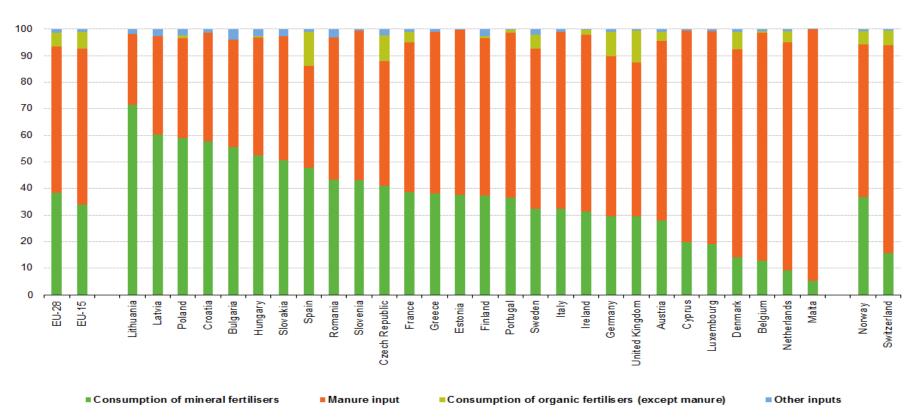
Status of the Consultative Communication on the Sustainable Use of Phosphorus

3rd European Sustainable Phosphorus Conference 2018 Helsinki, Finland, 11-13 June

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Share of P inputs

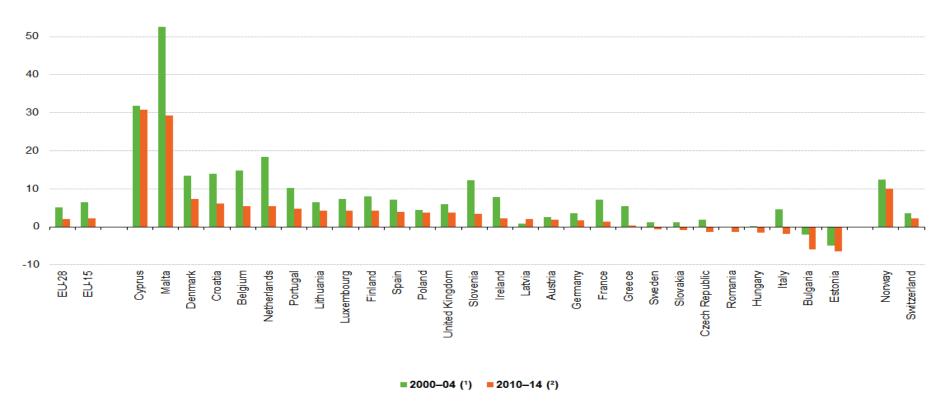


Note: Eurostat estimates for EU-28, EU-15, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Greece, Spain, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Austria, Romania and Slovakia. Average 2010-13 for Germany, Ireland, Sweden and Switzerland.

Source: Eurostat



Gross phosphorus balance



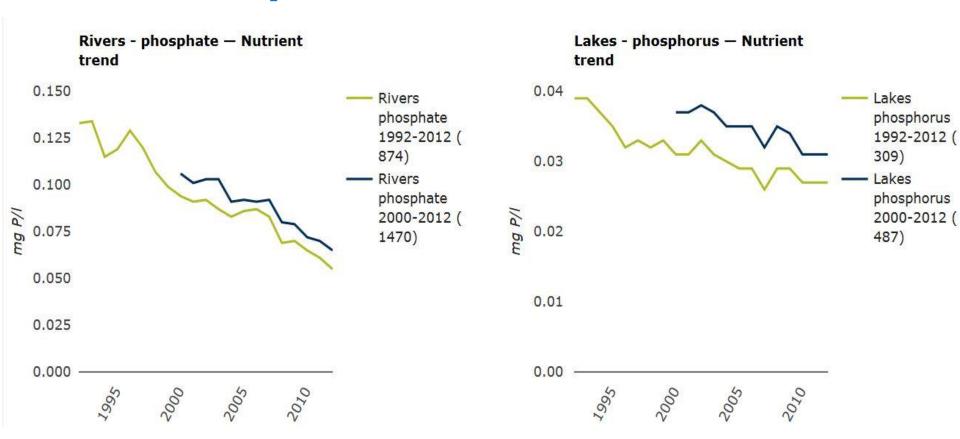
Note: Eurostat estimates for EU-28, EU-15, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Greece, Spain, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Austria, Romania and Slovakia. (1) Estonia: 2004

(2) Germany, Ireland, Sweden and Switzerland: 2010-13

Source: Eurostat



Phosphorus in surface water



Source: EEA



Consultative Communication on the Sustainable Use of Phosphorus (COM(2013)517)

- Objective: launch and EU wide debate on the sustainability of the phosphorus cycle
- ➤ 11 questions on different aspects relating to phosphorus sustainability
- ➤ 125 replies (national governments, governmental agencies, local authorities, NGOs, industry associations, research/academia, private sector, private individuals from different sectors (industry, water, agriculture, food, energy, waste, etc.)



Results of the Consultation

- > Security of supply an issue for most respondents.
- Need to improve knowledge base on worldwide supply and demand and phosphorus use efficiency
- Need for EU action to face the risk of soil contamination
- Encourage Research and Innovation
- Need to improve management in areas of P surplus
- Prevent and reduce P losses from food waste and other biodegradable waste
- Encourage phosphorus recycling
- Awareness raising



Follow up actions

- Environmental legislation
- CAP post 2020
- Critical Raw Materials
- Fertilisers Regulation
- ➤ HORIZON 2020
- LIFE Programme
- European Territorial Cooperation programmes
- Support/visibility to P related events and actions



EU water legislation

Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)

- Aim: Achieve good status of EU waters by means of integrated River Basis Management
- •Instrument: River
 Basin Management
 Plans (RBMP) and
 Programme of
 Measures → integrated
 approach based on
 identified pressures

Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive(91/271/EEC)

- Aim: Protect environment from the adverse effects of waste water discharges
- •Instrument:
 Establishment of proper collection systems for waste water; Ensure appropriate treatment of collected waste water; Ensure reinforced treatment in areas sensitive to eutrophication

Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC)

- •Aim: Achieve Good Environmental Status for marine waters by means of coherent approaches across sea basins
- •Instrument: Marine strategies and programmes of measures based on identified pressures

Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)

- •Aim: Reduce water pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources and prevent further such pollution
- •Instrument: Codes of Good Agricultural Practices, designation of vulnerable areas, Action Programmes











CAP post 2020

Conditionality – links CAP support to the compliance by beneficiaries with basic standards concerning the environment, climate change, public health, animal health, plant health and animal welfare

- ➤ **SMR 1** Water Framework Directive: Article 11(3)(e) and Article 11(3)(h) as regards mandatory requirements to control diffuse sources of pollution by phosphates
- GAEC 5 Use of Farm Sustainability Tool for Nutrients providing minimum elements and functionalities including



Fertilisers Regulation

- Circular Economy Package adopted in December 2015: Re-use of raw materials that are now disposed of as waste is crucial
- Optional harmonisation: either choose to CE mark products or have it traded according to national standards
- Ease the access of organic and waste-based fertilisers to the EU single market
- Definition of safety, quality and labelling requirements



Critical Raw Materials

Critical Raw Materials: both **economic importance** and **supply risk**

- Phosphate rock (2014)
- ➤ White phosphorus (2017)



Conclusions

- Phosphorus is a key resource for agriculture and life that cannot be substituted
- There are currently several inefficiencies and wastes in the P cycle, which raise concerns over P availability and environmental impacts
- ➤ Best practices exist on possible efficiency gains in production and consumption, as well as recycling opportunities. Research and technological developments are bringing results
- Important role of the EU in this context, encouraging further research and development and setting the right regulatory conditions



Thank you for your attention