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Estonia

Introduction of Water department expertise

With this letter, the Water Department of the Ministry of the Environment of Estonia would like to introduce you to the competences and interests that our department and our administrative area holds with a purpose for potential collaboration in water-related projects.

Estonia has over 2400 rivers, streams and trenches and over 1500 lakes with the fifth-largest lake in Europe – Lake Peipsi. Estonia is located in the north-eastern part of the Baltic Sea. The total area of the sea area under Estonian jurisdiction is approximately 36,622 km² with a total coastline length of 4015 km. The total amount of groundwater in Estonia is estimated at 2000 km³. Clean water is essential for life and our department is responsible for organizing water management, surface and groundwater protection and reducing pollution load to water bodies in Estonia.

In more detail, Water Department is responsible for implementing Water Framework Directive as well as all other water related directives and composing river basin management plans. The department has competence in surface- and groundwater protection management, risk management of floods, droughts. Also, experience in reducing agriculture impact on the water environment. We have know-how in the field of hazardous substances, wastewater, aquaculture and expertise in water investment planning. We have the knowledge of developing and providing input to establish data systems necessary for organizing water management.

Under the Ministry of the Environment jurisdiction, we have the Environmental Agency whose field of activity is the fulfilment of the national environmental monitoring programme, the preparation different reports in the field of environment, evaluating the environmental status, and the management of monitoring stations and equipment. Additionally, the Environmental Board is in charge of implementing state policies on environmental use, nature conservation and monitoring the fulfilment of the laws and norms established for the protection of the natural environment.

Regarding different projects we would be interested participating in studies concerning lake internal loads and technical activities reducing loads, dam removal, restoration of river habitats and spawning areas, groundwater hydrogeological research, hazardous substances, coastal water bodies and improvement of water bodies, marine strategy, integrated approach of solving the actions in the Baltic Sea Action plan but we would be delighted to review other offers as well.

Please feel free to contact and ask for additional information if you could see a potential collaboration with us.

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