

# Protocol on Water and Health: Implementation and target setting in Finland

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# Background

- Finland signed the protocol on 17 June 1999
- The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health set a working group with task to prepare the ratification of the protocol. The members of the group represented all relevant ministries and other stakeholders.
  - Ministry of the Environment
  - Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
  - Ministry for Foreign Affairs
  - National Public Health Institute
  - Finnish Environment Institute
  - National Product Control Agency for Welfare and Health
- The Protocol was ratified on 3 March 2005 simultaneously with the implementation of the Water Framework Directive

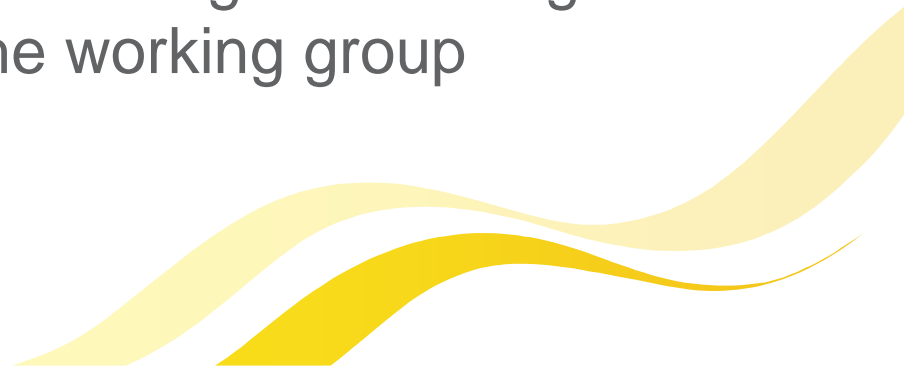


# Target Setting

- An expert group was established under the working group in order to prepare target setting
- The expert group collected all relevant national material (legislation, water protection guidelines, programme for the protection of the Baltic Sea, other programs and strategies) and determined main principles for target setting
- The expert group had section by section discussions about the article 6 of the Protocol
- The expert group wrote a draft document on target and target dates and their reasoning
  - the draft was mainly based on the national and EU legislation and national programs and strategies
- Draft was published on the website of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health for public hearing

## Decision and follow-up

- Before finalizing the decision of the targets and target dates the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health organized large (over 40 stakeholders) circulation and hearing process of the draft document
- The final decision of the national targets and target dates was given by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health on 15 February 2008
- National implementation of the targets and target dates will be followed by the working group mentioned before



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION !**

