



Overview of the status in Denmark, Netherlands, Finland, UK, Switzerland and Canada

Workshop Nutrient Recovery from Waste

Bo von Bahr

IEA-meeting 2019-05-07

RISE Research Institutes of Sweden

Samhällsbyggnad

Energy and circular economy



Overview of presentation

- The following countries:
 - Denmark
 - Netherlands
 - Finland
 - UK
 - Switzerland
 - Canada

... will be commented
regarding nutrient recycling with
focus on phosphorus from sewage
sludge

Denmark

Aspect	Answer
Handling of sewage sludge today?	Appr. 75 % of sewage sludge goes to farmland. "No-problems" attitude to sewage sludge Some incineration around Copenhagen, interested in P extraction from ash
Any P recycling?	Yes, struvite production at some WWTP
Recycling via biogas/digestate?	Yes, biogas production from manure and food waste, appr 4 TWh (Sweden has 2 TWh)
Source separated systems	Limited experience

General comment: Denmark is a very intense agricultural land with an excess of P since the import of feed is large.

Danmark has 13 millions pigs, Sweden has 1,4 millions

Netherlands

Aspect	Answer
Handling of sewage sludge today?	Spreading on land allowed but does not occur – no sewage sludge fulfil the criteria. Almost all sludge is burned
Any P recycling?	There is interest of P extraction from ash There are about 10 WWTP with P extraction
Recycling via biogas/digestate?	Yes, Netherlands has a lot of biogas plants
Source separated systems	Yes, Europes biggest system under construction!

General comment: Netherlands is also is a very intense agricultural like Denmark, with a surplus of phosphorus. Some companies refine organic (biological) fertilisers

Finland



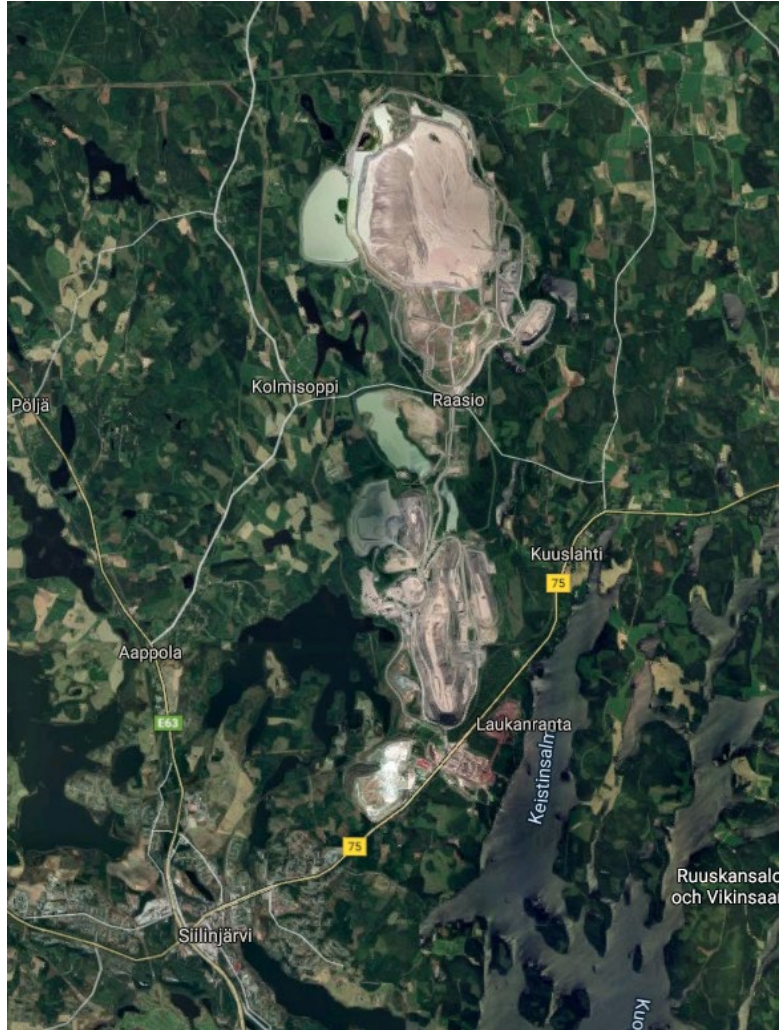
Nutrient recycling – from vision to practice

Nutrient losses to water need to be reduced. This can be accomplished by sustainable use of nutrients and by recycling the nutrients contained in organic side streams. Researchers propose specific actions to speed up the changes needed for better nutrient recycling in Finland.

Aspect	Answer
Handling of sewage sludge today?	A majority is spread on farmland, no incineration
Any P recycling?	Finland want to be a frontrunner regarding nutrient recycling, started a program in 2017 A number of different projects regarding P recycling, e.g. RAVITA (reconstruction of WWTP)
Recycling via biogas/digestate?	Yes, Finland has some biogas plants
Source separated systems	Very limited

General comment: Finland has the only P-mine in EU, Siilinjärvi

Finland – Siilinjärvi Phosphorus mine



United Kingdom

Aspect	Answer
Handling of sewage sludge today?	Large share of the sewage sludge is spread on farmland. They have a system similar to swedish Revaq, called BAS Agricultural use is considered the <i>Best Practicable Environmental Option</i> (BPEO) by the UK Government
Any P recycling?	Not other than above
Recycling via biogas/digestate?	Yes a large number of plants, mainly in the agricultural sector
Source separated systems	Only at research level



Switzerland

Aspect	Answer
Handling of sewage sludge today?	All sewage sludge is incinerated in mono-, waste- or cement incineration plants. Distribution on farmland prohibited.
Any P recycling?	No, but there is an interest to extract P from the ash
Recycling via biogas/digestate?	Yes, a large number of biogas plants
Source separated systems	No, only on a research level

Canada

Aspect	Answer
Handling of sewage sludge today?	A large amount is spread on farmland, a quality control system is active, NASM (Non Agricultural Source material) which regulates the spreading Incineration is also common
Any P recycling?	Yes, mainly through struvite production (E.g. Ostara)
Recycling via biogas/digestate?	Yes, Canada has a large number of biogas plants
Source separated systems	Only on a research level

Characterization regarding sludge use:

UK
Finland

Large amount
on farmland

Denmark
Canada

Mix of sludge on
on farmland, some
incineration and struvite
extraction

Netherlands
Switzerland

Only incineration



CONTACT INFORMATION:

Bo von Bahr

bo.vonbahr@ri.se

0705-165143

RISE Research Institutes of Sweden

Samhällsbyggnad

Energi och cirkulär ekonomi

