Report on current legislative and voluntary measures affecting the use of recycled fertilisers in Finland and Latvia

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FINNISH BIOCYCLE AND BIOGAS ASSOCIATON
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SUSTAINABLE BIOGAS

Interreg Central Baltic

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SUMMARY

This report describes the existing and upcoming EU level, Finnish and Latvian legislation and policies that have an impact on the production and use of recycled fertilisers. The findings are to be utilised in the development of voluntary quality assurance schemes for recycled fertilisers for Finland and Latvia. The development work is to be carried out by the Finnish Biocycle and Biogas Association and the Latvian Biogas Association in the context of project Sustainable Biogas. The project is financed by the EU Interreg Central Baltic Programme.

In this report, the regulations and policy initiatives affecting recycled fertilisers are divided into different themes (agriculture, agriculture/animal by-products, biogas/biomethane, chemicals, circular economy, energy & climate, environment & nature, fertilisers, finance, general and waste). Some of the initiatives could have be divided into many different themes. The decisions on the thematization were done by the authors of this document. The thematization is used to make it easier to see the differences between Finland and Latvia and between different policy areas. Table 1 below summarises the full list of regulations and policy initiatives analysed in this report.

Based on the findings, *numerically* the most common EU level initiatives in the area of recycled fertilisers are related to finance, but also to agriculture, biogas/biomethane, chemicals, circular economy, and fertilisers. Numerically the most common initiatives in Finland relate to finance, circular economy, and fertilisers, and in Latvia to finance, waste, and biogas/biomethane.

*Table 1. Summary of the regulations and policy initiatives analysed in this report**

	EU	FIN	LAT	TOTAL
AGRICULTURE & BY-PRODUCTS	4	3	4	11
BIOGAS/BIOMETHANE	4	4	**5**	**13**
CHEMICALS	**4**	-	-	4
CIRCULARECONOMY	**4**	**7**	1	**12**
ENERGY & CLIMATE	2	3	-	5
FERTILZERS	5	**6**	3	**14**
FINANCE	**6**	**17**	**13**	**36**
ENVIRONMENT & NATURE	2	1	4	7
WASTE	1	4	**6**	11
GENERAL	1	1	-	2
	33	46	36	115
	Finance, circular economy, agriculture	Finance, circular economy, fertilisers	Finance, waste, biogas/ biomethane, fertilisers	Finance, fertilisers, biogas/biomethane

* Note that the report doesn't give a complete list of initiatives, but it aims to bring out the most relevant ones. The report does not allow for full comparisons between the EU, Finland and Latvia but it does provide good basic information on differences between regions.

Based on the results of the internal workshop hold on the 23 of October 2020, the most relevant themes for the future work on quality assurance schemes were identified as:

1. energy &climate,
2. agriculture, and
3. circular economy thinking (linked particularly to fertilisers and waste).

When going into details about the legislation and policy initiatives, the results differ somewhat between the regions. On the EU level, the EU fertiliser regulation, the waste directive, and Common Agricultural Policy (CAP27) include the most relevant pieces of legislation currently affecting the use of recycled fertilisers. In Finland, the national fertiliser legislation and other agricultural legislation, and environmental financial support mechanism and a "manure bonus" or a similar initiative to support biogas production were seen the most relevant ones at the moment; while in Latvia, agriculture and rural development -related legislation, fertiliser legislation and waste legislation were seen the most relevant ones.

Insights into changes between 2021 and 2023

There will be changes in the legislation and policies affecting the use recycled fertilisers in the EU and in the Member States. The changes are arising from drafting new policies and pieces of legislation, revising the current ones and through the national implementation of the EU rules.

The EU level policy for 2020-2025 is likely to follow the Green Deal programme of the European Commission. Negotiations on a new agricultural policy for 2021-2027, CAP 27, have been going on for a long time on both national and EU levels. Decision-making has been delayed and the new programming period will not enter into force until 2023. Other key initiatives on the EU level in 2021-2023 are the revision of EU's Healthy Soils Strategy and the revision of the EU Sewage Sludge Directive (Directive 86/278), the implementation of EU's Smart Mobility Strategy, the revision of the Regulation on CO_2 emissions from cars and vans, the revision of Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive, the revision of the Renewable Energy Directive and the reform of the Energy Tax Directive and a proposal for the EU's new gas package.

In Finland, the most relevant changes in the legislation and policies are the reform of the national fertiliser legislation, the preparation of a national strategic plan of the CAP27, the revision of the national climate policy, extending the biofuel distribution obligation to biomethane, the reform of energy taxation and the national implementation of the Renewable Energy Directive (e.g., sustainability obligations and guarantee of origin system for gas).

In Latvia, several long-term and mid-term strategies defining targets and aims for the state development in all sectors have been adopted recently (e.g., National Development Plan 2021-2027, Waste Management National Plan). Further work for defining specific actions is still needed. In order to achieve the common EU targets for climate and environment, Latvia has to define policies related to biogas, sustainable agriculture, green economy, waste management, etc.

The role of the QASs

The use of fertiliser quality systems has increased in Europe. Voluntary schemes have been in place in various countries for several years already, but the introduction of statutory schemes is increasing as well. For instance, the EU Fertiliser Regulation sets new requirements for quality control, and a quality system is always required for CEN-marked fertilisers made of compost and digestate.

QAS in Finland

The Finnish Quality Assurance Scheme was taken into use in March 2020. The name of the scheme is Laatulannoite-järjestelmä. The Finnish Biocycle and Biogas Association owns the QAS and is responsible for its day-to-day management and the finance. The Steering Group is the main decision-

making body of the QAS, and the Quality Committee is an expert body. The stakeholders are well presented in the organisation.

The aim of the quality system is to increase the transparency of the operation and production of recycled fertilisers, and the quality system aims to influence the quality of the waste material from the very beginning of the waste generation. A Finnish QAS is a free choice for the companies. The aim is to develop the QAS so that it corresponds to the needs arising from the legislation on fertilisers and waste, both of them being currently under revision. The link to the waste legislation (the EoQ questions) and/or fertiliser legislation (the role of quality and the QAS) has not yet been decided, but it is under investigation.

The rules of the Finnish QAS are given in a handbook. The handbook lays down the rules for the development and maintenance principles of the QAS, quality of raw materials, quality of products, sampling & analyses of batches, internal and external audits and quality management principles and follow up of legislation.

The product quality requirements relate to the following quality parameters: E. coli, Salmonella, N, NH_4-N, NO_3-N, P, soluble P, K, organic matter, pH, moisture, volume weight, conductivity, maturity of the compost, moisture of the digestate, As, Hg, Cd, Cr, Cu, Pb, Ni, Zn, PAH (16), PCB, PFOS and PFOA, drugs, PBDE, DEHP, dioxines, furans, impurities such as animal matters, seeds of weeds, glass, metal, plastic, bones, stones, common wild oat and parts of plants.

A product that fulfils the requirements of the QAS can have a Laatulannoite quality label on its packaging. In November 2020, there were eight products by three companies carrying a Laatulannoite quality label.

QAS in Latvia

Latvia does not yet have a Quality Assurance Scheme for recycled fertilisers, but it will be developed as part of the project Sustainable Biogas. In Latvia, the use of recycled nutrients is regulated by several laws and regulations, but the system needs improvements. One of the ways how to improve the use of recycled nutrients in the fertilisation is the introduction of the quality assurance system.

Setting up a Quality Assurance System in Latvia would advance the following:
1) Use of recycled nutrients as fertilisers
2) Users' confidence in the product quality and product applying principles
3) Understanding of the positive effect on the environment
4) Lower the levels of mineral fertilisers' use
5) Reducing the administrative burden of companies and authorities if some of the procedures could be combined.

1 BACKGROUND

This report describes what is the existing and coming national and EU level legislation. This information is needed to identify legislative and regulatory obstacles for the effective use of recycled nutrients now and in the future.

The aim is to understand what the most relevant current legislative measures are, and what kind of changes are expected to come in the coming years. Additionally, it is estimated what could be the role of voluntary measures in promoting the use of recycled fertilisers in Finland and Latvia.

Regarding legislation, the review focuses in particular on the regulation of waste and fertilisers, but also, to a sufficient extent, on the legislation of chemicals and agricultural financing. Voluntary measures can also be used to promote the use of recycled nutrients.

The information sources used in this work are both secondary and primary information. The work on listing the legislation has done based on secondary information sources. There was an internal workshop hold on the 23 of October 2020, where the preliminary results of the mapping exercise were elaborated further.

2 CURRENT LEGISLATIVE MEASURES AFFECTING THE USE OF RECYCLED FERTILISERS

In this report, the pieces of legislation and policy initiatives are divided into themes. Some of the items could have been divided into many different themes. The decision on thematization was done by the writers of this document. Thematization was used to make it easier to see the differences between the countries and between different policy areas. The themes were: agriculture, agriculture/ animal by-products, biogas/ biomethane, chemicals, circular economy, energy & climate, environment & nature, fertilisers, finance, general and waste.

The most relevant themes and initiatives are explained more thoroughly in this report, and the full list of different initiatives can be found in Annex 1. Please note that the report does not give a complete list of initiatives, but it aims to bring out the most relevant ones. The report does not allow for full comparisons between the EU, Finland, and Latvia, but it does provide good basic information on differences between the regions.

Various European Commission and national documents have been utilised as information sources in describing the legislation and regulatory initiatives in chapters 2 and 3.

2.1 EU LEVEL

In this chapter the most relevant pieces of EU legislation that have an impact on nutrient recycling are described. A comprehensive list of legislation and initiatives can be found in Annex 1.

2.1.1 AGRICULTURE/ ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS

The key agriculture-related pieces of legislation are the EU Nitrates directive and animal-by-

products regulation. The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), the EU's funding mechanism for farming, is of course an important instrument in the European agriculture. The preparation for the CAP for years 2021-2027 has been delayed and the new CAP will come into force in 2023.

2.1.1.1 The EU Nitrates Directive (1991)

Council Directive 91/676/EEC concerns the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources. The purpose of the Nitrates Directive is to protect water quality throughout in Europe by preventing the pollution of nitrates from agricultural sources from entering groundwater and surface water and by promoting good farming practices. It aims to reduce water pollution from nitrates used for agricultural purposes and to prevent any further pollution. It is linked to other EU policies which address air and water quality, climate change and agriculture.

According to the Directive, all Member States have drawn up action programmes to cut nitrate pollution, and their quality is improving. The action programmes must include a set of measures laid down in the Directive, relating to, e.g., periods when fertilisation is prohibited, minimum storage capacity for livestock manure, and rules to control the spread of nutrients near water or on slopes, to reduce the risk of contamination. The Member States have drawn up one or more action programmes. Most action programmes cover all the vital measures, and all of them include the limit of 170 kg nitrogen per hectare per year from livestock manure that is set out in the Directive. But some programmes need to set tougher rules on storage provisions, balanced fertilisation, and periods when fertilisers are banned.

2.1.1.2 Animal By-products Regulation (2009)

The Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council lays down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption (Animal By-products Regulation). The purpose of the Regulation is to prevent the spread of animal diseases and to ensure the identification and traceability of by-products at the various stages of transport and handling.

Animal by-products may contain pathogens that may pose a risk to humans or animals; hence the purpose of the By-products Regulation is to protect public and animal health. The By-products Regulation regulates the collection, transport, storage, pre-treatment, treatment, use, disposal, placing on the market, import, export, and transit of by-products. The By-Products Regulation sets conditions for the recovery and disposal of by-products to minimize the potential risks. Properly handled, the by-products do not pose a risk to human or animal health.

2.1.1.3 Implementing Regulation of Animal By-products Regulation (2011)

Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council lays down health rules regarding animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and implementing Council Directive 97/78/EC as regards certain samples and items exempt from veterinary checks at the border under that Directive.

2.1.2 BIOGAS/BIOMETHANE

Biomethane linked legislative measures come naturally from the climate and energy policies, but also from the transport related policies. Methane is a powerful greenhouse gas, second only to carbon dioxide. It is also the second largest contributor to ground-level ozone. Reducing methane emissions is vital to help slow global warming, reduce pollution and improve air quality; hence the European Commission published in October 2020 the EU methane strategy.

The Renewable Energy Directive (RED 2) is the most relevant piece of legislation in the field of energy and climate policies for renewable energy, so also for biogas and biomethane. The RED 2 gives the common rules and principles how to increase the share of renewables in Europe. According to the European Green Deal, the RED 2 will be revised in 2021.

The transport policy is also being reviewed in the early 20's (see more in Chapter 3).

2.1.2.1 Methane Strategy (2020)

The European Commission presented in October 2020 an EU strategy to reduce methane emissions. Methane is the second biggest contributor to climate change, after carbon dioxide. It is also a potent local air pollutant causing serious health problems. Tackling methane emissions is therefore essential to reaching our 2030 climate targets and the 2050 climate neutrality goal, as well as contributing to the Commission's zero-pollution ambition.

This strategy sets out measures to cut methane emissions in Europe and internationally. It presents legislative and non-legislative actions in the energy, agriculture, and waste sectors, which account for around 95% of methane emissions associated with human activity worldwide. The Commission will work with the EU's international partners and with industry to achieve emission reductions along the supply chain.

This strategy will outline how the EU plans to reduce methane emissions, focusing on three main sources of man-made methane emissions: energy (coal, oil, and gas), agriculture and waste.

2.1.2.2 RED 2 (2018)

Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources aims to provide guiding principles on financial support schemes for RES, renewable energy self-consumption, energy communities and district heating. It seeks to enhance mechanisms for cross-border cooperation, simplify administrative processes, strengthen the sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions-savings criteria for biofuels, and mainstream the use of renewable energy in the transport sector and in the heating and cooling sector. The Member States must implement the revised directive into national law by 30 June 2021.

2.1.2.3 Sustainable Mobility Strategy Communication (2020)

The European Green Deal includes a target to reduce transport-related greenhouse gas emissions by 90% by 2050. The Strategy was published in December 2020.

The Commission intends to adopt a comprehensive strategy to meet this target and ensure that the EU transport sector is fit for a clean, digital, and modern economy. The objectives include:

- increasing the uptake of zero-emission vehicles,
- making sustainable alternative solutions available to the public & businesses,
- supporting digitalisation & automation, and
- improving connectivity & access.

2.1.3 CHEMICALS

Chemicals are essential in modern society. The European Green Deal has set the EU on a course to become a sustainable climate neutral and circular economy by 2050. It has also set a goal to protect better human health and the environment as part of an ambitious approach to tackle pollution from all sources and move towards a toxic-free environment. At the same time, chemicals with hazardous properties can harm the environment and human health.

The EU wants to move towards toxic-free material cycles and to ensure clean recycling, and this puts waste issues into scrutiny check as well.

2.1.3.1 The EU's Chemicals Strategy for sustainability towards a toxic-free environment (2020)

The European Commission published a chemicals strategy for sustainability on 14 October 2020. It is part of the EU's zero pollution ambition, which is a key commitment of the European Green Deal.

The EU's chemicals strategy aims to better protect citizens and the environment and to boost innovation for safe and sustainable chemicals. The strategy gives several actions to be done in the following years e.g.:

- banning the most harmful chemicals in consumer products - allowing their use only where essential,
- account for the cocktail effect of chemicals when assessing risks from chemicals,
- phasing out the use of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the EU, unless their use is essential,
- boosting the investment and innovative capacity for production and use of chemicals that are safe and sustainable by design, and throughout their life cycle,
- promoting the EU's resilience of supply and sustainability of critical chemicals,
- establishing a simpler "one substance one assessment" process for the risk and hazard assessment of chemicals, and,
- playing a leading role globally by championing and promoting high standards and not exporting chemicals banned in the EU.

One of the actions that the Commission will do is to ensure that authorisations and derogations from restrictions for recycled materials under REACH are exceptional and justified. Another interesting action under the strategy is that the Commission will support, through its financial instruments and research and innovation programmes the development and deployment of infrastructure allowing to switch to the use, transport, and storage of electricity from renewable/ carbon-neutral energy sources to produce chemicals.

2.1.3.2 REACH Regulation (2006)

REACH is an acronym for English words for Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of

Chemicals. The Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) applies to manufacturers, importers and downstream users and applies in principle to all substances. The regulation does not apply to waste. There are exemptions from obligations under REACH for certain groups of substances, e.g., compost and digestate are derogated from the REACH authorisation at the moment.

2.1.3.3 CLP (2008)

Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures defines classification, labelling and packaging requirements for substances/ mixtures. The CLP is legally binding across the Member States and directly applicable to all industrial sectors. It requires manufacturers, importers or downstream users of substances or mixtures to classify, label and package their hazardous chemicals appropriately before placing them on the market. One of the main aims of CLP is to determine whether a substance or mixture shows properties that lead to a hazardous classification. The regulation does not apply to waste.

2.1.4 CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Nutrient recycling is in the heart of circular economy. The European Commission launched a first Circular Economy Action Plan in 2015. There is already a second round of circular economy related policy papers in the European Union. According to the European Green Deal, the Commission publicised in 2020 the EU Circular Economy Action Plan and the Farm to Fork Strategy. Most of the new issues in the field of circular economy related to nutrient recycling are placed in the Farm to Fork Strategy, in the revision of the Wastewater Sludge Directive and in the EU Methane Strategy.

2.1.4.1 EU Circular Economy Action Plan (2020)

The European Commission has adopted a new Circular Economy Action Plan - one of the main blocks of the European Green Deal. The Action Plan announces initiatives along the entire life cycle of products, targeting e.g., their design, promoting circular economy processes, fostering sustainable consumption, and aiming to ensure that the resources used are kept in the EU economy for as long as possible.

The Action Plan introduces legislative and non-legislative measures targeting areas where action at the EU level brings real added value.

2.1.4.2 Farm to Fork Strategy – for a fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food system (2020)

The Farm to Fork Strategy is at the heart of the European Green Deal aiming to make food systems fair, healthy, and environmentally friendly. The strategy sets out both regulatory and non-regulatory initiatives, with the common agricultural and fisheries policies as key tools to support a just transition.

2.1.4.3 EU Bioeconomy Strategy (2018)

The Commission adopted the EU Bioeconomy Strategy in 2018. It includes measures to promote the bioeconomy in the EU and its Member States. The updated bioeconomy strategy focuses on three components:

1. Strengthen and scale up the bio-based sectors, unlock investments and markets.
2. Deploy local bioeconomies rapidly across the whole of Europe; and
3. Understand the ecological boundaries of the bioeconomy.

The measures of the strategy support the creation of a biogas breakthrough.

2.1.4.4 Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy (2018)

The Commission adopted the European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy in 2018. It is part of the Commission's circular economy package that was given in 2015. The aim of the strategy is to reduce the problems caused by plastic waste and rubbish, e.g., enhancing plastic recovery and recycling, and promoting product design that promotes the reuse, recyclability, and recycling of plastic products. Also included is an assessment of the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive on the effectiveness of micro-plastics recovery and disposal.

2.1.5 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE

2.1.5.1 EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 (2020)

The European Commission adopted the EU Biodiversity strategy for 2030 on the 20th of May 2020. The initiative outlines the EU's ambition for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The EU wants to lead the global negotiations on halting biodiversity loss and safeguarding ecosystems.

The strategy commits the EU to curtailing biodiversity loss and preserving and restoring its ecosystems. The strategy will e.g., set legally binding nature-restoration targets in 2021.

2.1.6 FERTILISERS

The European legislation on fertilisers has gone through a massive revision work. The updated EU Fertiliser Regulation was adopted in June 2019. According to the regulation, EU fertilising products bearing the "CE marking" will have to fulfil certain requirements to benefit from free circulation in the EU's internal market. The updated regulation, which replaces the Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003, covers all types of fertilisers (mineral, organic, soil improvers, growing matters, etc.); so, the recycled and organic fertilisers are on the same level with mineral ones. Manufacturers of fertilisers that do not bear the CE marking will still have the possibility of placing them on their national market. It will be interesting to see, how the national and EU level legislation will work together eventually.

2.1.6.1 EU Fertiliser Regulation (2003)

Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to fertilisers applies to the manufacture, trade and use of inorganic fertilisers and liming materials in the EU, as well as to the import and export of these products and their raw materials.

2.1.6.2 EU Fertilising Products Regulation (2019)

Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules on the making available on the market of EU fertilising products and amending Regulations (EC) No 1069/2009 and (EC) No 1107/2009 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 applies to CE-marked inorganic and organic fertiliser products that comply with the Regulation. The national implementation of the revised regulation needs to be done by July 2022.

2.1.6.3 Standardisation work related to the EU Fertiliser Regulation (2019)

The European Organisation for Standardisation (CEN) drafts standards in accordance with the EU Fertiliser Regulation at the request of the European Commission. There are 68 standards to be developed, most of which are harmonised standards, and they are linked to the granting of the CE marking. The standardisation work lasts a maximum of 4 years.

2.1.7 WASTE

Waste issues are closely linked to the activities in the circular economy policies. However, in this report waste related initiatives are discussed as their own field of policy, because waste has its own legislation that has a strong foothold.

2.1.7.1 Waste Framework Directive (2018)

Directive 2008/98/EC sets the basic concepts and definitions related to waste management, e.g., definitions of waste, recycling, and recovery. It explains when waste ceases to be waste and becomes a secondary raw material (so called end-of-waste (EoW) criteria), and how to distinguish between waste and by-products.

Directive (EU) 2018/851 of the European Parliament and of the Council had to be implemented by the Member States by July 2020. The revised Directive requires the Member States to establish a separate collection of biowaste by 2024 among other things. Other relevant issues are the EoW issues.

2.2 FINLAND

In this chapter the most relevant pieces of legislation in Finland that have impact on nutrient recycling are described. A comprehensive list of legislation and initiatives can be found in Annex 1.

2.2.1 FINANCE

The finance instruments have a remarkable role because the market for recycled fertilisers is still very undeveloped. Investment aids and R&D-support schemes are common, but consumption or production-based finance mechanisms are also being planned.

Nutrient recycling is also very cross-sectoral issue, so no wonder that there are almost 20 different types of finance related legislative or policy instruments in Finland that have impact on nutrient recycling. The instruments are managed by different ministries e.g., Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Transport and Communication and Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment.

The agriculture-related finance instruments are particularly important for advancing nutrient recycling, but the full potential of these instruments has not been utilised so far and they do not really favour recycled nutrients over mineral fertilisers. Hopefully, the new European Common Agriculture Policy for 2020-2027, CAP27, will improve the situation. The CAP27 is still under preparation.

In Finland, the finance instruments targeted to biogas sector can be seen as important for pushing forward also nutrient recycling. The most important subsidy schemes for the biogas sector now are energy investment aid for biogas plants and the exemption from excise duties for biogas/biomethane. A new investment aid targeted to nutrient recycling will be available for applicants in early 2021. A new incentive scheme for the treatment of agricultural waste and residues in a biogas plant is also under development.

The existing support schemes for gas vehicles consist of an investment aid for new gas filling stations, an investment aid for heavy duty vehicles and an aid for converting passenger cars to gas. Also, the extension of the national biofuel delivery obligation to biomethane is under preparation.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, there are several temporal finance instruments being developed by the state of Finland and the European Union. These instruments will be in use from 2020 even to 2026, according to the current knowledge.

2.2.1.1 Agricultural Investment Aid

The investment aid for the construction of agricultural holdings, including construction investment in energy production (e.g. biogas plants and solar panels when energy is used in agricultural production activities) is intended to develop and support the structure and competitiveness of agricultural holdings.

2.2.1.2 Rural Business Aid

Businesses located in rural areas can apply for business financing for the development of their operations and investments. The aid is applied from the ELY Centre or Leader group in the area. Business aid includes start-up aid, investment aid and aid to conduct an investment feasibility study.

2.2.1.3 Rural Development Programme for Mainland Finland 2014-2020 (2014)

The aim for the programme period has been to maintain a vibrant countryside and to improve the

environment, the sustainable use of natural resources, animal welfare and the development of skills. Funds can be applied for the development of enterprises operating in rural areas and for development projects related to, among other things, the state of the environment, services, and amenity.

There will be a two-year transition period from 2021 to 2022, during which funding for the new programme period will be used. The start of the new financing period is linked to the progress of the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

2.2.1.4 Leader Funding 2014-2020 (2014)

The Leader funding is based on the fact that local people know best how to develop their own home region. There are 54 Leader groups in Finland that provide funding for projects to entrepreneurs, associations, and other communities. The transition period has been confirmed until the end of 2022. Leader funding can be applied for a development or investment project of common interest as well as a business project. Depending on the project, 20-90% of the costs can be supported. Details of funding and support percentages can be obtained from the local Leader group. For example, associations, companies with less than 10 person-years, municipalities, educational institutions, and foundations can apply for Leader funding. The projects to be funded must meet the Leader group's development strategy objectives.

2.2.1.5 Energy Aid (2017)

The main objective of the energy aid is to promote the development of new and innovative solutions to transform the energy system into a low-carbon one in the long term. Energy aid may be granted for a company’s investment and clearing projects that promote production or use of renewable energy (e.g. biogas plants), energy saving or enhancement of energy production or use, and otherwise the transformation of the energy system into low carbon. The energy aid has been in use for several years.

2.2.1.6 State Subsidy for Circular Economy Investment and Development Projects (2020)

As part of the Government Programme, this fixed-term subsidy for a circular economy investment and development grant can be used to:

- Primarily for the introduction or extension of technologies or service models related to the production or use of new solutions and processes in the circular economy, and secondarily for pilot and demonstration projects related to recycled products and materials and the treatment of waste by-products in Finland.
- New technologies, services or their environmental and economic effects related to the productization of the circular economy, which clearly contribute to the breakthrough of the circular economy in Finland.
- Investments involving new circular economy business models, new platforms or digital services, business models and product and service design supporting the commercial introduction of the circular economy.
- Studies and feasibility studies and investment studies aimed at promoting the domestic investment activities of the various actors in the circular economy.

2.2.1.7 Pilot project for the implementation of nutrient recycling, symbiosis, phosphorus recovery or a combination thereof (2020)

The Ministry of the Environment has launched a grant application for projects that promote the recovery and recycling of nutrients in wastewater, improve the energy efficiency or energy recovery of wastewater treatment, or support symbioses of nutrient recycling. The call was open from September 24, 2020 to October 30, 2020. Grants are available until 2022. This is part of the Government Programme.

2.2.1.8 Nutrient Recycling Experimental Programme (2020)

As part of the Government Programme, the pilot programme for biomass and nutrient recycling was granted an additional funding of € 5,100,000 for 2020–2022. The pilot programme will fund research, development and innovation activities related to the recycling of biomass nutrients and related investments. The aim is to promote the processing of biomass, the production and product development of recycled fertiliser products, logistics and service solutions for nutrient recycling, and the development of highly processed products from biomass.

2.2.1.9 Business Finland's Aid

Business Finland provides funding for research, product development and a wide range of business development needs, especially for small and medium-sized enterprises.

2.2.2 CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Circular economy has been one of the leading topics in the environmental policy in Finland in the 2010s. In 2016, Finland published its first national circular economy roadmap being the first country in the world to do so. This work has been fruitful and has led to various further actions on the national level but also internationally. Thanks to the work, new business models have been developed and Finland has been active e.g., in removing regulatory barriers that are hindering the breakthrough of a circular economy. In 2020, Finland is updating both its strategy on bioeconomy and circular economy. Nutrient recycling has also got attention in the past couple of years, being fastened by the political support for biogas and most recently for carbon farming.

2.2.2.1 Leading the cycle: Finnish road map to a circular economy 2016-2025 (2016)

Finland's circular economy road map describes the concrete actions that can accelerate the transfer to a competitive circular economy in Finland. The road map highlights best practices and pilots that can be easily replicated and provide added value on a national scale. The road map emphasises tangible actions for growth, investments, and export.

2.2.2.2 Sitra's Circular Economy Map 2.0. implementation (2019)

This programme is a follow-up measure of the Finnish road map to a circular economy giving an extensive programme of measures to push forward a circular economy. A Finnish Quality Assurance Scheme for recycled fertiliser products is one of the examples pointed out in the programme.

2.2.2.3 Finland's Bioeconomy Strategy (2014)

Finland's Bioeconomy Strategy sets national bioeconomy targets and an action plan for 2014-2020. A new bioeconomy strategy is under development and will be published in 2021.

2.2.2.4 Nutrient Recycling Action Plan for 2019-2030 (2019)

The action plan gives a set of measures with e.g., promoting the production and sale of safe recycled fertilisers. The measures are targeted to ministries and national agencies. Four main objectives:

1. Biomass nutrients are efficiently utilised.
2. Nutrient emissions to water and air are reduced.
3. New business is created for nutrient recycling; and
4. Controls promote nutrient recycling.

2.2.2.5 Implementation of the National Plastic Road Map (2018)

The Road Map includes proposals for the development of legislation as well as for the creation of funding and cooperation opportunities. The proposed measures include the development of solutions for the recovery of microplastics from sewage and wastewater and the utilisation of sludges containing microplastics.

2.2.3 FERTILISERS

The most important pieces of legislation on fertilisers are the Fertiliser Preparation Act and its decrees. All these are under revision now due to the national implementation work of the EU Fertiliser Regulation and the Waste Directive. As the Act was originally accepted in 2006, there are naturally many other reasons for updates and modernisation as well. What comes to the recycled fertilisers, the relevance of the interlinkages between the legislation of fertilisers and waste becomes high on importance and needs attention in the revision work.

2.2.3.1 Fertiliser Preparation Act (2006)

Regulates the manufacture, placing on the market, import and export of fertiliser products. Among other things, the law requires all operators to arrange for self-monitoring and for plants manufacturing organic fertiliser products to have plant approval. The purpose of the law is to ensure the cleanliness and safety of fertiliser products placed on the market. Under revision in 2020-2022.

2.2.3.2 Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry on Fertiliser Products (2011)

The so-called Fertiliser Decree (24/11) lays down the types, groups of type designations and the requirements for each group of type designation of fertilisers, as well as the quality, labelling, packaging, transport, storage, use and other requirements for fertiliser products and the raw materials for fertiliser products. Under revision in 2020-2022.

2.2.3.3 Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry on the Operation and Control of Activities Concerning Fertiliser Products (2012)

The Decree provides for an obligation for the operator to notify, for achieving, for self-monitoring, for prior notification, for laboratory approval, for the approval of an establishment manufacturing or technically processing organic fertiliser products or their raw materials, and for organizing controls on fertiliser products. The Decree is under revision in 2020-2022.

2.2.3.4 Cadmium Content of Fertilisers (2006)

The Commission Decision 2006/348 / EC concerns Finland's derogation to limit the cadmium content of fertilisers nationally.

2.2.3.5 National List of Type Designations for Fertiliser Products (2019)

The requirements for each type designation group are set out in Annex I to Decree 24/11 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. The Finnish Food Authority maintains a national list of type designations for fertiliser products. The official list of type names is published in the Food Authority's collection of regulations. The type designation of a fertiliser preparation is intended to describe the properties of the fertiliser, such as composition, intended use or method of manufacture. Only fertiliser preparations for which a type designation appears in either the national type designation list or the list of fertiliser types in accordance with the EC Regulation may be placed on the market, prepared for placing on the market or imported. The national list of type designations for fertiliser products is under revision in 2020-2022.

2.2.3.6 Government Decree on the Limitation of Certain Emissions from Agriculture and Horticulture (2014)

The purpose of the Decree is to prevent and reduce emissions to surface waters, groundwater, soil and air from the use, storage and handling of manure and other fertilisers referred to in section 2, as well as from animal production. This Decree implements the Nitrates Directive (91/676 / EEC).

2.2.4 WASTE

The most important pieces of legislation related to waste are the national Waste Act and the Government Decree on Waste. Both have gone through big changes in the past 10 years. More changes are to come, as Finland is currently updating its waste legislation based on the recently updated Waste Directive.

The National Waste Plan 2018-2023 gives medium-term guidelines for the development of Finnish waste management. The plan is typically developed in a multi-stakeholder process including background studies, working groups and public consultations. The targets given in the plan are not binding, which reduces its significance.

2.2.4.1 Waste Act (2011)

The objectives of waste legislation (646/2011) are to prevent the dangers posed by waste and waste management and to harm health and the environment, reduce the amount and harmfulness of waste, to promote the sustainable use of natural resources, ensure efficient waste management and prevent littering. This is an implementing Act of the Waste Directive. Under revision in 2019-2021.

2.2.4.2 Government Decree on Waste (2012)

The Decree (179/2012) specifies, for example, the requirements for the general organisation of waste management, the special requirements for certain wastes, the accounting, the obligation to transfer documents and the so-called Information to be included in the material market. Under revision in 2019-2021.

2.2.4.4 National Waste Plan 2018-2023 (2018)

The National Waste Plan gives general guidelines for the development of waste management in Finland e.g., by setting several national waste management targets. Biodegradable waste is one of the priorities. The plan is in the implementation phase and will be revised in 2021.

2.2.5 BIOGAS/BIOMETHANE

In Finland, biogas and nutrient recycling are strongly being linked together. Biogas has got lots of attention in Finland since 2018. The Government Programme includes both strategic objectives and measures to be implemented between 2019-2023 (published in June 2019). The circular economy and carbon neutrality are key objectives of the government's programme. Biogas, biomethane and nutrient recycling are well present in the Prime Minister Marin’s Government Programme for 2019-2023. The biogas has been linked with the tasks aiming at de-carbonizing transportation and agriculture sectors, and with improving competitiveness of the Finnish food production amongst others. According to the Government Programme, the national biogas action plan was published in January 2020.

Biomethane and biogas can have cross-sectorial role by helping in providing solutions to reduce emissions to air, water, and land from various sectors namely agriculture, waste management, energy production, industry, and transport. A working group (under the Ministry of Transport and Communication) has recently recommended to strengthen the role of biomethane in the transport sector by giving several specific recommendations for increasing the production and use of biomethane in transport.

2.2.5.1 The Biogas Programme of Finland (2020)

According to the Government Programme, the national biogas action plan was published in January 2020. It defines development measures for the sector until 2024. The action plan was drafted together with all the relevant ministries and stakeholders. The measures by responsible parties and timeline are described in the implementation plan. Implementation period 2020-2023.

2.2.5.2 National Road Map for Fossil-free Transport (2020)

According to the Government Programme, Finland will be carbon neutral by 2035. To meet the targets, a roadmap for fossil-free transport will be drafted, indicating concrete means for achieving the Government's objectives. The Ministry of Transport and Communications appointed a working group for a period of November 2019 to October 2020 to support the preparation of the road map for fossil-free transport. The working group summarised the means by which the greenhouse gas emissions from domestic traffic can be halved by 2030 and the level of zero emissions can be reached by no later than the end of 2045. A working group recommended to strengthen the role of biomethane in the transport sector by giving several specific recommendations for increasing the production and use of biomethane in transport. For instance, to increase the amount of biomethane in transport sector and to rise the 2030 target for a gas passenger vehicles and vans from 50 000 to 145 000 and to have a new target of 6000 heavy duty gas vehicles. In preparation 2020-2023.

2.2.6 ENERGY & CLIMATE

2.2.6.1 Climate Roadmap of the Finnish Agriculture (2020)

As part of the Government Programme, between 2020 and 2021 Finland is updating its climate policy to meet the carbon neutrality target by 2035. Sectoral specific climate plans are part of the implementation. The Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners (MTK) was responsible for drafting the plan for the agricultural sector.

The paper presents a view on the development of agricultural markets and the structural development of agriculture until 2035 and 2050. Different scenarios include: 1. current policy guidance without further action; 2. with additional actions; 3. large-scale application of known means and development of new means of influence. Advancing the use of biogas is recognised among the measures.

2.2.6.2 National implementation of the Renewable Energy Directive (2019)

The national implementation of the Renewable Energy Directive shall be done by 7/2021. Includes the introduction of sustainability criteria for biomass fuels and the extension of the current system of guarantees of origin for biogas. Implementation period 2019-2022.

2.3 LATVIA

In Latvia, policy planning documents and various laws and Cabinet of Ministers regulations define the development targets for different sectors as well the policy implementation rules. According to the policy planning documents and legislation analysis numerically the most common initiatives in Latvia relate to waste management, water management and fertilisers.

In following section, the most relevant national level regulations affecting the nutrients recycling are summarised. A full list of regulations is found in Annex 1.

2.3.1 WASTE LEGISLATION

2.3.1.1 Waste Management Law

The Waste Management Law (entered into force 18.11.2010) is the main law in Latvia which regulates the procedure for waste management in order to protect the environment, human life and health by preventing the generation of waste, ensuring separate collection of waste generated in the territory of Latvia, regeneration and reduction of waste to be disposed of, as well as by facilitating efficient use of natural resources in order to increase the competitiveness of Latvia and facilitate the transfer to the circular economy. The law defines requirements for the state administration institutions, local governments, and waste managers for the waste management organisation, planning and performing, competence of state and local government authorities, Ministry of the Environment and Regional development, Latvian Environmental, Geology and Meteorology Centre, and Latvian State Environmental Service.

Regarding the biogas production the law determines exceptions for the financial guarantee need for regeneration when biogas is produced from animal by-products and derived products according to the Regulation (EC) no 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council (Animal by-products Regulation). The law also determines the order how the manager of the regeneration facility must obtain permits regarding polluting activities, record the amount (volume), type, and origin of the waste for the regeneration.

On the national level the main responsible institution for the waste management is the Ministry of Environment and Regional Development.

2.3.1.2 Waste Management National Plan 2013 – 2020

Waste management national plan 2013-2020 was adopted on 21 March 2013 and it was prepared according to the Waste Management Law requirements. It sets the targets for preventing waste generation in the face of increasing economic growth and aims to ensure a significant reduction in the total amount of waste generated, maximizing all best available waste prevention options and best available techniques. The plan also aims at rational use of waste as a resource and ensuring that waste is returned to the economic cycle as far as possible, in particular through recycling, or is returned to the environment in a useful way (e.g. compost).

Regarding the biogas production from the waste, it is stated in the plan that biogas production is allowed only in reclaimed landfills of III category where a landfill gas collection system has been installed, and research has been performed that the amount of landfill gas is such that its extraction is economically justified.

2.3.1.3 Waste Management National Plan 2021-2028

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development has started the development of the Waste Management National Plan 2021 -2028 and in June 2020 the first two chapters were published for the public consultation.

In the draft version which was presented to the public consultation, biogas production as waste management option is considered more than in the plan for 2013-2020. Proposed actions include the introduction of a mandatory collection of biodegradable waste and the adoption of regulatory

enactments regarding compost standards, which would promote a wider use of compost and digestate in the national economy.

In the Waste Management National Plan 2021-2028 it is stressed out that biogas production could be important in order to ensure the biological waste recycling, but it is also mentioned that recycling process should be done in the plants which are located in the countryside as the distribution of the digestates can be done there or it is necessary to create the market for the digestate.

2.3.1.4 Regulations Regarding Separate Waste Collection, Preparation for Re-use, Recycling and Material Recovery

Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 184 "Regulations Regarding Separate Waste Collection, Preparation for Re-use, Recycling and Material Recovery" prescribes the waste categories and the time period for separate collection of municipal waste within administrative territories of local governments, the objectives of preparation of municipal waste, recycling and material recovery, and the types of re-usable, recyclable or recoverable construction and demolition waste, the amount and time period for re-use, recycling or material recovery.

Regulation's paragraph 10 sets out that aerobic or anaerobic treatment of biodegradable waste shall be considered as recycling if as a result of the treatment compost or digestate from anaerobic waste treatment is produced that is used according to waste recovery code R10 in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding the types of waste recovery and disposal.

2.3.1.5 Regulations Regarding Waste Recovery and Disposal Types

Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 319 "Regulations Regarding Waste Recovery and Disposal Types" prescribes the waste recovery and waste disposal types. Waste Recovery in biogas production (except biogas production from waste disposal) is categorised under sub-code R3D.

2.3.1.6 Regulation "Procedure by Which Polluting Activities of Category A, B and C Shall Be Declared and Permits for the Performance of Category A and B Polluting Activities Shall Be Issued"

Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 1082 "Procedure by Which Polluting Activities of Category A, B and C Shall Be Declared and Permits for the Performance of Category A and B Polluting Activities Shall Be Issued" prescribes the conditions for the declaration of polluting activities and the conditions based on which a permit shall be issued.

2.3.1.7 Binding regulations issued by local governments

According to the Waste Management Law local governments must issue binding regulations about the municipal waste management in its administrative territory.

2.3.2 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION LEGISLATION

2.3.2.1 Environmental Protection Law

Environmental Protection Law came into force in 29 November 2006 and its purpose is to ensure the preservation and recovery of the quality of the environment, as well as the sustainable utilisation of natural resources.

2.3.2.2 Strategy towards Climate-Neutrality 2050

Strategy towards Climate-Neutrality 2050 is the long-term policy planning document in Latvia which was adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers on 28 January 2020. In the strategy vision towards low carbon development is described from the different sectors' perspective.

Regarding agriculture it is defined that sustainable land management and high productivity in agriculture must be ensured. As this is the long-term policy planning document more precise targets and actions towards the set aims must be defined in the sector planning document.

In the strategy it is pointed out that the agriculture sector is the third largest source of GHG emissions, accounting for 24.6% of total emissions Latvia's GHG emissions in 2017. In recent years, an increase in emissions has been seen from the agricultural sector, mainly from the increasing use of nitrogenous fertilisers. The total sown area of agricultural crops treated with mineral fertilisers is increasing – in 2008 – 51%, in 2010 – 55%, but in 2017 60% of all sown areas were fertilised with mineral fertilisers.

In agriculture it is envisaged that increased productivity will be achieved through improved varieties and precise application of fertiliser doses, as well as through crop rotation. The use of fertilisers shall be carefully planned. Innovative technologies in fertiliser usage must be used to ensure that fertiliser consumption is decreased and negative effects on the environment are diminished. Use of manure by providing it as soon as possible into the soil, helps to avoid soil compaction and deep ploughing.

2.3.3 WATER-RELATED LEGISLATION

2.3.3.1 Water Management Law

Water Management Law entered into force on 15 October 2002 and its purpose is to establish a system for the protection and management of surface water and groundwater. In Section 11 environmental quality objectives for water bodies are set and two of them envisage:

To prevent or limit the discharge of polluting substances into the groundwater and to prevent deterioration of status of all groundwater bodies.

To stop the increase in the concentration of a polluting substance caused by human activity in groundwater or to achieve progressive reduction thereof.

The law determines rights and duties of a user of water resources, development of management plan and programmes for river basin districts, issuing of permits for use of water resources, monitoring and implementation and supervision of requirements of the law.

2.3.3.2 Requirements Regarding the Protection of Water, Soil and Air from Pollution Caused by Agricultural Activity

Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 834 "Requirements Regarding the Protection of Water, Soil and

Air from Pollution Caused by Agricultural Activity" was adopted on 23 December 2014. The regulation prescribes:

- The requirements for the protection of water and soil from pollution with nitrates caused by agricultural activity, and for the limiting of ammonia emissions.
- The highly vulnerable zones to which increased requirements for the protection of water and soil from pollution with nitrates caused by agricultural activity (hereinafter – the highly vulnerable zones) apply, the borders and criteria for the designation thereof.
- The procedures for the management of highly vulnerable zones.

In the regulation the definition for the fertiliser is given which is – **fertiliser** – any substance containing a nitrogen compound or nitrogen compounds which are used on land to enhance growth of vegetation (including livestock manure, the residues from fish farms, sewage sludge and **biogas plant fermentation residues - digestate** (hereinafter – the fermentation residues)).

Paragraph 3 of the regulation describes the requirements which the operator must fulfil to ensure the protection of water and soil from pollution with nitrates caused by agricultural activity, and to limit ammonia emissions. Regarding the use of fertilisers the requirements are the following:

- Fertilisers shall not be spread upon frozen, water saturated or snow-covered soil.
- Fertilisers shall be spread on flood-lands and areas under the threat of flood only after the season of possible floods has passed.
- Fertilisers shall not be spread in locations where it is prohibited in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding the protection zones or specially protected territories.

Sewage sludge and the compost shall be used in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding the use, monitoring and control of sewage sludge and the compost.

The following requirements must be observed when livestock manure and fermentation residues are stored and used (sub-paragraph 3.3.):

- Livestock manure shall be stored inside and near animal holdings in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding special environmental requirements for performing polluting activities in animal holdings.
- The amount of nitrogen applied with livestock manure to one hectare of agricultural land shall not exceed 170 kilograms per year, which conforms to 1.7 animal units.
- To avoid exceeding the requirement regarding the amount of nitrogen in one hectare of agricultural land, the amount of livestock manure and fermentation residues permitted for application shall be calculated based on the amount of nitrogen in livestock manure and fermentation residues.
- If the amount of nitrogen produced on the farm with livestock manure and fermentation residues exceeds 170 kilograms per hectare of agricultural land in a year, the operator shall prove with documents the transfer of the residue of livestock manure and fermentation residues produced to other farms or the use thereof in a different manner.
- The operator shall register and record any applied, purchased, sold, or otherwise used amount of livestock manure and fermentation residues and store the registration documents for at least three years.
- After spreading, the solid manure and fermentation residues (except for the liquid fraction of separated fermentation residues) shall be applied to land within 24 hours, whereas the liquid livestock manure, urine, and liquid fraction of separated fermentation residues – within 12 hours. Liquid livestock manure, urine, and the fermentation residues (except for the solid fraction of separated fermentation residues) shall not be applied to land if they are used as additional fertiliser.
- In autumn, the liquid livestock manure, urine, and fermentation residues (except for the solid fraction of separated fermentation residues) shall be used as basic fertiliser only

together with harvest-leftovers (stubble, chopped straw, grassroot mass) by applying them to land with the decortication or ploughing method, or another equivalent method.

The paragraph 4 defines borders of the highly vulnerable zones and in these borders also municipalities of Zemgale are incorporated – Dobele, Auce, Tērvete, Jelgava, Ozolnieki, Bauska, Vecumnieki, Iecava, Rundāle, and Jelgava. In these territories, if certain criteria are coming true and pollution with nitrates is established, additional requirements shall be followed:

- during the time period from 20 October until 15 March no livestock manure and fermentation residues shall be spread, but in respect of grass – from 5 November until 15 March.
- when using fertilisers, the maximum permissible norms of nitrogen for cultivated plants laid down in Annex 3 of the regulation shall not be exceeded.
- the operator managing the agricultural land with an area of 20 hectares and more, and grows vegetables, potatoes, fruit trees or fruit bushes in an area of three hectares and more, shall document the field history for each field and shall keep field history documentation for at least three years. Additional requirements must be met if fertilisers are used.
- in autumn and winter period at least 50 % of the agricultural land on a farm shall be occupied by grass areas (perennial grasses, winter crops, winter rapeseed, non-processed stubble-field, vegetable, beet for feed, sugar-beet stems (leaves)), except for farms where potatoes, fruit trees, berry bushes and vegetables are grown in at least 50 % of the total area of sowings or plants.
- specific requirements are also for the lands on a slope which are described in the paragraph 6.6.

2.3.4 ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS LEGISLATION

2.3.4.1 Veterinary Medicine Law

Veterinary Medicine Law came into force on 1 July 2011 and its purpose is to regulate the prevention and combating of infectious animal diseases, veterinary medical practice, the circulation of products of animal origin, veterinary control of the import and transit of animal products and products of animal origin and determine the rights and obligations of State and local government institutions, as well as of individual persons, in this field.

Section 40 of the law determines that the circulation, recognition, and registration of by-products not intended for human consumption, as well as the authorisation of the activities defined in the European Parliament and the Council Regulation No. 1069/2009 and Commission Regulation No. 142/2011 to the Food and Veterinary Service. An authorised person involved in the circulation of by-products not intended for human consumption shall act under the supervision of the Food and Veterinary Service in accordance with the above-mentioned regulations.

2.3.4.2 Requirements for the movement of animal by - products and derived products not intended for human consumption

Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 275 “Requirements for the movement of animal by - products and derived products not intended for human consumption” entered into force on 21 April 2012. The regulation is issued based on the legal norms arising from the European Parliament and the Council Regulation No. 1069/2009 and Commission Regulation No. 142/2011.

In the section II of the regulation requirements for the by-products transformation into biogas and compost are set.

In the section III requirements for the organic fertilisers and soil improvers placing on the market and use are set.

2.3.5 FERTILISERS

2.3.5.1 Law on Circulation of Fertilisers

Law on Circulation of Fertilisers came into force on 23 February 2006 and the purpose of it is to protect fertilisers and growing media (hereinafter - the substrate) consumers from the use of poor-quality fertilisers and substrates, which are dangerous to human and animal health and to the environment, as well as to ensure identical requirements for natural and legal persons who perform activities with fertilisers and substrates.

In this law fertiliser is defined as any substance containing one or several such chemical elements which are recognised as necessary for plants, if such substance is used due to the content of its elements and is intended or offered for plant growth promotion, or a microbiological preparation containing live micro-organisms which promote growth and development of plants or is used for the renewal, activation and regulation of microbiological processes in soil or other substrate to improve its biological, physical or chemical features.

Law on Circulation of Fertilisers does not apply to:

- Sewage sludge if such is used as a fertiliser. The use of sewage sludge is regulated by laws and regulations regarding the use, monitoring and control of sewage sludge and its compost.
- Unprocessed organic fertilisers and unprocessed liming materials.

The Law prescribes:

- Competence of state authorities in the field of the circulation of fertilisers and substrates.
- Fertilisers and substrates producers, packers, and importers obligations.
- Registration of fertilisers and substrates, monitoring and control of their circulation.

2.3.5.2 Regulations Regarding the Identification, Quality Conformity Assessment and Sale of Fertilisers and Substrates

Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 506 “Regulations Regarding the Identification, Quality Conformity Assessment and Sale of Fertilisers and Substrates” was adopted on 1 September 2015 and it prescribes requirements for the identification, quality conformity assessment and sale of fertilisers and substrates, requirements for label, marking and packaging.

The main responsible institution in the Latvia for the registration, supervision and control of a fertiliser and substrate is State Plant Protection Service which is supervised by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Annex 1 of the regulation sets out fertiliser identification requirements and Annex 3 maximum permissible concentration of undesirable impurity in a fertiliser and substrate.

2.3.5.3 Procedures for Monitoring and Control of Fertilisers with "EC Fertiliser" Marking

Cabinet of Ministers regulation No. 76 “Procedures for Monitoring and Control of Fertilisers with "EC Fertiliser" Marking” was adopted on 27 January 2009 and prescribes the procedures for monitoring and control of fertilisers with "EC fertiliser" marking (hereinafter - fertiliser) in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 October 2003 relating to fertilisers.

Monitoring, control, and accounting of fertilisers is performed by the State Plant Protection Service.

2.3.5.4 Regulations Regarding Utilisation, Monitoring and Control of Sewage Sludge and the Compost thereof

Cabinet of Ministers regulation No. 362 “Regulations Regarding Utilisation, Monitoring and Control of Sewage Sludge and the Compost thereof” was adopted on 2 May 2006 and prescribes the procedures for the utilisation, monitoring and control of sewage sludge and the compost thereof. In the regulation the division of sewage sludge, determination of the quality of sewage sludge and compost and storage are described. Section IV prescribes the rules for utilisation of sewage sludge and compost for agricultural lands soil fertilisation.

2.3.5.5 Nitrate legislation (91/676/EEC of 12 December 1991 concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources)

Cabinet of Ministers regulation No. 834 “Requirements Regarding the Protection of Water, Soil and Air from Pollution Caused by Agricultural Activity” contains legal norms arising from Council Directive 91/676/EEC of 12 December 1991 concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources.

3 INSIGHTS INTO THE CHANGES IN THE LEGISLATIVE MEASURES AFFECTING THE USE RECYCLED FERTILISERS

This Chapter gives insights into the changes in the legislative measures affecting the use recycled fertilisers by 2030 on the EU level, in Finland and in Latvia. The full list of initiatives is given in Annex 1.

3.1 EU LEVEL

The EU level policy 2020-2025 will follow the Green Deal programme of the European Commission. The Green Deal gives a comprehensive and ambitious package of measures for future actions and initiatives on e.g., climate change, energy, and transport. The target of a climate-neutral Europe by 2050 gives the target for all the actions of the Commission.

Negotiations on a new agricultural policy for 2021-2027, or CAP 27, have been going on for a long time at both national and EU level. Decision-making has been delayed and the new programming period will not enter into force until 2023. Agricultural policy will be decided for a seven-year funding period. The proposals aim to ensure that the CAP can continue to provide strong support for European farming, enabling prosperous rural areas and the production of high-quality food. The proposals will also allow the CAP to make a significant contribution to the European Green Deal, especially regarding the Farm to Fork Strategy and Biodiversity Strategy.

The key initiatives for the coming years related directly to nutrient recycling include the revision of the EU's Healthy Soils Strategy and the revision of the EU Sewage Sludge Directive (Directive 86/278). Healthy soils are essential to meet climate and biodiversity goals under the European Green Deal. The Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 highlights that it is essential to step up efforts to protect soil fertility, reduce erosion and increase soil organic matter; hence the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 announced the revision of the 2006 EU Soil Thematic Strategy to address soil and land degradation in a comprehensive way and to help achieve land degradation neutrality by 2030. Significant progress is also needed on identifying contaminated sites, restoring degraded soils, defining the conditions for their good ecological status, and improving the monitoring of soil quality. The Commission is expected to publish the EU Soil Thematic Strategy by the summer 2021.

What comes to the biomethane, the attention in 2020-2022 is being paid to the European Commission's Smart Mobility Strategy, the revision of the CO_2 emission standards for passenger vehicles, the Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive, the TEN-T Regulation (EU) 1315/2013, the Euro 6/VI -norm regulation in 2021 and the revision of the CO_2 emission standards for heavy duty vehicles. During 2021, the Commission will work also on the revision of the Renewable Energy Directive and the reform of the Energy Tax Directive. The Commission will also give a new gas package in 2021.

3.2 FINLAND

On the national level, the most important change in nutrient recycling next year is the reform of national fertiliser legislation. This work implements the EU Fertiliser Regulation and certain provisions of the Waste Directive, such as the EoW, into national legislation.

Also, many financial instruments are under preparation, such as national strategic plan of the CAP27. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is also preparing a new investment scheme for nutrient recycling investments and a so-called "manure-bonus" production/transport subsidy for treating manure.

For biogas, national actions have been bundled into a single national biogas programme that will run until the end of 2023. The programme makes it easy to keep track of what is being done and when.

The Ministry of Transport and Communications prepares a national roadmap for fossil-free transport. The political decisions on the measures will be approved by the summer 2021. This work, together with the revision of the national climate policy, will define the role of biomethane in transport sector for the next decade. This will have impact on the nutrient recycling as well, because biogas is very much linked to it – the biggest potential of biogas production comes from the agriculture-based side streams and agriculture sector is seeking solutions to solve its emissions to air and water.

Moreover, legislative preparations to extend the biofuel distribution obligation to biomethane are also well under way, the obligation is expected to be in use at the beginning of 2022. The proposal has been warmly welcomed by the Finnish biogas sector.

National implementation of the Renewable Energy Directive is also progressing; hopefully, the new sustainability law will apply as early as 2021. Legislative development work on the biogas and guarantee of origin system for gas is still being finalised, and hopefully this work will also be completed by summer 2021.

3.3 LATVIA

On 25 February 2020, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the informative report about the sectoral policy strategies for the planning period 2021-2027. According to the informative report it is envisaged to develop 20 strategies which will ensure the implementation of the National Development Plan 2021-2027. Also, the EU funds planning documents will be elaborated based on the sectoral policy strategies and priorities set in the National Development Plan 2021-2027.

At the end of 2020 some of the strategies have been drafted and public consultations held, while most of them are still under development and have not been published for the public consultations yet.

According to an informative report it is envisaged also to develop the following strategy which is relevant to this report - Environment policy strategy 2021-2027. The aim of the strategy will be to reduce risks (climate change, pollution, disasters) to human environment, health, and well-being; to reduce pollution in the environment (water, air, soil, nature), ensuring good environmental condition and preservation of natural capital; ensure sustainable consumption of resources; and ensure that environmental policies and basic environmental principles are integrated into other sectoral policies.

Legislation is also impacted by the EU policy documents and regulations, and it is expected that based on the EU level requirements and approval of new national strategies for 2021-2027 several laws and Cabinet of Ministers Regulations will be amended, as well new regulations will be issued.

4 VOLUNTARY MEASURES AFFECTING THE USE OF RECYCLED FERTILISERS IN FINLAND AND LATVIA

This section of the report presents the existing voluntary quality schemes and the like that are currently in use in Finland and Latvia. The Finnish Quality Assurance Scheme was published in 2020. Latvia does not yet have a Quality Assurance Scheme for recycled fertilisers, but it will be developed as part of the project Sustainable Biogas.

The use of fertiliser quality systems has increased in Europe. The European Compost Network ECN has developed a European Quality Assurance Scheme (ECN-QAS) for compost and digestate. The ECN has certified the national Quality Assurance Schemes of Austria, Germany, Belgium and Italy. Voluntary schemes have been in place in various countries for several years already, but the introduction of statutory schemes is increasing as well. For instance, the EU Fertiliser Regulation sets new requirements for quality control, and quality system is always required for CEN-marked fertilisers made of compost and digestate.

4.1 THE FINNISH QUALITY ASSURANCE SCHEME FOR RECYCLED FERTILISERS

The Finnish Quality Assurance Scheme, QAS, was published in March 2020. The name of the scheme is Laatulannoite-järjestelmä (www.laatulannoite.fi). The Finnish Biocycle and Biogas Association owns the QAS, being responsible for its day-to-day management and for the finance. The Steering Group is the main decision-making body of the QAS, and the Quality Committee is an expert body. The work of the Research Committee is currently shared between the Steering Group and the Quality Committee. The stakeholders are well presented in the organisation as there are representatives from biogas and composting companies, the Finnish Food Authority, the Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry and Environment, and the national associations of farmers and forest owners, landscape industries and rural advisory services.

The aim of the quality system is to increase the transparency of the operation and production of recycled fertilisers, and the quality system aims to influence the quality of the waste material from the very beginning of the waste generation. A Finnish QAS is a free choice for the companies. The aim is to develop the QAS so that it corresponds to the needs arising from the legislation on fertilisers and waste, both of them being under revision at the moment.

The rules and quality requirements are given in a handbook that is publicly available in the webpage. A product that fulfils the requirements of the QAS can have a Laatulannoite quality label on its packaging. In November 2020, there were eight products by three companies carrying a Laatulannoite-quality label.

The rules are laid down for the development and maintenance principles of the QAS, quality of raw materials, quality of products, sampling & analyses of batches, internal and external audits and quality management principles e.g., self-control plan, follow up of legislation. Product quality requirements relate to the following quality parameters: E. coli, Salmonella, N, NH_4-N, NO_3-N, P, soluble P, K, organic matter, pH, moisture, volume weight, conductivity, maturity of the compost, moisture of the digestate, As, Hg, Cd, Cr, Cu, Pb, Ni, Zn, PAH (16), PCB, PFOS and PFOA, drugs, PBDE, DEHP, dioxines, furans, impurities such as animal matters, seeds of weeds, glass, metal, plastic, bones, stones, common wild oat and parts of plants.

The QAS is currently available for the following products: compost, digestate (dry), reject water (a liquid fraction, mechanically or thermally separated from a digestion residue, having a dry matter content of not more than 15%), concentrated liquid fertiliser preparation (1A1 / 1 Nitrogen fertiliser), dry grain (dry grain or powder), dry powder (dry powder or powder), organic mineral fertiliser of animal origin and compost soil.

The scheme was developed between 2.7.2018 – 29.2.2020. In 2017, three Finnish associations set a common goal to create a national quality assurance system for the recycled nutrient products. Those associations were: The Finnish Association for Biological Waste Treatment, The Finnish Biogas Association and The Finnish Water Utilities Association (FIWA). The project was financed by the Finnish Ministry of Environment, The Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra and nine digesting and/or composting companies (Helsinki Region Environmental Services Authority HSY, Honkajoki Oy, Kekkilä Oy, LABIO Oy, Lakeuden Etappi Oy, Lammin Puutarhamulta, Mustankorkea Oy, Ab Stormossen Oy and Vehkosuon Komposti Oy).

4.2 THE EU ECOLABEL

The EU Ecolabel can be awarded to any growing media, soil improvers and mulch product falling within the scope of Commission Decision (EU) 2015/2099 on growing media, soil improvers and mulch. At the moment there are 12 products of eight producers being awarded the EU Ecolabel: Belgium (2), Denmark (5), Spain (4) and Greece (1).

The criteria are defined in the Commission Decision of 18 November 2015. The criteria are valid until the 30th of June 2022. There is also a separate user manual and a technical background report available for applicants.

The EU Ecolabel lays down criteria for manufacturing, use and end of life phases. The criteria are:

- Product shall be organic and/or mineral constituents
- Energy consumption and CO_2 emissions
- Sources of mineral extraction
- Recycled/ recovered and organic materials in growing media
- Restriction of hazardous substances
- Growing media features (electrical conductivity, pH, sodium content, chloride content),
- Physical contaminants (content of glass, metal, and plastic with mesh size of f > 2 mm in the final product)
- Organic matter and dry matter
- Viable weed seeds and plant propagules
- Plant response
- Stability
- Provision of information
- Information appearing on the EU Ecolabel

More information https://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel/products-groups-and-criteria.html

4.3 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FINNISH ASSOCIATION OF LANDSCAPE INDUSTRIES

The Finnish Association of Landscape Industries is the main organisation dealing with urban and rural landscape management in Finland. The goal of the organisation is to develop and promote different areas in the green industry.

The organisation offers expertise in the field of its operation. One of its tasks is to develop recommendations and guidelines. There are several recommendations and guidelines publicly available on its webpage (www.vyl.fi):

- Guidelines for self-monitoring and process descriptions for the producers of growing media
- Growing media recommendations
    - Recommended granularity curves for growing media + Interpretation guide
    - Recommended nutrient concentrations for growing media
- Model contracts for the supply of peat and peat-based growing media; and
- Guide on the use of recycled soils in landscaping

5 CONCLUSIONS

The main findings of the legal and financial framework review are:

1) The benefits of nutrient recycling have been widely recognised in EU policies. There is a great number of legislative and political initiatives both in the EU and on the national levels that indeed have impact on the use of organic waste, sludge, and by-products in producing and using recycled fertilisers. Many of the initiatives are under revision currently.
2) In Finland and in Latvia the level of understanding and importance of the recycled nutrients varies significantly. This difference can be seen both in legislation as well as in financial instruments that are available in Finland and Latvia.
3) In Finland policy level initiatives have been introduced already since 2010 and implemented to increase nutrient recycling. This has also resulted in the introduction of different support mechanisms and financial instruments.
4) In Latvia there is no specific policy related to the use of recycled nutrients. Several laws and regulations regulate the use of fertilisers, including recycled nutrients fertilisers, and requirements for fertiliser registrations, but on the policy level no commitments have been made to promote the nutrients recycling. Financial instruments have not been introduced to promote nutrient recycling either. The situation may change in the next years as in the National Waste Management Plan 2021-2028 it is pointed out that in biogas production organic waste recycling must be promoted. Increased volumes of biogas production would also lead to higher digestate amounts and it would be necessary to create the market for the digestate. In addition, in the Strategy Towards Climate-Neutrality 2050 it is mentioned that sustainable land management in agriculture has to be ensured.

The report gives the following recommendations for the future work on QAS to be carried out in the context of project Sustainable Biogas:

1) On the EU level, it is recognised that the recycling of nutrients is a particularly important element in order to move towards a circular economy. Different EU initiatives have recently been adopted, for example Farm to Fork, in which sustainable food production is promoted, but the EU initiatives must also be transferred to national level developing policies, introducing changes in the legislation as well as introducing financial instruments which support the policy changes.
2) The legislation is very complex already. The recycled fertilisers are on the interface between chemical, product, and waste legislation, meaning that it can be challenging to apply the existing rules to them as such. Voluntary measures could replace some of the legislation; hence the potential of the quality assurance schemes should be assessed and exploited. In any case, it is essential to strengthen the co-operation between different actors to speed up the market development of recycled fertilisers.
3) It is recommended to position the QAS carefully in relation to current and future legislation. The QAS development work should be done in co-operation with stakeholders.
4) As some EU countries have already introduced policies related to the nutrient recycling and have also created the instruments for the market creation, it is necessary to promote this experience more widely and promote the best practices among stakeholders.
5) It is important to increase the interested parties' understanding about the recycled nutrients and their advantages and impact on the environment.
6) As the market creation for recycled nutrients and fertilisers will involve additional costs, it is necessary to create financial mechanisms to support it, and the legislation must be amended as well. Most importantly, it is necessary to ensure that the created mechanisms

and legislation are clear and relevant, and companies can assess their risks and make necessary investments for market creation.

7) The EU and Member States are currently updating their climate policies according to the European Green Deal. It is important that the role of biogas and nutrient recycling are acknowledged in the future climate policies. The role of biogas/biomethane in transport sector should be strengthened as well.
8) The principles of circular economy challenge the companies and authorities. In order to avoid legislative burdens and barriers, the co-operation between different actors has to be strengthened and a break of the traditional division of roles is needed.

ANNEX 1. LIST OF LEGISLATION (EXISTING & FORTHCOMING)

Government Decree on the Limitation of Certain Emissions from Agriculture	NAME OF THE FILE	LINK	ADOPTED	TIMELINE (ESTIMATED)	GEOGRAP
AGRICULTURE/ ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS	Objectives set by the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP / CAP) for the next financial period (2021-2027) (2018-)	https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/cap-future-2020/		UNDER DEVELOPMENT	EU
AGRICULTURE/ ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS	Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 (Animal by-products Regulation)	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32009R1069	2009	In use	EU
AGRICULTURE/ ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS	Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 of 25 February 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and implementing Council Directive 97/78/EC as regards certain samples and items exempt from veterinary checks at the border under that Directive Text with EEA relevance	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32011R0142	2011	In use	EU
AGRICULTURE/ ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS	Council Directive 91/676/EEC of 12 December 1991 concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A31991L0676	1991	In use	EU
BIOGAS/BIOMETHANE	Sustainable Mobility Strategy communication	https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12438-Sustainable-and-Smart-Mobility-Strategy	2020	2021-2025	EU
BIOGAS/BIOMETHANE	Methane stratetegy	https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/125	2020	IMPLEMENTATION 2020-2023	EU

		04-EU-Methane-Strategy			
BIOGAS/BIOMETHANE	Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (Text with EEA relevance.)	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32018L2001	2018	IMPLEMENTATION 2019-2022	EU
BIOGAS/BIOMETHANE	Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (Text with EEA relevance.)	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32018L2001	2018	IMPLEMENTATION 2019-2022	EU
CHEMICALS	REACH: REGULATION (EC) No 1907/2006 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 18 December 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), establishing a European Chemicals Agency, amending Directive 1999/45/EC and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 793/93 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1488/94 as well as Council Directive 76/769/EEC and Commission Directives 91/155/EEC, 93/67/EEC, 93/105/EC and 2000/21/EC	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FI/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32006R1907	2006	In use	EU
CHEMICALS	CLP: Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures, amending and repealing Directives 67/548/EEC and 1999/45/EC, and amending Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FI/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32006R1907	2008	In use	EU
CHEMICALS	Chemicals – strategy for sustainability (toxic-free EU environment)	https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12264-Chemicals-strategy-for-sustainability-		UNDER DEVELOPMENT(will be finnished in 4Q/2020)	EU
CHEMICALS	The EU's chemicals strategy for sustainability towards a toxic-free environment	https://ec.europa.eu/environment/strategy/chemicals-strategy_fi	2020	IMPLEMENTATION 2020-2024	EU

CIRCULARECONOMY	EU bioeconomy strategy: COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS A sustainable Bioeconomy for Europe: Strengthening the connection between economy, society and the environment	https://ec.europa.eu/research/bioeconomy/index.cfm?pg=policy&lib=strategy	2018	IMPLEMENTATION 2018-2024	EU
CIRCULARECONOMY	EU Circular Economy Action Plan	https://ec.europa.eu/environment/circular-economy/index_en.htm	2020	IMPLEMENTATION 2019-2024	EU
CIRCULARECONOMY	Farm to Fork Strategy – for a fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food system	https://ec.europa.eu/food/farm2fork_en	2020	IMPLEMENTATION 2019-2024	EU
CIRCULARECONOMY	COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS A European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52018DC0028	2018	IMPLEMENTATION 2018-2024	EU
ENERGY & CLIMATE	Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing the framework for achieving climate neutrality and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 (European Climate Law)	https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/eu-climate-action/law_en	2020	UNDER DEVELOPMENT	EU
ENERGY & CLIMATE	EU renewable energy rules – review	https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12553-Revision-of-the-Renewable-Energy-Directive-EU-2018-2001		UNDER EVALUATION 2020-2022	EU
ENVIRONMENT & NATURE	EU Biodiversity strategy for 2030	https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/actions-being-taken-eu/eu-biodiversity-strategy-2030_en	2020	IMPLEMENTATION 2019-2024	EU
ENVIRONMENT & NATURE	Water pollution – EU rules on urban wastewater treatment (update)	https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12405-Revision-of-the-Urban-Wastewater-		UNDER EVALUATION 2020-2022	EU

		Treatment-Directive			
FERTILZERS	Council Directive 86/278/EEC of 12 June 1986 on the protection of the environment, and in particular of the soil, when sewage sludge is used in agriculture	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A31986L0278	1986	IN USE; UNDER DEVELOPMENT	EU
FERTILZERS	Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 October 2003 relating to fertilisers (Text with EEA relevance)	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FI/ALL/?uri=celex:32003R2003	2003	In use	EU
FERTILZERS	Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 2019 laying down rules on the making available on the market of EU fertilising products and amending Regulations (EC) No 1069/2009 and (EC) No 1107/2009 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 (Text with EEA relevance)	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32019R1009	2019	NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION 2019-2023	EU
FERTILZERS	Sewage sludge use in farming – evaluation	https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12328-Evaluation-of-the-Sewage-Sludge-Directive-86-278-EEC-		UNDER EVALUATION 2020-2022	EU
FERTILZERS	Standardisation work related to the EU Fertiliser Regulation (2019)	https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/mandates/index.cfm?fuseaction=search.detail&id=588		IN THE REVISION 2020-2023	EU
FINANCE	EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL AND INVESTMENT FUNDS (MISCELLANEOUS FUNDS)	www.rakennerahastot.fi	2014	In use; In preperation	EU
FINANCE	Other EU FUNDS (eg. NEW INNOVATION FUND)	https://www.businessfinland.fi/en/whats-new/news/2020/innovation-fund-driving-clean-technologies-towards-the-market/	2020	In use	EU
FINANCE	Interreg programs	https://www.rakennerahastot.fi/web/eay/interreg-europe	2014	UNDER DEVELOPMENT	EU
FINANCE	LIFE programme: EUROPEAN UNION FINANCIAL	https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/life		UNDER DEVELOPMENT	EU

	FRAMEWORK FOR THE ENVIRONMENT				
FINANCE	EU SUSTAINABLE FINANCING RATING SYSTEM	https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/banking-and-finance/sustainable-finance/eu-taxonomy-sustainable-activities_en		UNDER DEVELOPMENT	EU
FINANCE	EU RESEARCH FRAMEWORK PROGRAM HORIZONT EUROPE 2021-2027	https://ec.europa.eu/info/horizon-europe-next-research-and-innovation-framework-programme_fi		UNDER DEVELOPMENT	EU
GENERAL	EU soil strategy	https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12634-New-EU-Soil-Strategy-healthy-soil-for-a-healthy-life		UNDER DEVELOPMENT	EU
GENERAL	A European Green Deal - Striving to be the first climate-neutral continent	https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en	2019	IMPLEMENTATION 2019-2024	EU
WASTE	Implementation of the Waste Framework Directive (2018)	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FI/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32018L0851&from=FI	2018	IMPLEMENTATION 2019-2023	EU
AGRICULTURE/ ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS	On the basis of the EU's CAP CAP plan, a national strategic plan is being prepared.	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2020:0459:FIN:fi:PDF	2021	UNDER DEVELOPMENT	FINLAND
AGRICULTURE/ ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS	By-product Act 517/2015	https://finlex.fi/fi/laki/alkup/2015/20150517	2015	In use	FINLAND
AGRICULTURE/ ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS	Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry on animal by-products 783/2015	https://finlex.fi/fi/laki/alkup/2015/20150783?search%5Btype%5D=pika&search%5Bpika%5D=783%2F2015	2015	In use	FINLAND
BIOGAS/BIOMETHANE	National "manure bonus aid" / Biogas nutrient cycle compensation aid	https://www.eduskunta.fi/FI/vaski/JulkaisuMetatieto/Documents/VNT_1+2019.pdf		UNDER DEVELOPMENT	FINLAND

BIOGAS/BIOMETHANE	Investment support for biogas plants and manure treatment	https://www.eduskunta.fi/FI/vaski/JulkaisuMetatieto/Documents/VNT_1+2019.pdf		UNDER DEVELOPMENT	FINLAND
BIOGAS/BIOMETHANE	THE REVISION OF THE NATIONAL TRANSPORT POLICY	https://valtioneuvosto.fi/-/fossiilittoman-liikenteen-tiekartan-valmistelu-etenee		UNDER DEVELOPMENT 2019-2021	FINLAND
BIOGAS/BIOMETHANE	The biogas programme of Finland	https://julkaisut.valtioneuvosto.fi/handle/10024/162032	2020	IMPLEMENTATION 2020-2023	FINLAND
CIRCULARECONOMY	Strategic Programme for the Promotion of the Circular Economy	https://ym.fi/kiertotalousohjelma		UNDER DEVELOPMENT in 2020	FINLAND
CIRCULARECONOMY	Sitra's circular economy map 2.0. implementation	https://www.sitra.fi/hankkeet/kriittinen-siirto-kiertotalouden-tiekartta-2/	2019	IMPLEMENTATION 2019-2024	FINLAND
CIRCULARECONOMY	Implementation of the National Plastic Road Map	https://ym.fi/suomen-muovitiekartta	2018	IMPLEMENTATION 2018-2024	FINLAND
CIRCULARECONOMY	Finland's bioeconomy strategy (2014)	https://mmm.fi/metsat/strategiat-ja-ohjelmat/suomen-biotalousstrategia	2014	IMPLEMENTATION 2014-2020; in the revision in 2020	FINLAND
CIRCULARECONOMY	Leading the cycle: Finnish road map to a circular economy 2016-2025	https://www.sitra.fi/en/publications/leading-cycle/	2016	IN USE	FINLAND
CIRCULARECONOMY	Nutrient recycling action plan for 2019–2030	https://www.ym.fi/download/noname/%7BD7F9043A-0090-4785-B029-9C119B566BDD%7D/146284	2019	IMPLEMENTATION 2014-2030	FINLAND
CIRCULARECONOMY	Leading the cycle: Finnish road map to a circular economy 2016-2025	https://www.sitra.fi/en/articles/leading-cycle-finnish-road-map-circular-economy-2016-2025/	2016	IMPLEMENTATION 2014-2020; in the revision in 2020	FINLAND
ENERGY & CLIMATE	National implementation of the Renewable Energy Directive	https://tem.fi/hankesivu?tunnus=TEM016:00/2019	2019	IMPLEMENTATION 2019-2022	FINLAND
ENERGY & CLIMATE	Climate roadmap of the Finnish agriculture (2020)	https://www.mtk.fi/documents/20143/0/Ilmastotiekartta+-raportti+15072020+%281%29.pdf/bc1197e3-6844-62e3-0259-931da255072b?t=1594791153902	2020	2020	FINLAND

ENERGY & CLIMATE	Draft law on permitting and other administrative procedures for renewable energy production plants	https://www.lausuntopalvelu.fi/FI/Proposal/Participation?proposalId=beb9b288-2f19-4690-8e17-817d9ab4af2a		UNDER DEVELOPMENT 2020	FINLAND
ENVIRONMENT & NATURE	National water supply reform	https://mmm.fi/documents/1410837/20501777/Asettamisp%C3%A4%C3%A4t%C3%B6s%2C+kansallinen+vesihuoltouudistus/e2174c7a-23ad-9206-a458-c0f7ac08e6fc/Asettamisp%C3%A4%C3%A4t%C3%B6s%2C+kansallinen+vesihuoltouudistus.pdf	2020		FINLAND
FERTILZERS	Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry on fertiliser products 24/11 so-called. Fertiliser Decree (2011)	http://www.finlex.fi/data/normit/37638-11024fi.pdf	2011	IN THE REVISION	FINLAND
FERTILZERS	Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry on the operation and control of activities concerning fertiliser products	http://www.finlex.fi/data/normit/39201-12011fi.pdf	2012	IN THE REVISION	FINLAND
FERTILZERS	National list of type designations for fertiliser products (2019)	https://www.ruokavirasto.fi/globalassets/yritykset/lannoiteala/tiedostot/tyyppinimiluettelo_konsolidoitu_22_11_2019.pdf	2019	IN USE; IN THE REVISION 2020-2022	FINLAND
FERTILZERS	Government Decree on the Limitation of Certain Emissions from Agriculture and Horticulture	https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/2014/20141250	2014	IN USE; in the revision 2020-2022	FINLAND
FERTILZERS	Cadmium content of fertilisers, Commission Decision 2006/348 / EC (Finland)	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2006:129:0025:0030:FI:PDF	2006	IN USE	FINLAND
FERTILZERS	Fertiliser Preparation Act	https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/2006/20060539	2006	IN USE; IN THE REVISION 2020-2022	FINLAND
FINANCE	European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development	https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/key-policies/common-agricultural-policy/rural-development_en	2014	In use; In preperation	FINLAND

FINANCE	Rural Development Programme for Mainland Finland 2014–2020	https://mmm.fi/fi/maaseutu/manner-suomen-maaseudun-kehittamisohjelma-2014-2020?p_p_id=com_liferay_journal_content_web_portlet_JournalContentPortlet_INSTANCE_VK1aIPBoN2gn&p_p_lifecycle=0&p_p_state=normal&p_p_mode=view&_com_liferay_journal_content_web_portlet_JournalContentPortlet_INSTANCE_VK1aIPBoN2gn_languageId=en_US	2014	In use; In preperation	FINLAND
FINANCE	Leader-funding	https://mmm.fi/cap27/leader-haku	2014	In use; In preperation	FINLAND
FINANCE	Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment (ELY-keskus)	https://www.ely-keskus.fi/en/web/ely-en		In use	FINLAND
FINANCE	AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT AID	https://www.ruokavirasto.fi/viljelijat/tuet-ja-rahoitus/maataloudeen-investointituet/		In use	FINLAND
FINANCE	RURAL BUSINESS AID	https://www.ruokavirasto.fi/yritykset/tuet/maaseudun-yritystuet/		In use	FINLAND
FINANCE	COVID 19-funding	https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/alkup/2020/20200370	2020	In use	FINLAND
FINANCE	COVID 19-funding	https://finlex.fi/fi/laki/alkup/2020/20200367	2020	In use	FINLAND
FINANCE	BUSINESS FINLAND	https://www.businessfinland.fi/suomalaisille-asiakkaille/palvelut/rahoitus/ohjeet-ehdot-ja-lomakkeet/lainsaadanto/		In use	FINLAND
FINANCE	Energy aid	https://www.businessfinland.fi/en/for-finnish-customers/services/funding/energy-aid/	2017	In use	FINLAND
FINANCE	CO-CREATION	https://www.businessfinland.fi/en/for-finnish-customers/services		In use	FINLAND

		/funding/cooperation-between-companies-and-research-organizations/co-creation/			
FINANCE	CO-INNOVATION	https://www.businessfinland.fi/suomalaisille-asiakkaille/palvelut/rahoitus/yritysten-ja-tutkimusorganisaatioiden-yhteistyo/co-innovation/		In use	FINLAND
FINANCE	State subsidy for circular economy investment and development projects	https://tem.fi/kiertotaloustuki	2020	In use	FINLAND
FINANCE	INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT	https://tem.fi/paatos?decisionId=0900908f806cb7ec	2020	In use	FINLAND
FINANCE	NUTRIENT RECYCLING EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM	https://www.ely-keskus.fi/ravinteiden-kierratyksen-kokeiluohjelma-2020;jsessionid=6B03A7306028F8AED82619E395692B9D?p_p_id=122_INSTANCE_aluevalinta&p_p_lifecycle=0&p_p_state=normal&p_p_mode=view&p_r_p_564233524_resetCur=true&p_r_p_564233524_categoryId=14249	2020	In use	FINLAND
FINANCE	PILOT PROJECT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NUTRIENT RECYCLING, SYBIOSIS, PHOSPHORUS RECOVERY OR A COMBINATION THEREOF	https://ym.fi/-/jaossa-13-miljoonaa-euroa-ravinteiden-kierratysta-ja-jatevesien-kasittelyn-energiatehokkuutta-edistaville-hankkeille	2020	In use	FINLAND
FINANCE	Impact investments / Social Impact Bond	https://tem.fi/vaikuttavuusinvestoiminen		UNDER DEVELOPMENT	FINLAND
GENERAL	Government programme. Participatory and competent Finland - a socially, economically and ecologically sustainable society	https://julkaisut.valtioneuvosto.fi/handle/10024/161931	2019	IMPLEMENTATION 2019-2023	FINLAND
WASTE	National implementation of the waste directives (waste framework directive, packaging and packaging waste directive etc)	https://ym.fi/jatesadospaketti	2020	NATIONAL IMPLEME	FINLAND

				NTATION 2019-2023	
WASTE	National Waste Plan 2023-2030	https://julkaisut.valtioneuvosto.fi/handle/10024/160441		UNDER DEVELOPMENT	FINLAND
WASTE	National Waste Plan 2018-2023	https://julkaisut.valtioneuvosto.fi/handle/10024/160441	2018	IN THE IMPLEMENTATION; IN THE REVISION 2020	FINLAND
WASTE	Waste Act 646/2011 (2011)	https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/2011/20110646	2011	IN USE; IN THE REVISION 2019-2020	FINLAND
WASTE	Government Decree on Waste 179/2012 (2012)	https://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/2012/20120179	2012	IN USE; IN THE REVISION 2019-2020	FINLAND
AGRICULTURE/ ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS	Rural Development Programme 2014-2020	https://www.zm.gov.lv/public/files/CMS_Static_Page_Doc/00/00/01/81/03/Programme_2014LV06RDNP001_9_0_lv.pdf	2015	IN IMPLEMENTATION	LATVIA
AGRICULTURE/ ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS	Requirements Regarding the Protection of Water, Soil and Air from Pollution Caused by Agricultural Activity, No. 834	https://likumi.lv/ta/id/271376-prasibas-udens-augsnes-un-gaisa-aizsardzibai-no-lauksaimnieciskas-darbibas-izraisita-piesarnojuma	2014	In use	LATVIA
AGRICULTURE/ ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS	Veterinary Medicine Law	https://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=20436	2001	In use	LATVIA
AGRICULTURE/ ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS	Requirements for the movement of animal by - products and derived products not intended for human consumption, No. 274	https://likumi.lv/ta/id/246783-prasibas-tadu-dzivnieku-izcelsmes-blakusproduktu-un-atvasinatu-produktu-apritei-kas-nav-paredzeti-cilveku-paterinam	2012	In use	LATVIA
BIOGAS/BIOMETHANE	Transition of biogas cogeneration plants from mandatory purchase of electricity to biomethane production for transport	https://www.em.gov.lv/lv/Ministrija/sabiedribas_lidzdaliba/diskusiju_dokumenti/		UNDER DEVELOPMENT. First draft to public consultation was delivered	LATVIA

				on 08.10.2020	
BIOGAS/BIOMETHANE	Transport Development Strategy 2021-2027	https://www.sam.gov.lv/lv/sabiedriska-apspriesana-transporta-attistibas-pamatnostadnu-2021-2027gadam-projekts-un-strategiskas-ietekmes-uz-vidi-novertejuma-vides-parskata-projekts/tap-2021-2027_pirma-redakcija.pdf		UNDER DEVELOPMENT. First draft to public consultantion was delivered on September 2020.	LATVIA
BIOGAS/BIOMETHANE	Transport Energy Law	https://www.em.gov.lv/lv/Ministrija/sabiedribas_lidzdaliba/diskusiju_dokumenti/		UNDER DEVELOPMENT. First draft to public consultantion was delivered on September 2020.	LATVIA
BIOGAS/BIOMETHANE	Biofuel Law	https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/104828-biofuel-law	2005	IN USE till the adoption of new Transport energy law	LATVIA
BIOGAS/BIOMETHANE	Alternative Fuels Development Plan 2017-2020	http://polsis.mk.gov.lv/documents/5893	2017	IN IMPLEMENTATION	LATVIA
CIRCULARECONOMY	Action plan for transition to a circular economy	http://polsis.mk.gov.lv/documents/6832	2020	IMPLEMENTATION FROM 2021	LATVIA
ENVIRONMENT & NATURE	Environmental Protection Law	https://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=147917	2006		LATVIA
ENVIRONMENT & NATURE	Strategy towards Climate-Neutrality 2050	http://polsis.mk.gov.lv/documents/6641	2020	IN IMPLEMENTATON	LATVIA
ENVIRONMENT & NATURE	Water Management Law	https://likumi.lv/ta/id/66885-udens-apsaimniekosanas-likums	2002	In use	LATVIA

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE	Regulations Regarding Utilisation, Monitoring and Control of Sewage Sludge and the Compost thereof, No. 362	https://likumi.lv/ta/id/134653-noteikumi-par-notekudenu-dunu-un-to-komposta-izmantosanu-monitoringu-un-kontroli	2006	In use	LATVIA
FERTILZERS	Law on Circulation of Fertilisers	https://likumi.lv/ta/id/127660-meslosanas-lidzeklu-aprites-likums	2006	In use	LATVIA
FERTILZERS	Regulations Regarding the Identification, Quality Conformity Assessment and Sale of Fertilisers and Substrates, No. 506	https://likumi.lv/ta/id/276480-meslosanas-lidzeklu-un-substratu-identifikacijas-kvalitates-atbilstibas-novertesanas-un-tirdzniecibas-noteikumi	2015	In use	LATVIA
FERTILZERS	Procedures for Monitoring and Control of Fertilisers with "EC Fertiliser" Marking, No 76	https://likumi.lv/ta/id/187139-aprites-uzraudzibas-un-kontroles-kartiba-meslosanas-lidzekliem-ar-markejumu-ek-meslosanas-lidzeklis	2009	In use	LATVIA
FINANCE	State aid for agriculture and rural development	https://likumi.lv/ta/id/263434-noteikumi-par-valsts-atbalstu-lauksaimniecibai	2020	In use	LATVIA
FINANCE	Investments in assets for agriculture and forestry	http://m.likumi.lv/doc.php?id=269868	2014-2020	In use	LATVIA
FINANCE	LEADER programme	http://www.lad.gov.lv/lv/atbalsta-veidi/projekti-un-investicijas/atbalsta-pasakumi/atbalsts-leader-vietejai-attistibai-un-sabiedribas-virzitas-vietejas-attistibas-startegiju-istenosana-(strategijas)-192	2014-2020	In use	LATVIA

FINANCE	Support for young farmers for entrepreneurship development	https://likumi.lv/ta/id/275042-valsts-un-eiropas-savienibas-atbalsta-pieskirsanas-kartiba-pasakuma-lauku-saimniecibu-un-uznemejdarbibas-attistiba	2014-2020	In use	LATVIA
FINANCE	Support for European Innovation Partnership Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability projects	https://likumi.lv/ta/id/290651-valsts-un-eiropas-savienibas-atbalsta-pieskirsanas-kartiba-16-pasakuma-sadarbiba-16-1-apakspasakumam-atbalsts-eiropas	2014-2020	In use	LATVIA
FINANCE	Support for business start-up through the development of small farms	https://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=274938	2014-2020	In use	LATVIA
FINANCE	Promotion to reuse, recycle and recovery different types of waste	https://www.varam.gov.lv/lv/521-veicinat-dazada-veida-atkritumu-atkartotu-izmantosanu-parstradi-un-regeneraciju	2014-2020	In use	LATVIA
FINANCE	Promote the efficient use of energy resources, the reduction of energy consumption and the transition to RES in the manufacturing sector	https://cfla.gov.lv/lv/es-fondi-2014-2020/izsludinatas-atlases/4-1-1-k-3	2014-2020	In use	LATVIA
FINANCE	Biodegradable waste recycling facilities establishment	https://cfla.gov.lv/lv/es-fondi-2014-2020/izsludinatas-atlases/5-2-1-2-k-3-u-2	2014-2020	In use	LATVIA
FINANCE	Develop environmentally friendly public transport infrastructure (buses)	https://cfla.gov.lv/lv/es-fondi-2014-2020/izsludinatas-atlases/4-5-1-2	2014-2020	In use	LATVIA
FINANCE	Promote energy efficiency and the use of RES in local district heating	https://cfla.gov.lv/lv/es-fondi-2014-2020/izsludinatas-atlases/4-3-1-k-2	2014-2020	In use	LATVIA
FINANCE	Promotion of waste recovery	https://cfla.gov.lv/lv/es-fondi-2014-2020/izsludinatas-atlases/5-2-1-3	2014-2020	In use	LATVIA
FINANCE	Promoting green innovation business opportunities in cooperation with Norwegian enterprises	https://www.liaa.gov.lv/lv/programmas/norvegijas-	2014-2021	In use	LATVIA

		finansu-instruments			
WASTE	Waste management national plan 2021-2028	https://www.varam.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/atkritumu-apsaimniekosanas-valsts-plans-2021-2028gadam-1-un-2-nodala		UNDER DEVELOPMENT	LATVIA
WASTE	Waste Management Law	https://likumi.lv/ta/id/221378-atkritumu-apsaimniekosanas-likums	2010	In use	LATVIA
WASTE	Waste management national plan 2013 – 2020	http://polsis.mk.gov.lv/documents/4276	2013	IN IMPLEMENTATION till 31.12.2020.	LATVIA
WASTE	Regulations Regarding Separate Waste Collection, Preparation for Re-use, Recycling and Material Recovery, No. 184	https://likumi.lv/ta/id/256092-noteikumi-par-atkritumu-dalitu-savaksanu-sagatavosanu-atkartotai-izmantosanai-parstradi-un-materialu-regeneraciju	2013	In use	LATVIA
WASTE	Regulations Regarding Waste Recovery and Disposal Types, No. 319	https://likumi.lv/ta/id/229378-noteikumi-par-atkritumu-regeneracijas-un-apglabasanas-veidiem	2011	In use	LATVIA
WASTE	Procedure by Which Polluting Activities of Category A, B and C Shall Be Declared and Permits for the Performance of Category A and B Polluting Activities Shall Be Issued, No. 1082	https://likumi.lv/ta/id/222147-kartiba-kada-piesakamas-a-b-un-c-kategorijas-piesarnojosas-darbibas-un-izsniedzamas-atlaujas-a-un-b-kategorijas-piesarnojoso-da…	2010	In use	LATVIA

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