

**Template for the submission of
examples of good practices with regard to air pollution
related policies, strategies and measures**

Background

1. The Executive Body, at its thirty-sixth session, adopted decision 2016/3 on Improving the effectiveness of reporting on strategies, policies and other measures to implement obligations under the Convention and its Protocols. This decision stipulates that *“the period for reporting the information referred to in article 5, paragraph 1 (a), of the 1994 Protocol on Further Reductions of Sulphur Emissions, article 7, paragraph 1 (a), of the Protocol on Heavy Metals, article 9, paragraph 1 (a), of the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants and article 7, paragraph 1 (a), of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol) is at least once every four years”*. As per this decision, the Executive Body also *“invites States and organizations referred to in article 14, paragraph 1, of the Convention that are not Parties to these four Protocols to provide information on strategies, policies and measures to abate air pollution at the sessions of the Working Group on Strategies and Review.”*

2. The enclosed template has been developed to facilitate the submission by Parties of examples of and good practices with regard to different regulatory, voluntary, economic and other measures relating to air pollution in advance of WGSR’s sixtieth session. The templates with information filled in should be sent to the secretariat at air_meetings@un.org by **11 March 2022**.

3. Delegations are invited to submit to the secretariat case studies/examples which could be of interest to other countries. A summary of submitted information will be made at the Working Group’s session. Parties that had not shared such information during the recent years are particularly invited to do so. An overview of the previous reporting at WGSR sessions since 2013 is available on the Convention website:

<https://unece.org/strategies-and-policies-abatement-air-pollution>

4. Examples could comprise, among others, economic measures such as financial incentives or disincentives (such as taxes, subsidies, set prices or caps/ceilings, payments, rebates), voluntary measures (such as voluntary agreements, programmes or contracts), regulatory or legislative measures or other measures (such as educational or informational measures). They can include policies, strategies and measures emanating from different sectors with positive effects on air pollution abatement (such as acts/laws on sustainable transport, sustainable agriculture/farming, energy, green building, biodiversity conservation and enhancement). A more detailed description of the implementation of your chosen policy, strategy or measure and related challenges and problems as well as solutions would be more useful than the presentation of many different examples. Furthermore, your examples could also be useful to other Parties even if they have not been successful by indicating why this was the case. You are thus also invited to submit experiences that cover such items as:

- a) A measure that was less effective than you anticipated and why;
- b) A measure that was actually more effective than you predicted;
- c) A measure that had particular implementation challenges – what were they and how did you address them;
- d) A measure that was either less expensive or more expensive than you had estimated. What caused the increased or decreased costs?
- e) Goals that were set and were met by innovative strategies.

Template to facilitate the submission of examples/good practices of strategies, policies and measures employed to implement obligations under any of the protocols to the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution

<p>Country:</p> <p>Finland</p>	<p>Pollutant(s): <i>Please indicate the pollutant(s), emissions of which are being controlled</i></p> <p>NH₃</p>
<p>Protocol(s): <i>Please indicate the name of the protocol(s) to the Convention, obligations under which are being fulfilled</i></p> <p>The Gothenburg protocol</p>	<p>Sector: <i>Please indicate the sector (e.g. agriculture, industry, urban planning, environment, etc.), or sectors (if several) for which the strategy, policy or measure has been mainly designed</i></p> <p>Agriculture</p>
<p>Type of strategy, policy or measure and the level of implementation: <i>Please identify the type of strategy, policy or measure – economic e.g. incentive or disincentive (taxes, funds, subsidies, prices or caps/ceilings, payments, rebates, etc); voluntary (agreements, programmes, contracts), regulatory (legislation), or other measures (educational, informational, other) Please state at which level (municipal, regional, sub-national, national) the policy, strategy or measure is targeted or implemented</i></p> <p>Action Plan to Reduce Ammonia Emissions from Agriculture in Finland for the years 2021–2027, published in October 2021.</p>	<p>Method used for the current analysis: <i>Please identify the method used for collecting information and the analysis made</i></p> <p>The updated ammonia action plan has been prepared based on multiple methods, most notably on technical analysis of the agriculture sector, available financial instruments, application of the Best Available Techniques (BAT) and emission inventory methods.</p>
<p>What is the main objective of the strategy, policy or measure? When has it been implemented/or will be implemented? <i>Please describe briefly what the measure attempts to achieve or what has been the result of its implementation. Please also describe since when it is being employed or for when its implementation is foreseen. Please explain whether implementation is/was immediate or gradual. [150 words max]</i></p> <p>Finland adopted the first action plan to reduce ammonia emissions in 1994 and has updated the plan regularly after that. The current updated action plan covers years 2021-2017 and it follows the previous action plan covering actions for years 2018-2020.</p> <p>The objective of the action plans is to reduce ammonia emissions to air and to meet the commitments of Finland in the international and EU legislation.</p>	
<p>Background and driving forces: <i>Please explain briefly why this strategy, policy or measure was implemented; mention the driving forces for its introduction e.g. policy development, legislation (EU, national), action plans, voluntary, incentive, or other [150 words max]</i></p>	

The main drivers for the action plan are the emission reduction commitments of Finland in international (the Gothenburg Protocol) and EU (National Emissions Ceilings Directive) legislation together other legal commitments, such as the Nitrates Directive.

Description of the strategy, policy or measure:

Please explain briefly how the strategy, policy or measure works and why it has been chosen compared to other policies/measures. Please also explain how its implementation is being monitored. [200 words max]

The action plan for 2021-2027 consists of eleven interlinked measures:

- Promoting the inclusion of provisions to reduce ammonia emissions in environmental permits and notification decisions.
- Updating the report *Paras käytettävissä oleva tekniikka kotieläintaloudessa* (“Best available technology in livestock farming in Finland”; Mikkola et al. 2002).
- Continuing with the support for application by means of injection as part of the agricultural support scheme in 2021–2027. Preparation of the CAP strategy plan for 2023–2027 is ongoing.
- Continuing the granting of investment aid to cover manure storages, cooling of manure channels and acquire manure treatment equipment, as well as to implement other investments that will reduce emissions.
- Promoting research on new manure storage cover materials. Investigating the practical performance of the new cover materials that have performed well in studies.
- Continuing to support the balanced use of nutrients in 2021 and 2022. Preparation of the CAP strategy plan for 2023–2027 is ongoing.
- Handling through advice the importance of reducing excessive protein feeding to reduce ammonia emissions, as well as the optimal processing, storage and application of manure and organic fertiliser products, and the manner in which the nutrients in manure must be considered when fertilising plants. In investment-related advice, emphasising the significance of the covering of manure storages and the injecting of slurry in the reduction of ammonia emissions.
- Continuing with the animal welfare payment scheme in 2021 and 2022. Preparation of the CAP strategy plan for 2023–2027 is ongoing.
- Continuing with the studies on the suitability of various acids, the application techniques and the effects on the ammonia emissions from manure under the Finnish conditions.
- Promoting the implementation of measures in the environmental protection guide for fur farms.
- Providing more advice on air pollution control in fur production. The provided advice emphasises the means of reducing ammonia emissions during the processing and storage of manure.

Costs, Funding and Revenue allocation:

Please state how much the implementation of the measure costs including its monitoring and how it is funded (national budget, industry, taxes, etc.) If the measure is creating revenue, please also explain how this revenue is being allocated and collected. [200 words max]

Implementation of the action plan is funded most notably by the operators, CAP funding and national budget.

The agricultural thematic group of the National Air Pollution Control Programme 2030 annually monitors the achievement of measures of the Action Plan. Both agricultural and environmental authorities annually monitor the achievement of the emission reduction targets. Farms committed to

the environmental payment measure on the injection of slurry into the soil, must annually report to the agricultural authority the amount of manure they have applied using the injection method.

The ex-post evaluation of the Rural Development Programme 2014–2020 will assess how much the measures included in the programme reduced ammonia emissions (a sample study). The evaluation will take place in 2025–2026. Implementation of the projects included in the programme will continue until the end of 2022. The planning and scheduling of evaluations for the new CAP period that will start in 2023 is currently ongoing.

Effect and impacts on air pollution abatement:

Please explain briefly the effect of the policy, strategy or measure and how it has impacted the abatement of air pollution. If impacts are known, please quantify, if possible. Please highlight also other effects of the implementation of the measure e.g. with regard to compliance, the acceptance of the measure or its transposition (e.g. from a voluntary to a regulatory or another type of measure). [150 words max]

Based on the projections, the measures presented in the action plan could reduce ammonia emissions from agriculture by approximately 3 kt between 2019 and 2027.

References/Further information: *Please provide most relevant sources for information such as references for web links, books, other resources.*

The action plan can be downloaded at: <https://julkaisut.valtioneuvosto.fi/handle/10024/163564> (in English)

Contact: *Please insert your contact details below.*

Name: Mr. Jaakko Kuisma

Country: Finland

Organization: Ministry of the Environment

Address: P.O. Box 35, 00023 Government, Finland

Telephone: +358 50 394 8763

Email: jaakko.kuisma@gov.fi

Additional comments: *Please include any additional information you may wish to provide here.*