

## MINUTES

EPNB-20, Dessau, May 3, 2023

- Participants: Filip Moldan, Xia (Emma) Liang, Kevin Hicks, Ika Djukic, Wilfried Winiwarter, Markus Geupel
- On-line participants: Audric Vigier, Bill Bealey, Ulli Dragosits, Natalia Kozlova, Johanna Stadmark, Sara Jütterström
- Participants without interaction: Sergej Lukin, Pascal Vizy
- Co-chairs Markus and Wilfried, session chaired by Wilfried
- Presentations and files are accessible [here](#) with the EPNB-folder (pw: TFRN-17Dessau)

### National activities: Austria

Report by *Ika* (with slides) on the technical completion of the Austrian nitrogen budget. Feedback on experiences has been provided to the EPNB chairs. Detailed evaluation and interpretation of results still missing, also the format of publishing is yet to be decided.

### Tour de table (informal, including news from individual countries)

*Kevin* reports on INMS activity on flux assessment, complementary to N budgets. He is keen on doing a Budget on England or (together with Ulli) on the UK.

*Emma* is working on NNBs for Australia, work is also being started on Laos. She is using the CHANS approach together with Baojing Gu. She is interested to follow up on EPNB on a regular basis (wishes to stay on the mailing list). While these countries clearly are outside the UNECE domain, collaboration may be well regarded by (and should be reported to) TFICAP, the Task Force for International Cooperation on Air Pollution.

Sweden (*Filip*) has been building a NNB by investigating pool by pool in small individual projects. With the waste pool already under contract, the NNB will eventually be completed in the near future. For forests and semi-natural areas, a common project of the Nordic countries (involving FI, DK, SE and NO) has been completed and is presented in TFRN plenary.

Germany (*Markus*) is setting up the next budgeting project, extending the current series of 4 NNBs with a fifth one.

*Ulli* reminds the EPNB on the completed activities for Scotland already presented last year. Results are currently being worked up towards a scientific publication. The Scottish government, according to the Scottish climate law, is obliged to annually update the budget and currently is working on it.

*Natalia* continues working on farm indicators / farm budget and is still very much interested also in ecological and policy indicators

*Johanna* and *Sara* both contribute to the work of Filip regarding the Swedish NNB.

*Audric* introduces himself briefly, announcing his presentation later.

### Information from related projects and activities

- INMAP (*Markus* on behalf of *Bruna Grizzetti*): The European Commission announced that it will develop with Member States an integrated nutrient management action plan (INMAP). A public consultation process was held, the results of which are expected to be published in the second quarter of 2023.
- INMS guidance document on NNBs (*Wilfried* also on behalf of *Kentaro Hayashi*): Meant for a global audience, with priority to developing countries, very different user requirements have to be adopted – with the EPNB approach for countries striving for consistency and intercomparability, the CHANS approach for internal time series, and a generic approach based on global model data where no further information exists.
- Progress on NNBs in Japan (*Wilfried*): A 3-year project on “Integrated nitrogen management for national nitrogen waste reduction” under the lead of *Kazuya Nishina* just started, likewise a 5-year project “Sustai-N-able” by *Kentaro Hayashi*. While having a strong national focus, at least the second one will have regional impacts and will allow colleagues to further contribute to NNB discussions. To be added to TFICAP as international contribution.
- Consideration of nutrient impacts on marine life (among other impacts) and their maximum permissible inputs are being investigated under the EMERGE project, providing a new aspect on N budgets. *Wilfried* reports on the status and the aims of EMERGE, financed as a H2020 project under FMI coordination. Some results will be presented at the Joint TAP and S&E Conference, September 25-28, 2023, in Gothenburg

New UBA-project: *Markus* reports on the new activity of the German UBA to fund work on the Review and revision of the Guidance Document, addition of the Annex “Waste” and development of a reporting template. Following a public call and an evaluation procedure, the contract now has been awarded to INFRAS. This project will allow to finalize the set of annexes and to ultimately complete the Guidance Document and develop a reporting template. Originally meant to be completed by mid-2024, already now, due to health reason of an important expert at INFRAS, a delay to the end of 2024 has been envisaged. Nevertheless, the tasks and the outcomes of the project are an important part of the EPNB/TFRN part of the WGSR-workplan for the years 24/25.

All EPNB members wish the INFRAS expert a speedy and complete recovery. In his role as external advisor to the project, *Wilfried* fully supports the approach taken, but also points out that the contract has been closed with INFRAS, and that INFRAS needs to prioritize the work plan of the expert accordingly once she is able to return to work.

NNB Visualization tool: *Audric* presents recent CEH developments on the tool funded under INMS, especially regarding data inputs and outputs, and also provides the csv file (with detailed specifications) to establish data input and output. A procedure on data handling is being developed. Data providers could use the existing uploading file to provide their respective NNB in. This needs to be explicitly covered in the UBA project still. Data also needs quality checking and evaluation, which can not be handled by CEH (currently by EPNB, eventually taken up into a routine process by an appropriate institution), and stored in a database – an initial agreement on this has been made with CEIP, who could store in a database, with data transfer implemented between CEIP and CEH such that the visualization, while publicly available, would be operated by CEH. Requests regarding further graphical evaluation (specifically on temporal trends and benchmarking between countries) still can be directed to CEH.

EPNB Workplan: The following workplan for 2024/25 has been established and forwarded to the TFRN for adoption by the WGSR and EB:

- Revision and publication of UNECE Guidance Document on Nitrogen Budgets (available at: end 2024; deliverable: Report; funding: Germany, UBA-Project)
- Extended Summary for Policy Makers based on the revised Guidance Document (available at: 2025; deliverable: Glossy Brochure (appr. 10-20 pages); funding required)
- Policy Brief based on the revised Guidance Document and the extended summary for policy makers to engage with parallel activities e.g. CAP, INMAP, CBD, UNEP (available at: 2025; deliverable: policy brief (max. 5 pages); funding required)
- Call for Data to the Parties, encouraging them to make use of the EPNB reporting-template on national nitrogen budgets (to be launched: 2025; deliverable to be in the next WP period: Report; responsible: EPNB)

Markus Geupel and Wilfried Winiwarter, May 4, 2023