

## EPNB-Newsletter, April 2021

### Review of the Gothenburg Protocol

Currently one focus of the work of the convention lies on the review of the protocol and its objectives (partly set for 2020). A workplan for the review process can be found [here](#).

A TFRN meeting dedicated to this process was held 19 March 2021.

With respect to Question 6.4 in the [review's workplan](#) on Guidance Documents, EPNB is asked to prepare a brief review document answering the questions

- a) why it is useful to do national nitrogen budgeting, and
- b) what were the main barriers in national application since its implementation in the last revision of the GP 2012?

**Please send us a brief feedback on the questions a) and b) preferably until the end of April.**

In addition EPNB should take advantage to review the Guidance Document on National Nitrogen Budgets and its annexes until Summer 2022.

### Guidance document on national nitrogen budgets

#### Annex Waste and consistency checks

The [Guidance document](#) currently consists of a general overview (Annex 0) and [7 additional Annexes](#). The work on the Waste Annex still has to be finalized and is missing. Also we committed ourselves to check internal consistency of the annexes. Voluntary contribution as author and/or reviewer would be very much appreciated. Please come back to the Co-Chairs, if you have capacities or if you know colleagues and/or students, etc. being able to support our work.

#### Reporting of national budgets (template, data platform)

The development of a data template which allows a structured application of the Guidance document and a structured storage of data for international comparison of national budgets is an important step to get National Nitrogen Budgets operational. Also with regard to this task contribution and ideas are welcome. Please approach the Co-Chairs, if you have ideas and/or capacities.

### Nitrogen Footprints

The nitrogen footprint calculator is a tool to calculate nitrogen emissions related to a certain entity. Such an entity may be a consumer, an institution (e.g., college, university), an event, a meal, or a country. A nitrogen footprint result can be used for education, tracking over time, and setting a reduction goal. The consumer-level country nitrogen footprint calculator ([calc.nprint.org](http://calc.nprint.org)) is currently only available for the US, but it is being expanded to incorporate additional countries (e.g., Denmark, Ukraine, Brazil, Portugal, Germany, Japan, Australia, Austria, Netherlands, UK). The new version will be released at a virtual nitrogen footprint workshop in spring or summer 2021. Institutional nitrogen footprints can be calculated using SIMAP ([unhsimap.org](http://unhsimap.org)), which is a web-based tool that integrates the carbon and nitrogen footprint. A closer exchange between the EPNB-community with nitrogen-footprint-community is currently under preparation for our next meeting. Please contact Allison Leach ([Allison.Leach@unh.edu](mailto:Allison.Leach@unh.edu)) with any questions.

### 8th Global Nitrogen Conference (INI2021)

The organizers of the 8th Global Nitrogen Conference at the German Environment Agency had to decide not to stage the INI conference as a face-to-face event in Berlin, due to the Covid-19-crisis. Instead this

will be held as an online conference. We are happy to announce the Virtual INI2021 will take place from 31 May to 3 June 2021. There is no registration fee to participate. An interesting mix of live online talks and discussions as well as digital on-demand talks and posters is currently being prepared. Registration for "Virtual INI2021" just opened under <https://ini2021.com/register/>. Further information regarding the program can be found under <https://ini2021.com/program/>.

## Publications

### Scientific publications

In the following we are happy to provide a brief list of some relevant new publications. Please approach us, if you would like to highlight any other publication or report. A longer collection of relevant bibliography you can find on the EPNB Webpage under <http://www.clrtap-tfrn.org/biblio>.

- [Sustainability | Free Full-Text | A National Nitrogen Target for Germany](#)
- [Reactive nitrogen flows in Germany 2010-2014 \(DESTINO Report 2\) | Umweltbundesamt](#)

### Report on National Nitrogen Budgets?

At the next meeting of EPNB we would like to discuss with you, the possibilities to work jointly on a short illustrated report or a brochure on National Nitrogen Budgets. With such a publication format in addition to scientific publications or the technical Guidance document the community of policy makers and environmental administration throughout the convention and abroad could be addressed.

### National Nitrogen Budgets in the INMS project

EPNB work provides important input to the globally organized [INMS project](#) ("Towards an Integrated Nitrogen Management System"). The UNECE NNB Guidance Document and its annexes serve as one important input to the suggested approach in creating national N budgets also for countries outside Europe. As, however, in many world regions the level of availability of statistical data does not match European standards, in parallel a model-based approach is developed. INMS here uses the Coupled Human and Nature Systems model (CHANS, [Gu et al., 2015](#)) that has been successfully applied and adapted for China, Japan and Australia. Comparing the two approaches using data from a single country is a worthwhile endeavor still to be undertaken.

### Next Meeting

A next meeting of the EPNB is currently under preparation. Please note the days 5 and 6 October 2021 in your calendars. Currently we hope for a hybrid meeting. That would allow an in-person part to take place in Dessau, Germany, at the German Environment Agency. In parallel, a technical fix for remote participation will be provided.