St Petersburg adds to the pollution in the region, are also of municipal and agricultural waste, which low energy efficiency, poor management algal growth.

a green marine environment full of noxious has changed from a clear water sea into survive. Since the 1900s the Baltic Sea dead zones in which living organisms cannot treated wastewater and agricultural waste shallow waters.

sensitive to environmental degradation

The Baltic and Barents Seas are especially for NDEP?

What are the challenges to raise funds for priority environmental investments.

donor governments and international financial institutions NDEP promotes co-operation between Russia, the EC, submarine reactor cores remains.

removed but a legacy of nine Alfa class storage conditions. At Gremikha on the fuel assemblies are kept in inappropriate Andreeva Bay contains by far the largest from other vessels.

However, substantial legacy issues remain storage at Sayda Bay in the Kola Peninsula. The legacy nuclear submarines have nuclear fuel and radioactive waste generated by the Russian Northern Fleet have resulted in large areas of dangerous environmental hazards in the area around the White and Barents sea. The NDEP Strategic Master Plan: and projected the five most important projects required to resolve the environmental challenges.

The legacy nuclear submarines have now been largely dealt with, their spent nuclear fuel (SNF) has been removed, the submarines dismantled and the reactor compartment sealed for safe interim storage at facilities in the Kola Peninsula. The legacy legacy includes several reactors at coastal technical bases Andreeva Bay and Darssel which supported the submarine operations, where large quantities of SNF and radioactive waste are stored in poor condition. These are also now receiving ongoing with significant challenges regarding their safe handling and dismantling, these huge operating costs. The Russian Northern Fleet is working to support ships containing SNF discharged from other reactors. Andreeva Bay contains by far the largest nuclear inventory, approximately 22,000 fuel assemblies are kept in inappropriate storage conditions. Although the Kola Peninsula, some of the SNF has been removed from a reactor in the K-11 class submarine reactor core removed.

Environmental Benefits of NDEP projects

Once implemented, the current portfolio of NDEP projects will deliver the following pollution reductions to the Baltic and Barents Sea when in tonnes per annum (t/a).

- Phosphorous by 2.200 t/a (HELCOM target for Russia is 2.500 t/a and for Belarus 1.710 t/a)
- Nitrogen by 1.200 t/a (HELCOM target for Russia is 0.670 t/a and for Belarus 2.705 t/a)
- Chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) by 34,600 t/a
- COD by 51,600 t/a

To achieve similar nutrient reductions in any of the Nordic countries, the investment cost would be three to five times higher.

The Northern Dimension Environmental Partnership (NDEP) is a result-focused partnership responding to calls for concerted action to tackle the most pressing environmental problems in the Northern Dimension Area, including the risks caused by radioactive waste.

Who started NDEP?
The concept of NDEP was formulated during the Presidency of the European Union in 2001. A Steering Group comprising the international financial institutions (IFI) active in the region, the European Commission and Russia was set up to propose a strategy and project pipeline to address the ecological problems in the areas around the White Sea, the Barents Sea, the Barents and the Northern dimension of the Baltic Sea. The concern was the nuclear legacy of the Russian Northern Fleet, as well as poor wastewater treatment, lack of energy efficiency and solid waste management in the north-west of Russia, including Kaliningrad.

The work of NDEP was further encouraged in November 2004 when the European Union, Russia, Iceland and Norway signed a declaration for a permanent NDEP Commission policy. The ND partners consider NDEP a very effective model for continuing financing for environmental investment.

What is the purpose of NDEP?
For environmental projects, NDEP grants are intended to complement the own funding from the applicants to leverage extra local investments for environmental projects that may not otherwise be financially viable. For nuclear projects, NDEP grants are designed to fairly cover the investment costs. Nuclear projects are developed in close cooperation with the Russian authorities and Russian and international experts.

How does NDEP work?
The Assembly of Contributors is the main governing body of NDEP responsible for the overall NDEP programme. It convenes annually and takes decisions on grant allocations from the NDEP Support Fund. The Steering Group is the driving force behind the development of environmental projects. It is made up of the IFIs: the European Investment Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the World Bank, the Nordic Environment Finance Corporation (NEFCO), the World Bank, the European Commission and Russia are also members of the Group.

The Nuclear Operating Committee serves the same function regarding the nuclear project pipeline. The NDEP Support Fund, managed by the EBRD, has so far received contributions from the European Commission and 12 donor governments, including Russia and Belarus. At the end of 2023, the NDEP Support Fund will be phased out and replaced by a new support fund managed by NEFCO for the nuclear window and €430 million for environmental projects.

10 years of successful cooperation for a cleaner and safer environment in northern Europe.
NDEP is helping to achieve HELCOM targets for the Baltic Sea

NDEP investments in Kaliningrad

An official ceremony attended by the Russian President, the Finnish Minister for the Environment, and the governors from Kaliningrad and the Republic of Lithuania has marked the start of works on the €104.8 million Rehabilitation project. Once completed, the rehabilitation project in Kaliningrad will help to achieve full compliance with the EU standards and will treat 150,000 cubic metres of wastewater per year.

NDEP investments in Kaliningrad will result in phosphorous reduction of 4.6 tonnes per year.

Attracting half of the territory of Russia inside the Baltic Sea basin area, Kaliningrad is of the utmost importance to the sustainable development of the Baltic Sea.

NDEP projects in Kaliningrad will result in phosphorous reduction of 2.3 tonnes per year.

NDEP investments in Kaliningrad will result in phosphorous reduction of 4.6 tonnes per year.

NDEP environmental projects

The renewable energy project in Murmansk exemplifies a typical structure of an NDEP Rehabilitation project, totalling €110 million, of which €54 million is a Russian grant and €56 million is loaned by NEFCO via the EBRD. The project is supported by a Strategic Environmental Assessment. The Russian authorities have adopted the NDEP strategy on how to achieve their national NDEP targets - in the north-west Russia.

The full list of NDEP projects is available on the HELCOM website.

NDEP support fund in 2011:

In the run-up to the NDEP projects, the HELCOM Secretariat has prepared a database of Russian projects and made a selection of projects that, in its opinion, are worth NDEP co-financing.

NDEP nuclear projects

The NDEP Strategic Master Plan (SMP) is a comprehensive nuclear legacy decommissioning programme that sets forth the NDEP strategy, the activities to be undertaken and the milestones to reach in order to achieve the objectives of the 2009 Resolution. The SMP identifies the priority regions to be targeted and the major priority projects.

At the end of 2010, 23 priority projects, covering over €1.5 billion in investments, have been included in the NDEP work programme. Once implemented, the projects will make substantial environmental improvements benefiting both Russian Federation and neighbouring states with significant cross border impacts on neighbouring areas.

NDEP nuclear projects include:

- The Northwestern Waste Treatment Plant in St Petersburg, substantially reducing the overall load into the Gulf of Finland from the Baltic Sea.
- The Northern Baltic Food Protection Barrier, to prevent the seaward migration of resident fatty fish.
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Other NDEP projects in progress

Baltic and North Municipal Water/Wastewater Services

Objective: Upgrading water and wastewater facilities to reduce direct discharges to the Baltic Sea and related benefits

Local cost: €36 million

Total cost: €116 million

State cost: €40 million

Lead IFI: EBRD

Other NDEP projects in progress

NDEP Support Fund in 2011

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