



## Nutrients from sludge important resource

What to do with the sludge from wastewater treatment plants was debated during the conference *Sludge and Wastewater Treatment for the Future*, in Klaipeda in May. The moderator, Lars Gunnarsson, stated that already twenty years ago they discussed the same problem.

The three countries represented in the Euroslam project have different ways of taking care of the sludge. In both Lithuania and Poland composting is a popular method. In Poland, however, most of the sludge is incinerated at specific incineration plants. In Sweden producing biogas is popular and also spreading the sludge on farmlands,

In all countries new legislation means new methods have to be introduced. In Lithuania you are, from this year, forbidden to store sludge at the wastewater treatment plants. This opens possibilities for the production of biogas, especially since Lithuania doesn't have neither gas nor oil.

In Sweden the big issue today is how to utilize more nutrients on the farmland and decrease the spreading of toxics on the farmland.

All panel participants agreed on that the nutrients in the sludge are important resources. Gunnar Thelin pointed out that if the wastewater treatment plants had as a task to reuse nutrients and got paid for every kilogram taken out of the system, things would happen. With legislation or other incentives it would be interesting to recycle the nutrients in the sludge.

There were different opinions about spreading sludge on farmland. Olga Anne stated that she was not very enthusiastic about it.

The conference is being followed up by a conference in Gdansk, Poland, September 23-24th and a study visit in Sweden later during the autumn.

You can find all documentation, such as program, presentations and summaries, from the Klaipeda conference at <http://euroslam.eu>.

<http://www.anpdm.com/pdf/13786990/414251407046445D457740445F4271>

[Conference program, presentation and summaries>>](#)