



WATER POLLUTION MANAGEMENT POLICY FROM SOURCE-TO-SEA

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Outline

1. The water quality challenge
2. The economic case for policy action
3. Emerging policy solutions
4. A framework for diffuse pollution management
5. A role for central government



The water quality challenge is global

Point source pollution

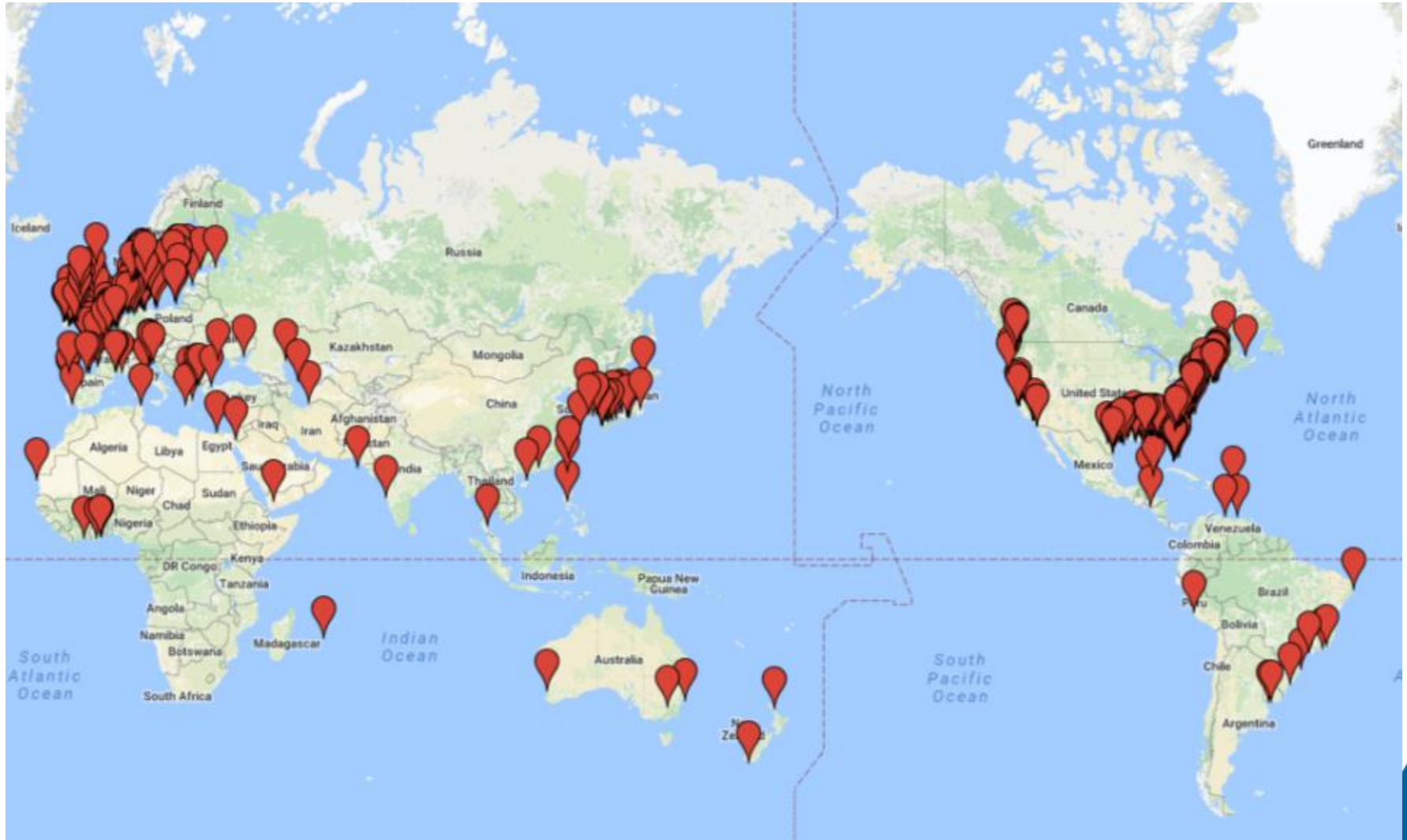


Diffuse source pollution





Ocean dead zones



Source: University of Pennsylvania and GoogleMaps (2008)

Tampa Bay Times 1 July 2016

Toxic algae bloom crisis hits Florida, drives away tourists





Framework to manage diffuse pollution

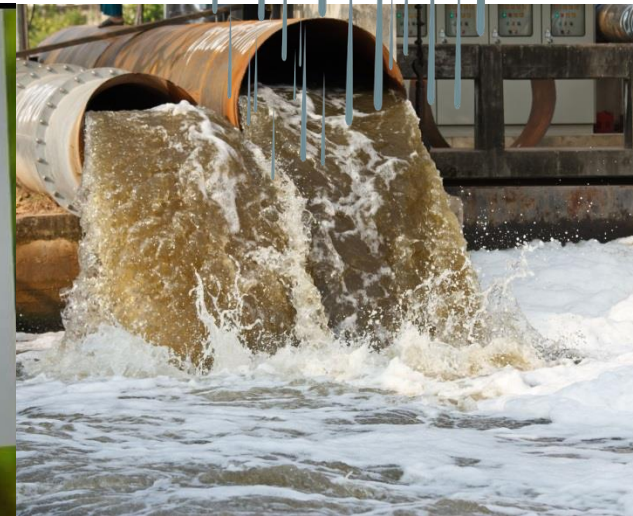
Options to manage the risks

1. Manage land use practices and inputs as proxies
2. Reward or penalise land managers collectively within a catchment for changes in water quality
3. Manage estimated diffuse pollution emissions from individual polluters





Policy instruments to manage water pollution





Emerging policy solutions

- Pesticide taxes, Norway
- Pollution taxes on livestock, France
- Payment for Ecosystems Services, England
- Point-diffuse water quality trading, Chesapeake Bay, USA
- Nutrient limits based on natural capital of the soil, Manawatu-Wanganui, New Zealand





Framework to manage diffuse pollution

Guiding principles

- Pollution prevention
- Polluter Pays
- Equity
- Treatment at source
- Beneficiary Pays
- Policy coherence

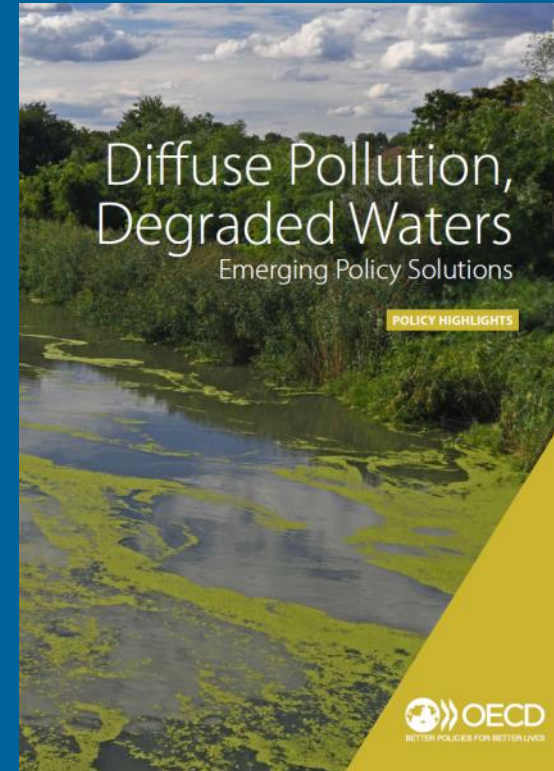




Role for Central Government

- Over-arching national policy guidance
- Enforced minimum water quality standards
- Space for stakeholder and community engagement
- Notice of policy changes and implementation options
- Economic efficiency, including space for innovation





Thank you

www.oecd.org/water

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