

Volunteer spring monitoring – what we learned during the first year?



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TALLINN UNIVERSITY



WaterAct

Joint actions for more efficient management
of common groundwater resources



Interreg
Estonia-Latvia
European Regional Development Fund



EUROPEAN UNION

SPRING OBSERVATIONS DATABASE

Let's map the springs together!

Why volunteer monitoring of springs?

The purpose of mapping the spring locations and assessing water quality is to help scientists and governmental institutions to collect new information. The data obtained this way helps to manage and protect springs. Without your contribution, this would not be possible!

AVOTU NOVĒROJUMU DATU BĀZE

Pētīsim avotus kopā!

Kāpēc brīvprātīgais avotu monitorings?

Avotu kartēšanas un ūdens kvalitātes novērtēšanas mērķis ir palīdzēt zinātniekiem un valsts institūcijām iegūt jaunu informāciju. Šādā veidā iegūtie dati palīdz pārvaldīt un aizsargāt avotus. Bez Jūsu ieguldījuma tas nebūtu iespējams!

SPRINGS

AVOTI

<https://allikad.info/>
<https://avoti.info/>

- allikad.info/avoti.info is browser based map application for finding, describing, observing and measuring of the springs.
- Support for the 5 language – English, Estonian, Latvian, Russian and French.
- All springs from government databases are already there. Users can check the correctness of information, upload pictures and make observations (describe, measure etc).
- Users can add new springs and information.
- New and revised spring will end up in governmental databases.



The screenshot shows a topographic map of a rural area in Estonia. A blue pin marks the location of a spring. The map includes contour lines, roads, and place names like 'Toroskimägi', 'Jugu', 'Jaanimägi', and 'Ristemägi'. On the left, there's a sidebar with buttons for 'Featured springs', 'Newest springs', 'Newest observations', and 'Newest analysis'. Below the map are two small thumbnail images of spring scenes. At the bottom, there are navigation icons.

The screenshot shows a map of a rural area in Latvia. A blue pin marks the location of a spring. The map includes roads, place names like 'Bille', 'Amatas', 'Dzelzceļa', and 'Liepāja', and elevation contours. At the top, there's a header with the text 'AVOTU NOVĒROJUMI UN DATUBĀZE' and buttons for 'Pārlūkot avotus', 'Avota nosauk', 'Klasifikā', and 'MEKLĒT'. Below the map, there's a footer with the text 'Leaflet | Karšu izdevniecība Jāņa sēta © 2017 – 2021'.

- <https://allikad.info/>
<https://avoti.info/>
- ➊ Different maps for Estonia (Landborad) and Latvia (Jāņa sētas).
 - ➋ In Estonia it is possible to use Orthophoto and Relief shaded map.
 - ➌ When adding new spring, all location information (coordinates, country, local municipality) will come automatically from map.
 - ➍ At first all springs will have status „Submitted“ („Kinnitamata“/„Iesniegts“) and will get status „Confirmed“ („Kinnitatud“/„Apstiprināts“) only after rechecking by other users or administrator.



General principles of the allikad.info / avoti.info

1. Without user account you can see springs, add information and observations.
2. If you want to add springs or observations you have to register. [Register](#) [Login](#)
3. After the logging in you see buttons [Create new spring](#) and [Add new observation](#).
4. Both new springs and observations can be saved as draft for editing or be submitted. [SAVE AS DRAFT](#) [SUBMIT](#)
5. After adding new spring it will go the editor dashboard for checking it over.
6. Under the button [Leave Feedback](#) you can leave feedback – suggest corrections of the location or other information.





Interreg
Estonia-Latvia
European Regional Development Fund



Spring monitoring manual for volunteers

Authors: J. Terasmaa, M. Vainu, O. Koit,
K. Sisask, P. Abrelaal, L. Puusepp

Web application:
allikad.info



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Download the spring
monitoring manual for
volunteers!



Lejupielādēt avotu
monitoringa rokasgrāmatu!

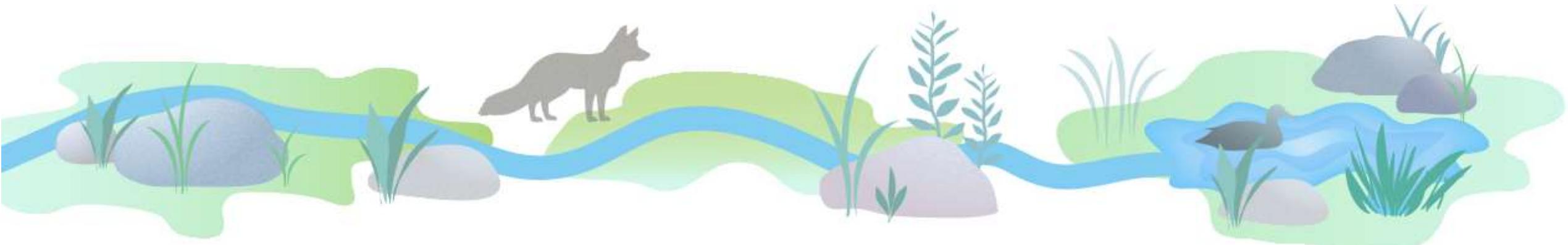


Lae alla allikate
vabatahtliku seire juhend!





Why?



WP3 AT3.2 - Establishment of voluntary spring monitoring

- **Spring voluntary monitoring** will be introduced to general public as the overall awareness of groundwater protection is low.
- **Easy to understand guide how to carry out voluntary spring monitoring** will be developed.
- **Web application** will be developed by TU to gather the data online.
- Best cost-effective measures **how to carry out spring monitoring by non-experts** and **how to engage public** will be tested.



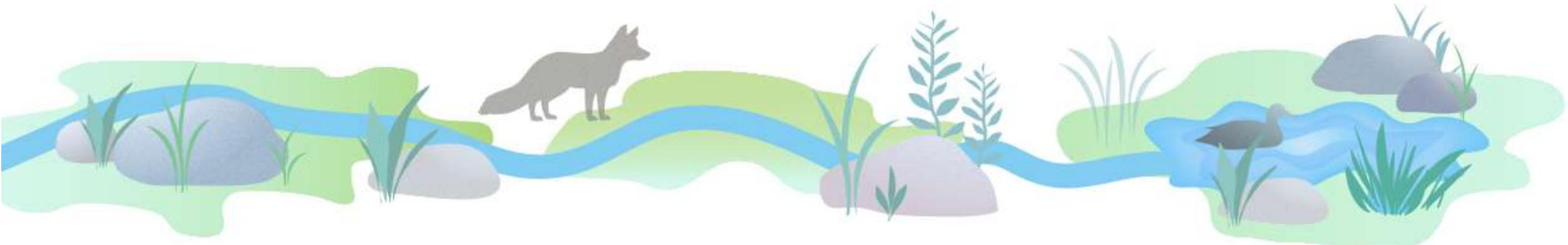
Why spring monitoring?

Advantages for springs being included into national groundwater monitoring networks:

- there are no installation or maintenance costs
- sampling does not require time consuming water pumping compared to wells and boreholes.

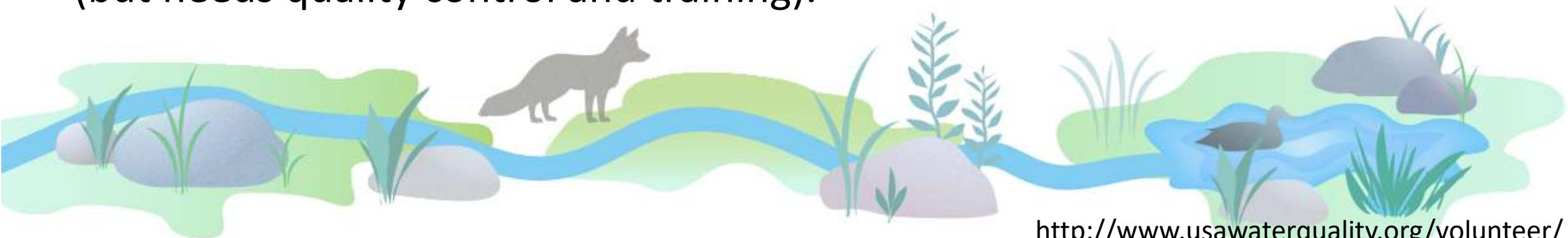
Obstacles to use springs as representative monitoring points:

- Water quality can be seasonally changing, thus they need to be screened at least four times a year to identify appropriate sampling frequency



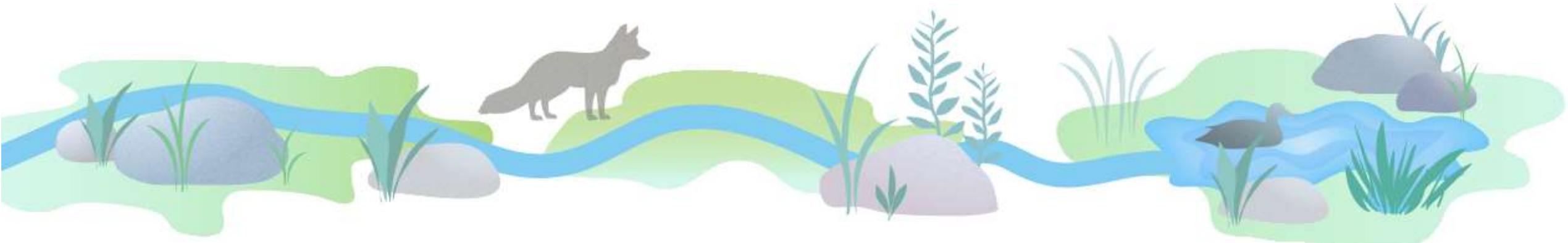
Why citizen science (volunteer monitoring)?

- **Increases the awareness** of and interest in local water quality issues.
- **Helps to educate** - through monitoring, volunteers learn how the quality of water is affected by our actions and how we can protect water resources.
- Volunteer water quality monitoring is a **great tool for youth environmental education**.
- Obtains **long-term data or new data** on waterbodies that otherwise may go unmonitored.
- Water quality data collection by volunteers is **time and cost efficient**.
- **Research shows, that volunteer water quality monitoring data is credible** (but needs quality control and training).

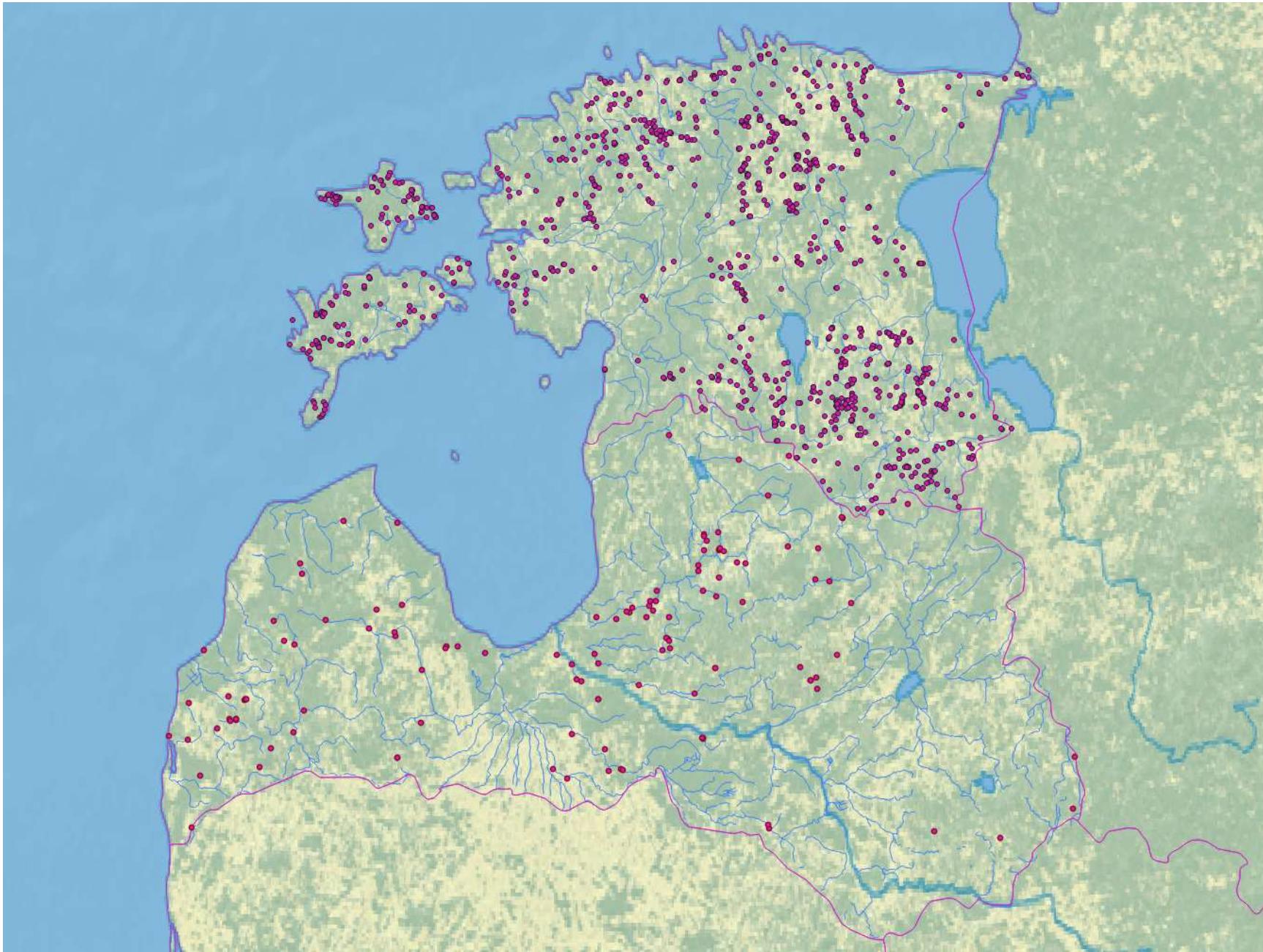




Starting point

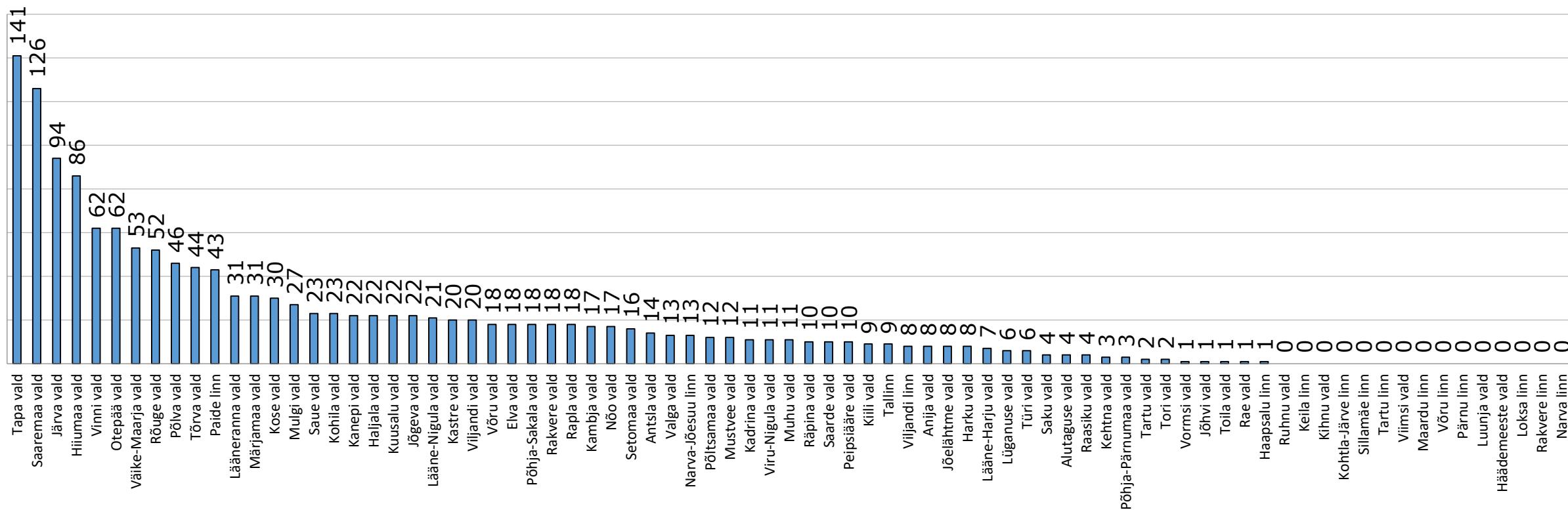
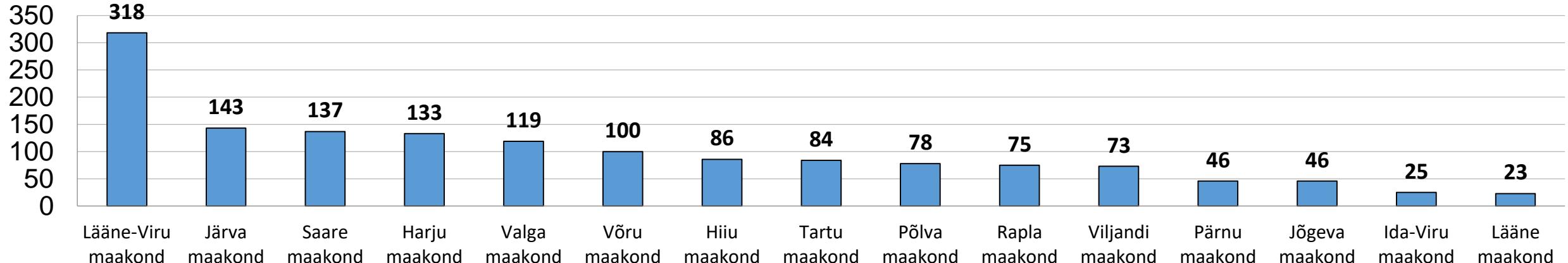


Initial database – 1486 springs from Estonia, 123 springs from Latvia





Distribution of Estonian springs (n=1486) by municipalities





Outcome and dissemination



 Results so far (as of 07.04.2022)

<https://allikad.info/>

Users: 193

Springs: 2107(498 new springs!)

Observations: 883

Photos: 2297

- + Five schools from Koiva are joined
- + GLOBE network
- + At least three school project about local springs
- + Several student thesis will focus on springs

-  In november we gave to the Land-Board 217 new spring locations, 48 locations corrections and 10 spring locations which are not springs.
-  04.12.2021 8 springs were already corrected and 2 new one added.



Dissemination

- Spring semester 2021: TLU student project „Päästame Eesti allikad!“
- Autumn semester 2021. TLU student project „Päästame Eesti allikad v2.0“
- Discussions and meetings: Land-Board, Environmental Agency, Committee of Natural Sanctuaries, Globe, schools etc
- Articles in local newspapers, novaator.ee, journal „Eesti Loodus“, etc
- Radio interviews: Raadio4, Kuku, Raadio Kadi, Raadio Elmar, Vikerraadio.
- Facebooki grupp “Allikainfo”:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/allikainfo> (606 members)
- Facebook group “Kaardistame üheskoos allikad”:
<https://www.facebook.com/allikad.info> (650 followers)
- Instagram “know.your.water”:
<https://www.instagram.com/know.your.water/> (182 followers)
- Youtube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCT28j3eISSLrJPpm_uANG-g





Allikainfo

Private group · 557 members



Joined + Invite

About Discussion Topics Members Events Media Guides



Lisa augustis allikad.info andmebaasi vähemalt kolme allika kohta uus vaatus ja osale allikasõbra T-särgi loeisis!

Iga täiendav allikas annab Üheno Üsahüüle loosikastist! Kompanii loosikat 11.08.-21.08.2021

OSALEMINE ON VÄGA LIHTNE:

- Registreeru allikad.info lehel. Otsi kaardit külastamiseks sobiraid allikaid.
- Mine allikale ja toosta vaatus - piisab sellest, kui kirjeldad allikat ja teed pilti.
- Lisa vaatus allikad.info andmebaasi ja jagu seda Allikainfo Facebooki grupsis teistega.

[Litu allikasopradega ja võida T-särg!](#)

Allikad.info loogikasid Facebooki jaoks saanud ressursid

KAARDISTAME ÜHESKOOS ALLIKAD!

Vaata vereilehte **allikad.info**

Kaardistame üheskoos allikad

@allikad.info · Science website

Home Videos Photos About More ... Edit Follow

ABOUT

GENERAL

- 523 people like this
- 589 people follow this
- Science website · Community
- Enter location

#tuleminugaallikale

allikad.info

THURS, 2 DEC

Tule minuga allikale

50 went · 242 interested

Set Up Live Video

260 People reached 63 Engagements

Boost a post

know.your.water

83 posts · 172 followers · 224 following

Kaardistame üheskoos allikad

Vesi on kogu elu aluseks Maailma suurim teadus- ja infotänav. Sellel on kaardistamine üheskoos allikad.info

Followed by: artiklis, m.ülesannus, and areyli

2.detsembr... #tuleminugaallikale allikad.info

2.detsembril kell 13.00 Facebook LIVE

#tuleminugaallikale allikad.info

Posts · Reels · Videos · Tags

Who visits us?

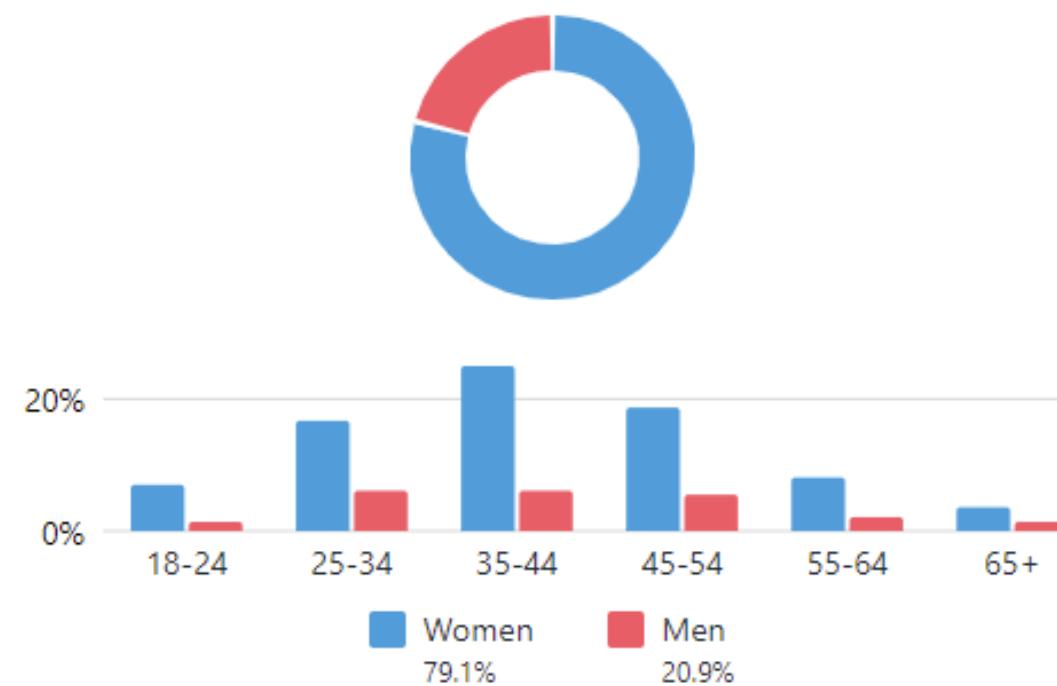
Facebook Page likes ⓘ

568

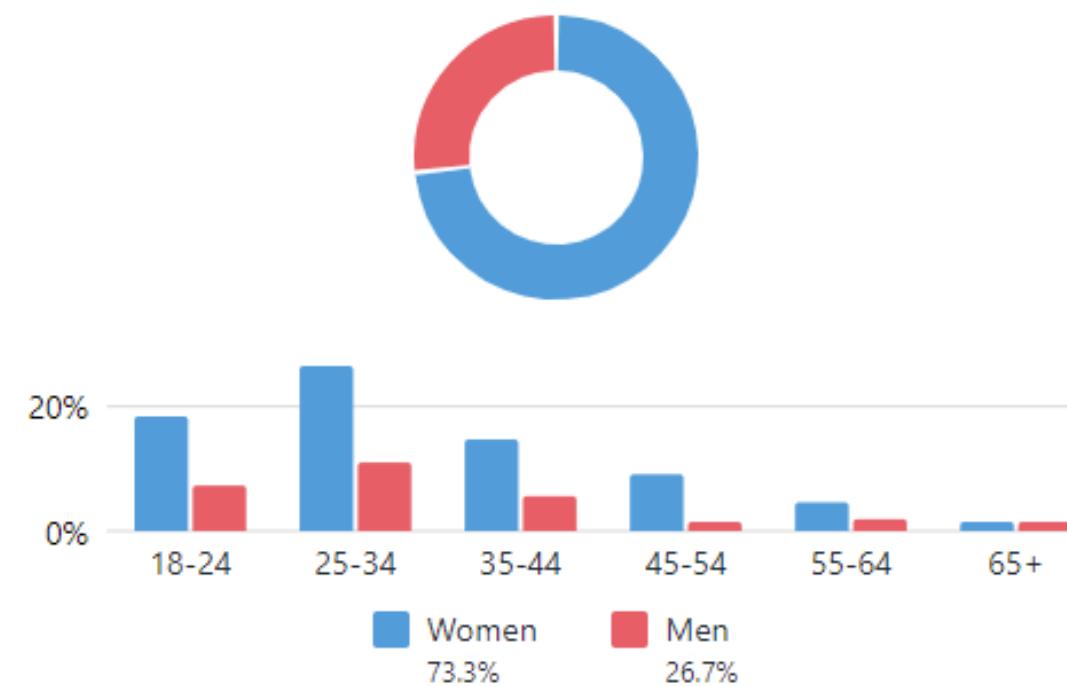
Instagram followers ⓘ

182

Age & gender ⓘ

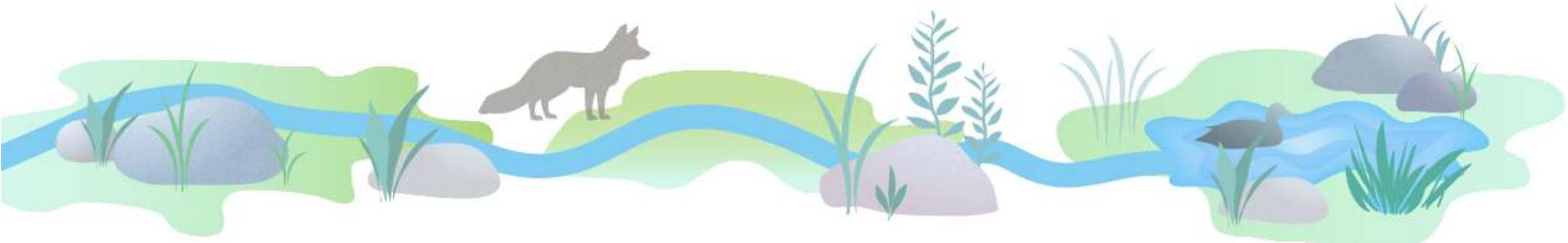


Age & gender ⓘ





Fieldworks





Meeting with schools



 Fieldworks in Koiva – water sampling



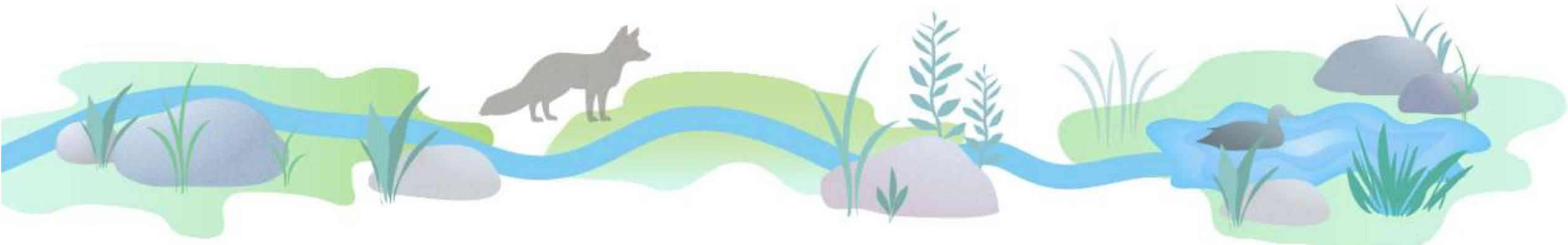
Fieldworks in Koiva – discharge measurements



 Fieldworks in Koiva – lunchbreak

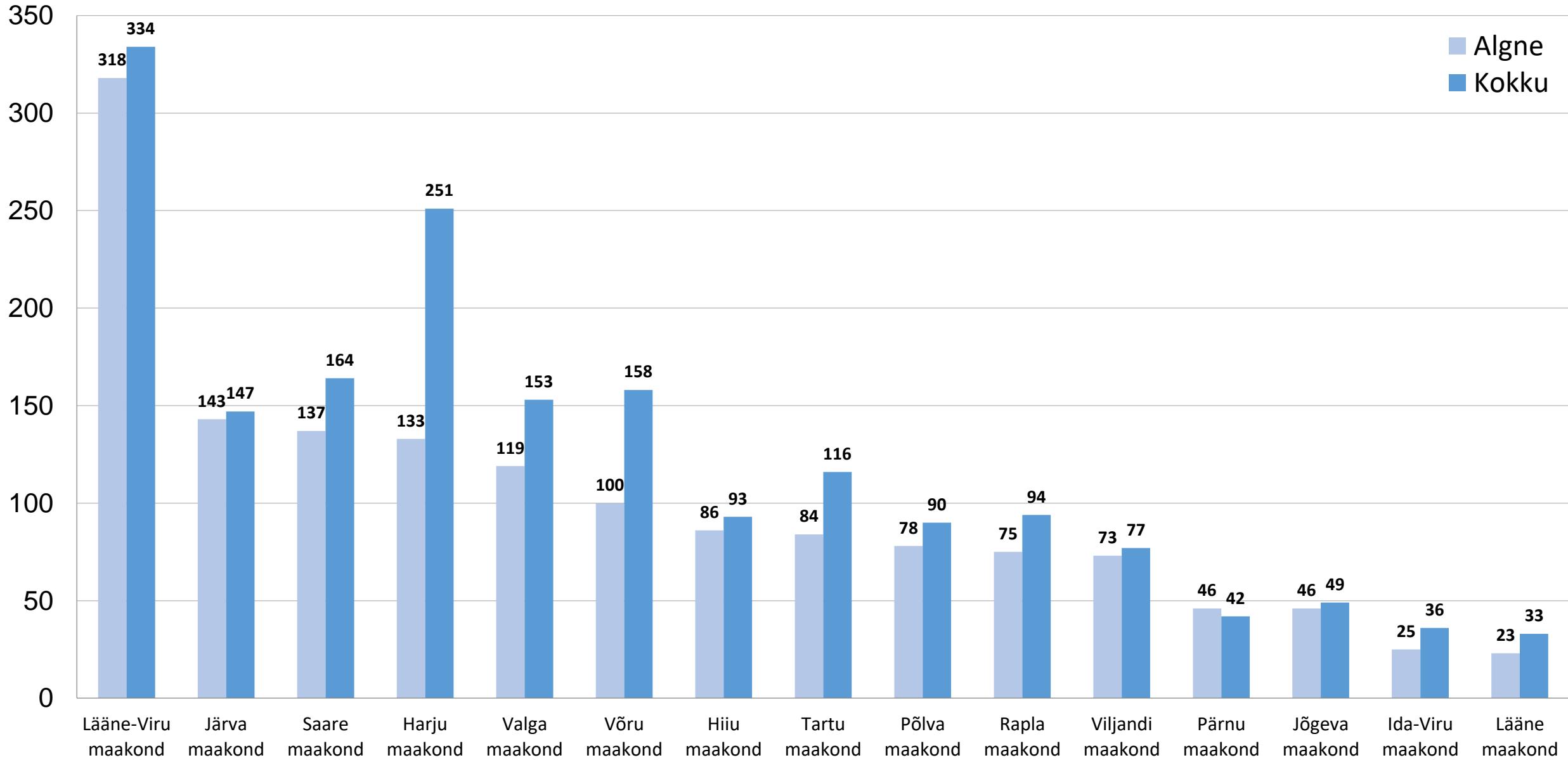


Results

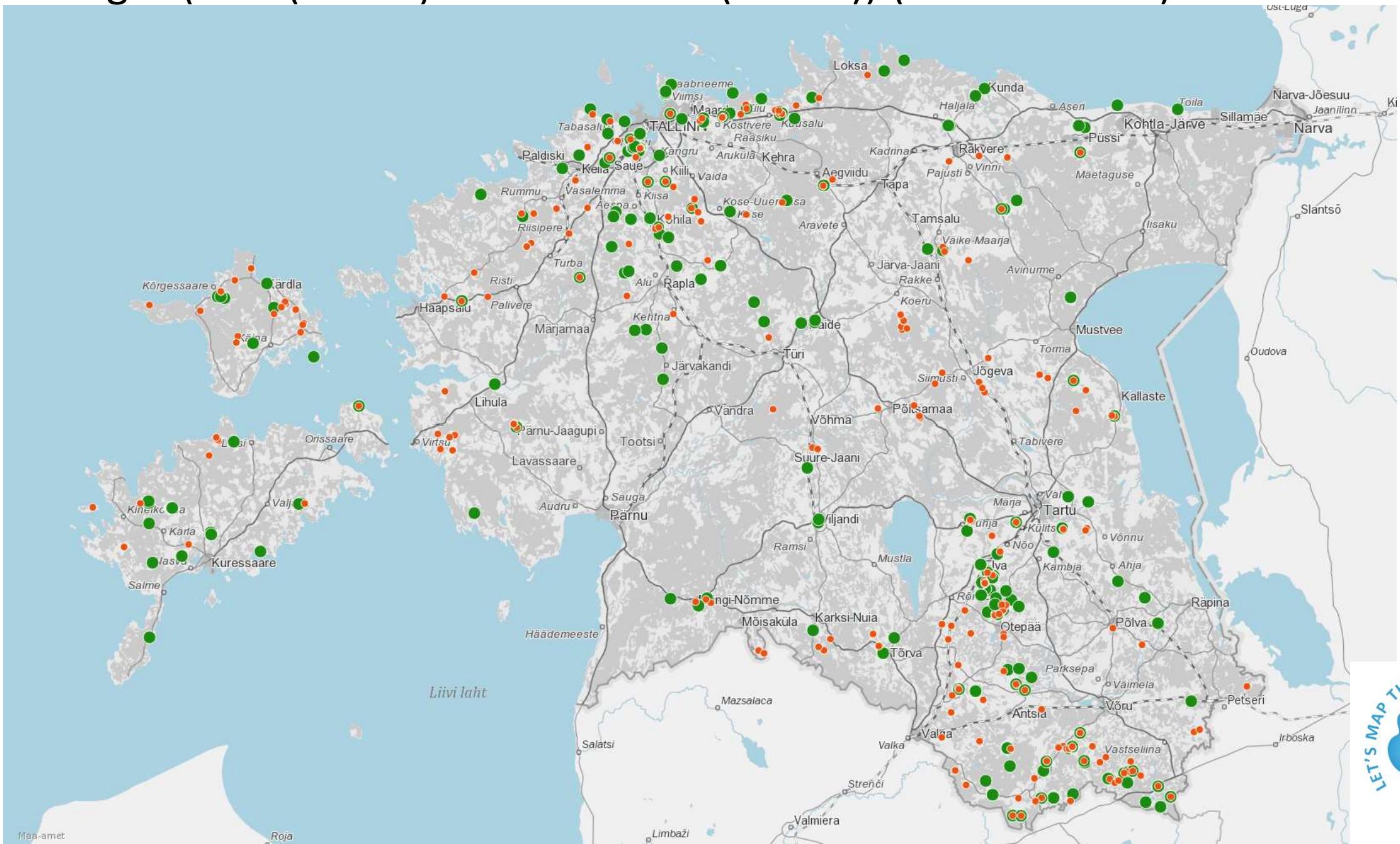




Changes in the Estonian database (n=1486 -> n=1837) (as of 11.2021)

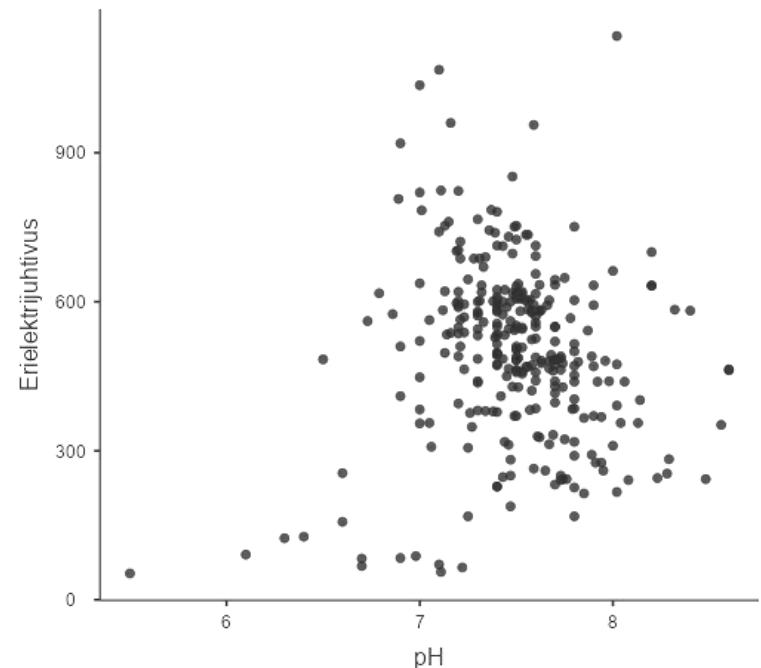
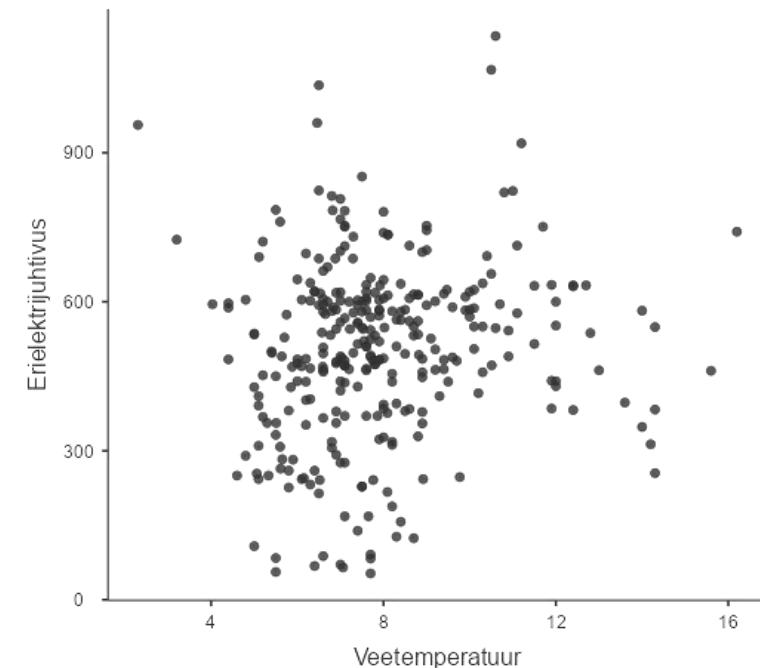
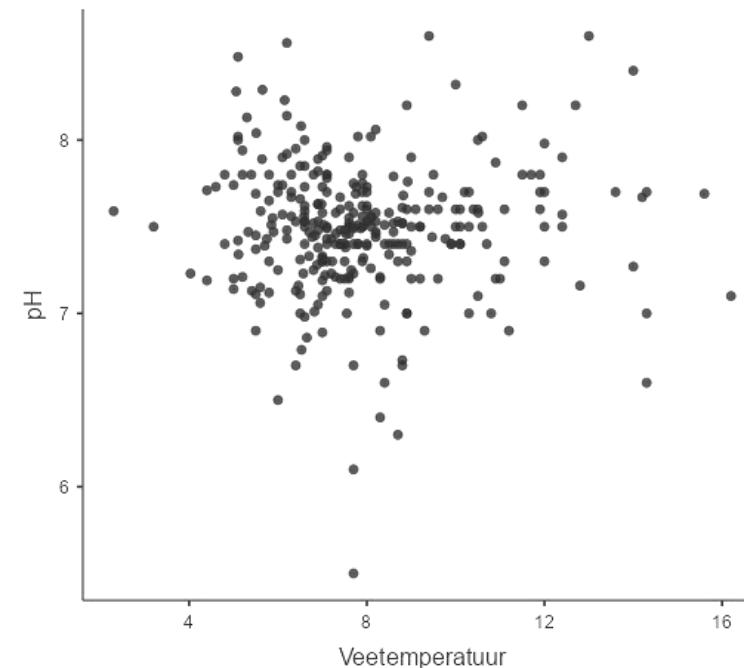


Changes (new (n=351) and corrected (n=265)) (as of 11.2021)

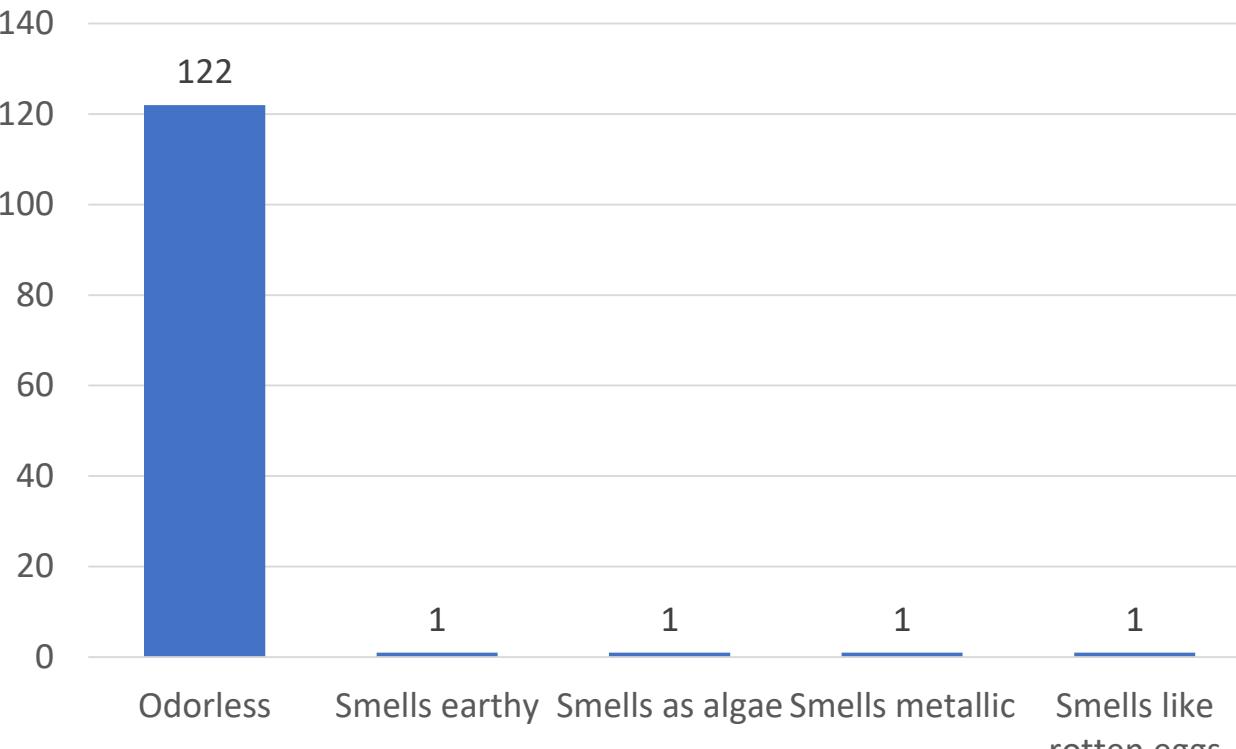
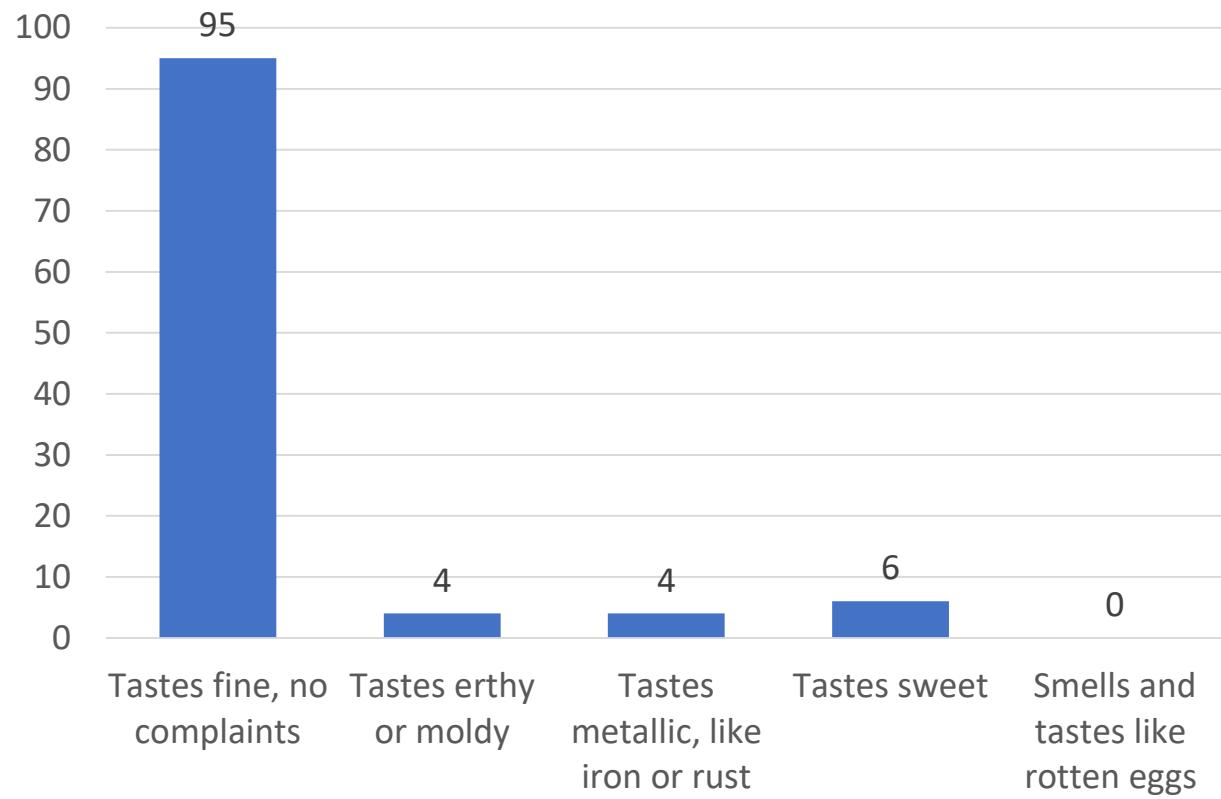


Observations (11.2021)

	Water temp. (C)	Air temp. (C)	pH	SEC	TDS	NO3	HCO3	Redox pot.	O2 (%)	O2 (ppm)	V (l/s)
Mean	7.7	11.6	7.5	503.4	297.8	4.8	286.6	143.2	44.4	5.8	2.13
Standard Error	0.1	0.8	0.0	10.1	6.7	1.2	16.4	17.7	5.0	1.1	0.61
Median	7.5	11.0	7.5	515.0	305.0	2.8	300.0	146.0	39.7	4.3	0.37
Mode	7.0	18.0	7.4	584.0	285.0	0.1	300.0	147.0	28.4	4.3	0.10
Standard Deviation	2.2	9.0	0.4	179.3	113.1	6.9	102.3	121.5	26.9	6.6	4.85
Range	14.2	43.0	3.1	1082.0	660.0	31.5	461.0	458.3	109.5	40.9	28.99
Minimum	2.0	-12.0	5.5	53.0	34.0	0.1	134.0	-98.3	0.5	0.1	0.01
Maximum	16.2	31.0	8.6	1135.0	694.0	31.6	595.0	360.0	110.0	41.0	29.00
Count	353	143	309	313	281	36	39	47	29	38	64



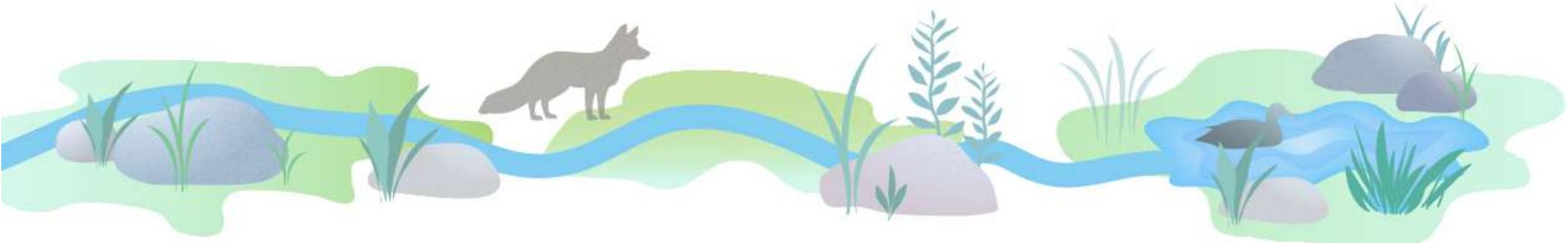
Water odor and taste (EE)



-  In 81 cases water is described as odorless and with good taste
-  In 6 cases water is described as odorless and taste sweet
-  In 3 cases water is described as odorless and taste earthy or moldy
-  In 1 case water is described as odorless and taste metallic
-  In 1 case water is described smell as algae and taste fine
-  In all other case only taste or smell is described

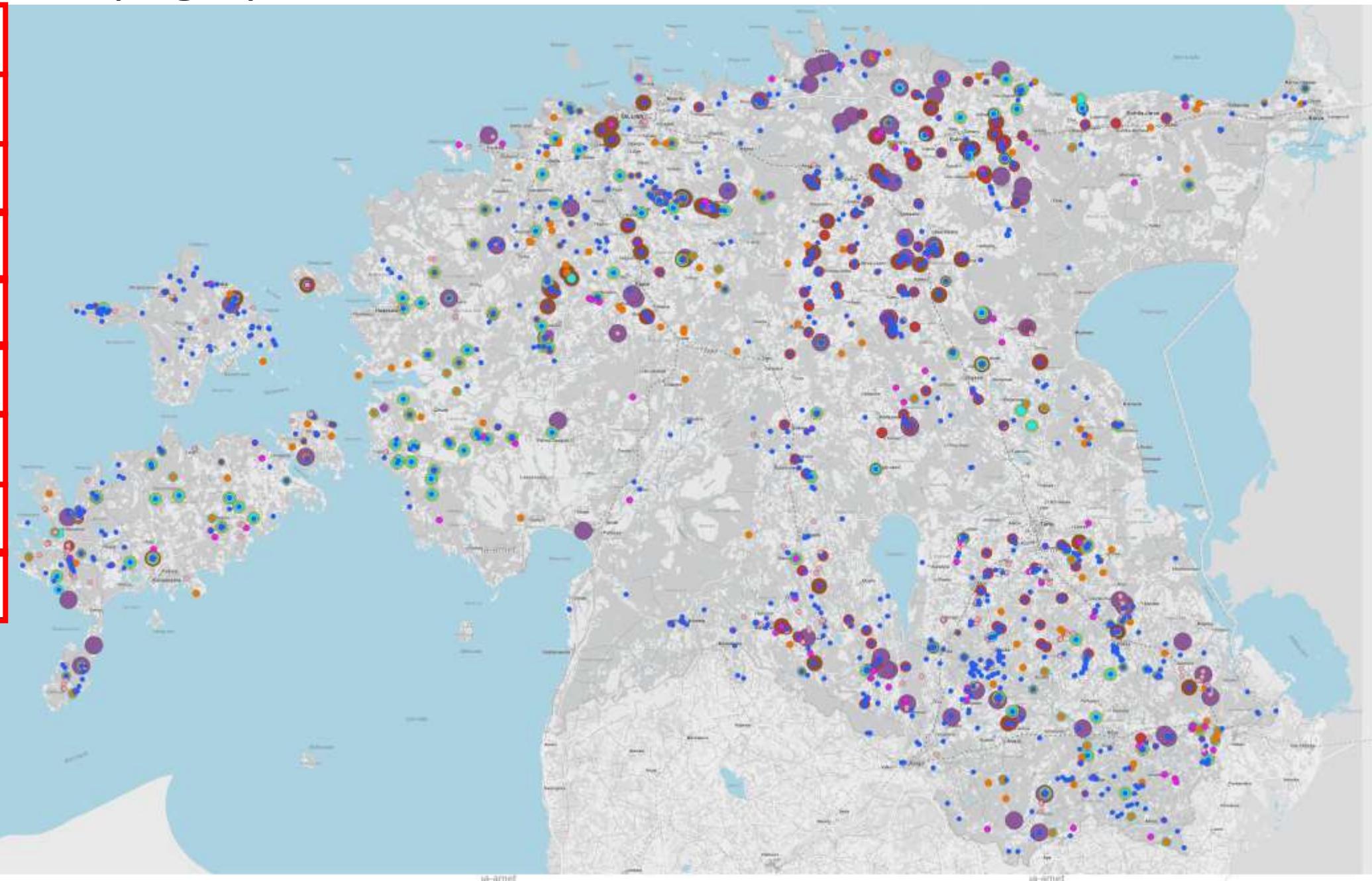


What's new?



Estonian Topographic Database VS other databases

Allikaline vääriselupaik	79
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KKR/ETAK	1497



New functions in allikad.info

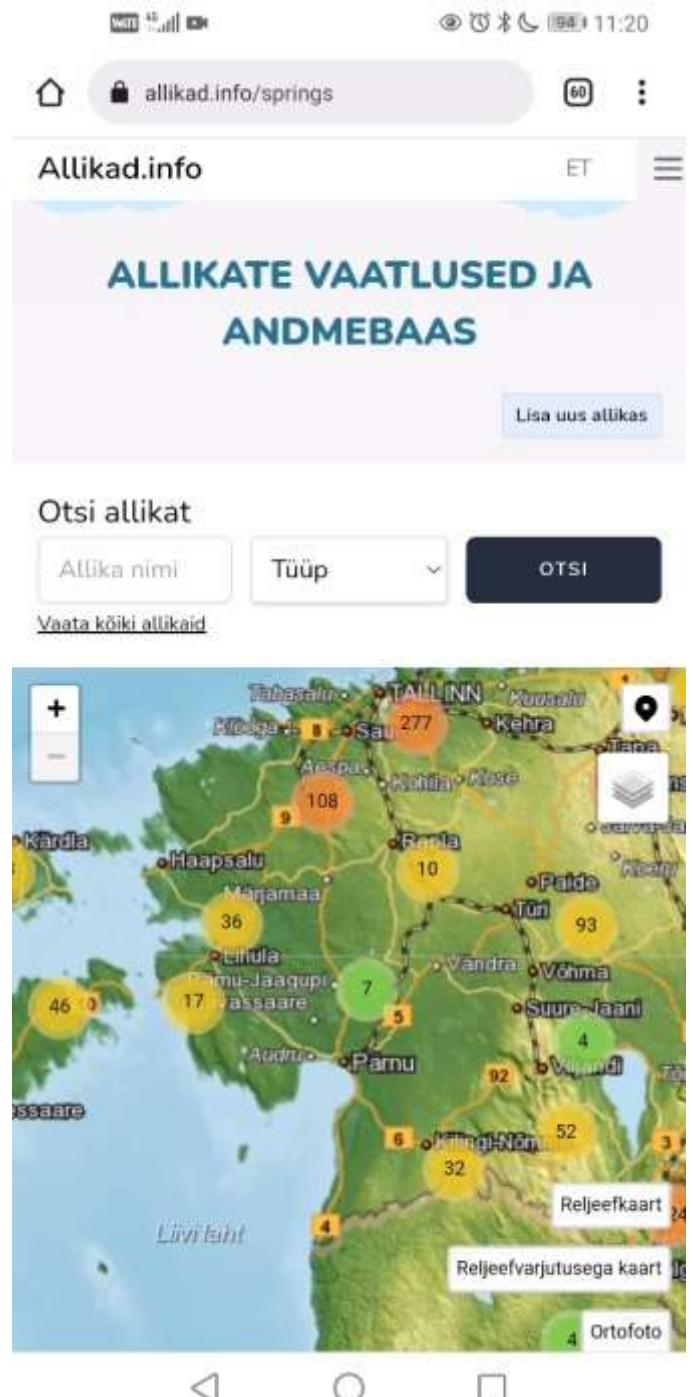
- Static map layers with all known spring location in other databases.
- Navigation! You can send spring location to the navigation app.
- Better maps in Estonia – higher zoom-level in DEM and ortophoto.
- Spring markers have color coding:
 - Blue – controlled and confirmed spring
 - Orange – known spring, needs confirmation
 - Red – new submitted spring, needs confirmation
 - Gray – not a spring
- In the bottom of the dashboard you can download springs and observations databases as xlsx-files.

Export Excel Files

Download springs and observations .xlsx files.

[Export Springs](#)

[Export Observations](#)





allikad.info

Thank you! Now share your experience!



bit.ly/WaterAct-project



bit.ly/WaterAct-Researchgate

JOIN -> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/197231101712583/>



LATVIJAS VIDES, GEOLOGIJAS
UN METEOROLOĢIJAS CENTRS



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MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
ENVIRONMENT AGENCY



GEOLICAL SURVEY OF ESTONIA



Nature
Conservation Agency
Republic of Latvia



WaterAct

Joint actions for more efficient management
of common groundwater resources



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