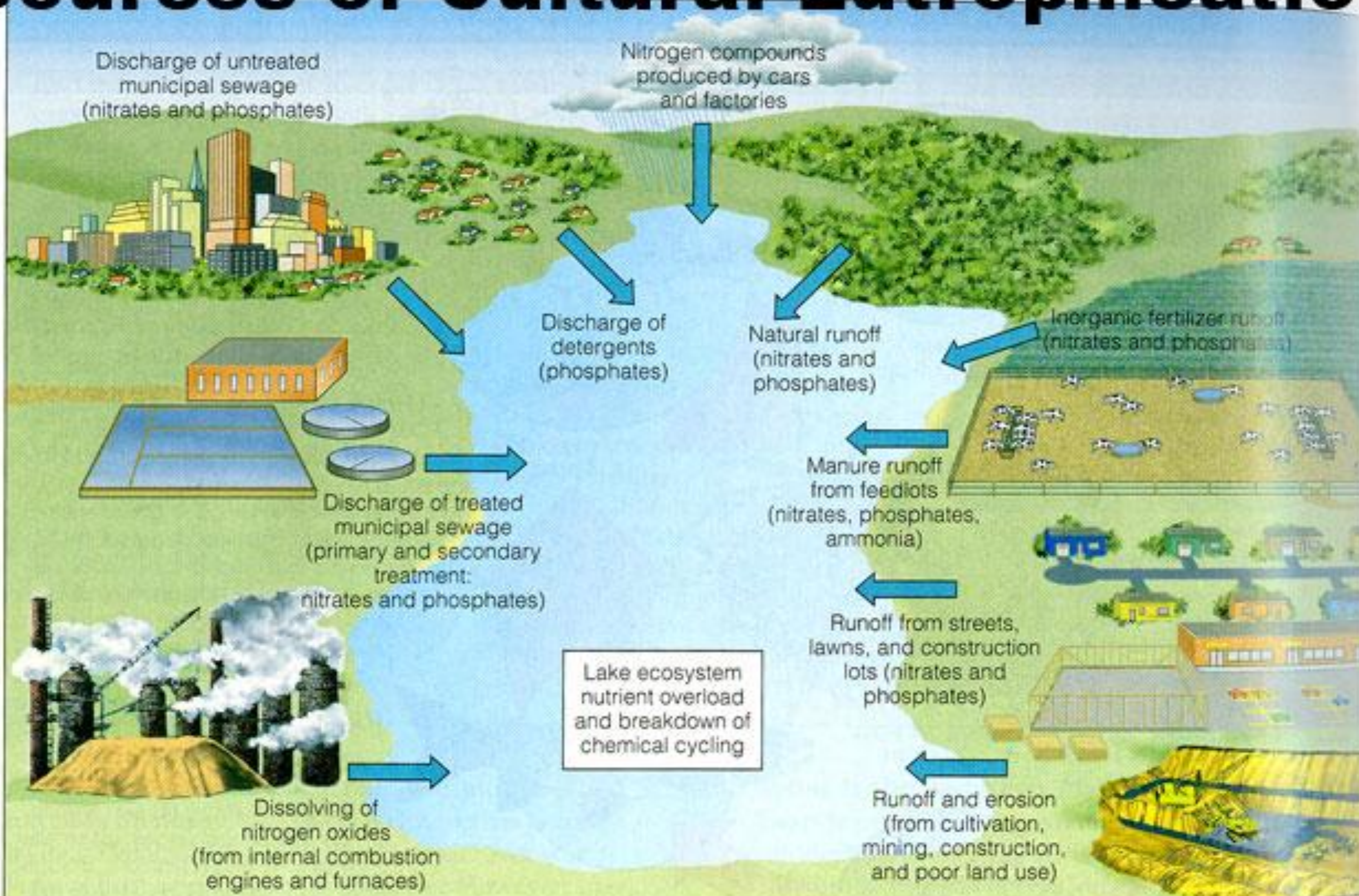
LOOKING BACK AND AHEAD: THE SOCIO-CULTURAL DIMENSION OF SOILS2SEA

BONUS
SCIENCE FOR A BETTER FUTURE OF THE BALTIC SEA REGION

Sources of Cultural Eutrophication



Source: http://www.05lovesgeography.blogspot.com

Ethnographic Study

”Ethnographic studies began as a type of research used by anthropologists to understand different foreign cultures, especially those living in places yet to be modernized. As researchers returned with such detailed insight, other disciplines in the social sciences began to use ethnography as a research methodology to understand group dynamics in modern situations.”

Source: http://study.com/academy/lesson/what-is-ethnography-studying-cultural-phenomena.html

Ethnographic Procedure

- Researchers immerse in the lives, culture, or situation they are studying
- Long term observation variefied through in depth interviews with people
- Often lengthy studies

Obtaining a level of understandign and awareness about a group of individuals: understandign of the culture and why its members think, act and behave the way they do

Research Questions

Why do farmers in Poland, Russia, Denmark andSweden act differently when applying fertilizers or when collaborating with peers ….?

What are potentials to develop decision-making from the perspectives of farmers and policy makers?

CONTEXTUALISATION

….its about people and institutions living and working in biophysical systems…

Biophysical Ecology

- The Baltic Sea catchment includes 14 different countries.
- Nine have a coastline with the Baltic Sea (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia and Sweden).
- Main rivers such as Oder (Deutschland/Polen), Weichsel (Polen), Memel (Litauen), Düna (Lettland), Torneälv (Schweden), Newa (Russland) und Kemijoki (Finnland) enter into it.
- Together with many other creeks and streams more than 300 rivers enter the Baltic Sea.
- And of course countless diffuse groundwater entries are taking place without being visible to the human eye.

Biophysical Ecology

Human Ecology (Farmers...)

The human ecology: Humans and human behaviors that affect, are affected by, or are otherwise concerned with a defined biophysical ecology.

Institutional Ecology

The institutional ecology is defined as those governance and non-governance institutions that govern/ co-govern, or affect, the behavior of those people in the human ecological system.

European Commission

Ethnographic data collection

- culture of perceiving nature/ the environment and the culture of farming practices and decision making
- past and present (development) of farming practices, co-operation amongst farmers, monitoring and governance concepts
- perception/ understanding of environmental policies (agricultural, water) on case study and EU level
- willingness to engage, direction and motivation for engagement
- environmental education

Findings

1. Geo-morphological soil conditions differ in S2S case studies – so do Socio-cultural-political and economic contexts of the people living/ working on these different soils and hence lead to diverse decision making with respect to farming practices, nutrient input, collaboration amongst farmers, monitoring and reactions towards measures, regulations and policies.
2. Perceptions, values, beliefs, thoughts about nature, the environment and needs, acceptance and uptake of measures and regulations are in many ways opposed which in turn demand various governance approaches.

Interested in more details? Read Soils2Sea Report “Proposals for new governance concepts and policy options” or speak to me.

Governance Concepts structure

Thank you!

For more visit:

www.soils2sea.eu

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