

UNDA 9TH TRANCHE PROJECT

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

PROJECT: «STRENGTHENING GOVERNMENTS’ AND WATER OPERATORS’ CAPACITY TO ENSURE EQUITY OF ACCESS TO WATER AND SANITATION IN COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION IN THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE REGION, WITH A PARTICULAR FOCUS ON SMALL-SCALE WATER SUPPLIES AND SANITATION IN RURAL AREAS»

I. Project title	Strengthening Governments’ and water operators’ capacity to ensure equity of access to water and sanitation in countries with economies in transition in the Economic Commission for Europe region, with a particular focus on small-scale water supplies and sanitation in rural areas.
II. Project DA code	14/15AF / 3028-ROA-288-9
III. Executing entity	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Co-operating Agency within the UN system: World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (WHO/Europe)
IV. Reporting period covered	March 2014–December 2014
V. Financial Implementation rate	0,25%

VI. Summary of achievements to date

During the reporting period one country mission to review the situation in relation to access to water and sanitation and small scale water supplies and sanitation was organized¹ in Belgrade, Serbia (8 December 2014). This was the first country missions (out of total 6) and it was carried out jointly by the UNECE and WHO/Europe.

The mission was organised as a consultative meeting, which involved over 30 participants from key Ministries (Health; Agriculture & Environmental Protection; Construction, Transportation & Infrastructure; Labour, Employment and Social Affairs), the Institute for Public Health and its regional branches as well as civil society organizations. It proved to be a useful format in order to review the evidence base on the situation of small-scale water supply and sanitation services as well as of equitable

¹ Beneficiary countries are Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Serbia, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan

access to water and sanitation in Serbia. It demonstrated that Serbia faces many challenges related to the management of small scale systems. A request was formulated to carry out a comprehensive rapid assessment of small scale systems (will be facilitated by WHO/Europe in 2016). The mission also highlighted that despite the recognition of the human right to water and sanitation in the Serbian constitution, only limited measures have been taken and hardly any targeted financial resources have been allocated to improve equitable access to water and sanitation. Lack of data and lack of inter-institutional coordination were identified as a major challenge. Interest was expressed to apply the Equitable Access Score-card in one of the Serbian regions, Vojvodina. Official correspondence shall be shortly forwarded to the joint secretariat confirming above mentioned requests.

Information obtained during the mission stimulated fruitful discussions at the national workshop on the Protocol on Water and Health and target setting process (took place in Belgrade on 9 December 2014). Whereas the situation of small systems is fully addressed in the current draft targets, equity aspects were highlighted for consideration in the further target setting process. Then it shall be reflected in the national targets drafted by the inter-ministerial working group and shall be adopted at the national level.

The lessons learned from the first country mission will serve as a basis to develop the format of future consultations which will be tailored to each beneficiary country situation and needs.

At the seventh meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health (Geneva, 26–27 November 2014), a number of requests were put forward by the beneficiary countries which assisted in planning future activities

Comments/ recommendations from the UNECE (respective subprogramme&Project Management Unit) (please elaborate in more details on the progress made one the start of the project and include some initial evaluation of achieved results):

There were limited project activities during the reporting period. Memorandum of Understanding between UNECE and WHO/Europe was signed on 16 September 2014 and was followed by the detailed discussion on planning and implementation of activities. Core project activities will be delivered in 2015-2017.

VII. Review of performance indicators and activities

Table 1 – Review of Performance Indicators

Expected Accomplishment	Indicator of achievement (T0)	Indicator of achievement (T1)	Comments
EA1: Strengthened capacity of	IA1.1: Increased number of policies	The country mission in Serbia	

<p>national and local authorities in countries with economies in transition in the ECE region to develop innovative policies and measures aimed at providing equitable access to water and sanitation building on the Protocol on Water and Health.</p>	<p>and measures at national and local levels to ensure equity of access to clean and safe drinking water and adequate sanitation;</p>	<p>was organized back to back with the National workshop on the Protocol on Water and Health and the target setting process in Serbia (Belgrade, 9 December 2014). As a result, equity aspects will be considered in the target setting process and then reflected in the national targets drafted by the inter-ministerial working group and will be adopted at national level. In order to support definition of indicators within the target setting process, the Government of Serbia requested UNECE support in carrying out a baseline analysis of the situation with equitable access to water and sanitation.</p>	
	<p>IA1.2: Increased number of countries reporting on progress in</p>	<p>No meetings of the intergovernmental bodies under the Protocol on Water and Health were</p>	

	ensuring equitable access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation under the Protocol on Water and Health.	held after the country mission. The next reporting exercise under the Protocol on Water and Health will take place in 2016.	
EA2: Strengthened capacity of national and local authorities as well as water operators in countries with economies in transition in the ECE region to address the challenges of small-scale water supplies and sanitation in national and local development policies.	IA2.1: Increased number of policies and strategies formulated to provide safe drinking water and sanitation in rural areas through small-scale water supply and sanitation systems; IA2.2: Increased number of countries reporting on the progress in developing and implementing water and sanitation safety planning approaches for managing small-scale water supply and sanitation systems in rural areas under the Protocol on Water and Health.	N/A in the current reporting period	

Table 2 – Review of Completed Activities

Activities	Comment
(A1.1) Organize six country missions to review the situation in target countries in relation to access to water and sanitation, including a rapid assessment of small-scale water supply systems in rural areas	To date, one country mission was organized to review the situation with small-scale water supply and sanitation and equitable access to water and

to improve the evidence base, and implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health and to develop recommendations on the way forward;	sanitation in Serbia (Belgrade, 8 December 2014). Other missions and rapid assessment planned for 2015-2017
(A1.2) Organize two national workshops in two of the beneficiary countries to provide guidance to policy- and decision-makers and to other concerned actors to develop policies and measures aimed at ensuring equitable access to water and sanitation;	Planned for 2015–2016
(A1.3) Organize a regional workshop to provide guidance to policy- and decision-makers and to other concerned actors to develop policies and measures aimed at ensuring equitable access to water and sanitation, and to promote the exchange of experiences in the region and analyze further challenges and needs;	Planned for 2016
(A1.4) Organize a regional workshop to assist countries in their reporting obligations under the Protocol on Water and Health and, at the same time, streamline efforts with post-2015 sustainable development goal(s) and reporting;	Planned for 2016
(A2.1) Organize two national workshops in two of the beneficiary countries to provide guidance to policy- and decision-makers in addressing the specific challenges of small-scale water supply and sanitation systems, to promote the exchange between national and local authorities and to develop capacities for safe and sustainable management of small-scale water supplies. The beneficiary countries will be selected on the basis of demands, needs and commitment to work in this area, as expressed in the framework of the Protocol on Water and Health intergovernmental bodies;	Planned for 2015

(A2.2) Organize two subregional workshops to provide guidance to policy- and decision-makers in addressing the specific challenges of small-scale water supply and sanitation systems;	Planned for 2016–2017
(A2.3) Develop guidance and promotional material on safe management of water and sanitation in rural areas through small-scale water supply and sanitation systems and the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health.	Planned for 2015

VIII. CHALLENGES/PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED SO FAR

Table 3 – Challenges and actions

Description of challenge	Action(s) taken to solve the issue, if any
Administrative processes, collaboration with partners	Memorandum of Understanding between and UNECE and WHO/Europe was signed on 16 September 2014 and was followed by the detailed discussion on planning and implementation of activities

IX. SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDING

Table 4 – Financial Leveraging

Donor	Purpose	Amount raised	
		Cash (USD)	In-Kind
WHO	Meeting logistics and travel of staff	6,700	Meeting support by WHO country office staff
Serbia			Meeting room
France	UNECE staff time (P2)		2 weeks

X. REVISIONS

N/A

XI. WORK PLAN FOR REMAINING ACTIVITIES

Table 5 – Remaining activities

Remaining Activities	Start date	Date of completion
A1.1 Five country missions	2 missions are expected to be organized in 2015 2 missions are expected to be organized in 2016 1 mission are expected to be organized in 2017	

	1 rapid assessment study expected for 2016-2017	
A1.2 National workshops	National workshop in Azerbaijan is expected to be organized in September 2015 National workshop in Serbia is expected to be organized in the end of 2015- beginning of 2016	
A1.3 Regional workshop	Regional workshop is expected to be organized in 2016	
A1.4 Regional workshop on reporting	Regional workshop is expected to be organized in January 2016	
A2.1 National workshops	Two national workshops are expected to be organized in 2016	
A2.2 Subregional workshops	Two subregional workshops are expected to be organized in 2016–2017	
A2.3 Guidance and promotion material development	The material is expected to be developed in 2015.	

XII.ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The report of the joint country mission to Serbia is currently under preparation and will be agreed upon with the implementing partner.

National workshop on the Protocol on Water and Health and the target setting process in Serbia (Belgrade, 9 December 2014) was held back to back with the Consultation on small-scale water supply and sanitation and equitable access to water and sanitation (8 December). More information is available at http://www.unece.org/env/water/national_workshop_unece-who_europe_serbia.html#/

XIII.FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Object Class	Description	A. Budget/Allotment	B. Actual disbursements	C. Commitments outstanding	D. Total Expenditure	E. Balance Remaining	F. Revisions to allotments (if any)	G. Explanations to revisions
602	General Temporary Assistance	48,000	0	0	0	48,000	N/A	N/A
604	Consultants and Expert Groups	0111-Int. consult.:	0	0	0	78,000	N/A	N/A
		0140-Nat./reg. consult.:	30,000	0	0	30,000	N/A	N/A
		2601-Consult. travel:	16,000	0	0	16,000	N/A	N/A
		2602-Expert Group (travel):					N/A	N/A
608	Travel of staff	42,000	1,419.59	0	1,419.59	40,580.41	N/A	N/A
612	Contractual services	314,000	0	0	0	314,000	N/A	N/A

616	Operating expenses							N/A	N/A
618	Supplies, Materials etc.							N/A	N/A
621	Fellowships, grants and contributions	7202 - Workshops:	50,000	0	0	0	50,000	N/A	N/A
		7203 - Study Tours:						N/A	N/A
Total			578,000	1,419.59	0	1,419.59	576,580.41		

Implementation rate (%) 0.25	= Expenditure (D)/Budget (A)
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