

## ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

<b>Project title</b>	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.
<b>DA project code</b>	14/15AF / 3028-ROA-288-9
<b>Executing entity</b>	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Co-operating Agency within the UN system: World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (WHO/Europe)
<b>Reporting period</b>	January –December 2015
<b>Implementation rate</b>	8.9%

### 1. SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

During the reporting period, two country missions evaluated existing conditions of access to water and sanitation and small scale water supply and sanitation in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (16-17 June 2015) and Armenia (15 December 2015)<sup>1</sup>. Two national workshops (Baku, Azerbaijan, 29 September 2015 and Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 21-22 September 2015) enhanced capacities of policy-makers to develop policies aimed at ensuring equitable access to water and sanitation and strengthened capacity of national and local authorities to address the specific challenges of small-scale water supply and sanitation systems. The workshops improved overall coordination between national stakeholders.

As a result of the country missions and national workshops, self-assessment of equitable access to water and sanitation was launched in three countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia). In addition, a rapid assessment of the small scale water supply was planned jointly with WHO/Europe for Armenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia. The rapid assessments for three beneficiary countries will contribute to improving regulations, standards and management arrangements for small-scale water systems (will be undertaken in 2016).

Support provided to five beneficiary countries up to date (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia) raised awareness on the importance of equity in access to drinking water and sanitation, especially in rural areas, mostly supplied by small-scale systems. At the 8th meeting of the Task Force on Target-Setting and Reporting (Geneva, 2 July 2015) and the 8th meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health (Geneva, 21-22 October 2015), 3 project countries (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, the Republic of Moldova) reported on the contribution of the national consultations and workshops to the target setting process under the Protocol on Water and Health. More specifically, the Republic of Moldova reported on additional target on equitable access to water and sanitation and Serbia, which has set national targets under the Protocol in April 2015, formulated specific targets focusing on equitable access and management of small scale water supplies.

Remaining project activities will be implemented in 2016-2017 and it will lead to the increase of the project implementation rate.

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

## 2. REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND ACTIVITIES

Table 1 – Review of Performance Indicators

Expected Accomplishment	Indicator of achievement at the start of the project (T0)	Indicator of achievement at the time period when the project is being reviewed (T1)	Comments
<p><b>EA1</b> Strengthened capacity of 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><b>IA1.1</b> Increased number of policies and measures at national and local levels to ensure equity of access to clean and safe drinking water and adequate sanitation</p>	<p>During the reporting period a progress was made to increase the number of policies and measures at national and local levels to ensure equality of access to clean and safe drinking water and adequate sanitation in 4 countries.</p>	<p>Up to date, the progress was made to strengthen capacity of national and local authorities in Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia 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>In particular, with the support of the project:</p> <p>Azerbaijan became aware of the necessity to include an equity dimension in the targets that were set in the Protocol. This was achieved through a national workshop on equitable access to water and sanitation (29 September 2015)</p> <p>The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia created a multi-disciplinary project team to carry out a self-assessment of equitable access to water and sanitation as a result of the consultation (16-17 June 2015). Results will be taken into account for the target setting process.</p> <p>Serbia, which has set national targets under the</p>

			<p>Protocol in April 2015, formulated specific targets focussing on equitable access and management of small scale water supplies, as a result of the consultation (December 2014).</p> <p>Armenia, currently in the process of revising the draft targets under the Protocol, decided to carry out a detailed assessment of access to water and sanitation by vulnerable groups. The access gaps will then be considered for the finalization of targets.</p>
	<p><b>IA1.2</b> Increased number of countries reporting on progress in ensuring equitable access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation under the Protocol on Water and Health.</p>	<p>The number of countries reporting on progress in ensuring equitable access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation under the Protocol on Water and Health increased by 2 (Moldova and Serbia).</p>	<p>At the 8th meeting of the Task Force on Target-Setting and Reporting (2 July 2015), the Republic of Moldova reported on the revised indicators and new targets related to equitable access. Serbia, which has set national targets under the Protocol in April 2015, formulated specific targets focussing on equitable access and management of small scale water supplies. The next reporting exercise under the Protocol on Water and Health will take place in 2016.</p>
<p><b>EA2</b> 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</p>	<p><b>IA2.1</b> 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</p>	<p>With support of the project the progress was made to increase the number of policies and strategies formulated to provide safe drinking water and sanitation in rural areas through small-scale water supply and sanitation systems in three countries.</p>	<p>In particular,</p> <p>Kyrgyzstan became aware of the specific challenges for the management of small scale supplies. This was achieved by undertaking a national workshop (Bulan Sogottu, 21-22 September 2015).</p> <p>As mentioned under EA1</p>

<p>policies.</p>			<p>above, two national consultations/ country missions on small scale water supply and sanitation were conducted in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Armenia. Serbia has set national targets under the Protocol on Water and Health in April 2015. The consultation on small-scale water supply and sanitation contributed to the finalization of the targets, specifically to formulating those pertinent to small systems in rural areas.</p> <p>The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia developed, as part of its Strategy for Health and Environment 2020, several national goals related to the improvement of the water and sanitation conditions, including on small-scale systems.</p>
	<p><b>IA2.2</b> 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</p>	<p>The number of countries reporting on progress in implementing water and sanitation safety planning approaches for managing small-scale water supply and sanitation systems has not increased yet. However, several countries (Kyrgyzstan, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) are currently working on it.</p>	<p>A guidance document on good practices and safe management of water and sanitation services has been developed in 2014 and 2015. The document “Taking policy action to improve small-scale water supply and sanitation systems: tools and good practices from the European Region” has been drafted, peer-reviewed, consolidated in response to peer-review comments and technically finalized. The draft document also had been shared with the Working</p>

			Group on Water and Health at its eighth meeting in 2015.
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**Table 2 – Review of Completed Activities**

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Comment</b>
(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 improve the evidence base, and implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health and to develop recommendations on the way forward;	<p>To date, 3 country missions have been carried out: Serbia (2014), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (16-17 June 2015) and Armenia (15 December 2015). All missions raised awareness on specific challenges related to small-scale water supply systems and equitable access to water and sanitation.</p> <p>A planning meeting conducted in Serbia (November 2015) for the rapid assessment of small-scale water supply systems in rural areas. Rapid assessment will be undertaken in 2016.</p> <p>Remaining 3 missions planned in 2016-2017.</p>
(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;	<p>One national workshop on equitable access organized in Baku, Azerbaijan (29 September 2015). After the workshop, a self-assessment of equitable access to water and sanitation was launched to collect comprehensive and disaggregated data, identify equity challenges and facilitate future planning.</p> <p>Second national workshop on equitable access to be organized in late 2016 – early 2017 in Serbia.</p>
(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;	Regional workshop on equitable access to water and sanitation planned on 21-22 March 2016 in Geneva.
(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;	Regional workshop on reporting under the Protocol planned on 8-9 March 2016 in Geneva.
(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	One national workshop on small-scale water supply and sanitation systems organized in 2015 in Kyrgyzstan. The workshop raised awareness of decision-makers of the specific

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;	challenges of small-scale water supply and sanitation systems and the need to address them through the development of policy and the implementation of actions.  Second national workshop on small-scale water supply and sanitation systems to be organized in Albania or Armenia in the second quarter of 2016, pending countries' final confirmation.
(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.	Document "Taking policy action to improve small-scale water supply and sanitation systems: tools and good practices from the European Region" currently undergoing final technical editing to be followed by copy editing, Russian translation, design and printing, to be finalized by the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties of the Protocol on Water and Health in November 2016

### 3. CHALLENGES/PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED SO FAR

**Table 3 – Challenges and actions**

Description of challenge	Action(s) taken to solve the issue, if any
Delayed confirmation of interest by countries to organize a the second national workshop on small-scale water supply and sanitation in 2015 as planned	Correspondence with countries (Albania and Serbia). Confirmation expected early 2016
Delay in finalizing the guidance document on small-scale water supply and sanitation due to extensive external peer review required for quality control according to WHO roles and procedures.	Document peer-reviewed to guarantee quality of delivery, and to be finalized by November 2016

### 4. SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDING

**Table 4 – Financial Leveraging**

Donor	Purpose	Amount raised	
		Cash (USD)	In-Kind
2014-2015 Biannual Collaborative Agreement between the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic and WHO/Europe	Contribution to the organization of the national workshop on small-scale water supply and sanitation (Kyrgyzstan, 21-22 September 2015)	11,000	

France	UNECE staff time to organize the activities related to equitable access to water and sanitation	2 months of a P3	
	Cost related to the organization of the workshop on equitable access to water and sanitation (Armenia, 15 December 2015)	6,258	
	Cost related to the assessment of equitable access to water and sanitation in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	38,960	

## 5. REVISIONS

Thanks to the co-funding by France, savings were possible under activity A1.2. “Two national workshops in two of the beneficiary countries to provide guidance to policy- and decision-makers on equitable access to water and sanitation”. Thanks to the co-funding by the 2014-2015 Biannual Collaborative Agreement between the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic and WHO/Europe, savings were made under activity A2.1 “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”. The funds are expected to be re-allocated to strengthen the implementation of other activities planned under the project.

## 6. WORK PLAN FOR REMAINING ACTIVITES

**Table 5 – Remaining activities**

Remaining Activities	Start date	Date of completion
A1.1 Three country missions on equitable access to water and sanitation and small scale water supply and sanitation systems	2 missions expected to be organized in 2016 1 mission expected to be organized in 2017 1 rapid assessment study expected to be finalized in 2016	Pending missions to be completed by end 2017
A1.2 One national workshop on equitable access to water and sanitation	National workshop expected to be organized in Serbia the end of 2016 - beginning of 2017	National workshop to be finalized by mid-2017
A1.3 One regional workshop on equitable access to water and sanitation	Workshop planned on 21-22 March 2016 in Geneva	Regional workshop to be finalized by end March 2016
A1.4 One regional workshop on reporting under the Protocol	Regional workshop on reporting under the Protocol planned on 8-9 March 2016 in	Regional workshop to be finalized by mid-March 2016

	Geneva	
A2.1. One national workshop on small scale water supplies and sanitation systems	National workshop on small-scale water supply and sanitation systems to be organized in Albania or Armenia in the second quarter of 2016, pending countries' final confirmation.	National workshop to be finalized by end 2016
A2.2 Two subregional workshops on small scale water supplies and sanitation systems	Two subregional workshops are expected to be organized in 2016–2017	Two subregional workshops to be finalized by end 2017
A2.3 Guidance and promotion material development	The material to be finalized by the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties in November 2016.	Guidance document to be launched at the 4 <sup>th</sup> session of the Meeting of the Parties (November 2016)

## 7. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Report of the joint mission in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (Workshop “Assessing equitable access to water and sanitation and small-scale water supply and sanitation systems”), Skopje, 16-17 June 2015, available at: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=39746#/>

Report of the joint mission in Armenia (“Consultation on the management of small-scale water supply and sanitation systems and equitable access to water and sanitation”), Yerevan, 15 December 2015 available at: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=41663#/>

Report of the national workshop in Azerbaijan (“The UNECE-WHO/Europe Protocol on Water and Health: supporting progress to achieve equitable access to water and sanitation in Azerbaijan”), Baku, 29 September 2015, available at: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=40942#/>



## 1. FINANCIAL INFORMATION <sup>1</sup>

Object Class	Description	A. Budget/Allotment (as per project document) (USD)	B. Revisions to allotments (if any) (USD)	C. Explanations of revisions to allotments (USD)	D. Total Expenditure <sup>1</sup> (USD)
015	Other staff costs - General temporary assistance	48,000			12,503.62
105	Consultants and expert	124,000			0
115	Travel of staff	42,000			10,226.87
120	Contractual services	314,000			23,307.15
125	General operating expenses	0			147.94
130	Supplies and materials	0			0
135	Furniture and equipment	0			0
145	<i>Workshops / Study tours</i> (Grants out and contributions)	50,000			4,733.32
	Total	578,000			50,918.90

<sup>1</sup> Please note that the 2015 financial table does not reflect 2015 expenses by WHO/Europe, which were charged to the project in 2016.

Implementation rate (%)	= 8.8%
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<sup>1</sup> While IMIS object classes were still in use when the 9<sup>th</sup> tranche Development Account projects were allotted, every effort should be made to report the requested information using the UMOJA object classes reflected in the table.