

AF. Strengthening Governments' and water operators' capacity to ensure equity of access to water and sanitation in countries in transition in the Economic Commission for Europe region, with a particular focus on small-scale water supplies and sanitation in rural areas

ECE in collaboration with WHO (\$578,000)

Background

1. In the pan-European region 12 per cent of the population, nearly 110 million people, do not have access to safe drinking water or adequate sanitation. The situation is particularly severe in South Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. Problems of lack of access to water and sanitation are compounded by inequity, vulnerable and marginalized groups often face specific barriers such as lack of affordability. Access to water and sanitation is also lower in rural areas compared to urban areas. In South Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia more than 30 per cent of the total population live in rural areas, in which small-scale water supplies prevail. The provision of safe drinking-water of sufficient quantity frequently represents a challenge to these small-scale water supplies. Experience has shown that they are more vulnerable to breakdown and contamination than larger utilities, and that they require particular political attention due to their administrative, managerial or resourcing specifics.

2. In the Rio+20 Outcome document "The future we want", Governments reiterated the importance of integrating water in sustainable development and underlined the critical importance of water and sanitation within the three dimensions of sustainable development. Governments also reaffirmed their commitments made in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Millennium Declaration regarding halving by 2015 the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation (MDG 7).

3. The ECE and the WHO Regional Office for Europe's Protocol on Water and Health is the first international agreement of its kind adopted specifically to attain an adequate supply of safe drinking water and adequate sanitation for everyone through the sustainable management of water resources and the development of policies and measures focusing on the nexus between water and health. The Protocol provides a framework for the application of policy and measures to promote equitable access to water and sanitation. In the area of small scale water supplies and sanitation, the Protocol promotes policy and measures aimed at increasing the safe management of such installations (such as risk management approaches, training of operators, improvement of water monitoring and disease surveillance, etc.).

4. This project is designed to support the efforts of policy and decision-makers and of water operators in reviewing and, where appropriate, replicating existing approaches and putting in place new or additional measures to ensure the universal access to water and sanitation, through the mobilization of resources from all sources, capacity-building and technology. The project is also intended to promote the integration of environmental and social considerations within the

mainstream of economic decision-making as a pre-requisite to paving the way toward a green economy.

5. Beneficiaries of the project will be countries with economies in transition in South Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Serbia, Tajikistan, and Ukraine). Six out of twelve proposed beneficiary countries are Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health. All the other countries are envisaging accession and are currently at different stages of the process. The target stakeholder groups consist of national and local government officials as well as water operators. The project will be executed by the ECE, in collaboration with WHO Europe. WHO Europe will focus on the health-related aspects of the project, supporting it with its expertise and network.

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen capacity of national and local authorities as well as water operators to develop policies and measures aimed at providing access to clean and safe drinking water and adequate sanitation in economies in transition in the ECE region with a particular focus on small-scale water supplies and sanitation in rural areas	Summary budget (Thousands of United States dollars)	
	General temporary assistance	48.0
Relationship to the strategic framework for the period 2014-2015 and the Millennium Development Goals: ECE subprogramme 1 (Environment); Millennium Development Goals 4 and 7.	Consultants	144.0
	Travel	42.0
	Contractual services	294.0
	Workshops/training	<u>50.0</u>
	Total	578.0

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(EA1) Improved capacity of national and local authorities in 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	(IA1.1) Increased number of policies and measures at national and local levels to enhance equity of access to clean and safe drinking water and adequate sanitation (IA1.2) Increased number of countries reporting on the progress in ensuring equitable access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation through the reporting under the Protocol on Water and Health
(EA2) Improved capacity of national and local authorities as well as water operators in 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 development policies formulated to achieve access to water and sanitation in rural areas through small-scale water supply and sanitation facilities (IA2.2) Increased number of countries reporting on the progress in managing small-scale water supply and sanitation facilities in rural areas through the reporting under the Protocol on Water and Health

Main activities

6. The main activities of the project will include:

(A1.1) Organize six country missions to review situation in target countries in relation to access to water and sanitation and implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health and to develop recommendations on the way forward;

(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;

(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 exchange of experiences in the region;

(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 and reporting;

(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 and to promote the exchange between national and local authorities and private and public operators on the 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;

(A2.2) Organize a regional workshop to provide guidance to policy and decision makers in addressing the specific challenges of small-scale water supply and sanitation systems;

(A2.3) Develop guidance and promotion material on access to water and sanitation in rural areas through small-scale water supply and sanitation facilities and the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health.

<i>Detailed budget</i> (US dollars)	
<p>General Temporary Assistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For substantial inputs and practical arrangements linked to activities A1.1, A1.2, A1.3, A2.1, A2.2 and A2.3 (4 work months x \$12,000 per work month) = \$48,000 	48 000
<p>Consultants</p> <p><u>International consultants</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For preparing training materials, national analysis, guidance and published material in support of activities A1.1, A1.2, A1.3, A2.1, A2.2 and A2.3 (6 work months x \$15,000 per month) = \$90,000 <p><u>National consultants</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For preparing case studies and analysis for workshops and country mission in support of activities A1.1, A1.2, A1.3, A2.1 and A2.2 (10.5 work months x \$4,000 per month) = \$42,000 <p><u>Final evaluation</u> = \$12,000</p>	144 000
<p>Travel of staff</p> <p><u>UNECE and WHO-Europe staff members</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In support of activities A1.1, A1.2, A1.3, A2.1, and A2.2 (\$3,500 x 12) = \$42,000 	42 000
<p>Contractual services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Translation of documents between Russian and English in support of activities A1.1, A1.2, A1.3, A1.4, A2.1, A2.2 and A2.3 = \$24,000 Printing of guidance and promotion in support of activity A2.3 = \$20,000 Institutional contracts with NGOs or other non-profit entities in beneficiary countries for organizing national workshops in support of activities A1.2, A2.1, including: logistical support for organization of four national workshops (venue, interpretation, technical equipment, workshop material, hospitality, etc.) (4 workshops x \$10,000 = \$40,000) + (travel and DSA of participants in national workshops (international or national coming from outside the capital as appropriate) (\$1,500 per participant x 10 participants x 4 workshops = \$60,000) = \$100,000 Institutional contracts with NGOs or other non-profit entities in beneficiary countries for organizing regional workshops in support of activities A1.3, A2.2, including: logistical support for organization of 2 regional workshops (venue, interpretation, technical equipment, workshop material, hospitality, local transport, etc.) (2 workshops x \$15,000 = \$30,000) + (travel and DSA of workshop participants international or from beneficiary countries, as appropriate \$2,500 per participant x 24 participants x 2 workshops = \$120,000) = \$150,000 	294 000
<p>Seminars and Workshops</p> <p>Organization of the workshops in support of activity A1.4 (\$2,500 per participant x 20 participants x 1 workshop) = \$50,000</p>	50 000
Total	578 000