



## Programme area 2.3 Support cost-effective drinking-water quality surveillance

9th meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health  
29-30 June 2016  
Geneva

# Milestone: Member State Meeting on risk-based approaches

- Expert meeting on risk-based approaches in drinking water quality surveillance was successfully held in Oslo 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015.
- Over 50 participants, including delegates from WHO HQ and EU Commission, engaging in fruitful discussions and sharing of experience on drinking water quality surveillance
- Meeting identified key activities to advance the work under this thematic area: development of guidance document for decision makers addressing risk-based surveillance approaches and establishing an expert group to conceptualize the document

# Main achievements

**Scope and annotated outline of guidance document for decision makers on risk-based drinking water quality surveillance developed:**

- **based on the outcomes of the Lead Parties planning meeting held in September 2015**
- **agreed among ourselves as a working document**
- **can be uploaded to the meeting website**
- **Parties are requested to provide feedback and comments to the Secretariat by 22 July**

# Guidance on risk-based approaches

**TARGET audience:** decision makers, in particular regulators and national and sub-national public health officials

**Purpose:** to support to better understand and appreciate the added value, concept and main principles of RB approaches in drinking water quality surveillance and thereby strengthen surveillance systems for better protection of public health

**The document will provide:** a rationale for application of RB surveillance approaches, prioritization of surveillance efforts taking into account local hazards and available resources and illustrate good practice examples

**The annotated outline provides:** an overview of the proposed structure, main contents and key messages to promote uptake of RB approaches to water quality surveillance in regulation and in practice

# Guidance on risk-based approaches

## Proposed structure:

- No more than 20-25 pages
- Include a two-page “crisp” stand-alone summary of the core principles and messages for policy makers
- 5 technical sections:
  - Why we are concerned of DW quality surveillance?
  - Why RB surveillance?
  - What does RB surveillance entail?
  - What are the prerequisites for facilitating uptake of a RB surveillance system?

# Guidance on risk-based approaches - next steps

- Draft to be discussed in a planned small expert group in 2016, place TBA
- Interested parties who would like to contribute to make this guidance useful and relevant for the Member States are encouraged to contact the Secretariat.
- Development of the full document and finalization in the new programme of work period

# Suggested future work for this thematic area

- Development of the guidance material on the principles of Risk-based approaches in DWQ surveillance
- National and sub-national advocacy and capacity building activities