



UNECE



**World Health
Organization**

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Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on
Water and Health to the Convention on
the Protection and Use of Transboundary
Watercourses and International Lakes

Working Group on Water and Health

10th meeting

Geneva, 15 and 16 November 2017

Item 11 of the provisional agenda

INFORMAL DOCUMENT

Draft outline of the publication

Capitalizing findings and lessons learned from the work on equitable access to water and sanitation under the Protocol

Prepared by the secretariat

At its fourth session (Geneva, 14-16 November 2016), the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health decided to further develop training materials on equitable access to water and sanitation based on the publication *No One Left Behind: Good Practices to Ensure Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation in the Pan-European Region* and the knowledge and experience accumulated in this area of work. In addition, it decided to share lessons learned and promote good practices on the process of development of equitable access action plans and measures implemented to improve equitable access (see ECE/MP.WH/13/Add.1–EUPCR/1611921/2.1/2016/MOP-4/06/Add.1, forthcoming).

The Expert Group on Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation at its 4th meeting (Budapest, 13-14 September 2017) discussed the elaboration of a new publication to capitalize the findings and lessons learned from the work on equitable access to water and sanitation under the Protocol, for possible adoption at the next session of the Meeting of the Parties in 2019. The Expert Group discussed the general approach and possible structure of the publication.

This document contains information on the objectives, proposed content of the publication as well as possible outline and template for country contributions to support the development of the publication and proposed timeline for the development of the publication.

The Working Group is invited to discuss the draft outline of the document and agree on the next steps for its preparation and publication

Background and objectives

Since 2011, the Protocol has developed several important tools and supported a number of activities to provide support to countries to improve equitable access to water and sanitation.

The publication *No One Left Behind: Good practices to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation in the pan-European region*¹ presents good practices and lessons learnt from throughout the pan-European region on the policies and measures to be enacted to provide equitable access.

An analytic tool, the *Equitable Access Score-card*² supports Governments and other stakeholders to establish a baseline measure of the equity of access, identify priorities and discuss further actions to be taken to address equity gaps. It has already been applied in 10 countries of the pan-European region (Armenia, Azerbaijan, France – Paris Greater Area, Hungary, Republic of Moldova, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia – 3 regions, Portugal, Serbia, Spain – city of Castello and Ukraine) and additional countries have expressed interest in applying it (such as Bulgaria and Georgia). Based on the outcomes of such assessments, a number of countries (France, Hungary, Portugal, Republic of Moldova...) have taken measures to improve the equity of access to water and sanitation services

The publication *Guidance Note on the Development of Action Plans to Ensure Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation*, so far used in two countries (Armenia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) helps Governments to take a structured approach to the identification and implementation of actions to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation.

Outcomes from the various activities in countries to improve equitable access to water and sanitation is publically available and has been promoted on various occasions³. However, the main findings and lessons learned from the work on equitable access to water and sanitation under the Protocol have not yet been systematically analysed and synthesized.

The objective of the present publication is to consolidate in a short volume the lessons learnt and impact of the work carried out in countries from the pan-European region under the Protocol on Water and Health in the area of equitable access to water and sanitation since 2010. It also aims to inspire additional countries to improve the equity of access to water and sanitation through assessments of the situation of equitable access as well as the development of Equitable Access Action Plans. It will therefore contribute to international efforts to meeting targets 6.1 and 6.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Proposed content of the publication

The publication will consist of:

- a) Main findings of the assessments of equitable access to water and sanitation in various countries of the pan-European region;
- b) Progress and possible actions to improve equitable access to water and sanitation in those countries;

¹ Available at : www.unece.org/env/water/publications/ece_mp.wh_6.html

² The publication *The Equitable Access Score-card: supporting policy processes to achieve the human right to water and sanitation* is available at: www.unece.org/index.php?id=34032

³ For example at the Seventh World Water Forum (Daegu, Republic of Korea, 12-17 April 2015), the World Water Week (Stockholm, 28 August – 2 September 2016), the IWA Global water safety Conference (Philippines, 25-29 April 2016) and other events organized under the Protocol on water and Health.

- c) Good practices, lessons learned and practical recommendations for the assessment of equitable access to water and sanitation as well as for the development of Equitable Access Action Plans;
- d) Recommendations on the financing of actions to achieve equitable access to water and sanitation;
- e) Specific case studies and examples to illustrate;
- f) Executive summary and conclusions.

Possible outline

Chapter	Target length	Information Sources
Executive Summary	2 pages	
Equitable access to water and sanitation, the Protocol on water and Health, the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation and the SDGs	2 pages	<i>No One Left Behind: Good practices to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation in the pan-European region (2012)</i>
Assessing equitable access to water and sanitation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment methodology - Examples of findings from country self-assessments - Recommendations for organizing a self-assessment 	8 pages	<i>The Equitable Access Score-card: Supporting policy processes to achieve the human right to water and sanitation (2013)</i> Presentations and discussions at meetings of the Expert Group on Equitable Access Country contributions to be developed by expert group members Country reports on equitable access assessment outcomes
Planning and implementing actions to achieve equitable access <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning methodology - Examples of actions taken in countries - Recommendations for developing an Equitable Access Action Plan 	8 pages	<i>Guidance Note on the Development of Action Plans to Ensure Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation (2016)</i> Presentations and discussions at meetings of the Expert Group on Equitable Access Country contributions to be developed by expert group members
Financing actions to achieve equitable access to water and sanitation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Issues around financing equitable access to water and sanitation - Examples of financing approaches in countries - Recommendations for financing equitable access to water and sanitation 	8 pages	2018 Expert Meeting on Financing Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation Presentations and discussions at previous expert meetings Country contributions to be developed by expert group members
Annex: Country profiles (2 pages per country, 7-10 countries)	14-20 pages	To be developed by the Secretariat based on the country contributions

Roadmap for the development of the publication

1. Preparation of first drafts of country contributions by members of the Expert Group on Equitable Access (by January 2018)

2. 5th Meeting of the Expert Group on Equitable Access, focused on Financing (June 2018, tbc)
3. First draft of publication (by 15th October 2018), for discussion at 11th meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health (November 2018, tbc)
4. Final draft of publication for review at the 12th meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health (July 2019, tbc)
5. Publication for adoption at the 5th session of the Meeting of the Parties (November 2019, tbc)

Proposed template for country contributions to support the development of the publication

Each country contribution will be used to support the chapters in the main text of the publication and will also be summarized to develop a 2-page version to be included in an Annex of the publication.

Section 1. Motivation and self-assessment methodology

(Target length: ½ page)

This section will briefly describe the reason why the country/region/city decided to carry out a self-assessment. It will also describe the self-assessment methodology, including stakeholders involved, meetings organized, research efforts undertaken, etc.

Section 2. Key findings from the self-assessment

(Target length: 1 page)

This section will provide a brief overview of the findings of the self-assessment exercise and will highlight 3-5 examples of findings that are somehow remarkable (because of their importance, because they were unexpected or for other reasons).

Section 3. Lessons learned in carrying out the self-assessment and recommendations for other countries

(Target length: 1 page)

This section will highlight 2-3 lessons learned in carrying out the self-assessment and identify 2-3 recommendations for other countries/regions/cities that may be considering to carry out a self-assessment.

Section 4. Development of an action plan to promote equitable access to water and sanitation

(Target length: 1-2 pages)

This section will indicate whether the country/region/city has developed an action plan to promote equitable access to water and sanitation.

If an action plan has not been developed, the section will briefly indicate whether there are currently any discussions to develop an action plan, the potential benefits of developing an action plan, and the existing barriers to the development of an action plan.

If an action plan has been developed, the section will briefly describe the methodology used to develop the action plan (including the criteria used to identify key actions), and list the actions included in the action plan. It will also highlight 2-3 lessons learned in developing the action plan and

identify 2-3 recommendations for other countries/regions/cities that may be considering to develop an action plan.

Section 5. Examples of actions taken to promote equitable access to water and sanitation

(Target length: 1-2 pages)

This section will list and briefly describe 3-5 actions taken to promote equitable access to water and sanitation since the self-assessment was carried out.

It will also highlight 2-3 lessons learned in identifying, selecting and implementing actions and identify 2-3 recommendations for other countries/regions/cities considering to adopt actions to promote equitable access to water and sanitation.

Section 6. Financing equitable access to water and sanitation

(Target length: 2 pages)

This section will briefly indicate whether there are any estimates of the cost of past or planned actions to promote equitable access to water and sanitation, and if so it will report them.

This section will briefly indicate how past efforts to promote equitable access to water and sanitation have been financed in the country/region/city.

This section will briefly indicate whether there have been any discussions on how planned actions to promote equitable access to water and sanitation will be financed, and if so report them.

This section will briefly identify and discuss any other relevant issues regarding the financing of equitable access to water and sanitation in the country/region/city.