

Programme Area 6

Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation: translating the human right to water and sanitation into practice

Lead Parties: France & Hungary



Yannick Pavageau, France
Ministry of Solidarities and Health

Working Group on Water and Health
Geneva, 3-4 April 2019

Protocol on Water and Health



Priorities for 2017-2019

Program of work

1 - Enhance knowledge of the situation of equitable access to W&S through assessments and awareness-raising

- (a) Scale up application of the Equitable Access Score-card
- (b) Facilitate exchange of experience on the assessment process
- (c) Develop training materials on equitable access to water and sanitation
- (d) Promote political awareness on existing inequities

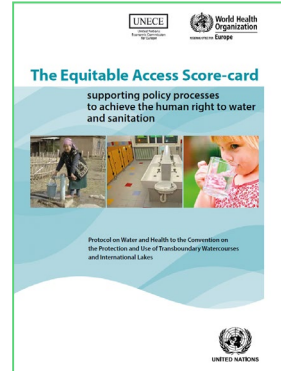
2- Foster adoption of measures to ensure equitable access

- (a) Support development of national or local equitable access action plans
- (b) Share lessons learned and promote good practices through meetings of the expert group on equitable access and workshops

Where are we at? an important involvement of countries in equitable access activities under the Protocol

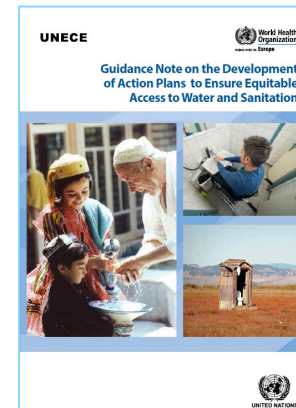
→ a self-assessment exercise carried out in 11 countries:
(at national or regional level)

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, France, Hungary, North Macedonia, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Spain, Ukraine



→ action plans set up to improve equitable access to water and sanitation:

Armenia, North Macedonia and Serbia



1. Main achievements (since last WG W&H)

➤ **Activities in countries:**

- * Finalization of the **scorecard self-assessments on equitable access** in:
 - **Bulgaria** (June 2018)
 - **Azerbaijan** (July 2018)
- * Development/implementation of **actions plans to improve equitable access**:
 - **Serbia** finalized the development of a regional action plan for equitable access to W&S in February 2019 (national and local measures for 2019-2021)
 - **Armenia** is monitoring the implementation of its action plan (2018-2020) in the reform of the water legal framework
- **5th Meeting of the Expert Group on Equitable Access to W&S** (June 2018)
- Development of the draft **publication** «*The Human Rights to Water&Sanitation in practice: Findings and lessons learned from the work on equitable access to W&S under the Protocol in the pan-European region*»

2. 5th meeting (June 2018) of the Expert Group on Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation hosted in Paris, Ministry of Solidarities and Health



38 participants from **11** countries of the pan-European region discussing:

- * **Lessons learnt** from applying the Equitable Access Score-card
- * **Actions** taken to improve the equity of access to water and sanitation services
- * Need to further work on the issue of **financing** equitable access to W&S
- * The **first draft** of the publication capitalizing experiences of countries in assessing/improving equitable access

3. Lessons learnt

- * **Growing interest** from countries regarding equitable access to W&S (new requests for support received by the co-secretariat)
- * **Key topic** at the global political level (World Water Day-Leaving no one behind, revision of the Drinking Water Directive)
- * Adopting a **cross-sectoral approach** is key when addressing equitable access to Water and Sanitation
- * Need for further work on the **financing** (integrated approach)
- * Need to further **integrate Human Right to Water and Sanitation into legislation** at national level



4. Future program of work 2020-2022

Program Area 6 – Equitable Access to W&S (1)

1) Raise awareness about the situation

- * Support **additional self-assessments** of the situation in countries
- * Develop **training/communication materials** on the basis of the publication *“Realising the Human Rights to W&S in the pan-European region - Findings and lessons learned from the work on equitable access to W&S under the Protocol on Water and Health”*
- * Organize a **regional workshop** on **progress and remaining challenges** of equitable access to W&S (building on lessons learnt and good practices from the work so far)
- * Promote **political awareness on existing inequities**, based on outcomes of countries assessments, in international events

4. Future program of work 2020-2022

Program Area 6 – Equitable Access to W&S (2)

2) Foster the adoption of measures

- * Support the development of equitable access action plans in countries and **development of equity related targets** (PWH)
- * Facilitate the **monitoring** of the **status of implementation** of existing **Equitable Access Action Plans** in countries (NPD)
- * Facilitate the **integration of the rights to W&S into national legislation** (legal support and collection of good practices) and monitor the impact on policies and practices
- * Organize **meeting(s) of the Expert Group** on Equitable Access to W&S to exchange experience and prompt further progress to ensure equitable access (financing/affordability issues, brochure)

Thank you for your attention