

# **DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2020-2022 UNDER THE PROTOCOL ON WATER AND HEALTH**

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# Preparation of the draft programme of work

Building on:

- Achievements and lessons learned in implementing the past programmes of work
- Discussions in previous meetings of the Working Group on Water and Health, the Bureau and other Protocol bodies



# Overarching objectives

- Support Parties in the implementation of and compliance with the Protocol
- Assist States in acceding to and applying the Protocol
- Address challenges related to water, sanitation and health in the pan-European region
- Contribute to the attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Ostrava Declaration on Environment and Health



# Relevance to the 2030 Agenda and other commitments

Powerful instrument to **implement the 2030 Agenda**, with a particular focus on **SDGs 3 and 6**

Helps countries to translate the aspirations of the 2030 Agenda into **tangible national objectives, targets and actions**

Protocol on  
Water and Health

Protocol objectives and programme of work strategically align with the **Ostrava Declaration**, opportunities for coherent implementation

Provides **technical capacity building** at national and regional level and serves as a **platform** to exchange experiences



# Bodies to implement the programme of work

- The Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties
- Working Group on Water and Health
- Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting
- Compliance Committee
- ...with support of the joint secretariat



**Programme area 1:**  
**Improving governance for water and health:**  
**support for implementing the 2030 Agenda**  
**through setting targets and implementing**  
**measures**



- **Responsible body:** Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting
- **Lead Parties:** Portugal and Romania
- **Objectives and expected outcomes:** Reinforce the implementation of the core provisions of the Protocol on target setting and reporting under articles 6 and 7 by supporting countries to:
  - Set targets and target dates
  - Translate the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, the Ostrava Declaration and other global and regional commitments into national targets and action
  - Exchange experiences and good practices
  - Promote public participation in implementing the Protocol
  - Ensure coordination with activities under other areas of the programme of work
  - Strengthen the reporting capacity of Parties and other States, including through aligning reporting with the 2030 Agenda monitoring process
- **Linkages to the 2030 Agenda:** The target areas under article 6 of the Protocol are linked to all SDG targets relevant to water, sanitation and health



# 1. Setting targets and implementing measures

- Consider issues and common challenges
- Build capacity and facilitate the sharing of experience
- Support the organization of tailor-made national, sub-regional and regional workshops
- Promote the setting of targets under the Protocol in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Ostrava Declaration
- Promote good practices





## 2. Strengthening reporting capacity

- Assist Parties in complying with the reporting obligations of article 7 and to support improvements in the quality of reporting
- Strengthen linkages between the reporting system under the Protocol and the 2030 Agenda monitoring framework
- Guide the secretariat in the preparation of the regional implementation report oriented towards communicating the findings and showcasing the progress made



### 3. Fostering synergies with 2030 Agenda and Ostrava Declaration

- Promote synergies with the processes related to the SDGs pertinent to water, sanitation and health
- Strengthen synergies with and contribute to the European Environment and Health Process, by positioning the Protocol as an effective instrument in implementing and tracking progress on water, sanitation and health related commitments of the Ostrava Declaration
- **Resource Requirements for PA1: USD 546,105**



# Programme area 2: Prevention and reduction of water-related diseases



- **Lead Parties:** Belarus and Norway
- **Objectives and expected outcomes:** Support Parties and other States in implementing article 8 of the Protocol, specifically to:
  - Strengthen national and local capacities with regard to improving, maintaining and sustaining vigilant public health surveillance and early warning systems of water-related disease
  - Enhance preparedness, outbreak responses and investigation capacities
  - Support the building of effective systems for surveillance of drinking water quality.
- **Linkages to the 2030 Agenda:**
  - PA2 aligns with and supports efforts to achieve SDGs:
    - ✓ target 3.3 to combat waterborne disease
    - ✓ target 3.9 to reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from water pollution and contamination
    - ✓ target 3.d to strengthen the capacity for early warning, risk reduction and management of risks
    - ✓ targets 6.1–6.2 to achieve equitable and universal access to safely managed drinking-water and sanitation services for all



# 1. Strengthening capacity in surveillance of water-related diseases and outbreak management

- Broadly disseminate the technical guidance on *Waterborne disease surveillance and outbreak management*
- Promote national uptake for improving water-related disease surveillance and early warning systems
- Update and make available previously developed training modules on water-related disease surveillance and outbreak management
- Convene a regional meeting to take stock of the situation with regard to the prevalence of *Legionella* infections
- Facilitate an exchange of experience and good practices related to Legionnaires' disease prevention, control and surveillance



## 2. Strengthening capacity in uptake of risk-based approaches in drinking-water quality surveillance

- Disseminate the technical guidance on *Risk-based approaches towards strengthening drinking water quality surveillance*
  - Promote national uptake for strengthening drinking-water quality surveillance
  - Organize capacity-building workshops to provide support in the adoption of risk-based surveillance approaches in regulations and practice
  - Create and disseminate a reference list/inventory of supporting resources on risk-based surveillance of drinking-water quality
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- **Resources requirement for PA2: USD 360,075**



# Programme area 3: Institutional water, sanitation and hygiene



- **Lead Parties and country:** Hungary, Republic of Moldova and Georgia (tbc)
- **Objectives and expected outcomes:** Support Parties and other States to ensure water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services in institutional settings, particularly in schools, kindergartens and health-care facilities, to
  - Support monitoring and systematic situation assessments of the status of WASH services in institutional settings
  - Promote effective cooperation and partnership between education and health systems' sectors to foster improved health and educational outcomes
  - Strengthen partnership and collaboration with youth organizations
  - Support the translation of global and regional commitments on institutional WASH into national targets and action plans in accordance with article 6 of the Protocol
- **Linkages to the 2030 Agenda**
- PA3 aligns with and supports the implementation of SDGs:
  - ✓ target 3.2 to end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age
  - ✓ target 3.3 to eliminate neglected tropical and waterborne diseases
  - ✓ target 3.8 to improve access to quality essential health-care services
  - ✓ target 3.9 to reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from water pollution and contamination
  - ✓ target 4a to provide safe learning environments for all
  - ✓ targets 6.1–6.2 to achieve equitable and universal access to safely managed drinking-water and sanitation services for all





# 1. Strengthening action towards improving water, sanitation and hygiene in schools

- Disseminate tools for the surveillance of WASH in schools and for school managers and promote their national and local uptake
- Support further national and local uptake of the tools and resources developed, undertake two in-country pilot projects on assessing and improving the situation on WASH in schools
- Collect evidence on tap water consumption in schools in selected countries to serve as a basis for policy action
- Develop a practical guidance document on available sanitation options for schools



## 2. Strengthening action towards improving water, sanitation and hygiene in health-care facilities

- Undertake and disseminate a review of evidence on WASH in health-care facilities
- Develop a practical surveillance tool for data collection on WASH in health-care facilities
- Organize regional meeting on WASH in health-care facilities to disseminate the findings of the regional evidence review and to inform development of the practical surveillance tool
- Support baseline analysis of the situation in relation to WASH in health-care facilities in two countries to inform national target setting and action planning in accordance with article 6 of the Protocol
- Support in-country capacities on applying the *Water and Sanitation for Health Facility Improvement Tool (WASH FIT)*
- Promote and support country actions for the integration of safe WASH in health-care facilities in national health strategies and action plans on antimicrobial resistance
- **Resources requirement for PA3: USD 649,800**



# Programme area 4: Small-scale water supplies and sanitation



- **Lead Parties:** Germany and Serbia
- **Objectives and expected outcomes:** Support Parties and other States to:
  - Increase policy attention to small-scale water supply and sanitation systems
  - Support policy uptake and the implementation of approaches based on good practices in the regulation, management and surveillance of small-scale water supply and sanitation at national and local levels
  - Assist Parties and other States in improving access to safe, sustainable and equitable drinking water and sanitation services in rural areas, small towns and peri-urban areas
- **Linkages to the 2030 Agenda:**
  - PA4 aligns with and supports the implementation of SDGs:
    - ✓ Target 3.3 to combat waterborne disease
    - ✓ Target 3.9 to reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from water pollution and contamination
    - ✓ Targets 6.1–6.2 to achieve equitable and universal access to safely managed drinking-water and sanitation services for all
    - ✓ Target 6.b to support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management



# 1. Improving the evidence base for better policy development for small-scale systems

- Analyse the information provided on small-scale water supply and sanitation systems under the fourth reporting cycle under the Protocol
- Promote tools and good practices that support the formulation of national road maps, policies, regulations and programmes, and which aim to improve the situation of small-scale water supply and sanitation (upon request by countries)



## 2. Strengthening the application of approaches to safe management of small-scale systems

- Update the document *Water safety plan: a field guide to improving drinking-water safety in small communities*
- Support field projects on improved planning, operation and management of small-scale water supply and sanitation systems
- Develop training materials for the application of water safety plans for small-scale water supplies in the pan-European region



### 3. Strengthen capacity for the sustainable financing of small-scale systems

- Support the publication of a guidance document on costing and financing of small-scale water supply and sanitation
- Promote good practices and tools on sustainable financing
- Build capacities of policy makers and authorities at national and local levels on the key principles in the costing and sustainable financing
- Track financing of small-scale services
- **Resources requirement for PA4: USD 340,400**



# Programme area 5: Safe and efficient management of water supply and sanitation systems





- **Lead Parties:** Bosnia and Herzegovina (tbc) and the Netherlands
- **Objectives and expected outcomes**
  - Provide support to ensure safe and efficient management of water supply and sanitation services by strengthening national capacities
  - Support improved management of water supply and sanitation services
  - Foster the setting of targets towards uptake of safe management of water and sanitation services
- **Linkages to the 2030 Agenda:**
  - PA5 aligns with and supports the implementation of SDGs:
    - ✓ target 3.3 to combat waterborne disease
    - ✓ target 3.9 to reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from water pollution and contamination
    - ✓ targets 6.1–6.3 to achieve access to safely managed drinking water and adequate sanitation for all, to improve water quality, to halve the proportion of untreated wastewater, and to substantially increase recycling and safe reuse



# 1. Scaling-up the adoption of water and sanitation safety plans

- Build capacity at the national, subregional and regional levels on water safety plan (WSP) and sanitation safety plan (SSP) approaches in policy and practice
- Support conceptual development and the implementation of pilot projects on integrated water and sanitation safety plans with a focus on small-scale water supply and sanitation systems



## 2. Focus policy attention and technical efforts on sanitation

- Disseminate the findings of the scoping study on sanitation that summarizes existing challenges and practices in sanitation management throughout the pan-European region
- Upon request, support sanitation policy development at country level related to effective regulations, sustainable technical interventions and financial approaches
- Under the leadership of an expert group on sanitation, develop further policy and/or technical guidance and practical tools under the Protocol, based on the scoping study results and outcomes of the 2019 regional workshop on safe and efficient management of sanitation



### 3. Focus policy attention on increasing climate resilience

- Develop capacity and promote good practices on building climate resilience of drinking water supply and sanitation services
- Organize a regional workshop (in coordination with Programme areas 4 and 7)
- **Resources requirement for PA5: USD 662,600**



**Programme area 6:**  
**Equitable access to water and sanitation:**  
**translating into practice the human right to**  
**water and sanitation**



- **Lead Parties:** France (tbc) and Hungary (tbc)
- **Objectives and expected outcomes:**
  - Implementation of the Protocol's requirement to ensure access to water and sanitation for all, including those suffering a disadvantage or social exclusion (article 5) and thereby the progressive realization of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation
  - Assist countries in addressing equity aspects in policy making processes
  - Facilitate the identification and implementation of solutions to ensure equitable access in the pan-European region
- **Linkages to the 2030 Agenda:**
  - PA6 aligns with and supports implementation of SDGs:
    - ✓ Target 1.4 to ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have access to basic services
    - ✓ Target 4.a to provide safe learning environments for all
    - ✓ Target 6.1 to achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all
    - ✓ Target 6.2 to achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations
    - ✓ Target 11.1 to ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services, and upgrade slums



# 1. Raising awareness about the situation of equitable access to water and sanitation

- Scale-up the application of the Equitable Access Score-card to support baseline analyses on the equity of access to water and sanitation in up to three countries or subnational regions
- Develop training and/or communication materials on equitable access to water and sanitation
- Facilitate the exchange of experiences
- Promote political awareness on existing inequities based on the outcomes of self-assessments



## 2. Fostering the adoption and implementation of measures to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation

- Support the development of up to three local or national equitable access action plans
- Facilitate the integration of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation into national legislation
- Monitor the status of implementation of existing Equitable Access Action Plans
- Support the development of a brochure on good practices to ensure that water and sanitation services are affordable
- Monitor progress in the area and provide a platform for exchanging experiences
- **Resources requirement for PA6: USD 499,600**





# Programme area 7: Increasing resilience to climate change



- ***Lead Party and country:*** The Netherlands (tbc) and Italy
- ***Objectives and expected outcomes:***
  - Strengthening resilience of communities to water-related disasters and other effects induced by climate change
  - Focus on building awareness, evidence and capacities in addressing the issues of extreme weather events, water scarcity and wastewater reuse in agriculture in the broader water resource management context
- ***Linkages to the 2030 Agenda:***
  - PA7 aligns with and supports the implementation of SDGs:
    - ✓ Target 6.3 to increase recycling and safe reuse of wastewater
    - ✓ Target 6.4 to increase water-use efficiency, ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity
    - ✓ Target 11.5 to reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and decreasing the direct economic losses caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations
    - ✓ Goal 13 to combat climate change and its impacts.

It will also help to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Paris Agreement

# 1. Building capacity to increase resilience to climate change

- Develop capacity and promote good practices on building climate resilience of drinking water supply and sanitation services
- Organize, in cooperation with the Water Convention, a workshop on climate change adaptation
- Support water and wastewater operators in strategic planning for ensuring climate resilience, including through supporting the Climate Risk Informed Decision Analysis (CRIDA) methodology



## 2. Exchanging experience on building resilience to climate change in urban areas

- Organize a regional workshop aimed at assisting Parties and other States to increase the resilience of water supply and sanitation systems to climate change impacts in urban areas
- **Resources requirement for PA7: 327,620**



**Programme area 8:**  
**Assistance to support implementation at the  
national level**



- **Responsible body:** Secretariat, with the support of the Bureau
- **Objectives and expected outcomes:**
  - Assisting Parties and other States in securing government commitment and ownership with regard to accession to the Protocol
  - Providing support to setting targets, establishing action plans and implementing measures to achieve them by providing, upon demand and pending the availability of resources, tailor-made support at the national level
- **Linkages to the 2030 Agenda:**
  - Directly related to Sustainable Development Goal target 6.a, which calls for expanding international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water and sanitation-related activities and programmes



# 1. Supporting accession

- Upon demand and pending the availability of resources, support countries working towards accession to the Protocol by assisting them in understanding its benefits, assessing their needs, and providing advice on the accession procedure



## 2. Supporting target setting and implementation

- Upon demand and pending the availability of resources, assist Parties and other States committed to accession in:
  - Setting or revising national targets and target dates
  - Establishing action plans for implementation
- Assistance may also involve support with implementing measures to achieve the targets set
- **Resources requirement for PA8: USD 59,925**





# Programme area 9: Compliance procedure



- ***Responsible body:*** Compliance Committee
- ***Objective, expected outcome and work to be undertaken:***
  - The Compliance Committee will monitor and facilitate implementation of and compliance with the Protocol and
  - Provide assistance to Parties under the Consultation Process in accordance with its terms of reference
- **Resources requirements for PA9: USD 321,200**



# Budgetary resource requirements for 2020-2022

- Total for all programmes areas: USD 5,285,000 (incl. PSC)
- Of which staff costs: 2,556,100 (incl. PSC)
  - Subtotal ECE staff: USD 1,537,700
  - Subtotal WHO/Europe staff: USD 1,018,400

