

Protocol on Water and Health: 5th session of the Meeting of the Parties and opportunities for joint work

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5th session

Meeting of the Parties to the
Protocol on Water and Health

19-21 November | Belgrade | Serbia



Why a treaty to manage water resources and prevent water-related diseases?

In the WHO European Region diarrhoeal diseases cause an estimated **14 deaths per day** due to inadequate



WaSH WATER SANITATION HYGIENE

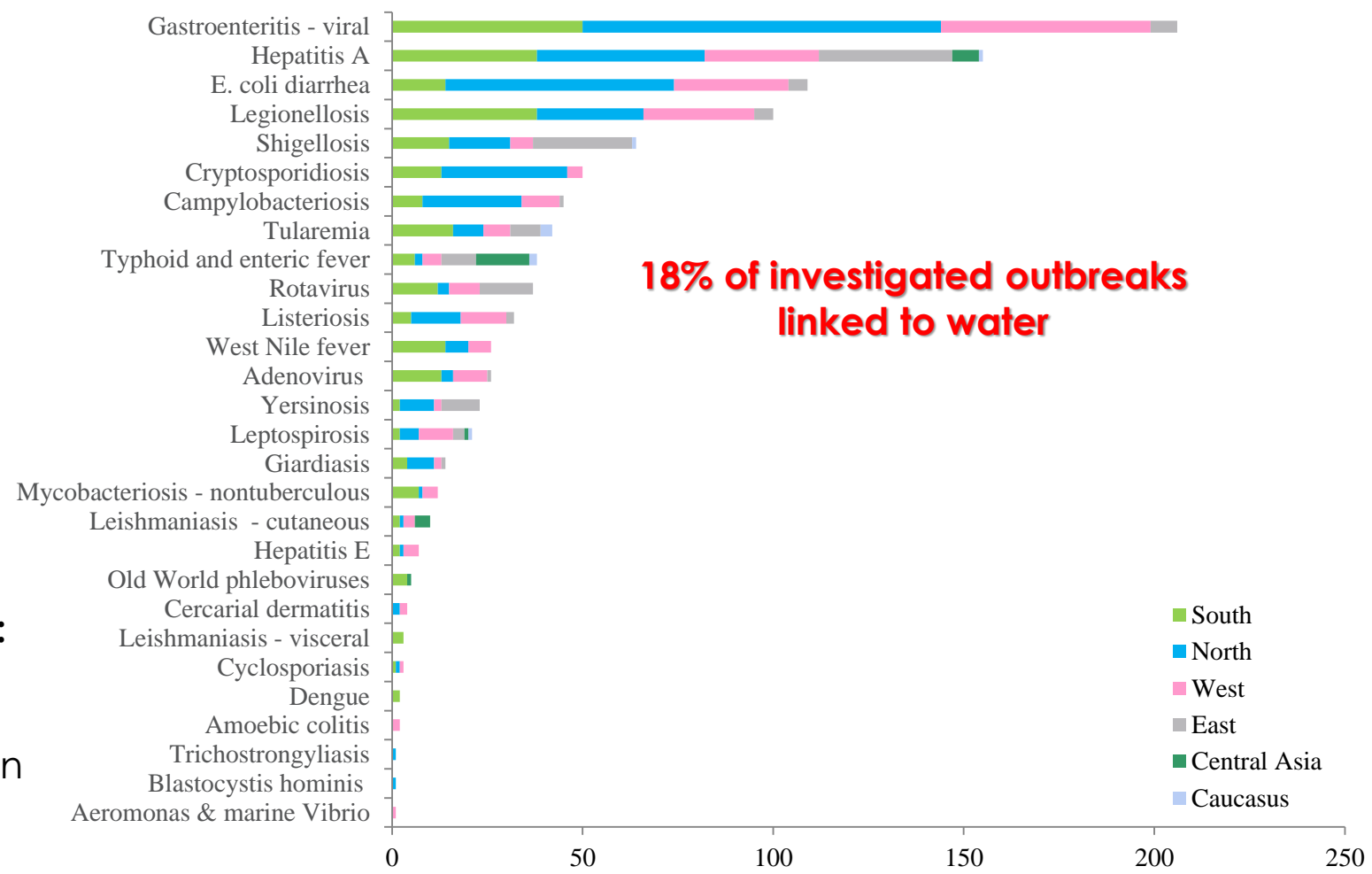
Diarrhoeal diseases can be prevented through:

- safely managed drinking-water
- adequate sanitation and safely managed wastewater disposal
- good handwashing practices.

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/environment-and-health/water-and-sanitation>
04/2016



In the pan-European region: **14 people die every day** of diarrheal disease due to inadequate water, sanitation and hygiene (*WHO, 2016)



The Protocol on Water and Health



World's first legal treaty designed to reduce water-related deaths and diseases through improved water management

It is up to the countries to translate its legal provisions into the reality of greater access to safe water and improved sanitation

26+ countries are Parties to the Protocol

UNECE and WHO/Europe provide joint secretariat services



5th session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health

Host country: Serbia

Date: 19-21 November 2019

Venue: Palace of Serbia, Belgrade

Expected: 200 participants from 40 countries of the UNECE region

Registration: <https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=U3wWxx>



High-level session (19 November 2019)

The Protocol on Water and Health: Catalysing sustainable development in the pan-European region

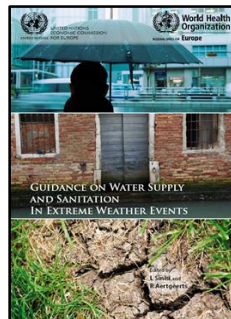
Protocol provides regional platform that supports countries in implementing and monitoring the water, sanitation and health-related SDGs, building on its broad experience and valuable practical tools

Objective: take stock of concrete results in achieving SDGs and to have an open dialogue on how to tackle the persisting gaps in the region, in light of environmental, social and economic challenges

Building on: *Protocol on Water and Health and the 2030 Agenda: A Practical Guide for Joint Implementation* <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=52057>



Programme of work for 2020-2022 to be adopted at MOP-5

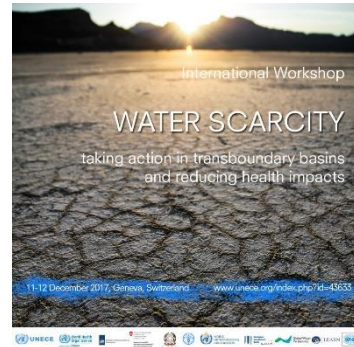


Guidance tools available at <https://www.unece.org/env/water/publications/pub.html>

Ongoing and future cooperation with the Water Convention

1. Increasing resilience to climate change

- 2017: *International Workshop on Water Scarcity: Taking action in transboundary basins and reducing health impacts* led to increased capacity for addressing water scarcity by sharing practical solutions, tools and approaches to reduce the related health, social, economic and environmental risks, in particular from the perspective of transboundary water cooperation and health impacts
- 2020: Planned workshop on climate change adaptation, for example focusing on financing of climate change adaptation, water and disasters etc.



2. Assistance to support implementation at national level, through EUWI+ NPDs

According to countries' priorities, support with setting targets under the Protocol has been provided in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine



Thank you for your attention



unece.org/env/water/pwh_text/text_protocol

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