

National targets of the Czech Republic in respect of the Protocol on Water and Health (2013)

Additional information is contained in a document entitled National Targets of the Czech Republic in Respect of the Protocol on Water and Health (Part I: Required Themes for the Setting of National Targets and Current State of Achievement in the Czech Republic; Part II: Existing Instruments for Improving the Current State; Part III: Proposed Targets), 4.9.2013

No	Protocol reference (article, paragraph, letter)	Subject	Defined target	Deadline	Responsibility	Target indicator
1.	6.2.a	<i>Quality of supplied drinking water</i>	Reduce the number of instances of non-compliance with drinking water quality limit values (expressed as a % of non-compliance with limit values). For water mains serving over 5,000 inhabitants up to 0.1% for indicators with maximum limit value and up to 1.0% for indicators with limit value. For water mains serving less than 5,000 inhabitants up to 1.0% for indicators with maximum limit value and up to 3.0% for indicators with limit value.	31.12.2012	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture	% non-compliance with limit values
2.	6.2.a	<i>ditto</i>	Re-issue or update awareness materials about wells	31.12.2014	Ministry of Health	Publication issued (yes – no)
3.	6.2.a	<i>ditto</i>	Continue with the support programme for replacement of lead pipes in residential buildings (Ministry for Regional Development)	Every year up to 2013	Ministry for Regional Development	Annual declaration of a support programme
4.	6.2.b	<i>Reducing the scale of water-related epidemics and diseases</i>	Improve the method for investigating and assessing water-related epidemics (including introducing an epidemic assessment classification system based on weight of evidence)	31.12.2014	Ministry of Health, regional public health authorities	Methodological recommendation issued (yes – no)
5.	6.2.b	<i>ditto</i>	Regularly publish (once every five years) an overview of detected water-related epidemics, including identified causes etc. First report to cover 2006-2010 period.	First report deadline: 31.12.2013	Ministry of Health	Report issued (yes – no)

6.	6.2.c	<i>Area of territory or size or proportion of the population that should be supplied by drinking water distribution systems or where the supply of drinking water by other means should be improved</i>	Ensure that inhabitants of outlying areas of towns and villages and small municipalities can connect to the public mains. Given the low number of inhabitants of these areas, this measure will not have a significant impact on the total number of supplied inhabitants. Through financial assistance of the State to support the municipalities which, (in accordance with Regional development plans for water supply and sanitation) plan to extend water network into the periphery of the municipality Financial support must meet the criteria of the relevant program plan for development of water supply and sewerage area counties.	On an ongoing basis	Local self-government. Putting in place the necessary preconditions: state authorities at municipal and regional level, Ministry of Agriculture	% of the Czech population connected to public mains
7.	6.2.d, 6.2.f (also 6.2.g I)	<i>Area of territory or size or proportion of the population that should be served by sanitation collective systems or where sanitation by other means be improved</i>	Complete the construction and modernization water management infrastructure (waste water treatment plants and sewers for public use) and thus ensure that compliance with the requirements of Directive 91/271/EEC	31.12.2015	Local self-government. Putting in place the necessary preconditions: state authorities at municipal and regional level, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment, State Environmental Fund	% of the population connected to sewers; % of treated waste water. Number of new or renovated wastewater treatment plants during the reported period, compliance with the requirements of Council Directive 91/271/EEC (in particular limit values as per Appendix 1, tables 1 and 2).

8.	6.2.d	<i>Ditto</i>	Ensure high-quality and adequate waste water treatment in small agglomerations with less than 2000 inhabitants where public sewers exist, as per Directive 91/271/EEC	On an ongoing basis	Owners of sewers in question. Putting in place the necessary preconditions: state authorities at municipal and regional level, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment, State Environmental Fund	
9.	6.2.f (also 6.2.g l)	<i>Application of recognised good practices to the management of water supply and sanitation, including protection of waters used as drinking water sources</i>	Eliminate or restrict the presence of dangerous substances in the aquatic environment, i.e. meet the requirements of Community directives on the discharge of dangerous substances and especially dangerous substances into the aquatic environment.	31.12.2015	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, municipal self-government, state authorities at municipal and regional level	Compliance with the requirements on environmental quality of surface waters set out in Appendix 3A of Government Resolution No. 61/2003 Coll., as amended (yes – no)
10.	6.2.f (also 6.2.j)	<i>ditto</i>	Meet the requirements of directives concerning quality of bathing waters and quality of waters intended for abstraction of drinking water and their emissions standards.	31.12.2015	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, state water	Water quality meets the requirements of EC Directives

					basin administratio n firms, municipal self- government, state authorities at municipality and regional level	
11.	6.2.f (also 6.2.j)	<i>ditto</i>	Meet the requirements for achieving “good status” for all waters as set out in the Directive 2000/60/EC establishing a framework for the Community action in the field of water policy	22.12.2015	Ministry of Environment , Ministry of Agriculture, state water basin administratio n firms, municipal self- government, state authorities at municipality and regional level	Criteria are specified in Catchment Plans
12.	6.2.j	<i>Quality of waters used as sources for drinking water, generally used for bathing or for aquaculture or for the production or harvesting of shellfish</i>	Meet the requirements of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC for protection of fish	31.12.2015	Ministry of Environment , Ministry of Agriculture, state water basin administratio n firms, municipal self-	Water quality meets the requirements of the EU Directives.

					government, state authorities at municipality and regional level	
13.	6.2.g II	<i>Discharge of untreated stormwater overflows during floods</i>	Support the neutralisation of stormwater overflows by direct harmless infiltration or runoff via settling ponds.	Long-term	Sewers owners, municipal self-government, state authorities at municipal and regional level, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture	
14.	6.2.k	<i>Application of recognised good practices to the management of enclosed waters (manmade recreational waters)</i>	Draw up and issue a handbook of manmade bathing waters good operational practice	31.12.2014	Ministry of Health, National Institute of Public Health	Handbook issued (yes – no)
15.	6.2.l	<i>Identification and remediation of particularly contaminated areas that adversely affect waters within the scope of this Protocol or may do so and which thus threaten to give rise to water-related diseases</i>	Make a thorough inventory of contaminated sites, with preliminary assessments of possible health and environmental risks; use this assessment for future risks analyses and assessment of the ensuing need for decontamination, along with an economic evaluation of such an intervention.	31.12.2015	Ministry of Environment	Inventory of contaminated sites

16.	6.2.m	<i>Effectiveness of water resource management, development, protection and use, including application of recognised good practice to the control of pollution of all kinds</i>	Implement 3 rd plan of action to protect waters from pollution by nitrates from agricultural sources for 2012 – 2015.	31.12.2015	Ministry of Agriculture	Implementation and implementation report
17.	6.2.m	<i>ditto</i>	Make available relevant information about use of pesticides in specific localities and possibly also their concentration in the soil or warehouse stocks. Ensure an effective and rigorous system for preventing pesticide contamination of water sources – starting with stringent conditions for use of individual pesticide types relative to their potential to contaminate waters, identifying decomposition metabolites that need to be monitored in drinking water, elaborating principles for selecting pesticide substances in complete analyses of drinking water and draw up principles for cooperation between supervisory authorities when overseeing the use of pesticide substances from the point of view of protection of water sources.	31.12.2014	Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Health	Availability of information (yes – no). Creation of a framework document on prevention of pesticide contamination of drinking waters and cooperation between supervisory authorities (yes – no).
18.	6.2.n	<i>Frequency of publication of information on the quality of supplied drinking water and the quality of other waters relevant to the targets in this paragraph in the intervals between the publication of information under article 7 paragraph 2</i>	Create an information system regarding the ecological and chemical status of waters according to the EU's Water Framework Directive and ensure public access to the results.	31.12.2015	Ministry of Environment	Public availability of information from Water Monitoring Programmes as per Directive 2000/60/EC (yes – no)
19.	6.5.a, 6.5.b	<i>National or local measures to coordinate the competent authorities</i>	Develop the plans for national parts of catchment areas of the Elbe, Danube and Oder rivers consisting of 3 levels (Sub-basin plans, Plans for national catchment areas and Plans for transboundary catchment areas).	22.12.2015	State Catchment Administration Firms with regional authorities.	Development of the Plans for catchment areas of the Elbe, Danube and Oder rivers consisting of 3 levels (Sub-basin plans, Plans for national catchment areas and Plans for

					Putting in place the conditions: Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture	transboundary catchment areas). (yes – no)
20.	9.1.a, 10.3	<p><i>Improving public awareness regarding the importance of water management and public health and their interaction</i></p> <p><i>The Parties shall ensure that the information referred to in Article 7, paragraph 4 and paragraph 1 of Article 10.3 shall be available to the public at all reasonable times for inspection free of charge, and shall provide members of the public with reasonable facilities for obtaining from the Parties, on payment of reasonable charges, copies of such information</i></p>	Improving the population's awareness through printed materials and web sites.	On an ongoing basis	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment and their organisations	Regular publication of the reports: Report on Water Management in the Czech Republic (Blue Report), Water Supply and sanitation CR, Report on drinking water quality in the Czech Republic, Report on the quality of bathing waters in the Czech Republic (all annually). Most of these publications are published in electronic form on the website. Operation of the Water Management Information Portal WATER (voda.gov.cz). Topical information (on bathing waters, etc.) on the website of the relevant ministries.
21.	9.2.a	<p><i>Promoting a better understanding among those responsible for water management, water supply and waste water treatment of the public health aspects of their work</i></p>	Continue to develop training programmes for water management and public health organisations.	On an ongoing basis	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture	
22.	9.4.a	<p><i>Encouraging research and development of cost-effective methods and techniques for preventing, controlling and restricting the incidence of water-related diseases.</i></p>	Support research and development in water quality improvement.	On an ongoing basis	Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education	

23.	9.4.a	<i>ditto</i>	Support specialised research into the economic ramifications of cost-effectiveness in water supply and waste water treatment.	On an ongoing basis	Ministry of Agriculture	
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Update of the national goals of the Czech Republic regarding the Protocol on Water and Health as of 1 October 2019

The evaluation of existing goals from 2013 and the proposal of new goals were compiled by the inter-departmental work team (Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Environment) with respect to the Protocol on Water and Health (hereinafter the "Protocol"), based on an evaluation of the situation at the start of 2019.

Goal Nos. 5, 11 and 18 are fulfilled on an ongoing basis according to the stipulated schedule and it has not yet been necessary to change them. Their wording is also adequate. The following changes are proposed for the remaining goals:

Goal No. 1: New values were proposed for this goal, which better reflect the improvement of drinking water quality in the public supply system in the past 10 years. There is very little room for further improvement. This goal should be fulfilled on an ongoing basis.

Goal No. 2: Due to little public interest, the declaration of a support program to replace lead pipes in residential buildings was terminated. However, we consider the issue of lead in drinking water important and propose conducting a risk assessment of indoor water mains in priority buildings in accordance with the requirements of the amended Directive 98/83/EC for the presence of lead in drinking water, including the stipulation of corrective measures.

Goal No. 3: Although the system of investigating and evaluating water-related epidemics has improved substantially in CZ in recent years due to the training of employees at regional public health authorities on this issue, a methodical recommendation for the investigation and evaluation of epidemics has not yet been compiled, mainly due to staffing reasons and also because at the end of 2019, the WHO issued a special and modern handbook for parties to the Protocol focused on the investigation of water-borne diseases.

Goal No. 4: The publication of an overview of water-related epidemics is expected in five-year cycles.

Goal No. 6: It is necessary to increase the share of treated wastewater. In this context, it is essential to ensure the intensive construction of new sewerage collectors and wastewater treatment plants and renew drainage networks with the intensification of existing wastewater treatment plants, in order to meet the statutory requirements in the area of released wastewater quality, especially Council Directive 91/271/EEC, on the treatment of municipal wastewater. As concerns the change in the fulfilment deadline, the reason is the need to gradually adapt wastewater treatment technologies to legal regulations, which make the requirements for wastewater treatment stricter.

Goal No. 7: The change was made due to a specification of the wording of the goal based on Directive 91/271/EEC.

Goal No. 8: The rewording of the goal is a specification of the text based on the Framework Directive on waters, Art. 4 (1) (a) (iv): member states will implement the necessary measures pursuant to Art. 16 (1) and (8) with the aim of gradually reducing pollution by priority substances and ceasing or gradually reducing the emission, release and leakage of priority dangerous substances, without affecting the respective international agreements of the participating parties set forth in Article 1; and from the Framework Directive on waters, Art. 4 (C). The deadline was changed based on the Directive. The fulfilment indicator is changed for legislative reasons - Government Regulation No. 61/2003 was replaced with Government Regulation No. 401/2015.

Goal No. 9: It is necessary to continuously monitor whether swimming water quality and water quality for purification into drinking water meets the requirements of EU directives.

Goal No. 10: The amended wording of the goal is more specific. The fulfilment deadline must be extended because a good ecological status and good quantitative and chemical status of ground water was not achieved by 2015. Directive 2000/60/EC allows the extension of the deadline until 2027.

Goal No. 12: The fulfilment deadline is extended due to the ongoing, currently 2nd phase of the national inventory of contaminated locations.

Goal No. 13: The task was fulfilled. The action plans are updated in regular four-year intervals. The action plan measures are discussed with the EC and the implementation of the measures is reported to the Commission.

Goal No. 14: The National Action Plan to reduce the use of pesticides in the Czech Republic (NAP) stipulated tasks to reduce the risk and limit the impacts of pesticide use on human health and the environment, and the introduction of integrated plant protection and alternative procedures to reduce dependency on pesticides. The tasks include ensuring a system of preventing water source contamination with pesticides, including monitoring, ensuring the availability of information about the application of pesticide substances in specific localities, implementation of regulations for the use of certain products to protect plants (or transition to less harmful plant protection products) in high-risk areas and changing the management methods in PZ. The Czech government approved the NAP under resolution No. 660 of 12 September 2012, and on 6 June 2018 it approved the Updated National Action Plan for the use of pesticides for the period of 2018 – 2022. The Updated NAP should be directed towards these goals, even though it has not stipulated specific fulfilment deadlines.

Goal No. 15: The obligation to prepare plans for river basis for the 1st planning period was fulfilled. In the following years, the updating of these plans was and will be conducted. In 2010, the first update of the plans for the second planning period of 2015 - 2021 was initiated. Within the framework of preparing the third planning period, a second update of the plans for river basins for the period of 2021 - 2027 will be carried out. The fulfilment deadline was extended due to the update of the river basin plans, which is stipulated for 2021. The wording of the goals and fulfilment indicators incorrectly mentioned Morava, but the river basin plans are compiled for the Elbe, Danube and Odra river basins.

Goal No. 16: The Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of the Environment in cooperation with other central water management authorities of the Czech Republic, i.e. the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Transport and Ministry of Defence, in coordination with the Ministry of Interior, ensure the operation of the VODA Water Management Information Portal (voda.gov.cz), which presents information about our waters in a clear manner through easily accessible applications. Other examples of publications and website demonstrate the activities conducted (among other) in this area.

Goal No. 17: Given the fundamental changes in drinking water legislation in CZ in compliance with the prepared amendment of Council Directive 98/83/EC on water quality intended for human consumption, we consider it necessary to address the issue of risk assessment (WSP) within the Protocol, as well. The drinking water supply system operators in CZ are obliged to compile a risk assessment by the end of 2023 - the key requirement of the assessment is to consider potential (hygienic) risks to drinking water quality. Because the risk assessment (or operation rules, of which the risk assessment is a part) are approved by a public health protection authority, there is a mutual understanding between water managers and hygienists - the water managers recognise new hygienic risks and their context, while the hygienists become familiar with the functioning of the water supply system while approving the operation rules.

Goal No. 19: The Ministry of Agriculture publication regularly reflects the development of the waterworks and sewerage sector and offers data mainly of an economic character, including the impact of the scope of infrastructure assets operated by one operator on operation efficiency.