

National Targets of Ukraine to the Protocol on Water and Health



Kyiv – 2011

Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes was adopted in 1999 at the Third Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health. Protocol entered into force in 2005.

Ukraine signed the Protocol in London in 2003 and ratified it by Law 1066-IV on the 09.07.2003. According to the order of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine from 06.10.2003 № 46963 “On implementation of the Action Plan for implementation of the Law on Ratification of Protocol”, the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine (Ministry of Environment) is the responsible central executive body that controls Plan implementation and serves as Focal Point of Ukraine to communicate with the Protocol Secretariat.

According to Article 6 paragraph 3 of the Protocol “...within two years of becoming a Party, each Party shall establish and publish targets referred to in paragraph 2 of this article, and target dates for achieving them”. Taking into account that the Protocol entered into force in 2005, the Parties were to fulfil their obligations to set targets to the Protocol by August 2007. To assist the governments, especially in non-EU countries, the Joint Secretariat of the Protocol (established by UNECE and the WHO Regional Office for Europe to help coordinate the implementation of the Protocol) and the Task Force on Indicators and Reporting recognized the complexity of the problem and developed the Guidelines on setting targets, evaluation of progress and reporting in 2008.

In 2007 the Project Facilitation Mechanism, initiated by the Norwegian Government in order to implement Protocol Article 14 on international cooperation, started to work. The main objective of this mechanism is to assist governments in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) to fulfil the Protocol obligations and achieve the goals. This instrument of international cooperation was launched in 2008, giving technical assistance to the governments of Moldova and Ukraine to comply with the Party's obligations on setting National Targets according to the Protocol.

The National targets setting process

The Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine established an Interdepartmental Working Group on Protocol implementation (Order № 243 from 12 May 2006). Understanding the complexity of requirements of the Protocol's Targets setting format and procedures, the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine in May 2008 requested the Project Facilitation Mechanism of the Protocol to provide international assistance to Ukraine for the National targets setting process. The government of Norway responded positively to the request and after negotiations on cooperation between Ukraine and Norway, an agreement was signed between the parties at the 5th World Water Forum in March 2009. The joint Ukrainian-Norwegian project on National Targets setting was launched immediately after that. The Ukrainian Ministry of Environment nominated the Ukrainian consultants to the project while the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs appointed the Norwegian Institute for Water Research (NIVA) as the international consultants.

The target setting process was carried out according to the guidelines provided by the Protocol. A broad stakeholder group consisting of ministries and state committees, NGOs, research organizations and river basin organization was appointed by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine.

The stakeholder group was established as the Project Working Group to develop and review the national targets for Ukraine. A baseline analysis along 14 target areas of the Protocol was carried out by the project participants in 2009. The Project Working Group reviewed the data and analysed the challenges related to the Protocol scope in Ukraine, identified and discussed priorities during a series of meetings. As a result, the first draft of the National Targets, consisting of 80 indicators, was developed. These targets were reviewed, prioritized and later consolidated in to 23 targets. The targets were then opened for public review. The stakeholders carried out the reviews within their organisations, while the public participation in this process was carried out by the Ukrainian Environmental NGO MAMA-86.

Public participation — an important step in the target setting process

The public consultations on the draft national targets were carried out by the Ukrainian Environmental NGO MAMA-86 during 5th September to 10th November 2010. This activity was organized by the Kiev Headquarter and regional branches of UNENGO “MAMA-86”, supported by the Women for Water Partnership (WfWP) and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC). A draft of National Targets was distributed by UNENGO “MAMA-86” by e-mail to experts and “MAMA-86” networks, and other partner NGO networks; hard copies were posted to some experts and disseminated at various events held by the “MAMA-86” network as seminars and conferences.

On 20–21 October 2010, public hearings of the Draft of National Targets to the Protocol were held in Kiev. Comments and amendments to the Draft were presented and discussed at the event. Representatives from the Ukrainian-Norwegian project and the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine, Ministry of Health, other executive bodies and NGOs took part in the public hearings, including 11 representatives from the authorities, 17 representatives from NGOs and media from 14 cities of Ukraine. Consultations and collection of comments were completed by 10 November 2010. As a result of public consultations “MAMA-86” has received 23 written submissions with numerous comments and amendments from authorities of different levels, NGOs and individual experts. All comments and proposals were presented to the Project Reference Group of the Ukrainian-Norwegian project which included the Ministry of Environment and other central authorities: Ministry of Health, Ministry of Regional Development, Construction and Housing, State Agency of Water Resources. Results of public hearings were also presented by “MAMA-86” at the fourth meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Policy Dialogue on IWRM.

After series of further meetings, various comments and suggestions during the public consultation process was evaluated. The majority of the amendments made by the responsible ministries and authorities, experts and NGOs were taken into consideration and included in the final version of 15 National Targets.

National targets of Ukraine to the Protocol on Water and Health

The Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine approved the National Targets to the Protocol by Order №324 from 14 September 2011. Consequently, the Cabinet of the Ministries of Ukraine (№ 716/0/1-11 from 26th September 2011) ordered the Ministry of Regional Development, Construction and Housing, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Youth, Science and Sport and Ministry of Health to provide the Ministry of Environment with information on the National Targets on a regular basis.

Overall, 15 National Targets were approved. These correspond to Article 6 of the Protocol, paragraphs 2 (a), 2 (b), 2 (c), 2 (d), 2 (e), 2 (h), 2 (g), 2 (i) 2 (m) and 2 (n).

Article 6, paragraph 2 (a), of the Protocol requires the setting of targets and target dates regarding the quality of the drinking water supplied, taking into account the WHO Guidelines for Drinking-Water Quality.

Target 1. Improving the safety of drinking water for microbiological parameters.

Indicators: The percentage of samples that do not meet sanitary standards and regulations for microbiological indicators (*Escherichia coli* (E.coli) and enterococcus will be:

	Target in 2015	Target in 2020
For rural water supply	3%	2%,
For urban water supply	2%	0.5%.

Target 2. Improving safety and quality of drinking water by chemical composition.

Indicators: The percentage of samples that do not meet sanitary standards and regulations for the sanitary-chemical parameters (priority: fluorides, nitrates (in NO₃), nitrite, arsenic, lead, iron, general stiffness, dry residue, sulphates, chlorides, manganese:

	Target in 2015	Target in 2020
For rural water supply	15%	7.5%
For urban water supply	7%	3%

Article 6, paragraph 2 (b), of the Protocol requires the setting of targets and target dates related to the reduction of the scale of outbreaks and incidents of water-related disease.

Target 3. Reduction of morbidity rates of diseases: cholera, dysentery cocci: bacillar (shigellosis), acute intestinal infection caused by enterohemorrhagic Escherichia coli (EHEC), hepatitis A, typhoid fever, aqueous nitrate methemohlobinemia related to the use of poor drinking water quality.

Indicators: Number of incidences per 100,000 population:

	Target in 2015	Target in 2020
Cholera	0	0
Shigellosis	2500	2000
EHEC (enteritis caused by enterohemorrhagic Escherichia coli)	100	80
Viral hepatitis A	2500	2000
Typhoid fever	0	0
aqueous nitrate		
Methemohlobinemia	0	0

Target 4. Providing the laboratories with the modern equipment necessary for testing safety and quality of drinking water.

Indicators:

	Target in 2015	Target in 2020
Number converted (upgraded) laboratories	20%	50%

Article 6, paragraph 2 (c) of the Protocol requires that the area of territory, or the population sizes or proportions, which should be served by collective systems for the supply of drinking water or where the supply of drinking water by other means should be improved.

Target 5. Increase the percentage of population with access to drinking water with adequate quality.

Indicators: Proportion of population with access to safe drinking water:

	Target in 2015	Target in 2020
In cities and towns	90%	100%,
In rural areas	50	70%

Target 6. Ensuring that the children in pre-school and secondary schools are provided with drinking water of adequate quality.

Indicators: Increasing numbers (in percent) of pre-school and secondary schools with improved access to safe drinking water:

	Target in 2015	Target in 2020
In cities and towns	15%	25%
In rural areas	10%	20%

Article 6, paragraph 2 (d) of the Protocol requires that the area of territory, or the population sizes or proportions, which should be served by collective systems of sanitation or where sanitation by other means should be improved.

Target 7. Improve the access to centralised sewerage systems.

Indicators: Percentage of urban and rural population with access to improved sanitation:

	Target in 2015	Target in 2020
In cities and towns	80%	100%
In rural areas	20%	50%

Target 8. Providing improved sanitation for children in pre-school and secondary schools.

Indicators: Increase the number of pre-schools and secondary schools connected to adequate sanitary facilities and sewer systems:

	Target in 2015	Target in 2020
In cities and towns	15%	25%
In rural areas	5%	15%

Article 6, paragraph 2 (e), of the Protocol requires the setting of targets and target dates related to the levels of performance to be achieved by collective systems and by other means of water supply and sanitation.

Target 9. Reducing the length of the water supply pipelines and sewer lines that are in damaged condition.

Indicators: Percentage of replacements of pipelines which are damaged:

	Target in 2015	Target in 2020
In cities with populations over 500,000	30%	50%
In other towns	15%	30%

Article 6, paragraph 2 (g), of the Protocol requires the setting of targets and target dates related to the occurrence of discharges of untreated wastewater.

Target 10. Reducing the amount of discharges of wastewater (including mining, quarries and drainage water) with non-existent or inadequate treatment.

Indicators: Percentage volume of wastewater discharged to the surface waters from mining, quarries and drainage shall be reduced to:

	Target in 2015	Target in 2020
Discharges without treatment	3%	1.5%
Discharges with inadequate treatment	15%	10%

Article 6, paragraph 2(h), of the Protocol requires the setting of targets and target dates related to the quality of discharges of wastewater from wastewater treatment installations to waters within the scope of the Protocol.

Target 11. Increasing the efficiency of wastewater treatment.

Indicators: Number of treatment plants:

	Target in 2015	Target in 2020
Constructed	25	60
Modernized	30	70

Article 6, paragraph 2(m), of the Protocol requires the setting of targets and target dates related to the effectiveness of systems for the management, development, protection and use of water resources, including the application of recognized good practices in the control of pollution from sources of all kinds.

Target 12. Adoption of management plans for River Basins: Dnipro, Dniester, Danube, Tisa, Seversky Donets, Southern Bug.

Indicators:

	Target in 2015	Target in 2020
Adoption of management plans for Basins of Rivers	Danube, Tisa, Southern Bug	Dnipro, Dniester, Seversky Donets

Article 6, paragraph 2(n) requires to set targets on the frequency of publishing information on the quality of the drinking water and other waters relevant to the targets.

Target 13. Preparation and publication of the National Report on the quality of drinking water and drinking water supply situation in Ukraine.

Indicators: The publication of the National Report on the quality of drinking water and the drinking water supply in Ukraine: Annually.

Target 14. Preparation and publication of a summary report on the progress in implementing the Protocol on Water and Health.

Indicators: Availability of a summary report on progress in implementing the Protocol on Water and Health: Every 3 years.

Target 15. To raise the awareness among representatives of the national and local authorities, scientific institutions, organisations and the public on the issues related to the Protocol, including the introduction of Best Available Technologies within water supply and sanitation, and improvement of the public responsibility for the protection of water resources.

Indicators: Meetings, conferences, seminars, International Water Forum
AQUA UKRAINE: Annually.

Next steps

- Ukraine's national targets should be reflected in to the strategic development plans of the respective ministries and authorities thus the implementation process is rationally integrated to the national processes.
- The newly established Water Fund at the European Bank on Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) will be instrumental in developing investment programs for the prioritized activities in the National Targets. The relevant state organisations will be focusing on this possibility.
- It is also necessary to review the existing Plan of implementation of the Protocol developed in 2003 in view of the finalised targets.
- The next reporting on the progress of the target areas are due in 2013. Thus, it is necessary to set up mechanisms to collect data and start monitoring the progress of achieving the National targets established by the government.
- The National Targets are a national nationwide priority. Considering these national targets, local authorities should set up appropriate local targets to the Protocol, taking into account local challenges and priorities in the scope of the Protocol and identify ways, measures and sources of funding achieve the targets.

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