

# **The Protocol on Water and Health: where health, environment, and development policies meet**

**Can the Protocol help?**

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UNECE



World Health  
Organization

# Can it help?

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**YES!**

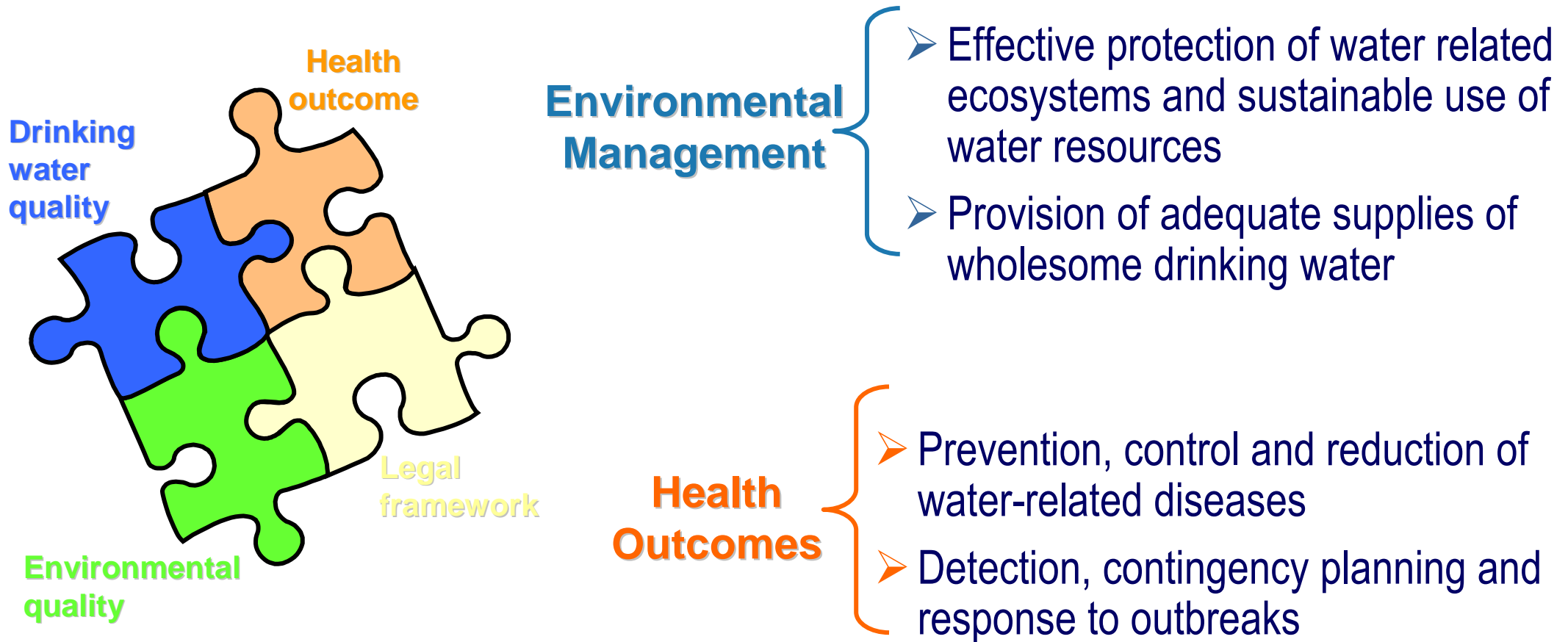
- Why and how?
- What are the "buts"?
- The way forward

# It's legally binding

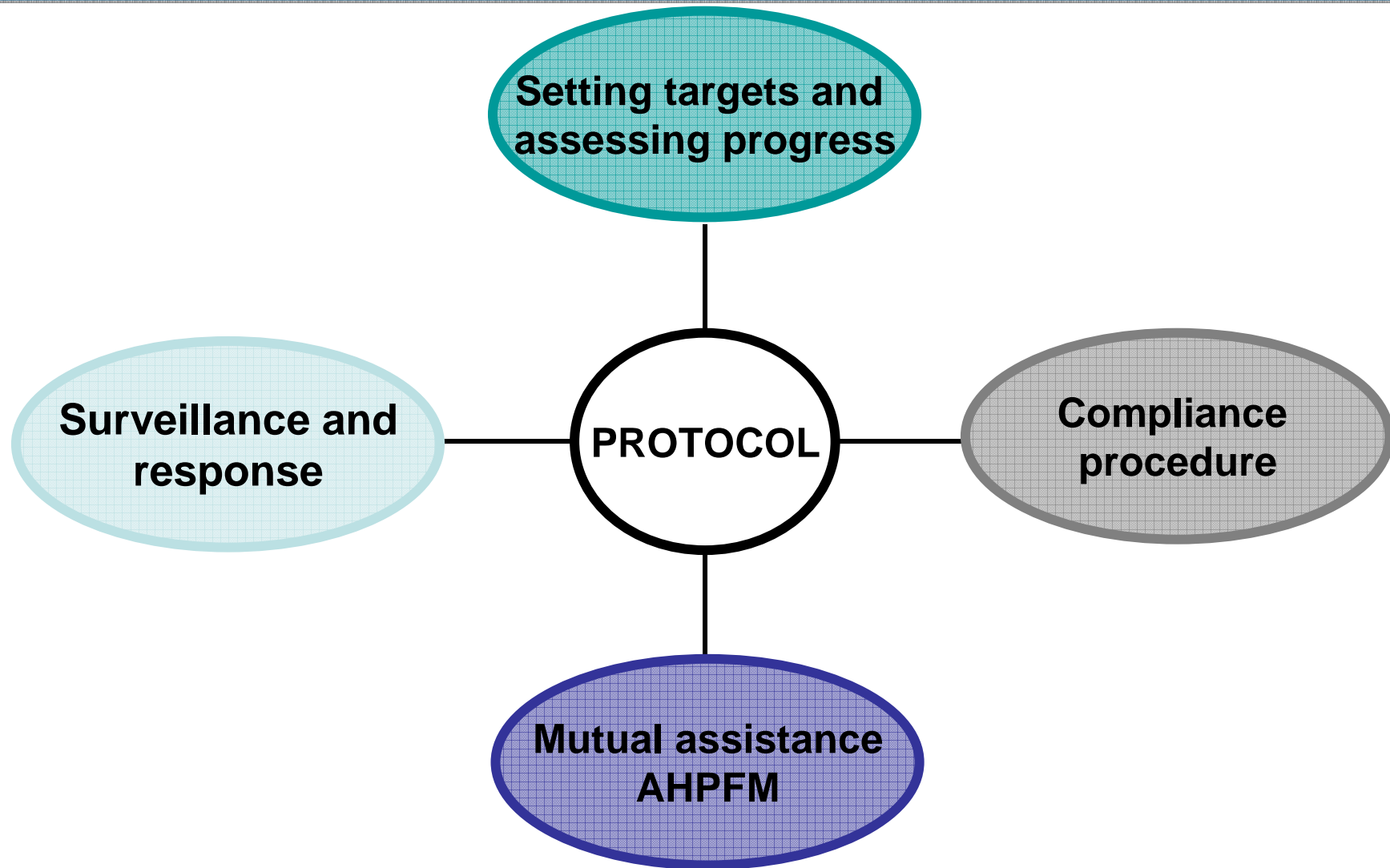
- Difference with MDGs
- It's a negotiated text
- Rational and comprehensive approach
- More direct translation in national law
- Long term commitment



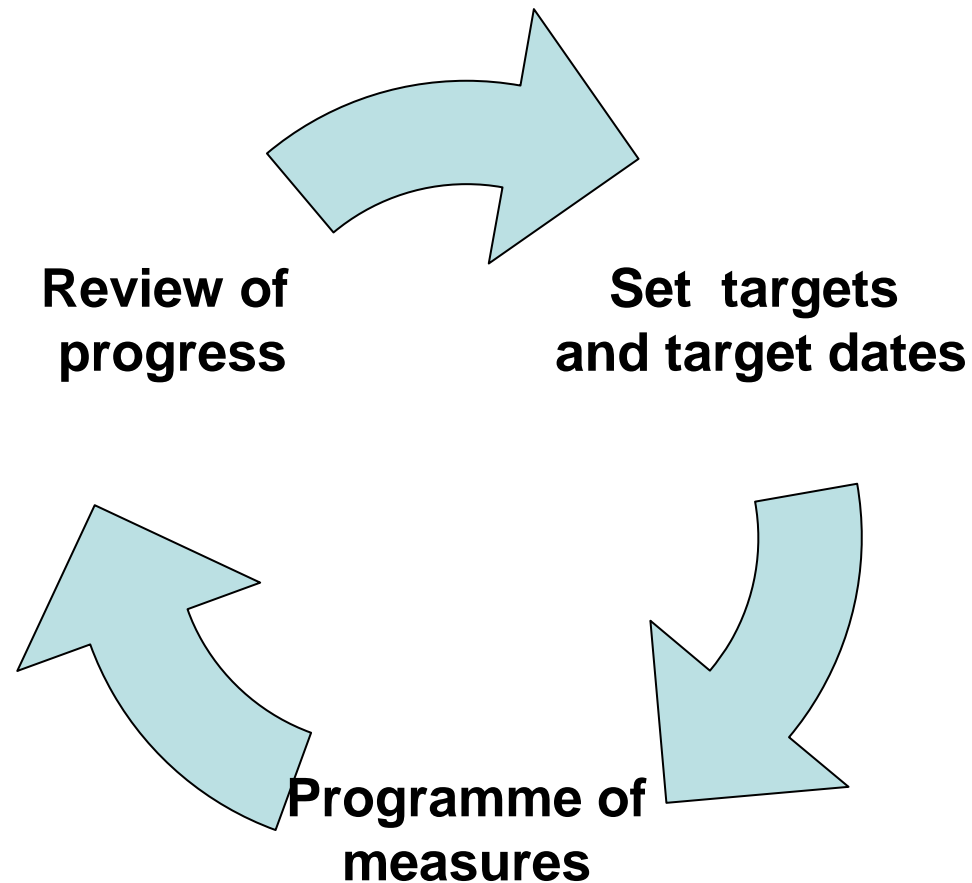
# Aim: Protect human health and well being by better management of water resources



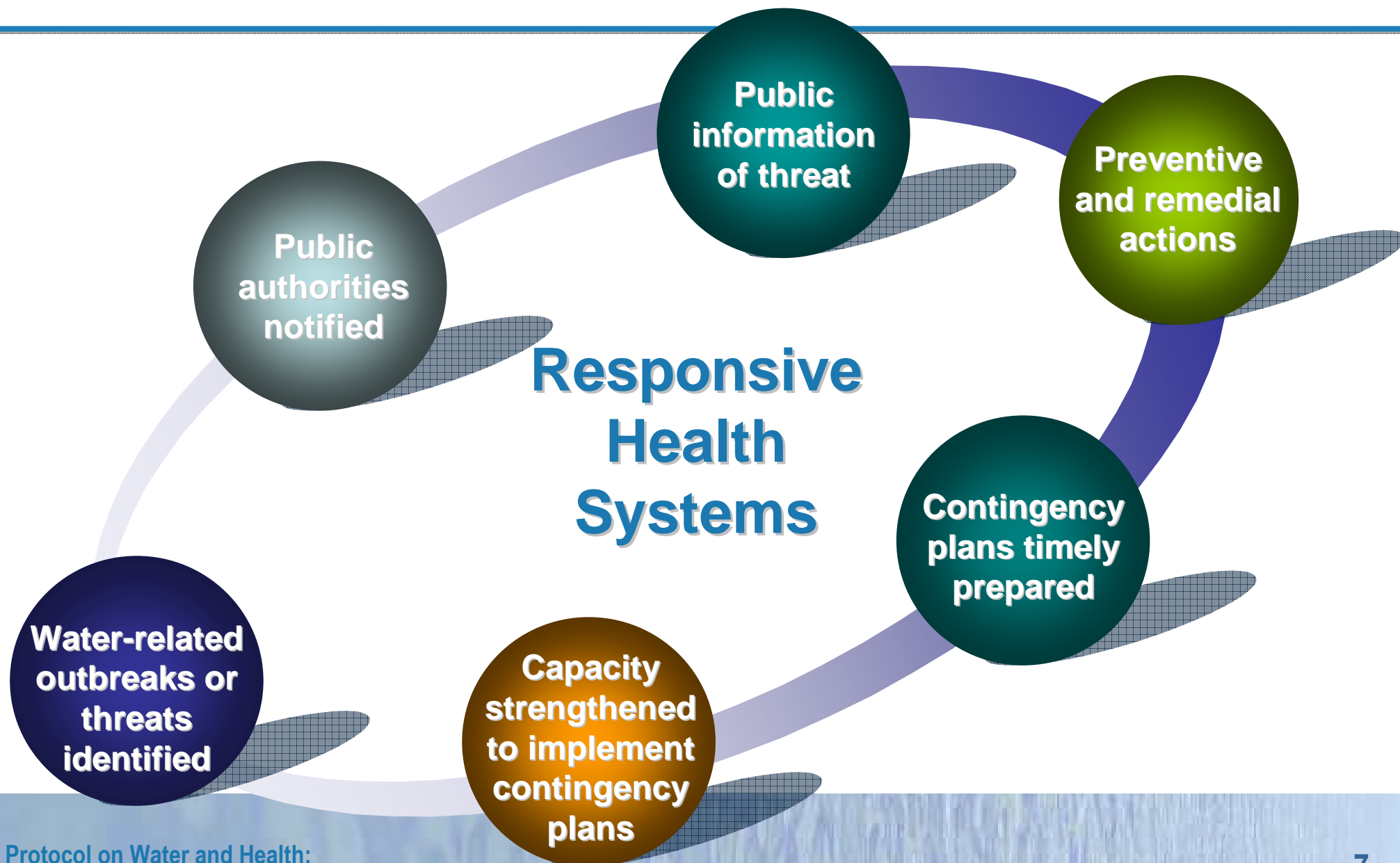
# How: the Protocol's pillars



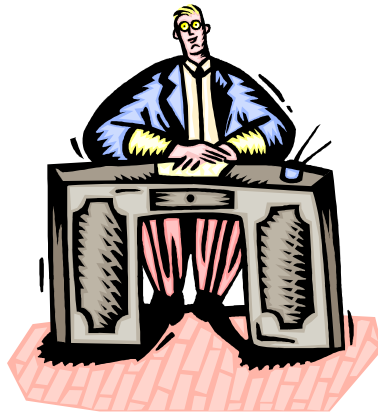
# Targets and review of progress



# Surveillance and response



# The stick and the carrot



Compliance  
Committee

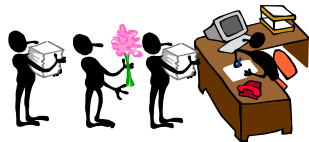


Ad Hoc Project  
Facilitation Mechanism



# How does the Protocol function?

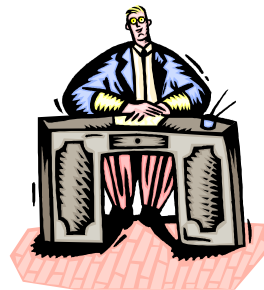
## Meeting of the Parties (MOP)



Compliance Committee



Ad Hoc Project Facilitation Mechanism



Bureau



- Task Force Surveillance
- Task Force on Indicators and Reporting
- Task Force on Extreme Weather Events

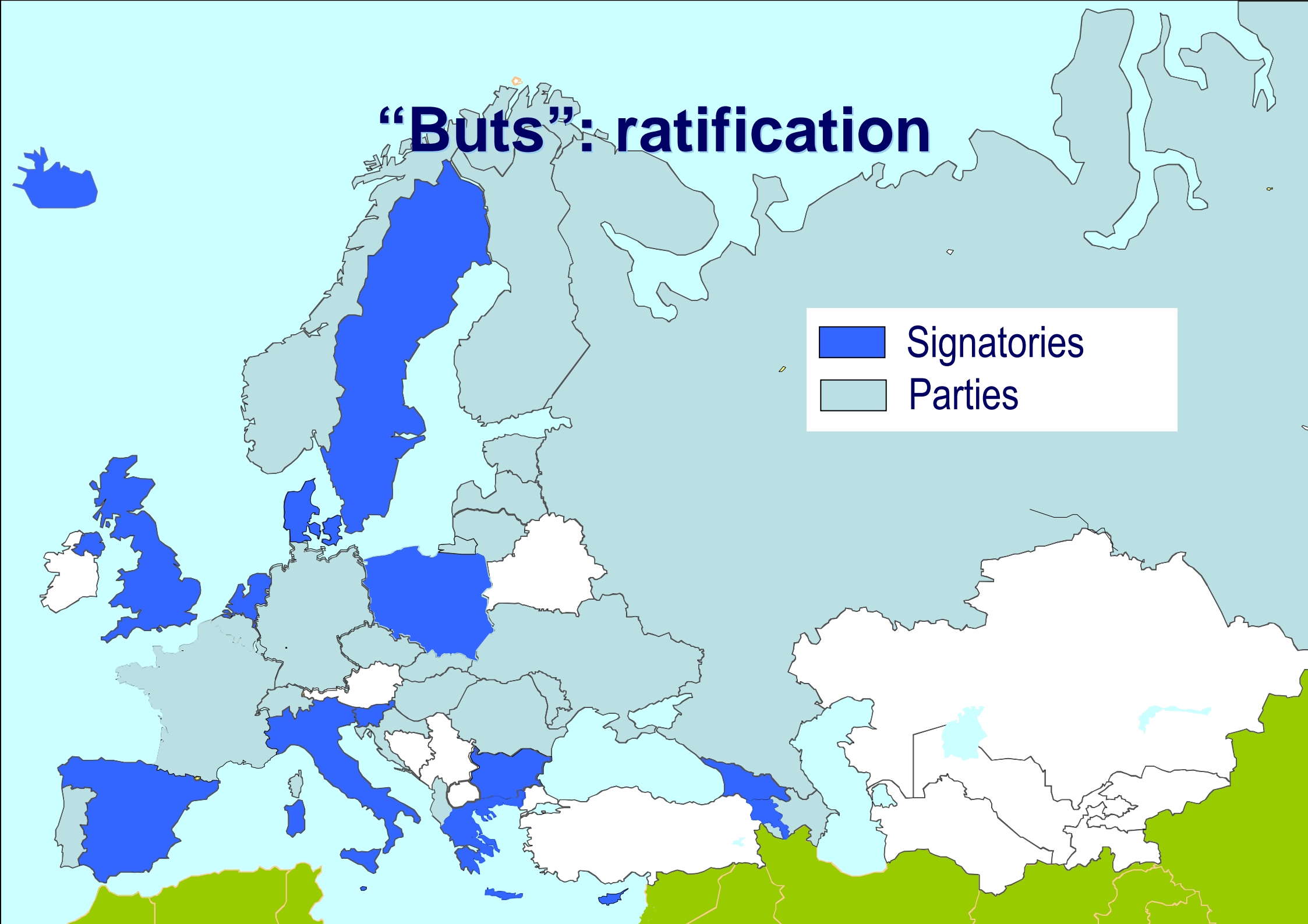
Working Group on Water and Health



Joint Secretariat WHO – UNECE

# “Buts”: ratification

- Signatories
- Parties



# Challenges

- Difficulty of the problems => complexity of the solution
- Integration: the beauty of the Protocol and its curse
- Win inertia of traditional/sectoral approach=> Still weak recognition of the linkages between environment and public health
- Lack of political attention
- Financial implications vs underfunding of the water sector

**THE END (?)**

**Once will be a time...**

# The way forward

- A leap forward since entry into force in 2005
- Activities in the programme of work to support continuous progress
- New “common language” and partnership between sectors
- More and more rational and coordinated international assistance
- Join forces with other initiatives (EUWI) and actors (UN org, NGOs, private sector)
- Increase awareness and political will