

World Water Week, Stockholm 2008

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

**The Protocol as a change management tool: using the  
provisions of the Protocol to adapt to climate change**

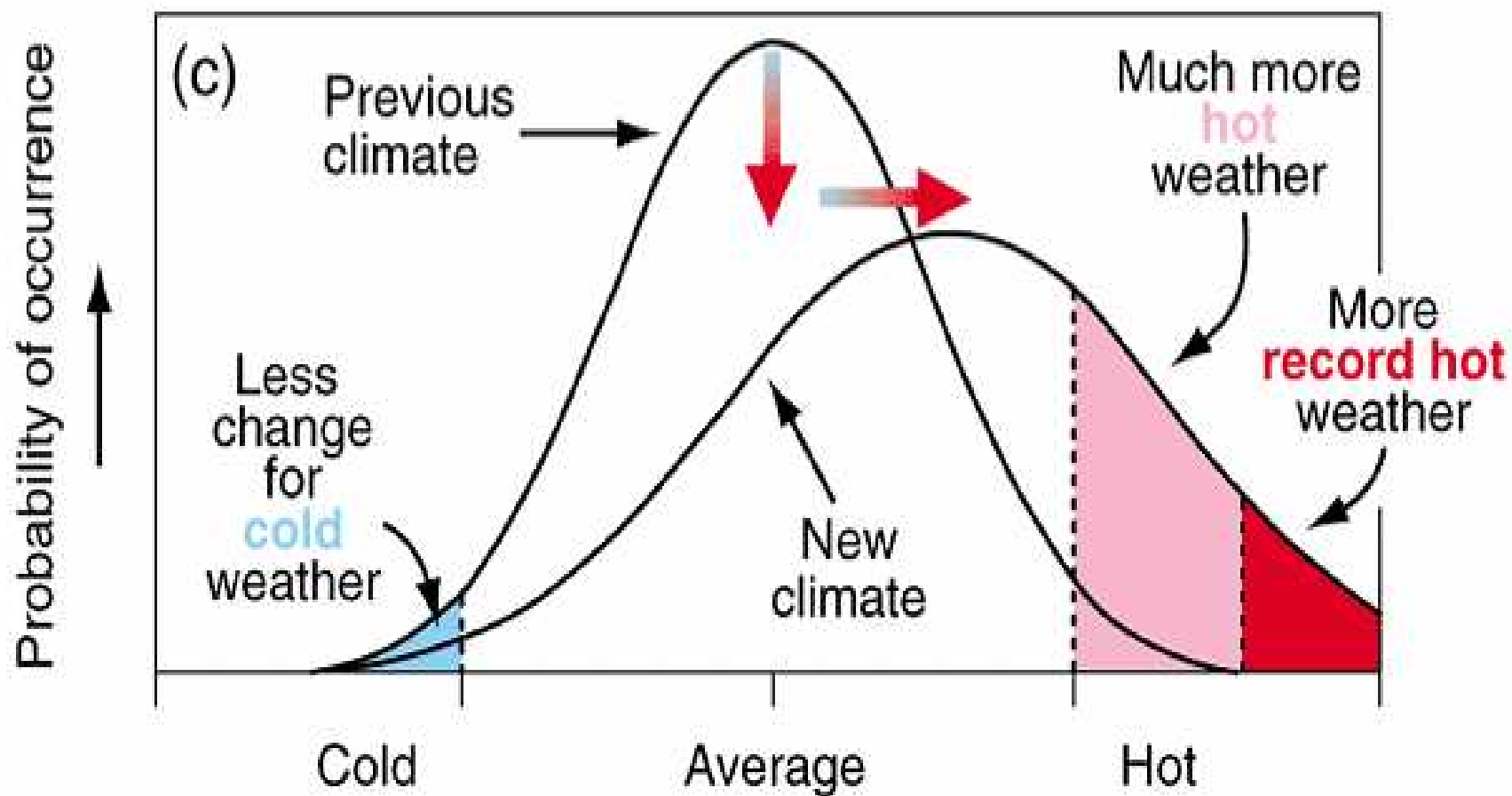
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World Health  
Organization

# The bottom line...

Increase in mean and variance



# Shallow well repair UKR...



# WHO emergency team well assessment



# Tajik cold wave March 2008



# ADVENTURE

**The result of bad planning!**

**Water utilities need to adapt  
NOW!**

**Water is a magnifier for  
climate related problems**





EUROPE

Stockholm International Water Week

Protocol on Water and Health as a Change Management Tool

<b>FLOODS</b>	Hydraulic	Discharges of untreated storm water overflows (6.2.g)
<b>DROUGHT</b>	Quality	Quality conform WHO (6.2.a)
<b>RESOURCE</b>	Surface Aquifer	Protection of water used as source of drinking-water (4.2.a. & c; 6.2.f) Quality of waters used for dw, bathing, aquaculture (6.2.j.)
<b>SERVICE</b>	Quality Continuity	Performance levels (6.2.e)
<b>HEALTH</b>		Outbreaks and incidents (6.2.b) Food safety (4.2.d) Response systems (8)

# Human health

- Increase in diarrhoeal diseases
- Vector-borne diseases
  - (Chikungunya in Italy)
- Increase in water for cooling: legionella added
- Food safety
  - Salmonella
  - Aquaculture impact of algal pollution
- Recreational water quality



# Conclusion

- A forward looking planning instrument
- To protect human health
- Against present and future risks
- In an integrated manner
- Throughout the entire water cycle

## River flow

- Water-stressed regions in S Europe are projected to be particularly exposed to reductions in water resources due to climate change. This will lead to increased competition for available water resources.
- Flood frequency will increase in large parts in Europe

# Freshwater and biodiversity

- Physical change
  - Higher temperature, lower oxygen content
  - Stable vertical stratification
  - Eutrophication, change in timing of algal blooms and increase of harmful algal bloom
  - Alteration to habitats and distribution of aquatic organisms
- Chemical change
- Biological change