

# Institutional Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Lead countries: Georgia, Hungary and Moldova

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Working Group on Water and Health

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Protocol on Water and Health



## Objectives for WinS for 2020-2022

- a) Disseminate the Surveillance tool and the Information package and promote their national and local uptake
  - organize regional and subregional workshops to disseminate available evidence and tools and facilitate the sharing of good practices
  - promote leadership and cooperation between the education and health sectors
  - support target setting and action planning
- b) Support pilot projects on WASH in schools in two countries
- c) Collect evidence on drinking water consumption in schools to inform policy action to promote water consumption in schools
- d) Develop a practical guidance document on available sanitation options for schools.

## Objectives for WinHCF for 2020-2022

- a) Review of evidence on WASH in health-care facilities in the pan-European region;
- b) Develop a practical surveillance tool on WASH in health-care facilities to support national surveillance and reporting under the Protocol and relevant SDG targets;
- c) Organize a regional meeting on WASH in health-care facilities to disseminate the findings of the regional evidence review, inform development of the practical surveillance tool and promote implementation of resolution WHA72.7;
- d) Support baseline analysis of the WASH in health-care facilities situation in up to two countries to inform national target setting and action planning

## The COVID-19 context

- The pandemic focused attention on WASH in general, and WinHCF in particular
- Enhanced efforts of IPC: emphasis on hand hygiene and environmental hygiene
- WinS also important both during operation (hand hygiene in school toilets, drinking water without cross-contamination) and after lockdowns (safe reopening)
- Hindered progress in many of the planned activities

# Status of activities

## On track

- Development of WinS training materials
- Evidence review on WASH in health-care facilities
- Development of a surveillance tool for WASH in health-care facilities
- Support for baseline analysis of situation of WASH in health-care facilities in countries

## On hold



- Expert group meeting on WinS
- Regional workshop on WASH in health-care facilities

## Secondary priority

- Pilot projects on WASH in schools
- Development of a guidance document on sanitation for schools
- Support application of WASH FIT tool in two countries

# Main achievements: Country work progress

- Countries increased interest and efforts for IPC and WASH in healthcare settings, especially in association with control and preparedness to outbreak response (work ongoing in GEO, HUN, TJK and others).
- Countries improved partnership with stakeholders and mobilized resources for activities on WASH in HCFs (KGZ, TJK)
- Countries used available tools (education posters, guidelines, information for schools) to strengthen WASH and in particular hygiene in schools reopening during the COVID19 pandemic

Water, sanitation, hygiene, and waste management for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19

Interim guidance  
29 July 2020

**Background**

This interim guidance synthesizes the scientific evidence and control (IPC) decisions by international WASH partners on water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH) and waste management. The document is an update to the interim guidance document entitled "Water, sanitation, hygiene and waste management for COVID-19" (published on 11 March 2020). It is intended to inform and address new evidence and practices. All health-care providers who work in close contact with WASH and waste risks and practices in relation to COVID-19.

The provision of safe water, sanitation and waste management and hygiene continues to be essential for preventing and controlling human health during all outbreaks. Global efforts to control and prevent disease 2019 (COVID-19), disease outbreaks and zoonotic diseases require WASH and waste management interventions. The document provides a synthesis of the evidence and guidance on WASH and waste management for COVID-19. The document will help providers, public health institutions and other stakeholders to plan and implement interventions for COVID-19.

This guidance was originally published in March 2020. This brief update provides additional details on risks associated with reopening health-care facilities, hand hygiene, personal protective equipment (PPE), and waste management. The document also provides information on WASH and waste management for health-care facilities, including the role of WASH and waste management in preventing and controlling COVID-19. The document also provides information on WASH and waste management for health-care facilities, including the role of WASH and waste management in preventing and controlling COVID-19.

**The next important information concerning WASH and the SARS-CoV-2 is summarized here:**

- Proper and correct hand hygiene is one of the most important measures to prevent infection with SARS-CoV-2. WASH practitioners should work to enable, support and improve their hygiene and waste management systems to ensure a safe and effective response to COVID-19.

**1. COVID-19 transmission**

The main route of transmission of SARS-CoV-2 is via close contact with an infected individual in risk of being exposed to respiratory droplets (distance < 1 m). Droplets may land on surfaces where the virus could remain viable. The transmission of the virus is also possible via aerosols in a series of circumstances.

**2. SARS-CoV-2 in addition, evidence is shown that transmission occurs via (COV) but more likely via (SARS-CoV-2).**

**Checklist to support schools re-opening and preparation for COVID-19 resurgences or similar public health crises**



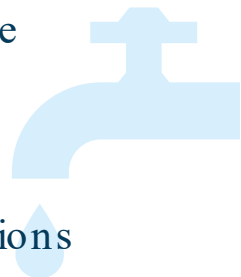


# Main achievements: Contributing to the global agenda

- Increased number of countries in the region were able to provide estimates for WASH services in schools and healthcare facilities as part of the JMP reporting  
<https://washdata.org/sites/default/files/2020-08/jmp-2020-wash-schools.pdf>
- Work under the Protocol and case study examples of several countries was included in the *Global Progress Report on WASH in Health Care Facilities: Fundamentals First*  
<https://washdata.org/sites/default/files/2020-12/WHO-UNICEF-2020-wash-in-hcf.pdf>
- Progress also presented at the WHA side event “Meeting the Challenge of COVID-19: Achieving Sustainable WASH-safe Health Care Facilities in the 2020s” in May 2020.

## Lessons learnt for future work

- a) Need for alternative and flexible ways of delivering capacity building and implementation activities
- b) Need for strengthening attention on WASH from other sectors and increase cross-sectorial collaboration to integrate WASH as a strong basis for IPC, outbreak preparedness, patient safety and occupational health
- c) Need for review national monitoring and surveillance systems and take actions to harmonise with SDG 6 monitoring efforts
- d) Even more need for sound and empiric data to inform improvement work and more efficient use of available data





## Plans for future work in this area: priority milestones



Subregional workshop on WinS  
(Co-hosted by Belarus  
22-24 June 2021  
Virtual format)



Finalise a report of baseline assessment of WASH in HCFs in HUN, MDA, TJK (2021)



Support the national assessment of WASH in HCFs in GEO and MNE (2021)



Regional evidence report on WASH in health-care facilities (2022)



Surveillance tool for WASH in health-care facilities(2022 )

**Thank you for your attention!**

