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WATER
ACTION DECADE
— 2018-2028 —

UN WATER



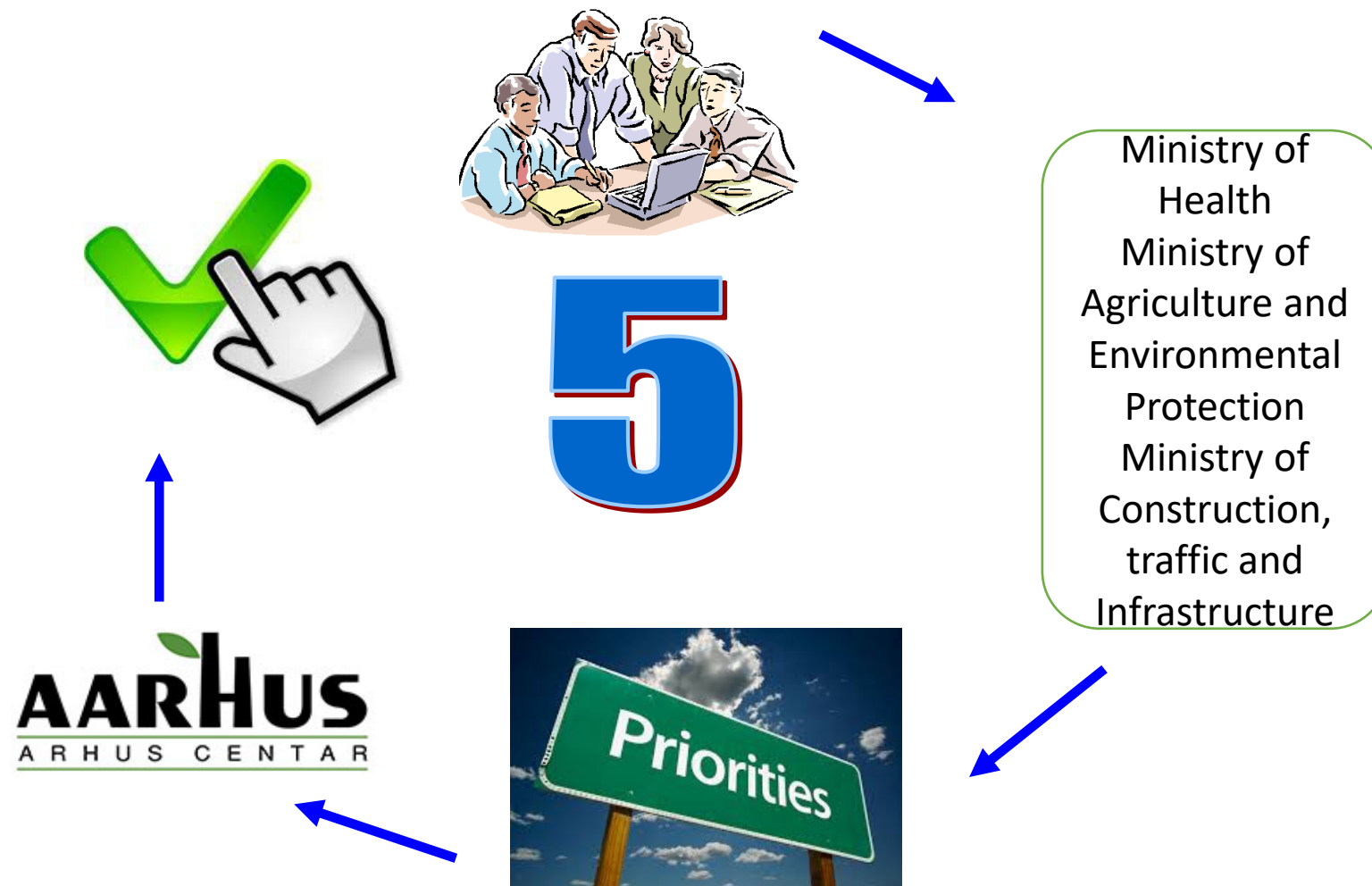
РЕПУБЛИКА СРБИЈА
Министарство
заштите животне средине
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
Ministry of
Environmental Protection

*Using Protocol and its tools in achieving on the SDGs and the Water
Action Decade
Serbia's experience in target setting and equitable access
to water and sanitation*

Republic of Serbia

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The Protocol on Water and Health is a powerful tool for effective prioritizing and setting national WASH targets in Serbia



Achievements and benefits

1. **A national-level systematic survey of drinking water quality and sanitary conditions in small systems of rural areas (2016)**
2. **Self assessment of equitable access to water and sanitation (2017-2018) – UNECE score-card methodology (supported by MoEP and UNECE)**
3. **National situation analysis of WASH in healthcare facilities (2019)- (supported by the WHO and the network of IPHs)**



Projects implemented by the Ministry of Environmental Protection realized since 2014, implementing PWH targets in accordance with SDG's:

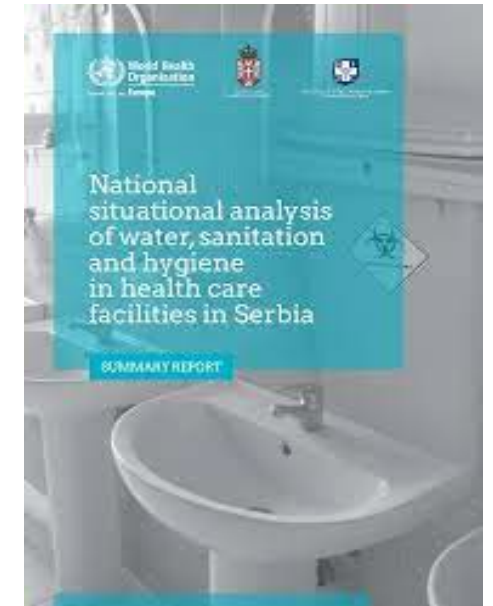
- ❖ Situational analysis of access to safe drinking water and sanitation for primary schools in Central Serbia
- ❖ Development of a Handbook for water supply and sanitary and hygienic conditions in schools,
- ❖ Development of a Score Card for equal access to water and sanitation in Serbia (UNECE support),
- ❖ Action plan to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation in the region of Šumadija and Pomoravlje
- ❖ Importance of access to adequate sanitation for women's health in Serbia.



Gender equality in water, sanitation and hygiene

Access to adequate sanitation for women and its impacts on women's health in Serbia.

- An overview of existing knowledge related to the impact of access to sanitation on women's health
- An overview of existing data in Serbia related to the impact of access to sanitation on women's health (situation analysis)
- Policy brief



How the projects accelerated progress towards the objectives of the International Water Action Decade and SDG 6

- ❖ Projects were in line with the Targets of SDG 6.1 and 6.2 and the implementation of PWH on national level, ensuing to achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all (in targeted regions, schools..) adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene.
- The objectives of the realized projects are in line with the water related targets of the International Water Decade focusing on the access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, and integrated management of water resources, recognized in the Agenda 2030/SDG 6.
- Main achievements: The methodology used in the projects could be replicated in other regions and serve as a tool for implementation of national PWH targets

Ongoing projects

- The MEP will finance the construction of 26 WWTP plants (loan from the Bank of the Council of Europe).
- The construction of the main city collector in the city of Leskovac has been started

Projects of the Republic Water Directorate:

- The construction of the sewerage network and the central WWTP of Vranje.
- start of implementation of projects for the construction and reconstruction of WWTPs in Smederevo, Pančevo, Kikinda, Požarevac, Trstenik, Pirot, Jagodina and Vršac with the reconstruction and extension of the sewerage network.
- construction of a wastewater treatment plants in Brus and in Blace, with the reconstruction and expansion of the sewerage network and part of the atmospheric sewerage and supervision of works.



Lessons learned and future work required to achieve the objectives of the SDG 6

Serbia must align with EU Water Directives, in order to provide **integrated management of water resources for the achievement of social, economic and environmental objectives.**

Estimates show that about 5 bil. € will be needed to comply with the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive.

PRIORITY MECHANISMS AND SOLUTIONS

1. Implementing the Water Management Strategy of the Republic of Serbia 2016-2034 and the Action Plan for the Strategy (adopted in July 2021 for the period 2021-2023),
2. Completion of missing legislation
3. Economic and financial challenges,
4. Strengthening of national capacities in the water sector
5. Creating conditions for EU and other funds, as well as private capital, to participate in water sector development funding.



Thank you

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