

# **Equitable Access: What's next?**

Ensuring Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation in the upcoming 2023-2025 Programme of Work

**Armin Bigham Ghazani** 

**UNECE** joint-Secretariat - Protocol on Water and Health





## The Programme of Work

# The programme of work lists the activities that will be covered in a period of three years

- Draft programme of work for 2023-2025 presented at the Working Group meeting in May 2022
- Adapted at the sixth Meeting of the Parties in November 2022.



#### United Nations ECE/MP.WH/WG.1/2022/3-EUCHP/2219533/3.1/2022/WGWH/07



#### Economic and Social Council

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#### **Economic Commission for Europe**

World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

#### Working Group on Water and Health

Thirteenth meeting Geneva, 19 and 20 May 2022 Item 13 of the provisional agenda Programme of work for 2023-2025, terms of reference for the bodies established to implement it and resources needed for its implementation

#### Draft programme of work for 2023-2025

#### Prepared by the Bureau with the support of the secretariat

#### Summary

The present document sets out a draft programme of work for 2023-2025 for the Protocol on Water and Health to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, summarizing the overarching objectives and the proposed activities for 2023-2025 and indicating bodies to support their implementation. Estimates of the human and financial resources needed to implement the draft programme of work will be presented in a complementary informal document, to be read in conjunction with the present document.

By its terms of reference, the Working Group on Water and Health to the Protocol is mandated, inter alia, to provide guidance on the implementation of the programme of work and to advise the Meeting of the Parties in respect of the further development of the programme of work and its adaptation to changing circumstances (see ECE/MP.WHZ/Add.2-EUR/06/5069385/1/Add.2). The present draft programme of work for the period 2023-2025 was prepared by the Bureau, with the support of the secretariat, for consideration by the Working Group at its thirteenth session.

This document builds on the achievements and lessons learned in implementing the past programmes of work and on discussions in the Bureau, the Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting, and other Protocol-related bodies and expert meetings.

The Working Group on Water and Health is invited to:



## The technical areas of the Programme of Work

- **Programme Area 1**: Improving governance for water and health through setting targets, implementing measures and reporting
- **Programme Area 2**: Prevention and reduction of water-related diseases
- **Programme Area 3**: Water, sanitation and hygiene in institutional settings and public places
- Programme Area 4: Small-scale water supply and sanitation
- Programme Area 5: Safe management of water supply and sanitation systems
- Programme Area 6: Equitable Access to water and sanitation: translating into practice the human rights to water and sanitation
- Programme Area 7: Increasing resilience to climate change

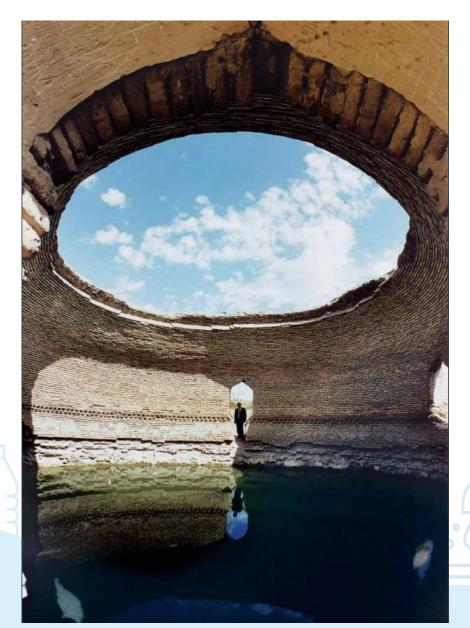
# **Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation in the 2023-**

UNECE

Lead parties: France and Hungary

**2025 Programme of Work** 

- Objectives:
  - to support the implementation of the Protocol's requirement to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation for all members of the population, particularly those suffering a disadvantage or social exclusion, as emphasized in Article 5 (I)
  - to support countries in addressing equity aspects in policymaking processes related to the provision of water and sanitation services and in identifying and implementing solutions to ensure equitable access.





# 1. Support assessments of the situation of equitable access to water and sanitation

## Work will be undertaken to:

- (a) *Revise the Equitable Access Score-card* to complement the tool with a specific focus on COVID-19 and other potential pandemics
- (b) *Support up to four self-assessments* on the situation of equitable access to water and sanitation in countries using the Equitable Access Score-card

# 2. Foster the adoption and implementation of measures to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation



### Work will be undertaken to:

- (a) Support the development of equitable access action plans and/or related policy recommendations in up to two countries;
- (b) Organize up to two meetings of the Expert Group on Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation to facilitate the exchange of experiences;
- (c) Promote the importance of affordability in ensuring equitable water and sanitation services, including the promotion of the newest affordability brochure.





Work will be undertaken to:

- (a) **Promote the use of the Protocol tools** on equitable access to meet and implement obligations arising from the relevant European Union directives on water and sanitation.
- (b) **Promote the strengthening of efforts on equitable access to sanitation**, including in the context of the ongoing revision of the EU UWWTD.
- (c) **Promote political awareness on existing inequities** in regional and international events

# Results of the survey in relation to the activities in the 2023-2025 programme of work

## **Overall pattern:**

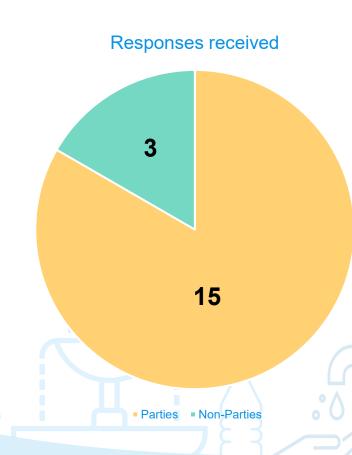
 Preparation of publications/guidance documents received less attention compared to capacity-building activities

## **Highest attention received (13 responses)**

 Item (a) under PA7: Exchange experiences and promote good practices at the regional and subregional levels

## **Lowest attention received (2 responses)**

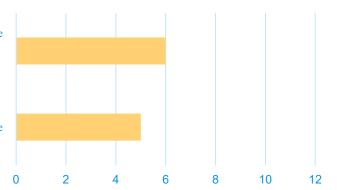
• *Item (c) under PA6.3*: Promote political awareness on existing equities in the context of access to water and sanitaiton



## **Survey Results – Programme Area 6**

### 6.1 Support assessments of the situation on equitable access to water and sanitation

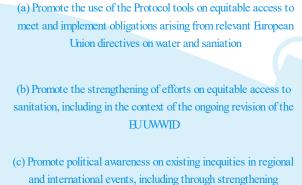
- (a) Revise the Equitable Access Score-card to complement the tool with a specific focus on COVID-19 and other potential epidemics
- (b) Support up to four self-assessments on the situation of equitable access to water and sanitation in countries using the Equitable-Access Score-card



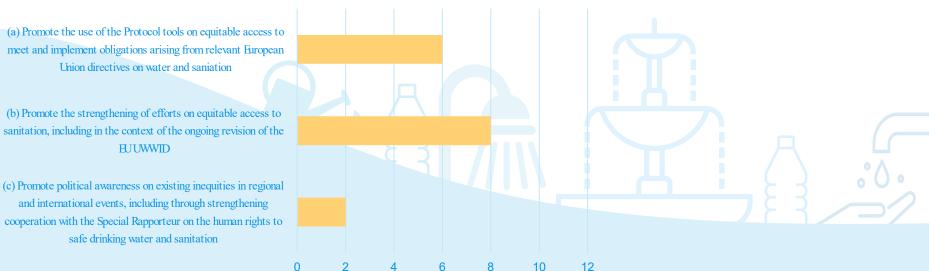
### 6.2 Foster the adoption and implementation of measures to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation



#### 6.3 Promote awareness on equitable access to water and sanitation



safe drinking water and sanitation





# Thank you!

**Armin Bigham Ghazani** 

Protocol on Water and Health UNECE

armin.bighamghazani@un.org