Equitable Access: What’s next?

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

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

- Adapted at the sixth Meeting of the Parties in November 2022.
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 2023-2025 Programme of Work

- Lead parties: France and Hungary
- 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.
3. Promote awareness on equitable access to water and sanitation, as well as synergies with relevant global and regional processes, policies and instruments

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 sanitation

Responses received
- Parties: 3
- Non-Parties: 15
### 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

- (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 access to water and sanitation by promoting the newest publication.

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

- (a) Promote the use of the Protocol tools on equitable access to meet and implement obligations arising from relevant European Union directives on water and sanitation.
- (b) Promote the strengthening of efforts on equitable access to sanitation, including in the contest of the ongoing revision of the EU UWWTD.
- (c) Promote political awareness on existing inequities in regional and international events, including through strengthening cooperation with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation.
Thank you!

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