

Sixth Meeting of the Parties of the Protocol on Water and Health and recent developments

Peter Kovacs, Hungary



16 November 2022

High-level segment

16-18 November 2022

General segment

- To be held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland
- Expecting more than 200 participants
- Official invitations to be sent out this summer
- Crucial meeting on the way to the UN 2023 Water Conference



Protocol 6th Meeting of the Parties– 16-18 November 2022

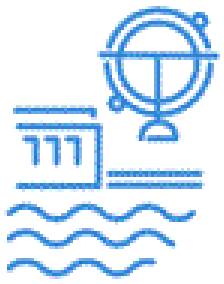


The Protocol on Water and Health: strengthening the resilience of WASH and health services in times of climate change and pandemics

Session objective:

- To provide an opportunity to appraise progress and take stock of the concrete results of countries' responses in ensuring access to water, sanitation, hygiene and health for all in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic
- To foster an open dialogue on how to tackle the persisting gaps and challenges posed by climate change in the pan-European region to create climate-resilient WASH and health services.
- The main outcomes of this session will be reflected in a summary of proposed actions and recommendations, which will be brought forward towards the UN Water Conference (New York, 22-24 March 2023)
- Other topics to be discussed at the MOP: improving governance for water and health, prevention and reduction of water-related diseases, safe management of water and sanitation systems, increasing resilience to climate change, financing for the new programme of work which will be adopted at the meeting









Recent developments – Affordability Policy Brief




UNECE

 **World Health Organization**
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR Europe

Making water and sanitation affordable for all:
Policy options and good practices to ensure the affordability of safe drinking water and sanitation services in the pan-European region



 UNITED NATIONS

Launching of a new Policy Brief:

Making water and sanitation affordable for all: policy options and good practices to ensure affordability of safe drinking water and sanitation in the pan-European region

April-October 2021

Collection of good practices from interested Pan-European countries and development of the policy brief

March 2021

6th meeting of the Expert Group on Equitable access to water and sanitation to brainstorm on the outline of the document

Early 2022

Finalization of the Policy Brief





Recent developments – Revision of the Equitable Access Score-Card



What is the Equitable Access-Score card?

- Analytical tool to establish a baseline, track progress and prompt discussions to support the implementation of policies and practices.

The Score-card aims to assess i) the governance framework existing to achieve equitable access and ii) the existence of public policies to:



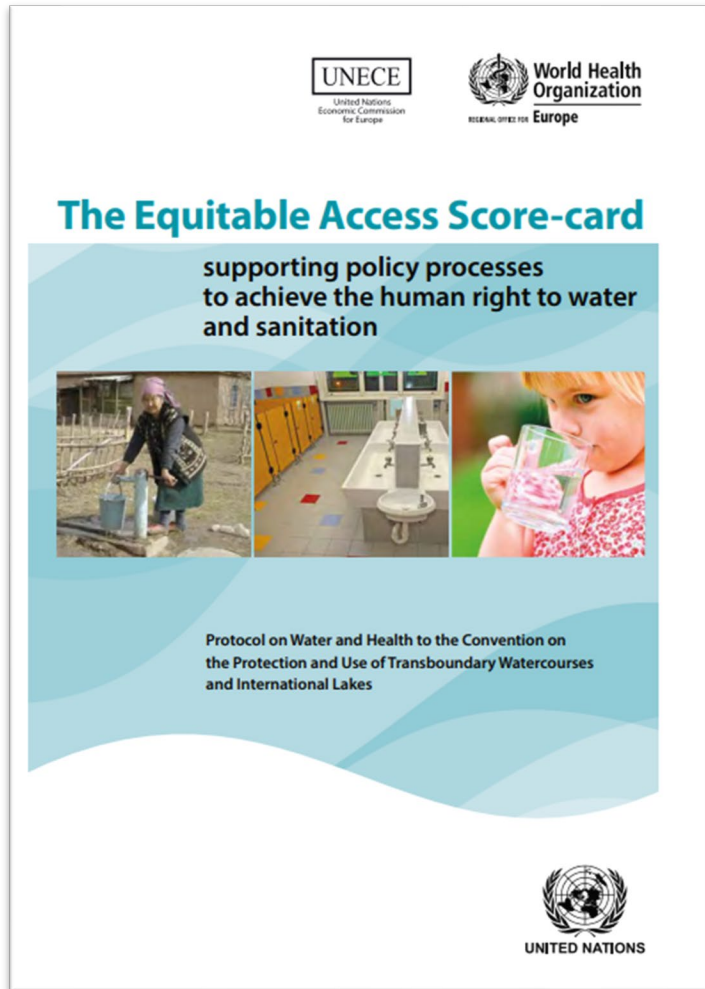
Reduce **geographical disparities**

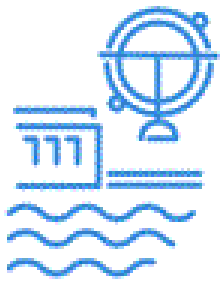


Address the needs of **vulnerable and marginalized groups**



Ensure **affordability** in access to water and sanitation





Recent developments – Revision of the Equitable Access Score-Card



Why consider revising the Score-card?

- Original self-assessment methodology developed in 2011-13
- Since then, additional self-assessments in other 9 countries (after 3 pilots)
 - Consideration of lessons-learnt
- COVID-19: Key issues and lessons learnt to increase the resilience of the WASH sector in the context of potential future pandemics should be included

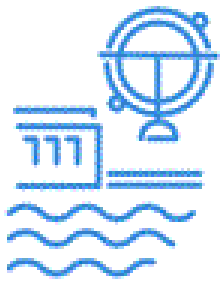




Main messages



- You are invited to take part in the meeting, online or in-person
- UNECE- countries not yet Parties are encouraged to consider accession to the Protocol
- You are invited to make use of the guidance documents and practical tools developed under the Protocol
- Consider participating in the programme of work implementation
- Cooperation between the Water Convention and Protocol is welcome and mutually beneficial (see climate change workshop in March 2021)



Thank you!

For more information

see: <https://unece.org/environment-policy/water/protocol-on-water-and-health/about-the-protocol/introduction>

