

Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation

Translating the human rights into practice

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Lead Parties:

France, Hungary, North Macedonia



#ProtocolWaterHealth

1. Progress made since 2022

Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (Budapest, 5-7 July 2023)

Objective:

- to showcase the tools and guidance developed under the Protocol to inspire and support countries in realizing the human rights to water and sanitation

Outcome:

- Increased awareness of the tools and guidance developed under Programme Area 6 and the revision process of the Equitable Access Score-card

UNECE **World Health Organization**
European Region

From assessment to action

Realizing the human rights to water and sanitation through the Protocol on Water and Health

Parallel Session at the
7th Ministerial Conference on
Environment and Health

5 July 2023, 10:30-11:45
Room F2

Jointly organised by Hungary, France,
the Republic of Moldova, United
Nations Economic Commission for
Europe and the WHO Regional Office
for Europe

Coffee and
tea will be
served from
10:15

The event will showcase the tools and guidance developed under the Protocol on Water and Health to inspire and support countries in realizing the human rights to water and sanitation. The speakers will discuss benefits of these tools and how to translate the findings into policy action in the context of new environmental and health challenges. The discussions will feed into the implementation of the Protocol programme of work for 2023-2025.

MINISTÈRE DE LA SANTÉ ET DE LA PRÉVENTION
NKK

PROTOCOL ON WATER AND HEALTH

1. Progress made since 2022

Revision of the Equitable Access Score-card

- Following the Regional Workshop on Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation (Geneva, 13-14 June 2022), Parties, non-Parties and civil society organizations initiated the revision of the Score-card
- Following the Regional Workshop and several revision rounds, the joint-secretariat uploaded the first draft on the Protocol webpage
- Pilot assessments in Montenegro and Albania to feed into the further revision of the Score-card

Objective:

- To reflect the lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic by assessing the ability to secure the provision of WASH services in emergency situations and other key equity-related issues



DRAFT REVISED EQUITABLE ACCESS SCORE-CARD AND GLOSSARY

As of September 2022

Summary

This document is a revised version of the Score-card and glossary sections of the Equitable Access Score-card tool¹ published by the UNECE and WHO/Europe under the Protocol on Water and Health (2013).

It is the result of revision rounds through which feedback and comments were received by countries and organizations during and after the Regional Workshop on Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation² (Geneva, 13-14 June 2022).

The objectives of the revised Score-card and glossary are:

- to reflect the lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic by assessing the ability to secure the provision of WASH services in emergency situations and addressing other key equity-related issues discussed during the Regional Workshop on Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation;
- to ensure alignment with the recent work on affordability carried out by the Expert Group on Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation as documented in the 2022 Protocol's publication *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.*³

It is foreseen that the revised Score-card will be piloted in the upcoming self-assessment exercises in Albania and Montenegro (2022-2023), for which the lessons learned will be reflected at the next meeting of the Expert Group on Equitable Access to allow further revision of the Score-card, if needed.

Words labelled with an asterisk (*) are defined in the glossary

¹ <https://unece.org/environment-policy/publications/equitable-access-score-card-supporting-policy-processes-achieve>

² <https://unece.org/info/Environmental-Policy/Water-Convention/events/30042>

³ <https://unece.org/env/environment-policy/publications/making-water-and-sanitation-affordable-all-policy-options-and-good>

1. Progress made since 2022

Self-assessments and piloting in Montenegro and Albania



- National workshop on the findings of the equitable access to water and sanitation self-assessment in **Montenegro** (16 May 2023)



- Inception workshop on equitable access to water and sanitation in **Albania** (30 October 2023)
- National workshop on the findings of the equitable access to water and sanitation self-assessment in **Albania** (27 March 2024)

Revision process of the Equitable Access Score-card



2. Upcoming meetings under PA6

Meeting	Objective
<p>Seventh meeting of the Expert Group on Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation</p> <p>(online, 28-29 May 2024)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To exchange experiences and lessons learned applying/piloting the (draft) Equitable Access Scorecard to identify limitations and other dimensions to be included in the tool• To initiate the finalization of the revision of the tool to be launched published towards the end of 2024
<p>Regional Workshop on Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation</p> <p>(Budapest, December 2024)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To support countries in efforts to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation• To share experiences, measures and plans for EU and candidate countries on how to translate the new obligations arising from the EU Drinking Water Directive recast and how the tools under the Protocol facilitate implementation



Thank you!

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