MINISTERUL SĂNĂTĂȚII AL REPUBLICII MOLDOVA





Increasing resilience to climate change in the water and sanitation sector: lessons learned from the Republic of Moldova

Ion Şalaru, National Agency for Public Health



7th Meeting of the Expert Group on

Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation

Geneva, 28-29 May 2024

Protocol on Water and Health

Improved legal framework

✓ Approval of the National Climate Change Adaptation Program until 2030 (GD 624/2023) with action plan for 6 priority sectors, incl. <u>Water Resources and Health.</u>

Among the adopted actions for implementation:

- √ To establish an health surveillance system of disease and conditions related
 to climate change
- ✓ Strengthening capacities for prevention of water- and foodborne disease related to climate change
- ✓ Adoption and implementation of new standards for construction of water supply and sanitation systems
- ✓ Increasing climate resilience for water and sanitation treatment facilities
- ✓ Increasing reuse of treated waste waters,
- ✓ Increasing access to services for remote locations and vulnerable groups of population

Improving access to safely managed drinking water supply and sanitation services

- > By the GD 651/2023 adopted Sanitary Regulation for Drinking Water Quality monitoring, which provides legal framework for DWQ surveillance based on risk assessment approach,
- Developed a Registry od drinking water sources (underground and surface waters) and evaluated number of the population under health risks related to water quality
- > Started implementation of projects to improve WASH services in rural locations in 30 schools and 30 HCF,
- National Agency for Public Health in collaboration Red Cross Society initiated in 2024 a public communication campaign on water and hygiene,

Legal framework to ensure equitable access

- Published report on results of the First National Survey on Equitable Access to Water in Sanitation based on Score-Card, carried in the Republic of Moldova in 2013 reveals significat geografical disparities and difficulties in ensuring affordable water and sanitation services for all groups of the population,
- ➤ Were recognized that is necessary to implement specific actions from legal to introduce in the legal framework and create mechanisms to offer equitable access to water and sanitation services for all
- National Program for the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova includes a specific action. As a result, in 2021 was made an analysis of the legal framework with specific recommendations.
- Ministry of Health initiated in 2024 a Draft Law to amend Law 182/2019 on DWQ
 to introduce provisions providing access to water and water consumption for

Other related activities

- ✓ Development of the health sectorial policy on adaptation to climate change
- ✓ Implementation of the UNDA supported project for supporting adaptation policies in the Republic of Moldova
- ✓ Identifying and attracting investments for future project Health and Climate increase resilience of health sector to climate change in MDA
- ✓ Need for strengthened institutional capacities
- ✓ Carried situational analysis on National Program for implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health for 2016-2025 y.

What next?

Development of the second National Program for implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health for 2026-2030y

Based on the assessment of the implementation of the National Program on implementation of Water and Health Protocol in Moldova (2016-2025) it is proposed to revise the target indicators and include aspects related to:

- ✓ Climate change impacts on water resources, water supply and sanitation systems and health
- ✓integration and prioritization of the Gender aspect in assuring equitable access to water, sanitation, hygiene and health
- ✓ ensuring the implementation of the legal and institutional framework for providing access to safely managed water and sanitation systems for vulnerable and marginalized groups,
- ✓ Republic of Moldova is interested to carry a National Survey on Equitable access to Water and Sanitation based







Thank you for your attention!

*lon Salaru ion.salaru@ansp.gov.md,

Copyright, 28.05.2024, Ion Salaru, all rights reserved. For reproduction permissions and all other issues, please contact the author via email.

