Inspiring change together

Policy and Practice for Safe Drinking Water

OSLO, NORWAY – 26 NOVEMBER 2013
OVERVIEW

- Intent: raise awareness of IWA work on water safety to support water professionals
  - How can we support parties of the protocol
  - Input from parties to IWA work
- History of IWA work on water safety / quality
- Experience and tools for WSP implementation
- Aspects related to Human Right to Water and Sanitation
IWA CORPORATE MEMBERS

Where are IWA corporate members?
Most corporate members in Western Europe and East Asia & Pacific

Who are IWA corporate members?
Universities, Technology and Research Institutes together form 39%

Utilities form 34% of IWA corporate membership
Where are IWA individual members?
Most individual members in Western Europe and East Asia & Pacific

In what organization are most IWA individual members?
Universities, Technology and Research are 44%, and utilities 25% of individual members
IWAs influence and impact is dependent on creating a fully engaged and vibrant community across disciplines and segments.
BONN CHARTER FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER

Framework document for managing drinking water quality

- Key Principles
- Roles and Responsibilities
- Water Safety Plans
WATER SAFETY PLANS

Framework for Safe Drinking-water

- Health-based targets
- Public health context and health outcome

Water Safety Plans
- System Assessment
- Monitoring
- Management and Communication
- Surveillance
WSP STEPS

**Preparation**

- Module 1. Assemble the WSP team
- Module 2. Describe the water supply system
- Module 3. Identify hazards and hazardous events and assess the risks
- Module 4. Determine and validate control measures, reassess and prioritize the risks
- Module 5. Develop, implement and maintain an improvement/upgrade plan
- Module 6. Define monitoring of the control measures
- Module 7. Verify the effectiveness of the WSP
- Module 8. Prepare management procedures
- Module 9. Develop supporting programmes
- Module 10. Plan and carry out periodic review of the WSP
- Module 11. Revise the WSP following an incident

**System Assessment**

**Operational Monitoring**

**Management and Communication**

**Feedback and Improvement**
“Open, transparent and honest communication between all stakeholders is essential to developing trust”

“Water should be safe, reliable and aesthetically acceptable. In progressively realising the goals, however, the standards applied may legitimately vary from location to location and over time.”

“The price of water should be set so that it does not prevent consumers from obtaining water of sufficient quantity and quality to meet fundamental domestic needs”
HUMAN RIGHTS TO WATER AND SANITATION: CRITERIA AND PRINCIPLES

Criteria

Availability
Water quality / safety
Acceptability
Accessibility
Affordability

Cross-cutting principles

Equality
Non-discrimination
Accountability
Sustainability
Participation
HRWS Language

- **safe**
- **acceptable**
- **accessible, available**
- **affordable**
- **in sufficient quantity**
- **without discrimination**

Professionals

- Compliance to standards
- Colour, odour
- 24/7, distance of source
- Tariffs, subsidies
- Minimum pressure, etc
- Equitable access

Source: AquaFed
POLICY DOES NOT ALWAYS BRING ACTION

- The SA Constitution came into effect in 1994 but the right of access to a basic water supply that is provided for in our Constitution only started becoming a national reality after 2000.

- Policies have financial consequences that are usually a limiting factor. If government introduces a policy it must be able to ensure adequate finance for its implementation.

Source: eThekwini Municipality
REGULATION

- For regulation to be effective, citizens must know what the regulations mean to them and how they can hold the service provider to account.

- This means extensive community engagement and the creation of meaningful platforms for communities to raise issues of concern to them.

Source: eThekwini Municipality
ESTABLISH POLICY AND REGULATORY INSTRUMENTS TO SUPPORT WSP IMPLEMENTATION

WSPs in policy and legislation

- **Less formal**
  - Government support for WSP implementation
  - WSPs formally adopted in national water policy

- **More formal**
  - WSPs included in national / state legislation
  - WSPs pre-requisite for capital investments
  - WSPs externally audited for compliance
FIGURE 2.2 Is there a national policy to develop and implement water safety plans or other preventive risk management?

Source: (top) 2011 GLAAS country survey (74 country respondents); (bottom) WHO internal reports
WSP CASE STUDY: AUSTRALIA

Water Supplier’s Risk Management Plan Review
• Strategy Development

Identify WQ Improvement Projects (risk based)
• Capital – new infrastructure
• Capital - existing infrastructure
• Operational - processes improvements

Water Supplier’s 5 Year “Water Plan”
(cost benefit analysis of options and justification of recommended option)

Regulator Assessment of Water Plans (water, sewerage, recycled water)

1. Health regulator endorsement
2. Economic regulator approval

Water supplier’s Annual Plans & Project Implementation

Review & Performance Measurement using Regulatory KPIs

Regulatory Reporting and Audits

Source: Yarra Valley Water, Australia
WATER SAFETY PORTAL

www.wsportal.org

Tools
Case studies
Regional based networks
Advisory services
WATER SAFETY PLAN MANUAL

Purpose

- To support those responsible for managing drinking water quality with a step-by-step approach to WSP implementation.
WSP QUALITY ASSURANCE TOOL

Purpose

- Means to identify weaknesses and target improvement
- Enables a consistent approach to evaluating progress with WSPs

When should it be used

- From starting out on the WSP approach to full and continuing implementation
- Use should be dictated by pace of WSP implementation
- Guide and assess implementation
- Challenge complacency
IWA REGULATORS FORUM

Working on four cross-cutting themes

Economic
Environment
Health

WATER RELATED REGULATION
Innovation
- Examining regulatory bottlenecks and enablers for innovation

Sustainable Financing
- Evaluating true costs for service delivery & financing mechanisms

Resource Optimisation
- Optimise the use and recovery of water, energy and nutrients

Human Rights Based Approaches
- Enable the realisation of HRWS

Global issues where better engagement of regulators in IWA activities can have the greatest influence and impact

Outputs and activities supporting four thematic areas
SUMMARY

- Many policies and practices exist to support HRWS
- Key is to ensure coherence and completeness
- Progressive realisation is critical
- IWA support:
  - WSP tools and resources
  - HRWS handbook
  - Water Supply and Sanitation Services best practice
  - Focused interaction between practitioners
- Your inputs: Questionnaire on Experiences in the Application of the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation