For our Environment

Working Group on Water and Health

Small-scale water supplies and sanitation

Overall progress since 2013

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Questionnaire on small-scale water supplies

- **Outset:** Only limited information available on the number and status of small-scale water supplies in the WHO European region

- Questionnaire developed and distributed during previous work programme, subsequently assessed

→ Separate presentation on survey outcomes
Information sharing and regional networking

- WHO-hosted Small Community Water Supply Management (SCWSM) network:
  - Facilitate access to network
  - Host a meeting in the region

Conducted in June 2014 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

→ Separate presentation on network meeting
New water and sanitation safety documents for small systems

→ Programme area 4:
Safe and efficient management of water supply and sanitation systems
Good practices document

Economic Commission for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe

Working Group on Water and Health

Seventh meeting
Geneva, 26 and 27 November 2014
Item 6 of the provisional agenda
Small-scale water supplies and sanitation

INFORMAL DOCUMENT

Small-scale water supply and sanitation systems in the WHO European Region:
good practices for policy-makers

- Draft for comment by the Working Group on Water and Health -
AIM AND SCOPE:

- Support effective policy action and promote good practices for improving the situation of small-scale systems
- Highlight need for explicit programs and policies to improve SSWSS
- Stress need for inter-institutional collaboration
- Encourages jointly addressing drinking-water and sanitation
- Provide examples of proven instruments from the region
- No prescriptive solutions or prioritization: need for adaptation
- Promotes target setting in this area for Parties to the Protocol
- Informed by outcomes of questionnaire exercise
- Primary target audience: policy-makers for water supply and sanitation policies at the national or subnational levels
Development of good practices document

- Expert group meetings in Berlin (January 2014) and Bonn (June 2014)
- Limited external pre-review
- Integration of further case studies
- Incorporation of information from survey
- Language editing and parts translated into Russian to facilitate feedback
- Significant revision of draft document
- Expert group composition: experts from lead Parties, other countries, WHO and invited “external” experts for peer review and case studies
1. About this document
   1.1. Background
   1.2. Aim and scope
   1.3. Target audience
   1.4. Structure

2. Concerns related to small-scale water supply and sanitation systems
   2.1. Definitions of “small-scale” systems
   2.2. Challenges facing small-scale systems
   2.3. Consequences

3. Benefits of improving small-scale water supply and sanitation systems
   3.1. Building healthy and resilient communities
   3.2. Increasing gender equality
   3.3. Achieving economic benefits
   3.4. Improving the human rights situation
   3.5. Reducing the burden of disease
4. Policy processes to create an enabling environment

4.1. Baseline analysis and target-setting
4.2. Legislation and regulations
4.3. Design and management standards
4.4. Surveillance
4.5. Costing and financing
4.6. Education, qualifications and training programmes
4.7. Advocacy and awareness-raising

- Focus on how general processes can be tailored to the particularities of small-scale systems, adapting the information provided to prevailing national conditions
- These processes may address elements such as the examples of good practice described in detail in Section 5.
5. Good practices to improve small-scale water supply and sanitation systems

5.1. Collaborative arrangements and networking
5.2. Water, sanitation and hygiene safety planning
5.3. Resource protection
5.4. Sanitation planning

- Describes good practices that have proved suitable to improve the situation of small-scale water supplies and sanitation systems, which may be addressed in the policy processes described in Section 4.
- Focus on how these can be tailored to the particularities of small-scale systems and what policymakers can do to promote them.
Content chapters sections 4 and 5

- Key messages
- Introduction to the topic / motivational paragraph
- Considerations how to apply relevant principles to small systems
- Options for policy makers
- Case studies
  - From various countries of the European region
  - Relevant for small systems
  - Relevant for policy makers
  - Linking drinking-water and sanitation
  - May flag different enabling processes and / or good practices
Example: chapter surveillance

**Key messages**

- A comprehensive surveillance approach is advisable for small-scale water supply and sanitation systems, which are frequently located in rural areas. This would go beyond monitoring of the quality of drinking-water supplied and treated wastewater discharged to include monitoring of the safe management of systems and inspection of the physical status of the infrastructure.

- In the case of small systems, independent surveillance and self-checking by service providers constitute complementary elements.

- A cooperative approach to surveillance – focusing less on fining noncompliance and more on providing support and technical advice – supports agencies undertaking surveillance activities for small-scale systems.

- The remoteness and broad geographical spread of small-scale systems may pose challenges to securing their routine surveillance. Options are available to facilitate surveillance for small-scale systems, which benefit from being specified in regulations.

**Case studies**

- From France, Finland, Germany, Scotland

- Addressing drinking-water and sanitation, dual approach (independent surveillance / self-checking), risk-based approach to surveillance, legislation on surveillance of small systems, …
Feedback on document from WGWH

- Commenting on and suggestions for amendment of draft document
- Feedback on the country-specific information included in the case examples of the document.
- To facilitate this, parts of the document were translated into Russian.
- Feedback by **09 January 2015** to be considered for further revision and finalization.
Thank you very much for your attention

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www.umweltbundesamt.de/en/protocol-on-water-health