

Introduction of the Guidance Note on the Development of Action Plans to Ensure Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation

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Protocol on Water and Health



1. Rationale



Target 6.1: Universal and equitable access to safe drinking water

Target 6.2: Adequate and equitable sanitation for all



RPG1: Access to safe drinking water for every child at home, in school and in healthcare

1. Rationale

Resolutions are great –
but we need a road to take us there

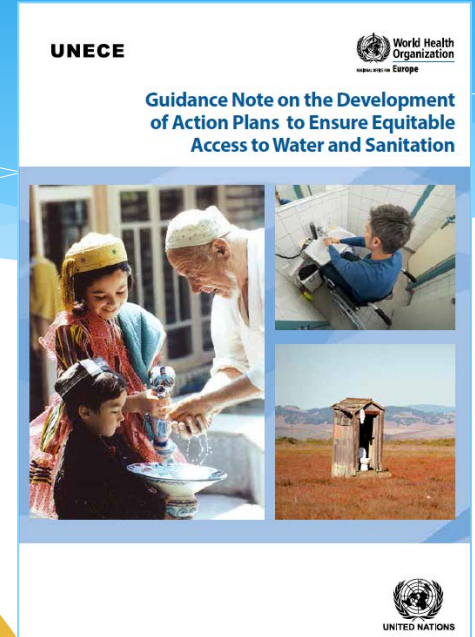
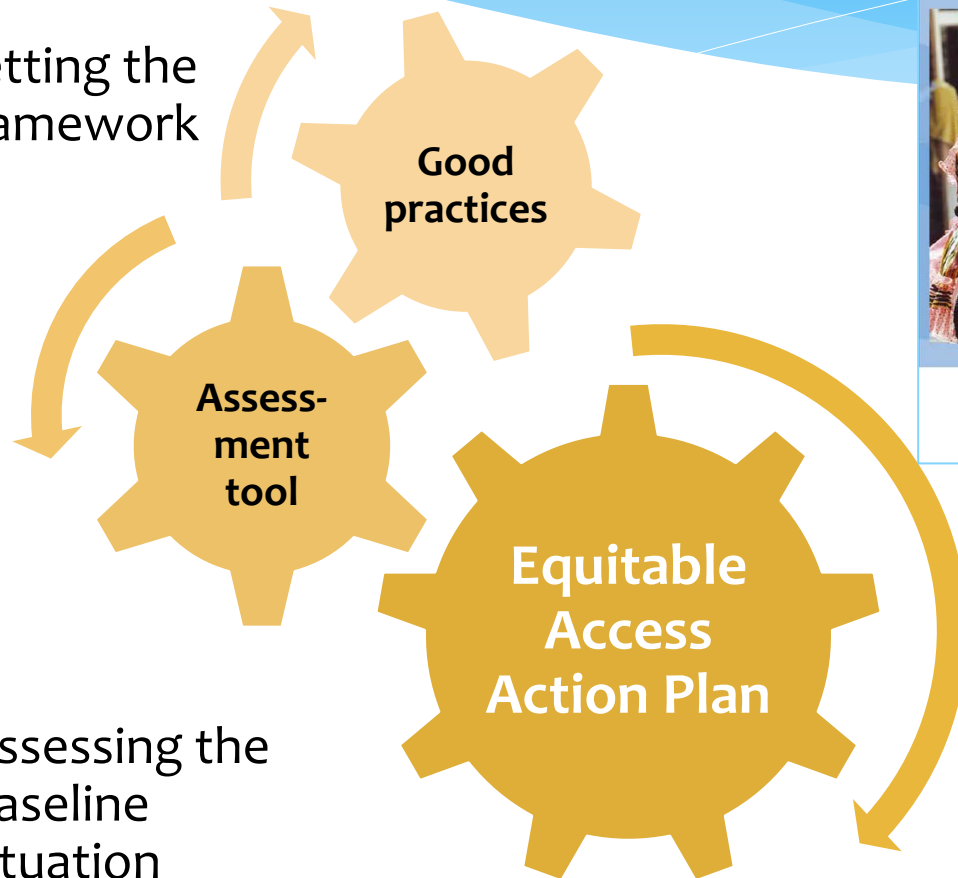
2. Progress of guidance on equitable access



Setting the framework



Assessing the baseline situation



Defining action

3. Process of development

- * *Expert Group on Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation* (May 2015): exchange of experience and initial discussion on possible «equitable access action plan»
- * *Working Group on Water and Health* (November 2015): draft Strategic Note submitted for comments
- * *Equitable Access regional workshop* (March 2016): exchange of experiences to inform development strategic note
- * Publication finalized (October 2016)

4. Rationale and benefits of developing an action plan

- * Translates the findings of the self-assessment exercise to actions to mitigate inequalities
- * Assists the progress towards international commitments
- * Can serve as a basis for attracting funding for achieving access

5/1. Contents of the action plan

Objectives

- State clear objectives
- Preferably measurable, quantitative targets

Brief diagnostic of the situation

- Based on the findings of the Scorecard

Priority areas for action

- Steering governance frameworks to deliver equitable access
- Reduce geographical disparities
- Ensuring access to vulnerable and marginalized groups
- Keeping water and sanitation affordable to all

Policy context

- Overview of relevant policy objectives, policy processes and sectoral strategies

5/2. Contents of the action plan (cont.)

Priority measures and related cost

- Few high priority, short term measures in detail, including cost
- Long term measures
- Examples: legal and institutional reforms, targeted investments, capacity building etc.

Opportunities of integrating priority measures in existing plans, programmes and projects

- Identify on-going or planned programmes or projects where priority measures can be integrated
- Target setting under the Protocol on Water and Health is a natural platform

Implementation arrangements, including timelines

- Responsible stakeholders
- Supporting stakeholders
- Timeline or chronogram

Mapping potential funding sources

- User contributions, national public funding, international financial support

6. Process of developing an action plan

1. Identification of one or two leading government agencies. Key candidates would be the agency leading the implementation of the Protocol and the agency responsible for water and sanitation.
2. Set up of an inter-sectoral working group, based on participants in the self-assessment exercise and supported by a national consultant.
3. Engage a broader number of contributing agencies and stakeholders through bilateral consultations and requests for information.
4. Draft the Action Plan.
5. Organize a consultation workshop.
6. Develop the final version of the Action Plan.

7. Country examples

France

- Affordability projects (on-site sanitation, water pricing)
- Extending the application of the Scorecard

Moldova

- Development of the legal and institutional framework for equitable access to water and sanitation;
- Creation of the Solidarity Fund.

Portugal

- Recommendations to utility operators
- Social tariffs
- Solutions for avoiding cut-offs due to non-payment