



# Lessons learnt from other assessments of equitable access to water and sanitation

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# Overview of countries involved in equitable access work

Date	Countries and assessment scale	Development of an action plan or specific measures
2013	<b>Portugal</b> <i>National</i>	Specific measures on social tariffs
2013	<b>Ukraine</b> <i>National + city</i>	Supported fund raising
2013	<b>France</b> <i>Paris urban area</i>	Specific measures identified
2014	<b>Republic of Moldova</b> <i>National</i>	Specific target under the Protocol
2015	<b>Azerbaijan</b> <i>National</i>	Ongoing assessment
2016	<b>Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</b> <i>District Level</i>	Dvpt of local actions plans
2016	<b>Spain</b> <i>Municipal</i>	-----
2016	<b>Hungary</b> <i>National</i>	Specific measures identified
2016	<b>Armenia</b> <i>National</i>	Dvpt of an action plan 2018-2020
2017	<b>Serbia</b> <i>Regional</i>	Ongoing
2018	<b>Bulgaria</b> <i>Regional</i>	Starting



# Carrying out self-assessment of equitable access to water and sanitation

**Implementing self-assessment varies in each country according to:**

- The assessment scale
- The stakeholders involved
- The data available





# EXAMPLE OF FRANCE

## Implementation of the self-assessment

- **Project duration:** 2012-2013
- **Exercise scale:** Paris urban area
- **Project core team:** City of Paris water operator, regional water union and its operator Veolia Water, wastewater treatment interdepartemental authority
- **Main findings:** challenge in the access of vulnerable and marginalised groups to W&S



## Impact on decision-making

- **Actions taken to reduce inequities:**
  - (1) Law adopted in 2014 to enable service providers to adopt social tariffs & study on tarification
  - (2) Issue of vulnerable and marginalised groups addressed by other sectorial policies: plan to fight against exclusion in Paris (adopted in 2015)
  - (3) National Plan on Health and Environment 2015-2019, Action 101 “Support equitable access to safe drinking water and sanitation”, promote equity assessments



# EXAMPLE OF ARMENIA

## Implementation of the self-assessment

- **Project duration:** November 2015 – October 2016
- **Exercise scale:** National
- **Project core team:** State Committee on Water Economy of the Ministry of Agriculture, NGO Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment
- **Main findings:** Limited information on water supply and sanitation by vulnerable and marginalized groups; 570 rural communities not provided by water supply companies; possible affordability concerns after the concession of water supply services (in 2016).

## Impact on decision-making

- **Main outcomes and actions taken:**
  - (1) Amendments in Water Code to ensure equal access to water and sanitation;
  - (2) Development of an National Action Plan (2018-2020) on ensuring access to water supply and sanitation approved (Dec. 2016 – June 2017)



# EXAMPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

## Implementation of the self-assessment

- **Project duration:** November 2015 – October 2016
- **Exercise scale:** National
- **Project core team:** NGO Solidarity Water Europe, support by Ministry of Environment
- **Main findings:** Need strong commitment to reducing large poor/rich and rural/urban inequities; No clear guidance on water and sanitation affordability under national Water and Sanitation Strategy

## Impact on decision-making

- **Main outcomes and actions taken:**
  - (1) National target established under Protocol
  - (2) Creation of solidarity fund for water supply and sanitation
  - (3) 2016-2020 Action Plan to support the Roma population





# Conclusions :

- Voluntary self-assessment: a process to be tailored to country needs and specificities
- Objective: not to compare countries/regions/cities but to understand specific challenges to improve equitable access to W&S
- Outcomes provide solid basis for objective debate on improvements needed to fill identified equity gaps
- Better understanding of equity gaps can serve as a basis for attracting funding for achieving equitable access to W&S
- Self-assessment process and development of action plans supports coordination and collaboration between stakeholders
- Improving access to water and sanitation help countries in achieving many SDGs targets: 1.4; 4a; 6.1; 6.2; 11.1.

*Thank you for your attention !*

[https://www.unece.org/env/water/pwh\\_work/equitable\\_access.html](https://www.unece.org/env/water/pwh_work/equitable_access.html)

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