



Supporting progress to achieve equitable access to water and sanitation in Bulgaria

The UNECE-WHO/Europe Protocol on Water and Health

7-8 June 2018

National Center of Public Health and Analysis

15, Akad. Ivan Evstatiev Geshev, Sofia

Draft agenda

Thursday 7 June 2018

9:00-9:30 **Registration**

Part I **Opening and introduction**

Chair: Katalina Valkova, State Inspector, Ministry of Health

9:30-10:00 **Opening remarks**

- *Svetla Yordanova, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health*
- *Malina Krumova, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works*
- *Angel Ivanov, Board Member, Earth Forever*
- *Chantal Demilecamps, co-secretariat of the Protocol on Water and Health, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)*

10:00-10:15 **Objectives of the workshop**

- Introduction to the objectives and programme of the workshop
Katalina Valkova, Ministry of Health
- Introductory tour de table

10:15-11:00 **Session 1 – Recent developments in the water and sanitation sector in Bulgaria**

- National statistics for the water and sanitation sector
Tsvetoslav Stoev, Institute of Statistics
- Situation of equitable access to water and sanitation in the city of Dobrich
Deputy Mayor from Dobrich

- Main challenges in ensuring equitable access to water and sanitation in Bulgaria
Boryana Dzhuneva, Department for the rights of administrative and utility users, Office of the Ombudsman
- Funding strategy for the water and sanitation sector
Ivaylo Kolev, World bank
- Ongoing reforms of the water and sanitation sector
Representative from the Ministry of regional development and public works (tbc)

Questions and answers

11:00-11:30 Morning coffee break

Part II – Score-card self-assessment of equitable access to water and sanitation in Bulgaria

11:30-13:00 Session 2 – Assessing the situation of equitable access to water and sanitation in Bulgaria

Chair: Katalina Valkova, State Inspector, Ministry of Health

- Why should we carry about equitable access to water and sanitation?
Testimonies from civil society groups
- The Equitable Access Score-card: a tool to assess the situation of equitable access to water and sanitation
Chantal Demilecamps, co-secretariat of the Protocol on Water and Health, UNECE
- Self-assessment of equitable access to water and sanitation in Bulgaria: background, main objectives and general approach
Katalina Valkova, Ministry of Health, Bulgaria and Diana Iskrev, Earth Forever

Questions and answers

- Main findings from the Equitable Access assessment in Bulgaria (scoring, analyses, comments)
 - Steering governance frameworks to deliver equitable access to water and sanitation
By Katalina Valkova
 - Reducing geographical disparities
By Diana Iskrev
 - Ensuring access for vulnerable and marginalized groups
By Pavlina Delcheva
 - Keeping water and sanitation affordable for all
By Zornitsa Dimitrova

Questions and answers

13:00-14:15 Lunch break

14:15-17:30 Session 3 – Outcomes of the national assessment of equitable access to water and sanitation

- Introduction to the group work
Roberto Martin Hurtado, consultant to UNECE
- Group discussion on the main challenges to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation:

- Validation of scores assigned and identification of main challenges (14:30-15:15)
- Discussion on priority actions to reduce inequities in access to water and sanitation (15:15-15:45)
- Reporting back, including questions and answers (16:15-17:15)

Group 1: Steering governance frameworks to deliver equitable access to water and sanitation (Section 1)

facilitated by Katalina Valkova

Group 2: Reducing geographical disparities (Section 2)

facilitated by Diana Iskrevva

Group 3: Ensuring access for vulnerable and marginalized groups (Section 3)

facilitated by Pavlina Delcheva

Group 4: Keeping water and sanitation affordable for all (Section 4)

facilitated by Zornitsa Dimitrova

Including coffee break

- Conclusions: Main challenges to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation in Bulgaria and possible improvements

Roberto Martin Hurtado, consultant to UNECE

Friday 8 June 2018

Part III – Addressing the challenges of equitable access to water and sanitation

9:00-9:30 Welcoming coffee

9:30-11:00 Session 4 – Improving equitable access to water and sanitation in Bulgaria: building on the findings of the self-assessment

Chair: Roberto Martin Hurtado, consultant to UNECE

- Improving equitable access to water and sanitation under the Protocol on Water and Health: experiences from other countries
Chantal Demilecamps, UNECE
- Main findings from the Equitable Access Score-card assessment in Bulgaria
Katalina Valkova, Ministry of Health
- Opportunities to address equity gaps in Bulgaria: recommendations for action by the multi-stakeholders' consultation
Diana Iskrevva, Earth Forever Foundation
- Expert panel discussion with representatives from different Ministries and institutions: views and possible roles in addressing equity gaps

Svetla Yordanova, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health (tbc)

Representative from WHO country office

Representative from Ministry of Environment

Representative from Ministry of Agriculture

Representative from the Ombudsman Office

*Director of the Center for Public Health
representative from the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works*

Questions from the floor to the panelists

11:00-11:30 *Coffee break*

11:30-12:15 Session 5 – Next steps to improve equitable access to water and sanitation

- Improving equitable access to water and sanitation in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Natasha Dokovska, NGO Journalist for Human Rights
- A roadmap to improve equitable access to water and sanitation in Bulgaria
Discussion facilitated by Roberto Martin Hurtado, consultant to UNECE

12:15-12:30 Closing session

*Katalina Valkova, Ministry of Health
Diana Iskrevva, Earth Forever Foundation
Chantal Demilecamps, UNECE*