



Support to the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health under the European Union Water Initiative (EUWI) National Policy Dialogues (NPDs)

Alisher Mamadzhanov, UNECE
Christine Kitzler, UNECE



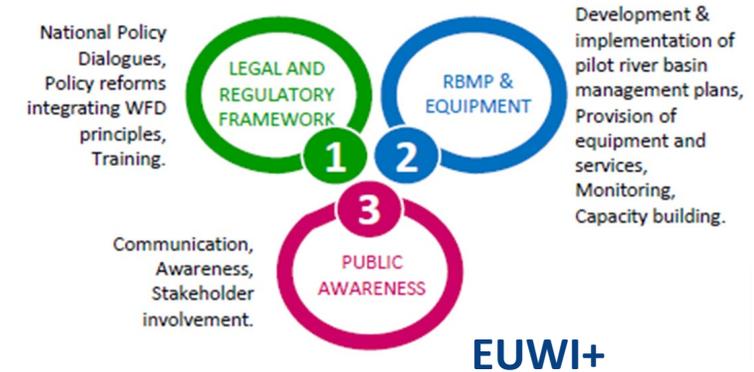
5th session
Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health

19-21 November | Belgrade | Serbia



Overview – European Union Water Initiative and National Policy Dialogues

- **2006** - EU Water Initiative (EUWI) National Policy Dialogues on IWRM (NPDs) started in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia
- **NPDs currently ongoing in 10 countries**
- **Funded by:** European Union, Finland, Norway
- **New EUWI NPD in Central Asia project (WECOOP)** (Sept. 2019-2022); 600 k EUR
- **EUWI+ programme** for the 6 EU Eastern Partnership countries; 24,5 mln EUR (23.5 mln EUR funding from DG NEAR/European Union); Sept. 2016 – Aug. 2020;
- **Implementing Partners:** UNECE, OECD, EU MS Consortium (Austria & France)
- **Overall objective:** To support target countries in bringing their national policies in line with the EU WFD and MEAs, incl. the **Protocol on Water and Health**, with a main focus on the management of transboundary river basins. Support for development and implementation of pilot RBMPs, building on the improved policy framework and ensuring a strong participation of local stakeholders.



IMPLEMENTED IN 11 PILOT AREAS



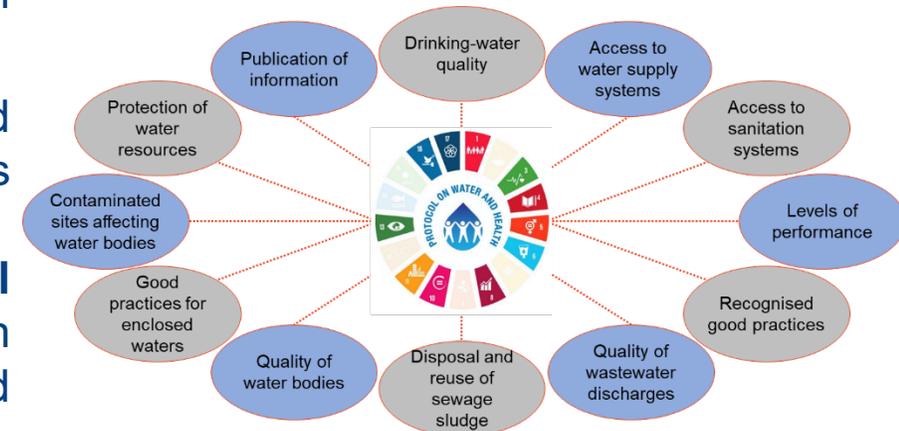
Activities in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in the area of target setting

- **Armenia:** funded through the EUWI+ programme
 - Rapid Assessment of the relevance of the targets and target dates set in in Armenia (2013-2014) conducted in 2017
 - Consultation meeting on the Protocol on Water and Health and equitable access to water supply and sanitation in Armenia held on 5 December 2017 in Yerevan
 - In 2018, a national expert group was established to work on the revision of national targets
 - Revised draft targets were discussed at the 17th meeting of the NPD Steering Committee
 - A National Stakeholder Consultation Meeting on the revised targets was organized on 19 February 2019 in Yerevan
 - Following comments received by participants & governmental authorities, revised targets finalized in 2019.
 - UNECE has also continued to promote Armenia's accession to the Protocol
 - Publication on the revised targets prepared



Activities in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in the area of target setting

- **Azerbaijan:** funded through the EUWI+ programme
 - Final comments on the draft national targets under the Protocol on Water and Health were submitted in December 2017
 - A Consultation meeting on the Protocol on Water and Health and equitable access to water supply and sanitation in Azerbaijan was organized in Baku on 5 July 2018.
 - A major achievement under the EUWI NPDs was the **official adoption of the national targets** under the Protocol in Azerbaijan in **August 2018** (joint decree of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources and the Ministry of Health)
 - EUWI+/UNECE also provided logistical and methodological support in developing the national summary report of Azerbaijan within the fourth reporting cycle under the Protocol.



Activities in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in the area of target setting

- **Belarus:** funded through the EUWI+ programme
 - Revision of the Protocol targets ongoing
 - Kick-off meeting was organized in December 2018 in Minsk.
 - Expert group was formed, which prepared a draft baseline report and draft revised targets.
 - A Multi-Stakeholder Workshop on the Protocol on Water and Health: Equitable access to water and sanitation and target-setting in Belarus was organized in Minsk by the Ministry of Health jointly with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection and supported by UNECE through the EUWI+ programme on 29 October 2019.
 - Participants were invited to provide written comments to the draft targets by 10 November 2019 in order to finalize and present them to the EUWI+ National Interagency SC meeting in early December.
 - **Georgia:** NPDs under the EUWI+ continued to promote the Protocol and its implementation in Georgia



Activities in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in the area of target setting

- **Kazakhstan:** funded by the EU Green Economy project
 - The project supported the development of national targets for the quality of drinking water and the quality of waste water discharges, as well as for the performance of water supply and waste water treatment systems
 - The project, supported by NPDs, promoted the accession by the country to the Protocol
- **Kyrgyzstan:** funded by the FinWaterWEI II programme
 - The three-year project “Implementation of national water and health targets in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan through NPDs”, led to revised targets for Kyrgyzstan and an action plan (incl. specific activities, analysis of synergies with the SDGs & a strategy to mobilize financial resources by the government and donor community).
 - The action plan was endorsed by the Steering Committee (SC) of the NPD in July 2017 and submitted to the Government of Kyrgyzstan in January 2018. The SC suggested that the targets and measures should be integrated into the implementation programme for the Kyrgyz Sustainable Development Strategy that was under development.



Activities in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in the area of target setting

- **Republic of Moldova:** funded through the EUWI+ programme
 - Revision of the National Programme to implement the Protocol on Water and Health until 2025 and to implement selected measures ongoing. Progress report at the NPD SC meeting on 25 October 2019.
 - Several meetings with national experts were held in the reporting period to revise the programme
 - NPDs will continue supporting the finalization of the revision of the National Programme and in implementation of national targets on water and health.
- **Tajikistan:** funded by the FinWaterWEI II programme
 - Revision of targets and target dates set in 2013 in the context of the Protocol completed in 2018 through the NPD.
 - Development of a comprehensive action plan completed (incl. specific activities, analysis of synergies with the SDGs & a strategy to mobilize financial resources by the government and donor community)
 - Steering Committee of the NPD was entrusted with the official adoption of the targets and the action plan, which happened in November 2018. In addition, the project supported the development of a methodology for collecting and managing statistical data on drinking water for the Tajik State Statistics Office and draft chapters of the National Water Strategy of Tajikistan.



Activities in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in the area of target setting

- **Ukraine:** funded through the EUWI+ programme
 - National expert group was established to work on the baseline study, the draft revised targets and their implementation plan.
 - Inter-ministerial working group (IWG) meeting organized on 28 September 2017 to present a first draft of the baseline study on water and health.
 - National expert group finalized work on the draft revised targets and their implementation plan in 2018.
 - Public consultations on the revision of national targets under the Protocol on Water and Health held on 19-20 December 2018 in Kyiv.
 - The final draft of the new revised national targets and their action plan was finalized at the IWG on 6 February 2019 and is currently under consideration for adoption at the appropriate government level.
 - EUWI+/UNECE also provided logistical and methodological support in developing the national summary reports within the fourth reporting cycle under the Protocol.



Activities in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in the area of target setting

- Support to regular intersectoral NPD Steering Committee meetings in EaP countries (5+1) where progress in revision of targets and work on equitable access was reviewed by the NPD Steering Committees

Capacity Development

- A subregional workshop on synergies and joint implementation of the **Protocol on Water and Health**, the relevant **European Union Directives**, particularly the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive and the Drinking Water Directive recast, as well as the relevant **Sustainable Development Goals**, was organized by UNECE/EUWI+ for countries in the Eastern Neighbourhood region back-to-back with the eleventh meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health (Geneva, 2 April 2019).



- Capacity development opportunities for the EaP countries were also provided by EUWI+ through regional workshops and events under the Protocol in Geneva (link with SDGs, target setting)



Activities in Eastern Europe and Caucasus under the EUWI+ in the area of equitable access to water and sanitation

- **Armenia:**
 - Consultation meetings on the Protocol on Water and Health **and equitable access to water supply and sanitation** in Armenia held on 5 December 2017 in Yerevan
 - In 2018, a national expert group established to work on the analysis of legislative barriers to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation (Measure 1 of the Action Plan on equitable access) supported by the EUWI+ programme. Work completed and the analytical report submitted to the Ministry of Environment
 - Consultation meetings on the Protocol on Water and Health **and equitable access to water supply and sanitation** in Armenia held on 19 February 2019 in Yerevan
 - Amendments to the Water Code, Law on the National Water Program and the Law on Water Policy under preparation based on the recommendations from the analysis of legislative barriers to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation
- **Azerbaijan:** A Workshop/Consultation meeting on the Protocol on Water and Health and equitable access to water supply and sanitation in Azerbaijan was organized in Baku on 5 July 2018 to follow up to the score-card assessment



Activities in Eastern Europe and Caucasus under the EUWI+ in the area of equitable access to water and sanitation

- **Belarus:**

- A Multi-Stakeholder Workshop on the Protocol on Water and Health: Equitable access to water and sanitation and target-setting in Belarus was organized in Minsk by the Ministry of Health and MNREP and supported by UNECE through the EUWI+ programme on 29 October 2019.
- Participants were invited to provide written comments to the findings of the self assessment exercise on equitable access to water and sanitation by 10 November 2019.

- **Republic of Moldova:**

- In the Republic of Moldova, the revision of the National Programme is carried out along with the implementation of the target related to equitable access. Specifically, an analysis of legal and institutional barriers to ensuring equitable access is being developed.

- **Ukraine:**

- Revision of targets under the Protocol completed with support of the EUWI NPD. The revised targets include a **dedicated target on equitable access to water and sanitation**.



• During regular intersectoral **NPD Steering Committee meetings** in EaP countries (5+1) progress in the area of equitable access to water and sanitation is reviewed by the NPD Steering Committees



UNECE



World Health Organization

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR **Europe**

Thank you for your attention

