



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY
OF HEALTH AND CARE SERVICES

Targets and Action Plan under the Protocol on Water and Health in Norway

*Protocol on Water and Health: crucial for delivering water,
sanitation and hygiene for all
Geneva 6.November 2020*

Background

- Norway has numerous raw water resources available
- Most of them are lakes and rivers (surface water)
- Most Norwegian consumers get drinking water of good quality.



Why then do we need to take action?

- Our drinking water and waste water pipes are getting old and causing leaking problems. Renewal is very slow – down to 0,65 a year.
- Climate change challenges the systems.
- Some of the smaller public water supply systems are not up to standards.
- About 10 % of the population get their water supply from smaller private water supply systems (of which we know practically nothing of the water quality.)
- Covid-19 ?



Benefits of Protocol implementation at national level

- Offers an opportunity and a framework to analyze the national situation, and target its challenges taking into consideration each countries specific needs
- Draws political attention to water and sanitation issues and secures financing of needed actions
- Communicating national targets to stakeholders and the general public raise awareness about challenges
- Brings together different stakeholders
- Parties should see the Protocol as a tool to support other international commitments and not as a competitor

Setting targets can be a tool to be in compliance with international commitments

- UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)
- UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Through the EEA Agreement Norway adheres to a large part of the EU legislation i.e. ;
 - Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD)
 - Drinking water Directive 98/83/EC (and successor)
 - Council Directive 91/271/EEC concerning urban waste-water treatment
 - Council Directive 91/676/EEC concerning nitrate pollution from agricultural sources

National Targets for Norway



- Norway ratified the Protocol on 6 January 2004. Implementation of the Protocol requires that the parties establish national targets in the areas defined in Section 2 (a) to (n) of Article 6 of the Protocol.
- National targets for Norway were set by the Government May 22, 2014.
- 14 national target areas with 50 specific targets and multiple (97) examples on measures to be taken.
- The targets are not regulatory targets, but targets set in order to achieve improved compliance with the regulations.

Example of target facing national challenge

Target e (Performance to be achieved by the water and sewerage network):

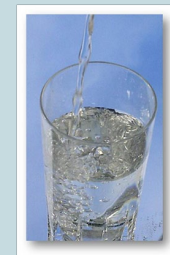
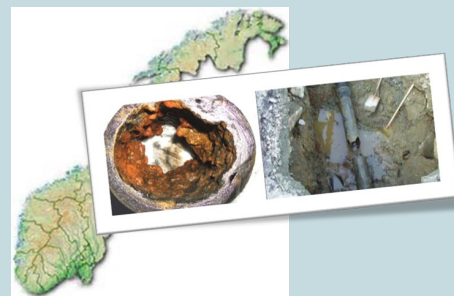
- a) Non-planned interruptions in the water supply should be less than 0.5 hours on average per inhabitant per year.
- b) The security of supply shall be better than 99.95 per cent.
- c) **Annual replacement/renovation of the water distribution network should on average be two per cent at national level towards 2035.**
- d) Leaks from the individual pipeline network should be less than 25 per cent by 2020.



Action plan 2014 – 2020 (rev. 2017)

The action plan for Ministry of Health and Care Services is divided into 6 areas

- Actions taken by the authorities (inspections and legal requirements)
- Information
- Organization and competence
- Researching
- International cooperation
- Documentation



Actions taken by the authorities

Examples



Measures	Year
Brochure with information on Protocol of Water and Health and National Targets.	2015
Supervision of emergency preparedness at waterworks > 1000 persons	2016
Revision of the drinking water regulation	2016
A system for supporting waterworks in crises established	2016
Registering of water supplies < 10 m ³ /day (less than 50 persons ?)	2017-2018
Water/ sanitary information in municipal health profiles.	Annual

Thank you!

