

How a country that has almost completed the target setting process but hasn't yet formally adopted them can report?

Workshop on reporting under the Protocol on Water and Health
Geneva, 12–13 February 2013
Kjetil Tveitan
Ministry of Health and Care Services, Norway

History of target setting

- ▶ 2008 – The Norwegian Food Safety Authority (NFSA) requested by the MOH to coordinate the drafting of targets in cooperation with relevant governmental bodies such as the Norwegian Institute of Public health and the Climate and Pollution Agency
- ▶ 2010 – A first draft was sent to the MOH.
- ▶ 2011 – June 2012: Target proposals refined in cooperation between the NFSA and a newly established ministerial group with representatives from:
 - Min of Health
 - Min of Environment
 - Min of Local Government and Regional Development
 - Min of Agriculture
 - Min of Fisheries

Current status of target setting

- ▶ Des 2011 – Feb 2012: Consultation with relevant NGO's
- ▶ June 2012 – January 2013: Draft considered by the Ministry of Health and its political leaders
- ▶ February 2013: Government decision to send targets on public hearing
- ▶ Mars – May: Broad public hearing.
- ▶ April 2013 – Second reporting under the PWH
- ▶ May – June Finalisation of draft by NFSA.
- ▶ Early Autumn 2013 – Targets will be set by Government

Plans for implementation

- ▶ As no targets are set no implementation has taken place so far.
 - ▶ When targets go on hearing the MOH will discuss an implementation plan with the NFSA.
 - ▶ Autumn 2013 – Information about the final targets go out to waterworks, municipalities and other relevant parties.
- 

How to report on targets, example 1

PWH art 6a – quality of drinking water supplied

- ▶ Why is this important: Some of the smaller public supply systems (50– 500) are not up to standards.
- ▶ Target drafts:
 - “In waterworks supplying 50– 500 recipients, the Chemical parameters according to the drinking water regulation should not be exceeded more than 3 times each year. Maximum level not more than x 5. Microbiological parameters with a limit of 0 should not be exceeded more than 3 times.”
- ▶ Reporting 2010
 - A similar, but differently formulated target was listed as “provisional”.
- ▶ Reporting 2013
 - We could send a translated version of the draft target now that it is official. We could describe ongoing activities of the NFSA and other bodies that supports those targets. Example: more intensive inspections and stricter enforcement.

How to report on targets example 2

PWH art 6a – quality of drinking water supplied

- ▶ Why is this important: 10 % of the population get water supply from very small private supply systems where quality is unknown
- ▶ Target draft :
 - The NFSA should by 2013 have a representative overview of drinking water quality in systems supplying less than 50 persons.
- ▶ Reporting 2010
 - Not mentioned (May not have been recognized as a problem and mentioned in the draft targets yet)
- ▶ Reporting 2013
 - We could send a translated version of the draft target now that it is official. We could describe ongoing activities of the NFSA and other bodies that supports those targets.

How to report on targets, example 3

PWH article 6b – reduction of outbreaks

- ▶ Why is this important: Some severe outbreaks and probably a number of unrecorded less severe ones
- ▶ Target drafts:
 - Outbreaks of waterborne diseases should have low probability and consequence.
 - Persons falling ill from drinking water should be less than 1 of 10.000.
- ▶ Reporting 2010
 - Target draft described
- ▶ Reporting 2013
 - We could describe the draft target and perhaps how the surveillance system is functioning.

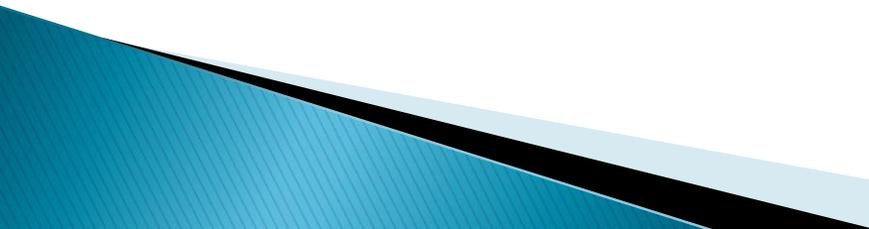
PWH article 6e – level of performance

- ▶ Why is this important: Drinking– and waste water pipes are outdated, renewal is slow
- ▶ Target drafts:
 - National (average) yearly rate of renewal of pipes should be raised to more than 4 % (or 2) until 2035
 - Leakage should be down to less than 25 % by 2020
- ▶ Reporting 2010
 - The same targets were listed as “provisional” and described in vague terms. Actions and progress towards targets were linked to the activities of the NFSA.
- ▶ Reporting 2013
 - We could send a translated version of the draft target now that it is official. We could describe ongoing activities of the NFSA and other bodies that supports those targets. Example. The NFSA had an inspection campaign focused on status of water pipes in 2012.

Which target is the most difficult to report on?

- ▶ In this reporting no one is more difficult than the others because target are not set.
- ▶ In future reporting exercises the problem in some cases will be how to measure progress towards targets.
 - Example 1: The reduction of outbreaks might be difficult because of number of the large number of unrecorded incidents.
 - Example 2: How to measure progress towards adequate protection of water recourses?

Conclusions

- ▶ We are very much in the same position as 3 years ago – draft targets exist, not set.
 - ▶ But – targets are now official (or will be before deadline for reporting)
 - ▶ Target drafts themselves can be reported on, but the difficulty lies in describing actions. There have already been, and still are, some national actions that will support the target, but they are not a formal measure to reach the target. Should we report on that?
 - ▶ My opinion is that we should report on actions that support the purpose of the Protocol although they are not yet formally adopted.
- 



Thank you!



One of our pipes
Not even iron pipes lasts forever