Protocol on Water and Health and possible synergies with PPPs

Valentina Paderi, Consultant UNECE
1) Introduction to the Protocol
Why a treaty to manage water resources and prevent water-related diseases?

In the pan-European region 14 people die every day of diarrheal disease due to inadequate water, sanitation and hygiene (WHO, 2016)

- 14 million lack access to a basic drinking water source
- 62 million lack access to basic sanitation
- 30% and 60% of urban wastewater, in high and upper-middle income countries released into the environment without treatment [WHO, 2017]
About the Protocol

- International legal agreement - binding 26 States in the pan-European region, with other states also actively working in its framework
- Jointly serviced by UNECE and WHO Regional Office for Europe

- Aimed at **protecting human health and well-being** through **improved water management and through preventing, controlling and reducing water-related disease**

- Aimed at **ensuring access to drinking water and provision of sanitation for everyone**

- **International Centre of Excellence on PPPs in water and sanitation in Portugal**, promotes implementation of Protocol. Portugal will be lead party on target-setting area in the future Programme of Work (2020-2022)
2) The Protocol and the 2030 Agenda
The Protocol is a recognized tool to implement the 2030 Agenda

- Protocol goals and target areas closely related to SDG principles aligned with SDG 6 and with 2030 Agenda targets on water, sanitation and health
- Address the whole water cycle
- Focus on intersectorality
- Focus on inequalities
- Countries set national targets
- Follow-up and review of progress
3) Protocol framework and PPPs – Target-setting
PPPs could be developed to implement Protocol targets

- Parties to the Protocol required to **establish, publish and periodically revise** national and/or local targets on water, sanitation and health

- Protocol promotes **official adoption of targets at highest possible level** and of action plans for implementation, containing specific measures

- **PPPs could be developed to implement specific measures of the action plans.**

- **Steps for target setting:**
  - Identification of stakeholders and coordination mechanism
  - Baseline analysis
  - Identification and prioritization of problems
  - Setting targets and indicators and communicate them to all relevant stakeholders
  - Collect data, assess progress and regularly review targets
Example 2 – Infrastructural targets and opportunities for PPPs - Portugal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target Area</th>
<th>Target/s</th>
<th>Specific action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Access to drinking water   | - Increasing level of connection to the water supply system by end users [achieve 80% in 2020] | - Revision of legal framework on municipal water sector system  
- Utilities continue to execute service connections, evaluated on specific indicator on percentage of household with connection to the service |
### Example 3 – Infrastructural targets and opportunities for PPPs - Tajikistan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target Area</th>
<th>Target/s</th>
<th>Specific action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Access to sanitation    | Provide 90% of urban population and 25% of rural population with sewage system by 2025 | - Restoration and reconstruction of sewage and sewage treatment plans  
- Development of construction projects and rehabilitation and modernization of sewer systems  
- Construction and installation work related to rehabilitation and development of systems |
Target-setting process and People-first outcomes

- Protocol target areas address **access to essential services**

- **Environmental sustainability:** protection of water resources and water-related ecosystems

- **Wide involvement of all stakeholders** – Participation of a wide range of stakeholders in all steps of target-setting process, including targets implementation
4) Protocol framework and PPPs – Equitable access to water and sanitation
Equitable access and People-first outcomes

- **PFO (i)**: Increase access to essential services and lessen social inequality, focusing on projects that consider the needs of the socially and economically vulnerable.

- **Protocol**: Equitable access to water and sanitation should be provided for all members of the population, especially those who suffer a disadvantage or social exclusion.

- Equitable access is a priority area of work under the Protocol and it translates the human rights to water and sanitation into practice.
Equitable access and People-first outcomes

• Work on equitable access has shown that it might to be difficult to define and unpack the concept. Four dimensions identified in work under Protocol:
  1. Governance frameworks
  2. Reducing geographical disparities
  3. Ensuring access for vulnerable and marginalized groups
  4. Keeping water and sanitation affordable for all

• Countries undergo self-assessment at national and/or local level

• Building on self-assessment results they develop Equitable Access Action Plans - identify specific actions to fill the “equity gaps” and partners with which they can work
Country example – Armenia (2015-2016)

• **Self-assessment identified challenges**, including for **vulnerable and marginalized groups** (limited data, lack of a legal definition of “vulnerable and marginalized groups”)

• Understanding of the **special needs of vulnerable and marginalized groups**

• Since January 2017, water and sanitation services have been provided by “Veolia Djur” CJSC, using a **common tariff**. Needs of vulnerable and marginalized groups not necessarily addressed → need to assess impact

• **Action Plan** proposes to **discuss with all stakeholders** opportunities for development of water and sanitation tariff’s **compensation mechanism** in order to ensure equitable access to vulnerable and marginalized groups.
5) Take home points
Take home points

• **Protocol and PPPs are mutually supportive.** Protocol provides sustainable legal framework, PPPs can support Protocol objectives and contribute to targets implementation (e.g. PPPs on infrastructure projects to increase access to water and sanitation)

• **Protocol framework and tools can be used to achieve People-first outcomes,** particularly increasing access to essential services and lessening social inequality; achieve environmental sustainability and fully involving all stakeholders in projects

• **Methodologies and approaches developed under the Protocol can be used to the benefit of People-first-oriented PPPs** (e.g. use equitable access concepts)

• The Protocol promotes **capacity building** and provides **platform at high national level for discussion** between national authorities and all relevant stakeholders (convening power of the Protocol)
Thank you for your attention!

For questions, please contact Valentina.paderi@un.org; Nataliya.Nikiforova@un.org
17. PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
17.16-17. Multi-stakeholder partnerships.
17.18. Capacity to improve data, monitoring and accountability for water and health

16. PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
16.6. Strengthening national and local institutions.
16.7. Improved public participation

13. CLIMATE ACTION
13.1. Improved resilience of water and sanitation systems to climate change

12. SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
12.4 Environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle

11. SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
11.5. Reduction of deaths and direct economic losses caused by water-related disasters.

10. REDUCED INEQUALITIES
10.2. Promotion of social, economic and political inclusion of all.
10.3. Equal opportunities for even the most vulnerable.

1. NO POVERTY
1.4. Access to basic services

3. GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
3.2. Improved water and sanitation services in health care facilities.
3.3. Reduction of scale of outbreaks and incidents of water-related diseases.
3.9. Improvement of quality of water bodies

4. QUALITY EDUCATION
4.a. Safe and effective learning environments for all.
4.7. Promote awareness on importance of water and health

5. GENDER EQUALITY
5.1. Less discrimination in access to water, sanitation and hygiene.
5.5. Women’s participation in decision-making process related to water and health

6. CLEAN WATER AND_sanitation
6.1-2. Universal and equitable access to safe and sustainable drinking water, sanitation and hygiene.
6.3. Improved water quality by reducing pollution and increasing wastewater reuse.
6.4-5. Increased water-use efficiency to address water scarcity and implementation of IWRM through transboundary cooperation.
6.6. Healthy environments for people and ecosystems
6.a By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building in water and sanitation-related activities and programmes.
6.b Support and strengthen participation of local communities in water and sanitation management

8. DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
8.8. Promotion of safe and secure working environments of all workers.