Draft publication
The Human Rights to Water and sanitation in practice: Findings and lessons learned from the work on equitable access to water and sanitation in the pan-European region under the Protocol on Water and Health

Item 10 - Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation

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Process of development of the publication

MOP4 (2016): Decision to share lessons learned & promote good practices from equitable access work (assessments, action plans and measures)

4th meeting Expert Group on Equitable Access (2017): Framing the scope and content of the publication

10th meeting WGHW (2017): Review of the draft outline prepared by the Expert Group

5th meeting Expert Group on Equitable Access (2018): 1st draft prepared and discussed by countries

11th meeting WGWH (2019): Presentation of the 2nd draft for comments and finalization by MOP 5 (November 2019)
Objectives of the publication

• To inspire additional countries to improve the equity of access to water and sanitation.

• To contribute to the international effort to meeting targets 6.1 and 6.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals.

• To consolidate the lessons learned and impact of the work carried out in countries of the pan-European region under the Protocol in the area of equitable access to water and sanitation since 2010.
Structure of the draft publication

Executive summary

Section 1 - Equitable access to water and sanitation
Human rights to water and sanitation, Protocol on water and health, SDGs, Equitable access to water and sanitation

Section 2 - Assessing equitable access to water and sanitation
Methodology, findings, recommendations for organizing a self-assessment

Section 3 - Planning and implementing actions to achieve equitable access to water and sanitation
Planning methodology, examples of actions taken, experiences with the development of actions plans, recommendations for planning actions

Section 4 - Financing actions to achieve equitable access to water and sanitation
Issues around financing, financing approaches, recommendations

Section 5 - Annexes (short country profiles)
Highlights- Findings from equitable access self-assessments

• **Awareness** of the challenges faced in ensuring equitable access is uneven

• **No complete and accurate picture of the current situation** (lack of information and need for a wide range of expertise)

• Need for a **more integrated approach** to tackle **equity gaps** (lack of unique and comprehensive strategy for equitable access)

• Assessment can **help identify** unrevealed **challenges**
**Highlights - Actions to improve equitable access to water and sanitation**

- **Actions** can target the broad governance framework as well as specific dimensions of equitable access through:
  - Awareness-raising efforts
  - Integration of equitable access concerns into national strategies and plans
  - Legal and policy reforms
  - Infrastructure investments
  - Lobbying for financial resources

- Developing an **equitable access action plan** can help **target** technical and financial **resources** to implement the proposed actions
**Highlights** - Financing the improvement of equitable access

- Opportunity to develop a **strategic approach** to financing equitable access to water and sanitation
- Importance to consider all aspects of equitable access when developing framework for financing access to WatSan
- Need to **clarify responsibilities for funding** solutions; local authorities can play major role.
- In some countries, opportunity to **influence external support** to contribute more to water and sanitation investment budget
Next steps:

By 10 May 2019
Send comments on the draft publication: main content and countries fiches (annexes)

19-21 November - MOP 5
Finalized publication
2018-2019 initiatives to promote the work on equitable access to water and sanitation under the Protocol
Contribution to the World Water Development Report 2019

Input in the Regional chapter for the Europe & North America region:

→ How the Protocol is a driving progress in reducing inequities in access to water and sanitation

→ Specific examples of experience of France, North Macedonia and Armenia in improving equitable access to water and sanitation
Side event at the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the UNECE region
Reducing inequalities in access to water and sanitation
(21 March 2019)

- Presentation of the Protocol from the Chair of the Compliance Committee

- Experiences shared from:
  - North Macedonia
  - Serbia
  - Armenia
Events at 2019 Stockholm World Water Week

Mobilising local government champions to implement human rights to WASH
25 August 4.00-5.30 pm

• Objective:
Exchange on how local and national governments and other stakeholders can find practical ways to ensure access to water and sanitation for all.

• Convenors:
Serbia, Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation, France, UNECE, WHO-Europe, Making Rights Real consortium

Comparison of evidence-based, multi-stakeholder approaches for inclusive WASH outcomes

• Objective:
Discuss various tools providing a rational evidence-based approach for improved planning and increased water governance in order to increase access to WASH

• Convenors:
SIWI, UNECE, GWP, UNICEF