Safe and efficient management of water supply and sanitation systems

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

19-21 November | Belgrade | Serbia
Pan-European Symposium Water and Sanitation Safety Planning and Extreme Weather Events, 6-7 April, Bilthoven, The Netherlands

• Goal: Share experiences and challenges related to extreme weather events for managing drinking-water and sanitation services

• Organized in cooperation with programme area 7 on climate resilience

• Co-organized by the Netherlands (MoIWM, RIVM), Spain, Germany (UBA), International Water Association, WHO Regional Office for Europe, UNECE and UNESCO-IHE

• http://www.iwcconferences.com/wssp-and-extreme-weather/
Key points WSSP symposium

• Climate change: increase occurrence of extreme weather events (droughts, floods)
• Water and sanitation safety plans are important tools for ensuring climate resilience
• Integration of water safety plans (WSPs) and sanitation safety plans (SSP) is needed to reduce contamination risks
• Use of climate vulnerability assessments, Integrated Water Management in WSP and SSP
• Adaptation and mitigation to climate change: region – local (adaptation as you go)
Key points WSSP symposium – Regulators forum

- Capacity and training of staff
- Clear responsibilities
- Linking health and economic in discussions
- Need for cooperation across sectors
- Information for climate resilient WSSP
- Holistic view: regional – local
- Guidance and tools are available
- IWA paper on regulatory and policy frameworks
Outcomes of the Workshop on sanitation in the pan-European region
(12-13 February 2019, Bonn, Germany)

• Sanitation is broad and highly relevant on the international agenda (2030 Agenda, Ostrava Declaration on Environment and Health)
• The workshop aimed at systematically reviewing the sanitation situation from health and environmental perspectives, covering the entire pan-European region
• 54 representatives from 28 countries as well as technical experts and representatives of international and non-governmental organizations
Common challenges identified

• Gaps in the use of **safely managed services**
• Limited access in **rural areas and specific settings** (schools and health care facilities)
• Poorly managed sanitation contributes to **water-related disease** incidence, including **soil-transmitted helminths**
• Contributes spread of **antimicrobial resistance** in the environment
• **Environmental impacts** from chemicals and emerging contaminants
• **Financing sanitation**: Aging infrastructure vs. investment needs
• Building **climate-resilient sanitation services**: Climate change requires rethinking of design and operation of sanitation systems (floods, drought, torrential rains)
• Addressing water scarcity through **wastewater reuse**: Opportunities (nutrients, food); requires sound assessment of health risks; issue of direct/indirect potable reuse
• **Several tools available**: Faecal flow diagrams (SFD), sanitation safety plans (SSP), technology selection tools (EAWAG Compendium & others)
Recommendations of the sanitation workshop

- Sanitation is an **unfinished business** in the pan-European region
- Raise **political awareness on sanitation**, emphasizing its cross-cutting character
- Improve the **evidence base** on the sanitation situation in the region
- Scale-up **risk-based management** approaches
- Use **Protocol as convening platform** to accelerate sanitation work
- Address **sanitation** related achievements and gaps in the **national summary reports** (in April 2019)
- Set **specific targets** on sanitation
Training on Sanitation Safety Planning  
(14 February 2019, Bonn, Germany)

• The **overall aim** of the training was to raise awareness about the SSP approach as a risk-based approach to ensure that sanitation systems are managed to meet health objectives

• **46 representatives** from **23 countries** were trained

• Benefits for participants:
  • Understand the value of SSPs and how it can help to achieve SDG 6
  • Learn about the SSP process, outputs and outcomes
  • Gain experience in the SSP process, so that participants can guide SSP implementation
  • Exchange sanitation management practices
## Broad support to WSP uptake

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<td><strong>Tajikistan</strong></td>
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|                          | • Broad WSP capacity building  
• Practical implementation with focus on rural areas  
• New drinking-water law adopting WSP supported by a national WSP policy roadmap                                                                 |
| **Lithuania**            | Aug 2018                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                          | Initial sensitization and capacity building on WSP principles                                                                                                                                               |
| **Bosnia and Herzegovina** | May 2019                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| **Serbia**               | Aug 2018                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                          | Support to the development of a national roadmap towards long-term uptake of WSPs                                                                                                                                 |
| **Croatia**              | Sep 2018                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                          | Training of trainers to support national rollout of new legislative requirements on WSP implementation                                                                                                  |
| **Italy**                | Oct 2018                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                          | Review of present WSP auditing capacities and support to update of national audit guidance                                                                                                                  |
| **Hungary**              | Jul 2019                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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Thank you for your attention