



**OUTCOMES OF THE SUB-REGIONAL WORKSHOP FOR CENTRAL EUROPEAN
COUNTRIES, HELD ON 8-9 May 2012,
BACK-TO BACK WITH THE MEETING OF THE
TASK FORCE ON TARGET SETTING AND REPORTING**

**Bratislava, 10-11 May, 2012
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Outcome of the sub-regional workshop for Central European countries, held on 8-9 May 2012, back-to back with the meeting of the Task Force on Target setting and reporting.

- **Workshop was focused on sharing experiences on the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in:
Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia**
- **Participants from different institutions and NGOs, sectors**
- **Different level of Protocol`s implementation (HU, SK)**



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Sessions: (presentations)

- 1) Improving water and health through the implementation of the PWH**
- 2) Sharing experiences on the water and health situation in Central Europe and on the implementation of the Protocol**
- 3) Measures implemented to improve water and health and achieve the targets, including financing aspects**
- 4) How the Protocol's implementation can better serve the improvement of water and health (Working group discussion)**
- 5) Specific water and health related issues**
- 6) Reporting under the Protocol – experiences and relation to EU and other international reporting obligations**
- 7) Workshop conclusions and recommendations**



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Sessions:

- 1) Presentation from UNECE side were addressed to participants with aim to inform us about basic principles, guidelines, dates...**
- 2) Presentations from the country side - were prepared with aim to inform all about status of Protocol implementations, setted targets, basic problems, experiences from the 1st reporting exercise...**
- 3) For dissemination of informations were used - Plenary discussion, working group discussion**



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Added value of the workshop was that the participants would know how the targets should be updated, what topics should be supplement, what information and how should be reported...

Although the implementaton of Protocol`s is different in 4 countries we can summarize the following conclusions:

1. The targets were set in some countries, or in some countries are under preparations (RO, SI)
2. Defined targets are general (not measurable) or are taken in place (arsenic problems)
3. Basis for setting targets was given by requirements given by different legislations in water and health sectors (WFD, BD, DWD, NiD, UWWTD, GWD)
4. The missing topics in the setted targets were:
climate changes and extreme weather events, small scale water supplying and sanitation systems, municipalities with less than 2000 p.e., marginal groups and their problems with access to safe water and sanitation, water safety plans....



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5. Intersectoral working groups could be a suitable tool for coordination of activities from both sectors (health, environment) to solve targets, measures...

6. The political willingness, responsibility and support of all concerned parties to solve all requirements should have a highest priority in each country.

7. Important part of the discussions were questions joined with budgetary problems. How to find some supplementary financial sources and establish financial mechanism to cover all requirements given by Protocol together with ensuring of well trained staff and sufficient personal capacities in all sectors.

8. Some time is needed to change behaviour and thinking of population, This can be support by public participation process, through the different campaigns, conferences,...

The Protocol can use a NGOs and GWP representatives in assistance towards to the public. GWP offered its assistance to work under the Protocol, e.g. by organizing stakeholder meetings...



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9. Protection of drinking water sources should have a high priority

10. It is crucial to link water and health data between water quality and disease incidents and set up good working surveillance system

11. Countries got a feedback from the UNECE side on status of 1st reporting period through the analysis of the submitted reports. This presentation was very useful to countries to know how the targets should be updated, or adjust, what targets or measures should be added, how to prepare the next report to fulfill all requirements given by guidelines...

- Level of setted targets in countries varried, there were defined targets on general level that are not measurable, these should be redefined
- More detailed information are expected, these can be achieved by supplementing of the templates from UNECE side



Thank you for your attention!