

“MAMA-86” experience on public participation in Protocol implementation

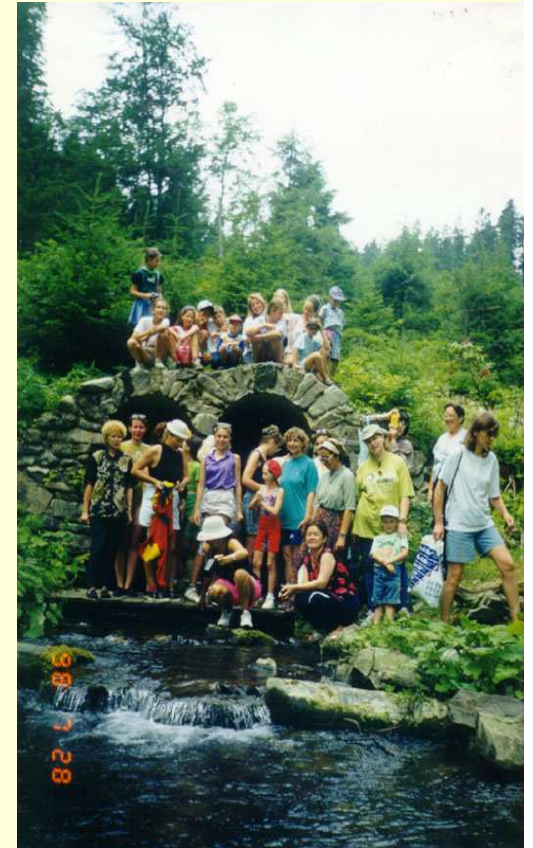


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**Workshop on information and public participation in
Water and health related issues,
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Protocol on water and health

Promotes the Aarhus principles and develops norms by setting the requirements to enhance the awareness of all sectors of public on water and health issues, to provide the public access to information, to involve public into the targets setting, evaluating and reporting process and access to justice, Art. 6, p.29 - Art.11.



The Protocol provides mechanisms :

- ✓ awareness raising and information:
by education and active informing, publishing of targets and target indicators, analysis and sampling results, national reports
- ✓ Public participation:
 - **in the coordination mechanism** of the Protocol implementation
 - **In decision-making process at planning stage** (*data collection and analysis of the baseline situation in the water sector, identifying problems and prioritizing them to establish targets and indicators, programs of actions, through public debate and broad consultation and consideration of comments / opinions when making decisions on setting targets and programs of actions, reports on*
implementation of action plans and **monitoring and progress assessment**)
- ✓ **public access to justice** (*appeal to the Council on compliance*)

Main instruments working in Ukraine

Informing of public

- National report “Drinking water and drinking water supply in Ukraine” from 2004, annually
- National report on the state of the environment, from 1996, had a chapter about drinking water, in which work of Environmental NGO had a special subchapter
- Website Publishing of National Reports and summary of country report on the Protocol (5 pages)
- participation of NGO representatives in the Project Coordination Group on targets setting, participation of 3 NGOs in Coordination meetings on targets setting

The main problems of public involvement

- **ignoring or formal approach to public involvement by state authorities because of :**
- *lack of understanding by the state authorities of the need to involve public*
- *lack of democratic traditions,*
- *lack of knowledge how to do it,*
- *lack of recourses (skills and finance),*
- *lack of information what NGOs do in the context of the Protocol.*



All Ukrainian ecological NGO “MAMA-86”- 86”

NGO network was founded in 1990,
works on water issues in 10 regions of
Ukraine

Is involved in the Protocol process
since 1997, witnessed the signing of
the Protocol in London in 1999,

Actively works on the Protocol
promotion in Ukraine since 2003





Raising public awareness on the Protocol:

- **2003** start of the MAMA-86's campaign "Water, sanitation and hygiene (**WASH**) for all in Ukraine", Protocol and MDGs on water are the basis and legal framework of this campaign.
- **2004-2008** – Aqua-Ukraine – **WASH Seminars** – popularization of the Protocol at **national level**.
- **September-October 2009** – **4 regional and National Working Conferences on the Protocol: aim** – Protocol promotion, its tasks and mechanisms at local level. Discussion of the problems of water and health, prioritization and discussion of the targets indicators at local level.
- **Publication** of booklet and articles about Protocol: nearly 10 articles in journals and Aqua-Forum materials books, 1 booklet,
- **work with mass media: articles in the newspapers**

"MAMA-86"'s experience on solving the problems of water and health

- *1998-2003 independent analysis of DW quality in different localities, study of nitrate, fluorine pollution in different localities, study of WS problems of rural population, schools*
- *2001-2008 – monitoring, mapping of nitrate pollution in rural areas in 9 project areas,*
- *Implementation of tech solutions :14 pilot on water, 13 pilots on sanitation.*
- *Promotion of best practices on water supply and sanitation*

Main conclusions:

Consumer does not have truthful and clear information on W&H problems, technical solutions of DW problems,

User does not trust official information about DW quality.

Education on health risks associated with water, ecological education, raising the culture of water use are needed.

People and local authorities are not aware about best practices in WS& S.

Alternative, ecology friendly and low cost technologies on WsS are not represented in the market and have no state support.



Role of NGO in Protocol

- 1) most active part of public, carriers and representatives of the interests of consumers and consumer groups
- 2) have capacity and knowledge, accumulates information on local problems and have experience in problems solving, that are usually out of attention of authorities, science and business
- 3) Work for a long time on the problem and have knowledge and institutional memory about political processes, including Protocol
- 4) Can create neutral platform for multi stakeholders consultations of water issues in the framework of planning of Protocol implementation at nat.-local levels.
- 5) Carry on awareness raising activity among different targets groups on Protocol issues, targets and ways, water related diseases and preventive measures

What is needed to involve public into Protocol implementation?

- Political will
- communication, coordination and exchange of information
- resources: knowledge, time, human resources and finances
- NGO participation

Thank you for attantion!

www.mama-86.org.ua

