

# Background and objectives of the meeting

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4<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE EXPERT GROUP ON EQUITABLE ACCESS

Budapest, 13-14 September 2018

Session 1



# Equitable access under the Protocol on Water and Health



The Protocol key objectives:

- (a) Access to drinking water for everyone
- (b) Provision of sanitation for everyone

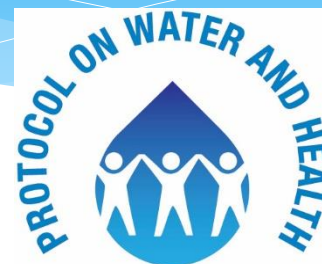


**A specific focus on equitable access:**

“Equitable access to water, adequate in terms both of quantity and of quality, should be provided for all members of the population, especially those who suffer a disadvantage or social exclusion” (art. 5)



# Equitable access under the Protocol on Water and Health



A practical **instrument to progressively implement** the human rights to water and sanitation and contribute to SDGs implementation and other regional commitments:

- > Safety and equity
- > Implementation strategy
- > Monitoring

# The Expert Group on Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation

- \* Improving equitable access to water and sanitation: a priority work area under the programme of work of the Protocol since 2007 (MOP1)
- \* Experts from countries, NGOs, IOs, private sector... exchanging knowledge and experiences and working together on the development of guidance
- \* Regular meetings in 2007, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017
- \* Reporting progress to the Working Group on Water and Health and to the Meeting of the Parties
- \* France: lead Party since 2007; Hungary: co-lead Party since 2014

# Activities on equitable access to water and sanitation

## 1. Setting the framework

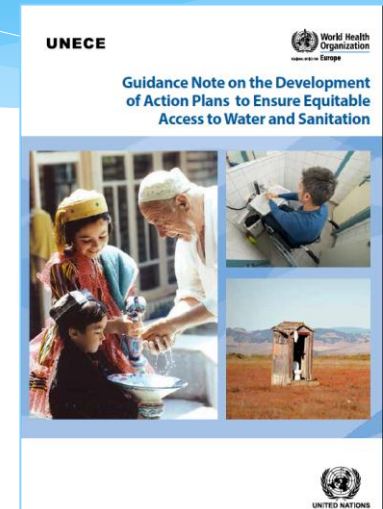
Good practices

Assessment tool

Equitable Access Action Plan

## 2. Assessing the baseline situation

## 3. Defining action

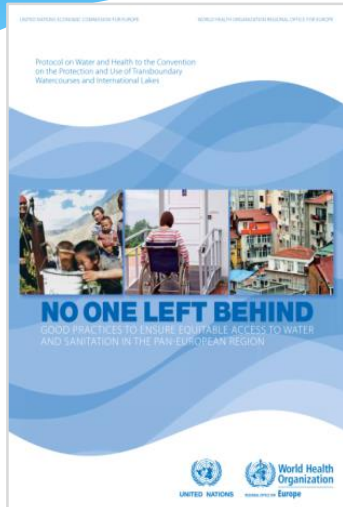


# Inequities to be fought on 3 fronts

Dimension	Inequities in access to water and sanitation
<b>Geographical disparities:</b> water resources, WSS infrastructure	Certain areas of a country (rural areas, poor urban neighborhoods) have no physical access or have access of lower quality than other areas
<b>Social disparities:</b> vulnerable and marginalised groups	Within areas with good access, certain groups do not have access because they don't have private facilities, the public and institutional facilities they rely on are not adequate, or suffer unintended or intended discrimination
<b>Economic disparities:</b> affordability issues	Within areas with good access, the water and sanitation bill represents too large a share of disposable income for some households

# Activities on equitable access to water and sanitation

## 1. Setting the framework



Good practices

Assessment tool

Equitable Access Action Plan

## 2. Assessing the baseline situation



UNECE



Guidance Note on the Development of Action Plans to Ensure Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation



## 3. Defining action



# Progress towards ensuring Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation



- \* 8 countries completed self-assessment of equitable access to water and sanitation, at various scales (national / regional / city):

(2013) France, Ukraine, Portugal, (2014) Republic of Moldova, (2016) Armenia, Hungary, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Spain

- \* Equitable access assessment on going in 2 countries (Azerbaijan and Serbia) and to start in Bulgaria

→ Better understanding of the equity challenges faced, awareness raised on equity gaps

- \* Actions taken to address equity challenges in several countries, including through Equitable Access Action Plans



# Capitalizing findings and lessons learnt from the work on equitable access

- \* A publication to:
  - Draw lessons from the organization of self-assessments
  - Identify impacts of the self-assessments (identification and implementation of actions) and success factors and main barriers
  - Lessons learnt from processes of developing Equitable Access Action Plans
  - Link to other processes, partners initiatives and international commitments implementation
  - A specific thematic focus – financing equitable access to water and sanitation?

# Capitalizing findings and lessons learnt from the work on equitable access

## \* Proposed timeline

- now: discussion with Expert Group (general approach, structure)
- 15-16 November 2017: draft annotated outline for the 10th meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health (content, roadmap)
- 5th Meeting of the Expert Group, focused on Financing (June 2018, tbc)
- Draft publication discussed at 11th and 12<sup>th</sup> meetings of the Working Group on Water and Health (Nov 2018 & Jul. 2019, tbc)
- Publication for adoption at the 5th session of the Meeting of the Parties (November 2019, tbc)

# Programme

## \* Day 1

Session 1 – Background and objectives of the meeting

Session 2 – New experiences applying the Equitable  
Access Score-card: process, findings, lessons  
learnt, next steps

Session 3 – Lessons learnt in organizing Equitable  
Access Self-Assessments

Session 4 – Impacts of Equitable Access Self-  
Assessments

# Programme

## \* Day 2

Session 5 – First experiences developing Equitable Access Action plans

Session 6 – Financing equitable access to water and sanitation

Session 7 – Other relevant developments supporting equitable access to water and sanitation

Session 8 – Preparation for MOP 5