

# Assessing equitable access to water and sanitation

## Experience in **Macedonia**

*Natasha Dokovska,  
Journalists for Humna Rights*

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# Background and objectives of the equitable access assessment

*Journalist for Human Rights* in cooperation with the *Institute of Public Health in Macedonia* and support of *UNECE secretariat Protocol for Water and Health* conducted the *Score card for equity access to water in sanitation* in 2015/2016.

- In 3 communities
- With multi stockholders approach
- Involvement of more than half of population in Macedonia
- Multiethnic

# Process: Applying the Equitable Access Score-card

- \* Lead organization(s): **Journalists for Human Rights and Institute of Public Health**
- \* Support by: **UNECE**
- \* Partners:
  - Relevant Ministries ( environment, health, agriculture, forest and water management, self – governance, finance, social affairs, public institutions and water utilities companies, local communities, local NGOs and media**
- \* Scale of the project: **Central Macedonia was included with the municipalities of Skopje, Veles and Kumanovo with 4 municipalities**
- \*

# Process: Applying the Equitable Access Score-card

Timeline : Implementation of the Project was dévide on 2 phases and last one year:



1 phase: **self - assesement**

2 phase: **results**



## **Activity:**

- **Translation and printing the score card**
- **Established the working group in all targeted communities**
- **Organized one day and half introduction workshop**
- **Work on field – collect the results**
- **Conference where we present he main finding**
- **Printing the results – disribute the results trough media, final conference meetings with main stakeholders**



# Outcomes of the assessment: main findings

	Situation of equitable access to water and sanitation
	❖ In every hospital ward there <b>are separate toilets for men and women and bathrooms for personal hygiene</b> , while other health facilities have toilets for men and women
	❖ <b>not suitable for maintaining menstrual hygiene</b>


# Outcomes of the assessment: main findings

	Situation of equitable access to water and sanitation
	<p>All educational institutions in the city <b>have</b> access to safe water and sanitation.</p> <p>All educational institutions in the city and countryside <b>have</b> special toilets for <b>men and women</b> as well as in larger schools in the villages, and in some of the smaller satellite schools have common toilets.</p>
	<p>But, <b>none of the educational institutions have adequate facilities to maintain menstrual hygiene.</b></p>

# Outcomes of the assessment: main findings

	Situation of equitable access to water and sanitation
	<i>Skopje has a highest percentage of proper and equitable access to water and sanitation</i>
	<i>But, in same time In Skopje, municipality of <b>Shuto Orizari</b> has the highest percentage of families living in housing <b>without</b> water and sanitation. The most affected are the <b>women</b> and <b>girl</b>. Only <b>16</b> per cent of Roma living in Skopje <b>have</b> a toilet and a bathroom, The rest use toilets outside of their homes. Just <b>26</b> per cents have access to water</i>

# Outcomes of the assessment: lessons learnt from the process

	Process
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ In general in Macedonia their citizens approx. <b>90 %</b> have access to water and sanitation</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ In targeted municipalities <i>not public toilets</i></li><li>❖ Geographical <i>disparity</i></li><li>❖ <i>Lack of finance</i> in the municipalities to develop and maintains the access to water and sanitation</li><li>❖ <i>Missing WWTP</i> ( except in municipality Kumanovo)</li><li>❖ <i>Lack of MHM in schools</i> (except in one private school in Veles)</li><li>❖ <i>Lack of access to drinking water and sanitation</i> for homeless</li><li>❖ <i>Bacteriologically improper</i> drinking water in rural areas (20-40%)</li><li>❖ <i>No access to drinking water and sanitation</i> in religious facilities</li></ul>



# Communication of the findings

- After assessment and results we have:
  - **Conference** with all involved stakeholder in the process of assessment and discuss with them finding
  - **Printing and distribute** the results
  - **Press conference** to present the result to media and international community in Macedonia
  - **Meetings** with representatives **of local communities**

# Planned next steps

- \* *The results of the assessment were not considered as criticisms to the local government, but as an incentive to improve detected weaknesses and to promote access to water and sanitation, especially in public institutions and schools ...*
- \* After accepting them by mayors, we started preparing **LAP** ...
- \* In cooperation with the representatives of the municipalities and several coordinative meetings, the **LAPs** were made and we are waiting for the initial adoption by the municipal councils and their implementation ...
- \* Just as for the illustration in the municipality of **Veles**, immediately after the presentation of the results, the mayor *undertakes the reconstruction of the toilets in two primary schools ...*