

**UNECE-FinWaterWei project on target setting process under
the Protocol on
Water and Health in Armenia**

EUWI NPD 9th Steering Committee Meeting

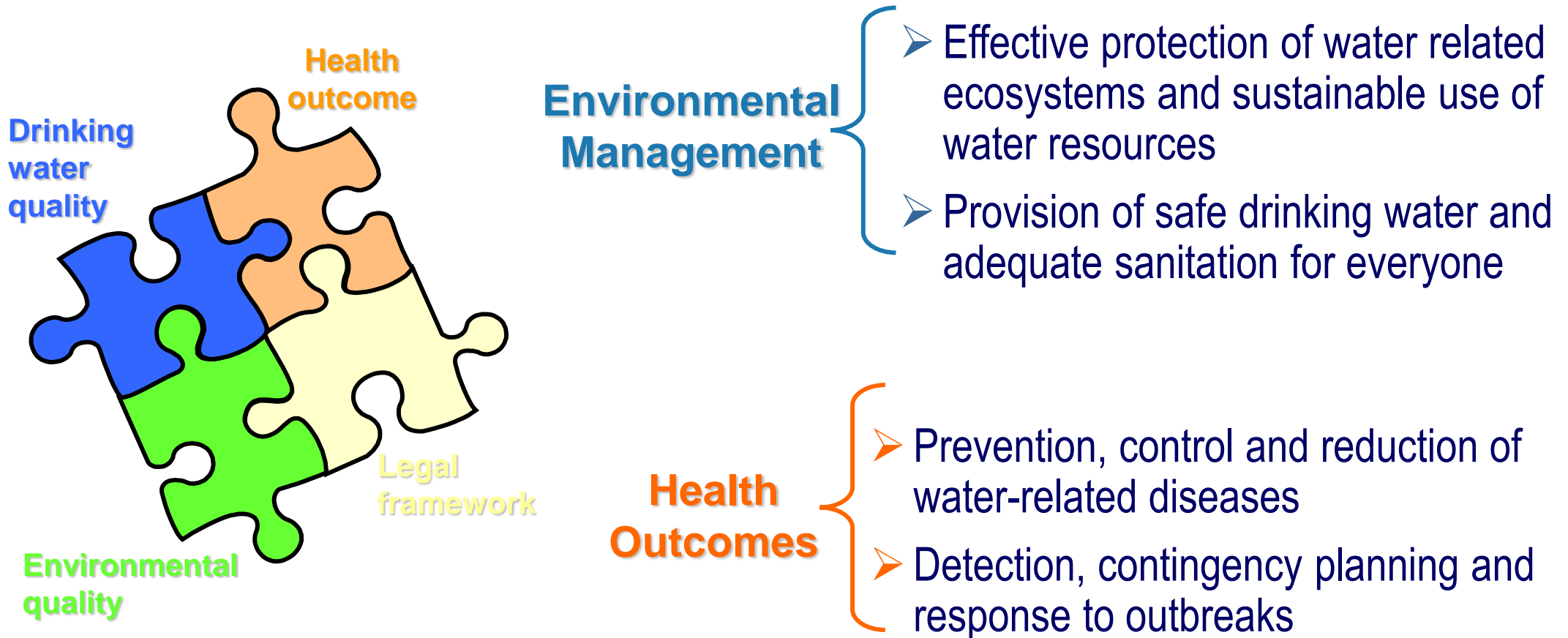
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Goal: Protect human health and well being by better management of water resources



Setting targets and measuring progress

DECLARE TARGETS

- Water supply and sanitation
- Water management
- Health protection

SET DATES

Within 2 years of becoming a Party, each country sets and publishes targets, and dates for achieving them

REVIEW PROGRESS

Parties:

- collect and evaluate data
- publish results
- review progress
- provide summary reports

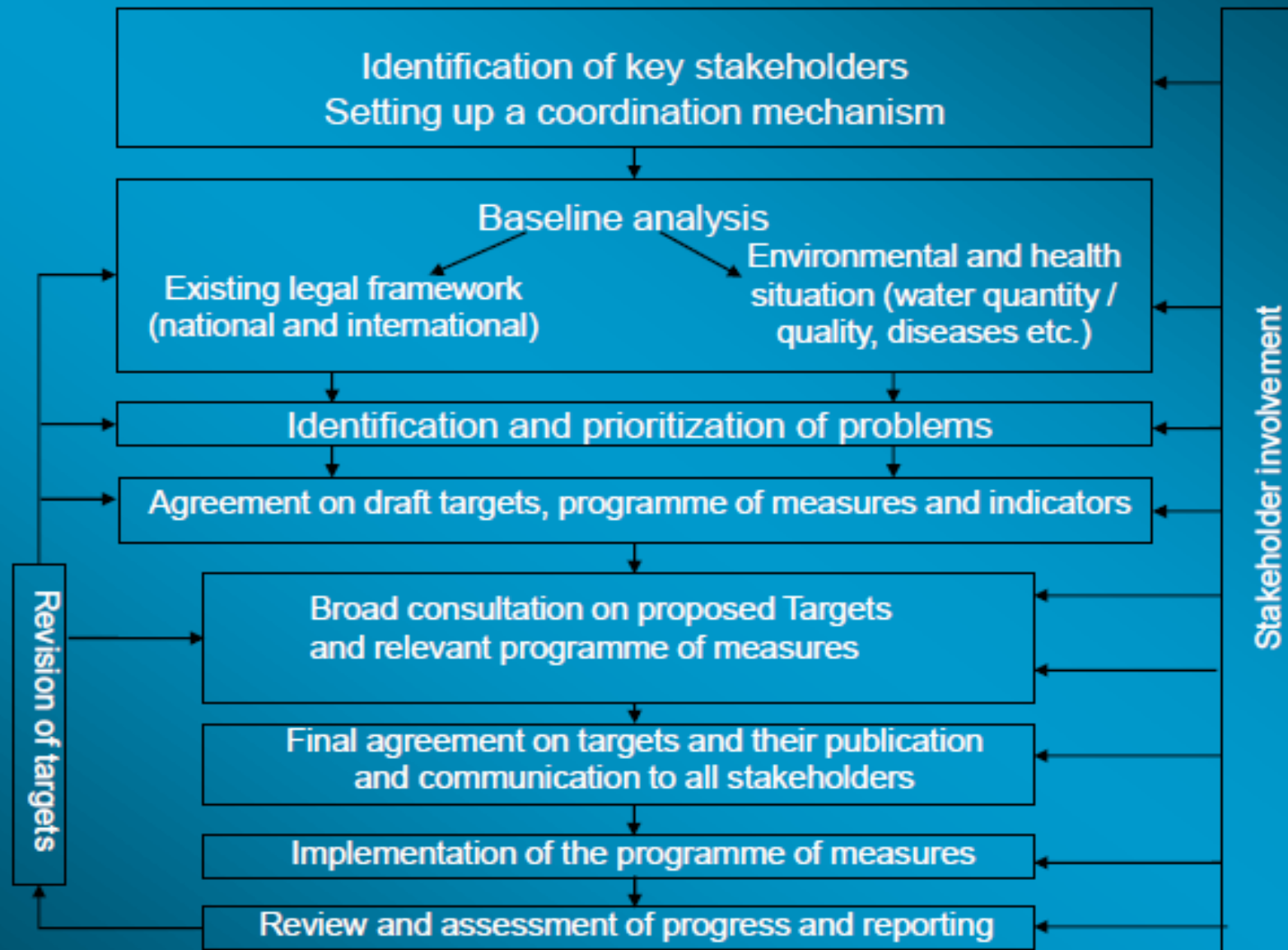
EVALUATE

MOP evaluate progress in implementation

Target setting areas



Target setting process



Possible priority areas for Armenia

Based on discussions of the 8th NPD SC meeting, priority issues for improving the water-and-health situation in Armenia will include the following:

- Increasing the access of urban and rural populations to improved sources of drinking water and establishing water safety plans;
- Increasing the access of rural populations to adequate sanitation;
- Revision of the legal and regulatory basis related to drinking water and harmonization with European standards;
- Safeguarding the performance of water supply and sanitation facilities under extreme weather conditions and climate change;
- Improving existing water management systems in line with requirements of the Protocol and such applicable EU Directives as the WFD and its economic instruments;
- Safeguarding the relative good status of the existing response systems regarding outbreaks of water-related diseases.

Background

- Republic of Armenia signed the Protocol on Water and Health in 1999 but has not yet acceded to it
- Applying Protocol techniques in the Marmarik catchment area
- SC led work on the project proposal - submitted to Project Facilitation Mechanism in 2009
- Discussions at the 8th EUWI NPD SC meeting – April 2012
- Agreement between UNECE and Finnish Government signed – September 2012

UNECE-FinWaterWei project: Overall and specific objectives/impact

Overall objective/impact:

To improve the ability of the Government of Armenia to comply with provisions of the Protocol on Water and Health and to develop targets, target dates and measures to assist Armenian authorities in implementing requirements of the Protocol

Specific objectives/impact:

To provide assistance to Armenia in setting and publishing national and/or local target for standards and level of performance that need to be achieved or maintained in order to ensure a high level of protection of human health and wellbeing

To facilitate the ratification by Armenia of the Protocol, by providing a forum for policy dialogue and decision making on the issue of the Protocol and for the development of a roadmap for ratification

Target groups

- Public authorities responsible for water management, safe drinking water supply and adequate sanitation (Ministries, agencies, institutions, local governments)
- Water utilities' and sanitation facilities' operators and Water Associations
- Environmental NGOs
- Consumers and the population at large, including women, children as well as vulnerable and marginalized groups.

Outcomes and outputs

Outcome 1: Strengthened capacity of the Government of Armenia to implement targets and proposed measures to ensure sustainable water management, access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation

Output 1: Action Plan to ensure sustainable water management, access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation, including a Roadmap for ratification of the Protocol

Output 2: Governmental Document approving the list of targets and targets dates and the proposed measures to implement the Protocol on Water and Health

Outcome 2: Enhanced implementation capacities and improved outreach, including public access to water-and-health related information and public awareness

Output 3: Technical reports on the relevant for Armenia Target Areas

Output 4: Publication on targets, target dates and proposed measures to improve efficiency of water management, and achieve safe drinking water and adequate sanitation

Output 5: Promotion Material

Outcome 3: Enabling project environment

Output 6: Establishing partnerships and platforms for policy dialogue

UNECE-FinWaterWei project: Governance

- **Steering Committee:** high-level, multi-stakeholder body to oversee the implementation of the project – existing EUWI NPD SC + additional members
- **Working Group:** chaired by UNECE and Head of Water Resources Management Agency, comprised of six national experts in key areas of target setting and one international expert
- **Coordination meetings of NGO representatives:** Chaired by AWHHE to facilitate participation of public in the target setting process and preparation of NGOs inputs to WG, SC meetings
- **Consultations of UNECE and SYKE with Ministries of Nature Protection and Health:** To discuss overall progress of the project and possible challenges (includes signing of MoU)

Key partners and cooperation

Key partners:

- Ministry of Nature Protection and its Water Resources Management Agency;
- Ministry of Health and its State Hygiene Inspectorate;
- Ministry of Territorial Administration and its State Committee for Water Systems;
- NGO Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment
- **Close coordination with other donors** active on water and health issues in the Republic of Armenia, especially for elaboration of the Action Plan
- NGO community, academia, etc

Links with the Protocol activities

- Link with national reporting of Armenia on implementation of the Protocol (though not obligatory for the country):
 - **Deadline for submission of reports - 29 April 2013**
 - **Third Meeting of the Parties – 25-27 November 2013, Oslo**
- Link with the ongoing activities under the Protocol – public participation, small-scale supplies, equitable access

Workplan up to mid-2013

Based on the consultations and the WG meeting on 11 December 2012:

- Inclusion of new members to the existing EUWI NPD SC and signing of MoU – Jan 2013
- Complete baseline analysis – end of Feb 2013
- Gap analysis and prioritization of activities end of June 2013
- To commence work on target and target dates and related measures with a view to submit draft to SC meeting in Sep 2013

www.unece.org/env/water

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