
PROJECT PROPOSAL
Version 24 February 2011

PROJECT TITLE:	Improving water and health in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA)
EXPECTED ACCOMPLISHMENT:	Enhanced capacity in EECCA countries to develop national strategies on water and health
PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES:	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.
TARGET GROUP:	National authorities responsible for water and health issues from ministries of environment, health, finance, infrastructure, regional development, as well as operators of drinking water and sanitation systems, national academies of science; local and national environmental and health NGOs.
TENTATIVE TIME FRAME:	1 January 2011 – 31 December 2013 (3 years)
PROJECT BUDGET:	440,000 €
SOUGHT FROM FINLAND	300,000 €
OTHER DONORS:	Germany, Norway, UN Development account

IMPROVING WATER AND HEALTH IN EASTERN EUROPE, CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL ASIA AND SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

The project will support countries in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia¹ in their efforts to improve their water and health situation. The project will strengthen capacity of countries to implement the Protocol on Water and Health and in particular to set targets and target dates under the Protocol and to implement measures to achieve them;

1. Background and justification

An estimated 140 million people do not have access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation in the UNECE region, making them vulnerable to such water-related diseases as cholera, bacillary dysentery, typhoid fever, hepatitis A and malaria. These problems are most acute in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA). The 2010 report on access to water and sanitation of the UNICEF-WHO Joint Monitoring Programme has singled out EECCA as the only sub-region in the world where access to drinking water is actually decreasing, thus calling for a clear intensification of action in this region.

To address these issues, there is a need for implementing an integrated approach that covers environmental, health and development policies. The Protocol on Water and Health to the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes provides such an approach. The Protocol was adopted in 1999 and currently has 24 Parties.² The Protocol aims to protect human health and well being by better water management and by preventing, controlling and reducing water-related diseases. Thereby the Protocol aims to achieve provision of safe drinking water and adequate sanitation to everybody.

Thus the Protocol contributes to reaching the MDGs, mainly MDG 7 on environmental sustainability and in particular the target to reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. The Protocol is also closely linked to other MDGs such as MDG 4 to reduce child mortality. It actually complements the MDGs and other international goals since it focuses on water quality.

To achieve its objectives, the Protocol requires Parties to carry out a number of obligations. These include setting of targets and target dates in the environmental, water management and health sectors; establishment of surveillance and response systems to water related disease outbreaks; implementation of national action plans in accordance with the targets set; assessment of progress, reporting and review of compliance to further support implementation.

The setting of targets is in particular a strategic exercise as it allows developing integrated strategies, policies and measures. Targets need to cover the entire water cycle, and address issues related to the quality of drinking and bathing water; problems related to water supply, sanitation and wastewater; the reduction of water-related disease; the management of water resources; the control and clean-up of pollution; and the availability of information to the public.

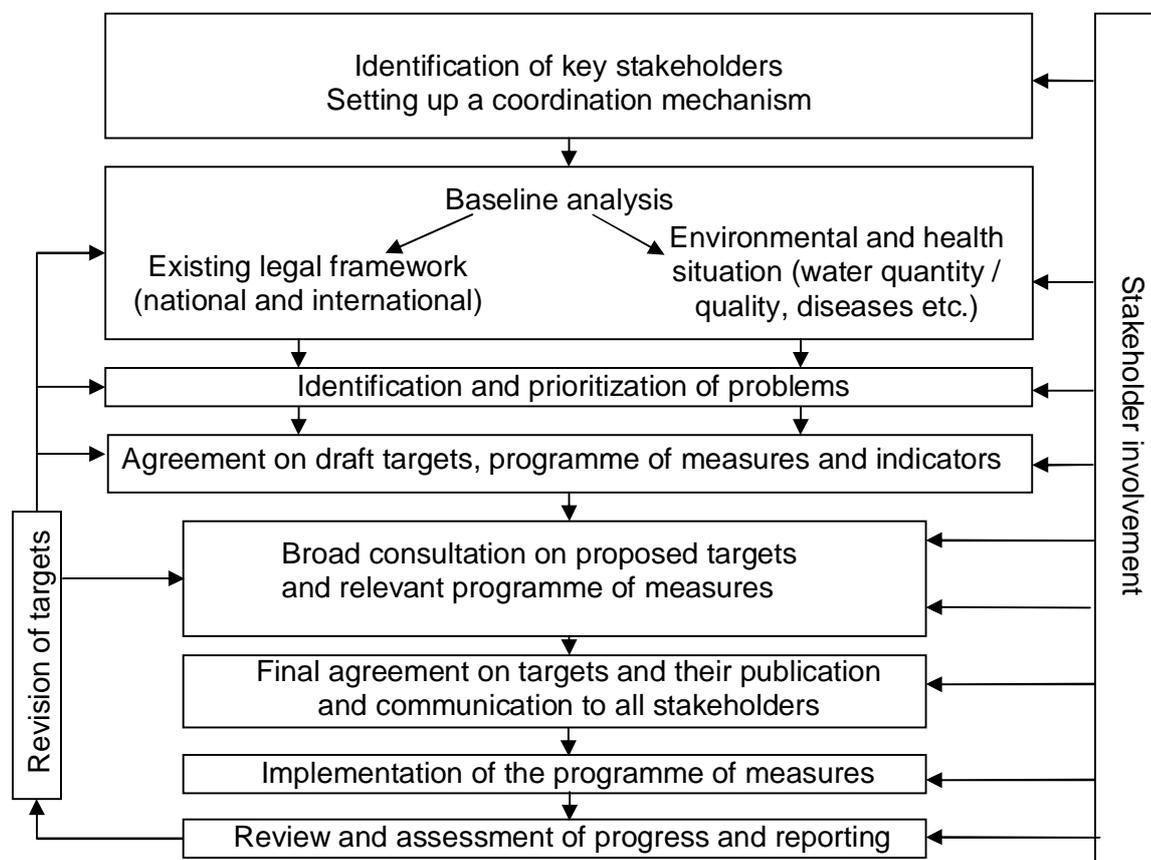
¹ Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

² Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health: Albania, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine.

The very process of setting targets brings benefits beyond their stated purpose. It creates a platform for cooperation between various stakeholders and different levels of government, as well as for the development of concerted national actions. It also provides a framework to analyse national situations and to streamline and harmonize responsibilities and commitments in the areas of water and health. Clearly this is a complex and challenging process that needs to be tailored to the different situations in the countries.

The *Guidelines on the Setting of Targets, Evaluation of Progress and Reporting*³ developed under the Protocol and adopted at the second session of the Meeting of the Parties (23-25 November 2010) provide the theoretical basis for the process. The Guidelines illustrate the steps that need to be taken and the aspects to be considered when setting targets, implementing relevant measures and assessing and reporting on the progress achieved. The Guidelines provide a common logical framework for all countries to set targets at the national level.

Figure 1. Logical framework for the process of setting targets



The first reporting cycle conducted under the Protocol in 2009/2010 demonstrated that remarkable progress has been accomplished by Parties in implementing the Protocol, and substantial experience is available. At the same time, several challenges remain, in particular related to difficulties with cross-sectoral cooperation and coordination of activities among different authorities responsible for the management of water resources, water supply, sanitation and health; as well as prioritization of activities, and involvement of the public in the implementation of the Protocol.

³ Available at http://www.unece.org/env/water/publications/documents/guidelines_target_setting.pdf.

The project would benefit countries in EECCA to improve their water and health situation through implementation of the Protocol and in particular by promoting the exchange of experience and building capacity to set targets and target dates.

The situation in the EECCA region is very varied; some countries are Parties to the Protocol (Azerbaijan, Belarus, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation and Ukraine); some are moving towards accession (Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan) and the others (Tajikistan and Turkmenistan), even without being Parties, are also participating in the Protocol's activities.

Thus EECCA countries have different levels of experience and are at different stages in the implementation of the Protocol. The table below summarizes the current situation.

Country	Status of implementation of the Protocol
Armenia	Working on accession, wish to set targets in the near future (has required assistance through the Project Facilitation Mechanism)
Azerbaijan	Party, in the process of setting targets
Belarus	Party, in the process of setting targets
Georgia	Working on accession, wish to set targets in the near future
Kazakhstan	Working on accession, wish to set targets in the near future
Kyrgyzstan	Working on accession, wish to set targets in the near future (has required assistance through the Project Facilitation Mechanism)
Republic of Moldova	Party, has completed the process of setting targets and is working on their achievement
Russian Federation	Party, in the process of setting targets
Tajikistan	Working on accession, wish to set targets in the near future (has required assistance through the Project Facilitation Mechanism)
Turkmenistan	Participates in activities under the Protocol
Ukraine	Party, has almost completed the process of setting target
Uzbekistan	Working on accession, wish to set targets in the near future

Institutional arrangements and national legislation differ from country to country in the EECCA region. Yet, countries share similar problems and legal, environmental and social backgrounds that make the exchange of experience among them particularly relevant. For instance, countries like Belarus, Azerbaijan, Armenia and the Russian Federation which are still in the process of setting their targets would benefit from the experience in Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, where the process is completed or almost completed.

The project will also allow bringing to EECCA countries experience from Western European countries that are more advanced in the implementation of the Protocol and in the setting of targets and target dates.

The project builds on experience developed by UNECE and WHO/EURO - which jointly service the Protocol – with similar capacity building activities and assistance to national implementation. The project also builds on the programme of work for 2011-2013 adopted by the second session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.

In particular the project builds on the findings of the first reporting cycle under the Protocol completed in June 2010 which allowed identifying in each country and at the regional level the main challenges in implementing the Protocol as well as the underlying causes.⁴

2. The objective of the cooperation and the approach

The project will promote the exchange of experience between Parties and non-Parties on the implementation of the Protocol and support countries in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia, but also other UNECE countries, in setting targets and target dates, developing plan of measures to achieve such targets, monitor progress and report.

The project will in particular focus on governance aspects and cross-sectoral cooperation aspects which are crucial for the development of integrated policies and that seem to be a main challenge in the whole UNECE region.

Through a series of sub-regional and regional workshops the project will facilitate exchange of countries' experiences on the regulatory, institutional and technical aspects connected with the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health, in particular in relation to the cooperation of the water, health and environment sectors.

The project will allow sharing information on the process of development and adoption of targets under the Protocol, as well as on the implementation of measures to achieve such targets among EECCA countries. It will also allow presenting, discussing and identifying solutions for the main challenges in the process of setting targets and other issues related to the Protocol's implementation.

The project will foster regional networking among those responsible for implementing the Protocol on Water and Health. It will however not allow assisting each individual country in setting its targets and targets dates at the national level. The project will rather support the application of good practice and the sharing of lessons learned to maximize the use of available experience and facilitate the individual process of setting targets in each of the countries.

3. Expected results and activities

The project will be a part of the programme of work under the Protocol on Water and Health for 2011-2013 – in particular the work related to the Task Force on Setting Targets and Reporting (a subsidiary body under the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health), with Switzerland as lead country – and will benefit and rely on the other activities in the programme of work.

The project will promote the exchange of lessons learned and good practice across the UNECE region allowing cross fertilization in the implementation of the Protocol. It will aim to strengthen implementation at the national level by promoting the exchange of experience in water and health within small groups of countries with similar conditions and challenges, possibly neighbouring countries.

⁴ See national summary reports submitted under the Protocol at http://www.unece.org/env/water/Protocol_implementation_reports.html as well as the Regional report on the status of implementation of the Protocol, based on the submitted national summaries, at http://www.unece.org/env/documents/2010/wat/MP_WH/wh/ece_mp_wh_2010_2_E.pdf

To this end, a number of sub-regional workshops will be organized. These workshops will gather broad multidisciplinary teams from 3-5 countries responsible for or involved in the implementation of the Protocol (groups of 6 to 10 people per country) in particular from Ministries of Health and of Environment as well as other governmental and non-governmental experts .

At the workshops, participants will exchange experience on their main difficulties in implementing the Protocol as well as their achievements and lessons learned. In particular the workshops will allow focusing on common challenges such as:

- How to facilitate, promote and sustain mechanisms for cross-sectoral cooperation;
- How to strengthen public participation and foster the involvement of civil society in the implementation of the Protocol;
- How to link targets with operational tasks and programmes of measures;
- Financing aspects;
- Monitoring progress and reporting, etc.

Under the programme of work of the Protocol, additional sub-regional workshops will be organized targeted to countries in the EU and in South-Eastern Europe. While this project will not finance such additional workshops (which will be financed by the concerned countries themselves), it will greatly benefit from the experience of these workshops and bring to the EECCA region expertise and lessons-learned also from other parts of the UNECE region.

The main features of the series of workshop will be harmonized throughout the region to promote common progress. To this end a common methodology in the organization of the workshops will be followed. In particular they will all build on the Protocol's Guidelines on Setting of Targets, Evaluation of Progress and Reporting.

At the same time, each of the workshops will be tailored to the specific needs of the concerned group of countries, through a preparation process that will closely involve the Protocol's focal points of the different countries and that will be based on the information provided by countries in the first national report exercise.

Depending on the issues identified, the workshops will also allow bringing in capacity from other parts of the region by involving Protocol's practitioners from other countries who can train/lecture on specific issues.

The findings of the different workshops will be shared with all other countries in the region through the meetings of the Task Force on Setting Targets and Reporting, thus allow further exchange of experience and benefiting additional countries.

Based on the outcomes and lessons-learned from the workshops, the Task Force on Setting Targets and Reporting will develop, as needed, additional guidance and training material for the whole region, in both English and Russian. Such guidance and training material might address issues such as how to develop the baseline analysis with regard to water and health issues and legal/institutional frameworks in each country, the involvement of the public in the setting targets process, the prioritization of actions/targets needed, the definition of measures to achieve these targets and the

assessment of progress and reporting in accordance with articles 6 and 7 of the Protocol on Water and Health.

The project will also assist countries to comply with the reporting obligations and will support the preparation of the analysis of the national summary reports submitted prior to the third session of the Meeting of the Parties, thus benchmarking progress in the region.

To this end a workshop on reporting will be organized in 2013 to facilitate the reporting by all Parties and non-Parties to the third session of the Meeting of the Parties in 2013.

4. The approach on capacity building

The capacity-building approach builds on the understanding that exchanging experiences, lessons learnt and good practice examples as well as bad practices and mistakes between similar and neighboring countries is most effective. Accordingly the main capacity building element of the project will be series of sub-regional workshops organized among neighboring EECCA countries.

The work will be based on the experience gained by countries which already set the targets (e.g. Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Hungary, the Republic of Moldova, Slovakia, Switzerland and Ukraine) and on the guidelines on setting target and evaluation of progress developed by the Task Force on Indicators and Reporting.

The sub-regional workshops conducted within the project will be prepared jointly with the experts on water and health from the relevant countries. The issues tackled during the workshops will be adjusted to the specific circumstances of the national and/or local context in (depending on the region). At the same time a general template/scheme of workshop, will be developed by UNECE and multiplied within the project.

Under this project, sub-regional workshops will be organized in the following regions⁵:

- Easter Europe (Belarus, Russian Federation, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine)
- Caucasus (Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia)
- Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) (possibly, if enough resources are available, including from other sources, two subregional workshops will be organized for Central Asia, considering that countries in the sub-region are least advanced in the implementation of the Protocol).

The workshops will address different governance/legislative and technical issues related to water and health problems which should be considered when setting targets, implementing relevant measures and reporting on the progress achieved towards protecting human health and towards sustainable management of water resources.

The workshops will key gather from each country, 6-10 experts including, as relevant, from ministries of environment, health, infrastructure, regional development, national academies of science; local authorities, national water/sanitations agencies/ associations, representatives of academia, research institutes, etc..

⁵ Additional workshops will be organized in the programme of work of the Protocol between groups of countries in the rest of the UNECE region (E.g. Northern Europe countries, Central Europe, Mediterranean, etc.)

Special attention will be given to the involvement of national and local NGOs and to support countries in establishing and implementing transparent and fair frameworks for public participation in water and health related issues.

5. Relation to the other activities under the Protocol on Water and Health

The overall goal of this project is to strengthen capacity of EECCA countries to develop efficient and coordinated national strategies for the protection of human health and the sustainable management of water resources.

This goal is in line with the objective of the Protocol on Water and Health to promote at all appropriate levels, nationally as well as in international context, the protection of human health and well-being, both individual and collective, within a framework of sustainable development, through improving water management, including the protection of water ecosystems, and through preventing, controlling and reducing water-related disease” (article 1 of the Protocol).

In order to achieve the overall objective of the Protocol, the Parties shall pursue the aims of: (a) access to drinking water for everyone; and (b) provision of sanitation for everyone within a framework of integrated water-management systems aimed at sustainable use of water resources, ambient water quality which does not endanger human health, and protection of water ecosystems.

Article 11 of the Protocol on Water and Health calls for international cooperation between the Parties, not only in international action to support the objectives of the Protocol, but also in implementing national and local plans in pursuance of the Protocol.

The capacity building activities to be implemented within this project will be in line the provisions of the Protocol on international cooperation and joint and coordinated international action of (art11 and 12) to promote the exchange of experience between Parties and non-Parties on the implementation of the Protocol, in particular articles 6 and 7, and develop tools to address cross-cutting issues within the framework of the Protocol by setting targets and developing programmes of measures.

In practice, the development and implementation of strategies on water and health is among the core activities in the next programme of work (2011- 2013) under the Protocol. The workshops’ preparations will be supported by the Protocol’s technical bodies, namely the Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting and the Task Force on Surveillance. Similarly, the results of the workshops will be transmitted to the Tasks Forces and possible issues/challenges encountered and recommendations made, will be analyzed and tackled by the Task Forces. This will ensure that the lessons learned in each of the workshop are then applied in the future ones and that also countries which are not benefiting from the project can gain insight in the Protocol’s implementation too and also contribute to the project itself.

6. Time schedule

The project will be organized around a series of sub-regional workshops (involving few countries) and successive meetings of the Task Force on Setting Targets and Reporting, involving all countries in the UNECE region, that would allow analyzing the results of the different sub-workshops, disseminate their outcomes more broadly throughout the region and help design future workshops taking into account lessons learned.

Each of these events will entail the following phases:

- Planning and organization of the workshop/meeting, including practical arrangements, agreement with the host country, invitations and selection of participants, definition of the agenda in cooperation with the concerned countries, involvement of speakers or additional expert;
- Running of the workshop/meeting, including training on the *Guidelines on the Setting of Targets, Evaluation of Progress and Reporting*
- Drawing up of conclusion, report, lessons learned and recommendations on the way forward for individual countries,

	activity				meeting							
	2011				2012				2013			
	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q
Sub-regional workshop for Eastern Europe (Minsk, Belarus, 4-5 April 2011)												
Meeting of the Task Force on Setting Targets and Reporting												
<i>Sub-regional workshop for Central Asia⁶</i>												
Sub-regional workshop for the Caucasus												
Meeting of the Task Force on Setting Targets and Reporting												
Sub-regional workshop for Central Asia												
Workshop on the preparation of the reporting to the third session of the Meeting of the Parties												
Meeting of the Task Force on Setting Targets and Reporting												
Second reporting cycle, analysis of summary reports and preparation of a regional implementation report												
Third session of the Meeting of the Parties (Norway, dates tbc)												

⁶ Only implemented if additional funds are made available from other sources.

7. Perceived risks and sustainability

Risks for a successful project implementation include, for example political instability in the targeted countries, changes in involved governmental representatives and national experts which would mean that those persons whose capacity and knowledge has improved will not have the political responsibility to implement their knowledge.

The success of the project is contingent on the full commitment of the targeted countries and the implementing agencies. The UNECE and WHO-EURO staff will strive to fulfill the commitments; however some external factors could delay or disrupt the implementation of the project. To achieve the expected outcome, it is assumed that targeted beneficiaries have sustained interests in strengthening their capacity in developing national water and health strategies. Setting targets and development of strategies depends on the cooperation of several national institutions and authorities representing health, water management and environment. It is a long term process rather than a single exercise. In some cases the lack of political support or changes in the government might put the project at risk.

The project is strongly linked to the Protocol on Water and Health and activities supporting its implementation at both international and national level and will benefit for excising networks of experts and support from the joint UNECE/WHO-EURO secretariat. It will built on and take advantage of the methodology, tools and activities developed and conducted under umbrella of the Protocol's programme of work (2007-2010). At the same time the material developed within the project will support the implementation of the programme of work 2011-2013. The exchange of experience between neighboring countries will increase the capacity of governmental representatives also beyond the end of the project.

Setting target in accordance with article 6 of the Protocol is a key Protocol's provision. Protocol is a legally binding instrument, and it will help the Protocol's Parties (Azerbaijan, Belarus, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation and Ukraine are Parties to the Protocol) to comply with the Protocol's provisions (Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan sent strong signals on their willingness and first steps to ratify the Protocol). Thus, from the gathered experience, it can be assumed that apart from the practitioners, who are always eager to take part in capacity building projects, the project will create a big interest and gain political support from decision makers at the ministerial level.

8. Gender aspects

Socially determined differences between women and men may lead to inequities in their respective access to, and control of water resources. Such inequities might among others have negative consequences on human health and well-being. This understanding is part and parcel of the implementation of the Protocol which promotes addressing inequities through strategies and actions for social and economic development.

Thus the capacity building activities under the project will highlight specific experience in addressing gender issues in the implementation of the Protocol, in particular in setting targets that allow redressing gender inequities and promote social equality.

A gender balanced participation in activities under the project will be ensured. Moreover, international NGOs advocating specific role of women in water management, such as the

Women for Water Partnership and the Women in Europe for a Common Future, will participate in the meetings under the project.

9. Cross-cutting themes: promotion of equitable access to water and non-discrimination measures

The Protocol on Water and Health includes several provisions on non-discrimination and equity aspects. In particular, article 5 requires that “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”.

A whole area of work under the Protocol is devoted to promote equitable access, in particular looking at affordability issues, at non-discrimination of social groups (such as homeless nomads, travellers, Roma population, refugees, homeless, illegal immigrants, people with disabilities) and at closing the gaps between urban and rural areas. Within this framework Parties are collecting good practices with a view to publish them by 2012 and promote the experience gained and the replication throughout the region. This area of work is very closely related to the recent recognition of the human right to water and sanitation, and the application of the Protocol as a tool to translate this right into practice.

The project will take advantage of this area of work under the Protocol. In particular, as the translation of the principle of equitable access to water into concrete actions can be effectively done through the setting of specific targets in this area and the development of relevant measures, the project will promote experience in setting targets with this specific purpose.

10. Project organization

In the UNECE Secretariat of the Protocol on Water and Health, the following persons will be responsible for the project:

Francesca BERNARDINI, co-Secretary to the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health, working in the secretariat of the Water Convention since 2002. She is responsible for managing and overseeing the project.

The Associate Expert in Environmental Affairs will be responsible for implementing the project.

In the WHO-EURO Secretariat, continuous cooperation is established with Mr. Roger Aergeerts, co-Secretary of the Protocol.

At the country level, different persons will be responsible for the project as nominated by their Governments. An important role will be played by the official focal points of the Protocol in the recipient countries.

There is no separate project board; however, the project implementation will be facilitated by the Protocol’s Task Force Target Setting and Reporting, chaired by Switzerland.

11. Logical framework of the project:

Project Logic	Indicators	Assumptions and Risks
<p>Objective: Improve water and health situation in countries in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia</p>	<p>Increased ratification of the Protocol on Water and Health in EECCA countries. Development of national strategies and measures on water and health</p>	<p>Political commitment of the governments</p>
<p>Project Purpose: Strengthen capacity of EECCA countries, to develop efficient and coordinated national strategies for water and health</p>	<p>Increased number of EECCA countries with working mechanisms for cross-sectoral cooperation Level of involvement and participation in the reporting by countries to the Meeting of Parties of the Protocol on Water and Health</p>	<p>Political support and willingness of all relevant stakeholders to engage in cooperation</p>
<p>Results:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased awareness among experts, practitioners on the links between the state of environment, management of natural resources and the state of public health 2. Creation of national, sub-regional and regional networks of experts working on the Protocol on Water and Health 3. A framework for self-assessment of Parties on their implementation of the Protocol 4. A framework for the continuous exchange of experience and lessons-learned on water and health 	<p>Increased number of EECCA countries with working mechanisms for cross-sectoral cooperation and public participation in place</p> <p>Increased number of countries with strategies to address water and health related in a coherent and integrated manner</p> <p>Attendance of all recipient countries, their neighbours in organized meetings</p> <p>Recommendations from workshops</p>	<p>Political circumstances in recipient countries</p> <p>Frequent changes in the governments resulting in the lack of continuity</p> <p>Necessary funding available</p>

Project Logic	Indicators	Assumptions and Risks
<p>Activities:</p> <p>Activity 1 Development of methodology, material and documents) for the sub regional workshops</p> <p>Activity 2 Three sub-regional workshops in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia⁷ —</p> <p>Activity 3 Three meetings of the Task Force on Target-Setting and Reporting, the last one back to back with a workshop on reporting</p> <p>Activity 4 Analysis of the outcomes of the different workshops and drawing of conclusions and recommendations for the countries concerned as well as for the whole UNECE region</p> <p>Activity 5 Second reporting exercise, submission of national summary reports by Parties and non-Parties in the EECCA region</p> <p>Activity 6 Analysis of the national summary reports, development of a regional implementation report</p>	<p>Means</p> <p>Project coordinator and other members of the Protocol's secretariat, Protocol's Bureau and consultant</p> <p>Project coordinator and consultants to assist in the substantial preparation, local organizers for the logistic organization of sub-regional workshop</p> <p>Project coordinator, Protocol's focal points and other national experts providing information and reporting on the national activities.</p> <p>Project coordinator, consultant, participants in the workshops</p> <p>Protocol's focal points</p> <p>Protocol's secretariat, project coordinator, consultant.</p>	<p>Costs</p> <p>See budget above</p>

⁷ If additional funding is made available, as second workshop will be organized in Central Asia (not budgeted in the present proposal).