



Equity in access to drinking-water, sanitation and hygiene

Focus on the Protocol on Water and Health

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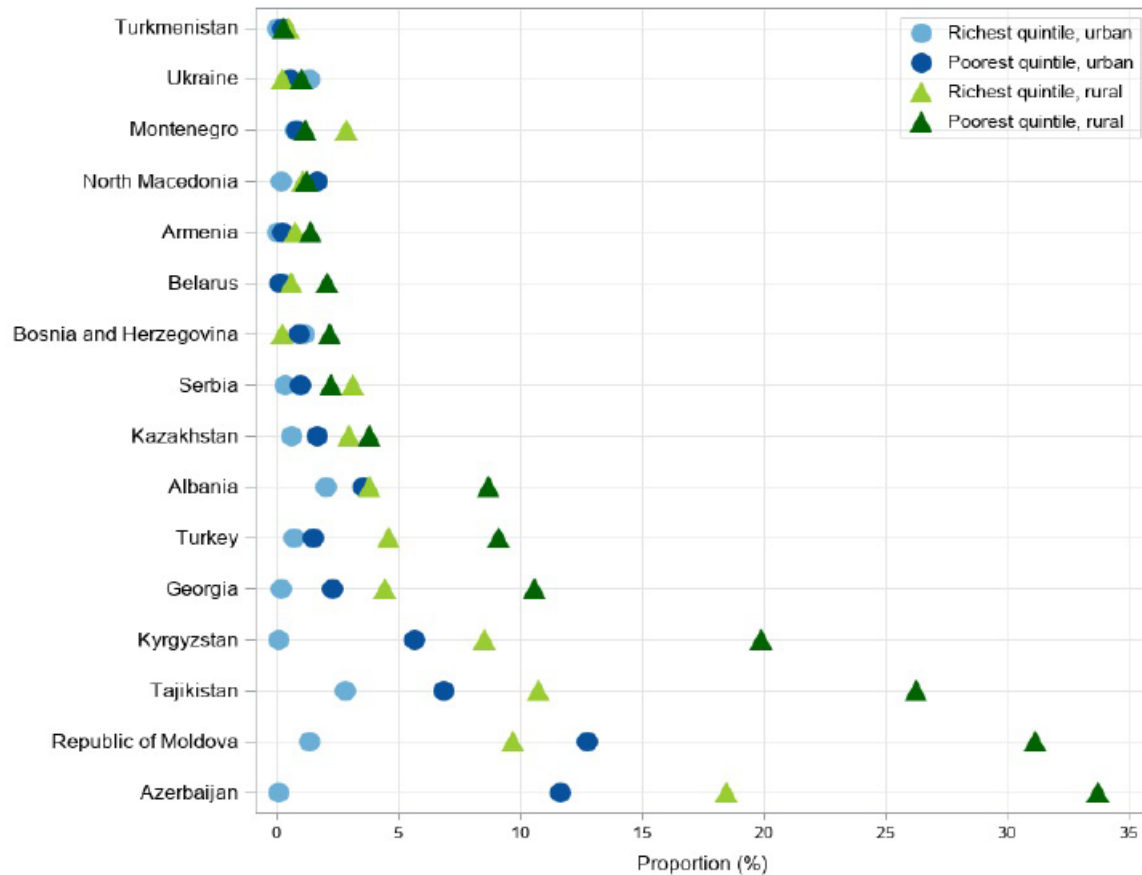
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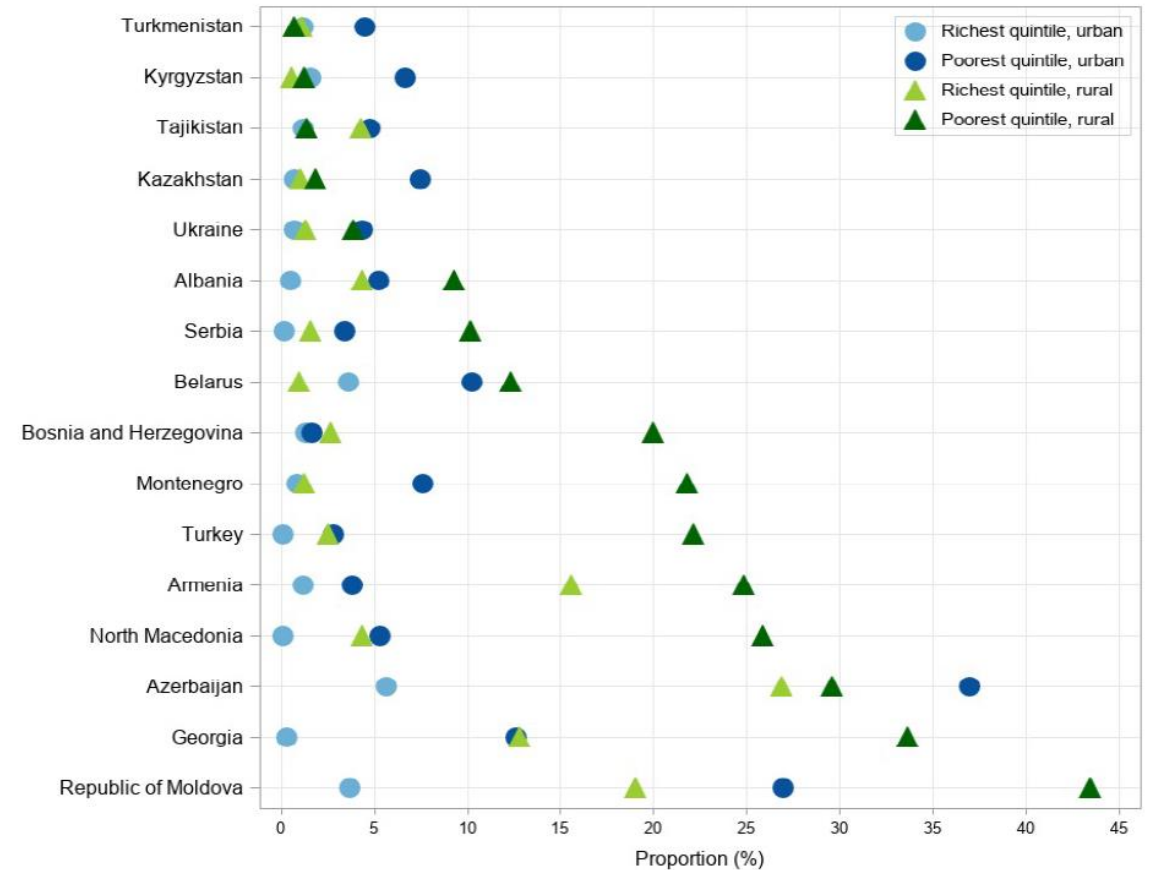


The factual data

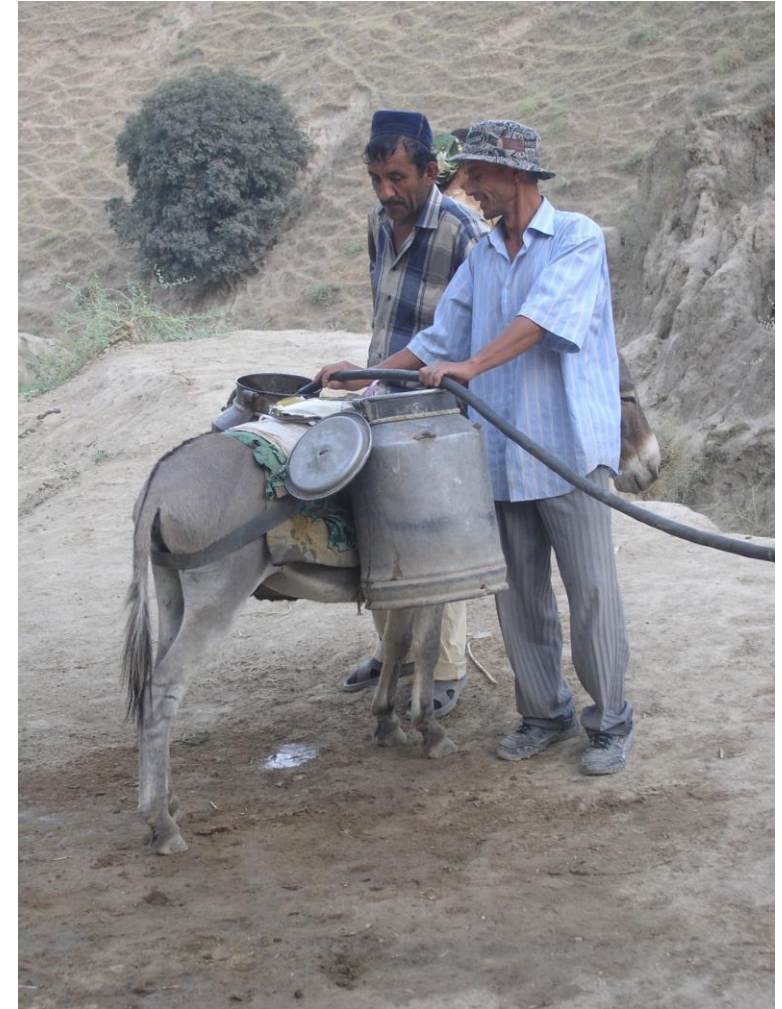
Proportion of urban and rural populations using less than basic **drinking-water services** by wealth quintile



Proportion of urban and rural population using less than basic **sanitation services** by wealth quintile



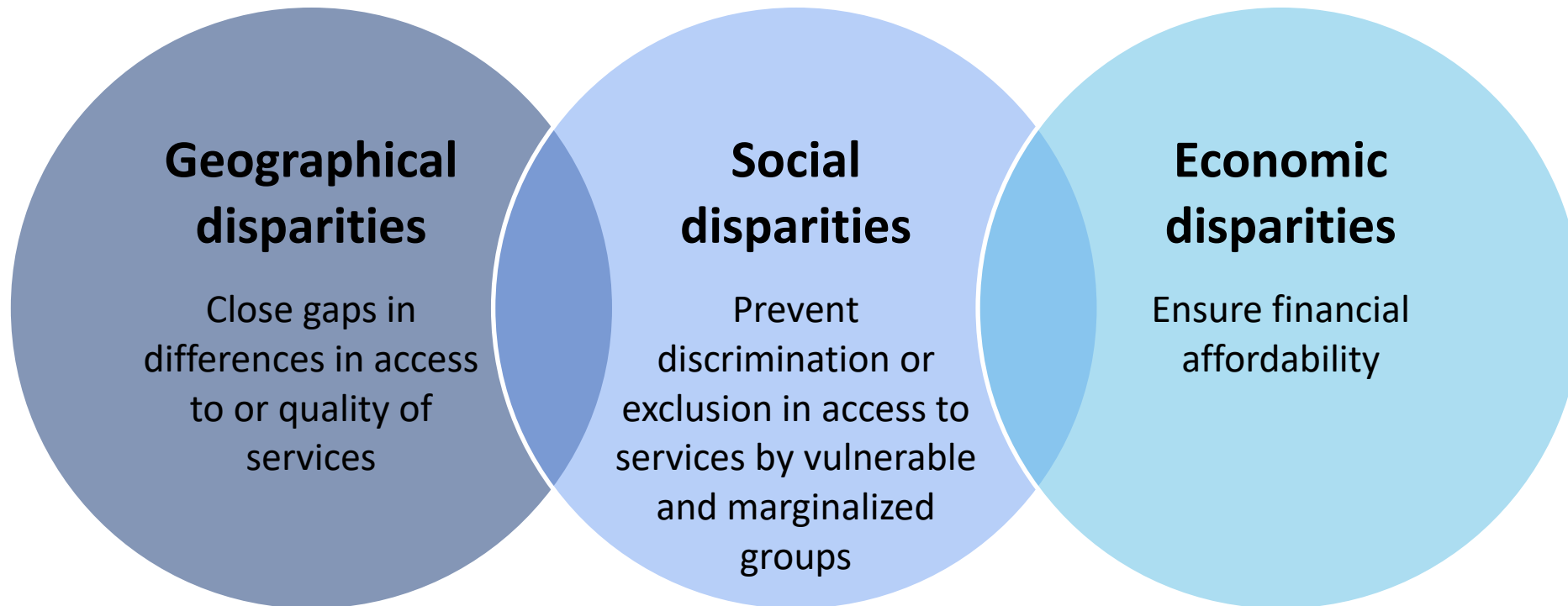
The reality of the people



The reality of the people



Three equity dimensions



The Protocol on Water and Health



Legally-binding multilateral agreement aimed at protecting human health and well-being through sustainable water management and by preventing water-related diseases

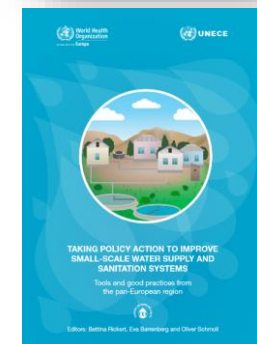
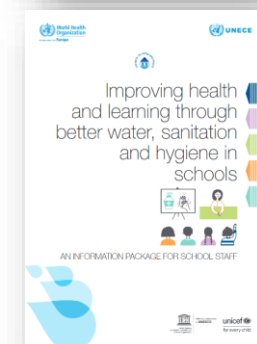
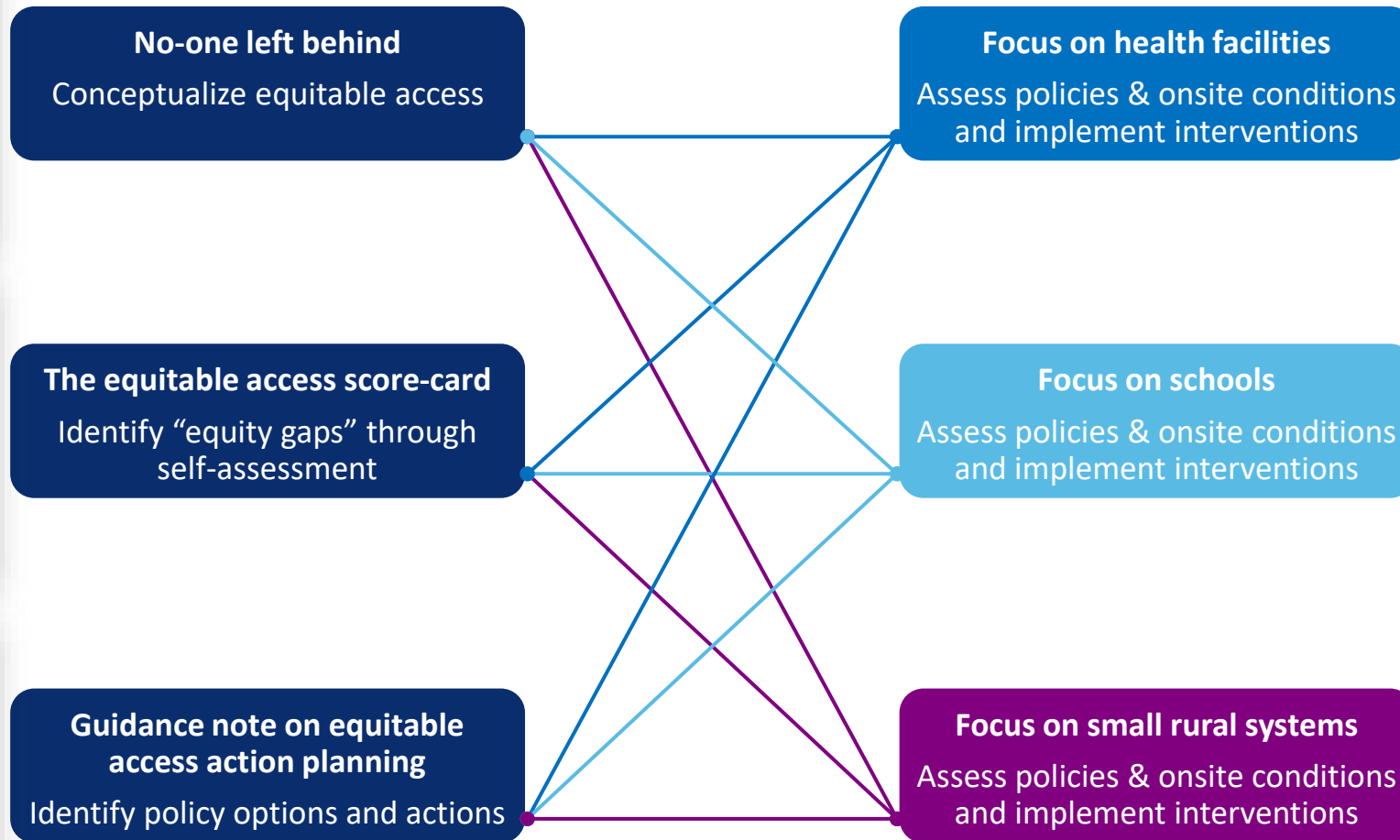
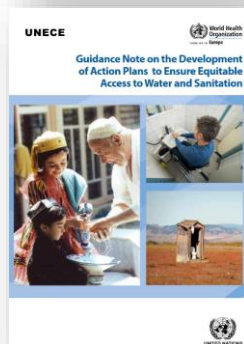
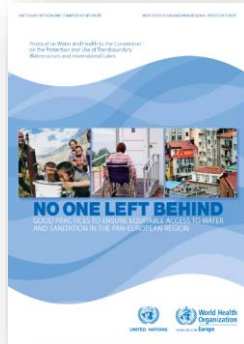
Obligation to set targets to ensure access to safe drinking-water and sanitation for everyone

A European knowledge hub and cooperation network on water, sanitation, hygiene and health

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” (Article 5(I))

Tools to support national uptake



Equitable access score-card: what for?



- Tool for voluntary self-assessment to:
 - Establish a baseline and collect information
 - Prompt discussions and engagement (multi-stakeholder process)
 - Track progress
- Application in each country varies depending on the
 - Assessment scale (national, regional, city-level)
 - Stakeholders involved (government, civil society)
 - Data available

How does the score-card work in practice?

Four areas of action explored through qualitative questions

SECTION	AREA OF ACTION
Steering governance frameworks to deliver equitable access to safe drinking water and sanitation	1.1 Strategic framework for achieving equitable access
	1.2 Sector financial policies
	1.3 Rights and duties of users and right-holders
Reducing geographical disparities	2.1 Public policies to reduce access disparities between geographical areas
	2.2 Public policies to reduce price disparities between geographical areas
	2.3 Geographical allocation of external support
Keeping water and sanitation affordable for all	4.1 Public policies to ensure affordability
	4.2 Tariff measures
	4.3 Social protection measures

SECTION	AREA OF ACTION
Ensuring access for vulnerable and marginalized groups	3.1 Public policies to address the needs of vulnerable and marginalized groups
	3.2 Persons with special physical needs
	3.3 Users of health facilities
	3.4 Users of educational facilities
	3.5 Users of retirement homes
	3.6 Prisoners
	3.7 Refugees living in refugee camps and centres
	3.8 Homeless people
	3.9 Travellers and nomadic communities
	3.10 Persons living in housing without water and sanitation
	3.11 Persons without access to safe drinking water and sanitation in their workplaces

Assessment questions

AREA 3.4 USERS OF EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES				
Rationale. Users of educational facilities (which include kindergartens and schools) cannot secure independent access to safe drinking water and sanitation for a large part of the day and depend on the water and sanitation services provided at educational facilities.				
	YES	TO A LARGE EXTENT	TO A LIMITED EXTENT	NO
3.4.1 There is data on levels of access to safe drinking water and sanitation in educational facilities				
Score justification: (explain briefly and/or give examples that justify the answer)				
Means of verification used: (e.g. official documents, multi-stakeholder consultation, expert opinion)				
Reliability of the response: (high, medium, or low)				
3.4.2 There is a public policy to ensure access to safe drinking water and sanitation by users of educational facilities				
Score justification: (explain briefly and/or give examples that justify the answer)				
Means of verification used: (e.g. official documents, multi-stakeholder consultation, expert opinion)				
Reliability of the response: (high, medium, or low)				
3.4.3 There is specific public funding to support access to safe drinking water and sanitation by users of educational facilities				
Score justification: (explain briefly and/or give examples that justify the answer)				
Means of verification used: (e.g. official documents, multi-stakeholder consultation, expert opinion)				
Reliability of the response: (high, medium, or low)				

Qualitative question

Response

Score justification
 Means of verification
 Reliability of the response

Score-card outcomes

SECTION	AREA OF ACTION	SCORE	RELIABILITY
Steering governance frameworks to deliver equitable access to safe drinking water and sanitation	1.1 Strategic framework for achieving equitable access		
	1.2 Sector financial policies		
	1.3 Rights and duties of users and right-holders		
Reducing geographical disparities	2.1 Public policies to reduce access disparities between geographical areas		
	2.2 Public policies to reduce price disparities between geographical areas		
	2.3 Geographical allocation of external support		
Ensuring access for vulnerable and marginalized groups	3.1 Public policies to address the needs of vulnerable and marginalized groups		
	3.2 Persons with special physical needs		
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Keeping water and sanitation affordable for all	4.1 Public policies to ensure affordability		
	4.2 Tariff measures		
	4.3 Social protection measures		

- Provides a **“high resolution” analysis** of the situation of equitable access in a country, region or city
- Summary sheet flags **priority areas** to fill identified equity gaps and gives indication of the reliability of available information
- Exercise builds the case for developing an **equitable access action plan**
- Self-assessment process supports **coordination and collaboration** between stakeholders
- **Adaptable** to country needs and specificities

Country experience: Serbia

Selected findings from the 2016 score-card process at national and district levels

- **Rural areas:** lack of a responsible, designated national/local authority to undertake water quality assessments
- **Legal framework:** no recognition of the needs of vulnerable and marginalized groups. The definition of social vulnerability only considers financial resources.
- **Affordability concerns** are mostly dealt with in an *ad hoc* manner

Equitable access action plan developed from June 2018 to February 2019

- Enhancing the **knowledge base** at national and local level
- Reforming existing **laws**
- Improvements in **strategic planning** at national level
- Improving **inter-institutional coordination** at local level
- Strengthening **capacity of local self-governments**
- Mobilization of **financial resources** and realization of investments

Complementarity with the EU DWD

DRINKING WATER DIRECTIVE

Article 16: Access to drinking-water

1. Member States shall take the necessary measures to **improve or maintain access to water** ... for all, in particular for **vulnerable and marginalised groups**.
 - a) **identify people** without access, or with limited access (...);
 - b) **assess possibilities** for improving access for such people;
 - c) **inform such people** about possibilities for connecting to the distribution network or about alternative means (...);
 - d) **take measures** ... to ensure that there is access (...).

PROTOCOL ON WATER AND HEALTH

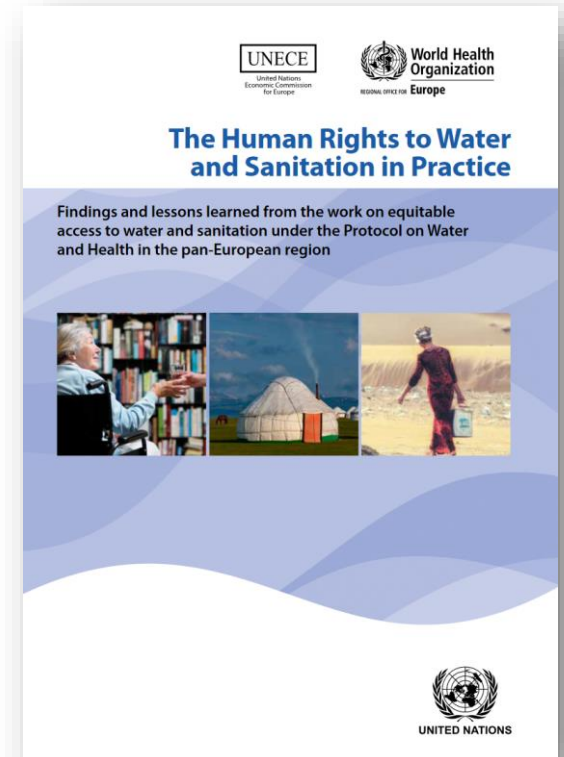
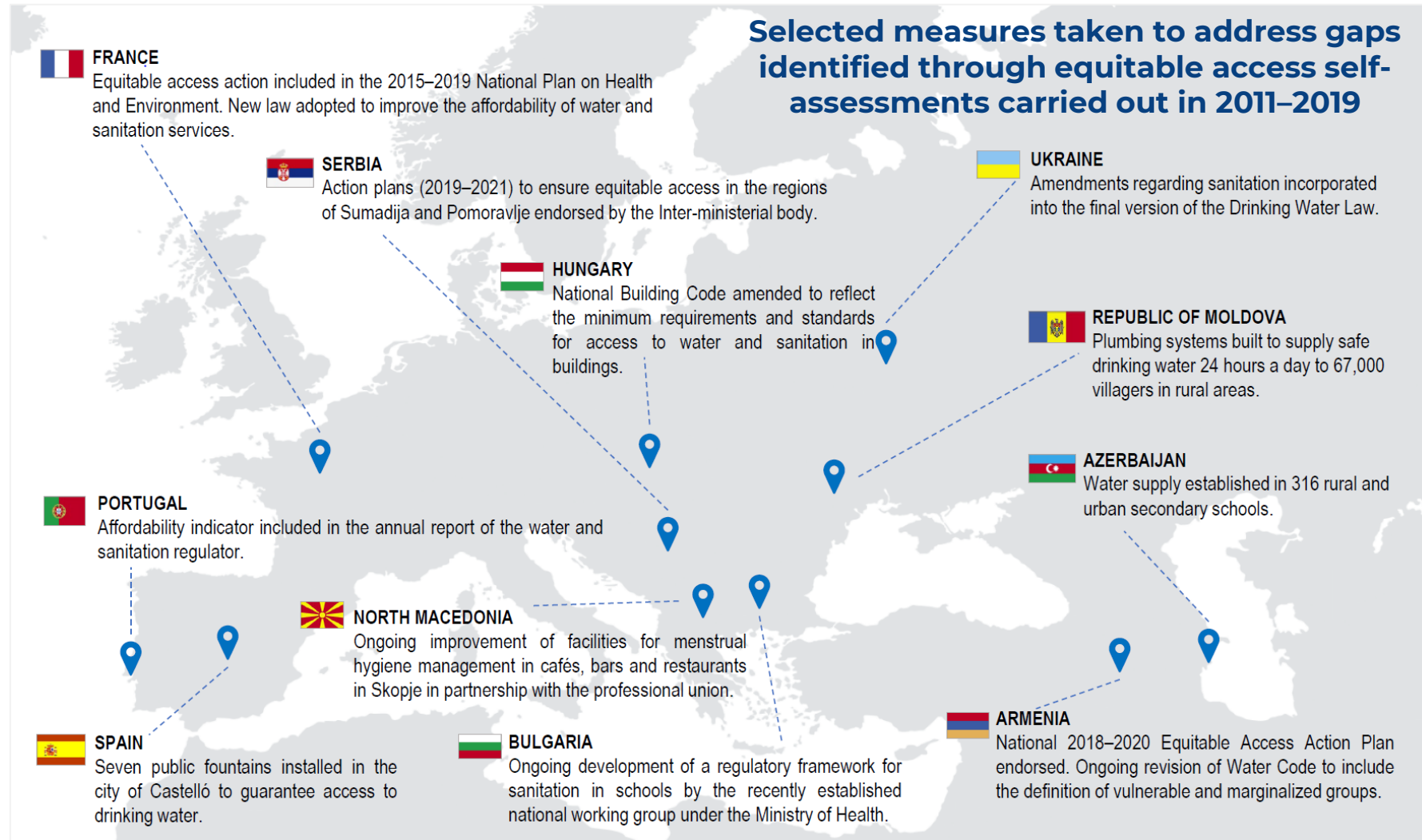
Guiding principle (Art. 5 (I))

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**.

Parties shall pursue the aims of (Art. 6 (1))

- Access to **drinking water for everyone**
- Provision of sanitation for everyone

Applications





**Stay
healthy
and
safe**

