

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

National summary country report in accordance with article 7 of the Protocol on Water and Health, 2019 Reporting cycle

Executive summary

Please provide an overall evaluation of the progress achieved in implementing the Protocol in your country during the reporting period. Please provide a short description of the main steps taken and highlight important achievements, key challenges, success factors and concrete good practice examples.

Suggested length: maximum 2 pages

The process of setting targets in the Republic of Moldova began in 2009, was approved by a general order by the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Health No. 91/704 dated 10/20/2010 and published on the websites of both ministries. The Target Indicators were also included in a separate brochure in May 2011 by the NGO Eco-TIRAS with the financial support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the assistance of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. A total of 34 Targets were set for all 20 sections of the Protocol.

On November 21, 2012, a joint order was signed under No. 94/1166 on the establishment of the Committee to Supervise the Implementation of the UN-SDC Project on “Implementing Targets in accordance with the Protocol on Water and Health”. A joint declaration was also signed between the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Health, the UN EC and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation on project implementation. One of the results is the development of the National Program on the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025, which in 2016 was adopted by Government Decree No. 1063 of September 16.

The program includes measures to improve water safety, ensure an adequate supply of good quality water, ensure a constant, balanced and adequate use of water resources and ensure optimal conditions for the prevention of water-related diseases. In the context of developing a national development strategy for the country until 2030, the process of updating the National Program for the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 with the support of the UNECE began.

Developed and approved by the Government Decree 2 of the River Basin Management Plan: the Dniester and the Danube-Prut and the Black Sea based on the principle of integrated water resources management. Created basin and sub-basin Committees from participants of all interested local authorities and NGOs that will participate in solving environmental problems and planning for the medium and long-term periods.

The institutional reform of the government in the field of environmental protection has been carried out. Created: The Environment Agency, which is responsible for implementing policies, regulating and issuing permits for activities affecting the environment, and monitoring the quality of environmental factors. The Inspectorate for Environmental Protection, which will exercise state control and

supervision, prevention and punishment for violations in the field of environmental protection.

The National Development Strategy "Moldova 2030" was adopted, which is a document of strategic vision and indicates the direction of development of the country and society over the next decade, based on the life cycle principle of human rights and quality of life, and includes four sustainable development principles with 10 relevant long-term goals, one of those 4 principles is: a healthy environment (ensuring the basic right to a healthy and safe environment).

Part one

General aspects

1. Were targets and target dates established in your country in accordance with article 6 of the Protocol?

Please provide detailed information on the target areas in part two.

YES **NO** **IN PROGRESS**

If targets have been revised, please indicate the date of adoption and list the revised target areas. Please provide detailed information in part two.

2. Were targets and target dates published and, if so, how?

Please explain whether the targets and target dates were published, made available to the public (e.g., online, official publication, media) and communicated to the secretariat.

Targets and target dates were set by the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025, approved by Government Decree No. 1063 of September 16 and published in the Official Monitor of the Republic of Moldova. (MO number 314 from 09/20/2016).

3. Has your country established national or local arrangements for coordination between competent authorities for setting targets? If so please describe, including information on which public authority(ies) took the leadership and coordinating role, which public authorities were involved and how coordination was ensured.

In the Republic of Moldova, responsible for implementing the Protocol on Water and Health are the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and the Environment and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, which developed and coordinated the setting and implementation of targets with all interested authorities.

4. Was a programme of measures or action plan developed to support implementation of the targets? If so, please briefly describe that programme or plan, including how financial implications were taken into account.

The National Program on the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016–2025 was developed and approved (Government Decree No. 1063 of September 16, 2016).

The National Program includes 3 annexes:

- National targets set in 20 target areas and target dates for their achievement,*
- Action Plan for the implementation of specific targets*
- Budget allocated for the activities to achieve the objectives of the Program*

The program also sets 12 specific objectives, the most important of which are:

- Ensuring by 2025 the distribution of safe drinking water in 100% of institutions for children and a reduction of up to 20% inappropriate samples of drinking water in basic chemical parameters and 5% in microbiological parameters

- A 20% reduction in the number of outbreaks of infectious diseases and the incidence of water-related diseases by 2025

- Ensuring access to sustainable drinking water supply systems in 100% of institutions for children and 75% of the total population by 2025

- Providing by 2025 100% public access to improved sanitation systems, including up to 50% to sewage systems

To achieve these goals, the Action Plan provides 77 actions to improve the situation, such as strengthening legal framework, creating information systems and disease surveillance systems, monitoring system for water quality, development of infrastructure for water supply and sanitation systems, building water treatment plants to improve drinking water supplied to consumers, creating regional operators of WSS systems, improving water quality monitoring, informing the public about water and health problems, establishing Clearing House for public information.

To implement the measures provided in the Program until 2025, financial costs were evaluated at 11,139.4 billions lei, including from the state budget, the National Ecological Fund, and external technical assistance.

5. What has been done in your country to ensure public participation in the process of target setting in accordance with article 6, paragraph 2, and how was the outcome of public participation taken into account in the final targets set?

Civil society actively involved in the process of identifying and prioritizing problems, in consulting on proposed targets and related measures, and final coordination of established goals and targets. The Committee was established by joint Order No. 11/75 of February 19, 2010 of the Ministers of Environment and Health, which included representatives of key ministries and other government structures, as well as representatives of NGOs from the public.

Meetings of all interested parties were held with up to 70 representatives of key parties, including national and international NGOs and international experts. The NGO community was widely involved in the process of setting targets by participating in stakeholder meetings. Moreover, the NGO Eco-TIRAS had the right to vote in the Management Committee.

6. Please provide information on the process by which this report has been prepared, including information on which public authorities had the main responsibilities and what other stakeholders were involved.

This report has been prepared by decision makers, national focal points from the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and the Environment and the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection, who have a coordinating role and implementation of targets. Data from ministerial departments were also presented.

7. Please report any particular circumstances that are relevant for understanding the report, including whether there is a federal and/or decentralized decision-making structure.

Part two

Targets and target dates set and assessment of progress

For countries that have set or revised targets and target dates, please provide information specifically related to the progress towards achieving them. If you have not set targets in a certain area, please explain why.

For countries in the process of setting targets, please provide information on baseline conditions and/or targets considered under the relevant target areas.

Suggested length: one page (330 words) per target area.

In accordance with Government Decree Nr. 1063 of 09/16/2016 on the approval of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 years, Ministries, other central and administrative bodies need to submit information on the implementation of the National Program annually until February 15 to the Ministry of Health, which will compile the information received and submit until March 15 to the Government annually a report on the implementation of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025.

For the period 2016-2018, projects for the rehabilitation of water supply and sewage systems (VC) were implemented, a roadmap was developed to implement the Water Supply and Sanitation Plan, new laws and regulations in the field of VC, integrated water resources management and waste management were developed.

Area XVI - Art. 6.2 (j), part III - The quality of waters used for aquaculture or for breeding or collecting mollusks and crustaceans was excluded from the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova, Annex No. 1 Targets for the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health, due to the lack of data in our country.

I. Quality of the drinking water supplied (art. 6, para. 2 (a))

For each target set in this area:

- 1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.*
- 2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).*
- 3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.*
- 4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.*
- 5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.*

By Government Decision # 1063 of 16 September 2016 for adoption of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 years, for the area 1 were set the following target

	Areas of the Protocol	Target	Target dates
.	Area I, subparagraph	1) Reduction of the proportion of non-	1) 5% of annual samples by 2020 and

	(a) of paragraph 2 of Article 6 "The quality of the drinking water supplied"	<p>compliant drinking water samples to microbiological parameters (E.coli, enterococci)</p> <p>2) Reduction of non-compliant drinking water samples to 5 basic chemical parameters (F, NO3, NO2, As, Fe, Pb)</p> <p>3) Achieving compliance of drinking water quality in schools for all regulated microbiological and chemical parameters</p>	<p>3% by 2025 in urban areas 10% of annual samples by 2020 and 8% by 2025 in rural areas</p> <p>2) 25% of annual samples to 2020 and up to 20% by 2025</p> <p>3) 100% of schools by 2025</p>
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The Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection is responsible for developing a regulatory framework for the quality of drinking water, surface and groundwater used as sources of drinking water, with recreation and irrigation purposes; monitoring its quality, as well as of the plans for ensuring safe drinking water, and also for assessing the risks and the influence of water on health, keeps records of water-related diseases, monitors public access to improved water systems, sanitation and hygiene practices, informs the public about water quality and promotes a healthy lifestyle.

The overall objective of this program is to achieve the set targets for the Protocol in accordance with 20 sections, until 2025. The program has its own specific tasks, including:

1. Reduction of the weight of non-compliant drinking water samples by microbiological parameters (E.coli, enterococci) for the consumer, within the following timeframes: - 5% of the annual number of samples until 2020 and 3% until 2025 in urban areas; -10% of the annual number of samples until 2020 and 8% until 2025 in rural areas.

In order to improve monitoring, in the reporting period (2016-2018), the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection took measures to consolidate and strengthen the material and technical base of laboratories in 10 regional Public Health Centers and also the regulatory framework including the development of sanitary guidelines and standards for small systems water supply approved by Government Decree No. 1466 of December 30, 2016; was developed and adopted in 2018.

The Parliament of the Republic of Moldova has adopted a law on the drinking water quality, the provisions of which are adjusted in accordance with the Directive of the European Parliament 98/83/CE and the Council of Europe of November 3, 1998.

A draft on Sanitary Regulation on drinking water quality surveillance was developed and planned for adoption in 2019.

One of the biggest achievement was construction of the Water Treatment Plant from river Prut in Nisporeni, a district center, which supplies more than 20 thousands

population. Also grants were allocated from the National Ecological Fund and 2 smaller water treatment plants were built and put into operation.

2. Reduction of the share of drinking water samples that do not meet sanitary standards in 5 main chemical parameters (F, NO₃, NO₂, As, Fe, Pb) in the following timeframes - 25% of annual samples by 2020 and up to 20% by 2025.

In order to achieve this goal, the Government of the Republic of Moldova is developing a National Master Plan for Drinking water supply, which provides modernization and rehabilitation of existing water treatment plants, construction of 300 small WTP, connection to WSS from surface waters after treatment, regionalization of services. In last 3 years were built 3 new WTP, improving DWQ for more than 50000 inhabitants.

3. Achieving compliance with the quality of drinking water in schools for all regulated microbiological and chemical parameters in the following periods: - 100% of schools until 2025;

For 2019 The Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection is planning to develop and approve Sanitary Regulation on drinking water quality surveillance, in accordance with WHO recommendations.

II. Reduction of the scale of outbreaks and incidents of water-related disease (art. 6, para. 2 (b))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

By Government Decision # 1063 of 16 September 2016 for adoption of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 years, for the area 2 were set the following target

.	Area II, subparagraph (b) of paragraph 2 of Article 6 "The reduction of the scale of outbreaks and incidents of waterrelated	1) Establishment of an integrated information system for surveillance of non-communicable diseases 2) Reduce the incidence of hepatitis A, ECEH and dysentery 3) Applying drinking	1) Information system set up by 2020 2) 20% by 2020 3) In all cities and
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	disease"	water safety plans	localities with a population of over 2,000 inhabitants by 2025
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The National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health for 2016–2025 provides for a reduction of 20% by 2025 of the number of epidemic outbreaks of infectious diseases and the incidence of water-related diseases.

In the Republic of Moldova, in 2005–2018, weren't registered outbreaks of water-related infectious diseases, such as cholera and typhoid fever, viral hepatitis A, ECEH.

As shown in Table 7, in the Republic of Moldova there is a decreasing trend in some infectious diseases, potentially water related per 100 thousands population, including a decrease in the number of cases of rotaviral infection more than 10 times (in particular, after the introduction of compulsory rotavirus vaccine immunization of children), except for cases of hepatitis A, where the level of diseases is higher than in 2012, but lower than the initial value since the Protocol started to be implemented, and the morbidity has a cyclical pattern. In addition, the incidence of Giardiasis and Cryptosporidiosis have decreased. Over the past 5 years there has been only one case of Legionellosis. It should be noted that data collection is carried out both by the number of cases and by the number of outbreaks.

In order to prepare for public health emergencies, the Government created the National Emergency Commission on Public Health, which decides on the introduction, suspension and abolition of isolation and / or quarantine measures at national level and at district level in consultation with the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection.

As part of the National Agency for Public Health, a Public Health Emergency Department has been created, for monitoring cases of public health hazards and disease reports, working 24/7 and ensuring coordination of all health sectors in case of emergencies. In the event of three or more cases of water-related diseases, it is necessary to report them within 24 hours, by order of the Minister of Health.

With support of NIPH, developed and adopted Guidelines for investigation of food- and water-borne outbreaks , to be used by the specialists of the National Public Health Agency.

In order to establish national framework, were approved National Guidelines for the development of Drinking Water Safety Plans (WSP), by joint Decree No. 609/65 of July 21, 2017 of the Ministers of Health and of Environment. Till present were developed WSP in more than 100 locations. Taking into consideration, that WSP were of different quality and content, were decided to developed model WSP. With the support of the ApaSan Project of the Swiss Development and Cooperation Agency were developed in 2018 two model WSP – first in a location with water treatment plant and second – in largest rural community with diverse water sources, to cover different situation. Obtained experience will be shared with all interested operators.

III. Access to drinking water (art. 6, para. 2 (c))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

By Government Decision # 1063 of 16 September 2016 for adoption of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 years, for the area 3 were set the following target

.	Area III, subparagraph (c) of paragraph 2 of Article 6 "Access of the entire population to improved drinking water systems"	1) Ensuring access to an improved drinking water system 2) Ensuring children's access to improved water sources in kindergartens and schools 3) Providing a legal and institutional framework to provide equal access to water for vulnerable and marginalized groups	1) 99% of the total urban population and 85% of the rural population until 2025 2) 100% of institutions until 2020 3) Creating a legal framework until 2018. Implementation of financial mechanisms to ensure equal access until 2020
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1) In 2018 97,3% of urban and 45,1% of rural population had access to safely managed water supply system and increase from previous reporting period.

2) 85% of kindergartens and schools have access to safely managed water supply system.

3) In accordance with the data of the National Bureau of Statistics, the number of settlements with access to water supply systems in 2017 compared to 2016 increased by 66 units. 77.3% of settlements are connected to water supply systems, about 23% from rural settlements do not have access to water supply and sewage systems.

3) with the support of UNECE in the framework of the EUWI + project, the development of a national legal framework for providing equal access to water and improved sanitation conditions for vulnerable and marginal groups has begun. A

working group has been established and the first steps in this area have been developed.

- *Water supply systems supply safe water 24 hours a day to 67,000 villagers, these systems are effectively managed by the Water Consumers Association (MAP), municipal enterprises, inter-municipal enterprises or regional operators.*

- *Solutions for water extraction have been diversified from the collection of spring water to the treated water from rivers and deep aquifers.*

Vulnerable groups are noted as one of the priorities in the National Development Strategy 2030 as the need to expand public access to infrastructure, public services and living conditions, namely:

- *Rural people have lower access to public services. Elderly households have the lowest access to a centralized water supply (57%). In households with a disabled adult, living conditions are worse than that of the general population.*

- *Female-headed households have more problems paying utility bills than the general population. Their share in 2016 was 29.2% compared with 26.1% among the general population. Approximately 42% of families of rum (Gypsy) face difficulties in paying utility bills.*

- *Single-person households and retirees are most at risk of energy poverty.*

- *The number of Roma (Gypsy) households living in destroyed houses or poor neighborhoods is 3 times higher than among non-Roma (non-Gypsy). Almost 15% of Roma families live in houses of poor and very low quality. Roma living in rural areas live in more adverse conditions than Roma living in urban areas, the same trend is observed among non-Roma.*

- *People with disabilities have limited access to products and services available to the public.*

IV. Access to sanitation (art. 6, para. 2 (d))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5 of the Protocol).

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.

4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

By Government Decision # 1063 of 16 September 2016 for adoption of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 years, for the area IV were set the following target

•	Area IV, subparagraph	1) Providing access to improved sanitation systems,	1) 100% of the total population with access to
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	<p>d) of paragraph 2 of Article 6 "Access of the population to improved sanitation systems"</p>	<p>with access to sewage systems.</p> <p>2) Ensuring children's access to improved sanitation systems in kindergartens and schools.</p> <p>3) Increase in the number of settlements and the population in them served by ecological sanitation systems (individual and / or collective) (ECOSAN toilets, built wet areas. Septic tanks and other technologies)</p>	<p>improved sanitation systems, including 85% for the urban population and 25% for the rural population to sewage systems until 2025.</p> <p>2) 100% of institutions until 2020.</p> <p>3) 150 settlements until 2025</p>
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3) The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) began supporting the water sector in Moldova in 2001 through the provision of humanitarian aid. Since 2008, SDC and the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC) have funded the ApaSan project, which is being implemented by the Swiss company Skat Consulting Ltd. The ApaSan project combines policy implications, institutional strengthening and support for infrastructure development, with the goal of enabling Moldovan institutions at all levels to better meet the needs of the rural population, including the most vulnerable, in water and sanitation services.

Key results:

- Progress in national policies is noted, as decentralized water supply options are now recognized as a valid decision in the National Water Supply and Sanitation Strategy and in some by-laws, norms and standards.*

- By the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection developed and adopted in coordination with the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, Guidance on school sanitation, with and recommendations for school and kindergarten managers on issues of sanitation, which were distributed in 2018.*

The models for the provision of water supply and sanitation services were tested, improved, consolidated, documented and repeated in all regions of Moldova, including Gagauzia and Transnistria.

- Small local administrative authorities (mayors) have agreed to formally delegate the provision of water services to urban utility providers (Apacanals), and this is an important step towards the regionalization of water supply and sanitation services.*

- 68 schools, 5 localities and 62 households (21,000 users) have comfortable and clean toilets (dry toilets with ecosan).*

- Wastewater treatment in villages was piloted by means of 7 structures such as wetland natural water purification systems.*

V. Levels of performance of collective systems and other systems for water supply (art. 6, para. 2 (e))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5 of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

VI. Levels of performance of collective systems and other systems for sanitation (art. 6, para. 2 (e))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

By the Government Decision # 1063 of 16 September 2016 for adoption of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 years, for the areas V and VI were set the following target

·	Area V, subpara e) of para 2 of Article 6 Part 1 "Levels of efficiency of collective systems of water supply and other systems"	1) Availability of effective collective water supply systems 2) The presence of VC collective system operators capable of responding at the regional level to mitigate the effects of extreme weather conditions and serious emergencies	1) In 14 cities and 20 villages until 2020 2) 7 operators until 2025
·	Area VI, sub-paragraph e) of paragraph 2 of Article 6 Part 2 "Levels of operational efficiency for	Availability of effective collective sewage systems	In 7 cities until 2025

	collective sanitation systems and other systems”		
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A mechanism has been created to ensure control over the calculation of operator tariffs. The National Energy Regulatory Agency has developed the following documents for the implementation of Law No. 303 of December 13, 2013 on the public water supply and sewage services and improving the efficiency of operators and, accordingly, the operation of water supply and sewage systems.

- Methodology for determining, approving and applying tariffs for public utilities for water supply, sewage and wastewater treatment (No. 741 of December 18, 2014).

- Regulations on the public water supply and sanitation service (No. 271 of December 16, 2015).

- Provision on quality indicators of the municipal water supply and sewage service (No. 352 of December 27, 2016).

- Regulation on the establishment and approval in order to determine the rates of technological consumption and water losses in water supply systems (No. 180 dated June 10, 2016).

- Regulations on the procurement of goods, works and services used in the licensing of activities in the energy, thermal energy, natural gas sectors, as well as operators providing utility services for water supply and sewage (No. 24 dated January 26, 2017).

Developed a Guide to creating a business plan for the development of companies Apa-Canal.

A Plan for the regionalization of water supply and sanitation services has been developed and is included in the new action plan for implementing the Water Supply and Sanitation Strategy for 2014-2028.

A Feasibility Study was developed for the design and construction of a regional water supply and sewage project that will provide about 130,000 people with drinking water (3.7% of the total population of the country) in the center of the country, followed by the construction of sewage networks and wastewater treatment plants in accordance with Directive 91/271 / EC on the treatment of domestic wastewater.

• For the Ialoveni district, a master plan for water supply and sanitation has been drawn up in accordance with national guidelines. The Ministry, which coordinates the water and sanitation sector, agreed on a joint approach to planning activities in this segment through the development of a National Water and Sanitation Plan.

• The capabilities of service providers for water supply and sanitation projects were consolidated, among which 8 engineering and 12 construction companies, as well as 12 state licensed inspectors.

- *The Moldovan community for sharing experience in the field of water supply and sanitation is an active autonomous platform for joint training and promotion of the sector*

- *Guidance on water supply and sanitation is published and distributed.*

- *The Congress of Moldovan Local Authorities (CALM) has created a service center to support small water supply and sanitation operators in rural areas.*

VII. Application of recognized good practices to the management of water supply (art. 6, para. 2 (f))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

VIII. Application of recognized good practice to the management of sanitation (art. 6, para. 2 (f))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

By the Government Decision # 1063 of 16 September 2016 for adoption of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 years, for the areas VII and VIII were set the following targets

·	Areas VII and VIII, subparagraph f) of clause 2 of Article 6 “Application of recognized good practice in the field of water supply,	Establishment of regional associations of enterprises for the management of collective water	5 associations created until
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	water management and sanitation”	supply and sanitation systems	2020
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The Sanitary Regulation for small water supply systems was developed and approved by Government Decree No. 1466 of December 30, 2016.

The joint Order of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of the Environment approved the Guidelines for the Development of Water Safety Plans for Water Supply Systems, No. 609/65 of July 21, 2017.

Local rural water user associations have been established to serve collective water supply and sanitation systems.

The concept of regionalization of operators was developed and approved in accordance with the practice of the European Union and the action plan that was included in the water supply and sanitation strategy plan for the next 5 years.

IX. Occurrence of discharges of untreated wastewater (art. 6, para. 2 (g) (i))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

X. Occurrence of discharges of untreated storm water overflows from wastewater collection systems (art. 6, para. 2 (g) (ii))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

XI. Quality of discharges of wastewater from wastewater treatment installations (art. 6, para. 2 (h))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

By the Government Decision # 1063 of 16 September 2016 for adoption of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 years, for the areas IX, X and XI were set the following targets

	· Area IX, subparagraph g) (ii) of paragraph 2 of Article 6 "Discharge of untreated sewage"	To exclude discharge of untreated sewage into natural water bodies	In 10 cities until 2025
	· Area X, subparagraph g) (ii) of paragraph 2 of Article 6) "Discharge of untreated rainwater from collection systems"	Construction of treatment plants for rainwater discharged into natural water bodies in urban areas	In 5 cities until 2025
0.	subparagraph (h) of paragraph 2 of Article 6 "The quality of wastewater discharges from sewage treatment plants"	Sewage treatment up to standards of discharge into natural water resources from treatment facilities	In 10 cities and 20 villages until 2025

The development of a rainwater management plan initiated.

Methodologies have been developed for the determination of agglomerations and sensitive areas for the implementation of the requirements of Directive 91/271 / EC for the treatment of municipal wastewater.

Grants were allocated from the National Ecological Fund and 11 wastewater treatment plants and 2 water treatment plants were built and put into operation.

XII. Disposal or reuse of sewage sludge from collective systems of sanitation or other sanitation installations (art. 6, para. 2 (i))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

By the Government Decision # 1063 of 16 September 2016 for adoption of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 years, for the area XII were set the following target

1.	Area XII, sub-para i) of para 2 of Article 6 Part 1 “Disposal or reuse of sludge from centralized sewage systems or from other sewage systems”	Creating a procedure for the reuse of sludge from wastewater treatment plants and from Ecosan toilets for further use in agriculture and land improvement	Legal procedure established by 2017
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The development of a guideline for the management of precipitation from wastewater treatment in the Republic of Moldova has been started, which will be approved by the Government for the national level.

Designed and approved:

Guide on the use of Ecosan products as fertilizers in agriculture in the Republic of Moldova.

Guidelines for the implementation of Ecosan toilets in schools in Moldova.

Guide for managers of educational institutions. Options for improving sanitation systems in rural schools in the Republic of Moldova.

Practical code in construction. Construction of dry toilets with separate collection of excrement.

XIII. Quality of wastewater used for irrigation purposes (art. 6, para. 2 (i))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

By the Government Decision # 1063 of 16 September 2016 for adoption of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 years, for the areas V and VI were set the following target

2.	Area XIII, Article 6, Paa 2 (i) "Quality of wastewater used for irrigation"	Development of standards for the use of wastewater from sewage treatment plants for irrigation	The application by 2022 regulations on the use of wastewater for irrigation
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Norms for the use of wastewater from sewage treatment plants for irrigation have not been developed for this reporting period.

XIV. Quality of waters which are used as sources for drinking water (art. 6, para. 2 (j))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

By the Government Decision # 1063 of 16 September 2016 for adoption of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 years, for the area XIV were set the following target

·	Area XIV, para 2 (j) of Article 6 "The quality of waters which are used as sources for drinking water"	1) Achieving the surface water quality indicators used for drinking water supply with respect to the content of enterococci and E.coli at the level of the 2nd quality class 2) Establishment of the National Register of Public Drinking Water Sources	1) Achieving quality indicators by 2025 2) Register set up by 2020
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The main source of drinking water supply in Moldova are groundwater sources, of which about 100% of the rural population and 30% of the urban population, or 65% of the total population of the country. From the surface sources, the most important is the Dniester River, which accounts for 32%, the Prut River - 3%, other surface sources make up 0.2%

The quality of groundwater that is used for drinking water supply is indicated above in other sections. Monitoring of surface water quality, incl. for the Dniester and Prut rivers, which are used for water supply and where there are 11 water intakes, is under responsibility of the National Agency of Public Health and territorial Public Health Centers.

The target level of the quality indicators of surface water used for drinking water supply in terms of the content of enterococci and E. coli to the level: by 2025 to the 2nd quality class - was partially achieved. The results show that in most areas this has been achieved: p. Dniester - 66% corresponds to 1-2 classes, p. Prut - 76% corresponds to 1-2 classes. These data indicate that microbial pollution of the waters of these rivers takes place and is higher in the Nistru river than in the Prut river.

Figure 1 shows the specific weight of water samples for all types of surface water bodies, including rr. Nistru and Prut, non-compliant in terms of microbiological indicators for 2017

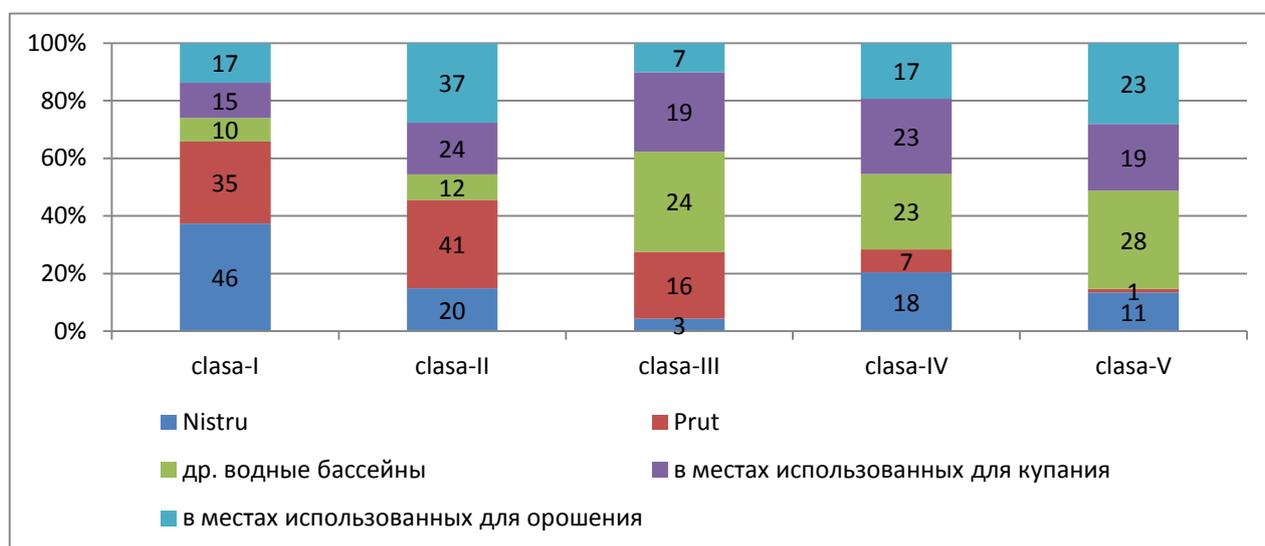


Fig.1. Quality of surface waters on microbiological parameters in 2017.

XV. Quality of waters used for bathing (art. 6, para. 2 (j))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).

3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

By the Government Decision # 1063 of 16 September 2016 for adoption of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 years, for the area XV were set the following target

	<p>Area XV, para 2 (j) of Article 6 Part 1 "The quality of waters which are generally used for bathing"</p>	<p>1) Achieving water quality indicators for bathing on the content of enterococci and E.coli at satisfactory quality</p> <p>2) Setting up the National Register of Bathing sites</p>	<p>1) Achieving quality indicators at all national significant sites by 2020</p> <p>2) Register set up by 2020</p>
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Achievements of targets for this section:

1. ***Achievement of water quality indicators for bathing on the content of enterococci and E. coli to the level of satisfactory quality by 2020. On all bathing sites of national importance - partially implemented. According to the results of the conducted research on the water quality of the Dniester and Prut rivers in the places used for swimming for the period of 2015-2018, bacteriological indicators do not comply in 29% and, respectively, 8% of samples.***
2. ***Setting of the National Register of bathing sites by 2020 – is under implementation, this registry is available in the paper format, not in an electronic one.***

XVI. Quality of waters used for aquaculture or for the production or harvesting of shellfish (art. 6, para. 2 (j))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

Republic of Moldova it's a landlocked country, by the Government Decision # 1063 of 16 September 2016 for adoption of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for

2016-2025 years, for the area XVI weren't set a target, due to low relevance of this issue.

XVII. Application of recognized good practice in the management of enclosed waters generally available for bathing (art. 6, para. 2 (k))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

By the Government Decision # 1063 of 16 September 2016 for adoption of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 years, for the area XVII were set the following target

	Area XVII, para 2 (k) of Article 6 Part 1 "Application of recognized good practice in the management of enclosed waters generally available for bathing "	1) National regulatory framework established for the quality of enclosed waters generally available for bathing 2) Establishment of the National Register of enclosed waters (swimming-pools) generally available for bathing	1) Sanitary Regulation on water quality and requirements for swimming pools generally available for bathing in accordance with WHO recommendations developed by 2018 2) Register set up by 2020
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The Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection developed in 2018, but still don't approve, Sanitary Regulations on swimming pools, in accordance with WHO recommendations.

Setting of the National Register of enclosed waters (swimming-pools) generally available for bathing by 2020 – is under implementation, this registry is available in the paper format, not in an electronic one.

XVIII. Identification and remediation of particularly contaminated sites (art. 6, para. 2

(I)

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

By the Government Decision # 1063 of 16 September 2016 for adoption of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 years, for the area XVIII were set the following target

6.	Area XVIII, subparagraph I) of clause 2 of Article 6, “Identification and remediation of particularly contaminated sites”	Mapping areas of areas particularly contaminated with pesticides, petroleum products and other chemicals	100% mapping of areas of particularly polluted areas until 2020. Their decontamination until 2025
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Law no. 277 of November 29, 2018 on chemicals that establishes new approaches to the management of substances, mixtures and chemicals in accordance with European standards and is aimed at the coordinated implementation of the commitments made by the Republic of Moldova after ratifying international environmental treaties regulating chemicals, stocks and waste. and the Association Agreement between the Republic of Moldova, on the one hand, and the European Union.

In 2016, the State Enterprise “Hazardous Waste Management Center” was established. Government Decree No. 373/2018 established the National Pollutant Release and Transfer Register, which establishes the institutional framework necessary for creating and regulating this register in order to encourage public participation in environmental decision-making, as well as to prevent and reduce environmental pollution. environment.

In the period of 2016-2017, the project “Reducing the risk associated with hazardous waste at the Cismichioi firing range” was implemented in the Republic of Moldova, with the support of the Czech Development Agency, where studies were conducted to assess the environmental situation in the area to determine the number and categories of stored substances and also to develop management recommendations from this object in estimating the costs of restoration work.

Supported by the FAO project Improving the Elimination of Hazardous Chemicals from the Former Soviet Area as a Pesticide Prevention Model, 303 tons of pesticide waste, 1.7 tons of polluted pesticides and 1.9 tons of contaminated waste were exported to the EU for final disposal. . Thus, we note that the country has completed the process of final disposal of obsolete pesticides, being one of the first countries in Eastern Europe that successfully completed this process.

XIX. Effectiveness of systems for the management, development, protection and use of water resources (art. 6, para. 2 (m))

For each target set in this area:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.
2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

By the Government Decision # 1063 of 16 September 2016 for adoption of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 years, for the area XIX were set the following target

	Area XIX, paragraph 2 (m) of Article 6 "Effectiveness of systems for the management, development, protection and use of water resources	Availability of resource management plans for the Dniester and Prut river basins	Development of plans for 2017
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2 plans for the basin district were developed and approved in accordance with the Law on Water No. 272/2011:

Management Plan for the Dniester Basin District, Government Decree No. 814/2017.

Management Plan for the Danube-Prut and Black Sea Basin District, Government Decision no.955 / 2018.

Development of plans for flood and drought risk prevention initiated.

XX. Additional national or local specific targets

In cases where additional targets have been set, for each target:

1. Please describe the current target and target date. Please provide information on the background (including the baseline/starting point and reference to existing national and international legislation) and justification for the adoption of the target.

2. Please describe the actions taken (e.g., legal/regulatory, financial/economic, informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target (see also article 6, paragraph 5, of the Protocol).
3. Please assess the progress achieved from the baseline towards meeting the target as well as any challenges encountered.
4. Please describe how the target set under this area contributes to fulfilling global and regional commitments, in particular the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

By the Government Decision # 1063 of 16 September 2016 for adoption of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 years, for the area XX were set the following target

·	Area XX, Additional national or local specific targets The frequency of the publication of information on the quality of the drinking water supplied and of other waters relevant to the targets in this paragraph in the intervals between the publication of information under article 7, paragraph 2.	1) Publication of the National Report on Drinking Water Quality 2) Publication of the Report on Bathing Water Quality 3) Publication of the National Report on the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health 4) Development and publication shing the National Report on the state of the environment	Every three years Every two years Every three years, prior MOP Every three years
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With regard to the achievement of targets for this section, the following should be noted:

- 1. The publication of the National Report on drinking water the quality - every 3 years - completed. Currently, annual processed nationwide data on the quality of drinking water and surface water are published in the annual Report of National Public Health Agency, as well available on te website www.ansp.md. This report also contain data on bathing water quality,***
- 2. Publication of the National Report on the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health –completed,***
- 3. At National Public Health Agency was created Information center “Clearing house” under the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova. Center provides information on the quality of drinking water, on access to improved water supply and sanitation systems, organizes and holds various meetings with NGOs and local authorities on the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health, distributes information materials and conducts information campaigns.***

Part three

Common indicators¹

I. Quality of the drinking water supplied

1. Context of the data

1. What is the population coverage (in millions or per cent of total national population) of the water supplies reported under sections 2 and 3 below?

The rationale of this question is to understand the population coverage of the water quality data reported under sections 2 and 3 below.

Please describe the type of water supplies for which data is included in the following tables, and the population share covered by these supplies.

Please also clarify the source of the water quality data provided (e.g., data from regulatory authorities).

2. Please specify from where the water quality samples reported in sections 2 and 3 below are primarily taken (e.g., treatment plant outlet, distribution system or point of consumption). *The rationale of this question is to understand where the samples were primarily taken from for the water quality data reported in sections 2 and 3 below.*

3. In sections 2 and 3 below, the standards for compliance assessment signify the national standards. If national standards for reported parameters deviate from the World Health Organization (WHO) guideline values, please provide information on the standard values.

The rationale of this question is to understand any possible differences between the national standards for microbiological and chemical water quality parameters and the respective WHO guideline values.²

2. Bacteriological quality

4. Please indicate the percentage of samples that fail to meet the national standard for *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*). Parties may also report on up to three other priority microbial indicators and/or pathogens that are subject to routine water quality monitoring.

If possible, please provide segregated data for urban and rural areas in the table below. If this is not possible, please consider reporting by alternative categories available in your country, for example by "non-centralized versus centralized" water supplies or by population number-based categories. If you do so, please indicate the reported categories by renaming the rows in the column "area/category" in the table below accordingly.

The main problems with quality for water from artesian wells groundwater throughout the country are high levels of fluoride (2-14 mg / l), sodium (200-560 mg / l) and ammonium (2-10 mg / l) in almost all geographic areas, but most often in the Central region; hydrogen sulfide (3-6 mg / l); iron (0.3 - 2.5 mg / l) and for shallow waters – high levels of nitrates and microbial contamination.

A slight improvement is observed in the studied microbiological parameters in all sources and systems of drinking water, which amounted to E. coli - 12.4% in 2018 compared with 12.6% in 2009, for Enterococci – a worsening is noticed, 12, 0% to 9.6% in 2009. At the same time, it should be noted that about 60% of non compliant to quality standards, samples, were taken from groundwater wells.

¹ In order to allow an analysis of trends for all Parties under the Protocol, please use wherever possible 2005 — the year of entry into force of the Protocol — as the baseline year.

² The latest edition of the WHO *Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality* is available at: http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/publications/dwq-guidelines-4/en/

Table 1

The proportion of non-compliance of drinking water by microbiological parameters, annual samples

Tested parameters	Baseline values when becoming a Party to the Protocol, 2005	Intermediate values 2015	Current values 2018
E.coli	12,6%	14,5%	12,4%
Enterococci	9,6%	15,1%	12,0%

Source: National Report on the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova, 2018, National Public Health Agency, 2018, www.ansp.md

Table 3

The proportion of non-compliance of drinking water by microbiological parameters, annual samples, by various types of water supply and sources

	The proportion of water samples non compliant to microbiological parameters (%)							
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2016	2017	2018
Urban water supply systems from ground waters	12,7	9,9	10,8	8,2	9,2	10,7	8,2	17,4
Rural water supply systems	16,7	14,1	14,2	14,6	17,6	19,6	14,5	26,1
Urban water supply systems from surface waters	6,9	3,3	0,8	1,9	3,4	5,0	1,8	4,6
Wells	41,2	38,3	39,8	36,2	36,3	47,7	38,0	49,9

Source: National Public Health Surveillance Report ., National Public Health Agency, 2018

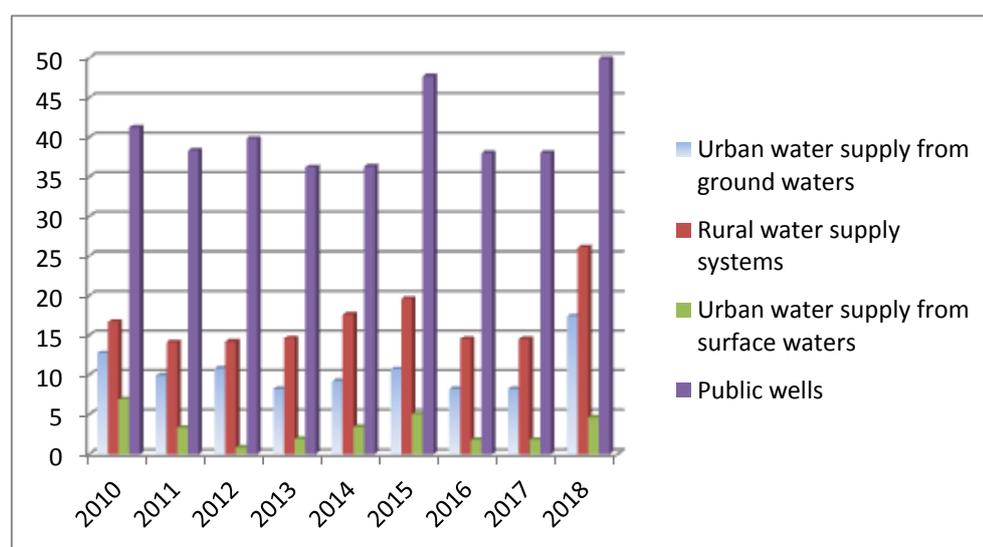


Fig. 2. The proportion of non-compliance of drinking water by microbiological parameters, annual samples, by various types of water supply and sources

The proportion of water samples from water supply systems and wells that do not meet sanitary standards remains elevated according to chemical and microbiological

parameters for various types of systems and drinking water sources, as follows from the tables below:

Table 2

The proportion of non-compliance of drinking water by chemical parameters, annual samples, for various types of water supply systems and sources

	The proportion of water samples non compliant to sanitary and chemical parameters, (%)								
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Urban water supply systems from ground sources	41,4	43,7	44,5	39,4	37,7	40	38,7	39,6	49,4
Urban water supply systems from surface sources	13,5	10,4	8,27	5,89	12,2	21	13,1	6,67	13,4
Rural water supply systems	49,3	51,6	61,5	51,3	54,9	53	56,9	51,3	59,7
Wells	84,2	82,9	84	79,6	76,5	82	76,7	79,4	73,6

Source: National Public Health Surveillance Report, National Public Health Agency, 2018

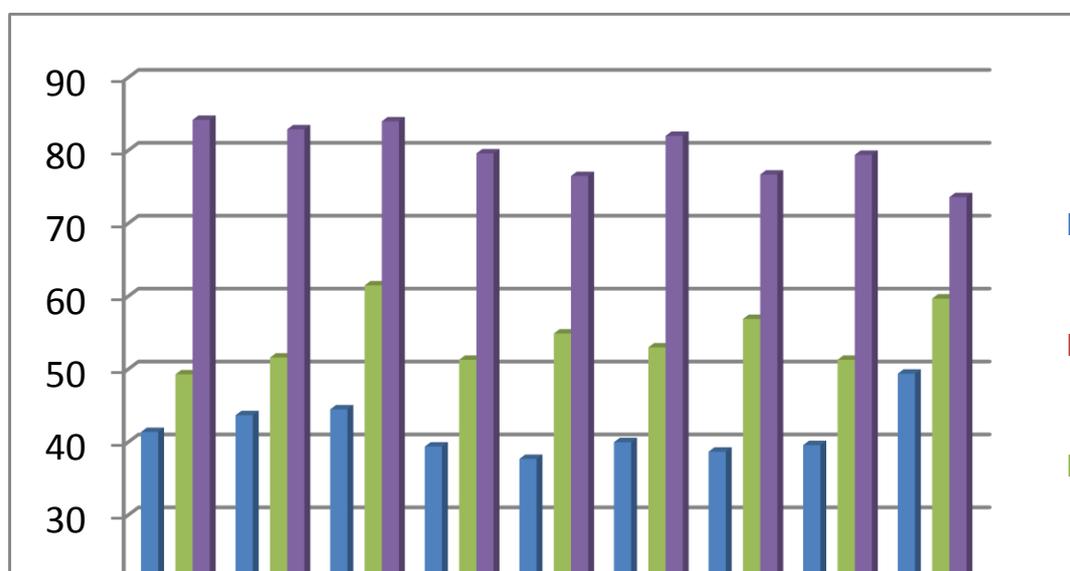


Fig.3 The proportion of non-compliance of drinking water by chemical parameters, annual samples, for various types of water supply systems and sources

The quality of drinking water in terms of chemical and microbiological parameters since the entry into force of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health for 2016–2025 and to the present is shown in Tables 5 and 6. The presented data indicates a significant increase in the percentage of water samples that do not correspond to microbiological parameters and a decrease in the percentage of chemical parameters.

Table 5

The proportion of non-compliance of drinking water by microbiological parameters in schools and kindergartens, annual samples

	Initial values, when the actions on the Protocol started, 2005.	Intermediate values, 2015.	Current values, 2018.
E.coli	-	12,8%	20,4%

Enterococci	-	15,1%	17,7%
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Source: National Report on the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova 2018, National Public Health Agency, 2018, www.ansp.md

Table 6

The proportion of non-compliance of drinking water by chemical parameters in schools and institutions, annual samples, by various types of water supply and sources

	The proportion of non-compliance samples of drinking water by sanitary chemical parameters in schools, (%)	
	2015	2018
Water supply systems with all types of sources	60,0	39,8
Wells	64,7	61,7

Source: National Public Health Surveillance Report, National Public Health Agency, 2018, www.ansp.md

If data can be reported neither for urban and rural areas nor for alternative categories, please report total (national) values only.

Please comment on the trends or provide any other important information supporting interpretation of the data.

Parameter	Area/category	Baseline value (specify year)	Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)	Current value (specify year)
<i>E. coli</i>	Total			
	Urban			
	Rural			
Additional parameter 1:	Total			
	Urban			
	Rural			
Additional parameter 2:	Total			
	Urban			
	Rural			
Additional parameter 3:	Total			
	Urban			
	Rural			

3. Chemical quality

5. Please report on the percentage of samples that fail to meet the national standard for chemical water quality with regard to the following parameters:

- (a) Arsenic;
- (b) Fluoride;

- (c) Lead
- (d) Nitrate.

6. Please also identify up to three additional chemical parameters that are of priority in the national or local context.

If possible, please provide segregated data for urban and rural areas in the table below. If this is not possible, please consider reporting by alternative categories available in your country, for example by “non-centralized versus centralized” sanitation systems or by population number-based categories. If you do so, please indicate the reported categories by renaming the rows in the column “area/category” in the table below accordingly.

If data can be reported neither for urban and rural areas nor for alternative categories, please report total (national) values only.

Please comment on the trends or provide any other important information supporting interpretation of the data.

The quality of drinking water according to 5 main and 5 additional chemical parameters since the entry into force of the Protocol until current time is presented in Table 4. The presented data indicates a significant decrease in the percentage of water samples that do not comply according to the content of boron, nitrates and dry residue, and growth by turbidity and the content of iron, fluoride and ammonia.

Table 4

Dynamics of development of the proportion of samples that do not meet sanitary standards for basic and additional chemical indicators of drinking water quality, established according to WHO recommendations

Parameter	Initial values(%), 2005	Intermediate values (%), 2009	Intermediate values(%), 2015 %	Current values(%), 2018
Fluoride	11,1%	14,5%	15,7	16,5
Nitrites and Nitrates	53%	42,7%	33,86	23,5
Arsenic	0%	0%	0	0
Lead	0%	1,3%	0	0
Iron	6,5%	11,1%	9,8	6,0
Additional chemical indicators:				
Boron	3%	6,5%	31,5	24,7
Manganese	1,7%	5,95%	2,5	0,5
Turbidity	4%	4,1%	3,8	4,3
Ammonium	6,5%	27,2%	29,5	32,6
TDS	29,5%	25,3%	24	21,6

Source: National Report on the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova, National Public Health Agency, 2018

Parameter	Area/category	Baseline value (specify year)	Value reported in the	
			previous reporting cycle (specify year)	Current value (specify year)
Arsenic	Total			
	Urban			
	Rural			
Fluorid	Total			
	Urban			

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Area/cat (specify year)</i>	<i>Baseline value (specify year)</i>	<i>Value reported in the</i>	
				<i>previous reporting cycle (specify year)</i>	<i>Current value (specify year)</i>
		Rural			
	Lead	Total			
		Urban			
		Rural			
	Nitrate	Total			
		Urban			
		Rural			
Additional parameter 1:		Total			
...		Urban			
		Rural			
Additional parameter 2:		Total			
...		Urban			
		Rural			

Parameter	Category	Area/city (specify year)	Baseline value (specify year)	Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)	Current value (specify year)
Additional parameter 3:	Total				
	...	Urban			
		Rural			

II. Outbreaks and incidence of infectious diseases related to water

In filling out the below table, please consider the following points:

- (a) For reporting outbreaks, please report confirmed water-related outbreaks only (i.e., for which there is epidemiological or microbiological evidence for water to have facilitated infection);
- (b) For reporting incidents, please report the numbers related to all exposure routes. In your response:
 - (i) Please report cases per 100,000 population;
 - (ii) Please differentiate between zero incidents (0) and no data available (-).

Please extend the list of water-related diseases, to the extent possible, to cover other relevant pathogens (e.g., enteric viruses, *Giardia intestinalis*, *Vibrio cholerae*).

Please indicate how the information is collected (e.g., event-based or incidence-based surveillance).

Please comment on the trends or provide any other important information supporting interpretation of the data.

Table 7

The level of infectious morbidity, potentially water related

	Morbidity per 100 000 population						Number of outbreaks	
	Initial values, 2005	Intermediate values, 2009	Current values, 2015	Current values, 2016	Current values, 2017	Current values, 2018	Initial values 2005	Current values, 2018
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bacterial dysentery (shigellosis)	54,19	13,0	3,12	2,28	11,86	14,34	0	0
Enterohemorrhagic E. coli caused by E. coli (EHEC)	0	5,52	4,53	7,71	10,11	8,06	0	0
Viral hepatitis A	30,7	0,22	7,82	21,0	16,54	18,03	0	0
Typhoid fever	0,06	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rotavirus infection		21,97	5,09	6,39	7,30	2,90	0	0
Cryptosporidiosis		1,74	0,2	0,31	0,14	0,20	0	0
Giardiasis		6,07	3,26	3,21	4,85	2,48	0	0

In order to prepare for public health emergencies, the Government created the National Emergency Commission on Public Health, which decides on the introduction, suspension and abolition of isolation and / or quarantine measures at national level and at district level in consultation with the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection

As part of the National Agency for Public Health, a Public Health Emergency Management Center has been created, with a department for monitoring cases of public health hazards and disease reports, working 27/7 and ensuring coordination of all health sectors in case of emergencies. In the event of three or more cases of water-related diseases, it is necessary to report them within 24 hours, by order of the Minister of Health.

Disease	Incidence rate per 100,000 population (all exposure routes)			Number of outbreaks (confirmed water-borne outbreaks)		
	B	Value reported		B	Value	
	aseline (specify year)	in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)	Currenaseline (specify year)	aseline (specify year)	reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)	Curren t value (specify year)
Shigellosis						
Enterohaemorrhagic <i>E. coli</i> infection						
Typhoid fever						
Viral hepatitis						
A						
Legionellosis						
Cryptosporiosis						
Additional disease 1:						
Additional disease 2:						

III. Access to drinking water

If possible, please provide segregated data for urban and rural areas in the table below. If this is not possible, please consider reporting by alternative categories available in your country, for example by “non-centralized versus centralized” water supply systems or by population number-based categories. If you do so, please indicate the reported categories by renaming the rows in the table below accordingly.

If data can be reported neither for urban and rural areas nor for alternative categories, please report total (national) values only.

Please comment on the trends or provide any other important information supporting interpretation of the data with regard to access to drinking water.

The level of public access to improved drinking water sources, starting in 2005, has increased substantially and is shown in Table 8, (%).

Table 8

Percentage of public access to all types of fely managed drinking water supply systems

	2005	2009	2015	2018
Urban population	92	93	96	97,3
Rural population	17	27	39	45,1
Total	45	55	63	68,4

Source: National Report on the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova, National Center for Public Health, 2018

In 2018, according to the National Agency for Public Health, access to safely managed drinking water supply systems was provided for 68.4% of the population, including 97.3% of the urban population and 45.1% of the rural population.

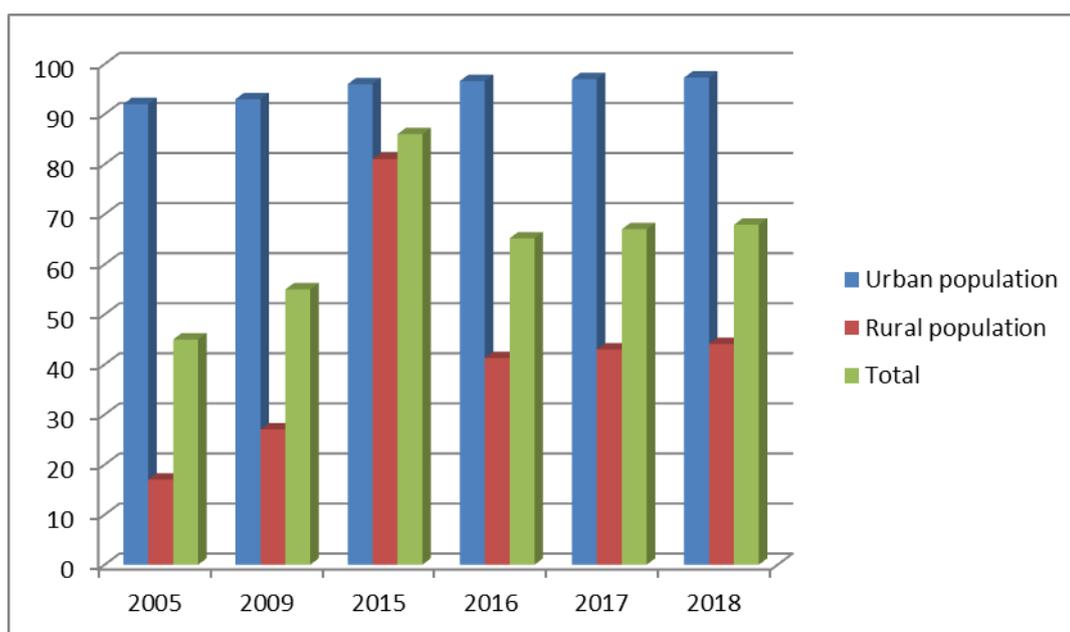


Fig 4. The proportion of public access to water supply systems in urban and rural areas in the Republic of Moldova.

Percentage of population with access to drinking water	Baseline value (specify year) 2005	Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year) 2015	Current value (specify year) 2018
Total	45	63	68,4
Urban	92	93	97,3
Rural	17	39	45,1

□ Estimates provided by the WHO/United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) for Water Supply and Sanitation. JMP definitions are available at <http://www.wssinfo.org/definitions-methods/watsan-categories>.

γ National estimates. Please specify how “access” is defined and what types of drinking-water supplies are considered in the estimates in your country.

In particular, please specify if the above percentage on “access to drinking water” refers to access to (tick all applicable):

- Improved drinking water sources (as per JMP definition)
- Supplies located on premises
- Supplies available when needed
- Supplies that provide drinking water free from faecal contamination

IV. Access to sanitation

If possible, please provide segregated data for urban and rural areas in the table below. If this is not possible, please consider reporting by alternative categories available in your country, for example by “non-centralized versus centralized” sanitation systems or by population number-based categories. If you do so, please indicate the reported categories by renaming the rows in the table below accordingly.

If data can be reported neither for urban and rural areas nor for alternative categories, please report total (national) values only.

Please comment on the trends or provide any other important information supporting interpretation of the data with regard to access to sanitation.

Percentage of population with access to sanitation	Baseline value (specify year), 2005	Value reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year) 2015	Current value (specify year) 2018
Total	53.6%	69.7	74%
Urban	81.6%	84.5	88%
Rural	35%	60.8	70%

Estimates provided by JMP. JMP definitions are available at <http://www.wssinfo.org/definitions-methods/watsan-categories>.

National estimates. Please specify how “access” is defined and what types of sanitation facilities are considered in the estimates in your country.

In particular, please specify if the above percentage on “access to sanitation” refers to access to (tick all applicable):

YES Y Improved sanitation facilities (as per JMP definition)

- Facilities not shared with other households
- Facilities from which excreta is safely disposed in situ or treated off site

V. Effectiveness of management, protection and use of freshwater resources

1. Water quality

1. On the basis of national systems of water classification, please indicate the percentage of water bodies or the percentage of the volume (preferably) of water³ falling under each defined class (e.g., for European Union countries and other countries following the European Union Water Framework Directive⁴ classification, the percentage of surface waters of

³ Please specify.

⁴ Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy.

high, good, moderate, poor and bad ecological status, and the percentage of groundwaters/surface waters of good or poor chemical status; for other countries, in classes I, II, III, etc.).

(a) For European Union countries and other countries following the European Union Water Framework Directive classification

(i) Ecological status of surface water bodies

<i>Percentage of surface water classified as:</i>	<i>Value Baseline reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)</i>	<i>Current value (specify year) 2016- 2018</i>
High status		0
Good status		0
Moderate status		24
Poor status		27
Bad status		49
Total number/volume of water bodies classified		72 monitoring stations or water bodies
Total number/volume of water bodies in the country		

(ii) Chemical status of surface water bodies

<i>Percentage of surface water bodies classified as</i>	<i>Value Baseline reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)</i>	<i>Current value (specify year) 2016- 2018</i>
Good status		95%
Poor status		5%
Total number/volume of water bodies classified		72 monitoring stations or water bodies
Total number/volume of water bodies in the country		

The State Hydrometeorological Service was the national responsible institution for hydrobiological, hydrochemical and hydrological monitoring of surface waters (Regulation on monitoring and systematic monitoring of surface and groundwater conditions, Government Decree No. 932 of 11/20/2013). With the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency (Government Decree no. 549 of 13.06.2018 on the establishment, organization and functioning of the Environmental Protection Agency), the Agency has taken over the task of monitoring surface water quality from 2019.

Monitoring of surface water quality in the Republic of Moldova began in the 60s of the last century, but its systematic and complete character was acquired only in the 1980s, with emphasis on monitoring transboundary rivers. The main purpose of monitoring is to determine the level of pollution of surface waters, identify cases of exceptional or severe pollution, monitor sources of pollution and timely notify local and central authorities authorized to make decisions to eliminate or mitigate the effects.

For 2016, the surface water monitoring program included 72 sampling sites on 34 rivers, 6 reservoirs and 2 natural lakes after 72 hydrochemical parameters and 7 hydrobiological elements. In subsequent years, due to poor funding, the monitoring program was limited to 58 sampling sites (2018) on 21 rivers, 6 reservoirs and 2 natural lakes.

During this period, the quality of surface waters was assessed in accordance with the Regulation on Environmental Requirements for Surface Waters (GD no. 890 of November 22, 2013). There is a tendency to deterioration of water quality in some parts of the Dniester River - c. Santeuka, Kamenka district; the Dubasari basin - the town of Rezina, the Raut river - the town of Floresti (upstream), the town of Orhei (upstream), the Prut river - the town of Leova, the town of Cahul and the village of Giurgiulesti; the river Lapushna - the village Lapushna; the river Larga - the village of Kirkan; and for the following monitoring stations there is a slight improvement trend: the Dniester River - the city of Vadul lui Voda, the village of Palanca; Ghidighici basin - Vatra town, Ciuhur - Gorodiste village; Cuhuresti river - Zaikan village, r. Camenka - vil. Camenka; Lake Manta - vil. Manta; Cohalnic river - Hincesti town (upstream); Ialpuh River - vil. Mirnoie.

The water quality of the Dniester, Prut and Danube rivers has not undergone major changes and is characterized by moderate (class III) pollution or, rarely, heavily polluted (class IV), in particular, due to nutrients, copper compounds, phenols, and petroleum products.

Of the 72 sampling sites monitored for water quality over the past 3 years: 24% have a moderately polluted ecological state, 27% are polluted and 49% are heavily polluted. Most monitoring sites (95%) had a good chemical status, while 5% of the water bodies under study did not achieve environmental objectives in accordance with the 2013/39 / EC Directive.

(iii) Status of groundwaters

The total volume of operational reserves of groundwater in accordance with the State Water Cadastre of the Republic of Moldova, which includes data on the main characteristics and indicators of the quantitative and qualitative state of groundwater, is 3478.6 thousand m³ / day, and the estimated resources are 77.9 thousand m³ / day.

These reserves belong to the main horizons and water complexes in the amount of 10, identified and characterized on the territory of the republic as a result of detailed hydrogeological studies, which in turn were separated into 20 water bodies, respectively, 8 water bodies within the Dniester River basin and 12 bodies within the Danube-Prut river basin and the Black Sea.

The condition regarding the quality of water bodies is obtained as a result of groundwater monitoring through the national network of monitoring wells. Changes in the values of qualitative and quantitative elements were not fixed; accordingly, the “good condition” of the controlled water bodies was determined. The risk of not achieving good status exists in the first aquifers from the surface, namely in the alluvial-deluvial aquifer of the Holocene age and the Pliocene-Pleistocene aquifer complex, which are not sufficiently protected, which consequently contributes to the pollution of the surface.

The existing network of monitoring wells does not include all water bodies, in the sense that it is necessary to update the monitoring network and use modern methods of sampling, analysis and synthesis, which would allow a consistent assessment of trends to change quality aspects and quantitative bodies, as well as the sustainable management and exploitation of groundwater resources.

Percentage of groundwaters classified as	Value		Current value (specify year)
	Baseline value (specify year)	reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)	
Good quantitative status			
Good chemical status			
Poor quantitative status			
Poor chemical status			
Total number/volume of groundwater bodies classified			
Total number/volume of groundwater bodies in the country			

(b) For other countries

(i) Status of surface waters

Percentage of surface water falling under class ^a	Value		Current value (specify year)
	Baseline value (specify year)	reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)	
I			
II			
III			
IV			
V			
Total number/volume of water bodies classified			
Total number/volume of water bodies in the country			

^a Rename and modify the number of rows to reflect the national classification system.

(ii) *Status of groundwaters*

<i>Percentage of groundwaters falling under class^a</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Current value (specify year)</i>
	<i>Baseline value (specify year)</i>	<i>reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)</i>	
I			
II			
III			
IV			
V			
Total number/volume of groundwater bodies classified			
Total number/volume of groundwater bodies in the country			

^a Rename and modify the number of rows to reflect the national classification system.

2. Please provide any other information that will help put into context and aid understanding of the information provided above (e.g., coverage of information provided if not related to all water resources, how the quality of waters affects human health).

2. Water use

3. Please provide information on the water exploitation index at the national and river basin levels for each sector (agriculture, industry, domestic), i.e., the mean annual abstraction of freshwater by sector divided by the mean annual total renewable freshwater resource at the country level, expressed in percentage terms.

<i>Water exploitation index</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Current value (specify year)</i>
	<i>Baseline value (specify year)</i>	<i>reported in the previous reporting cycle (specify year)</i>	
			2017
Agriculture			38,18
Industry ^a			27,34
Domestic use ^b			112,6
			7

^a Please specify whether the figure includes both water abstraction for manufacturing industry and for energy cooling.

^b Please specify whether the figure only refers to public water supply systems or also to individual supply systems (e.g., wells).

In 2016, in the Republic of Moldova, water resources with a total volume of 223.24 million m3 were used, including: the economic sector - 114.69 million m3 or 51.37%, the agricultural sector - 38.29 million m3 or 17, 15%, industrial sector - 25.93 million m3 or 11.61%.

In 2017, in the Republic of Moldova, water resources with a total volume of 221.81 million m3 were used, including: the economic sector - 112.67 million m3 or 50.8%, the agricultural sector - 38.18 million m3 or 17, 21%, industrial sector - 27.34 million m3 or 12.32%.

Water basins in the Republic of Moldova are classified in accordance with the provisions of Article No. 2 of the Water Law No. 272 of December 23, 2011, by volume of water as follows: reservoirs (water volume over 1 million m3) and ponds (water volume up to 1 million m3).

According to the inventory of water basins (information collected and presented by district councils), in 2016 in the Republic of Moldova 4327 water basins were registered, including 126 lakes, and in 2017: 3900 water basins, including 126 storage lakes.

Part four

Water-related disease surveillance and response systems

1. In accordance with the provisions of article 8 of the Protocol:

Has your country established comprehensive water-related disease surveillance and early warning systems according to paragraph 1 (a)?

YES **NO** **IN PROGRESS**

Has your country prepared comprehensive national or local contingency plans for responses to outbreaks and incidents of water-related disease according to paragraph 1 (b)?

YES **NO** **IN PROGRESS**

Do relevant public authorities have the necessary capacity to respond to such outbreaks, incidents or risks in accordance with the relevant contingency plan according to paragraph 1 (c)?

YES **NO** **IN PROGRESS**

2. If yes or in progress, please provide summary information about key elements of the water-related disease surveillance and outbreak response systems (e.g., identification of water-related disease outbreaks and incidents, notification, communication to the public, data management and reporting). Please also provide reference to existing national legislation and/or regulations addressing water-related disease surveillance and outbreak response.

3. Please describe what actions have been taken in your country in the past three years to improve and/or sustain water-related disease surveillance, early warning systems and contingency plans, as well as to strengthen the capacity of public authorities to respond to water-related disease outbreaks and incidents, in accordance with the provisions of article 8 of the Protocol.

Please see Part II, target area II

Part five

Progress achieved in implementing other articles of the Protocol

Please provide a short description of the status of implementation of articles 9 to 14 of the Protocol, as relevant.

Suggested length: up to two pages

Based on the development measures of the sector mentioned in the Water Supply and Sanitation Strategy, the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and the Environment contributes to the further education and development of the skills of all participants in this field.

The project “Strengthening the institutional sector of water supply and sanitation”, with the support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Austrian Development Agency, organized training courses for 200 people, representatives of water supply operators in 4 different modules. The Institute of Continuing Education in the field of water supply and sewage and the Technical University of Moldova organized and conducted retraining of personnel on the maintenance and operation of water supply and sewage systems in order to build capacity and provide quality services to citizens. The association of Moldovan water utilities in its activities contributes to the training and retraining of personnel of field operators.

With the help of development partners and with the support of the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and the Environment, a plan was developed for the period 2017-2019 for training specialists in key specialties of operators, as well as the exchange of experience with the neighboring country Romania, an EU member.

With the support of the project “Environmental Protection of International River Basins”, the Management Plan for the Danube-Prut and the Black Sea Basin District for the period 2018–2023 has been developed and new concepts are being prepared together with the beneficiaries. At the same time, the development of the second cycle of the plan has begun, during which the separation of groundwater and water bodies in the riverbed of the Prut River will be developed jointly with the Romanian side.

Also, within the framework of the project, work continues with the secretariat of the Danube Convention on the establishment of a tripartite working group with Romania and Ukraine on the Prut river basin and in the future to develop a joint Prut River Basin Management Plan. (<http://euwipluseast.eu/index.php/en/>).

Part six

Thematic part linked to priority areas of work under the Protocol

1. Water, sanitation and hygiene in institutional settings

1. In the table below, please provide information on the proportion of schools (primary and secondary) and health-care facilities that provide basic water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services.

Basic services refer to the following:

(a) *Basic sanitation service: Improved facilities (according to JMP definition), which are sex-separated and usable at the school or health-care facility;*

(b) *Basic drinking water service: Water from an improved source (according to JMP definition) is available at the school or health-care facility;*

(c) *Basic hygiene service: Handwashing facility with water and soap available to students (schools) or patients and health-care providers (health-care facilities).*

If the above definitions/categories do not apply in your country, please report for alternative categories for which data are available. In this case, please indicate the reported categories by renaming the rows in the table below accordingly.

Please indicate the source of data. If data is not available, please put (-).

<i>Institutional setting</i>	<i>Current value (specify year) 2018</i>
<i>Schools</i>	
Basic sanitation service	85
Basic drinking-water service	100
Basic hygiene service	70
<i>Health-care facilities</i>	
Basic sanitation service	75
Basic drinking-water service	95
Basic hygiene service	75

2. Has the situation of WASH in schools been assessed in your country?

YES Y NO IN PROGRESS

3. Has the situation of WASH in health-care facilities been assessed in your country?

YES NO IN PROGRESS Y

4. Do approved policies or programmes include actions (please tick all that apply):

Y To improve WASH in schools

Y To improve WASH in health-care facilities

4. If yes, please provide reference to main relevant national policy(ies) or programme(s).

National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 years, adopted by the Government Decision # 1063 of 16 September 2016

2. Safe management of drinking-water supply

6. Is there a national policy or regulation in your country, which requires implementation of risk-based management, such as WHO water safety plans (WSPs), in drinking water supply?

YES NO IN PROGRESS

7. If yes, please provide reference to relevant national policy(ies) or regulatory documentation.

The National Guidelines for the Development of a Water Safety Plans for drinking water supply systems have been approved by the joint Order of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of the Environment Nr. 609/65 of July 21, 2017.

In accordance with the provisions of the National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health for 2016–2025, adopted by Government Decision No. 1063 of September 19, 2016, the development of a Water Safety Plan for drinking water supply systems is one of the national objectives that needs to be gradually achieved so that by 2025, the principle of safe drinking water should be applied in all rural localities and cities with a population of over 2,000 people in order to reduce the health risks associated with drinking oh water.

8. In the table below, please provide information on the percentage of the population serviced with drinking-water under a WSP.

Please indicate the source of data. If data is not available, please put (-).

Percentage of population	Current value (specify year)
Total	

3. Equitable access to water and sanitation

9. Has the equity of access to safe drinking-water and sanitation been assessed?

YES NO IN PROGRESS

With the assistance of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, a Country Report was developed - a table of equitable access to water and sanitation to establish criteria for equality in access to water and sanitation, to discuss actions, to adopt and evaluate progress in ensuring equitable access through a self-assessment process. At the same time, the Table is a tool to support the progressive realization of the human rights to water and sanitation.

Main conclusions

(1) The overall assessment indicates that the current policy framework for water supply and sanitation takes into account the degree of equitable access to a limited extent. The average score is 1 out of a maximum of 3 points. Taking into account water and sewage gaps in the Republic of Moldova, one can, of course, assume that without a serious review of current policies and strong commitments by the authorities, the gaps will remain unchanged.

(2) The most significant gaps in access to water and sanitation, especially those associated with poor / affluent groups and rural / urban households, are recognized. The state policy approach is not fully based on human rights, i.e. he does not recognize that there are systemic barriers that prevent vulnerable people from accessing safe water and sanitation, and that it is necessary to focus on empowerment within a set of policies.

(3) The institutional framework for water supply and sanitation is complex, and no participant has a specific and clear mandate to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation. This is one of the main obstacles to the development and implementation of policies that ignore human rights.¹⁰ Do national policies or programmes include actions to improve equitable access to water and sanitation (please tick all that apply):

(4) There is a broad consensus that the new Water Supply and Sanitation Strategy is a significant improvement over the previous strategic document in this sector and that the level of equitable access is taken into account in a more consistent manner. However, the Strategy has its negative points in that it: (1) provides an overview of how to fill or at least reduce specific gaps in access for the most vulnerable groups, (2) does not include a specific time 3) does not clarify clear responsibilities in the area of equitable access for the institutions involved.

(5) Of particular concern is that the Water Supply and Sanitation Strategy does not offer a clear perspective on how to ensure the availability of water supply and sewerage services. The question is left to the discretion of the local public administration, associations of water operators and water users. Without an appropriate set of incentives, local stakeholders will not provide access to water and sanitation as a priority they deserve.

(6) The legal and strategic framework of the Republic of Moldova on water supply and sanitation does not contain a strong position of responsible parties / rightholders. There is no clear framework for accountability, no empowerment mechanism, and no means for rightholders to assert their rights.

(7) Some vulnerable groups are not included in the political approach. This is especially true for people with disabilities, the elderly, especially older women, as well as men and women of Roma origin. Access gaps for these groups are more significant, and they have to face additional problems in providing access to water and sanitation.

(8) The accessibility section in the rating table received the lowest score, which partly explains why the gap in access for rich / poor households has increased from 2006 to the present. Due to the inefficiency of the system and the low level of integration, political factors have chosen a more market-based approach to water supply and sewerage services, according to which this service is paid for by all and for

any exceptions that may lead to distortions and abuses. The adopted strategy in 2014 proposed the so-called 3T approach (Tariffs, transfers and fees), but without clearly specifying how this approach should be used, as it does not include specific references to the strategy action plan.

- To reduce geographical disparities
 - To ensure access for vulnerable and marginalized groups**
 - To keep water and sanitation affordable for all
11. If yes, please provide reference to main relevant national policy(ies) and programme(s).

<http://lex.justice.md/viewdoc.php?action=view&view=doc&id=366749&lang=2>

Part seven

Information on the person submitting the report

The following report is submitted on behalf of **_Republic of Moldova**

[name of the Party, Signatory or other State] in accordance with article 7 of the Protocol on Water and Health.

Name of officer responsible for submitting the national report: **Tronza Serafima**

E-mail: **serafima.tronza@madr.gov.md**

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Name and address of national authority:

Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment of the Republic of Moldova. Chisinau, str. Constantin Tanase, 9, MD 2005

Signature:

Date: **23.04.2019**

Submission

1. Parties are required to submit their summary reports to the joint secretariat, using the present template and in accordance with the adopted guidelines on reporting, 210 days before the next session of the Meeting of the Parties. Submission of the reports ahead of this deadline is encouraged, as this will facilitate the preparation of analyses and syntheses to be made available to the Meeting of the Parties.

2. Parties are requested to submit, to the two addresses below, an original signed copy by post and an electronic copy by e-mail. Electronic copies should be available in word-processing software.

Joint Secretariat to the Protocol on Water and Health

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1211 Geneva 10
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