**Annex 5**

**Templates for Mid-Term Evaluation Report**

**(Individual and Consensus)**

**Water Joint Programming Initiative**

**2018 Joint Call**

*Closing the water cycle gap - Sustainable management of water resources*

These Project Management Guidelines will be effective from the date of the National funding decisions and shall remain in force until the last final project report is approved in 2022.

**The Mid-Term Consensus Report will be made available to the Consortium as well as CSC and JPI Water GB.**

**MID-TERM INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION REPORT**

**PROJECT TITLE AND ACRONYM**

Name of Coordinator: Kinga Krauze

Project code: WaterWorks2017-ATENAS

Duration of project: 37 months

Start date: 1 April 2019End date:30 April 2022

**DETAILS OF THE EVALUATOR**

Name: Mario Schirmer

Organisation: Eawag, Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (CH)

Date of review: 19 April 2021

### **Scientific and technological progress** (*Maximum 250 words)*

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| ATENAS aims to improve water management in cities through restoring natural, regulatory  interaction between biota and hydrology, namely diversion of urban runoff to supply city  ecosystems using Nature-Based Solutions (NBS). The ambition is to increase project’s impact  through triggering learning process among the water users. For that purpose, ATENAS develops  real scale demo-sites in a gradient of urban pressures and urban dynamics, to embrace a range of  conditions for future applications.  The research team pulled together also information on critical factors found at particular case level. Existing presentations of different NBS included description of their structure  and functions, but usually lacked examinations of challenges, barriers and success factors. These  were produced in ATENAS for the collection of case descriptions and inventories.  The progress towards milestones and deliverables has been half a year delayed by late decision  about the funding of the project, mostly by the Polish funder. The team has made great effort to catch up on the workplan. The milestones have been achieved and the reports and deliverables have been prepared. Some more time is needed to complement details but I am convinced that the team will accomplish this. |

### **Collaboration, coordination and mobility within the Consortium** (*Maximum 250 words)*

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| Collaboration between the project partners has been efficient, due to the clear organization of the project structure, which involve five subsequent and supplementary steps (WPs). The research team has regular online meetings of the whole consortium and between individual partners. The contribution of each partner is clearly identifiable.  By the project’s specificity, each consortium partner had to play two roles, first a lead of a transnational task and second a lead of the own demo site activities. This requires, especially in the COVID-19 situation a strong focus on local actions and actors. In this case the consortium took well care also for an exchange of experiences between cases, with subsequent virtual trips.  One of a very efficient tools enabling transnational co-operation are modelling ones, which can  serve not only for this project’s demo sites, but also a variety of areas in Europe, after being tested in different circumstances. ATENAS clearly meets the required transnational nature and its added value. |

### **Coordination with other international project funded by WaterWorks2015, or other instruments** (*Maximum 250 words)*

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| ATENAS capitalizes on the knowledge and data gathered by a large range of other other projects such as H2020 NAIAD, Nature4Cities, RadomKlima, EHREK and ThinkNature, Rainman and  ILKKA. Locally each partner links up with NBS implementors (private investors, NGOs) to better recognize pros and cons of NBS types locally, and create pathways for cost-efficient implementation of NBS.  With respect to synergies between national and EU funding in the relevant research fields through transnational collaboration, this project builds upon established long-term collaboration among stakeholders and embeds its actions in local needs and investments aimed at meeting EU regulations (WFD, Nitrogen, Habitat), international commitments – COP21, SDG, and EU strategies – cohesion policy. The products of the project e.g. mapped by the IRIP modelled sources and accumulation places of run off, initiated overview of models allowing for individual NBS modelling and design, or the “cook book” for NBS implementation including building up human capacity contribute to national strategies of sustainable development and climate adaptation. The links established with international networks – UNESCO IHP Ecohydrology program and Long-Term Ecosystem Research – allows for better exchange of knowledge and application for complementary funding, bringing competences of other partners. |

### **Coverage of the themes and sub-themes of the call** (Maximum *250 words)*

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| ATENAS contributes to a large range of themes and sub-themes of the call. This research covers Sub-theme 1.2. Integrative management by implementing Natural Water Retention Measures (NWRM) such as Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR). Furthermore, the project strengthens socio-economic approaches to water management (Theme 2) and especially to Sub-theme 2.1. Integrating economic and social analyses into decision-making processes, Sub-theme 2.3. Connecting science to society and Sub-theme 2.4. Promoting new governance and knowledge management approaches. In the latter case the project aims at developing innovative water management tools and approaches suitable for decision-making based on an analysis of the limitations of current practices. In addition, ATENAS contributes to Theme 3. Supporting tools for sustainable integrative management of water resources and complements the actions developed under the European Strategy Forum for Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) and other European initiatives. |

1. **Stakeholder/industry engagement** (*Maximum 250 words)*

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| The engagement of stakeholders and industry is clearly given in the ATENAS project. As for example, the link to the business has been established by the French demo site, which already in the preparatory phase of the proposal involved both with the river basin syndicate (SAGYRC) and the sanitation syndicate (SIAHVY). In the Polish case a link to industry has been established with a letter of intent signed by Mikronatura Srodowisko Sp o.o., which has a longer history of collaboration with ERCE on developing the barriers against nitrogen non-point source pollution. Additionally ERCE has established contacts with additional business partners. In the Finnish case, stakeholders from cities from different departments in the administration, regional  authorities, planning consultancies, universities and research institutes have been involved in  workshops. |

### **Recommendations for improvements/amendments of the report** (Please complete Table below)

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1. **Recommendations/ problems and risks** (Maximum *250 words)*

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| I do not see any additional risks to the ones which occurred due to the COVID-19 situation. The project team will reach their goals. |

**MID-TERM EVALUATION CONSENSUS REPORT**

**This Consensus Report will be made available to the Consortium as well as CSC and JPI Water GB.**

**PROJECT TITLE AND ACRONYM**

Name of Coordinator:

Project code: WaterWorks2017-CONSORTIUM ACRONYM

Duration of project:

Start date: End date:

**FOLLOW-UP GROUP**

Please include the data of the FG members reviewing the report

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| Name | Organisation | Signature |
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Date:

### **Scientific and technological progress** (Maximum *250 words)*

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| *Please describe the work performed and the results obtained during the lifetime of the project, and the conformity of work progress within the initial schedule. Take into account the following aspects:*   * *Has progress been achieved towards reaching the project objectives according to the original description and milestones?* * *Detailed update on methodology & results* * *How has the progress of the project promoted a multi-disciplinary work?* * *Dissemination of the results (publications, patents, other)* |

### **Collaboration, coordination and mobility within the Consortium** (Maximum *250 words)*

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| *Please evaluate the collaboration, coordination and mobility within the Consortium*  *Take into account the following aspects:*   * *Efficiency on the coordination and organization of the projects* * *Collaboration effective between the partners* * *Mobility of the research between the consortia* * *Does the project meet the transnational nature and its added value?* |

### **Coordination with other international project funded by WaterWorks2017, or other instruments** (Maximum 250 *words)*

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| *Please evaluate the external collaboration of the Consortium*  *Take into account the following aspects:*   * *Collaboration effective with other projects funded under the 2018 Joint Call:* * *Collaboration effective with other projects or consortia.* |

### **Coverage of the themes and sub-themes of the call** (Maximum 250 words*)*

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| *Please evaluate relation within the project results and the themes and the sub-themes of the call.*  *Theme 1. Enabling sustainable management of water resources.*  The overall aim for this theme is to develop new governance and knowledge management approaches.   * *Sub-theme 1.1. Promoting adaptive water management for global change:*   The aim of sub-theme 1.1 is to increase knowledge and to develop evidence-based methodologies and technologies for monitoring the cumulative impacts of human activities and climate change on the water cycle, but also to develop management options on the water cycle (considering all cycle compartments) and water / ecosystem services. This knowledge must be applicable for the adaptive management of water resources on a regional scale, while enabling downscaling to address local or catchment situations.   * *Sub-theme 1.2. Integrative management by implementing Natural Water Retention Measures (NWRM) such as Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR):*   The aim is to increase the knowledge and develop NWRMs such as MAR in a multidisciplinary way, to protect, prolong, sustain and augment freshwater supplies. Evidence of their effectiveness and on the multiple benefits they deliver should be demonstrated.   * *Sub-theme 1.3. Mitigating water stress in coastal zones and urbanized areas:*   The aim is to develop and demonstrate a comprehensive coastal zone management system based on monitoring and modelling to ensure the provision of freshwater security under a range of conditions including saline intrusion, sediment management, storms, floods and droughts, but also specific coastal water uses. Please, refer to H2020 calls on nature-based solutions to propose complementary actions.  *Theme 2. Strengthening socio-economic approaches to water management.*  The overall aim of this theme is envisaging education and communication initiatives to raise social awareness of consumption habits and water scarcity and to increase the levels of social acceptance and use of recycled water.   * *Sub-theme 2.1. Integrating economic and social analyses into decision-making processes:*   The aim is to increase the knowledge the effectiveness and efficiency of existing economic mechanisms and policy instruments related to water management, with a special emphasis on implementation of water policies (such as the EU Water Framework Directive) and development of a circular and green economy. The approach should aim to break boundaries between services valuation including more flexible pricing and charging mechanisms, management tools and institutions, and the employment of economic and social sciences to develop best practice management guidelines for efficient water uses, including under extreme events such as droughts and floods.   * *Sub-theme 2.2. The reuse of water:*   The aim is to develop integrative methods and cost-effective technologies for the implementation of acceptable and sustainable solutions on a large scale for different reuse cycles, spanning from irrigation, via livestock drinking water, to human consumption. Furthermore, goals include assessments of social acceptance for the use of recycled water and the development of integrated approaches combining technological solutions with social-psychological acceptability, economic viability and appropriate governance approaches. Research into the removal of emerging contaminants must consider the cost of the technology vs yield and realistic options for reuse of the recovered water. Please refer to projects funded under previous Water JPI Joint Calls (2013, 2015 and 2016) to avoid any duplication. See Joint Calls on Water JPI website.   * *Sub-theme 2.3. Connecting science to society:*   The aim is to increase understanding of the role of socio-economic approaches to water uses in hydrological cycles. Knowledge building should address stakeholders' and public awareness of water challenges and values, and how perception of policy measures and technological solutions are formed and how stakeholders can be steered towards desirable behaviour. Local and/or regional context (attitude, social norms, cultural context, etc.) should be taken into consideration. The value of improved water stewardship overall should be considered by developing sustainable business models.   * *Sub-theme 2.4. Promoting new governance and knowledge management approaches:*   The aim is to develop innovative water management tools and approaches suitable for decision-making based on an analysis of the limitations of current practices. These approaches should involve the broad participation of stakeholders (including public monitoring, communication and education), multidisciplinary research, and short and long-term water cycle scenarios to support decision-making and the integration of water policy into other policy fields. In effect, governance capacities for implementation of water policies at the local and regional levels should be enhanced.  *Theme 3. Supporting tools for sustainable integrative management of water resources.*  This theme aims to complement the actions developed under the European Strategy Forum for Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) and other European initiatives. Emphasis should be on establishing networks and information sharing among existing research facilities/field labs, analytical methods, monitoring tools and programmes, access to databases and platforms, exploring the use of big data solutions and establishing reliable hydrological standards. Across the globe, there is a large body of knowledge, methodology and data related to hydrology and the water cycle that has the potential of being beneficial for a wide range of the world's regions. The alignment of water-related research and sharing of data and results will serve to avoid duplication of research, support progress based on previous finding, and thus facilitate the establishment of water management policies addressing rapid climatic changes. |

1. **Stakeholder/industry engagement** (*Maximum 250 words)*

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| *Please evaluate the participation of stakeholders/industry on the project and the added value of this participation.* |

### **Recommendations for improvements/amendments of the report** (Please complete Table below)

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1. **General Assessment Comments** (*Maximum 250 words)*

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| *Please include a summary of the key points of this evaluation.*  *Problems identified or specific risks to the projects. As well recommendations/feedback, which could be relevant to the Consortium.* |