

MID-TERM EVALUATION CONSENSUS REPORT

Tools and criteria for URBAN groundWATER management (URBANWAT)

Name of Coordinator: Dr. Enric Vázquez

Project code: WaterWorks2017-URBANWAT

Duration of project: 30 months

Start date: 1 September 2019

End date: 01 March 2022

FOLLOW-UP GROUP

Please include the data of the FG members reviewing the report

Name	Organisation
Mario Schirmer	Eawag - Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (CH)
Olga Covaliova	Institute of Chemistry, Republic of Modavia

1. Scientific and technological progress *(Maximum 250 words)*

The project has some rather serious delays. Due to the COVID-19 situation, an important field sampling campaign was postponed from March 2020 to July 2020. For WP1, the consortium is still waiting for the analytical results. However, in this WP an existing platform to integrate all data from a geo-spatial database was expended and improved. In addition, the team is still evaluating the extraction methodology of PMOCS from groundwater.

In WP2, a new rapid large volume concentration method was developed for virus detection. In WP4, two novel DNA encapsulated microparticles have been designed and produced. However, the final report on that (D4.1) has seen delays but is expected for the end of 2020.

Due to the delays, the field sampling to define and select the soil-water-(plants) continuum for the future column experiments (D5.1) was not performed before the end of September 2020.

Therefore, it is not part of this progress report.

On page 8 (under c. Impact and knowledge output), it is written that 4 scientific papers have been published in journals with a high impact index. However, on page 12, only three published papers are listed (one from 2019 and two from 2020). The project started on September 1, 2019, thus the reviewers were wondering if these publications can be the output of URBANWAT.

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

Due to COVID-9 pandemic, the reduced mobility has clearly affected the URBANWAT consortium. Still, online meeting in particular between CNRS partner and CSIC-chemists as well as CNRS and Delft University have been organized.

Moreover, the CNRS partners as well as the CSIC are part of another JPI project funded in the 2018 joint call named MARadentro. They jointly developed the methodology for batch experiments. There has also been direct collaboration between the groundwater group (IDAEA), the environmental chemistry group (IDAEA) and the microbiology group (UB) to coordinate and carry out the sampling campaign.

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

The CNRS partners as well as the CSIC are part of another JPI project funded in the 2018 joint call named MARadentro. Thus, there is ongoing collaboration. No other coordination or collaboration with other international project funded by WaterWorks2015 or other instruments are mentioned.

4. Coverage of the themes and sub-themes of the call (Maximum 250 words)

URBANWAT contributes to Theme I. Enabling sustainable management of water resources of the call. This is especially the case for Sub-theme I.3. Mitigating water stress in urbanized areas by aiming to monitoring and modelling to ensure the provision of freshwater security under a range of conditions.

5. Stakeholder/industry engagement (Maximum 250 words)

In URBANWAT different stakeholders from each study site have been engaged in the project. For example, the stakeholders from the Barcelona City Council are involved in the design and performance of the field sampling campaign. Also, BCASA, a company created by the Barcelona city council that is in charge of managing the entire water cycle of the city, has been a collaborator.

6. Recommendations for improvements/amendments of the report (Please complete Table below)

Page	Modification	Rationale for change
6	Please comment if the final report (D4.1) on the novel DNA encapsulated microparticles has now been delivered.	Giving a reason for the delay would improve the report.
8	Please indicate if there is coordination of URBANWAT with other international projects funded by WaterWorks2015 or other instruments.	With more information evaluation point 3 (Coordination with other international projects funded) can be better judged by the reviewer.

7. Recommendations/ problems and risks (Maximum 250 words)

URBANWAT is delayed in several WPs. Therefore, a clear plan on how to compensate this needs to be developed by the consortium. Furthermore, it could be recommended to request a project extension to be able to finalize completely all the planned activities.