**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: Bjørn Kløve

Project code: WaterWorks2017-WATERPEAT

Duration of project: 36 months

Start date: 1.4.2019 End date: 31.3.2022

**DETAILS OF THE EVALUATOR**

Name: Teppo Vehanen

Organisation: Natural Resources Institute Finland

Date of review: 12.4.2021

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

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| *Waterpeat project has been progressing well according to the research plan despite of the COVID restrictions. There has been some delays, which are not threatening the project to meet its objectives. Most of the project deliverables are in time.*  *The Irish partner has collected field data by remote sensing. The Tellus airborne survey collected electromagnetic and radiometric data and the Bord na Mona cutaway bog was characterized using*  *a radiometric dataset. Soil cores were collected and analysed in the lab. The Finnish partner has gathered a peat hydraulic and physical properties database from an ongoing and past research projects. Also subsidence analysis in organic and drained agricultural site was made, the national lidar data was compared to archived historical drainage maps. A systematic literature review of mitigation measures on peatland management and use of peatlands as buffer zones was conducted. Jar test methodology was used to experimentally evaluate the effectiveness of different coagulants in peat extraction. The Norwegian partner has selected a test site to to examine long term effects on hydrology and impacts of hydrology on peatlands. The Norwegian is developing novel methods (digital photogrammetry and use of lidar data) to enable cost-efficient measurements of subsidence (an indicator for peat loss) remotely. Work was started with partners on Indonesian peatlands.*  *The project promotes multi-disciplinary work on different scales from remote sensing of large areas to field work al local scale and experimental work.*  *The project has started to disseminate its result through scientific papers (three papers listed) and also other communications, such as the newsletter.* |

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

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| *The consortium is relatively small, the coordination appears to be effective. The collaboration among the three partners, Finland, Norway and Ireland appears to be effective, while the role of the Indonesian partner remains more unclear. According to the mid-term report the collaboration among partners has been staff and field sites visits and joint analysis of results. Some mobility, like PhD candidate or PhD student visits, and a work visit by the coordinator, have taken place.  As it comes to peatlands an peatland management the project is transnational and gains transnational value from its transnational structure.* |

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

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| *The project reports of some collaboration with MYR (?) project funded by NFR and Finnish foundations such as Kone foundation. Coordination with other international projects, consortium or instruments appears to be weak, and could be improved.* |

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

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| *The project actions and results cover the call theme one,* *Enabling sustainable management of water resources. Especially the sub-theme 1.1. Sub-theme 1.1. Promoting adaptive water management for global change is in the core of the work. The Waterpeat results give answers to call aims 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”. |

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

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| *The project has arranged stakeholder meetings Finland and Ireland but the meeting in Norway was cancelled due to Covid. Irish partner has also been in contact with the industry/stakeholder, government-funded organization responsible for the management of peatlands in Ireland. Project newsletter has also been sent to stakeholders.*  *Stakeholder involvement is one of the main aspects of the study (WP: Stakeholder involvement and communication to outline best management options). To fulfill this task project could do more to engage industry, managers and landowner toward the end of the project. Their views could also bring additional value for the project.* |

### **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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| *The Waterpeat project is in good progress to meet the project objectives. The project could gain added value by increasing cooperation with other international consortiums/projects. Stakeholder engagement could also be improved, as they are an important group that would utilize the project results.* |

**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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### **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.* |