**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: Maria SIGHICELLI

Project code: WaterWorks2017-BLOOWATER

Duration of project:

Start date:  **29 March 2021** End date: **29 March 2022**

**DETAILS OF THE EVALUATOR**

Name: Gaëtane SUZENET

Organisation: International Impact Partners

Date of review: 30 March 2021

### **Scientific and technological progress**

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| *Progress towards the objectives was achieved, albeit not to the extent described in the main proposal, due to COVID 19 and delays in receiving funding for some partners.* *WP1: D.1.1 has been completed. The choice and definition of the main parameters needed for the modelling exercises were finalised as well as the choice of the sensor, the suitable satellite platform and the design of the in situ sampling protocol. The monitoring system and technologies were tested and an initial sampling campaign was launched. D.1.2 has also been fully completed, except for Norway, as the study area was included beyond this reporting period.* *WP2: M. 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 have been completed for Sweden and Norway and are still in progress for Italy. D 2.1 has been partially completed. An initial version of the data archive is available. The Consortium has initiated work on work packages 2.1 and 2.2, and has launched work on using machine learning, in addition to process-based models. A post-doc will be hired to develop a hybrid model.**WP3: D 3.1 has been completed and WP 3.2 launched.* *WP5: Work has been mainly put on designing the project website.**The project promotes a multi-disciplinary approach through the combination of the use of modelling, monitoring techniques and water treatment technologies. It has been extended to Engineering and Applied Geo-informatics and Spatial Planning.**No dissemination of results was reported, beyond an interview by the Coordinator, the project description on the Coordinator’s website and in local news, mainly in Italy.*  |

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

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| *The mid-term report gives limited information on the efficiency of the coordination and organisation of the project, beyond mentioning the details of the kick-off meeting and the quarterly exchanges between the partners and individual emails and reports to the Coordinator to inform about the project progress. The mid-term report does not say how effective this communication has been in advancing the project work packages and what it resulted in. There were specific contacts between partners, on e.g. data requests for building the forecast models. The collaborative and mobility aspects were limited because of the constraints linked to the COVID 19 situation. The transnational aspect is a key feature of the project as the latter is carried out in 3 different countries. The added value lies in being able to test the monitoring system and treatment technologies in different settings, thereby giving an indication of how different temporal, geo-spatial and geographical ranges can influence the risk of cyano-bacterial bloom expansion in water resources and of cyano-toxins in drinking water.* |

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

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| *Despite referring to the Water JPI project PROGNOS WATER and Climate JPI WATExR in the main proposal, the mid-term report does not mention whether the work initiated under work packages 1 and 2 has built on these.* *The mid-term report does not mention any other collaboration with additional projects. It only states ENEA having extended the collaboration with its Department of Robotics, with which the test campaigns for monitoring by drones are run. The collaboration has also been extended to the Università Roma 3 (Engineering Department) and the Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague (Department of Applied Geo-informatics and Spatial Planning) to assess the potential of Sentinel-2 data to monitor algal blooms.* |

### **Coverage of the themes and sub-themes of the call**

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| *The BLOOWATER project relates to the theme on ‘enabling sustainable management of water resources’ and in particular sub-theme 1.1 ‘Promoting adaptive water management for global change’.* *The project outcomes to date resulting in building datasets, identifying evidence-based monitoring methodologies and tools, and testing and calibrating forecast modeling aim to contribute to enhance knowledge of the occurrence and impacts of algal blooms in lakes and reservoirs. It is however still early stage to assess to what extent these results will be a building block for supporting drinking water managers in their decision-making process regarding how to adapt water resources management under different spatial, temporal and geographical scales.*  |

1. **Stakeholder/industry engagement**

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| *During this mid-term report, the consortium initiated contacts with Italian stakeholders, i.e. a Regional Park and two public agencies, which have expressed an interest in water quality monitoring and treatment technologies. The Italian Regional Environmental Protection Agency and the Regional Park have been provided data and support to the project. There is no mention of stakeholders’ engagement for Sweden and Finland, or of potential contacts with the industry in view of knowledge transfer.* |

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

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| **Page** | **Modification** | **Rationale for change** |
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1. **Recommendations/ problems and risks**

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| *The main problem identified is related to the COVID 19 situation, which has limited the collaboration between the project partners and with the relevant stakeholders on the study areas. The COVID 19 situation also delayed project actions, e.g. hiring of a post doc.* *There was also a delay in starting off the project because of deferred funding decisions and changes of study areas in Italy.* *Lab testing from NIVA under WP 3 started beyond this reporting period. The report does however not mention why and the implications.*  |