

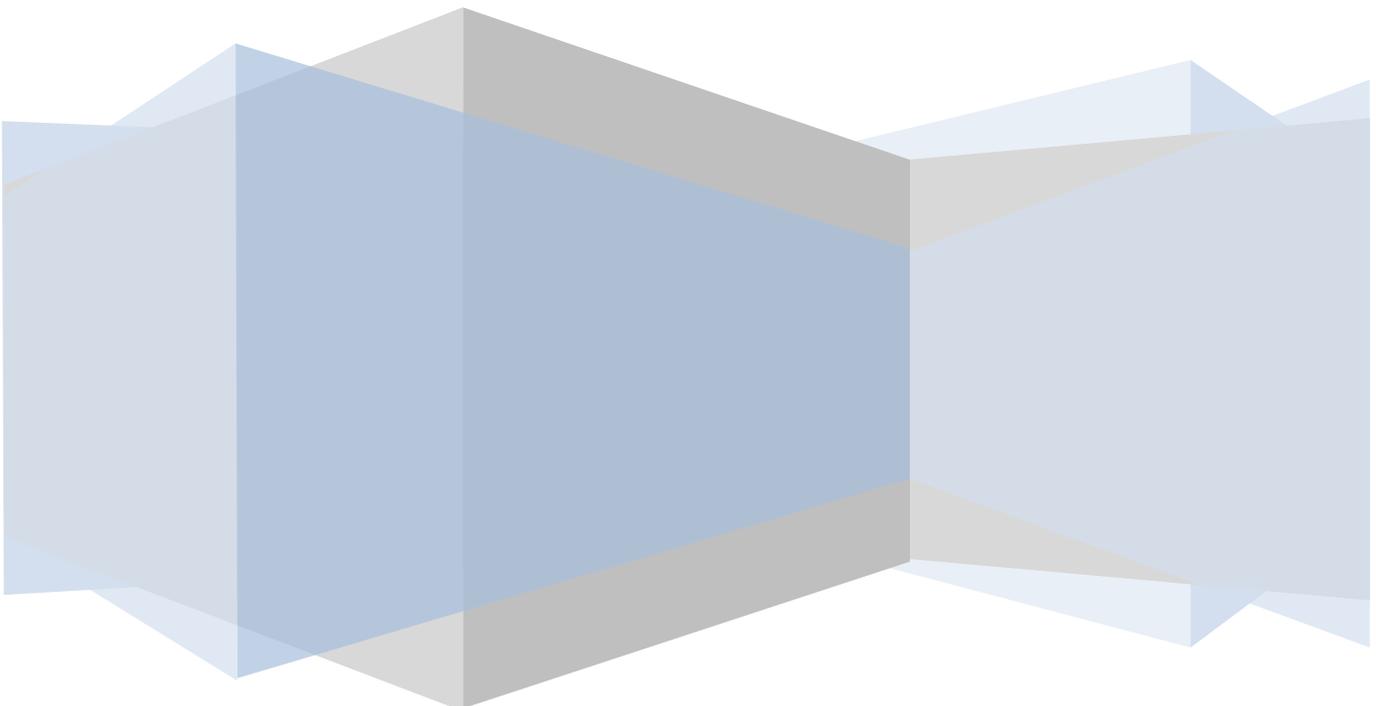
Mid-Term Progress Report

Water Joint Programming Initiative 2018 Joint Call

Closing the water cycle gap - Sustainable management of water resources

This Template should be used by the Project Coordinator for the reporting of the project.

This template does not substitute national regulations



2018 Joint Call

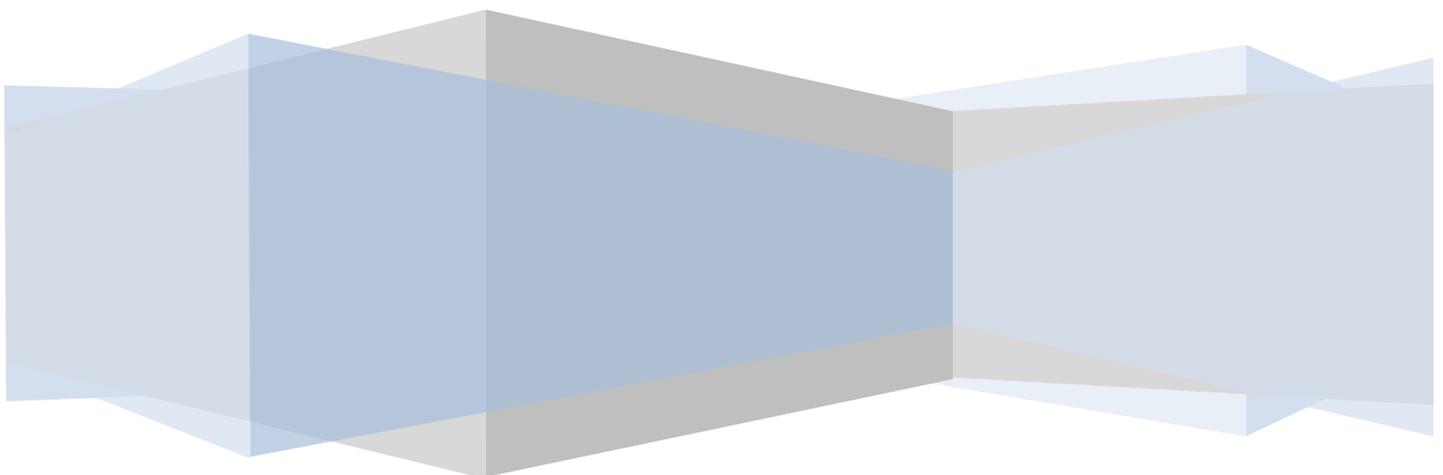
Mid-Term Progress Report

Closing the water cycle gap - Sustainable management of water resources

Enhancing trust in Water Governance, EnTruGo

This document must be filled in by the project coordinator with the help of its project partners and must be sent to the WaterWorks2017 Follow-up Secretariat by **dr. Jasper de Vries** (for Consortium EnTruGo).

The WaterWorks2017 Follow-Up Secretariat will ensure distribution to the concerned national funding agencies. The project coordinator is responsible for sending a copy of the report to its partners.





PROJECT TITLE AND ACRONYM

Author of this report (Coordinator): dr. Jasper de Vries
2020

Date of submission: 31 Oct.

E-mail: jasper.devries@wur.nl

Project Website:

Project code: WaterWorks2017-EnTruGo

Duration of project: 30 months (excl. requested extension)

Start date: September 2019

End date: **March 2022 (excluding extension)**

Period covered by this report: 13 months*

*Note: due to administrative procedures not all partners were able to start at the same time.

I. Publishable Summary

Drinking water shortages in Cape Town, water quality threats posed by mining industries in Norway, social risks caused by hydropower dams in Sweden and droughts provoked by infrastructure developments in the Netherlands. The requirements on water governance to successfully provide for urgent societal water needs is rapidly increasing. To deal with these challenges, trust in governments, as one of the main actors, is key. However, these governments face a decline in trust, putting pressure on their legitimacy. The EnTruGo project (Enhancing Trust in Governments for effective water governance) therefore focusses on how trust between people influences trust in governments and vice versa, and aims at developing effective strategies for enhancing trust in governments.

To rebuild trust, legislatures and state agencies have launched various democratic innovations to strengthen service delivery; including initiatives such as citizens' assemblies, e-governance, multi-stakeholder platforms, and direct democracy. A wide range of studies have shown that trust can develop in these contexts, but can also lead to increased distrust. Therefore, the aim of the EnTruGo project is: to explore how interpersonal trust develops through democratic innovations characterised by public participation and stakeholder processes impact trust in government as guardian of water resources. We do this by looking at trust in water governance in the Netherlands, Norway, South Africa and Sweden.

EnTruGo is now on its way for over a year. In the past year we focussed on getting a systematic overview of the knowledge about trust in water governance, studying how much trust the general public has in water governance bodies and establishing contacts for further studies. Through these steps we found out that there is a growing amount of studies on trust in water governance but that a coherent body of knowledge is lacking and that most studies focus on trust between partners in water governance processes, while trust in water governance institutions is hardly touched upon. That this knowledge is highly important show our first survey results. In the Netherlands as well as in Norway (results from South-Africa and Sweden are on their way) people have high trust in water governance bodies. In the Netherlands this is especially the case concerning traditional tasks such as flood management, but less for newer tasks such as drought prevention. In Norway, our study shows that knowledge on water management amongst the general public is rather low.

In the following phases of EnTruGo we will further look into these findings and connect them to interesting case studies in our partner countries. So far promising collaboration has developed with projects in South Africa and Sweden. Combining these insight will contribute to the final result of the project, insights and strategies for enhancing trust in governments as guardians of water resources.

www.wur.nl/entrugo

2. Work Performed and the Results achieved during the reporting period

a. *Scientific and technological progress*

Objectives

EnTruGo formally started with the inception workshop in October 2019 in the Netherlands. In the past 13 months EnTruGo largely made progress on WPI focusing on i) how has trust in government been studied and compared over time in previous research? ii) what is the current level of trust in government institutions, among stakeholders involved in water governance and the wider public? iii) what societal developments and procedural and substantive factors influence such trust in governments?

Progress

To tackle these questions a literature review was performed, to gain an overview of the current knowledge on the role of trust in government (Q1). This review has been conducted in the past months with the whole consortium led by the Swedish and Dutch partners. Currently a draft scientific paper is being developed into a final version for submission (task 1.1).

For the current level of trust in water governance institutions and important factors (Q2 and Q3) a survey has been developed by the consortium (task 1.2). The survey has been spread by the partners in their respective countries (see partner updates below), and are/will be translated into publications on country level. It is expected that the survey results will be compared in the beginning of 2021, leading to a comparative scientific paper and policy brief.

For the expert interviews (Q3), a common protocol is developed by the consortium. The interviews itself are planned for winter 2020-2021 (task 1.2).

Work on WP2, case studies on trust in democratic innovative processes for water management (task 2.1 and 2.2.), is initiated by several partners, e.g. contacts have been made as well as fieldwork preparations. The actual fieldwork, depending on the corona situation, will be executed in winter-spring 2021. A consortium wide guideline is currently under development.

Deviation

According to the original description on planning and milestones survey papers on country level should have been finalized by now, literature review should have been finalized and the interviews with expert on water governance should be on their way. Reasons for delay are: 1) Due to a delay in starting date, mainly as a consequence of delay in administrative procedures, EnTruGo was faced with a delayed starting date. 2) The literature review and survey proved to be more work than planned. 3) Due to corona not all work could be executed when planned, especially as the survey's in Sweden and South Africa need face-to-face interaction with respondents, and case study research in all countries. As a result country teams changed their planning to fit to the new context, and the related possibilities. Consequently, work in different

countries could not be performed simultaneously anymore. As such, comparative work had to be postponed, for the survey to early 2021, for the expert interviews to spring 2021. In order to limited the impact on WP2 and 3, an adjusted planning is formulated in which WP2 and WP3 have a more integrated set-up.

Detailed update per partner

Sweden – Stockholm Environmental Institute

In Sweden, our research is focused on the management of hydropower on traditional Sámi lands (Sápmi). Over 80% of the large-scale hydropower of Sweden is established in Sápmi. Hence, the Sámi perspectives and interests are important to highlight. For the WPI survey we established a reference group comprising of Sámi experts and Sámi organizations, to advice on the survey design and analysis of results. They contributed in discussions online and via e-mail and phone calls. The final online survey was distributed in two ways, i) one via Sámi reindeer herding communities and organization's emails and, ii) via an invitation by postal card. The postal cards was distributed from a random sample of the Sámi parliament's voting list after the Sámi parliament's approval to use it in our research. In parallel we conducted interviews with representatives from authorities working with water management from national to regional level. In addition interviews with representatives from authorities at the regional level working with Sámi issues, such as reindeer herding management, was conducted. The interviews explored trust within water management, including trust factors such as possibility to participation and inclusion for Sámi people to influence decisions affecting them.

Parallel we started the planning of WP2 and the case study. For the case study we are planning to conduct workshops following a participatory action research approach. Many policies dealing with indigenous issues points out the importance to early engagement and meaningful participation in research projects. Accordingly, we reached out to four different Sámi youth groups for participation in our case study. Through discussions with representatives from each group we created a plan for how the workshops would be conducted and specified which questions to explore.

Norway – Artic University of Norway

With regard to the work performed in Norway, preliminary results from our survey conducted during the spring of 2020 suggest that trust levels among citizens in Norway's northernmost region with regard to the authorities' management of water resources, are "relatively high." This means that trust levels are generally in line with those illustrated by the 2019 national survey on trust dynamics in Norway - den nasjonale innbyggerundersøkelsen, although the latter does not focus on water management specifically. However, our research illustrates that the respondent's knowledge of how water resources are managed in Norway is rather low.

For the expert interviews, we are currently conducting online interviews. A local webpage has been launched in which information about the Norwegian part of the project is communicated to the outside world. Due to the corona pandemic, the progress of the first work package has been delayed as field work, in particular “traditional fieldwork” was not possible as a result of travelling restrictions.

Simultaneously, the case study is currently prepared focusing on the impact of mining industry in Northern Norway. First data is gathered through document studies and first contact are made for in-depth interviews.

South Africa – ACDI

The field work activities for WPI (Survey and expert interviews) had to be postponed due to the strict national COVID 19 restrictions from March 2020 until October 2020. As such, the Expert interviews will take place in November and December 2020, as most of them can be done virtually. However, preparations have already started and a list of key experts to be interviewed has been created and guiding questions for the expert interviews (WPI) have been developed. The Public Trust Survey (online and door to door) will be conducted from December 2020 to Feb 2021, as the survey is now finalized and under review by the Water Research Commission of South Africa and several water governance experts.

For WP 2 3 potential case studies have been identified, the desktop review regarding each case study is almost complete and scoping interviews have been conducted with key role players for Case # 2 and # 3. After the selection criteria for the case studies as well as important factors that need to be included for the cross country comparison have been decided we will test all case study options listed above for their suitability to be included in the South African study. The selection of the case studies will be finalized in the beginning of December.

Key changes that are important to highlight are that in the case of the South African study WPI will need significantly more time for the completion of the fieldwork. Realistically we will only be able to complete the WPI fieldwork activities (including analysis) in May 2021. Last, the project provided us with the opportunity to work closely with the Dutch team to design the public trust survey as well as to work with the Swedish team on a joined paper on public participation processes in water governance and marginalized groups in Sweden and South Africa

The Netherlands – Wageningen University

The Netherlands was the leading partner for the work in WPI. As such the inception meeting was organized in Maastricht (the Netherlands) setting out the lines of research for the next year. In addition, consortium documents were developed on trust conceptualization, guidelines for the literature review and survey's to allow for good collaboration and comparability of results in later stages.

Together with the Swedish partner the literature review was coordinated, and references to be coded were spread amongst the different partners, collected, checked and analyzed. The results are currently being translated into a scientific paper. The review shows that trust is often mentioned in water governance but studies towards trust in water governance hardly form on coherent body of knowledge. There is however specific attention to trust in water governance in participatory settings, whereas trust in governance institutions is hardly studied.

The survey was developed and spread in February/March 2020. In the development of the survey the Netherlands partner played a key-role, also as advisor to other partners. Data was collected with the help of I&O research. Data gathered show results based on over 2000 respondents in the Netherlands. These results show that trust in water governance bodies is generally high in the Netherlands, in which especially traditional tasks (water security) are more trusted than new tasks (nature conservation, drought prevention). Overall it shows a strong relation between general political trust and trust in water governance institutes. A scientific publication is to be submitted before the end of 2020.

Expert interviews have not been initiated yet and are planned for January 2021. Parallel the case study will be started for which a consortium guideline is currently under development.

b. Collaboration, coordination and mobility

Collaboration in consortium

The collaboration between the partners is effective in its current form. The project organized is based upon a common framework based on the project proposal and elaborated on in specific protocol for parts of the project (literature review, survey, interviews, case studies). Within this context project partners have a great deal of freedom to adjust their project organization and focus to the local and national context. This approach is chosen to increase relevance of EnTruGo within the different contexts and to allow for flexibility in modes of working.

Project collaboration in EnTruGo is organized on three levels. 1) the consortium level. The consortium meets regularly, now only online, here administrative issues are dealt with and general progress and focus is discussed. These meetings are often initiated and coordinated by Wageningen University as being the PI. On this level also meetings that focus on specific aspects of the project are organized e.g. developing interview protocol or survey set-up. 2) post-doc meetings. Most work in EnTruGo is done by the postdoc in the four respective countries. The post-docs have regular meetings to discuss progress, content and any other issues. 3) ad-hoc. Questions, issues that pop-up are always part of research and are dealt with on ad-hoc basis between partners involved. If needed these issues are picked up in a general

meeting. In addition, also one-on-one collaborations exist within the project. For instance there is close collaboration between the Dutch and South African partner on the survey, or between the Dutch and the Swedish partner on the literature review paper.

Transnational collaboration is therefore still present on all fronts. With the comparative research common up, the survey and later-on the cases, we expect that this will increase further. However, the current Corona situation and consequently the lack of face-to-face interaction does hamper in-depth discussions between partners.

Mobility

Due to Corona physical mobility of partners within the project is limited. However on the literature review strong collaboration developed between the Swedish and Dutch partners. On the survey, the expertise was within the Dutch team creating strong collaboration of the Dutch postdoc with the three other partners. On the development of interview set-up for the expert interviews strong collaboration exist between all partners. For the set-up of the case studies (WP2 and WP3) strong collaboration exists between Sweden and Norway taking a leading role. In addition, on collaboration with Master students collaboration exists between Norway and the Netherlands and between South-Africa and Sweden, while also other opportunities were explored. One example is that during 2020 SEI has had an intern (Ms Rebeca Biancardi) conducting a comparative study in on water governance in South Africa and Sweden, collaboration with Nadine Methner, UCT. A draft manuscript is in progress and will be submitted to journal by end of this year. A second example is that last year the Arctic University hosted a MSc thesis student (Mr. Helge Flick) from Wageningen University conducting a study on gas production in the Barentssee.

Work performed

According to the agreements the work in the respective countries is executed by the different partners of EnTruGo, and the project coordination is taken up by Wageningen University. As such the work is performed along the following lines:

The Netherlands (WUR):

Jasper de Vries: Coordination EnTruGo and research in the Netherlands

Remko Voogd: research in the Netherlands, coordination survey and literature review (WP1)

Raoul Beunen: advisor research in the Netherlands

Sweden (SEI):

Rasmus Klocker Larsen: coordination research in Sweden, coordination WP2-WP3

Katarina Inga: research in Sweden

Peter Rudberg: research in Sweden, coordination literature review (WP1)

Norway (UiT):

Sander Goes: coordination research in Norway, coordination WP2-3

Gunn Elin Fedreheim: research in Norway
Aileen Aseron Espiritu: research in Norway
South Africa (ACDI-UCT)
Nadine Methner: coordination research in South Africa
Lizzy Kruger: research in South Africa.

Collaboration with other projects

In the early stages of the project, information exchange has taken place between EnTruGo and NATWIP as both project focus on the same case study area. In addition, regular contact is present between SWIMTIST and EnTruGo to share experiences on project management within JPI as both PI's are working at Wageningen University.

In Sweden, for the work with Sámi organisations and hydropower SEI collaborates with the project 'Decolonizing land use planning: Reimagining Sami-state relations in Sweden and Finland (RE-LAND)' funded by the Sweden research council Formas. In South Africa, we have been trying to link our case studies to existing projects e.g. the AXA-funded research project on urban water governance in low income settlements in Cape Town (Community Resilience in Cape Town [CoReCT]) as well as to a recently awarded WRC project focusing on transformation of Irrigation boards to water user associations. In addition collaboration has been developed with Policy makers, water management organisations, scholarship linked to water governance, NGOs working in the water sector space. In Norway linking up to other projects is currently under development. In the Netherlands, collaboration is under development with water boards, and researchers on water governance from other institutes.

c. Impact and knowledge output

Impacts

Related to WP the following impacts were formulated: 1 review paper and 1 paper based on survey (tasks 1.1 and 1.2). Currently the review paper, and the survey paper for the Netherlands are being prepared for submission. Other papers on the survey, both scientific as well as aimed for a broader public are under development. Contributions to scientific conferences (amongst others International Communication Science Conference) have been cancelled or postponed due to Corona.

Are there any unexpected impacts?

Unexpected impacts are the successful collaboration with two MSc students. Less tangible impacts are the interactions (e.g. via telephone and social media) on the project with water managers. In addition: i) 20 Feb 2020: Sámi lands and hydroelectric power in Sweden – what's the potential to redress harm and injustice? Perspective published on SEI website, <https://www.sei.org/perspectives/sami-lands-and-hydroelectric-power-in-sweden-opportunities->

[to-redress-injustice/](#). ii) 16 and 18 Feb: Contributions to Swedish Radio, <https://sverigesradio.se/artikel/7425707> and <https://sverigesradio.se/artikel/7431506>.

Where do the results of the project impact? (e.g. industry, end users, policy, etc.)
Mainly policymakers, and NGO's.

Has intellectual property protection been considered?
Yes, this has been part of the assessment by the Social Science Ethical committee that approved EnTruGo approaches and methods in spring 2020.

Table of Deliverables

Please indicate whether the planned deliverables are completed, delayed or readjusted. Explain any changes/difficulties encountered and solutions adopted. Please add/delete rows, as necessary in the table below.

Deliverable name	Lead partner (country)	Date of delivery (dd/mm/yyyy)	Changes, difficulties encountered and new solutions adopted
WPI			
Literature review paper (1.1, 1.2)	WUR/SEI	Q4 2020	Delay due to amount of work, coordination due to covid-19
Survey papers (1.3)	WUR		Changed. One paper planned. Decided to publish several papers (per country)
Working paper on survey's and interviews from Sweden (1.1; 1.2)	SEI	Q1-2 2021.	Some delay in data generation, primarily due to covid-19 pandemic.
Scientific paper on survey (1.1; 1.2)	WUR	Q4 2020	Some delay due to covid-19.
South African Team: Survey and expert interview paper (1.1, 1.2, 1.3)	UCT	Q 2 2021	Due to the COVID 19 restrictions we will only be able to complete the fieldwork (including analysis) in May 2021
Norway survey paper	UiT	Q 1-2 2021	COVID – 19, late start postdoc
Comparative paper trust in water governance (1.5)	WUR	Q 2, 2021	Ibid
Media communication, ongoing and especially after results are publishable (1.4)	WUR	Q1 2021	Ibid
WP2			

Deliverable name	Lead partner (country)	Date of delivery (dd/mm/yyyy)	Changes, difficulties encountered and new solutions adopted
South African team: stakeholder workshop (2.1)	UCT	Q 2-3 2021	Timeline adjusted due to covid 19
Stakeholder workshops Sweden (2.1)	SEI	Q1-2 2021	Ibid
Stakeholder engagement case the Netherlands (2.1)	WUR	Q 2 2021	Ibid
Norway: stakeholder engagement (2.1)	UiT	Q2 2021	Ibid
Case study paper hydropower on Sámi lands (2.4)	SEI	Q3 2021	Ibid
South African team: Case study paper (2.4)	UCT	Q3 2021	Ibid
Case study paper the Netherlands (2.4)	WUR	Q3 2021	Ibid
Case study paper Norway (2.4)	UiT	Q 3 2021	Ibid
Reporting and media (2.2, 2.3)	UiT/SEI	Q 1-3 2021	
WP3			
International workshp	SEI/WUR	Q4-Q1 2022	Cancelled and replaced by national workshops. Suits water governance context better, more impact.
Strategies	SEI/WUR	Q4-Q1 2022	
Policy briefs and communication	SEI/WUR	Q4-Q1 2022	
Synthesis paper	SEI/WUR	Q4-Q1 2022	

3. Budget review

Please include a budget breakdown here, i.e. how the funding has been used so far.

SEI expenditure until Sept. 2020 is 925 000 SEK, divided between the following posts:
 Personnel costs (Katarina Inga): 801 000 SEK
 Subcontracting (Peter Rudberg): 110 000 SEK
 Travel: 14 000 SEK

South Africa:

First payment received from WRC Sept 2019: R 29 739
 Second tranche of funding from WRC Dec 2019: R 118 956
 Third payment expected in November 2020: R 223042
 The funding so far received has been used for the salary of the South African Post doctoral fellow

Netherlands

WUR expenditure until Sept 2020 is E 59.654, divided in the following posts:

Personnel costs (Remko Voogd): 50.700

Travel and materials: 8.901

Norway

TiU expenditure until Sept 2020 is 1126876 NOK, divided in the following posts:

Personnel costs (Gunn Elin Fedreheim): 1044376 NOK

Travel and materials: 82.500 NOK.

4. Consortium Meetings

N°	Date	Location	Attending partners	Purpose/ main issues/main decisions?
1	18-12-2018	Online	All	Starting up meeting
2	17-1-2019	Online	All	Administrative procedures
3	12-4-2019	Stockholm	SEI/WUR	Administrative procedures
4	30-4-2019	Online	UiT/WUR	Starting up
5	21+22-12-2019	Maastricht	All	Inception meeting
6	6-12-2019	Online	all	WPI
7	4-2-2020	Online	all	WPI
8	24-3-2020	Online	All	WPI
9	27-3-2020	Online	All	WPI
10	12-6-2020	Online	All	WPI
11	26-6-2020	Online	All	WPI
12	31-8-2020	Online	All	WP2-3
13	10-9-2020	Online	SEI/UiT/WUR	WP2-3

5. Stakeholder/Industry Engagement

The first WP of EnTruGo entails a literature review, survey and interviews. Especially the first step did not allow for interaction with stakeholders. However, in developing the survey several partners have engaged with stakeholders. The future steps, with the case studies allows for even further development of stakeholder engagement.

Sweden SEI has engaged with both Sámi organisations and government agencies, in survey and interviews. A meeting is being planned with the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management, to advice on the review of hydro-permits.

Norway Physical meetings with stakeholders, other than fieldwork, have so far not been possible due to the corona-pandemic, but are nonetheless planned for spring 2021. In order to gain insight from local communities, two seminars, one in Kvalsund/Hammerfest and one in Kirkenes are scheduled to be conducted digitally or physically (or a hybrid-version). The aim is to create a dialogue meeting with open discussions of trust in formal institutions with a particular focus on EIA's. The ultimate goal is to explore policy instruments that will help to enhance and sustain citizens' trust in formal institutions in relation to water management in Norway. A smaller seminar in Kirkenes with a selected group of stakeholders is additionally scheduled for October 2020. After these seminars, we will be better equipped to determine whether and how the industry/stakeholder partners influenced the project outcomes.

South Africa Various water governance experts from academia, government and private sector (NGOs and consultancies) have been consulted during the development of the Public Trust Survey and to gather information on potential case studies

The Netherlands The Dutch team had a strong coordinating role in the first part of the project focussing on the literature review and the survey. For the literature review there was no interaction with stakeholder outside academia. For the survey some interaction within experts within academia was undertaken. For expert interviews and case studies the first contacts have been made and further stakeholder engagement is envisioned.

List of Publications produced by the Project - Open Access

Various publications are under development and planned.

- Biancardi Aleu, R., Kløcker Larsen, R., Methner, N. The marginalized bricoleur: unpacking structural obstacles to stakeholder participation in adaptive water governance, manuscript in progress, for submission to journal end of 2020.

Meta data is and will be stored following the JPI guidelines.

6. Knowledge output transfer

Further knowledge output arising from the project so far is envisioned in the next phase. .

7. Open Data

In relation to Open Data, the funded projects will be requested to submit metadata on all the resources directly generated by the project, as well as additional information on how these data will



be exploited, if and how data will be made accessible for verification and re-use, and how it will be curated and preserved. Metadata on all project resources are required to be submitted as part of the final reporting. This will be done via the **Open Data & Open Access platform**, available at: <http://opendata.waterjpi.eu/> (also accessible from the bar menu of the Water JPI website).

8. Problems Encountered during Project Implementation

- Two key-problems occurred during the first phase of the project. 1) due to different administrative procedures from the different countries, funding organizations and also partner institutions it was not possible to have all the post-docs starting at the same moment. Consequently, at the time of writing this report the project is 15 months on its way (although we were able to arrange extension through other funds), 12 months in Sweden, 9 months in Norway and 8 months in South Africa. This created coordination problems especially where it concerns the phases of comparison of results or the dividing of tasks among partners. 2) As all projects we suffer from the impact Corona or Covid-19 has on our project. This created delays and coordination problems, adjustments of planning etc. Although, with flexibility, we can mitigate a large part of the impact, seriously delay is still around the corner. Especially where it concerns empirical work, and stakeholder engagement. Moreover, we now notice that Covid also impacts the coordination of the project as in-depth brainstorm sessions and discussions on the organisation of the project are no longer possible.

9. Suggestions for improvement regarding project implementation?

Within EnTruGo we organize the work with a great deal of freedom for all partners. We believe this is important in order to come to insights and recommendations that is relevant for the different water governance contexts. However, Corona has impacted our project as well, mostly on the level of discussions, brainstorms and in-depth meetings to discuss content, insights, progress and planning. Following this observation a different way of coordinating the project will be discussed in the next consortium meeting. Possibilities are monthly meetings, or shorter and more regular meetings on specific topics etc.