**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: Nandita Singh

Project code: WaterWorks2017-NATWIP

Duration of project: 39 months

Start date: 1 April 2019End date:30 June 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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| Due to failure of funding of the Polish partner, an important player had to leave the consortium. Furthermore, the Norwegian, Spanish and South African partners had to wait for clearing of their funds. Besides the delay, the South African funds came to be downsized, which meant a downward revision of their project part. Despite the delays and shortening of the funding, during project initiation, a substantially good progress has been made in NATWIP during the first 18 months. Work in the first two WP are next to complete, with the result that the first two project objectives are almost achieved. The progress in the first two WPs has been even faster than originally foreseen.  As important art of this project phase, in-depth interviews with key experts involved in NBS in the different project countries had to be conducted, as input from all the consortium partners. An ‘interview guide’ was prepared by the Spanish partner for this purpose. Thereafter each partner identified relevant experts in their own countries and conducted the interviews. Due to COVID-19 situation, completion of the in-depth interviews was somewhat delayed. Transcripts of all the interviews are available. The development of narratives derived from the expert interviews is foreseen as a complementary research paper. In summary, NATWIP is progressing very well. |

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

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| Due to the loss of the Polish project partner, the project had some difficulties in the beginning but this was solved in an excellent way. Another institution from Brazil as an associate partner, the International Institute for Sustainability (IIS-Rio), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil was taken on board. The collaboration between the project partners is very effective and cuts across through the different stages of execution of each WP. The activities under each WP are designed by the WP leader who are using their own disciplinary knowledge and specialization. This initial effort is then subject to multi-partner review and discussion, leading to a collaborative effort from the entire consortium. In this process, the contributions from each partner is initially clearly identifiable, but since the outputs represent an integrated whole, the specifics of the contributions eventually gets merged.  The project continues to meet the transnational nature. A segment of activities was country-based, the outcomes of which are being integrated into a research article which presents transnational perspectives. The case studies are essentially transnational in character and this will emerge even more clearly during data analysis when case studies will be compiled and compared. |

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

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| The report does not elaborate on coordination of NATWIP with other international project funded by WaterWorks2015, WaterWorks2017 or other instruments. Therefore, I cannot judge this part. This has to be clarified. |

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

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| NATWIP 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) and Sub-theme 1.3 Mitigating water stress in urbanized areas. 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 addition, NATWIP 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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| NATWIP has successfully engaged with several major stakeholders, including the public sector like government, municipal and local authorities, academia, civil society and NGOs as well as the private sector. This engagement has been through interviews with them as key experts in NBS. The purpose is to gain knowledge about their experiences and understanding about NBS and its application to manage the distinct water challenges within their respective jurisdictions. These interviews were conducted by the partners in every country.  Further engagement with stakeholders is ensured with the stakeholders closely connected to the case studies. In Norway, the case study site is set in Skien municipality and throughout the reporting period they have been involved in the project. NGI has had meetings with them to keep them updated about the project as well as to see how the knowledge gained by the researchers can be best used by the practitioners.  Similarly, the South African team interviewed key stakeholders, including landowners linked to  one of their case studies. In Sweden, close communication with the public sector and other  actors connected to the case studies is being maintained. In India, close ties with the governmental as well as civil society actors connected to the case studies have been established. In Brazil, the new Associate Partner IIS-Rio has held interviews and meetings with professionals involved in the NBS theme of the academy and the public and private sectors. |

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

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| **Page** | **Modification** | **Rationale for change** |
| 29 | Please indicate if there is coordination of NATWIP with other international projects funded by WaterWorks2015, WaterWorks2018 or other instruments. | With more information evaluation point 3 (Coordination with other international projects funded) can be better judged by the reviewer. |
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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.* |