

# WATERCARE Project – Minutes of the VII° Steering Committee Meeting

Dubrovnik & On-line via Microsoft Teams |

14<sup>th</sup> December 2021

<b>Title</b>	<b>Minutes of the VII° Steering Committee of WATERCARE Project</b>
<b>Date/Time:</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - Time 03:00 PM</b>
<b>Place:</b>	Student dormitory of the University of Dubrovnik – Marca Marojice, 2 – 20000 Dubrovnik & On-line via Microsoft Teams
<b>Subjects:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Welcome</li> <li>- WP’s presentations (Activities &amp; Deliverables state of play)</li> <li>- Questions &amp; Answers</li> </ul>
<b>Attendees:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- LP – CNR-IRBIM (IT): Mauro Marini, Federica Grilli, Elena Manini, Alessandra Campanelli, Fabrizio Moro, Elia Rosetti;</li> <li>- PP1 – ASET Spa (IT): Enrico Esposto Renzoni, Andrea Marinelli;</li> <li>- PP2 – Marche Region (IT): Luigi Bolognini, Antonella Galli, Ilaria Montoni (External Assistance);</li> <li>- PP3 – Abruzzo Region (IT): Luca Iagnemma, Giovanna Marrama, Lorenzo Rossi (External Assistance);</li> <li>- PP4 – University of Urbino (IT): Antonella Penna, Silvia Casabianca, Samuela Cappellacci, Fabio Ricci, Vittorio Giorgetti (External Assistance);</li> <li>- PP5 – Split-Dalmatia County (HR): Martin Bućan, Katarina Suta, Tomislao Opzček, Igor Ujevic (External Assistance);</li> <li>- PP6 – Dubrovnik-Neretva Region (HR): Ivo Duracic, Ivana Tomasević Rakić;</li> <li>- PP7 – University of Split (HR): Maja Krželj, Marin Ordulj, Mateja Baranović;</li> <li>- PP9 – Croatian Waters (HR): Marija Sikoronja, Đorđa Medić, Jasmina Antolić;</li> </ul>

	- PP10 – Istrian University of Applied Sciences (HR): Vedrana Špada; Josipa Bilić, Sanja Grbac Babić, Jelena Glavaš, Ener Špada, Marilena Dadolović, Ivan Pentel, Andrea Varesko
<b>Absences</b>	/////

VII° Steering Committee Meeting of WATERCARE Project was held both in presence and in on-line modality on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021 as the large part of Croatian PPs met in Dubrovnik, while all other PPs joined the meeting via Microsoft Teams. This was due to the persisting COVID-19 emergency and rules to be applied for travelling abroad, if not strictly necessary.

The “attendance list” of the meeting was filled-in by the Lead partner collecting both signatures of participants in Dubrovnik and the names of those ones who attended on line and can be found in the attached file, named “VII STC Meeting\_ Attendance list\_ WATERCARE\_14122021”. Representatives from all partners joined the VII STC meeting and there were no absences.

All the presentations made (which are mentioned beneath) shall be considered as attachments to this document too. (Also, PPTs, Attendance list and Minutes will be uploaded in WATERCARE cloud).

## Welcome & Project Overview

As WATERCARE Deputy Project Manager, Ms. Federica Grilli launched the meeting informing all PPs that the WATERCARE project is one of the projects that would be represented within the new Italy-Croatia “Restricted Cluster Call” as 3 PPs (Marche Region, University of Split – Faculty of Marine Studies and the Istrian University of Applied Sciences) joined a new partnership which submitted a project proposal only few hours before.

Being represented within this new Call for Proposal would ensure the durability & transferability of WATERCARE main results and achievements. The same would be also thanks:

- to the agreement that CNR-IRBIM and University of Urbino are going to make with the Municipality of Fano with the aim at continuing the monitoring activity at the Arzilla Stream;
- to the transferring of the WQIS system to ARPAM (Marche Region Agency for the Environment Protection). Doing so, the WQIS will be applied in further areas of the Marche Region in the future.

Then, Ms. Grilli pointed out that different technical publications (papers) focused on WATERCARE activities have been already done and published both on-line and in paper version; while others are still under approval by the evaluation committee of the selected Journals.

## WPs presentations

### **Work Package 1 - Project management and coordination of activities**

*WATERCARE\_VII STC Meeting\_WP1\_LP-CNR-IRBIM*

Elia Rosetti started his presentation providing information on the latest Partnership Agreement which is in force since the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021 and on how would be managed the drafting phase of the WATERCARE Final Activity Report (D.1.2.2) that is a very important document to be released when an IT-HR project concludes and that is carefully evaluated by the Programme.

Concerning Act. 1.3 – Steering and Monitoring, it was reminded that Minutes (and all annexes) of previous STC Meetings have been uploaded in the WATERCARE cloud and that the current STC would be the last one.

In the framework of Act. 1.4 – Financial Management different points were treated. First of all, PPs were informed about the final submission of Progress Report 5 as well as of the 5<sup>th</sup> Application for reimbursement.

Then, LP reminded to all WP Leaders and PPs to properly contribute to the drafting phase of the Project Progress Reports and to pay attention to all instructions/suggestions provided in this PPT, also considering that the next PPR6 would be the last one.

A focus on the PR4 reimbursement was made highlighting that the recovering of the AP was completed within the AfR4. The same was done for the PR5 reimbursement that would be transferred by the LP-CNR during next year.

This meeting has been also the occasion for showing main dates and main steps for a proper reporting activity of period 6. Like previous times, at the end of the reporting period 6, the template to be used for drafting the Activity report 6 would be sent by the LP, in this case Mr. Rosetti reminded again to all PPs to be very precise when they report target groups as double counting of TGs between partners and among reporting periods must be avoided. The same is for proofs demonstrating to have actually reached TGs, a list of proofs already sent to all PPs in November 2019 has been re-shown as well as the level already achieved (up to RP5) per each TG category.

Then, it was also recommended to constantly check IT-HR website as new useful factsheets and information can be published by IT-HR Programme Authorities (e.g., FS 6).

Concerning the level of expenditures, certified expenditures (PR1+PR2+PR3+PR4+PR5) and RP6 foreseen expenditures were also analyzed both at project level and PP level, also noticing that large differences between partners remained up to June 2021, but by the end of December 2021 all PPs would be able to improve their financial performance, allowing to reach a level of reported expenditure higher than 95% of the project total budget.

Linked to what above, it was reminded the De-commitment rule by which it is required that each PP should spend at least the 80% of the own budget in order to not be considered “Under risk” but also that this rule applies per each Reporting period.

Some weeks before the meeting, a budget tool for a minor budget modification was sent to PPs and during the VII STC it was showed which would be our final project budget, considering that our last minor budget modification proposal has been already approved by the IT-HR JS PM.

Last, it was reminded to PPs the rule by which thematic equipment can be purchased not later than 6 months before the project end and so, Equipment could be reported within PR6 only if the date of the invoices will be 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 or before.

***Work Package 2 - Communication activities***

***Work Package 3 - Implementation and monitoring of the WATERCARE Water Quality Integrated System (WQIS)***

***Work Package 4 - WATERCARE Pilot realization***

***Work Package 5 - Smart system to support governance decision processes in Water Management of Adriatic basin***

*WATERCARE\_VII STC Meeting\_WP3\_PP4-UNIURB*

*WATERCARE\_VII STC Meeting\_WP4\_PP1-ASET*

Considering the final stage of the WATERCARE project and that almost all technical activities carried out during last months as well as achieved results were presented in the framework of the project Final Conference held during the morning session of the meeting, it was decided to focus the STC meeting on the state of play of WP2-3-4-5 activities & deliverables and their alignment with what it is foreseen in the project Application Form.

In fact, the scope was:

- to verify how project partners and WP Leaders were dealing with missing deliverables and on-going activities;

- to define which PPs still have to provide own contributions to those activities/deliverables;
- to define deadlines for providing such contributions;
- to define deadlines for releasing missing deliverable in final version.

The discussion of what above was made using a WATERCARE “Physical Monitoring” tool prepared by LP-CNR and in which the current state of play of both activities and deliverables was showed as well as missing PPs contributions (basing on information gained by LP during previous reporting phases) and deliverables that should have been already released considered that the related project activity was concluded some weeks or months before. Furthermore, the tool has been filled-in with comments and decisions agreed during the discussion. The final outcome is attached to this Minutes, file named “*WATERCARE\_Physical monitoring\_v14-12-2021\_v2*”.

Considering the request of some PPs to better analyse the Physical Monitoring, LP-CNR would send it to the entire partnership, this is why another column for inserting additional PPs comments has been created.

In addition, both WP3 and WP4 Leaders made a brief presentation summarizing the state of play of the WPs they are leading and which actions still remain to do (revision/drafting of deliverables).

Regarding WP5, an in deep discussion was necessary for the Activity 5.3 – D.5.3.1 considering that it seems to be one of the most critical situations. PP2-MARCHE (PP in charge of this task), committed itself in sending to the WP5 Leader the draft version of missing Guidelines’ chapters (from 9 to 12) by Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> December; while it was specified that concerning chapter 7 some clarifications are necessary between PP2 and PP5 external assistance. Main conclusion of this topic was that the final version of D.5.3.1 must be released by the end of the year, also considering PP5 internal administrative issues.

In addition, PP5-SDC asked clarifications about which kind of data and information should be published in the webpage and if it should be also in Italian language. Mr. Marini (LP-CNR) confirmed that it would be perfect if the web page could be created also in Italian; while further

debates were made between LP, PP2 and PP5 about data to publish and web page requirements, therefore LP-CNR would reply to PP5 next week definitively.

The question was also asked about access to the website for data visualization and the sufficient number of usernames and passwords per partner. The proposal by the SDC was two per partner, but part of the partners said they have everything in the graphene interface while the other part said to declare subsequently.

### Final conclusions and next steps

Mr. Marini thanked all project partners' representatives who joined the meeting and wished all a good Christmas time.

The same was done by Mr. Duracic as hosting PP, he also thanked people who made presentations during the Final event in the morning.