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**Theme 6: ENVIRONMENT (INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE)**

**ENV.2013.WATER INNO&DEMO-2:** Ensuring the integration of water and innovation demonstration projects and support to trans-national networks of procurers:

**b)** Promotion and development of innovation-oriented public procurements in the domain covered by the proposed European Innovation Partnership on 'Water' [...]



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## D6.4. Sustainability Plan



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### Partners



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# 1. Executive summary

The present document is a deliverable scheduled under the Work Package 6 “Management and coordination”.

The aim of the Sustainability Plan, within the project EU WaterPIPP, is to establish a list of options aimed at maintaining the activities undertaken during the project and to identify a set of resources at the end of the project, scheduled for December 31, 2016. Indeed, the Sustainability Plan provides a description about the future of the project.

This “Sustainability Plan” is organized as follows: section 2 contains a background of activities carried out within the project useful to set up the Sustainability Plan; section 3 contains the Sustainability Plan; section 4 contains some concluding remarks.

## 2. Background

In 2016, representing the final year of the project, the project partners produced and achieved significant results, according to the DoW.

Above all it is important to underline 4 main outputs:

- Under WP2 a “Policy recommendations to the EIP” were issued;
- Under WP3 “Capacity building and awareness raising” a set of documents, webinars, e-learning materials and toolbox were produced to support procurers in the public water sector;
- Under WP4 “Collaborative pilot procurement preparation phase” a basis for the launching of a PCP was implemented, in particular by enhancing the dialogue between public authorities and the supply chain about the explanation of innovation needs. In particular, in occasion of the technical dialogues organized in Milan and in Zaragoza, the public authorities express their needs in terms of technical functionalities to be satisfied. The market replied with their current lack or availability to respond to the request.
- Under WP5, as defined under Task 5.4, a Final Conference was held in Zaragoza on November 9/10, entitled “Empowering public procurement for innovation in the EU water sector”. The conference was very productive. It represented a platform for gathering experts and practitioners in the area of water procurement to facilitate exchange of knowledge and

points of view from public policy makers, procurers, practitioners and representatives from the water private sector, in addition to the project partners. Furthermore, the conference included a market dialogue phase, which was loosely based on a meet-the-market event held in Milan, Italy, in June 2016. The Market Dialogue aimed at sharing the experience and providing tips for entering into IOPP procedures in the public water sector, while adhering to the European Directives. In the session Supplier's Perspective a number of local and regional suppliers presented their experience with developing, entering the market and providing the public water sector with innovative solutions.

- In summary, the description of the previously achievements gives the opportunity of fixing a set of milestones that should be considered, in order to design the future of the project and the Sustainability Plan. Namely:
  - o Policy recommendations;
  - o Training material on IOPP in the water sector;
  - o Pilot procurement;
  - o Relationship between the partners.

### 3. Sustainability plan

In order to design the future of the project, this Sustainability Plan proposed for implementation after the end of the project; scheduled for December 2016. Starting from January 2017 a list of the activities proposed for the sustainability is given:

***3.1 Raising Awareness on IOPP through Water PIPP deliverables;***

***3.2 maintain the web site and the Platform;***

***3.3 Dissemination of communication materials;***

***3.4 Strengthening and consolidating the partnership among EU WaterPIPP members;***

***3.5 New Projects inspired to Water PIPP: SMART.MET Project and NAIAD Project.***

### 3.1 Raising awareness on IOPP through Water PIPP deliverables

Partners of the WaterPIPP Project consider that the quality of the documents produced to enhance capacity building and awareness-raising under work package WP3 is of great value for those public procurement expert willing to achieve deep knowledge of IOPP in the water sector. Partners agree that products are particularly helpful as they were made available in four major European languages (English, Spanish, French and Italian) and adapted to the local legislative framework context.

From the other side, the partners consider that, beside the high-quality of the material produced, the activity of communicating and dispatching of information must be sustained, at least for 2017, in order to reach the goal of further disseminating the outcomes for a larger-scale adoption. For this reason, in order to further enhance the capacity building activity, the partners agree to continue to dispatch the following material and documentation on voluntary basis.

- publish on the Water PIPP website and on the professional social networks - such as *Linkedin* or *twitter* - the link to the communication and the training material already produced and published on the WaterPIPP website,

If available, the documents will be publicized into the national language (Italian, Spanish, French). The documents to be published are listed as follows:

- a) 2017 / Q1 – “How-To Guides for implementation of IOPP procedures”;
- b) 2017 / Q2 – “Webinars”;
- c) 2017 / Q3- “Toolbox for awareness raising”;
- d) 2017 / Q4 “e-learning materials”.

Moreover, also the D2.5 Policy recommendations to the EIP will be translated in Italian, printed in Italian and English version and distribute to some stakeholders.

On voluntary basis, it could be translated also in other languages. The document will be also publicized on the project website and on the partners’ websites.

## **3.2 Maintain the website and the platform**

Due to the importance of further strengthening the awareness raising of IOPP in the water sector, the partners agree for the whole 2017 to maintain:

- the website [www.waterpipp.eu](http://www.waterpipp.eu) as the hub of the project outputs;
- the Public Innovation Procurement forum Platform <http://innovation-procurement.org/>.
- the link with the WIP group.

## **3.3 Dissemination of communication materials**

During the last year of the project, new communication materials have been produced. In particular, ICLEI recently produced a new postcard of the project, copies of which were distributed among the partners attending the conference held in Zaragoza for further dissemination in their networks. This postcard advertises the Water PiPP products of interest to public procurers. All can be found on the Water PiPP website, where they will be placed more prominently so that they can be found easily and quickly by interested parties.

As a result, the WaterPIPP partners agreed to disseminate the paper-based material, on the occasion of future events/seminars/conferences, or to any interested professional actor, both at national and European level.

## **3.4 Strengthening and consolidating the partnership among EU WaterPIPP members**

During the 3 years project, the partners mutually recognized the high quality of their curriculum vitae in providing support across a wide spectrum of topics: from the water sector, to procurement strategies, from IOPP, to training and consultancy services.

The consortium partners of the EU WaterPIPP agree to consolidate and improve the excellent relationship build during the 3-years project, and decide to continue to sharing knowledge, useful information on the water sector in innovative oriented public procurement by creating a permanent link with the WIP.



## 3.5 New projects linked and inspired to WaterPIPP

### 3.5.1 SMART.MET Project

The project EU Water PIPP contributed to the development of a new project aimed at unlocking investments and delivering the solutions needed by the public sector to face water challenges. The WaterPIPP project also contributed to accelerating the development and the deployment of innovative solutions, creating at the same time market opportunities for water innovation solutions. Significantly, the natural prosecution of the competitive dialogue under WP4 is represented by the **launching of a Pre-commercial Procurement Initiative** by supporting public authorities in the water sector. It means that an open tendering procedure on PCP will be published in the near future and any interested supplier can submit an offer.

As a result, some partners of the consortium EU WaterPIPP applied for and got awarded the Call ICT-34, under the H2020 Program, named “*SMART.MET- Smart Water Metering Pre-Commercial Procurement*”. The Smart.Met project involves 7 water utilities in a joint PCP supported by 6 expert organizations in giving support on the following topics: technical assessment, procurement procedure, dissemination. The objective to be reached is the implementation of an effective, efficient, interoperable solution. The solution will be based on open standard (drinking) water smart metering, delivered by public water utilities capable to identify performance issues, improve customer service, optimize the supply of water to the consumption. The duration of the project is of 48 months with a budget of € 4.437.938.

### 3.5.2 NAIAD Project

The project EU Water PIPP contributed to the development of a second project, named NAIAD (Nature Insurance value: Assessment and Demonstration), part of the call H2020-SC5-2016-2017: Greening the Economy. The project is coordinated by “Confederación Hidrográfica del Duero”.

NAIAD aims to operationalise the insurance value of ecosystems to reduce the human and economic cost of risks associated with water (floods and drought) by developing and testing - with key insurers and municipalities - the concepts, tools, applications and instruments (business models) necessary for its mainstreaming.

This goal will be achieved by implementing 8 demonstration sites (DEMOS) throughout Europe, and develop tools and methods applicable and transferable across all of Europe. The assumption is that Natural Assurance Schemes can reduce risk, especially to drought and flooding, and this risk reduction can be assessed and incorporated within insurance schemes. As the aim of the project is to mainstream the use of NBS “Nature-Based Solutions” as disaster risk mitigation measure, PCP may be one of the instruments to be used/promoted in the 8 pilots throughout Europe.

NAIAD’s conceptual frame is based on three pillars:

1. to help to build a resilience approach to risk management through NBS,
2. the operationalization and testing of scientific methods using a source-to-sea in DEMOs,
3. the uptake of NBS that are cost-effective and provide environmental, social and economic benefits.

Trans-disciplinarily and stakeholder engagement are at the core of NAIAD for two reasons: first, because the conceptual and assessment methodologies combine physical, social and cultural and economic aspects, integrated into tools and methods; second, and most importantly “road tested” and validated with the stakeholders and end users themselves at the DEMOs.

## 4. Concluding remarks

The EU Water PIPP project achieved significant results in terms of: activating the procurement power of public and private actors; speeding up innovation and contributing to the solution of solve water related societal challenges; improving the competitiveness of the European Water Industry in a global market.

The project contributed to the reduction of barriers to innovation in the water sector by building an operational and collaborative platform composed of public authorities, public and private purchasers, water utilities, the R&D&I community and networks of cities and regions.

In conclusion, the project contributed to unlocking investments and to delivering the solutions needed by the public sector to face water challenges. The project also contributed to acceleration of the knowledge on Innovative Oriented Public Procurement in the Water Sector, through the development and the deployment of innovative solutions; creating, in parallel, market opportunities for water innovation solutions.