



ToR for Trend Reversal in Groundwater Pollution

Preface:

Due to the evolving constraints of the COVID-19 pandemic the face-to-face events and milestones set in this ToR might need to be revised and changed. For further information, please contact the Project Manager(s) or send an email to the [IMPEL Secretariat](#).

ToR Reference No.: 2020/11	Author(s): Thomas Ormond
Version: 05	Date: 26/03/2020
TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR WORK UNDER THE AUSPICES OF IMPEL	

1. Work type and title

1.1 Identify which Expert Team this needs to go to for initial consideration	
Industry and air	<input type="checkbox"/>
Waste and TFS	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water and land	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nature protection	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cross-cutting tools and approaches	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2 Type of work you need funding for	
Exchange visits	<input type="checkbox"/>
Peer reviews (e.g. IRI)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conference	<input type="checkbox"/>
Development of tools/guidance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comparison studies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assessing legislation (checklist)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, (please describe):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Expert Workshop.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.3 Full name of work (enough to fully describe what the work area is)	
Trend Reversal in Groundwater Pollution.	
1.4 Abbreviated name of work or project	
Trend Reversal in Groundwater Pollution.	



2. Outline business case (why this piece of work?)

2.1 Name the legislative driver(s) where they exist (name the Directive, Regulation, etc.)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dir. 2000/60/EC = Water Framework Directive (Art. 4.1.b.iii). • Dir. 91/676/EEC = Nitrates Directive. • Dir. 2006/118/EC = Groundwater Directive. 	
2.2 Link to IMPEL MASP priority work areas	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assist members to implement new legislation. <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Build capacity in member organisations through the IMPEL Review Initiatives. <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Work on 'problem areas' of implementation identified by IMPEL and the European Commission. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4. Other, (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> 	
2.3 Why is this work needed? (background, motivations, aims, etc.)	
<p>Art. 4 of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) obliges Member States, among other things, to protect, enhance and restore all bodies of groundwater with the aim of achieving good groundwater status by December 2015, and to implement the measures necessary to reverse any significant and sustained upward trend in the concentration of pollutants. In actual fact, however, 25 % of ground water bodies in the EU (and e.g. 36 % in Germany) were chemically in a poor status in 2015, mostly due to pollution with nitrates and pesticides from agriculture. Moreover, according to an EEA report of 2018, the total groundwater body area with an identified upward trend of pollution is still nearly double the area with a trend reversal (9.9 % against 5.9 % of area).</p> <p>There is thus a serious implementation deficit in the EU regarding groundwater protection, and only a few Member States can show some success with achieving a trend reversal. Some MS over the last years, most recently Germany in June 2018, were held by the ECJ to be in breach of their obligations under the Nitrates Directive by not taking the necessary additional measures or reinforced actions for reducing water pollution when it became apparent that the National Action Programme was not sufficient.</p> <p>The project aims to reduce this implementation deficit by looking at possible instruments and best practices at administrative level, especially of regional and local water authorities.</p>	
2.4 Desired outcome of the work (what do you want to achieve? What will be better / done differently as a result of this project?)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange of experience, scientific knowledge and best practices for reversing the trend of groundwater pollution in the Member States; • On this basis, develop a guidance paper with best practice examples and recommendations on how to achieve this trend reversal in practice. 	



2.5 Does this project link to any previous or current IMPEL projects? (state which projects and how they are related)

- Good Practice for Tackling Nitrate Pollution from Farms and Farmsteads (2014-2016).
- Reducing Pesticides in Water (2016).
- Achieving better compliance in the agricultural sector through networking and partnership working of environmental and agricultural inspectorates (2013).

3. Structure of the proposed activity

3.1 Describe the activities of the proposal (what are you going to do and how?)

The project is designed for two years (2020-2021).

Proposed schedule:

- **June - September 2020:** Survey (with questionnaires) on practical experience with trend reversal in the participant countries.
- Spring 2021: Expert workshop in Frankfurt.
- April to October 2021: Drafting of guidance paper on trend reversal.
- September/October 2021: Final project meeting in Frankfurt.

3.2 Describe the products of the proposal (what are you going to produce in terms of output / outcome?)

1. Report on survey results.
2. Meeting report on expert workshop.
3. Guidance paper "Trend reversal in groundwater pollution".
4. Final project report.
5. Project presentation at the Water & Land Conference (and other expert meetings).
6. Possibly press statements, etc.

3.3 Describe the milestones of this proposal (how will you know if you are on track to complete the work on time?)

As described in 3.1.

3.4 Risks (what are the potential risks for this project and what actions will be put in place to mitigate these?)

A long continuation of the "corona" crisis or the reappearance of the virus in early 2021 would mean that no meetings and expert workshops could take place. While face-to-face project team meetings could be easily replaced by teleconferences, a cancellation of the expert workshop would seriously impact on the quality of the project work. A videoconference or webinar could hardly replace it, as the project manager's agency in Frankfurt does not have good technical equipment for this and the event would be much less attractive for outside experts. Besides, it would be difficult to organise a



lively and high-quality discussion between the experts. As a result, the envisaged IMPEL guideline would be less informed and relevant. Additionally, there might be low participation from IMPEL members.

4. Organisation of the work

4.1 Lead (who will lead the work: name, organisation and country) – this must be confirmed prior to submission of the TOR to the General Assembly)

Thomas Ormond, RP Darmstadt (Regional authority of South Hessen), Germany.

4.2 Project team (who will take part: name, organisation and country)

- Arnold Quadflieg, Hessian Environment Ministry, Germany.
- Astrid Bischoff, Hessian Environment Ministry, Germany.
- Michael Zacharias, Hessian Environment Agency, Germany.
- Anette Dodensig Pedersen, Environmental Protection Agency, Denmark.
- Helga Margrethe Elnegaard Ejskjær, Environment Protection Agency, Denmark.
- Tim Besien, Environment Agency of England, UK.
- Possibly more experts from Germany and other Member States, tbd.

4.3 Other IMPEL participants (name, organisation and country)

- Gianmario Nava, ARPA Piemonte, Italy (tbd).
- Maurizio Testa, ARPA Sardegna, Italy (tbd).

4.4 Other non-IMPEL participants (name, organisation and country)

- Possibly experts from Austria and Luxembourg (CIS WG Groundwater).
- Possibly Elisa Vargas (EU Commission, DG ENV, Unit C1).

5. High level budget projection of the proposal. In case this is a multi-year project, identify future requirements as much as possible

	Year 2020 (exact)	Year 2021	Year 3	Year 4
How much money do you require from IMPEL?	N/a.	18 000 EUR		
How much money is to be co-financed?		2 500 EUR (?)		
Total budget	N/a.	20 500 EUR (?)		



6. Detailed other costs of the work for year 2020

6.1 Are you using a consultant?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.2 What are the total costs for the consultant?	N/a.
6.3 Who is paying for the consultant?	N/a.
6.4 What will the consultant do?	N/a.
6.5 Are there any additional costs (NOT included in point 5)?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If your answer is 'Yes', please describe:
6.6 What are the additional costs for?	N/a.
6.7 Who is paying for the additional costs?	N/a.
6.8 Are you seeking other funding sources?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If your answer is 'Yes', please describe:
6.9 Do you need budget for communications around the project? If so, describe what type of activities and the related costs.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If your answer is 'Yes', please describe:

7. Communication and follow-up (checklist)

	What		By when
7.1 Indicate which communication materials will be developed throughout the project and when?	TOR ^{✓*}	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	March 2020
	Interim report ^{✓*}	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Project report ^{✓*}	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	November 2021
	Progress report(s) [✓]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	October/November 2020
	Press releases	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	News items for the website ^{✓*}		



<p><i>(all to be sent to the Communications Officer at the IMPEL Secretariat)</i></p>	<p>News items for the e-newsletter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Project abstract^{✓*} <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>IMPEL at a Glance[✓] <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Other, (give details): <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>When necessary</p>
<p>7.2 Milestones / Scheduled meetings (for the website diary).</p>	<p>See 3.1.</p>	
<p>7.3 Images for the IMPEL image bank.</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>7.4 Indicate which materials will be translated and into which languages.</p>	<p>The “trend reversal” guidance paper should be translated at least into German.</p>	
<p>7.5 Indicate if web-based tools will be developed and if hosting by IMPEL is required.</p>		
<p>7.6 Identify which groups/institutions will be targeted and how.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water authorities of the Member States, especially in Germany and other “poor status” countries, by (translated) guideline, presentations, etc. • “Water Directors” / CIS WG Groundwater – info. • European Commission, DG ENV (Units C.1 and D.1) – info. 	
<p>7.7 Identify parallel developments / events by other organisations, where the project can be promoted.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sessions of the CIS Working Group Groundwater • Integrated Water Resources Management Rhine-Main, DE. • Others (tbd). 	

[✓]) Templates are available and should be used. ^{*}) Obligatory

8. Remarks

Is there anything else you would like to add to the Terms of Reference that has not been covered above?

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the level of uncertainty regarding travel in the EU, this project will only have meetings by teleconference this year.



In case of doubts or questions please contact the [IMPEL Secretariat](#).

Draft and final versions need to be sent to the [IMPEL Secretariat](#) in Word format, not in PDF.

Thank you.