



International Hydrological Programme

DRAFT REVISED STRATEGY FOR WATER-RELATED CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

(REVISED 11 JUNE 2014)

Summary

This document proposes a revised strategy for water-related category 2 Institutes and Centres under the auspices of UNESCO. The proposed revisions aim at aligning the IHP strategy with the decision by 37th session of the General Conference (37 C/Resolution 93) to adopt a revised strategy for category 2 Institutes and Centre (37 C/18 Part 1 and Annexes). The proposed draft also addresses the recommendations from the 49th and 50th sessions of the IHP Bureau concerning the need to establish clear procedures for the establishment and review of category 2 water-related centres, formalize the coordination mechanisms including those supporting enhanced collaboration within the network of water-related centres and with the network of UNESCO Chairs working on water sciences and water resources management issues, and to strengthen the contributions of category 2 institutes and centres to the implementation of IHP-VIII.



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



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Hydrological
Programme

International Hydrological Programme

Strategy for Engagement with Category 2 Water- related Institutes and Centres under the auspices of UNESCO

(Revised, June 2014)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Category 2 water-related Institutes and Centres extend the reach of IHP activities and provide support for the implementation of the programme's activities. A network of 21 such centres now exists¹ under the auspices of UNESCO and will increase in size upon completion of establishment procedures for ten additional centres approved by the General Conference. The continued interest from Member States in proposing new water-related centres also indicates further growth of the network in the future.

In November 2013, the 37th session of the General Conference of UNESCO approved a revised comprehensive strategy for category 2 Institutes and Centres under the auspices of UNESCO (37 C/18 Part I and Attachments). Both this comprehensive strategy and recent/corresponding/relevant decisions by the Governing Bodies of IHP mandate that IHP strategy for engagement with water-related category 2 institutes and Centres be redesigned to adopt a new vision of clarity and to better link centres' activities to UNESCO and IHP strategic and mid-term priorities.

This document takes such a strategic view. Section I provides background on the network of category 2 water-related centres and the challenges associated with coordination of this expanding network. In section II, a strategic vision of the network of category 2 water-related institutes and centres is proposed within the framework of delivering on IHP strategic objectives. Three key objectives (i.e., ensure alignment of centres' activities with the priorities of UNESCO and IHP, maximize synergy of the network of water-related centres, and enhance visibility of the centres' contributions to UNESCO and IHP) are identified in section III as the primary strategic directions for IHP engagement with water-related centres. The strategic approach and mechanism to accomplish each of these objectives are subsequently presented in sections IV (coordination), V (networking and collaboration), and VI (communication plan) of this document.

The document is supported by several Annexes that provide guidelines to Member States wishing to propose new centres (Annexes 1 and 2), to existing centres in the process of renewal of their agreements (Annex 3) or in their reporting process (Annex 4), and to the team of focal points established by the secretariat to promote coordination of the network (Annex 5). Potential modalities for networking and cooperation between centres are presented in (Annex 6)

To avoid redundancies and ensure that the IHP strategy only complements the UNESCO comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres, footnotes throughout the document refer to relevant articles of the strategy. For the purpose of this document, the term "comprehensive strategy" denotes the UNESCO comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (37 C/18 Part I and attachments), while the term "IHP strategy for engagement" refers to this complimentary document.

The IHP Strategy for engagement with category 2 water related centres is a living document. It will continue to evolve following recommendations from the Governing Bodies of IHP as well as from the centres themselves.

I. BACKGROUND

Since its 22nd Session (1983), the General Conference of UNESCO has approved the establishment of thirty one water-related category 2 centres under the auspices of UNESCO. Of these approved centres, twenty one are now fully operational, with the remaining ten

¹ As of 3 June, 2014

centres in various stages of the establishment process.

As defined by UNESCO's Comprehensive Strategy², each category 2 centre “*strives to become a pole of expertise/excellence to provide services and technical assistance to Member States, cooperation partners and also internally to network of UNESCO field offices*”. Centres are also expected to contribute to the implementation of the strategic priorities of both UNESCO and the programme they are affiliated with. Many of the established water-related centres have endeavored to successfully adhere to this vision as they have played an increasingly active role in the implementation of IHP activities and initiatives. The particulars of their contributions to IHP have included research, training, educational activities, hosting of global and regional secretariats of IHP Initiatives, acting as intervention partners, providing technical support at regional and global levels, and more recently taking a proactive role in shaping the implementation plans of the current eighth phase of IHP (IHP-VIII, 2014-2021).

While the growing number of water-related centres may highlight the success of IHP in reflecting Member States priorities in water sciences and water resources management, it also presents the risk of potential redundancies among centres, especially with respect to centres with broad thematic mandates. The rapid expansion of the network also challenges the Secretariat's capacity to effectively coordinate the network, equally engage all of its members in the implementation of IHP, and coordinate their joint role as members of the UNESCO Water Family, which comprises the World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP), UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education, the network of centres, UNESCO water Chairs, and the 169 National Committees and Focal Points of IHP.

II. STRATEGIC VISION FOR WATER-RELATED CENTRES

As centres of excellence, category 2 water-related centres can expand the reach of UNESCO's delivery on its freshwater mandate, foster regional collaboration and networking, raise the profiles of UNESCO and IHP in the Member States, and act as regional and/or global hubs for knowledge-creation, -sharing and -dissemination, innovation and capacity-building in hydrological science and water resources management.

At the individual level, the mission of each water-related institute/centre is to address, within its field of specialization and through clear and well defined programmatic linkages to the strategic and mid-term objectives of UNESCO and IHP, water-related challenges by regional and/or global actions, aiming at one or more of the following³:

- creating and improving knowledge and innovation to address water challenges;
- strengthening the science-policy interface to reach water security at local, national, regional, and global levels, and;

² In 2005, the 35th Session of the General Conference approved UNESCO's Comprehensive Strategy for Category 2 Institute/Centres under the auspices of UNESCO (35/C 22 and Annex). In 2013, and following extended debate on category 2 institutes and centres during the 190th, 191st and 192nd sessions of the Executive Board, the 37th General Conference approved, through resolution (37 C/Resolution 93) some key revisions of the comprehensive strategy (37 C/18 Part 1 and Attachments). These revisions aimed to to, *inter-alia*: enhance the alignment of between the activities of the centres and UNESCO's strategic objectives and programmes, streamline the reporting of the contributions of centres, and formalize the process of renewal of the agreements governing the establishment of centres.

³ The three axes of delivery of the IHP-VIII strategic plan are incorporated into the design of activities contributing to the implementation of IHP-VIII, in consistency with UNESCO's Natural Science Sector strategic objectives for the period (2014-2021).

- supporting the development of institutional and human capacities for water security and sustainability.

Collectively, and while recognizing the diversity, equity and ownership of each water-related institute and centre, these institutes and centres form a network whose added value to the work of UNESCO and IHP may be better realised if they work together and as an integral part of the UNESCO water family to maximize the level of cooperation and synergy among themselves and to avoid redundancies and thematic duplication. This requires centres to proactively work to formulate a joint vision of the network and of their individual and collective roles within the Water Family.

Ensuring across-the-board high quality contributions of water-related centres, individually and as a network whose current and future members address existing thematic and regional gaps is also a challenge that motivates the departure of the updated IHP strategy from its predecessors. Instead of focusing on procedures, this strategy focuses on envisioning the creation of an enabling environment where the coordination of the network of centres fosters increasing cooperation among members of the network with targeted, high quality contributions to the programme.

III. OBJECTIVES OF THE IHP STRATEGY FOR ENGAGEMENT

Based on the above strategic vision, the Secretariat of IHP endeavors to maintain a network of well-coordinated, regionally and thematically diverse, highly collaborative and high-performing Category 2 water-related centres whose activities are: (1) strongly aligned with the programme's strategic priorities and (2) have demonstrable regional and/or global impacts. To do so, the objectives of the IHP strategy for engagement with category 2 water-related centres under the auspices of UNESCO shall be to:

1. Ensure, ***through effective coordination***, focused, high quality and results-oriented contributions of water-related institutes and centres, within their areas of expertise, to the implementation of IHP strategic and mid-terms objectives as defined in the relevant mid-term strategy (C/4⁴) and biennial programme and budget (C/5) programming documents;
2. Maximize, ***through enhanced networking and collaboration***, the synergies between category 2 water-related centres and enhance their integration within the UNESCO Water Family;
3. Enhance, through a ***well-designed and implemented communication plan***, the visibility of water-related centres and highlight their contributions to IHP.

The following sections describe the secretariat approach to functions required to achieve these objectives through coordination, networking and collaboration, and enhanced communication.

IV. COORDINATION OF THE NETWORK OF WATER-RELATED CENTRES

The coordination functions of the secretariat will address the processes for: (a) proposals for establishment of new category 2 water related centres, (b) monitoring and reporting of

⁴ UNESCO Mid-term strategy for the period (2014-2021) (37 C/4) includes Water Security (i.e. IHP-VIII) within the organization's strategic objective 5 (Strengthening international science cooperation for peace, sustainability and social inclusion). The biennial programme and budget document (37 C./5) includes the IHP-VIII as part of Mainline of Action 6 (Strengthening Freshwater Security) within UNESCO's Natural Science major programme for the period (2014-2017).

existing institutes and centres, and (c) renewal assessment of institutes and centres. The secretariat will undertake these responsibilities, rigorously ensuring compliance with the IHP strategic vision of the network of centres, the UNESCO comprehensive strategy (37 C/18 Part I) and the decisions of the Governing Bodies of UNESCO and IHP.

IV.1 Coordination of the Assessment of Proposals for the Establishment New Category 2 Water-related Centres:

The process of establishing category 2 institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO is governed by the UNESCO comprehensive strategy. Article (ii.c) of the aforementioned strategy mandates the review of proposals for the establishment of category 2 institute/centre(s) by the governing bodies of UNESCO's intergovernmental programmes, should such body exist. In the case of IHP, this means the Bureau of IHP and the Intergovernmental Council (Please see Annex 1 for more details on the steps of establishment of category 2 water-related centres).

The Secretariat of IHP, in cooperation with regional offices, BSP and the Natural Science Sector, shall coordinate the assessment of new water-related centres. This involves advising the host Member State, the Governing bodies of IHP and UNESCO, and the Director-General, based on rigorous programmatic assessment of the proposal on: (a) the potential contributions of the proposed centre to the programme, (b) when appropriate; potential duplication and overlapping with existing centres, (c) whether or not the thematic focus of the proposed centre is an under-represented strategic priority of the programme, and (d) the burden placed onto the Secretariat in, should the centre be established.

To provide information on thematic and regional priorities, the Secretariat will frequently conduct and publish regional and thematic maps⁵ of the network of centres.

Best practice guidelines for the content of proposals for water-related centres are presented in (Annex 2) of this document.

IV.2 Coordination of the Network of Existing Water-related Centres

The main function of coordinating the network of existing water-related centres is to ensure the alignment of Centres' activities with UNESCO and IHP strategic and biennial priorities. A second objective is to encourage collaboration and joint activities among Centres and with other members of the UNESCO Water Family, with particular focus on enhancing South-South, North-South, and triangular cooperation, but also bilateral and multilateral cooperation within the network

Efforts will be made to enhance programme alignment of each centre through improved consultations and engagement with centres during the early stages of formulation their annual or biennial work plans and during the regular sessions of the governing bodies of the centres⁶.

The main measure undertaken for alignment shall be the centre's identification of specific IHP implementation plan activities to which it will provide concrete contributions and make recognizable impact on delivery. Adopting this measure, in consultation with the centre, enhances the clarity of expectation concerning the centres' contributions to the

⁵ For an example of the proposed regional and thematic mapping of water related institutes and centres please visit <http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/SC/pdf/Regional-Thematic-Analysis-Water-Centres.pdf>

⁶ Please see articles 7.1(a), 7.2(a, b) of the model agreement presented in 37 C/18 Part I-Attachment 2

implementation of IHP programmes and provides an objective foundation for monitoring and accountability.

IV.2 Monitoring and Reporting

The Secretariat will work closely with the network of existing centres to rigorously implement the reporting mechanisms identified in the comprehensive strategy for category 2 and institutes. These include:

1. Directors' Biennial Reports to UNESCO⁷: To be submitted by the Directors of all existing category 2 institutes and centres. A report format has been prepared and is available in Annex (4) of this document and

2. SISTER Reporting⁸: Focal points for individual centres shall report once every six months through UNESCO's System of Information on Strategies, Tasks and the Evaluation of Results (SISTER).

3. Annual Reporting to the Governing Bodies of Centres⁹

4. Reports by Members of the Governing Bodies of Centres: Where applicable, members of the governing bodies of water-related category 2 centres, who are elected by the IHP Council, shall report to the council.

It is expected that all of the above mentioned reports shall cover, *inter-alia*: (a) the contribution of to the implementation of the current phase of IHP, and (b) cooperation between the centre and other category centres, UNESCO chairs, regional offices, and with the Secretariat. The reports shall also be considered by the external review team during the renewal assessment review of all water-related centres.

IV.3 Renewal Assessment of Existing Water-Related Centres.

The secretariat of IHP will ensure, in cooperation with relevant UNESCO units, the concerned centres, and the National Committees of IHP of the host Member State, highly independent and rigorous reviews of water-related centres prior to the renewal of their agreements¹⁰. The cost of the renewal assessment review shall be borne by the Member State(s) hosting the centre.

The report from the review committee shall serve as the basis for the secretariat's recommendations to the Director-General concerning the renewal of the centre. The Secretariat will also consider the potential for continued alignment with IHP mid-term priorities, the quality and impact of the centre's contribution, and the centre's history of cooperation with the Secretariat, regional offices, and other category 2 centres.

In order to better inform existing Centres and host Member States on the review process, the Secretariat has developed an IHP specific Model Terms of Reference that are compliance

⁷ Please see article B.4.1 of the revised comprehensive strategy (37 C/18 Part I)

⁸ Please see article B.4.2 of the revised comprehensive strategy (37 C/18 Part I)

⁹ Please see articles 7.2(c) and 7.2(d) of the model agreement presented in 37 C/18 Part I- Attachment 2

¹⁰ Renewal assessment reviews of category 2 institutes and centres are mandated through article (A.3) of the comprehensive strategy (47 C/18 Part I and Attachments). For detailed description of the process, Member States and category 2 centres are invited to thoroughly review Attachment 3 of the document, which provides detailed guidelines for renewal assessment procedures. The Financial aspects of these reviews are covered in Article E.1.2 of the main document and in paragraph 14 of Attachment 3. Articles A3.3 and A.4 of the main document and paragraph 6 of Attachment 3 provide information on the process of termination or non-renewal of existing agreements.

with UNESCO's revised comprehensive strategy. These are available in Annex (3) of this document.

IV.4 IHP Coordination Structure

The Secretariat of IHP, in coordination with the Natural Science Sector, has established a network of focal points for Category 2 Centres that includes colleagues from the IHP Secretariat at Headquarters, regional hydrologists, and regional science offices and field offices. The network is coordinated by the Secretary of IHP with the support of an overall coordinator for water-related centres. The Strategic priorities for the focal points of individual water-related centres and for the overall coordinator of the centres are available in Annex (5) of this document.

The Secretariat will develop and continuously update relevant databases on water-related centres and their cooperation. It will also rapidly develop and deploy a communication plan, and undertake, as appropriate, focused consultations with Centers and Member States and other relevant units at UNESCO concerning water-related centres.

A biennial coordination meeting of water-related category 2 centres and category 1 institutes is to be held as a side meeting during the IHP Council sessions. In addition, the Secretariat seeks to increase the number of coordination meetings, especially within the Working Group on Supporting the Implementation of The Strategic Plan of IHP-VIII¹¹, which was established by the 20th session of the Council of IHP.

V. NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION

Each individual category 2 centre is a valuable and innovative asset of IHP. As a network, strategic and synergistic networking and collaboration significantly enhance the innovative contributions of the network as whole.

For the purpose of this strategy, the objective of networking is to broaden the reach of UNESCO water-related institutes and centres and to increase the impacts and visibility of their activities while providing the framework to explore potential mutually beneficial collaborations through the exchange of knowledge, information, and contacts.

Likewise, cooperation is defined herein as the joint undertaking of activities in support of the implementation of IHP Programmes, interventions, initiatives and activities.

VI. COMMUNICATION PLAN AND VISIBILITY

The Secretariat has initiated a multitier communication plan¹² aiming to enhance the visibility of UNESCO IHP and the UNESCO Water Family with initial focus on integrating water-related centres and water chairs into a common platform.

VI.1 Establishment of a common communication platform:

The Secretariat of IHP has developed an integrated collaborative platform for the UNESCO Water Family using existing (digital?) infrastructure at UNESCO. It is foreseen that Centres will, individually and collectively, actively participate in the platform and appoint a platform focal point.

¹¹ Please see paragraph 36 of the final report of the 20th session of the IHP Council (IHP/IC-XX/3) and Annex III of document (IHP/Nairobi Meeting/2013/Final Report) for the Terms of Reference for the Working Group on Supporting the Implementation of The Strategic Plan of IHP-VIII.

¹² Please see article G.3 of the comprehensive strategy document (38 C/18 Part I) concerning the global communication plan for all category 2 centres under the auspices of UNESCO.

The platform shall serve as the primary mechanism and access point for sharing and updating information, documents, and news that UNESCO's water-related institutes and centres can understand what each centre is doing and identify areas of cooperation. The platform shall also host reporting mechanisms (e.g. web forms) and serve as the main location for the Secretariat to issue network-wide announcements to centres and chairs and for dialogue.

VI.2 Enhancing the quality and frequency of content update of IHP website

The Secretariat shall regularly update the centres web-page on the IHP web-site to enhance the visibility of centres and to better reflect the contribution of water-related centres to the implementation of IHP activities and to highlight cooperation between centres.

It is understood that information for updating the centre's web page shall originate from the centres themselves. Therefore, active participation in the above-mentioned communication platform is highly encouraged to ensure timely updates and content quality on the IHP water-related centres' web page.

Each category 2 water-related centre shall also establish its own web page. While each centre may choose its own format and style, centres are encouraged to adopt a reasonable level of homogeneity, especially with respect to the use of UNESCO's corporate image and logo¹³.

Water-related centres are also encouraged to contribute to the visibility of UNESCO and IHP in the field through their networking and by providing links to the activities of field offices in their countries. The Secretariat shall connect the centres with the appropriate field/regional offices.

VI.3 Establishing IHP presence on Social Media

In cooperation with relevant units at UNESCO, IHP will establish its own social media presence. IHP will utilize social media in two different modes.

Informal network and initiative support: IHP will participate in and/or initiate the establishment of groups on professional social media platforms (e.g., LinkedIn). Secretariat staff will therefore remain up-to-date and to encourage collaboration within these networks.

Public visibility: IHP will establish a public visibility social media platform to enhance the visibility of IHP and its activities, especially among younger generations. This shall be coordinated and monitored by UNESCO' Sector of External Relations and shall comply with all relevant UNESCO guidelines. Information on centres activities will also be published in coordination with the centres.

¹³ Please see article G1 concerning the use of UENSCO Logo. In general, centre's logos must be approved by the graphics unit within UNESCO. The unit can also support the centre by creating a standards compliant logo. Centres are encouraged to contact the secretariat of IHP prior to publishing their logos if these logos make use of UNESCO or IHP logo.

ANNEX-1

ASSESSMENT OF PROPOSED CENTRES

Prior to Submission

Member States are strongly encouraged to communicate with the Secretariat as well as with regional hydrologists prior to proposing a new category 2 water related centre. Such communication will provide Member States with access to the most recent updates on the status of the network of centres, and may assist them in avoiding the risk of thematic and/or regional redundancies. The Secretariat shall provide Member State with all necessary documents to facilitate the process.

Step 1: Proposal Submission

Proposals must be submitted to the Director-General by a Member State or Member States with copies to the Assistant Director General for Natural Sciences and The Secretary of IHP.

The Director-General may request the Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences to comment on the proposal taking into advise the comments and recommendations from the Governing Bodies of the International Hydrological Programme.

Step 2: Review by the Governing Bodies of IHP

2.1 Preliminary Review by Secretariat of IHP

At instruction from the ADG/SC, the Secretary of IHP shall promptly undertake an internal review of the proposal and present the findings of the review along with recommendations to the Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences who shall communicate these findings and recommendations to the Member State(s) allowing sufficient time for the Member State(s) to respond to the Secretariat comments.

2.2 Review by the Bureau of IHP

Once the Member State responds to the comments, the Secretariat shall inform the Bureau of the proposal and inquire whether the Bureau wishes to review the proposal in its upcoming session or in out-of-session.

The initial/or revised proposal shall then be submitted to the IHP Bureau, who shall examine it and issue its comments and recommendation on the proposed establishment of a new centre to the IHP Intergovernmental Council and to the Member State(s) that made the proposal, based on the following questions:

1. Does the proposed centre contribute to UNESCO's strategic programme objectives, in particular, objectives of the relevant strategic phase of the IHP?
2. How does the proposed new centre fit into the network of already-established category 1 Institute and category 2 centres, both thematically and geographically, and does it compliment the network by focusing on thematic areas where there is a need for regional or global capacity within the network?
3. Do the functions and thematic specializations of the proposed new centre fall clearly and justifiably within UNESCO's mandate and field of competence, or is there duplication with the mandate of another UN system agency?
4. What kind of regional and/or international impact will the proposed centre have?
5. What does the presence of UNESCO contribute to the constitution and functioning of the centre, or conversely, is the involvement of UNESCO necessary to the establishment and effective operation of the centre?

The Bureau may also wish to invite the Member State(s) to revise or append the proposal to address its comments prior to the introduction to the IHP Council and shall in this case request the Secretariat to reflect the response from the Member State(s) in their report to the

IHP Council.

The comments of the Bureau, along with other supporting documents including the initial/revised proposal from the Member State(s), will be distributed to members of the Intergovernmental Council for consideration at least four weeks prior to that session. When a proposal for the establishment of a centre is considered by the IHP Council, it does not imply any financial commitment of the part of UNESCO (in conformity with the stipulations of the corresponding guidelines document 37 C/18 Part 1 and Attachments.).

2.3 Review and Action by the Intergovernmental Council of IHP

The Council shall then review the proposal, taking into account the comments from the IHP Bureau and response from the Member State(s) in order to determine if it fits within IHP's relevant strategic medium-term plan and with its IHP category 2 network strategy and provide a recommendations to the Director-General as to whether a feasibility study should be conducted. Should the proposal be endorsed by the Council, it shall then be submitted to the Director General of UNESCO for approval, following the established mechanism

The Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences shall convey the council's recommendations to the Director-General requesting authorization to undertake a feasibility study in the case of council's endorsement` .

Step 3: Decision by the Director-General

Should the Director-General decide that a feasibility study shall be undertaken, the concerned Member State(s) shall undertake to cover all related costs to prepare such a feasibility study, or identify other extrabudgetary sources to cover these costs; UNESCO shall not bear the costs of such feasibility study.

Step 4: Feasibility Study

The feasibility study study shall be the responsibility of the Secretariat of UNESCO-IHP and shall focus on:

- a) a clear programmatic linkage between the activities of the institute or centre and the Organization's purposes as set forth in its Constitution and the strategic programme objectives and priorities, including the two global priorities of UNESCO, as well as the programme priorities of IHP as set in the strategic plans for its current phase.
- b) the scope of the activities of the proposed institute/centre and the ability and capacity of the institute/centre to meet its objectives;
- c) the global, regional, sub regional or interregional relevance and impact (actual or potential) of the institute or centre, in particular the complementarities between its activities and those of other existing institutes or centres with similar focus; the contribution that it is expected to make in strengthening the provision of policy advice, capacity-building in Member States and the promotion of the South-South cooperation; and the contribution and role to be provided by UNESCO;
- d) the eventual complementarity and redundancy of a proposed institute/centre with other category 2 entities or with other similar institutions created and operated by other United Nations system organizations; the likely impact of the engagement with the proposed institute/centre on the capacity of the Secretariat to undertake effective coordination of this and other category 2 institutes/centres;
- e) the financial sustainability of the institute/centre.

The feasibility study must include a draft agreement and a draft decision for the Executive Board. It must be reviewed and approved through the appropriate internal Secretariat channels.

Any deviation from the model agreement, as attached to the current comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and Centres under the auspices of UNESCO, must be explicitly identified and explained in the feasibility study.

The Member State(s) proposing the centre shall bear the cost of the feasibility study.

Step 5: Examination by the Executive Board

The Executive Board shall examine the feasibility study and a draft agreement which shall be submitted to it by the Director-General only once per biennium, at its session immediately preceding the regular session of the General Conference, and based thereon the Board shall make appropriate recommendations to the General Conference.

The Secretariat of IHP shall promptly inform the Member State of the Decision of the Executive Board

Step 6: Resolution by the General Conference

The recommendation by the Executive Board shall be considered by the General Conference, which will decide about the establishment of an institute to centre under UNESCO's auspices (category 2) and authorize the Director-General to conclude an agreement between UNESCO and the Government(s) concerned.

The Secretariat of IHP shall promptly inform the Member States of the decision of the General Conference and if favorable, shall invite the Member State to Conclude the Agreement in full coordination with appropriate internal Secretariat channels.

Step 7: Signature of Agreement

Upon approval by the General Conference (for new centres) or by the Executive Board (for renewal of agreement of existing centre), the Secretariat, and in coordination with the Office of the Director-General shall invite the Member State to consider signing the agreement.

Upon signature of the agreement, the Secretariat will invite the centre to inform UNESCO of the completion of all internal procedures, as set forth +

Step 8: Condition to become a category 2 institute or centre

To become a category 2 institute or centre the agreement signed between UNESCO and Member State(s) concerned must enter into force, by written notification of either party.

ANNEX 2

BEST PRACTICES: PROPOSALS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW WATER RELATED CENTRE

I. Title

The proposal title shall include the name of the proposed centre, its location, and its host institute if applicable.

II. Background and Motivation

This section may include a short description of the action being proposed, its motivation and the regional and/or global relevance of the topical area of the centre. It is important to also identify whether the Member State is requesting a designation of an existing centre or the establishment of a new centre. Likewise, this section shall include a clear delineation of the geographic scope of the centre's activities being regional or global and describe why the designation as a UNESCO category 2 Centre is needed.

III. Programme, Objectives, and Functions

This section shall include the proposed programme of the proposed new centre. It should address the centre's objectives and functions, its targets, deliverables and beneficiaries and how the proposed programme and its objectives address and meet UNESCO's strategic programme objectives as well as the objectives of the current phase of the IHP. The proposed programme should delineate the thematic area/areas of IHP the centre expects to engage in.

The functions of the centre shall define the scope and type of the activities the centre proposes to undertake (e.g. education, capacity building, research, training, publication) in order to achieve its objectives and how the centre will act with other bodies with interests in the same area of science and in water resources management. This may include bodies within the same institute, as well as at the national, regional, and global level.

In defining the objectives and functions of the centre, which must demonstrate close alignment with the strategic objectives of UNESCO in general, and especially with IHP priorities, Member States are encouraged to consult with the Secretariat concerning the thematic gaps and priorities for the network of centres. The following areas of specialization are examples of complimentary and important areas for which no centres exist at the moment:

1. Water quality and Sanitation;
2. Water for Rural and Urban human settlements (water cycle, technological and institutional innovations);
3. Social science modeling and feedback;
4. Water resources management indicators (theoretical and applied), particularly in the context of SDG;
5. Remote Sensing applications in hydrologic science and water resources management
6. Groundwater Surface Water Interactions;
7. Water and Gender Equality; water and culture;
8. Water Economy

IV. Facilities and Expertise

A brief description what facilities and expertise will be made available to implement the proposed programme. Detailed descriptions of the centre's facilities or the facilities of the host institute may be presented in annexes if deemed necessary by the Member State.

V. Governance and Administration

This section should describe how the governance, management and operational structure of the proposed new centre, including its various governing bodies and advisory bodies when applicable. Brief description of the secretariat of the centre and how technical staff will be assigned from the host institution may be presented as well.

VI. Legal Status

This section shall describe the existing or future legal status of the proposed new centre, particularly in terms of the legislation of the Member State in which it will be established.

The section should also address the undertaking by the Member State or States concerned to take the necessary measures for the establishment of the proposed new centre. This may include necessary adjustment of the governance of existing centres and the steps necessary to ensure compliance with the provisions of the model agreement such as articles relevant to the independence of the centre.

VII. Financial Aspects

This section shall describe the sources of funding for the proposed centre and the method of financing (the origin of its various resources and its legal authority to accept such resources as subventions, gifts and legacies or payments for services rendered). A draft budget with capital and running costs shall also be included in describing the financial aspects of the centre's operation.

VIII. Cooperation with UNESCO Water Family

When applicable, this section shall include a brief description of existing and/or proposed cooperation with existing water-related centres, UNESCO Water Chairs, UNESCO-IHE, and the World Water Assessment Programme. Modalities of cooperation, such as participation in governing bodies, exchange of work plans may be highlighted. The Information presented in this section may be supplemented by letter(s) of interest in cooperation obtained from members of the Water Family including centres and chairs.

In this section the proposal need to indicate which areas are already been addressed by other cat 2 centers.

IX. Responsibilities of Member State and UNESCO

This section shall describe the respective responsibilities of the Member State or States concerned and of UNESCO (nature and the duration of the contribution expected from UNESCO; obligations incumbent upon the Member State or States vis-à-vis the centre and its activities);

X. Annexes and Supplemental Documents

Annexes may include supporting information on the host institute or on the existing centre, facilities, existing educational programmes and accredited degrees, and letters of support or interest in cooperation from members of UNESCO water family and/or other bodies with interests in the same area of science and in water resources management.

ANNEX-3

RENEWAL ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES OF THE CATEGORY 2 WATER CENTRES

Generic Terms of Reference

UNESCO delivers on its mandate through a broad variety of activities, including those implemented through Category 2 institutes/centres under the auspices of UNESCO. These centres serve in their fields of specialization as international or regional centres and poles of expertise to provide services and technical assistance to Member States, cooperation partners and also internally to the network of UNESCO field offices. In this context, the UNESCO category 2 water centres are expected to contribute directly to attaining UNESCO's strategic programme objectives and expected results aligned with the four-year programmatic period of C/5 document (Programme and Budget), including the two global priorities of the Organization, and related sectoral or programme priorities and themes as well as those of UNESCO's International Hydrological Program (IHP).

[insert a brief description of the centre under review including: Name of the centre under review, year of establishment, and reference to relevant decisions of the Governing Bodies of IHP and UNESCO. Also define whether the centre is global, regional, and its geographic scope in case of a regional or multi-regional centre, indicate the year of signature of the agreement for the centre]

[if applicable, insert description of the outcome of the most recent review of the centre and reference to relevant governing bodies decisions, also indicate year of signature of renewal agreement]

According to the ***[insert year of agreement]*** agreement, ***[insert a description of the objectives and functions of the centre under review as specified in the agreement]***

In order to enhance the operation and effectiveness of individual UNESCO category 2 institutes/centres, as well as the effectiveness of their network, the General Conference at its 37th session amended the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for Category 2 Institutes and Centres under the auspices of UNESCO (37 C/Resolution 93), as contained in document 37 C/18 Part I and Annexes, and requested the Director-General to apply the strategy to all proposals for the establishment of category 2 institutes and centres and all renewals of existing agreements. This integrated comprehensive strategy supersedes all relevant prior resolutions by the General Conference on the subject.

The General Conference has mandated that each existing agreement with category 2 institute or centre be reviewed in consultation with the Member State(s) with a view to bringing it into conformity with the new strategy for category 2 entities and respective sectoral strategies including the IHP Strategy for water related category 2 institutes/centres. To that effect, it is necessary to carry out a formal review before a decision is taken to renew the existing agreement concerning the designation of the ***[insert centre's name and location]*** as a category 2 Centre under the auspices of UNESCO.

The following principles as set out in the document 37 C/18 part I are particularly relevant in the context of the review.

A.3 Periodic review and evaluation

A.3.1 The agreement for the establishment of an institute or centre as a category 2 institute shall be concluded for a definite time period, not exceeding six years. The agreement may be renewed by the Director-General in the light of the review in A.3.2 and A.3.3 and the evaluation referred to in A.3.4 and once the Executive Board has taken its decision.

A.3.2 At least six months prior to the expiration of the agreement, the Director-General will carry out a review of the activities of the institutes and centres and of their contribution to the strategic programme objectives of the Organization and the strategy for category 2 institutes and centres approved by the General Conference.

A.3.3 The Director-General will include the results of this review in her report to the Executive Board on the execution of the Programme with recommendations as to whether the designation as category 2 institute or centre under the auspices of UNESCO should be maintained, terminated or not renewed. For each institute and centre under review, the termination or non-renewal of an agreement is incumbent upon the Executive Board.

A.3.4 To facilitate the review, the Internal Oversight Service will consider in its planned evaluations of strategic programme objectives, the contribution of the relevant category 2 institutes and centres to the strategic programme objectives under review.

E.1 Financial obligations

E.1.1 UNESCO shall have no financial obligations or accountability for the operations, management and accounting by any category 2 institute or centre and shall not provide financial support for administrative or institutional purposes.

E.1.2 UNESCO Member State(s) or individual institutions concerned shall meet the costs of the feasibility study related to the establishment of a category 2 institute and centre proposed, the costs of the renewal review assessments, as well as the costs of UNESCO staff participation in a governing body of institute or centre, as appropriate.

E.1.3 If a category 2 institute or centre ceases to receive financial support from sponsoring Member State(s) or any other funding source the Director-General shall invite sponsoring Member State(s) to explore other funding possibilities within the period of six months. Should there be no result, the Director-General may propose to the Executive Board to terminate the agreement signed and cancel the designation as category 2 entity.

2. Purpose

The main objective of this review is to serve as the basis for the IHP Secretariat's recommendation to the Director-General as to whether the agreement with the [**name of centre**] should be renewed.

In this respect, results of the review, as stated in the relevant article above (A.3) of the strategy, will be included in the Director-General's report to the Executive Board on the execution of the Programme with her recommendations as to whether the designation as category 2 institute or centre under the auspices of UNESCO should be maintained, terminated or not renewed.

The purpose of this review is also to inform the Member States of UNESCO and its cooperation partners on the Centre's contribution to the Strategic Programme Objectives of UNESCO and on the implementation of the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for the Category 2 Institutes and Centres (37 C/Resolution 93 and document 37 C/18 Part I and its annex.

The results of the review will be shared with the institute/centre under review. The report of the review will also be made available on the IHP and/or Science Sector website.

3. Scope

The Review shall cover the period from [start year]-to[end year] (consistent with the agreement)

In order to meet the purpose of the review described above, the following parameters shall be considered by independent expert(s) responsible for conducting the review and writing a report that is consistent with UNESCO's reporting mechanisms.

- a) The extent to which the activities and outputs by the institute/centre are in conformity with those set out in the Agreement signed with UNESCO and are potentially adaptable to current UNESCO's strategic programme objectives and expected results aligned with the four-year programmatic period of C/5 document (Programme and Budget), including the two global priorities of the Organization, and related sectoral or programme priorities and themes;
- b) The relevance of the Centre's programmes and activities to achieving prevailing UNESCO's strategic programme objectives and sectoral or intersectoral programme priorities and themes. In particular:
 - The Centre's contributions to UNESCO activities [insert programmatic and thematic area] urban water management and to the implementation of Focal Area [relevant focal area within the relevant phase(s)] of IHP-[phase and years] in the region and internationally;
 - The Centre's ongoing and planned contributions to the implementation of relevant thematic and focal areas of the 8th phase of IHP (IHP-VIII for 2014-2021) in the region and internationally;
- c) The effectiveness of the Centre's programmes and activities to achieving its stated objectives;
- d) The quality of coordination and interaction with UNESCO, both at Headquarters and in the field (including UNESCO field offices and UNESCO National Commissions), and other thematically-related category 1 and 2 institutes/centres with regard to planning and implementation of programmes;
- e) The quality of partnerships with government agencies, public/private partners and donors;
- f) The nature and quality of organizational arrangements, including management, governance, reporting and accountability mechanisms;
- g) The human and financial resource base and the quality of mechanisms and capacities, as well as context-specific opportunities and risks for ensuring sustainable institutional capacity and viability;
- h) The process of mobilizing extrabudgetary resources and to what extent such extrabudgetary funding is aligned to the strategic programme objectives of UNESCO.

4. Roles and responsibilities

Category 2 IHP focal points are responsible for managing and coordinating the review process. As such, in consultation with IOS, they should draft the TOR's for a review, with IOS backstopping, select independent experts who will conduct the review and prepare the report.

The selected expert(s) shall be responsible for conducting the review and preparing the report, based on this TOR.

The report will be finalized in consultation with the IHP focal point for this centre, the global coordinator for water related centre, the Bureau of Strategic Planning (BSP) and Internal Oversight Services (IOS) of UNESCO. The results of the review will then be considered by a sector Review Committee who will recommend to the Director-General whether an existing agreement should be renewed or denounced. The Director-General will then provide the results of these reviews, including the endorsement or rejection to renew a specific agreement, in her report to the Executive Board on the execution of the programme (EX/4 and C/3 documents) (as well as reports to any subsidiary bodies as may be envisaged in sector strategies).

The approval of the Executive Board will be required before the Director-General can proceed with the renewal of an agreement. Should the Executive Board decide the termination or non-renewal of the agreement, the host Member State(s) shall then be duly informed of such decision.

The BSP will coordinate with the relevant category 2 IHP focal point to include the result of a review undertaken in the Director-General's once-per-biennium report to the Executive Board on the execution of the programme (EX/4 and C/3 documents).

5. Review team

The review team will consist of one or two independent expert(s) nominated by the centre' focal point and selected by the Secretary of IHP in consultation with IOS.

Qualifications of the independent reviewer(s):

- At least 10 years of professional experience in research, practice and/or capacity-building in water similar to the scope of the cat 2 center
- Academic degree (PhD preferred) in the above-mentioned field
- Professional experience in policy and programme evaluation in the context of international development
- Fluency in English (written and spoken)
- Knowledge of the role and mandate of UNESCO and its programmes

6. Background documents

The Centre will make the following documents available to the review team:

- A copy of the existing agreement between the Member State and UNESCO establishing the institute/centre;
- Annual progress reports and biennial self-assessment reports on the contribution to UNESCO's programme objectives;
- Periodic independent audit reports of the financial statements;
- List of staff;
- List of key publications;
- List of donors and project partners;
- Minutes of the meetings of the Advisory Council of the Centre;
- Support provided to Member States;
- Available audit and evaluation reports;
- Account of networking achievements linked with other thematically related category 2 institutes/centres and UNESCO's programmes.

7. Methodology

The review of the Centre will include:

- A desk study of relevant documents, provided by the centre and UNESCO Secretariat;
- A visit to the Centre (see below provision 10);
- Interviews (face to face, phone and/or via e-mail) with Centre's stakeholders, collaborators, and beneficiaries;
- Preparation of the review report.
- Additional review tools that are acknowledged and accepted such as (SWAT) analysis if deemed appropriate by the reviewers and accepted by the centre and UNESCO.

8. Deliverables

Draft review report: The process for preparing the draft review report shall allow adequate time for a discussion of the findings and the recommendations that have been proposed with the relevant UNESCO programme sector and pertinent stakeholders, including the government(s) that proposed the designation of the Centre and the Centre itself.

Final review report: The final report (max. 25 pages excluding annexes) should be structured as follows:

- Executive summary (maximum four pages);
- Purpose of the review;
- Scope of the review;
- Methodology;
- Findings;
- Recommendations (including a formal recommendation on (dis)continuation of the Category 2 status);
- Annexes (including interview list, key documents consulted, Terms of Reference and results of any quantitative and/or qualitative analysis conducted by the reviewers if appropriate).

The language of the report will be English or French.

The review report will be shared with the Centre and made available on the website of the Programme Sector of UNESCO.

9. Logistics

The local travel, materials, secretarial support and office space will need to be provided by the Centre to be reviewed. The experts will be responsible for telecommunications and printing of documentation. The relevant UNESCO programme sector will facilitate the review process, to the extent possible, by providing any relevant information.

10. Budget

The Centre under review or the sponsoring Member State shall be invited to consider covering all costs related to the preparation of the review, including the mission costs of the expert(s), or to explore the possibility of mobilizing extrabudgetary resources to cover the cost of the review.

The costs of the review of the Centre will be part of the Centre's financial obligations according to Article E1.2 and E1.3 (financial obligations) of the strategy (see provision 1).

11. Time schedule

The review shall be carried out not later than April 2014, bearing in mind the need for sufficient time for the preparation of the report review and relevant documents for consideration by the

Executive Board. It should be noted that, as per article H.5 (Reporting to Board sessions) of the new strategy, the Director-General's shall report to the Executive Board once per biennium on activities of all existing institutes and centres under UNESCO auspices. In case of denunciation or non-renewals, relevant recommendations by the Director-General could be submitted to the Executive Board at any of its sessions.

The schedule for the review is as follows:

- A desk study of background documents (to be completed prior to the visit to the Centre)
- A mission to visit to the Centre (of *3 to 5 days*)
- Writing and submission of the draft review report to UNESCO (*2 weeks*)
- Submission of the revised review report, incorporating UNESCO comments, to UNESCO for approval (*2 weeks upon receipt UNESCO comments*)

The duration of the mission of the reviewers to the Centre will be determined by the category 2 sectoral focal point, as will the time allotted for the finalization of the report.

The date of the mission to the Centre will be defined by UNESCO in coordination with the Centre and taking into account the reviewers' availability.

ANNEX 4- BIENNIAL REPORT

Format for Biennial Reports by UNESCO's Water-related Centres on activities related to the IHP in the period [From]–[To]

1. Part 1: Basic information on the centre

Centre Data Sheet

Name of the Centre			
Name of Director			
Name and title of contact person (for cooperation)			
E-mail			
Address			
Website			
Location of centre	city/town _____ country _____		
Geographic orientation *	<input type="checkbox"/> global <input type="checkbox"/> regional		
Region(s) (for regional centres)			
Year of establishment			
Year of renewal assessment			
Signature of most recent Agreement			
Themes Of activities during reporting period	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">Focal Areas ♦</td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> groundwater/hydrogeology <input type="checkbox"/> urban water management <input type="checkbox"/> rural water management <input type="checkbox"/> arid / semi-arid zones <input type="checkbox"/> humid tropics <input type="checkbox"/> cryosphere (snow, ice, glaciers) <input type="checkbox"/> water related disasters (drought/floods) <input type="checkbox"/> Erosion/sedimentation, and landslides <input type="checkbox"/> ecohydrology/ecosystems <input type="checkbox"/> water law and policy <input type="checkbox"/> social/cultural/gender dimension of water <input type="checkbox"/> transboundary river basins/ aquifers <input type="checkbox"/> mathematical modelling <input type="checkbox"/> hydroinformatics <input type="checkbox"/> remote sensing/GIS <input type="checkbox"/> IWRM <input type="checkbox"/> Watershed processes/management <input type="checkbox"/> global and change and impact assessment <input type="checkbox"/> mathematical modelling <input type="checkbox"/> water education <input type="checkbox"/> water quality <input type="checkbox"/> application of nano-technology in water sector <input type="checkbox"/> waste water management/re-use <input type="checkbox"/> water/energy/food nexus <input type="checkbox"/> water systems and infrastructure <input type="checkbox"/> other: (please specify) _____ </td> </tr> </table>	Focal Areas ♦	<input type="checkbox"/> groundwater/hydrogeology <input type="checkbox"/> urban water management <input type="checkbox"/> rural water management <input type="checkbox"/> arid / semi-arid zones <input type="checkbox"/> humid tropics <input type="checkbox"/> cryosphere (snow, ice, glaciers) <input type="checkbox"/> water related disasters (drought/floods) <input type="checkbox"/> Erosion/sedimentation, and landslides <input type="checkbox"/> ecohydrology/ecosystems <input type="checkbox"/> water law and policy <input type="checkbox"/> social/cultural/gender dimension of water <input type="checkbox"/> transboundary river basins/ aquifers <input type="checkbox"/> mathematical modelling <input type="checkbox"/> hydroinformatics <input type="checkbox"/> remote sensing/GIS <input type="checkbox"/> IWRM <input type="checkbox"/> Watershed processes/management <input type="checkbox"/> global and change and impact assessment <input type="checkbox"/> mathematical modelling <input type="checkbox"/> water education <input type="checkbox"/> water quality <input type="checkbox"/> application of nano-technology in water sector <input type="checkbox"/> waste water management/re-use <input type="checkbox"/> water/energy/food nexus <input type="checkbox"/> water systems and infrastructure <input type="checkbox"/> other: (please specify) _____
Focal Areas ♦	<input type="checkbox"/> groundwater/hydrogeology <input type="checkbox"/> urban water management <input type="checkbox"/> rural water management <input type="checkbox"/> arid / semi-arid zones <input type="checkbox"/> humid tropics <input type="checkbox"/> cryosphere (snow, ice, glaciers) <input type="checkbox"/> water related disasters (drought/floods) <input type="checkbox"/> Erosion/sedimentation, and landslides <input type="checkbox"/> ecohydrology/ecosystems <input type="checkbox"/> water law and policy <input type="checkbox"/> social/cultural/gender dimension of water <input type="checkbox"/> transboundary river basins/ aquifers <input type="checkbox"/> mathematical modelling <input type="checkbox"/> hydroinformatics <input type="checkbox"/> remote sensing/GIS <input type="checkbox"/> IWRM <input type="checkbox"/> Watershed processes/management <input type="checkbox"/> global and change and impact assessment <input type="checkbox"/> mathematical modelling <input type="checkbox"/> water education <input type="checkbox"/> water quality <input type="checkbox"/> application of nano-technology in water sector <input type="checkbox"/> waste water management/re-use <input type="checkbox"/> water/energy/food nexus <input type="checkbox"/> water systems and infrastructure <input type="checkbox"/> other: (please specify) _____		

* check on appropriate box

♦ check all that apply

	Scope of Activities ♦	<input type="checkbox"/> vocational training <input type="checkbox"/> postgraduate education <input type="checkbox"/> continuing education <input type="checkbox"/> public outreach <input type="checkbox"/> research <input type="checkbox"/> institutional capacity-building <input type="checkbox"/> advising/ consulting <input type="checkbox"/> software development <input type="checkbox"/> data-sets/data-bases development <input type="checkbox"/> other: (please specify) _____
	Main Thematic Contributions to IHP-VIII	<input type="checkbox"/> T1:Water-Related Disasters And Hydrological Change <input type="checkbox"/> T2:Groundwater In A Changing Environment <input type="checkbox"/> T3:Addressing Water <input type="checkbox"/> Scarcity & <input type="checkbox"/> Quality <input type="checkbox"/> T4:Water And Human Settlements Of The Future <input type="checkbox"/> T5:Ecohydrology, Engineering Harmony For A Sustainable World <input type="checkbox"/> T6:Water Education, Key For Water Security
Support bodies ¹⁴		
Hosting organization ¹⁵		
Sources of financial support ¹⁶		
Existing networks and cooperation ¹⁷		
Governance	<input type="checkbox"/> director and governing board <input type="checkbox"/> other: (please specify) _____ Link to election of board members to the IHP Intergovernmental Council (IGC) and hosting country IHP National Committee _____ Frequency of meetings: once every __year(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Existence of UNESCO presence at meetings	
Institutional affiliation of director		
Number of staff and types of staff	total number of staff (full-time, or equivalent) : _____ number of staff who are water experts: _____ number of visiting scientists and postgraduate students: _____	
Annual turnover budget in USD		

¹⁴ please specify bodies that cover the operational costs of the centre, and other essential costs such as salaries and utility bills, and that provide institutional support to ensure centre's sustainability

¹⁵ if different from support bodies

¹⁶ please specify sources of main budgetary and extrabudgetary funds to implement projects

¹⁷ please write international networks, consortiums or projects that the centre is part of, or any other close links that the centre has with international organizations or programmes, which are not already mentioned above

Part 2: Activities, Contributions to IHP and Accomplishments

2. Activities undertaken in the framework of IHP in the period [From]-[To]

- 2.1 Educational activities (i.e., those with accreditation) that directly contributed to the IHP-VIII (Appendix-1 and 2) and WWAP
Please include here those activities which led to accreditation of degrees, or those held in formal school settings.
- 2.2 Research activities that directly contributed to IHP-VIII activities
Please include research/applied projects outputs such as publications that directly contributed to the IHP- VIII and WWAP objectives
- 2.3 Training activities that directly contributed to the IHP-VIII and WWAP objectives

3. Collaboration and linkages

- 3.1 Participation in major international networks, programmes, partnerships with other UN or other International Agencies, media and professional bodies
- 3.2 Participation in meetings related to the IHP and UNESCO (e.g., the UNESCO General Conference, the UNESCO Executive Board, the IHP Intergovernmental Council and/or other meetings organized by IHP)
- 3.3 Collaboration and networking with other UNESCO category 1 or 2 institutes/ centres
 - 3.3.1 cross-appointment of directors of the category 1 or 2 institutes or centres on the governing board
 - 3.3.2 exchange of information on activities such as training/educational materials, and funding opportunities
 - 3.3.3 exchange of staff, most notably professionals and students
 - 3.3.4 implementation of joint activities, such as workshops, conferences, training programmes, joint projects, field visits, software and data sharing, knowledge exchange and publications
- 3.4 Relationships with the UNESCO field and regional office whose jurisdiction covers the country of location
- 3.5 Relationship with the UNESCO National Commission and the IHP National Committee in the country of location and with other organizations of other countries
- 3.6 Relationship with other UNESCO-related networks, such as UNESCO Clubs, ASPnet, and UNESCO chairs

4. Communication

- 4.1 Communication and knowledge dissemination activities undertaken in the framework of IHP
- 4.2 Policy documents and advice

5. Update on Centre Operations

- 5.1 Membership of the Board of Governors between designated period

- 5.2 Key decisions made (attach minutes of meetings)
- 6. Evidence of the Centre's Impacts**
 - 6.1 Science Impacts (Major contributions to the science, technology, education, and regional and/or international cooperation in the field of water)
 - 6.2 Knowledge Transfer Impacts (Major achievements in the dissemination of knowledge and technology transfer)
 - 6.3 Policy Impacts (advice sought by government and other bodies and evidence of inputs into policy arena)
- 7. Future activities that will contribute directly to IHP and/or to WWAP**
 - 7.1 Operational Plan (attach if available)
 - 7.2 Strategic Plan linked with IHP-VIII (Please see supplement-1) (attach strategic plan if available)
- 8. Annexes**
 - 8.1 List of publications released by the centre (there can be overlap with those listed in 2.3 above)
 - 8.2 List of training courses conducted (there can be overlap with those listed in 2.1 above)

SUPPLEMENT-1
Core Programme Themes of the IHP-VIII (2014-2021)
WATER SECURITY: ADDRESSING LOCAL, REGIONAL, AND GLOBAL CHALLENGES

HEME 1: WATER-RELATED DISASTERS AND HYDROLOGICAL CHANGE

- Focal area 1.1 - Risk management as adaptation to global changes
- Focal area 1.2 - Understanding coupled human and natural processes
- Focal area 1.3 - Benefiting from global and local Earth observation systems
- Focal area 1.4 - Addressing uncertainty and improving its communication
- Focal area 1.5 - Improve scientific basis for hydrology and water sciences for preparation and response to extreme hydrological events

THEME 2: GROUNDWATER IN A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT

- Focal area 2.1 - Enhancing sustainable groundwater resources management
- Focal area 2.2 - Addressing strategies for management of aquifers recharge
- Focal area 2.3 - Adapting to the impacts of climate change on aquifer systems
- Focal area 2.4 - Promoting groundwater quality protection
- Focal area 2.5 - Promoting management of transboundary aquifers

THEME 3: ADDRESSING WATER SCARCITY AND QUALITY

- Focal area 3.1 - Improving governance, planning, management, allocation, and efficient use of water resources
- Focal area 3.2 - Dealing with present water scarcity and developing foresight to prevent undesirable trends
- Focal area 3.3 - Promoting tools for stakeholders involvement and awareness and conflict resolution
- Focal area 3.4 - Addressing water quality and pollution issues within an IWRM framework - improving legal, policy, institutional, and human capacity
- Focal area 3.5 - Promoting innovative tools for safety of water supplies and controlling pollution

THEME 4: WATER AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS OF THE FUTURE

- Focal area 4.1 - Game changing approaches and technologies
- Focal area 4.2 - System wide changes for integrated management approaches
- Focal area 4.3 - Institution and leadership for beneficiation and integration
- Focal area 4.4 - Opportunities in emerging cities in developing countries
- Focal area 4.5 - Integrated development in rural human settlement

THEME 5: ECOHYDROLOGY, ENGINEERING HARMONY FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD

- Focal area 5.1 - Hydrological dimension of catchment– identification of potential threats and opportunities for a sustainable development
- Focal area 5.2 - Shaping of the catchment ecological structure for ecosystem potential enhancement – biological productivity and biodiversity
- Focal area 5.3 - Ecohydrology system solution and ecological engineering for the enhancement of water and ecosystem resilience and ecosystem services
- Focal area 5.4 - Urban Ecohydrology – storm water purification and retention in the city landscape, potential for improvement of health and quality of life
- Focal area 5.5 - Ecohydrological regulation for sustaining and restoring continental to coastal connectivity and ecosystem functioning

THEME 6: WATER EDUCATION, KEY FOR WATER SECURITY

- Focal area 6.1 - Enhancing tertiary water education and professional capabilities in the water sector
- Focal area 6.2 - Addressing vocational education and training of water technicians
- Focal area 6.3 - Water education for children and youth
- Focal area 6.4 - Promoting awareness of water issues through informal water education
- Focal area 6.5 - Education for transboundary water cooperation

ANNEX 5

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES OF FOCAL POINTS

The coordination a network of focal points for category 2 water related centres shall be composed of staff from the Secretariat at, regional hydrologists, and regional science offices and field offices. The network is coordinated by the Secretary of IHP with the support of an overall coordinator for water-related centres.

The strategic priorities of the coordination activities are to (i) ensure alignment of category 2 water-related centres with the strategic priorities of UNESCO and IHP; (ii) enhance the networking and cooperation between centres themselves and with other members of the UNESCO Water Family, (iii) enhance the visibility of the network of water-related centres and of their contributions to the implementation of IHP, and (iv) ensure compliance with the UNESCO comprehensive strategy for category 2 centres through by ensuring rigorous and transparent processes for establishment, monitoring, and renewal assessment reviews.

1. Focal Points for Individual Centres

The strategic priorities for the focal point of each water-related centre are:

A. Programme alignment

- Ensure that the Centre's activities are in alignment with UNESCO and with IHP programme priorities as defined in the biennial implementation plans; by engaging with the centre at the early stage of formulating work plans and strategic documents;
- Inform the centre of IHP activities relevant to the centre's area of specialization; and
- Ensure that the Centre's activities are reflected in SISTER and that reports are submitted in line UNESCO's reporting requirements

B. Networking and cooperation

- Seek to engage the centre in relevant IHP initiatives and networks and support enhanced relationship between the centre and regional and field offices;
- Actively participate in the IHP Water Family common communication platform and encourage the centre's own participation in the platform

C. Visibility

- Support the overall coordinator in disseminating information on the centre's contributions to the implementation of IHP activities and its cooperation with the Secretariat through IHP communication tools by providing periodic and event based information on these contributions to the Secretariat;

D. Compliance and Assessment

- Liaise with the centre and the Member State during the negotiation of establishment and renewal agreements of the centre;
- Support the secretariat in coordinating the feasibility study of proposed centres;
- Review the individual centre periodic reports, including biennial reports, annual reports to the governing/advisory board of the centre, and the centre's work plans, and provide recommendation to the secretariat and the centre concerning enhanced alignment with IHP mid-term plans and activities;
- Support the representative of the Director-General on the governing board of the centre with all relevant information on the centre including assessment of the workplan and of the centre's strategic direction;
- Coordinate, in cooperation with the Secretariat, IOS, and BSP the renewal assessment

review of the centre in compliance with the integrated comprehensive strategy and with the strategic objectives of IHP (please see Annex 4 above); and

- Update the secretariat on all issues relevant to the centre.

2. Overall Coordinator for water-related Institutes and Centres

The strategic priorities of the overall coordinator of water-related category 2 centres are to:

A. Strategic Alignment

- Monitor and ensure the compliance of the SISTER reporting requirements for all centres;
- Undertake, as necessary, detailed mapping of the geographic and thematic distribution of category 2 water-related institutes and centres and perform necessary analysis, in consultation with the focal points, leading to the identification of thematic and regional priorities for establishment of new-category 2 centres and for further alignment of the activities of existing water-related centres with the strategic priorities and implementation plans of IHP;
- Develop and make available to Member States wishing to propose new category 2 water-related centres detailed guidelines and information that enhance the potential of aligning their proposals with the strategic priorities of IHP including supporting IHP in addressing thematic and regional gaps in the network of centres;
- Monitor, from a global perspective, the alignment of the activities of all water-related centres and report to the secretary and the governing bodies of IHP on relevant issues;
- Coordinate, in consultation with BSP and with the Sector focal point on centres, IHP's reporting on category 2 water-related centres to the Governing Bodies of IHP and to the Executive Board and General Conference;

B. Networking and cooperation

- Lead the development and deployment of a Water Family common communication platform based on UNESCO's collaborative tools (SharePoint) and mobilize resources for further development and update of the platform;
- Establish a data-base of cooperation between water-related centres and ensure that information on these cooperation are provided to Member States;

C. Visibility

- Develop and implement a communication plan that integrates the above-reference communication platform, IHP Website and Social media to enhance the visibility of the network of water-related category 2 centres;
- Ensure the frequent updating of IHP centre web-page and that it reflects the contributions of centres and coordinate the reflection of these contributions on social media platforms;

D. Compliance and Assessment

- Support focal points in ensuring the compliance of Centres' Statutes and Agreements with the Revised Comprehensive Strategy for Category 2 Centres (37 C/18 Part I and Attachments);
- Review the feasibility study reports and the review assessment reports and support the Secretary in formulating the programme's recommendations to the Governing Bodies of IHP and to the Assistant Director- General for Natural Sciences
- Perform a global analysis of biennial reports from the centres and identify areas of challenges and opportunities.

ANNEX 6

MODALITIES OF NETWORKING AND COOPERATION

While water-related centres have established reasonable levels of collaboration and networking, much more can be done to enhance both aspects of the network. The Secretariat will therefore continue to encourage¹⁸ collaboration and joint activities among Centres, between Centres and the secretariat, regional offices, UNESCO Water Chairs, UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education and WWAP, as a strategic option.

1. Networking

The objective of networking is to broaden the reach of UNESCO water-related institutes and centres and to increase the impacts and visibility of their activities while providing the framework to explore potential mutually beneficial collaborations through the exchange of knowledge, information, and contacts.

It is envisioned that Category 2 water related centres will network among themselves as well as with other existing UNESCO and IHP groups through one or more of the following modalities.

- a) Encourage the appointment of directors of category 1 or 2 institutes or centres on the governing board of other institutes or centres that share common interests, especially on similar themes and regions; and consider the appointment of water chairs on these governing boards;
- b) Appoint of representative(s) of UNESCO's water family—such as a member of the IHP National Committee of the host country or of the region or UNESCO Water Chairs—as member(s) of the governing board or advisory committee of a centre;
- c) Appoint director(s) of centre(s) as member(s) of the scientific board of UNESCO field offices (where they exist), and/or member(s) of the IHP National Committee of the host country/region, and/or other institute(s) of UNESCO's water family; and
- d) Establish sub-networks based on thematic and/or regional focus;
- e) If possible, exchange mail and contact lists;
- f) Provide links to each other websites and social media

2. Collaboration/Cooperation

For the purpose of this strategy, cooperation is defined as the joint undertaking of activities in support of the implementation of IHP Programmes, interventions, initiatives and activities.

As a prerequisite for effective cooperation, centres are encouraged to coordinate closely with other centres and UNESCO chairs working on similar or complementary issues/topics, including sharing work plans, strategies and best practices for harmonizing with IHP plans, and to exchange information on activities such as training/educational materials and funding opportunities.

¹⁸ The responsibilities of focal points for category 2 centres include concrete actions to promote collaboration with and between category 2 centres (Please see Annex 5 of this document for more details)

Centres may initiate concrete joint activities, such as workshops, conferences, training programmes, joint projects, field visits, software and data sharing, knowledge exchange and publications. Examples of concrete joint activities may include inter-alia:

- exchange staff, most notably professionals and students;
- jointly identify sources of regional and global support and undertake joint fund raising, not only to implement joint activities, but also to create and maintain the network of institutes and centres;
- share geo-referenced, experimental, and other data,
- undertake joint collaboration on education, capacity building, and training activities; and establish formal cooperation agreements that account for one or more of the above options.

In addition to cooperation within the Network, centres are encouraged to engage with relevant technical and scientific non-governmental organizations and link with other relevant UN agencies, particularly at the One-UN country level, and funding institutions.