

## WP2 - Partnership & networking

<b>Work package number</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Start Date or Starting Event</b>		<b>Month 3</b>
<b>Work package title</b>	<b>Partnership &amp; networking</b>			
<b>Participant number</b>	1	2	3	4
<b>Short name of participant</b>	UPB	UNIMIB	<b>FOKUS</b>	UNESCO-IHE
<b>Person/months per participant:</b>	3	5	5	3,5

### Objectives

WP2 aims to create a link between the Romanian research group in the field of SDWM and the internationally-leading research institutions, as well as to encourage and enhance the networking of the Romanian research group with other research intensive institutions in Europe, industry specialists, public authorities, and institutions that regulate critical resource management.

### Description of work

The lead partner of the work package is FOKUS as it has an outstanding experience in networking with research organizations, with industry, public administration and other relevant stakeholder. All the partners will contribute to the different tasks of the work package, by participating at the events and including UPB in their networks.

The work package includes common work with researchers from partnering organizations during scientific exchanges and information events. Regular meetings with the Advisory Board and experts will be organized to discuss both scientific topics as well as the Roadmap progress, priority of research themes, and synthesis conclusions for future developments

This WP aims also to develop a network of excellence and partnerships in the research field, at both national and European level, and strengthen the UPB research connections and increase its visibility by interactions with experienced researchers from partnering institutions and other research leading organizations, but also industry specialists to exchange experience, good practices, important topics for future research, identify topics for joint doctoral research, and internship opportunities.

In order to valorise the experience and knowledge acquired during the scientific exchanges and networking, an e-environment will be developed.

#### ***T2.1 Research staff exchanges (M3-M35)***

This task implies the planning and the roll-out of research staff exchanges between UPB and the project partners, involving experienced researchers.

The short term visits to partners allow to the UPB researchers to experience a direct involvement in current activities in excellence research teams, thus enabling the improvement of methodological expertise and knowledge of good practice, as well as making consortiums for future research activities. An average of five staff exchanges per year is foreseen. Selected research themes/topics will be commonly discussed and developed with the partner institutions during the staff exchange visits.

The activities in this task will improve the overall scientific and innovation capacity of the initiating institution strengthen the organizational abilities of UPB staff in organizing research activities.

#### ***T2.2 Develop a network of excellence and partnership in Smart Data for Water Management (M10-M36)***

An important task of the project is focused on both strengthening the existing cooperation relationships and enlarging the network of partners in research of the UPB research group. Initially, this network will comprise the EU partners of the project and the Romanian universities with which UPB has a long tradition of cooperation. The network will be gradually enlarged with other Romanian, European universities, companies, Romanian stakeholders and policymakers towards building a strong community of research and innovation in the field, a pole of excellence in South Eastern Europe, having the centre UPB, and an information-sharing network of competencies, experience, and research results. Members of this enlarged network are future potential partners for both the development of common research projects, but also strategic partners to support regional socio-economic growth.

The contact with the network community will be ensured both through face to face meetings and by electronic media. High profile specialists will be invited at networking events, to present the latest research directions/results or trends in the field. In the project team a person will be responsible with updating the all contacts information. A newsletter will be periodically edited, to inform about ongoing activities. During the project, we will organize 3 Information & Networking events, where relevant stakeholders and network members will be invited. The network has an open character, that allows interested persons/organizations to join. All networking information will be available also on the *Networking and Knowledge E-Environment*, "Knowledge-lake" (See Task5.1).

During the project lifetime, in the networking activities, a special attention will be given to creation of a portfolio of possible future partners for research activities, as well as a portfolio of research topics in which the team achieved excellence and related interested companies, public or private organizations interested to apply the research results, will be set up.

The partners will also participate at two ICT Events, organized by the European Commission and will present the project results and its impact.

The activities in this task will strengthen the capacity of UPB staff to enlarge its scientific network and build consortia able to deal with specific research topics. It also enhances the ability to make visible the research results, in order to transfer the results to the end users.

**Deliverables** (brief description and month of delivery)

**D2.1** Report on staff exchanges (that includes the individual reports) [*months 36*]

**D2.2** Report on the Information & Networking events [*month 36*]