

International Sava River Basin Commission

 An example of EU/non EU country cooperation in water management

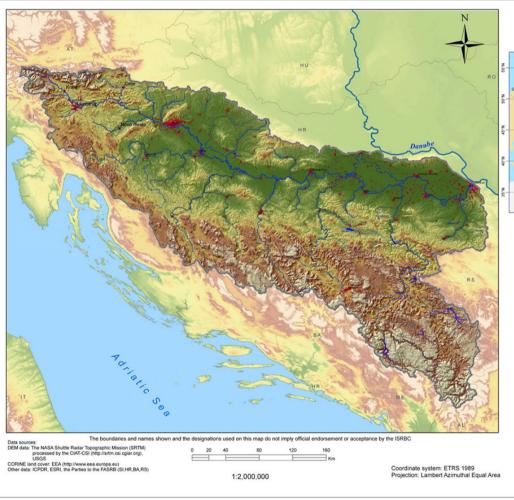
Improvement and co-operation possibilities in the water sector with non-EU countries

Ulm, 29 October 2015

Samo Grošelj, Deputy Secretary, ISRBC



Sava River Basin overview



Sava River Basin overview map



- Area: 97 713 km² (the second largest Danube sub-basin; share: 12%)
- Average flow at mouth: 1722
 m³/s (the largest Danube tributary; contribution: 25%)
- River length: 940 km (594 km of which is the waterway)
- Population: approx. 8.5 million



Background to cooperation

Challenges

- Use of water resources: development and protection
- Management of water resources: national → transboundary
- Legal framework
 - Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin (2002)
 - Parties
 - Bosnia & Herzegovina
 - Croatia
 - **Serbia** (formerly FR Yugoslavia, RS & ME)
 - Slovenia
- Montenegro cooperation on technical level until their full membership



INTERNATIONAL SAVA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

FASRB

Key objective:

Transboundary water cooperation for sustainable development of the region

- Particular objectives to establish:
 - International regime of **navigation**
 - Sustainable water management
 - Sustainable management of hazards (floods, droughts, accidents, etc.)
- Implementation coordinated by the ISRBC





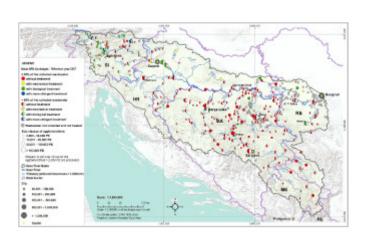


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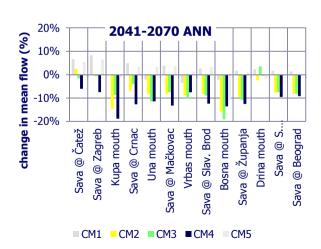


Scope of cooperation

- Development of joint / integrated plans for the basin
 - River Basin Management Plan (according to EU WFD)
 - Flood Risk Management Plan (according to EU Flood Directive)
 - Other plans
 - Sediment Management Plan
 - Water and Climate Adaptation Plan



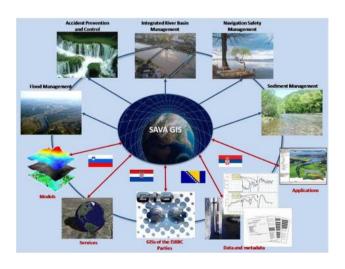






Scope of cooperation

- Establishment of **integrated systems** for the basin
 - Information systems (GIS, RIS)
 - Data exchange system (hydrological and meteorological)
 - Forecasting and early warning systems (floods, accidents involving water pollution)







Scope of cooperation

- Development of water-related economic activities in the basin (Navigation, River tourism, Hydropower use, Agriculture)
- Harmonization of regulation (national → EU)
- Creation of additional protocols to the FASRB





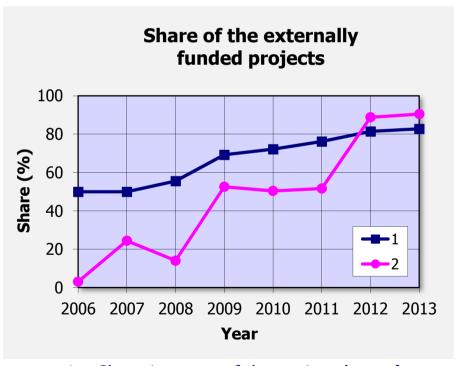


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Projects

- Agreed by all countries
- Direct benefits
 - Preparation and/or implementation of projects
 - Raising funds from external sources (~ 90%)
- **Indirect** benefits
 - Facilitation of fund-raising for the countries
 - Lower costs for the countries in case of joint ventures



- 1 Share in terms of the projects' **number**
- 2 Share in terms of the projects' **budget**



Links to national and international institutions

- Institutions officially nominated by the governments
 - Ministries relevant for water resources management
 - Ministries relevant for environmental protection
 - Ministries for transport
- Water agencies
- National hydrometeorological services
- International organizations (e.g. ICPDR, UNECE, UNESCO, WMO, US Government, EU institutions)



Stakeholders

- Wide range horizontally, all sectors of society
- Inter-sectoral coordination an important task of ISRBC

Activity / Field of work	Protection of waters	Flood Management	Navigation	Hydropower	Agriculture	Tourism	Climate
River Basin Management Plan	+	+	+	+	+		+
Water and Climate Adaptation Plan		+	+	+	+		+
Integrated Information System	+	+	+	+	+		
Navigation	+		+	+		+	
River Tourism	+	+	+	+		+	



Benefits

- Improved cooperation / Increased level of mutual trust among the countries
- Implementation of projects of common interest
- Harmonization of regulation, methodologies and procedures
- Enhancement of cross-sectoral cooperation on national level





Conclusions

- FASRB provides a good basis for the progress towards the achievement of the key objective – sustainable development of the Sava river basin
- High demand for resources and permanent joint efforts of the Parties
- Considerable benefit for the Parties



Contact information

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