

REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

Ministry of Energy, Development and Environmental Protection



Astana Water Actions - Serbia

Miroslav Tadic

Head of Department for EU Integration and International Cooperation

AWA 2011 - Submissions by Serbia

1. Negotiations on trans-boundary water management agreements with neighboring countries;
2. Preparation and implementation of the national Danube River Basin Management Plan - national;
3. Preparation and implementation of the Sava River Basin Management Plan - regional;



Water management policy - Serbia

- Majority of waters in Serbia are transitional (92%);
- Largest transitional rivers: Danube, Sava, Tisa;
- Quality of waters is not satisfactory – trans-boundary pollution;
- Water management policy based on:
 - international agreements: UNECE Water Convention, Danube Convention and FASRB
 - International river commissions (Sava and Danube)
 - EU policy (WFD, etc.)
 - Bilateral cooperation

Negotiations on trans-boundary water management agreements

- Hungary – to be concluded in 2014 (amending 1955 agreement);
- Romania – to be concluded in 2014 (amending 1955 agreement);
- Croatia – to be concluded in 2014;
- Bosnia and Herzegovina – no agreement;
- Montenegro – no agreement;
- Macedonia – no agreement;
- Bulgaria – Agreement from 1958 (not effective since 1982);
- Albania - Agreement from 1956 (not effective since 1986);

- Main issues covered by bilat. Agreements:
 - regulation and maintenance of watercourses,
 - protection of waters and from waters,
 - water supply & irrigation,
 - navigation,
 - hydro-technical and energy issues,
 - exchange of hydro-meteorological data,
 - development of studies, programmes and projects;
- Protecting interests of citizens, economy;
- Measures to improve bilateral cooperation:
 - Surveillance and control;
 - Water quality monitoring/reporting programmes;
 - Early warning systems and prevention of accidents;
 - Development of joint projects (e.g. on preventing discharge of pollutants);
 - Improving implementation of the Water Convention (incl. Protocol on Water and Health), ESPOO convention etc.
 - Improve exchange of experiences and lessons learned (AWA);

Water management planning

1. Danube River Basin Management Plan (national)

92% of the country lies within the Danube Basin (accounting for 10% of the Basin);

The **waterway network** extends over 1700 km of the Danube, Sava and Tisza rivers (incl 600km navigable part of the DTD system);



- Embedded in the Law on waters: **The Water Management Plan for the Danube river basin** (to be adopted by 2014);
 - provide the rational use and protection of waters, protection from waters;
 - estimate the necessary funds for the implementation of activities, dynamics and resources;
 - Partial implementation of the Article 11 and Article 13 of the EU WFD;
 - Following the adoption, the implementation of the Programme of Measures will start (2nd cycle of RBM planning);
- Results:
 - detailed account of environmental objectives of EU WFD,
 - achieving good ecological status of surface waters and good chemical status of groundwater.
- Stakeholders: Ministries responsible for Water Management and Environment, Public Water Management Companies, Institutes, towns and municipalities, water users, water polluters;

2. Development of Sava River Basin Management Plan

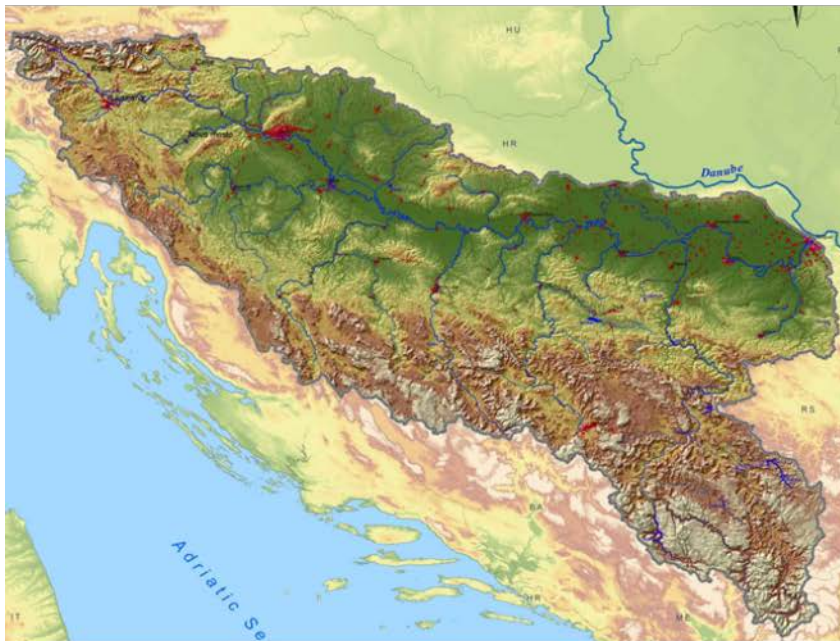
Area: 97 713 km² (the second largest Danube sub-basin; share: 12%)

Average flow at the mouth: 1722 m³/s (the largest Danube tributary; contribution: 25%)

River length: 940 km (594 km of which is the waterway)

Population: approx. 9 million

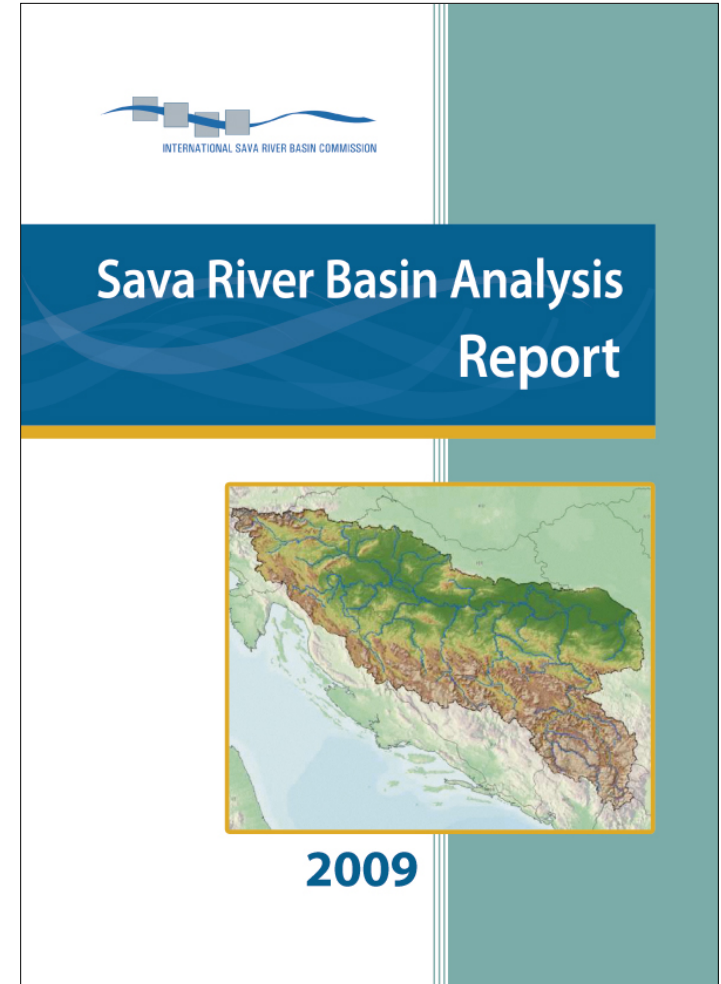
Shared by 6 countries



- Drafted by the ISRBC (2006-2011);
- Supported by EC (technical assistance and grant)
- Involving parties to the FASRB 4 + 1 country (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, Slovenia, Montenegro);
- Sava River Basin Analysis Report published in 2009 (incl. characterization and assessment of water resources);
- **Included** (in addition to the Plan)
 - Support to the initial phase of the **Sava GIS** establishment
 - **Stakeholder involvement** and **public participation** issues
- **Integration of** protection issues and other issues

Sava River Basin Analysis (Characterization Report)

- **The SRBA addressed the requirements of Art. 5 and Art. 6 of WFD**
- **Sava River Basin Analysis Report**
 - Adoption (Sep. 2009)
 - Publishing and posting on web (Mar. 2010)
 - **Comprehensive nature**
 - Water quality (Art.5. EU WFD)
 - Water quantity
 - Hydrology report
 - Hydromorphology report
 - Flood management
 - Navigation development
 - **First GIS maps of the basin**



Water Management Issues addressed

- Organic pollution
- Nutrient pollution
- Hazardous substances pollution
- Hydromorphological alterations
- Groundwater quality

- ✓ *Background information of SRB*
- ✓ *Existing pressures*
- ✓ *Monitoring networks*
- ✓ *Water status assessment*
- ✓ *Economic analysis of water uses*
- ✓ *Overview of measures*

- Groundwater quantity
- Quantity and quality of sediments
- Invasive alien species
- Climate change
- Protected areas
- Integration of water protection with other developments in the Sava River Basin
 - Floods
 - Navigation
 - Hydropower
 - Agriculture

Inclusiveness and next steps

- Meetings with institutions and organizations;
- Consultation workshops at the transboundary level;
- Web based consultation;
- **Shall be adopted by the countries** upon proposal of the ISRBC (FASRB)
 - **Draft SRBMP** finished in December 2011
 - **Consultation process** from Dec. 2011 until April 2012
 - **New proposal** on adjustment of the text
 - Need for **additional national procedures** preceding the adoption – in process
 - Adoption expected **in 2014**

AWA/national Implementation challenges?

- Actions depending on political decisions
- Intersectorial cooperation;
- Better information and involvement of decision makers;
- Involvement of stakeholders;
- Better communication between stakeholders;
- Issues related to changing governmental structures;
- Delays in decision making;
- Lack of financial resources for projects;
- Lack of capacities;
- Continuation of reporting according to AWA criteria?

Thank you for the attention