



Study tour

Experiences from the Sava, the Rhine and the BRIDGE Academy

Under the project

“Strengthening transboundary water governance in the IGAD region”

In order to strengthen the understanding of institutional frameworks and cooperative mechanisms for the governance of shared waters, the IGAD Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members¹ and representatives from the Sio Malaba Malakisi (SMM) demonstration basin² will visit the International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC), as well as the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR) and the Environmental Law Centre of the IUCN.

They will learn more about dialogue and transboundary water cooperation for the protection and management of shared basins and related freshwater ecosystems, as well as about the history, success factors and lessons learnt from cooperation processes over the management of transboundary rivers from these two river basin organizations in the European region.

The study tour visit will provide the opportunity to the IGAD Member States representatives and key stakeholder representatives from the SMM transboundary basin to review practical examples on the benefits of cooperation, institutional building, joint water management mechanisms and benefit sharing arrangements with a view to using these experiences back home in building their transboundary water governance and cooperation.

The main objective of this study tour is to serve as a platform for learning and discussing about the challenges, lessons and experiences from two of the most iconic river basin organisations in Europe, in order to reflect on best institutional practices that could support effective transboundary water cooperation, peace and sustainable development in the IGAD region.

Day 1 – Sunday, 24 September 2017

Travel and arrival to Zagreb, Croatia

Transfer from Zagreb airport to the Hotel Arcotel Allegra (Kneza Branimira 29, Zagreb), according to the attached Airport transfers list

Between 18:30 and 21:00

Dinner in Hotel Arcotel Allegra

Dinner will be served individually, depending on arrival time.

Experience from the Sava

The International Sava River Basin Commission was established in a post-conflict situation and has become a successful institution for the cooperation and integrated management of the Sava Basin, fostering peace and economic integration in the region.

¹ Senior government officials from the IGAD Member States, they are the advisors of the Ministers in-charge of water affairs in the IGAD Member States

² Representing various sectors (water, energy, irrigation etc) and actors (NGOs basin organization etc) in the SMM basin

The participants will learn from the experience of the Sava Commission in developing an advanced transboundary water cooperation agreement in a post-conflict situation, in establishing an institution for multi-sectoral cooperation on water and navigation, including thematic work of the Commission in different areas and innovative approaches to multi-stakeholder engagement.

Day 2 – Monday, 25 September 2017
Introduction to cooperation in the Sava basin

Objectives of the day

1. Understand expectations of IGAD representatives considering specificities for transboundary water cooperation in the IGAD region
2. Determine the importance of having coherent basin agreements and institutional mechanisms at all levels of governance for the effective management and development of shared water resources
3. Identify the roles of different stakeholders/sectors at multiple levels to support the work of river basin commissions

9:00-13:00 Introduction by the International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC) secretariat

Hotel Arcotel Allegra (Kneza Branimira 29, Zagreb)
Meeting room Galileo (1st floor)

Facilitator: John Owino, IUCN

9:00	<p>Welcoming speeches Dragan Zeljko, Secretary, ISRBC secretariat Juan Carlos, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Chantal Demilecamps, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Fred/Daher, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)</p>
9:15	<p>Round of introduction Major challenges faced in the IGAD region to advance transboundary water governance, Fred Mwangi, IGAD secretariat Expectations for the study tour Objectives of the study tour</p>
10:00	<p>ISRBC: Mission, History, Vision and Organisation Dragan Zeljko, Secretary, ISRBC Secretariat Questions and answers</p>
10:30	<p><i>Coffee break</i></p>
11:00	<p><u>ISRBC: Activities and Engagement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RBM • Flood Risk Management • Accident Prevention and Control • Navigation • Climate Change: adaptation, mitigation, resilience • Stakeholders Involvement • Cross-cutting issues: SavaGIS, SavaHIS, information exchange <p>Questions and answers Dragan Zeljko, Secretary, ISRBC Secretariat</p>

	<p>Melita Žižanović-Dakić, <i>Legal Advisor, ISRBC Secretariat</i> Dragana Milovanović, <i>Deputy Secretary for River Basin management, ISRBC Secretariat</i> Samo Grošelj, <i>Deputy Secretary for Protection of Waters and Aquatic Eco-system, ISRBC Secretariat</i> Željko Milković, <i>Deputy Secretary for Navigation, ISRBC Secretariat</i> Mirza Sarač, <i>Advisor for Protection against Detrimental Effects from Waters and Extraordinary Impacts on the Water Regime, ISRBC Secretariat</i></p>
12:30	Interactive discussion: Maximizing the benefits of transboundary water cooperation Moderated by Juan Carlos Sanchez , <i>IUCN</i> and Chantal Demilecamps , <i>UNECE</i>
13:00-14:00	Lunch in Hotel Arcotel Allegra
14:00-18:00	Sava River Basin Management Plan (RBM) Expert Group Meeting <i>Hotel Arcotel Allegra (Kneza Branimira 29, Zagreb)</i> <i>Meeting room Galileo (1st floor)</i>
14:00	Outline of the Climate Adaptation Strategy and basin/wide priority measures for the Sava River Basin Presentation on the status of the project by <i>national and international consultants</i> Discussion on next steps
16:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
17:00	Open forum for discussion: Exchange between IGAD and Sava countries representatives on their progress in river basin management planning <i>Facilitator: Juan Carlos Sanchez, IUCN</i> Why to cooperate in transboundary water management: an upstream country perspective <i>Representatives from Sava countries</i>
19:00	<i>Group departure from Hotel Arcotel Allegra to restaurant (by walk)</i>
19:30	<i>Joint dinner in Restaurant Vinodol (Teslina 10, Zagreb)</i>

Day 3 – Tuesday, 26 September 2017

Field trip

Objectives of the day

First-hand experience on how river basin organizations facilitate cooperation over shared waters

9:00-17:00	Visit to the Nature Park Lonjsko polje http://www.pp-lonjsko-polje.hr/new/english/index.html
09:00	Bus departure from Hotel to Nature Park Lonjsko polje
11:00–12:00	Welcoming by managers of the Nature Park Introduction to the Park: Importance, management challenges, priorities and actions taken for conservation, Ecosystem preservation and transboundary cooperation, Park rangers
12:00–13:00	Walk to the ornithological reserve
13:30–14:30	<i>Lunch in Restaurant Kod ribiča (Vladimira Nazora 24, Jasenovac)</i>
14:30–16:00	Boat trip
16:00	Bus departure from the Nature Park to Hotel Arcotel Allegra
19:00	<i>Dinner in Hotel Arcotel Allegra</i>

Day 4 – Wednesday, 27 September 2017

Experience sharing / discussion

Objectives

Building the experience of transboundary water cooperation gained by ISRBC and the main challenges faced in IGAD region, identify possibly ways of improvement for transboundary water governance

9:00-12:30	Exchange of experiences – a dialogue between experts <i>Venue: Premises of the ISRBC (Kneza Branimira 29/II, Zagreb)</i>
9:00	Summary of the main priorities for improvement of transboundary water governance in the IGAD region and SMM basin Fred Mwangi , IGAD secretariat
10:30	Facilitated open discussion on the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Negotiating a basin agreement in a post conflict context - Relationship between basin, regional and international agreements - Establishing and securing the sustainability of a River Basin Organization - Benefit sharing between countries and sectors - Upstream and downstream perspectives of basin countries Resource experts: Melita Žižanović-Dakić , Legal Advisor, ISRBC Secretariat Samo Grošelj , Deputy Secretary for Protection of Waters and Aquatic Eco-system, ISRBC Secretariat Željko Milković , Deputy Secretary for Navigation, ISRBC Secretariat Facilitator: Chantal Demilecamps , UNECE
12:30-13:30	<i>Lunch in the Premises of the ISRBC (Kneza Branimira 29/II, Zagreb)</i>
14:00	<i>Bus departure from Hotel Arcotel Allegra to Zagreb airport (Flight no. LH1715 departing from Zagreb airport at 16:55)</i>
Travel and arrival in Germany Transfer to the hotel Kurfürstehof, Baumshulallee, Bonn	
<i>Dinner</i>	

Day 5 - Thursday 28 September 2017
Environmental Law Centre BRIDGE Academy

Objectives

1. Identify existing power relations in the IGAD Region and explore opportunities for improved transboundary water cooperation
2. Understand the importance of strong legal cooperative frameworks to ensure cooperation and peace

9:30-9:45	Welcoming words <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Juan Carlos Sánchez, IUCN
9:45 – 10:00	The role of the Environmental Law Centre in conserving nature, cooperation and peace <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Li Ning, IUCN<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Training to young water professionals
10:00 -10:30	ELC resources to conserve nature <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alexandra Fante, IUCN<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Guided tour to the ELC library
10:30-10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:45-11:45	From Conflict to Cooperation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lena Salame, Independent Consultant<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Water challenges and potentials for conflict- Why to cooperate?- Mechanisms of cooperation <p>Questions and answers</p>
11:45–13:00	International Water Law: An opportunity to enhance water cooperation in the IGAD Region Prof. Owen McIntyre , University College Cork <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The role of Multi-level governance frameworks- Why to adopt and ratify the UN Watercourses Convention and the UNECE Water Convention, or why not? <p>Questions and answers</p>
13:00–14:30	<i>Lunch at Restaurant Gustav Stresemann Institute</i>

14:30–16:30	<p>Transboundary Water Cooperation in Europe: The German Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heide Jekel, German Federal Ministry for the Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existing mechanisms to prevent or solve water related conflicts - An overview of transboundary water cooperation from the German perspective - Existing mechanisms to prevent or solve water related conflict <p>Questions and answers</p>
19:30	Joint dinner at restaurant Bastei, Bonn

<p>Day 6 - Friday 29 September 2017 (am)</p> <p>Introduction to cooperation in the Rhine basin</p> <p>Objectives</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Determine how crucial the ICPR has been to secure cooperation and protect the environment of the Rhine river and how to replicate the best examples of good governance of shared waters 2. Understand ICPR as a coordination mechanism for cooperation in Rhine: what has worked well? What have been challenges? 3. Show previous conflicts and how they have been solved 	
7:30	Meeting at the reception of the hotel Kurfürstenhof
7:45-9:00	Bus departure from Bonn Central Station to the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR), Koblenz
9:30-9:45	<p>Introduction by the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR) secretariat</p> <p>Welcome - Anne Schulte-Wülwer-Leidig, ICPR Executive Secretary</p>
9:45- 9:55	ICPR Film
9:55 – 10:30	<p>Current challenges to cooperation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Flood Risk Management Plan 2015 and preparatory work for 2021 b. Climate change adaptation strategy 2015 River Basin Management Plans (2009 & 2015) and preparatory work for 2021 according to the WFD <p>Adrian Schmid-Breton, ICPR</p>
10:30-10.45	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:45-12:00	<p>History and past challenges to cooperation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Step by step approach to integrated River basin management - evolution of the work of ICPR b. Current legal and institutional frameworks c. Mechanisms for stakeholder participation d. Role of the commission e. Dispute solving examples f. Lessons learnt <p>Anne Schulte-Wülwer-Leidig, ICPR Executive Secretary</p>
12:00–12:30	<p>Dialogue with upstream country representative of the ICPR (video conference)</p> <p>Gian Reto Bezzola, Federal Office for the Environment</p>
13:00–14:30	<i>Lunch at restaurant Augusta, Koblenz</i>
14:30–16:00	<i>Bus departure from Koblenz to ELC in Bonn</i>

Day 6 - Friday 29 September 2017 (pm)
Debriefing from the study tour and conclusions

Objectives

Reflect on the lessons and experiences learned during the week and bring best practices and knowledge for the establishment and promotion of coherent frameworks of cooperation in the IGAD Region

16:30- 17:00	Recap - Reflection, going through different concepts crucial for good water governance - Take away messages home - Possible next steps (Mentoring? Twinning?) Facilitated by IUCN, IGAD and UNECE
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Day 7 - Saturday 30 September 2017

Departure from Germany

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