



## Expert Group on Flow Regulation and Environmental Flows

Convened under the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes with the support of the Drina Nexus Follow-up Project<sup>1</sup>

11-12 June 2019

International Sava River Basin Commission, Kneza Branimira 29/II, Shopping Mall "Branimir", Zagreb

### 11 June

#### Opening/Welcome: International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC)

##### 1) Introduction to the project (10.30-11.10):

- Background to the Drina Nexus Follow-up Project and the objectives of the Expert Group meeting: *Annikka Lipponen, UNECE*
- Proposed scope of the study: *Rafael Sanchez, UNECE consultant*
- Discussion: Expectations regarding the study

##### 2) The regional context (11.10-12.00)

- Water Management, Flood Protection and Navigation in the Sava River Basin: *Samo Grošelj, Mirza Sarač and Duško Isaković, ISRBC*
- Application of environmental flows in the region and the challenges: *Irma Popovic Dujmovic, WWF Adria*

Coffee break (12.00-12.15)

##### 3) Environmental flows and their application (12.15-13.45)

- Overview of different way to determine and to apply environmental flows: *Rafael Sanchez, UNECE consultant*
- Presentations from the riparians on approaches to environmental flow: *representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republika Srpska), Montenegro, Serbia*
- Operationalizing ecological flow: experience of its introduction in the Po River Basin and practical application in the hydropower and other sectors: *Francesco Puma, expert*
- Discussion about common elements and harmonization potential between the riparians

Lunch break (13.45-14.30)

##### 4) Flow needs in the Drina River Basin (14.30-17.00)

- Introduction: Recalling Drina specific points from session 2 and complementing with specific inputs e.g. Hydropower plants + HPP comments

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<sup>1</sup> Financed by the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and the Sea from 2018 to 2019

- Discussion in groups (by sector or by use/function):
  - o Part 1: The present situation and flow related needs; Where (in which sections) are there issues with environmental flow, low flows, flooding etc.?
    - Reporting back by the groups

Coffee break (15.45-16.00)

- o Part 2: Future outlook for flow requirements: planned projects (authorities, HPP operators etc), climate change (ISRBC), pilots and studies foreseen in the World Bank/Drina GEF-SCCF project etc.

19.00 Dinner

## 12 June

### 5) International experience and guidance (9.00-9.45)

- Water Convention and UNECE's Multilateral environmental agreements: *Annikka Lipponen, UNECE*
- Energy Community's hydropower guidelines and relevant legislation: *Peter Vajda, Energy Community secretariat*
- Types of formal arrangements for cooperating agreeing about different aspects of flow regulation and selected examples: *Rafael Sanchez, UNECE consultant*
- Discussion: The regulation and arrangements in place at present time applicable in the Drina

### 6) Initial discussion about recommendations: What would improve the current flow regime? How to co-optimize? (9.45-10.45)

- Priority issues to address/main directions for recommendations (proposals welcome from the participants)
- Selected themes (to be complemented)
  - o Implementation of minimum flows, environmental flows
  - o Application of guidelines and relevant international practice

Coffee break (10.45-11.00)

### 7) The report to be produced and completing the analysis

- o Structure of the report and information needs: *Rafael Sanchez, UNECE consultant*
- o Discussion
- o Agreeing about specific inputs to be developed/invited

### 8) Conclusions and next steps

Lunch (12.30-13.30)