



**ASSESSMENT IN THE WORKSHOP ON
TRANSBOUNDARY WATER
RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN
EASTERN AND NORTHERN EUROPE**

SHMI, BRATISLAVA, SLOVAKIA

General description of the basins – SR territory

	Waterbodies	Forests	Cropland	Grassland	Urban/ industrial areas	no vegetation	Wetlands/ peatlands	Other forms
VAH	0.6	36.54	37.34	5.99	6.63	0.21	0.07	12.61
IPLY	0.11	36.26	34.71	6.03	3.42	0.03	0.02	19.41

The 212.5 km-long Ipeľ/Ipoly has its source in the Slovak Ore Mountains in central Slovakia. It flows south to the Hungarian border, and then southwest, west and again south along the border between Slovakia and Hungary until it flows into the Danube near Szob. Major cities along its course are Šahy (Slovakia) and Balassagyarmat (Hungary).

There are 14 reservoirs on the river.

Countries sharing the river basin

IPOLY:

The area* of the river basin in the country:	Country	Area in the country in km ²
	Slovakia	3,649 (70.8%)
Total 5,151 km ²	Hungary	1,502 (29.2%)

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Discharge characteristics

IPOLY:

Gauging station (name and km reading e.g. from the mouth of the river or another fixed point): <i>Slovenské Ďarmoty, km 94.60</i>		
Discharge characteristics	Discharge	Period of time or date
Q_{av}	8,032 m³/s	1978-2008
Q_{max}	230,5 m³/s	25.05.1984
Q_{min}	0,395 m³/s	16.08.1993

Main problems in the basin and their relative importance

IPOLY:

- Hydromorphological changes on rivers interrupted natural river and habitat connectivity and hydrological regime.
- Increase of nutrients in surface waters and groundwaters due to incorrect application of organic and inorganic fertilizer, possible pollution from pesticides application – both surface water and groundwater.
- Significant – source of nutrient pollution, organic pollution and chemical pollution: Agglomerations without collecting system and treatment – source of groundwater and surface water pollution – diffuse pollution.

Main problems in the basin and their relative importance

IPOLY:

- Un – controlled dump sites – significant pollution to groundwater and also surface waters
- Permitted industrial discharges – source of chemical pollution. Illegal discharges – the real extent of this type of pressure is unknown
- Withdrawals for public water supply and industrial purposes – this type of pressure is of small significant in this river basin

Additional information on water-quality and water-quality classification

- **Ipoly** river in SR was evaluated as moderate ecological status in water bodies: SKI0001 and SKI0004 and in SKI0003 ecological status was good. Chemical status was good in all water bodies of Ipoly river.

Program of measures

Program of measures for s.w. corresponds with identified problems:

- **organic pollution**
- **nutrient pollution**
- **priority and relevant substances pollution**
- **hydromorphological changes**

Each identified problem from PoM deals with:

- **environmental objectives (ICPDR level, national level, operational object.)**
- **Background information**
- **Vision to 2015 (scenarios, modelling)**
- **Basic and additional measures**

FUTURE TRENDS

- Ecological status and chemical status of transboundary section of Ipeľ/Ipoly river will improve due to realization of basic and supplementary measures in the river basin.
- However good status in Ipeľ/Ipoly river is not expected till 2015 – because realization of measures (mainly hydromorphological and supplementary measures in small agglomerations of the river basin – more than 50 % inhabitants live in agglomerations below 2000 PE) due to high finance needs will be realized gradually up to 2025.
- Climatic change may affect surface water status – the extent is not known at present. It is necessary to continue in realisation of National climatic program and in research of impacts of the climatic change on ecological and chemical status of surface water.

A scenic view of a river, likely the Danube in Bratislava, Slovakia. In the background, a large, historic church with a red roof sits atop a hill. A modern bridge spans the river in the middle ground. The foreground shows a paved path and a grassy bank. The text "GOOD LUCK!" is overlaid in bright cyan.

GOOD LUCK!