



DIKTAS project achievements and its contribution to SDGs

Pan-European Regional Preparatory Meeting for the
United Nations 2023 Water Conference

Session 5: Improve knowledge, management and
protection of groundwater

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Geneva, 12-13 April 2022

DIKTAS – Topic & Importance

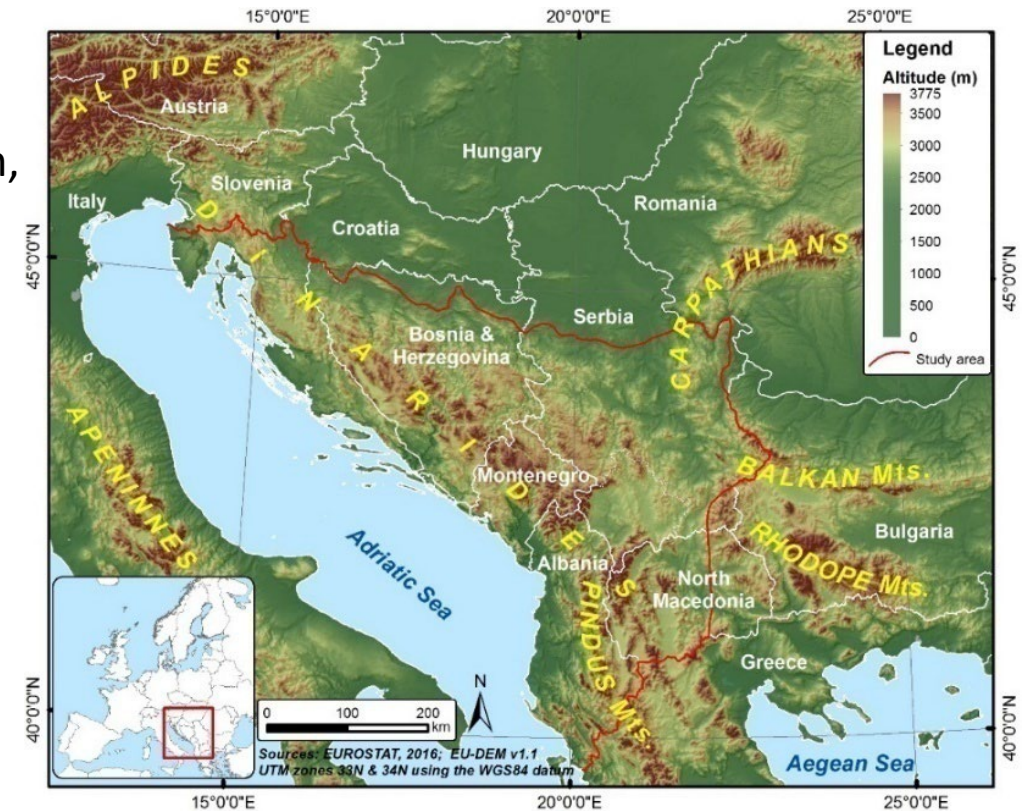
DIKTAS - Dinaric Karst Transboundary Aquifer System
„Classical“ karst region where science on karst - Karstology was born

Project aimed to improve the understanding of shared water resources and to facilitate their equitable and sustainable utilization, including the protection of dependent ecosystems in the four countries of Dinaric karst:

Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia and Montenegro.



Dinaric karst also includes parts of Italy, Slovenia, Serbia, FRY Macedonia.



DIKTAS – Funding & Implementation strategy



GEF project implemented by **UNDP** and **UNESCO's IHP**.



There are also many project partners. Implementation period: 2010-2015 (I Phase).
Budget ca M\$5.2

Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA)

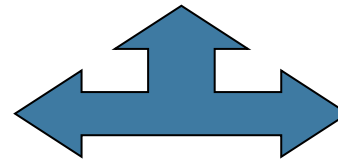
I - Improving the understanding of the resource and of its environmental status

II - Establishing cooperation mechanisms among countries sharing the aquifer

NOT ACHIEVED !

Strategic Action Program (SAP)

III - Facilitating harmonization of policies and priority reforms



IV - Stakeholder Participation, Consultation and Communication

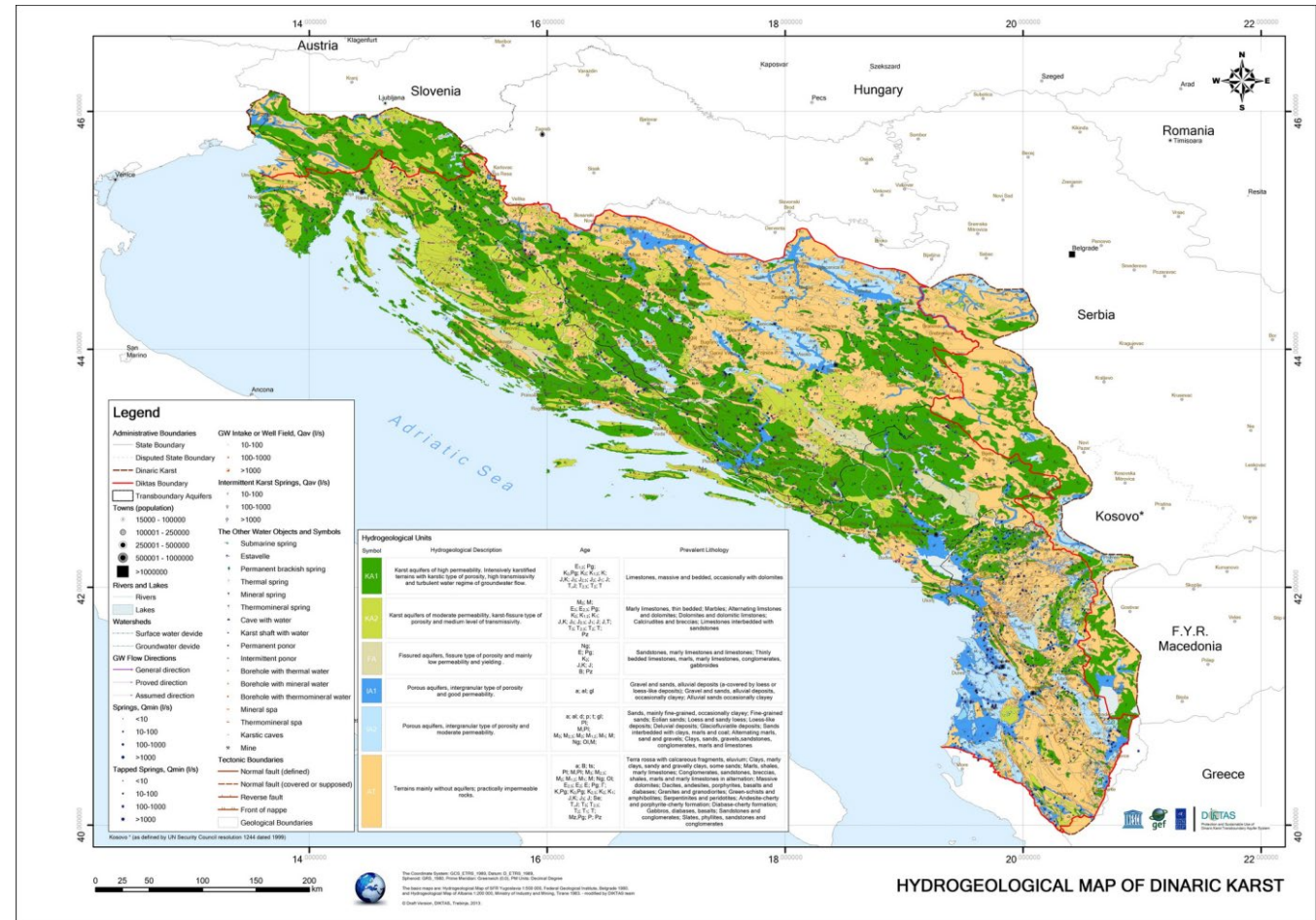
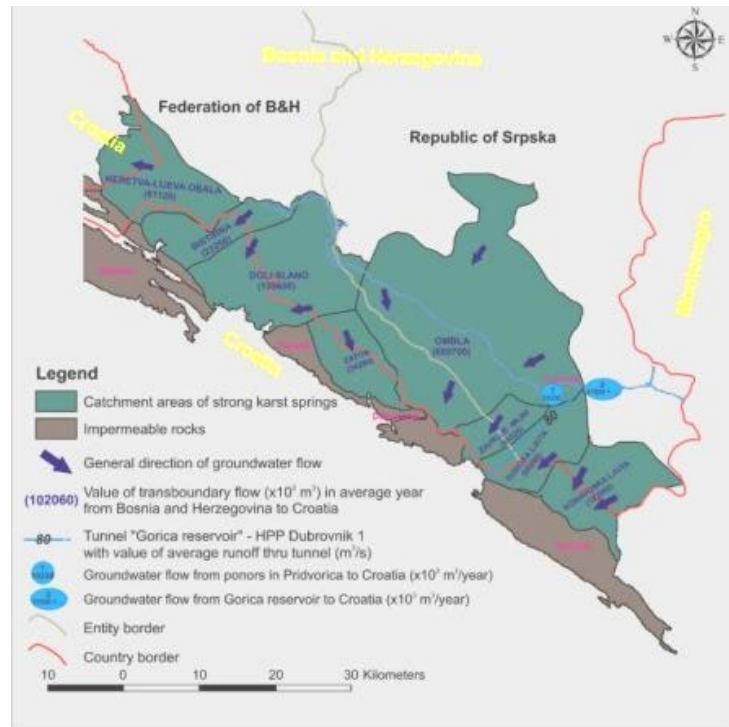
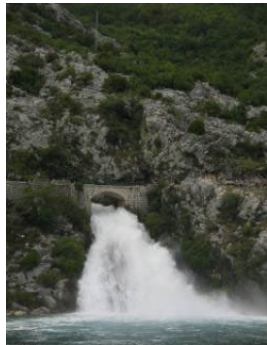




DIKTAS – Organizational setup & findings

- The Project Team was organised in four **Working Groups (WGs)**, reflecting the main issues of regional analysis:

- WG1 - hydrogeological characterization**
- WG2 - environmental and socio-economical assessment**
- WG3 - assessment of legal and institutional frameworks and policies**
- WG4 - stakeholder analysis**



DIKTAS – Outcomes & Achievements

Legal and Institutional Framework and Policy

The DIKTAS countries have a wide **experience with international cooperation** on transboundary waters. The countries are party to a multilateral framework convention, and have bilateral and multilateral agreements at the inter-ministerial level covering transboundary water issues.

By **adoption of the Water Laws** in all four countries, the key provisions of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) have been transposed into their legislation including designation of authorities for water management and identification of the river basin districts. The countries are making significant **efforts to develop a wide range of secondary legislation**, but these are not yet completed.

Environmental and Socio-Economic Analysis

The DIKTAS project countries showed a degree of similarity and **regional interconnectivities**.

The four countries represent very important **sources of clean water, protected and unprotected nature, specific local economies, habits, traditions** and future prospects. Each of the countries has many possibilities for development based on the wise exploitation of natural resources; tourism is and will most probably be one of the major sources of economic growth in the years to come.

The outcomes of TDA

The state of groundwater in the DIKTAS project region is **in general good** with a few exceptions and with a number of **serious potential threats**.

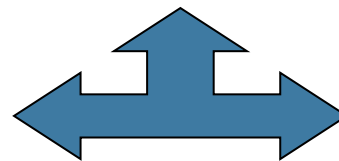
The main threat to the groundwater quality in the DIKTAS region is **solid- and waste water disposal**.

Agriculture and industry also pollute groundwater and form a major threat but to a lesser degree than the waste.

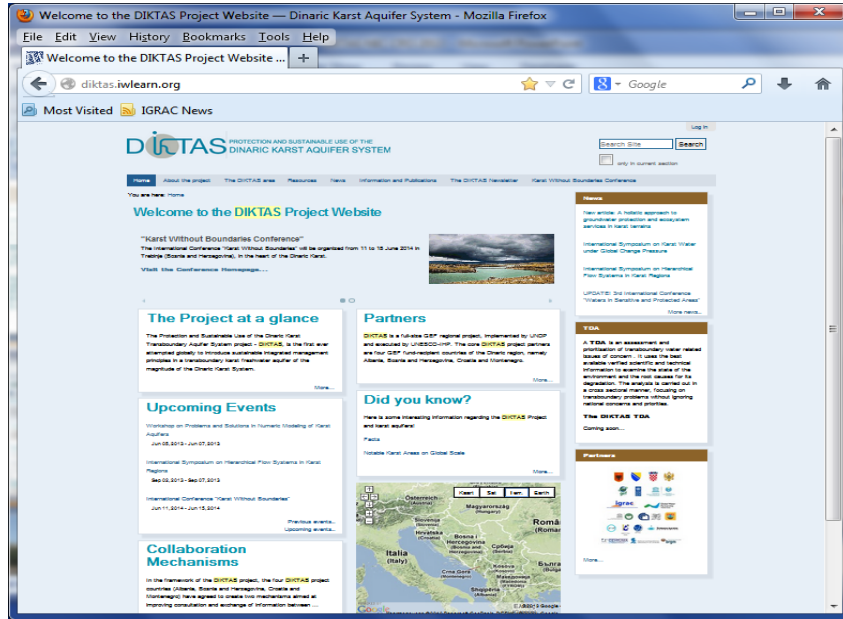
Lack of Monitoring is one of major shortcomings.

Currently **no common legal and institutional framework** and no common criteria exist for **a) the delineation of water source sanitary protection zones, and b) setting cost-efficient measures for groundwater protection in the Dinaric Karst region**.

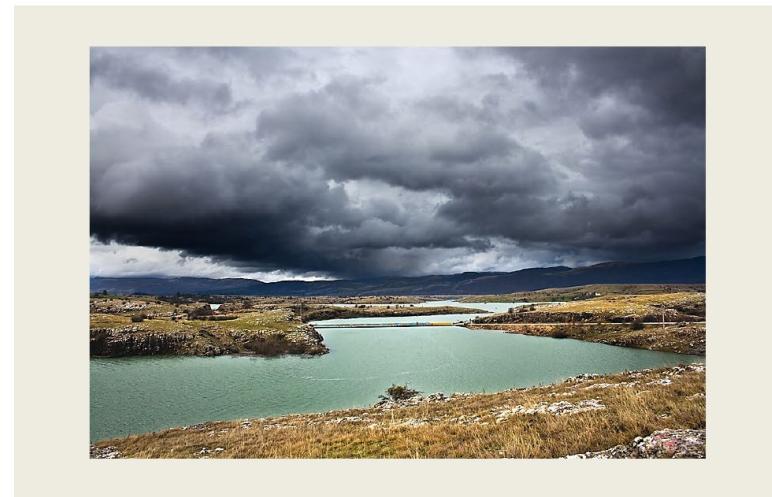
There is a **concern of some stakeholders about impact of hydrotechnical constructions in the region**, especially in Bosnia and Herzegovina



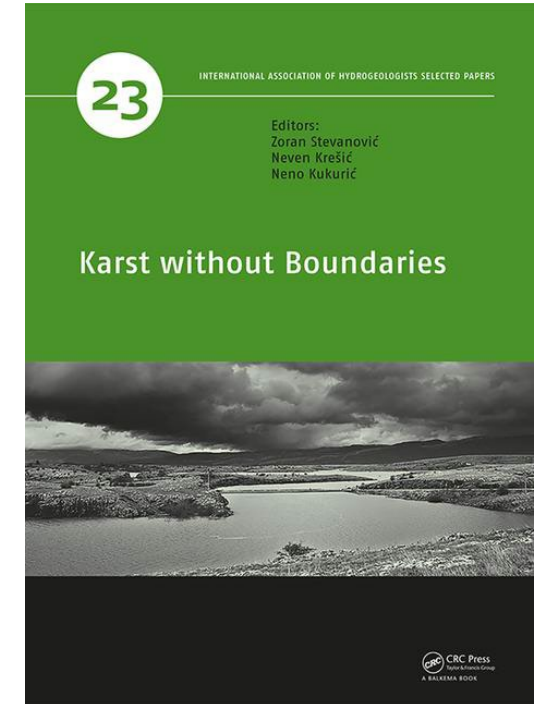
DIKTAS – Dissemination & Continuation



International Course
Characterization and Engineering of Karst Aquifers
 Trebinje, Bosnia & Herzegovina,
 June, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018...



Edited by
 N. Kukurić, Z. Stevanović, N. Krešić
 11-15 June 2014
 Trebinje (Bosnia & Herzegovina)
 Dubrovnik (Croatia)



DIKTAS – Links to SDG, WAD & Phase II

Strategic Development Goals 2030



Water Action Decade 2018–2028

DIKTAS fully in line with:

1. Advance sustainable development
2. Energize existing programmes and projects
3. Inspire action to achieve the 2030 Agenda

DIKTAS Phase II

SAP/ Strategic Action 1:

Joint design and testing of a regional groundwater quantity and quality **monitoring network** and associated data exchange and analysis protocols.

SAP/ Strategic Action 2:

Harmonization of criteria for (content and extend) of **sanitary protection zones**.

SAP/ Strategic Action 3:

Application and promotion of joint principles of **sustainable management and equitable use** of transboundary Dinaric karst aquifers.

Int. Consult. and Inform. Exchange Body (CIE)
National Inter-ministerial Committees (NICs)

Thank you



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