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

Zoran Stevanović, Prof. Ret.
SERBIA/University of Belgrade – Faculty of Mining and Geology Centre for Karst Hydrogeology

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.
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
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**
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.

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.

Legal and Institutional Framework and Policy

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 that 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 Conference and Field Seminar
Karst Without Boundaries

International Course
Characterization and Engineering of Karst Aquifers
Trebinje, Bosnia & Herzegovina, June, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018...
DIKTAS - Links to SDG, WAD & Phase II

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)

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
Thank you

Email address: zstev_2000@yahoo.co.uk

Website: http://www.karst.edu.rs/

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/otac-signore-63281950/

Google https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=t9WLY5IAAAJ&hl=sr