



REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
MINISTRSTVO ZA OKOLJE IN PROSTOR

**Lessons and Perspectives on Water Cooperation for Africa and Europe:
From the 2022 Dakar Forum to the 2023 UN Water Conference**

Cooperation at the level of European basin: The Sava River Basin

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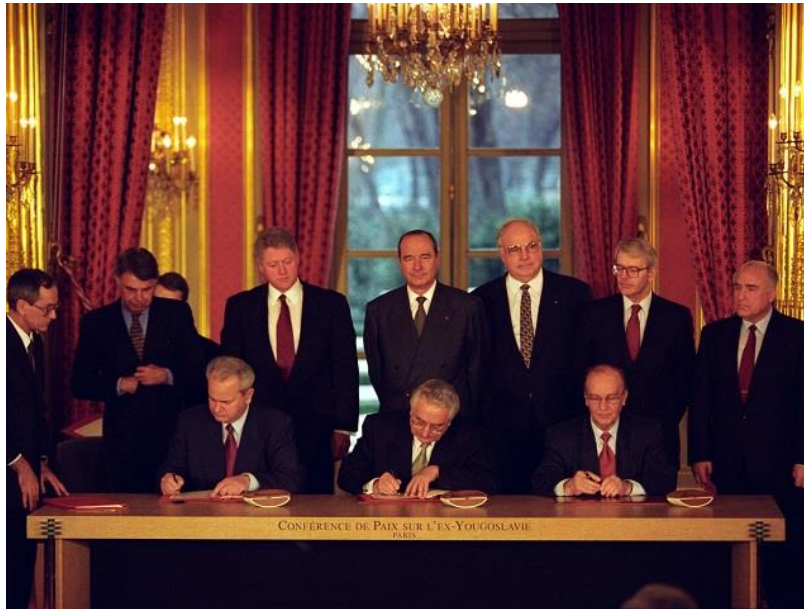


CONTENT

1. International Sava River Basin Commission in the context of peace nad stability
2. The three pillars and main achievements of the ISRBC since establishment
3. The UNECE Water Convention contribution and cooperation



DAYTON AGREEMENT (Dayton, USA, 1 November 1995/ Paris, France, 14 December 1995)



MAP 1: Sava River Basin Overview





CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE AND STABILITY: FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR THE SAVA RIVER BASIN – FASRB (2002; 2005)

- signed in Kranjska Gora, Slovenia, in December 2002,
- parties: Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herezgovina, Serbia
- the first development-oriented multilateral agreement in the region signed after the Agreement on Succession,

Key objective:

- transboundary cooperation for sustainable development of the region

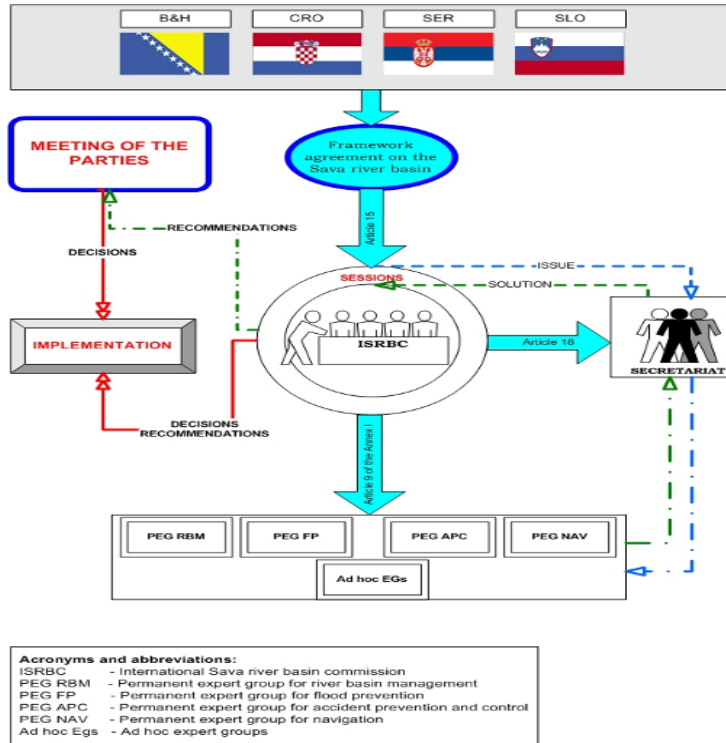
Particular objectives:

- establishment of international regime of navigation,
- ensuring sustainable water management, and
- prevention or limitation of hazards (floods, droughts, accidents, etc.)





CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE AND STABILITY: INTERNATIONAL SAVA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION – ISRBC (2005)



ISRBC mission: implementation of the FASRB.

ISRBC as an opened institution:

- International organizations and institutions
- Governmental sector
 - Officially nominated national institutions
 - Other national institutions
- NGO sector
- Academic sector
- Business sector



THE THREE PILLARS OF SAVA RIVER IWRM

- **Sava River Basin Management Plan (2014, 2022)**
 - objective: to achieve ‘good status’ of all waters and prevent its deterioration (EU WFD 60/2000/EC)
 - 1st Sava RBMP adopted at the 5th MoP in 2014
 - 2nd Sava RBMP to be approved at 9th MoP in November 2022

- **Sava Flood Risk Management Plan (2019)**
 - objective: to establish joint objectives of flood risk management (EU Flood Directive 2007/60/EC)
 - 1st Sava FRMP adopted at the 8th MoP in 2019
 - development of 2nd Sava FRMP – ongoing, PFRA elaborated

- **Outline on Sediment Management Plan (2022)**
 - objective: to provide an analysis of existing sediment management practices and define further steps for a full-fledged SMP
 - supported by the UNESCO, adopted by the ISRBC in March 15-16 2022



MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

- **World Bank Sava – Drina River Corridor Integrated Development Programme (2017)**
 - objective: to facilitate IWRM management and development along the Sava and Drina river corridors
 - based on ISRBC cross-sectorial Joint Action Plan for the Sava River Basin (2017)
 - Estimated to 223 mio EUR
 - two phases of process, planning period of 10 years

- **Sava Flood Forecasting and Warning systems (since 2018)**
 - established and maintained by the ISRBC and Sava Countries
 - fully operational flood forecasting platform which integrates existing hydrometeorological data and models as a support to the regular warning dissemination

- **Joint Sava River Systems of DATA Exchange**
 - Accident Emergency and Warning System (ICPDR, 1997)
 - Sava GIS (2015)
 - Sava HIS (2015)



UNECE WATER CONVENTION CONTRIBUTIONS AND COOPERATION WITH ISRBC

- **Assistance, values and principles incorporated in the establishment of the ISRBC**
- **UNECE Water Convention activities: meetings, workshops, conferences, direct contact and collaboration**
- **UNECE Water Convention publications**

- **Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus in the Sava and Drina River Basins (2016)**
 - supported by the UNECE
 - objective: to foster transboundary cooperation by identifying intersectoral synergies and determining measures for compensation of tensions due to multiple needs of riparian countries for water resources
 - sectors included: water management, agriculture and energy

- **Outline of the Climate Adaptation Strategy and basin-wide priority measures for the Sava River Basin (2018)**
 - supported by the French Ministry of Ecological and Inclusive Transition and the UNECE
 - objective: to identify priority basin-wide measures, to suggest modalities and to assess cost estimates for a full scale CCA



BENEFITS AND LESSONS LEARNED

- **Benefits of the FASRB and ISRBC activities**
 - improved transboundary cooperation in the international Sava river basin
 - increased level of mutual trust among the involved countries
 - enhancement of cross-sectoral cooperation on national and international levels
 - preparation and implementation of transboundary and international projects of common interest
 - enhancement of stakeholders involvement (stakeholder forums, Sava Youth Parliament)

- **Lessons learned in transboundary water cooperation**
 - sound legal framework (FASRB, Protocols) are required
 - solid institutional framework (IRBO – ISRBC) and institutional capacity is required
 - common transboundary water governance approach is required
 - commitments on diverse levels (political, governance, policy, expert level)
 - the way passed as well as the way to go is a demanding, but beneficial process



Thank you for your attention!

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