

EU Green Week
PARTNER EVENT

Building climate resilience in the Mediterranean region: priorities, needs and solutions - Croatia



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
AND GREEN TRANSITION



Lisbon, Portugal
4th of June 2024

#WaterWiseEU



Availability of water resources

- renewable reserves of groundwater in Croatia - 118,312,000,000 m³ per year
- renewable water reserves per inhabitant (Eurostat): Croatia 30,000 m³ (Finland 19,900 m³, Latvia 19,400 m³, Sweden 18,900 m³)



National park Plitvice Lakes



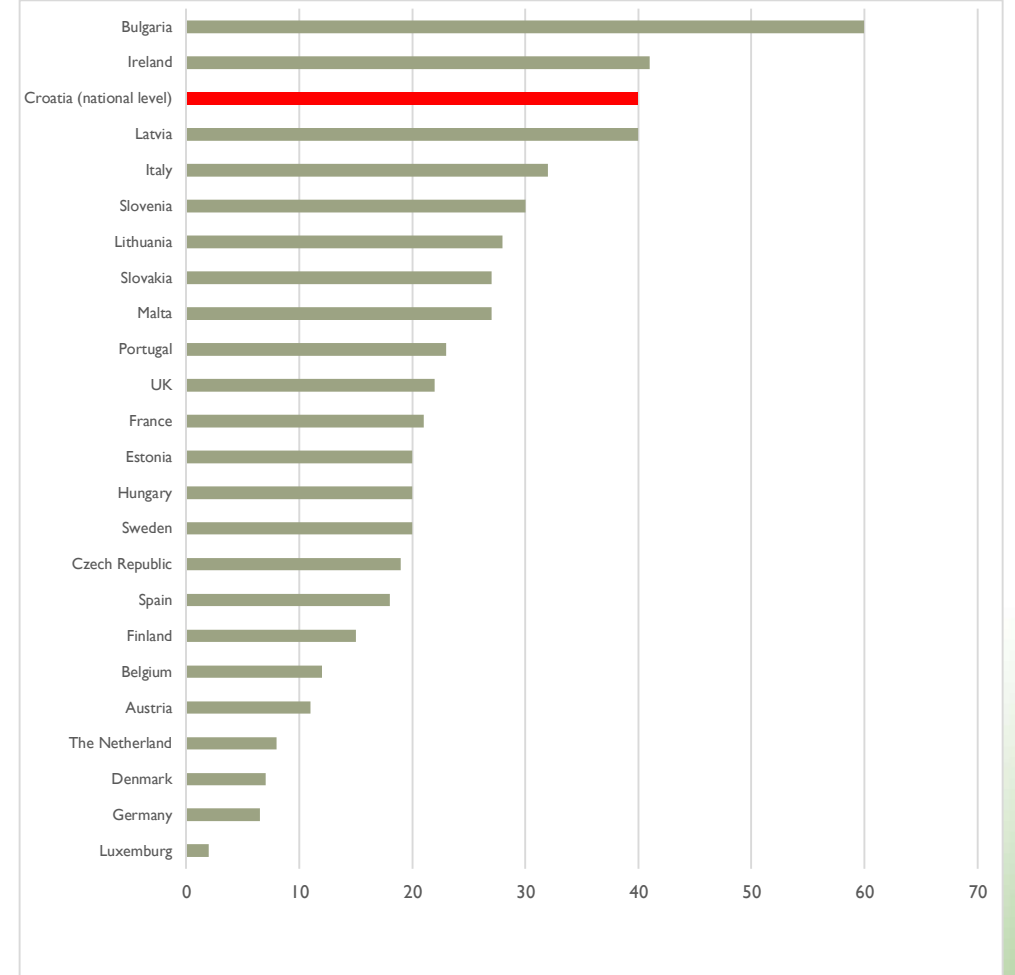
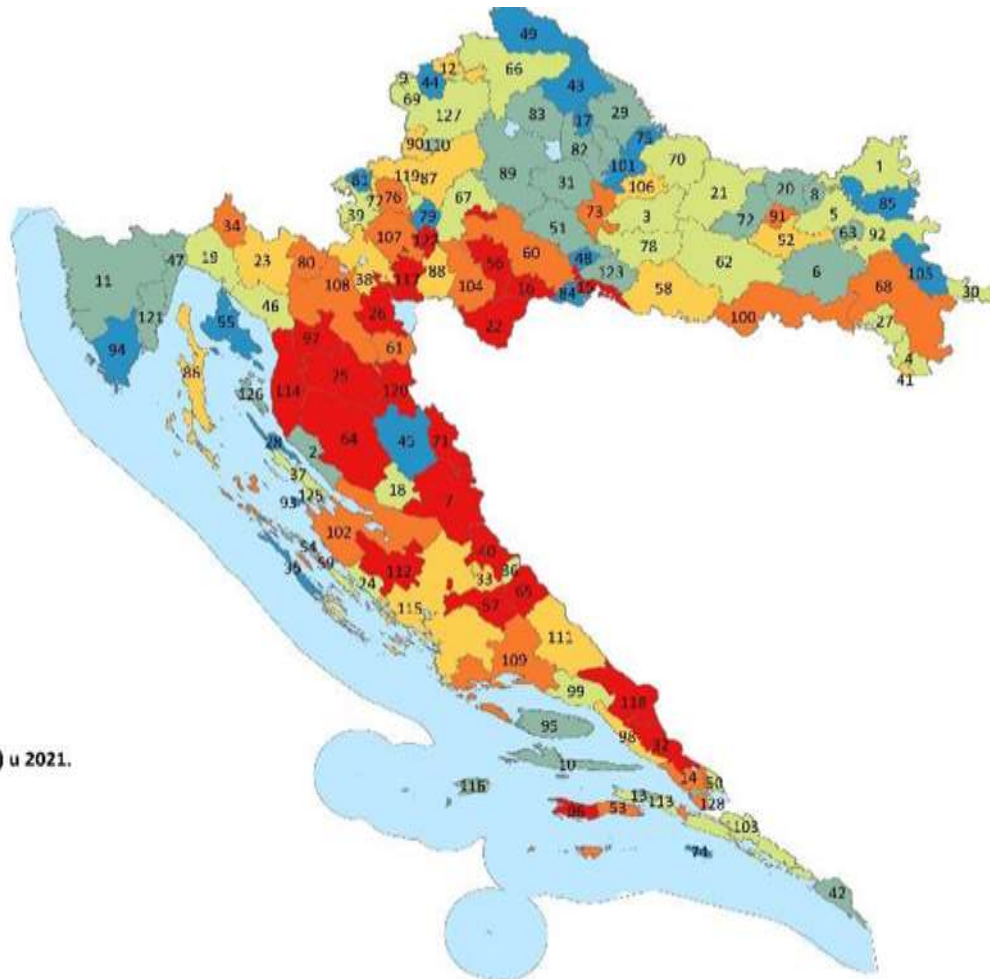
Overview

	2013	2024	2030
Population connected to public water supply systems	84%	86%	90%
Population with the possibility of connection to public water supply systems	93%	95%	98%
Population connected to public sewage systems	46%	53%	58%
Population with the possibility of connection to public sewerage systems	49%	58%	61%
Population connected to wastewater treatment plants	35%	44%	48%
Public water service providers (PWSP)	200	151	41



Water losses

- **water losses increasing continuously (46% in 2009, 49% in 2016, 50% from 2017)**



CAUSES:

- **old age of network**
- **insufficient financial resources coupled with insufficient absorption of available funds**
- **lack of technical capacity to upgrade and replace inadequate infrastructure**
- **lack of well-structured financial incentives**

Water Loss Reduction Program

- Funding programs and related projects and activities for reducing water losses in public water supply systems implemented through various programs Croatia represent a priority considering the reduction of pressure on water bodies and aim to establish sustainable management of water supply systems in the long term.
- In collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Green Transition, Croatian Waters issued a call in 2017 and started implementing the Water Loss Reduction Program in public water supply systems in Croatia in 2018.
- **The program's implementation is planned over a period of 10 years, with the total estimated investment value being 240 million euros. Over 80 framework agreements have been concluded with public water service providers.**



Water Loss Reduction Program

Support to reduce water loss within the reform of the water sector in the Republic of Croatia – 2 phases

- project financed by EU funds through the Instrument for Technical Support
- implemented by the World Bank in cooperation with the Directorate General for Structural Reform Support (DG Reform) of the European Commission
- the Ministry and Croatian Waters are the beneficiaries

RESULTS:

- the draft National Action Plan for reducing water losses in public water supply systems – prepared and ready for adoption
- Phase 2 will provide support for:
 - preparation of Utility Loss Reduction Action Plans
 - establishment of a National Water Loss Reduction Training Center
 - Strengthening the capacity of the Water Services Council
 - Capacity building



Droughts

- The main cause of drought is the lack of precipitation in a long period of time
- Croatia had 2 reduction periods: 2012 and 2022 (on the East and in the Region of Istria)
- In the summer of 2022 (July-August) Region of Istria had been without heavy rains for more than a year, so the supply of drinking water became an increasing challenge
- Several mandatory reduction measures were introduced

September of 2022 – floods in the same Region



WATER REDUCTION IN ISTRIA

Mandatory water saving measures

Dear visitors to Istria,

Due to the unfavourable hydrological situation in the Region of Istria, from July 18, 2022 the first measures to limit consumption of drinking water will be introduced.

Climate changes significantly affect our lives, but our daily behaviour can influence their negative effects to be significantly reduced. Istria has been without heavy rains for more than a year, so the supply of drinking water is becoming an increasing challenge.

In addition to an invitation to all residents and visitors of Istria to use water rationally, several mandatory reduction measures are being introduced because of the dry period we are currently in.

Ban on the use of drinking water in Istria refers to the following activities:

- use of showers on the beaches
- vehicle washing (personal, cargo and public transport)
- washing all watercraft (ships, boats, yachts and all other sports and leisure facilities that are not watercraft)
- watering green public and private areas (does not apply to agriculture)
- watering of sports courts/pitches
- washing public areas, streets and squares, except for the areas of markets and fish markets.

A call to save water

We invite you to use water rationally, wherever possible, so that together we can meet the improvement of the hydrological situation on our peninsula more easily.

This call for savings and certain restrictions are preventive measures to ensure a constant and safe supply of drinking water in the coming period. In this way, we can avoid possible problems with water supply caused by force majeure and the introduction of additional measures.

We thank you for your understanding and cooperation, in the hope that you will continue to enjoy your holiday and the fun days ahead of you!

Tourist Boards of the Region of Istria



Istria

Floods

- floods potentially endanger about 15% of the national land territory of the Republic of Croatia
- Croatia is still quite vulnerable to floods due to extensive hilly and mountainous areas with high rainfall intensity, extensive valleys of lowland watercourses, large cities and valuable assets on potentially endangered surfaces, and partly due to insufficiently built protective systems

FLOOD DEFENSE SYSTEM

- 10,200 km of watercourses of the first order
- 21,900 km of watercourse II. order
- 4,100 km of defensive embankments
- 60 multipurpose reservoirs with a total volume of 1.0 billion m³
- 44 mountain retention
- 5 large natural reservoirs with a total volume of more than 2.0 billion m³
- 3 large unloading canals
- 2 connecting channels
- 900 km of lateral channels
- 9 drainage tunnels with a total length of about 17.3 km
- a large number of smaller regulatory and protective water structures



Thank you for your attention!

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