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ANNUAL REPORT
on Work and Activities of the ISRBC
for the Period April 1, 2011 – March 31, 2012

April 2012

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Introduction

General tasks and competencies of the International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC) are stipulated by the *Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin (FASRB)* and, more specifically, by the Annex I to the *FASRB – Statute of the International Sava River Basin Commission*. The obligation of the ISRBC to submit the annual report on its work and activities to the Parties is stipulated by Article 10 of the Annex I to the *FASRB*.

On this basis, the *Annual Report on work and activities of the ISRBC for the year 2011* was prepared. The *Report* corresponds to the financial year 2011 of the ISRBC, covering the period as of April 1, 2011, to March 31, 2012. All the Work Programmes and Work Plans, mentioned throughout the *Annual Report*, also correspond to the financial year (FY) stated.

Significant efforts were invested during the reporting period to make further progress in the *FASRB* implementation, and additionally strengthen the basis for the future implementation of the *FASRB* by ensuring new commitments of the Parties concerning the principal activities of the ISRBC.

To this end, the ISRBC organized the 3rd Meeting of the Parties to the *FASRB* (Brdo, May 31 – June 1, 2011), and held two sessions – 26th Session (Zagreb, April 21-22, 2011) and 27th Session (Zagreb, October 12-13, 2011), during the reporting period.

The 3rd Meeting of the Parties (Figure 1), attended by high officials of the four countries, as well as representatives of international institutions and organizations, served as an excellent opportunity to review the results achieved by the ISRBC since the previous meeting (June 2009). The Meeting clearly showed that:

- the *FASRB* represents a good basis for further development and intensification of cooperation in the region, as well as further improvement of cooperation among the national institutions of the Parties, especially using the mechanisms of, and the activities performed through, the ISRBC;
- the ISRBC is recognized by international partners as an important regional player and a solid ground for a good cooperation, and providing synergies in the cooperation, with other international organizations and institutions.

The main outcomes of the Meeting included:

- adoption of the *Report on Implementation of the FASRB and Work of the Sava Commission for the period April 1, 2009 – March 31, 2011*, which outlined the progress of the ISRBC and the Parties in the implementation of the *FASRB*, and also reflected the information provided for in the *Second Country Reports on implementation of the FASRB*,
- adoption of the *Declaration*, which set out the guidelines for further implementation of the *FASRB* and actuated a number of concrete activities for efficient implementation of the latter,
- expression of a strong support to the new *Strategy on Implementation of the FASRB* and the accompanying *Action Plan for the Period 2011-2015*, previously developed and adopted by the ISRBC;
- presentation of the ISRBC priority projects to representatives of international financial institutions, funds and programs, as well as discussion of opportunities for implementation of the projects within the *EU Strategy for the Danube Region* and other appropriate frameworks.



Figure 1. The 3rd Meeting of the Parties to the *FASRB* (Brdo, May 31 – June 1, 2011).

In addition to continuation of the ongoing activities of the ISRBC, such as:

- finalization of the planning phase (i.e. studies and detailed design) for rehabilitation and development of navigation on the Sava River waterway;
- further development and/or finalization of the strategic plans for the Sava River Basin (finalization of the *Draft Sava River Basin Management Plan*, preparation of the *Sava River Basin Flood Risk Management Plan*);
- development/upgrade of the integrated systems for the Basin (GIS, RIS and the monitoring, forecasting and early warning systems related to accidents and floods, as well as the platform for the exchange of meteorological and hydrological information and data);
- preparation of projects and seeking funding opportunities, including the streamlining of the projects with the *EU Strategy for the Danube Region*;
- financial and administration management, as well as development of internal regulations of the ISRBC;
- public participation, including the organization of the Sava Day 2011, publication of the official bulletin of the ISRBC, *Sava NewsFlash*, and specialized publications, a continuous update of the web-site, development of the promotion material of the ISRBC, and the public consultation process on the *Draft Sava RBM Plan*,

several new activities were initiated in FY 2011, bearing in mind the guidelines given by the declarations from the 2nd and the 3rd Meetings of the Parties:

- dealing with other development activities, such as tourism (nautical tourism, eco-tourism) and development of the small and medium enterprises sector in the Basin to foster their contribution to the *FASRB* implementation;
- consideration of possibilities and elaboration of options for broadening of the multi-stakeholder platform to include the governmental, non-governmental, business and academic sectors in the *FASRB* implementation;
- assistance in solving bilateral issues related to the *FASRB*, i.e. the development of a protocol on cooperation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia on the protection of the Mehmed-paša Sokolović bridge on the Drina River at Višegrad;
- preliminary consideration of possibilities to introduce the legally binding character of the ISRBC decisions to certain fields of water management.

In addition to the sessions of the ISRBC (Figure 2), 17 meetings of the ISRBC expert groups and other bodies were held during the year 2011, as well as 18 other meetings, such as thematic workshops, meetings and roundtables and other meetings with stakeholders.



Figure 2. The 26th Session of the ISRBC (Zagreb, April 21-22, 2011).

Given the mutually expressed interest of the ISRBC and Montenegro to enhance further cooperation, contacts related to possibilities for Montenegro to become a Party to the *FASRB* in due time, have been continued.

Detailed review of the ISRBC activities is presented in the sections below. The annexes are provided to the *Report* for completeness of information. The list of the ISRBC members and deputy members is given in Annex I, and the list of the active expert groups of the ISRBC, in Annex II to the *Report*. A brief overview of the public participation and stakeholder involvement activities is provided in Annex III and Annex IV. The list of acronyms is attached as Annex V to the *Report*.

1. Navigation

Taking into account the *Work Plan of the ISRBC for FY 2011*, the main focus of the ISRBC work in the field of navigation was on the rehabilitation and development of navigation on the Sava River waterway and improvement of the regulatory framework, especially in the field of the boatmaster and crew certification.

1.1. Navigation safety

In the reporting period, the ISRBC activities focused on participation in the process of further upgrade of the navigation rules on European level and on further elaboration of the harmonized rules for safety inspection in the framework of the Decision 30/07 on *Navigation Rules in the Sava River Basin*, as well as on the modernization and harmonization of the rules for qualification of the boatmaster and crew on European level and the upgrade of the Decision 32/07 on the *Rules on Minimum Requirements for the Issuance of Boatmaster's Licenses in the Sava River Basin*.

In the process of unification of the navigation rules on European level, led by the UNECE, Danube Commission, CCNR, Mosel Commission and ISRBC, special attention was put on development of the rules for protection against pollution from shipping. Harmonized rules for safety inspection were discussed and a basic concept was defined in the framework of the Permanent Expert Group of the ISRBC for Navigation. A proposal for development of a web application for safety inspection on the vessels in the Sava River Basin was presented and discussed within this process.

A joint proposal of the Danube Commission and ISRBC on modernization and harmonization of the rules for qualification of the boatmaster and crew on European level was adopted by EU, UNECE, CCNR and Mosel Commission, and the establishment of a joint working group on this issue is expected in 2012. In upgrading of the Decision 32/07 on the *Rules on Minimum Requirements for the Issuance of Boatmaster's Licenses in the Sava River Basin*, special attention was put on designation of sectors where a special knowledge of navigation conditions is required.

The new text of the *Guidelines for Waterway Marking*, proposed by the ISRBC, was adopted in the UNECE framework. In 2011, the ISRBC issued the *Album of Bridges for the Sava River* (the first ever for the Sava River), Figure 3, and *Indicator of River Kilometers for the Sava River* (renewed after 50 years), which will be of a great help to all users of the waterway, especially to river captains. The development of the *Manual for Navigation on the Sava River* continued, as well.

1.2. Technical standards

As for the technical requirements for the inland waterway vessels, the process of drafting of the *Technical Rules for the Vessels in the Sava River Basin* in cooperation with the Croatian Ministry of the Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure, which started in 2010, continued during the reporting period. New developments regarding the CO₂ emission have been considered and will be included in the *Rules*.



Figure 3. *Album of Bridges for the Sava River.*

1.3. Prevention of water pollution caused by navigation

The ISRBC continued to participate in the project *Waste Management for Inland Navigation on the Danube (WANDA)*, which was finished at the end of 2011. The WANDA project provided a framework for harmonized waste management system, accompanied with a proposal of the financing model. Through participation in the work of the Advisory Board of the project, the importance of the continuation of work on drafting a new convention on ship waste management and implementation of the financing model in the Danube River Basin was emphasized by the ISRBC.

1.4. Waterway infrastructure

The *Marking Plan for the Sava River and its Navigable Tributaries for Year 2012* has been prepared and adopted. This is the first plan generated using the new web application, developed through the project *Web application for development of the Marking Plan for the Sava River and Its Navigable Tributaries and for regular updating of the Marking System* (Figure 4).

Regarding the rehabilitation and development of navigation on the Sava River, the ISRBC and the Parties continued their efforts on development of the detailed design and other documentation for the waterway (for details, see Chapter 1.5) and implementation of the Decision 21/09 (on classes of the future waterway to be used as a basis for detailed design, financing of works, navigation upstream from Sisak up to Slovenia), and Decision 01/10 (providing an “action plan” and timeframe for development of the waterway).

In the framework of the RIS implementation activities, the focus was on the development of the *Rules for a Harmonized RIS in the Sava River Basin* and the preparation of the *Regulation on International Data Exchange with Regard to the RIS in the Sava River Basin*.

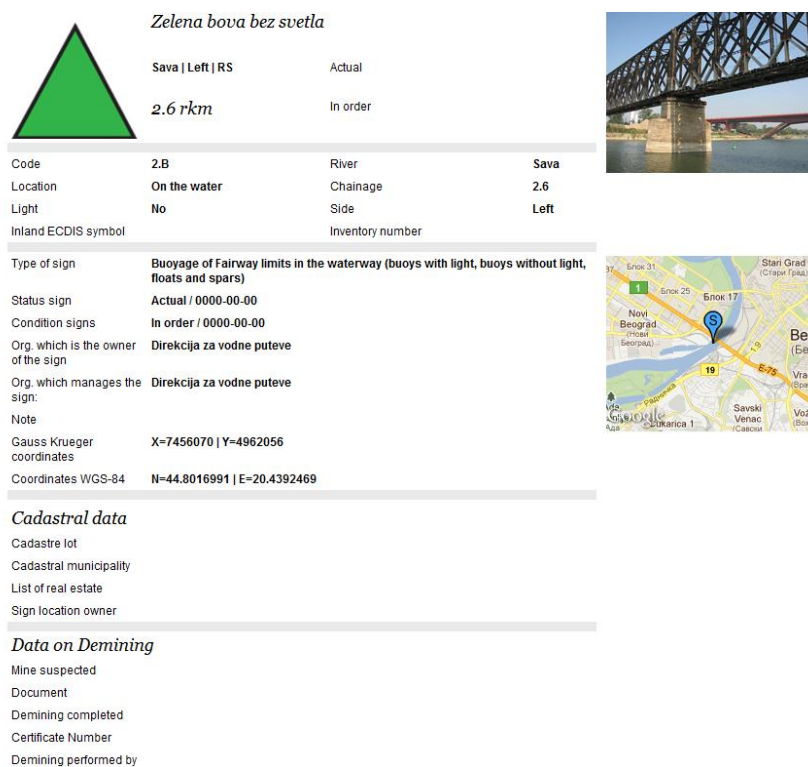


Figure 4. Web-application for development of the *Marking Plan for the Sava River*.

In 2011, long periods of low water levels caused enormous problems in navigation and emphasized the importance and urgency of further implementation of the project *Rehabilitation and Development of Transport and Navigation on the Sava River*. It is also obvious that, independently of the project development, some very urgent measures on the most critical sectors of the waterway are necessary to be implemented as soon as possible.

1.5. Projects and studies

The following projects of the ISRBC in the field of navigation were dealt with during the reporting period:

1. *Rehabilitation and Development of Navigation on the Sava River*

Based on the results of the *Feasibility Study* and on the above mentioned Decisions 21/09 and 01/10, the following activities on rehabilitation and development of the navigation on the Sava River were performed by the ISRBC and the Parties in 2011:

- Republic of Croatia, Republic of Slovenia and the ISRBC started with preparatory activities for the establishment of navigation upstream from Sisak (preparation of the extension of the *Indicator of the River Kilometers* up to Brežice, preparation for the positioning of the river kilometers on the banks upstream from Sisak).
- In the framework of the Croatian IPA project on development of the detailed design for the waterway from Brčko to Sisak, the ToR for the detailed design was agreed with the EU. The tender procedure for development of the detailed design is expected to start in the 2nd quarter of 2012.
- The tender procedure for the detailed design of the waterway and other related documentation for the section from Belgrade to Brčko, to be implemented through the National Programme for B&H under the IPA 2010, has been launched and is expected to be finalized in the 2nd quarter of 2012.

- Serbia and B&H are in the process of conclusion of a bilateral agreement on inland waterways and navigation, which will additionally strengthen the basis for cooperation on the rehabilitation of navigation on the Sava River.
- The Committee for monitoring and coordination of implementation of the project *Rehabilitation and Development of Transport and Navigation on the Sava River Waterway* was established by the ISRBC. The Committee is, *inter alia*, supposed to stimulate the implementation of the principles of the *Joint Statement on Guiding Principles for the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin*.

2. *Web application for development of the Marking Plan for the Sava River and Its Navigable Tributaries and for regular updating of the Marking System*

The project was finalized in 2011. Additionally, a project fiche for upgrading of the application so as to incorporate the *Indicator of River Kilometers* and *Album of Bridges*, was prepared.

3. *Web application for the Safety Inspection*

The ToR for the application was prepared. The objective of the application is to enable storage and usage of the inspection data for the whole Sava River in a harmonized way.

4. *Master Plan for Development of Nautical Tourism in the Sava River Basin*

The project has been presented on the Western Balkan Investment Framework coordination meeting in 2010 and to the representatives of the US Embassy in Zagreb. The fund raising activities for the project are still going on.

In addition to the projects outlined above, there was also collaboration with, and an active participation of the ISRBC in, a number of external projects implemented on European or Danube level – *PLATINA*, *WANDA*, *NEWADA* and *NELI*.

2. Integrated water management

In the reporting period, the activities of the ISRBC in this field were focused on further development of strategic plans (*Sava RBM Plan* and *Flood Risk Management Plan*), and the integrated systems (GIS and the monitoring, forecasting and early warning systems related to accidents and floods) for the Sava River Basin.

2.1. River basin management

Drafting of the *Sava RBM Plan*, in line with the EU *Water Framework Directive* (EU WFD) and under the coordinating role of the ISRBC, certainly presented a key action in this field. The process has been supported by the EC, through direct financing of the technical assistance for the *Plan* preparation, and a grant to the ISRBC for an overall project management and facilitation. The activities related to the *Plan* preparation officially started in November 2009. The technical assistance ended in November 2011, while the grant implementation will continue until August 2012.

In 2011, considerable efforts were invested in the *RBM Plan* preparation process at all levels of the ISRBC, including a continuous work of the Permanent Expert Group for River Basin Management (PEG RBM), an active participation of other expert groups in accordance with their field of expertise, numerous meetings with the Consultant and discussions at the ISRBC sessions. These efforts finally resulted in the *Draft Sava RBM Plan*, accompanied with 13 annexes, 24 maps and 10 background documents (providing details on specific issues or the methodologies used), ready to undergo the public consultation process prior to finalization.

A special attention during the *RBM Plan* preparation has been paid to public participation and the stakeholder involvement. The public participation activities can be summarized into the three main categories:

- providing the information to general public through the ISRBC official website and publications (e.g. *Sava NewsFlash*), as well as numerous presentations, throughout the preparation process;
- consultation activities, including the meetings of the permanent and *ad-hoc* expert groups of the ISRBC, meetings with institutions and organizations of the countries concerned, the consultation workshops at the transboundary level, namely the Workshop on the Programme of Measures (Sarajevo, June 28-30, 2011) and the Stakeholder Forum (Belgrade, November 9-10, 2011), and the public consultation process on the *Draft RBM Plan* on the micro web-site (Figure 5), developed by the ISRBC for the consultation process and collecting the comments from the stakeholders, as well as wide public.
- active involvement of stakeholders, mainly those holding the observers status in the ISRBC, through their active participation at the ISRBC sessions and the expert group meetings.

2.2. Accident prevention and control

The ISRBC activities in this field, performed during FY 2011, were mainly directed to participation in testing of the Accident Emergency Warning System (AEWS). Through the testing, the functioning of the system in the Parties to the *FASRB* and the operative structure and capacities within relevant organizations and institutions were reviewed. An announced test of the AEWS, initiated by the ICPDR, was performed in November 2011. The information units, decision making units and expert units, composing the Principal

International Alert Centers (PIAC), participated in the test. The results showed some difficulties in receiving and sending appropriate messages to relevant PIACs. They also showed that the PIACs are a part of a wider structure for civil protection and operational 24/7 only in Slovenia and Croatia, while the other two Parties have not developed such a structure in the most effective way yet.

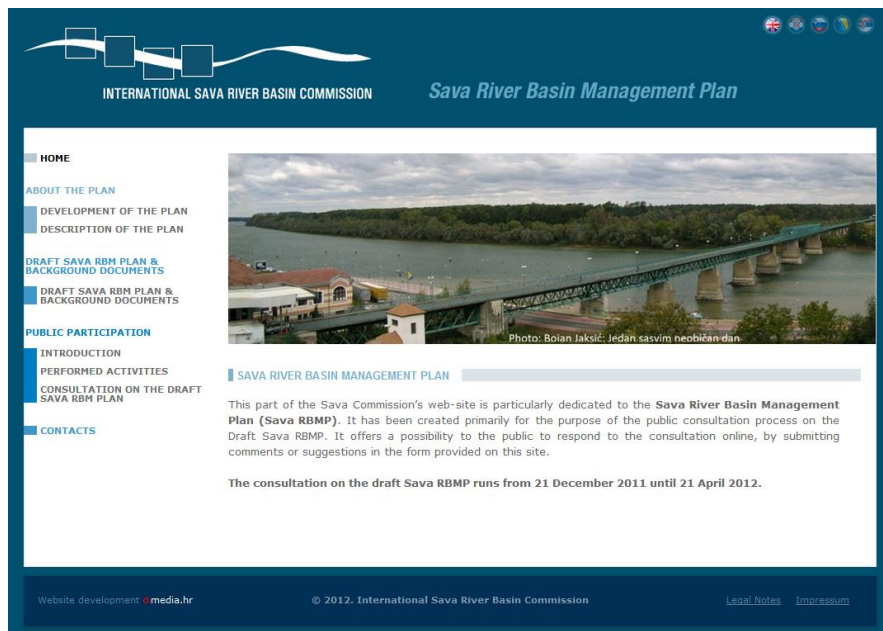


Figure 5. Micro-site for the public consultation on the *Draft Sava RBM Plan*, <http://www.savacommission.org/srbmp/> (English version).

Following the analysis of results of the tests, performed in the framework of Permanent Expert Group for Accident Prevention and Control, a periodical organization of trainings for the operational staff of the PIACs, where Montenegro would also be included, was recommended by the Group.

Consideration of possibilities for unification of different systems for accident prevention and control (e.g. AEWs, CECIS (EU), UNECE system) was also initiated by the Expert Group in 2011. In this context, activities of the ICPDR and UNECE are being monitored.

2.3. Flood management

The preparatory activities for the development of the *Sava Flood Risk Management Plan (FRM Plan)* in line with the *EU Flood Directive*, as foreseen by the *Protocol on Flood protection to the FASRB*, were intensified in 2011.

A number of activities are being performed through the Sava pilot project financed within the UNECE framework¹, including the preparation of the *Program for Development of the Sava FRM Plan*, an initial flood vulnerability assessment and the assessment of potential climate change impact on flood management in the Basin.

The final draft of the *Program* is being developed and is planned to be discussed with relevant stakeholders from the Sava River Basin at a consultation workshop to be organized in May

¹ The official project title is *Building the link between Flood Risk Management planning and climate change assessment in the Sava River Basin*.

2012 tentatively. The activities on the assessment of data and information needs, identification of data sources on national and international level, finding data gaps and defining a strategy how to obtain the missing data, are going on, as well. Baseline studies on the ongoing and completed activities in the field of FRM planning in the Sava River Basin, as well as on the legislation, strategies and plans related to the FRM planning and climate change, have been developed. The tender procedure for the remaining activities (i.e. elaboration of various existing climate change scenarios for the region, their expected impacts on water cycle and more specifically on frequency and magnitude of extreme flood events, as well as the elaboration of the adaptation measures), has been launched.

The first phase of cooperation of the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the ISRBC and national institutions of the Parties was finalized and resulted in a preliminary hydrologic model for the whole Sava River Basin (Figure 6) and a preliminary hydraulic model of the Sava River. These products are the first georeferenced models ever produced for the whole area and, as such, represent a good basis for various needs of the Parties to the *FASRB*.

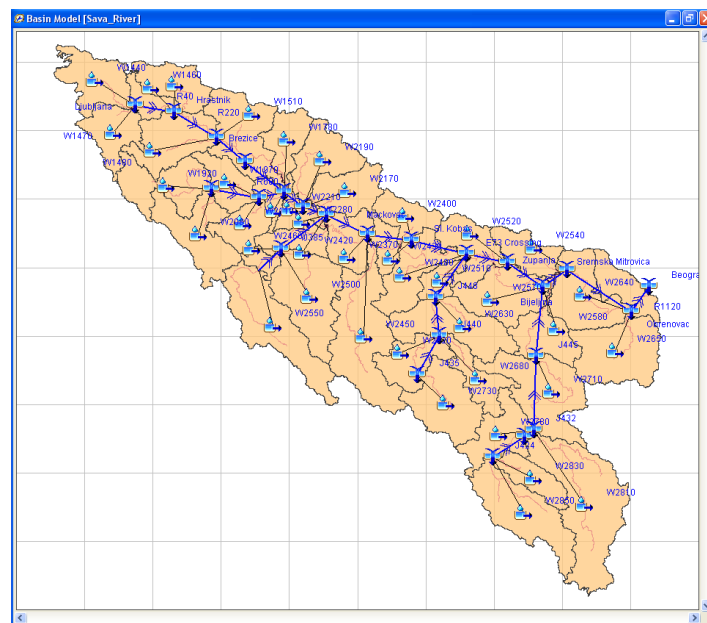


Figure 6. Hydrologic model of the Sava River Basin.

In addition to these joint activities, further upgrading of Sava River hydraulic model has been undertaken by the ISRBC, which resulted in a significantly enhanced unsteady model. Figure 7 shows the full geometry of the model and the simulated water levels during the December 2009 flood event.

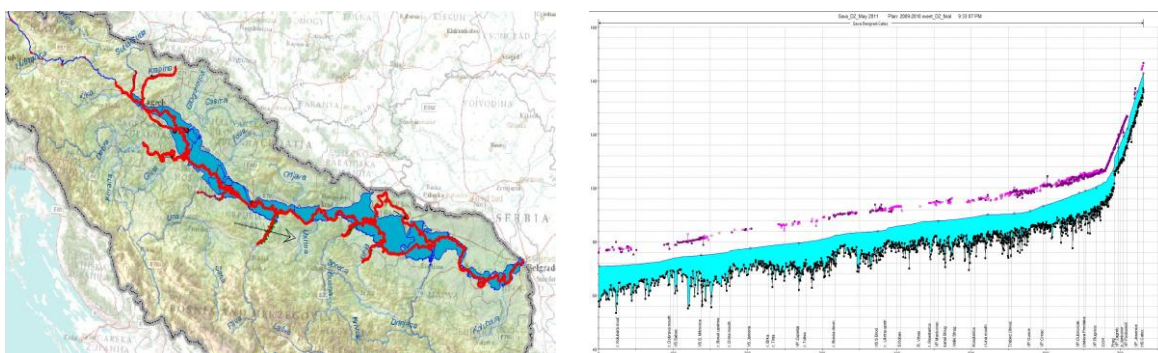


Figure 7. Hydraulic model of the Sava River.

All developed models, along with their supporting files, will be delivered shortly to the nominated institutions of the Parties, with the intention to update information as it becomes available, and to be used for the purposes of flood mapping, supporting the flood forecasting system, and for alternatives analyses of future flood protection projects. As these models can be regarded as preliminary, an additional effort is required to accommodate their functional use to the above mentioned purposes. Additional hydrologic and better geometry data are required from the Parties for calibration and verification of the models. Steps toward ensuring the continuation of cooperation with the USACE have already been taken.

2.4. Projects and studies

The following projects of the ISRBC in the field of water management were dealt with during the reporting period:

1. *Preparation and implementation of the Sava River Basin Management Plan*

The project consists of two components. The first component, *Technical assistance in preparation and implementation of the Sava RBM Plan*, managed by DG Environment of the European Commission and implemented by a Consortium from the Slovak Republic, officially ended in November 2011. The main outcomes include the *Draft Sava RBM Plan* and the accompanying annexes, GIS maps and background documents. Two workshops were organized within the project in 2011, the Workshop on the *Programme of Measures* (Sarajevo, June 2011) and the Stakeholder Forum (Belgrade, November 2011). The main outcomes of the second component, entitled *Support to the ISRBC in preparation and implementation of the Sava RBM Plan* and implemented through an EC grant to the ISRBC, include the initial steps in the setup of the core Sava GIS functionalities, as well as the identification and analysis of the key stakeholders from the viewpoint of the preparation and implementation of the *Sava RBM Plan*.

2. *Towards practical guidance for Sustainable Sediment Management using the Sava River Basin as a showcase*

This project aims to produce a practical guidance for sustainable sediment management, whose application will be validated on a practical case of the Sava River Basin. The project is expected to contribute to development of the *Sediment Management Plan for the Sava River Basin*, as foreseen in the *Draft Protocol on Sediment Management to the FASRB*. The project will be funded by UNESCO and SedNet, as well as from other funds to be sought by these organizations. The expected period of implementation is 26 months, starting in April 2012, tentatively.

3. *Water and Climate Adaptation Plan for the Sava River Basin (WATCAP)*

The project, initiated by the ISRBC and the World Bank, is financed and executed by the Bank. The project aims to assess possible impacts of climate change and, based on the assessment results, to provide guidelines for different water sub-sectors (i.e. navigation, hydropower, irrigation, water supply, flood protection, groundwater, environmental protection), in order to advance water and climate change adaptation in the Sava River Basin, including potential climate change adaptation investments. The project outcomes, so far, include the analysis of climate and hydrologic trends in the Sava River Basin, the climate modelling, while the hydrologic modeling started recently. The project is expected to be finalized by the end of 2012.

4. *Flood mapping study for the Sava River*

The first phase of the project was completed. A project proposal has been prepared by the US Embassy in Zagreb for the second phase of cooperation on the project.

5. *Building the link between Flood Risk Management planning and climate change assessment in the Sava River Basin*

The project is one of the three pilot projects within the UNECE Program of Action „Water and adaptation to climate change in the transboundary context, including management of floods and droughts“. The implementation period is August 2010 - fall 2012. The project outcomes have been briefly presented in the Chapter 2.3 of the *Report*.

6. *Enhancement of the Stakeholder Involvement in the Management of the Sava River Basin*

The project is executed in cooperation with the GWP-Med and UNESCO. The overall project objective is contribution in exploring possibilities and elaborating options for the establishment of a stakeholder platform in the Sava River Basin as a means to facilitate effective coordination of stakeholder involvement in the ISRBC activities to foster the *FASRB* implementation. Within the project, the *Stakeholder Analysis* and the *Feasibility Study for establishment of Sava Water Partnership* are being prepared. The project will end in the first half of 2012.

In addition, proposals have been made and the fund raising activities are going on for the projects *Environmental Status of Sediment, Water and Biota in the Sava River Basin*, *Pollution Contingency Management on Transboundary Waters* and *Sustainable Operational Flood Forecasting in Real-Time and Water Resources Management*.

In 2011, there was also collaboration with relevant external projects – *Protection and sustainable use of the Dinaric karst transboundary aquifer system (DIKTAS)*, *Enhancing cross-border cooperation in the Drina River Basin to fight poverty and improve water management through the support to the Drina River Committee* and *Successful Public Participation in the Water Management in the Sava River Basin*.

3. Cross-cutting and other issues

3.1. Information management

In accordance with the *Geographic Information System Strategy for the Sava River Basin (Sava GIS Strategy)*, adopted by the ISRBC in 2008, and the *Action plan for the Sava GIS*, developed within the project *Preparation of implementing documents for establishment of the Sava GIS*, in 2009, the Sava GIS establishment should be performed in three phases:

- Phase 1 – setup of the core Sava GIS functionalities (Sava GeoPortal, tools, services and products) by the end of 2012;
- Phase 2 – development and implementation of the advanced tools, mapping and reporting services, 2013 – 2015;
- Phase 3 – development and implementation of the dynamic tools and services, from 2015.

The Phase 1 was launched in 2009, within the implementation of the EC grant *Support to the ISRBC in preparation and implementation of the Sava RBM Plan*. A part of the necessary hardware, required for the Sava GeoPortal establishment, has so far been purchased and delivered to the Secretariat. The tender procedure for purchasing the required software and establishing the Sava Geoportal core functionalities, being implemented from the EC grant, was launched in 2011. However, due to a complex nature of the procurement and an appeal on the tender procedure submitted, a consultation with the DG ENV was necessary, which caused a delay in performing the activity. The realization of the activity is planned to be finished in FY 2012.

3.2. Hydrological and meteorological issues

The activities relating to hydro-meteorological issues are mostly performed in the framework of the *Ad-hoc* Expert Group for Hydrological and Meteorological Issues (*Ad-hoc* HM EG), which provides a permanent link of the ISRBC to the national hydro-meteorological services (NHMSs) of the Parties.

The activities in 2011 were focused on strengthening the platform for the exchange of the meteorological and hydrological information and data within the Sava River Basin. The data exchange system was developed (Figure 8) and will be launched on the ISRBC web-site, once the links to the databases of all NHMSs are established. The main purpose of the system is to provide the users with an access to basic information on the water regime from one point, i.e. the ISRBC web-site.

Following the release of the 2006 issue of the *Hydrological Yearbook of the Sava River Basin* in 2010 as the first *Hydrological Yearbook* for the whole Basin since the year 1986, the 2007 and 2008 issues of the *Hydrological Yearbook* were developed and released on the ISRBC web-site (Figure 9). Starting with the 2007 issue, the data from Montenegro are also included so that the whole Sava River Basin is covered.

In order to develop the *Hydrological Study for the Sava River Basin*, the preparation of a detailed programme for development of the *Study* is foreseen as the first step. In 2011, the ToR for the preparation of the detailed programme was prepared and the procurement procedure for this assignment, launched.



Figure 8. The layout of the web page for exchange of hydrological and meteorological data.

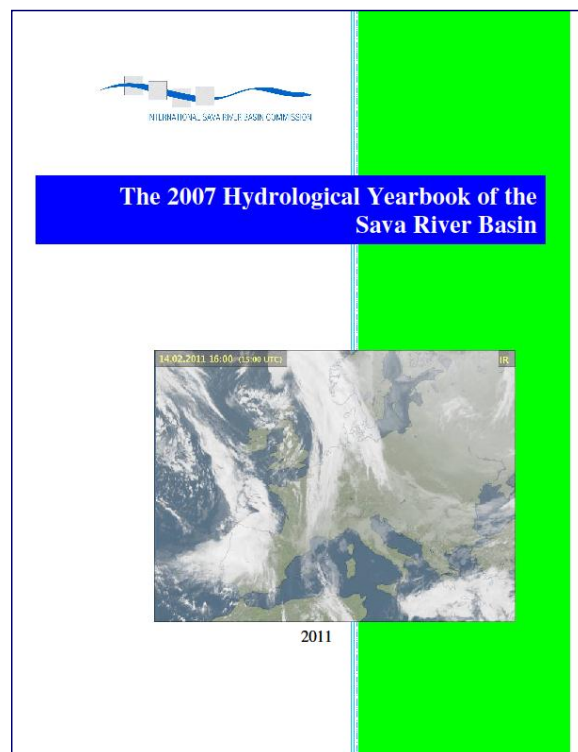


Figure 9. The 2007 issue of the *Hydrological Yearbook of the Sava River Basin*.

Considerable efforts were made to prepare a new project proposal, related to development and upgrade of hydro-meteorological information and forecasting system for the Sava River Basin, for submittal to the 4th SEE TCP call for project proposals at the end of 2011. A strong team of the projects partners from the Sava countries was formed. Unfortunately, the Lead Partner of the project, the hydro-meteorological service of the Emilia-Romagna region (IT), did not succeed to submit the project proposal until the required deadline. Therefore, new funding possibilities are being considered.

3.3. Other development issues

Several activities of the ISRBC in 2011 aimed at matching the interest of the Parties for the development of tourism in the Sava River Basin, expressed in the *Declaration of the 3rd Meeting of the Parties to the FASRB*. As a result, the first ever *Nautical and Tourist Guide for the Sava River* was prepared and published in cooperation with the Association of the Regional Chambers of Commerce from the Sava River Basin. Recently, a proposal on the project *Promoting Development of Eco-tourism in the Sava River Basin*, to be implemented in cooperation with the US Embassy in Zagreb, was prepared and will be considered by the ISRBC for adoption at the upcoming session (April 2012).

An initiative has been launched by the ISRBC to develop a project on fostering contribution of the small and medium enterprises (SME) sector to the *FASRB* implementation, bearing in mind a potential contribution of the SME sector to the development activities in the Basin (e.g. navigation, river tourism, hydropower generation, fish farming and food production, waste water and manure treatment), but also the potential for mobilizing a broad group of stakeholders from the governmental, business and academic sectors from the Basin, through this project. At present, funding opportunities for the project are being explored.

As a continuation of the fruitful cooperation with the Association of the Regional Chambers of Commerce from the Sava River Basin, the ISRBC provided assistance and contribution to the preparation of the *Entrepreneurial Guide of the Sava River*, published recently by the Association.

4. Cooperation and public participation

4.1. Cooperation with international organizations and other relevant institutions

Cooperation of the ISRBC with a large number of international organizations has been maintained during the reporting period, with a special emphasis on the organizations and institutions specified in Article 5 of the *FASRB*.

The cooperation with the ICPDR and Danube Commission is formally based on the memoranda of understanding, signed with each of the two commissions, which provide opportunities for a close cooperation and coordination of activities of the commissions. In practice, the cooperation is performed primarily by means of mutual participation at sessions and expert group meetings of the commissions, as well as other events organized by any of them. This way, the ISRBC activities, related to development of the *RBM Plan*, the GIS establishment and the AEWS implementation, are coordinated with those of the ICPDR. In a similar manner, the cooperation with the Danube Commission provides a basis for development of the ISRBC documents related to navigation, harmonized with the corresponding regulations of the Danube Commission. An important factor in cooperation with the ICPDR and Danube Commission is the process of implementation of the *Joint Statement on Guiding Principles for the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin*, coordinated jointly by the ICPDR, Danube Commission and the ISRBC, together with the European Commission.

The cooperation with the UNECE in FY 2011 has been fruitful. In addition to participation of the ISRBC in the events organized by UNECE and the UNECE participation at the 3rd Meeting of the Parties to the *FASRB*, the ISRBC has contributed to the UNECE activities within the preparation of the *Second Assessment of Transboundary Waters in the UNECE Region*, through the provision of data and the preparation of video-material on this issue for the 7th Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe”. Additionally, the project *Building the link between Flood Risk Management planning and climate change assessment in the Sava River Basin* is being implemented within the UNECE framework (see Chapter 2 of this *Report*).

Cooperation of the ISRBC with the European Commission was further strengthened through an intensive communication during the preparation of the *Sava RBM Plan*, financially supported by the EC (see Chapter 2 of the *Report*), and the ISRBC involvement in the activities related to implementation of the *EU Strategy for the Danube Region*, in order to ensure implementation of the *FASRB*-related projects in the framework of the *EU Danube Strategy*.

Cooperation with UNESCO was based on the implementation of the project *Enhancement of the stakeholder involvement in the management of the Sava river basin*, supported by UNESCO and GWP-Med, and the implementation of a cultural-musical project *Sava Suite*, which was launched by joint organization of the *Sava Suite* concert on the occasion of the 3rd Meeting of the Parties to the *FASRB*, and continued by releasing the corresponding CD and discussing the opportunities for further promotion of the project in 2012. Additionally, a proposal of the project *Towards practical guidance for Sustainable Sediment Management using the Sava River Basin as a showcase* has been developed jointly with several units of UNESCO and SedNet, and the project is planned to be launched in the first half of 2012.

The cooperation with the USA institutions included the joint work on the preparatory activities for a possible follow-up to development of the preliminary hydrologic and hydraulic models of the Sava river (basin), and discussion on possibilities of supporting other ISRBC projects by the US Government.

Cooperation is being maintained with other navigation commissions (i.e. the Mosel Commission and, especially, the CCNR), and other river and lake protection commissions (e.g. commissions for the protection of the rivers Rhine, Elbe, and Oder). There has also been a continued cooperation with regional organizations (OSCE, RCC, REC, SEETO, GWP-Med), international financial institutions (World Bank, EBRD, EIB), specialized organizations, associations and groups (WMO, GIS Forum, PIANC), and business sector (Coca-Cola).

Finally, contacts have been continued with the EC Delegation to Croatia and the Diplomatic Corps in the Republic of Croatia.

4.2. Cooperation with national institutions

A continuous cooperation of the ISRBC with the national institutions competent for implementation of the *FASRB*, has taken place in the reporting period.

In addition to the cooperation related to the *FASRB* implementation in general, which also included participation of representatives of the Parties in the work of the ISRBC expert groups, a particular attention has been paid to:

- development of the *Sava RBM Plan* (ministries of the Parties responsible for water management and environment);
- operation of PIACs in Bosnia & Herzegovina and Serbia (ministries of the Parties responsible for water management and environment);
- rehabilitation and development of navigation on the Sava River (ministries of the Parties responsible for inland waterway transport);
- preparation of the projects relevant for the Sava River Basin (all involved ministries);
- preparatory activities in the organization of the Sava Day 2011 and other PR activities in the framework of the *FASRB* implementation (ministries, nominated representatives of the Parties).

The cooperation with the national contact points for the development of the *EU Strategy for the Danube Region* was continued, in order to coordinate actions of the national representatives and the ISRBC within the process of implementation of the *EU Danube Strategy*.

In addition to the national institutions responsible for implementation of the *FASRB*, a cooperation has been kept with other organizations, such as national hydro-meteorological services of the Parties, agencies responsible for development and maintenance of inland waterways, port master offices, regional chambers of commerce, faculties and institutes dealing with natural and technical sciences, all kinds of technologies, nature conservation, etc. A tradition of annual meetings with captains of port master offices from the Sava River Basin has been maintained, as well, by organizing the 6th meeting. A successful cooperation of the ISRBC with the regional chambers of commerce/economy of the Parties has resulted in the release of the *Nautical and Tourist Guide for the Sava River* and the *Entrepreneurial Guide of the Sava River*.

4.3. Public participation and stakeholder involvement

The activities related to public participation and stakeholder involvement in the framework of the *FASRB* implementation, have been growing continuously.

The information on the *FASRB* implementation was communicated to stakeholders and wider public via:

- the official web-site of the ISRBC (there were roughly 14,000 visits to the web-site during the reporting period), which was upgraded by an additional part, developed for the public consultation process on the *Draft Sava RBM Plan*;
- the official bulletin of the ISRBC, the *Sava NewsFlash* (Figure 10), issued twice per year as a bilingual publication (in English and one of the official languages of the ISRBC);
- publications and reports, including the *Strategy on Implementation of the FASRB and Action Plan for the Period 2011-2015*, the *FASRB* and the protocols ratified or signed so far, *Indicator of River Kilometers for the Sava River*, *Album of Bridges for the Sava River* and *Summary of the Annual Report of the ISRBC for FY 2010*, most of them published both in the official languages and in English;
- a number of consultation workshops, public presentations and other meetings with stakeholders, organized or co-organized by the ISRBC, as listed in Annex III;
- the Sava Day 2011 celebration (detailed overview of the activities given in Annex IV).



Figure 10. SAVANewsFlash No.7 (May 2011) and No.8 (November 2011).

Other means of dissemination of the information included press-releases and media briefings (e.g. promotion of the *Nautical and Tourist Guide of the Sava River* in the Parties, 3rd Meeting of the Parties, Sava Day 2011), as well as contributions to activities of other projects or partners (e.g. the film on the Sava River Basin, made within the project *Successful Public Participation in the Water Management in the Sava River Basin*, the book *Current Issues of Water Management*, *Danube News* No.24, *Annual Report of the Western Balkans Investment Framework* for 2011, *Newsletter* No.5/11 of the European Centre for River Restoration).

The other activities in 2011 included:

- permanently encouragement governmental and/or non-governmental organizations, as well as other institutions, to become observers at the ISRBC;
- continuation of the process of implementation of the *Joint Statement on Guiding Principles for the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin*, led jointly by the ISRBC, ICPDR and Danube Commission;
- preparation of the *Stakeholder Analysis* and the *Feasibility Study for the Establishment of the Sava Water Partnership*, with the aim to consider possibilities and elaborate options for broadening the multi-stakeholder platform in the Sava River Basin to include governmental, non-governmental, business and academic sectors.

5. Legal issues

5.1. Protocols to the *FASRB*

During the reporting period, a considerable attention was given to the protocols to the *FASRB*.

The *Protocol on prevention of water pollution caused by navigation to the FASRB* is aimed at prevention, control and reduction of pollution originating from vessels, establishment of technical requirements for the equipment of port facilities and other reception stations, development of the best available techniques, informing, development of spill response measures and monitoring of water quality. The *Protocol* was signed in 2009. So far, it has been ratified by Bosnia and Herzegovina (2009) and by Croatia (2010), while the processes of ratification in Serbia and Slovenia are still in progress.

The *Protocol on flood protection to the FASRB* is the basic document defining the cooperation of the Parties in the field of flood management. By means of this *Protocol*, the four Parties to the *FASRB* have committed to develop a *Flood Risk Management Plan*, which will define goals of the flood risk management of common interest on the basin level, measures to achieve these goals, mechanisms of coordination on the basin-wide level and a mode of cooperation of the Parties in flood defense emergency situations. The *Protocol* was signed in 2010, and so far it has been ratified by Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The main objectives of the *Protocol on emergency situations to the FASRB* are to prevent and limit hazards and to reduce or eliminate adverse consequences of accidents and natural disasters on water, water regime and aquatic eco-system. The implementation of the *Protocol* is closely connected with the establishment of the contingency system and is expected to ensure prevention, preparedness, response and mutual assistance in case of emergency situations. The *Draft Protocol on emergency situations* was adopted by the ISRBC in March 2009 and distributed to the Parties for final review. Final harmonization is expected, depending on readiness of the Parties.

The main objective of the *Protocol on sediment management to the FASRB* is to facilitate the establishment of sustainable sediment management by addressing quality issues such as sediment pollution (including risk assessment), control of source and deposition of polluted sediment, and quantity issues such as dredging, erosion and torrent control, reservoir sedimentation and morphological changes. It sets out a number of sustainable sediment management principles and suggested sediment management measures. It also stipulates the development of a *Sediment Management Plan* for the Basin and outlines the content of the *Plan*.

The *Draft Protocol on sediment management* was adopted by the ISRBC in March 2010 and sent to the Parties for review. The first meeting on harmonization of the *Draft Protocol* was held on October 25, 2010. It was concluded that the text of the *Draft Protocol* needed to be further improved and harmonized according to the given comments. The final harmonization meeting is planned to be held as soon as possible, after the required national procedures for finalization of negotiations have been completed.

The *Draft Protocol on Transboundary impact* was created by the ISRBC interdisciplinary expert group with an aim to regulate the procedures for issuing documents for installations and activities that may have a transboundary impact to the integrity of the water regime

pursuant to Article 8 of the *FASRB*. However, taking into consideration that all the Sava countries have ratified the *Espoo Convention* in the meantime, and the contents of the *Protocol* largely relies on that Convention, the real benefit of such a protocol has become questionable. Following the expert consultations and the conclusions of the roundtable organized specifically for this purpose, it was concluded that, given the fact that the circumstances have changed in a way that all the Sava countries became parties to the *Espoo Convention*, the *Protocol* in its present form is no longer indispensable as an added value to the already existing mechanisms. By implementation of transboundary cooperation of the Sava countries based on the *Espoo Convention*, Article 8 of the *FASRB* is covered in the part relating to environmental impact assessment in the transboundary context.

5.2. Administration management and legal support

Under this section of work, the permanent legal support was provided within the work of the ISRBC, its working groups and the Secretariat, involving the organization of sessions of the ISRBC, the 3rd Meeting of the Parties to the *FASRB* and preparation of various types of written documents.

During the reporting period, the ISRBC adopted the *Guidelines for Interns to the ISRBC* as the legal framework for development of internship programme by which graduate and postgraduate students from diverse academic backgrounds may be assigned to the ISRBC, where, on one hand, their educational experience can be enhanced through practical work assignments, and on the other hand, the ISRBC Secretariat can be provided with the assistance of qualified students specialized in various professional fields.

In order to foster an active participation of other governmental and/or non-governmental organizations in the ISRBC work, and thus include all relevant factors that could contribute to practical implementation of the *FASRB*, these organizations are permanently encouraged to become observers to the ISRBC.

It should also be noted that the ISRBC has again initiated and intensified the talks with Montenegro concerning the accession to the *FASRB* and/or transitional opportunities on the way to a full membership of this country in the ISRBC.

6. Financial issues

6.1. Budget

At the 26th Session of the ISRBC (Zagreb, April 22, 2011), the decision on adoption of the *Budget of the ISRBC for the financial year 2011* (April 1, 2011 – March 31, 2012), in the total amount of 546,700.00 Euro, was passed. The adopted *Budget* consists of the regular annual contribution in the amount of 487,960.00 Euro (i.e. 121,990.00 Euro per country), of a transfer from the Reserve Fund in the amount of 18,690.00 Euro, and of a part of the EC grant for the *RBM Plan* project implementation, as well as the UNECE grant for implementation of the project *Building the link between Flood Risk Management planning and climate change assessment in the Sava River Basin*, in the amount of 40,050.00 Euro.

The list of the Parties' annual contributions and the other inflows into the General Fund, as well as the list of expenses in the financial year 2011, can be seen in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1. Received regular annual contributions and other inflows for FY 2011 (in Euro).

<i>Parties</i>	<i>Inflows for FY 2011</i>
Bosnia and Herzegovina	121,990.00 ¹
Croatia	121,990.00 ²
Serbia	121,990.00 ³
Slovenia	121,990.00 ⁴
Total received amount of contributions	487,960.00
Transfer from the Reserve Fund	19,962.89 ⁵
Miscellaneous	40,183.11 ⁶
Total General Fund Inflow	548,106.00

Note: ¹ The contribution was paid on December 7, 2011. ² The contribution was paid in two equal parts, on July 7 and November 8, 2011. ³ The contribution was paid on June 28, 2011. ⁴ The contribution was paid on June 24, 2011. ⁵ Transferred amount for covering unexpected expenditures. ⁶ The part of the EC and the UNECE grant funds for the project implementation.

Table 2. Expenditures per basic intention in FY 2011 (in Euro).

<i>Budget Chapter</i>	<i>Expenditures¹</i>
Staff salaries and allowances	406.253,80
Current costs	43.981,06
Travel expenses	28.856,67
Operational costs	28.711,50
Equipment	3.565,37
Total expenditures	511.368,40 ²

Note: ¹ The amount of expenditures on March 31, 2012. ² In accordance with the Financial Rules of the ISRBC, the rest of the General Fund shall be allocated to the Reserve Fund.

The budget items of the General Fund are comparable with the originally stipulated amounts, making a 94% realization of the planned amount.

6.2. Financing projects and studies within special funds

In the financial year 2011, the total received amount in the Special and Trust Fund was 57,310.24 Euro, consisting of:

- the amount of 26,144.78 Euro, the EC grant (second payment) for implementation of the project *Support to the ISRBC in the preparation and implementation of the Sava RBM Plan* and bank interest.
- the amount of 31,133.79 Euro (40,000.00 USD), the UNECE grant (second payment) for implementation of the project *Building the link between Flood Risk Management planning and climate change assessment in the Sava River Basin* and bank interest.
- The amount of 31.67 Euro, bank interest of BiH Fund.

The total expenditures of Special and Trust Fund in the financial year 2011 were 69,902.48 Euro, the main part of this amount for preparation of the project *Building the link between Flood Risk Management planning and climate change assessment in the Sava River Basin* and for implementation of the project *Support to the ISRBC in the preparation and implementation of the Sava RBM Plan*.

6.3. Other activities

During the financial year 2011, the development of internal and external financial management continued. Audit of the financial management of the ISRBC in FY 2010 has been performed, and the ISRBC took note on the *Report on Audit* at the 27th Session. Adjustments of the *Financial Rules* were prepared and proposed to the ISRBC for adoption.

ANNEXES

ANNEX I. List of the ISRBC members and deputy members

No.	Name and Surname	Function	Institution
Bosnia and Herzegovina			
1.	Kemal Karkin	Member to the ISRBC	Ministry of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina
2.	Savo Gluvić	Deputy Member to the ISRBC	WMC "SAVA" Gradiška, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Republic of Croatia			
3.	Nikola Mendrila	Member to the ISRBC, <i>as of February 29, 2012</i>	Ministry of the Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Croatia
4.	Mario Babić	Member to the ISRBC, <i>till February 29, 2012</i>	Ministry of the Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Croatia
5.	Ružica Drmić	Deputy Member to the ISRBC	Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Croatia
Republic of Serbia			
6.	Aleksandar Prodanović	Chairman, Member to the ISRBC	Ministry of Agriculture, Trade, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Serbia, Republic Water Directorate
7.	Miladin Avramov	Deputy Member to the ISRBC	Ministry of Environment, Mining and Spatial Planning of the Republic of Serbia
Republic of Slovenia			
8.	Mitja Bricelj	Deputy Chairman, Member to the ISRBC	Institute for Water of the Republic of Slovenia
9.	Aleksander Čičerov	Deputy Member to the ISRBC	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia

ANNEX II. List of the ISRBC expert groups

The following expert groups have been active during the reporting period:

- Permanent Expert Group for River Basin Management;
- Permanent Expert Group for Accident Prevention and Control;
- Permanent Expert Group for Flood Prevention;
- Permanent Expert Group for Navigation;
- *Ad-hoc* Expert Group for RIS;
- *Ad-hoc* Expert Group for GIS;
- *Ad-hoc* Expert Group for Hydrological and Meteorological Issues;
- *Ad-hoc* Legal Expert Group;
- *Ad-hoc* Financial Expert Group.

According to the *FASRB*, the expert groups are envisaged as the official platform for provision of assistance, guidance and coordination to all activities of the ISRBC related to the implementation of the *FASRB*. It also means that all relevant papers, documents and proposals prepared by the Secretariat are to pass an evaluation of the expert groups prior to submission to the ISRBC for approval.

ANNEX III. List of the meetings with stakeholders, organized or co-organized by the ISRBC

In the reporting period, the ISRBC organized or co-organized a number of consultation workshops, public presentations and other meetings with stakeholders, including:

- Roundtable on fund raising activities for the ISRBC projects (Sarajevo, May 17, 2011);
- Meetings on protection of the Mehmed Paša Sokolović bridge on the Drina river at Višegrad (B&H) (Sarajevo, May 18, 2011; Višegrad, October 7, 2011; Bajina Bašta, January 17, 2012);
- 1st Consultation Workshop on preparation of the *Program for Development of the Flood Risk Management Plan for the Sava River Basin* (Zagreb, May 23, 2011);
- 1st Consultation Meeting on the stakeholder involvement in the *FASRB* implementation (Sarajevo, June 28-29, 2011);
- Consultation Workshop on the *Programme of Measures* for the 1st *Sava RBM Plan* (Sarajevo, June 29-30, 2011);
- Final workshop on the web application for development of the *Marking Plan for the Sava River* (Zagreb, July 5, 2011);
- 1st Meeting of the Committee for monitoring and coordination of the project *Rehabilitation and Development of Transport and Navigation on the Sava river waterway* (Zagreb, September 5, 2011);
- Meetings for preparation of the project *Biodiversity and Environmental Status of Sediment, Water and Biota in the Sava River Basin* (Zagreb, September 7, October 10 and November 15, 2011);
- Meeting for preparation of the project *Pollution Contingency Management on Transboundary Waters* (Zagreb, September 15, 2011);
- 6th meeting with captains of port master offices from the Sava River Basin (Slavonski Brod, September 27-28, 2011);
- Meeting for preparation of the project *Sustainable Operational Flood Forecasting in Real-Time and Water Resources Management* (Zagreb, October 5, 2011);
- Sava Stakeholder Forum – Workshop on the *Sava RBM Plan* and design of the future stakeholder involvement (Belgrade, November 9-10, 2011);
- Training on knowledge brokering practices between science and policy communities in the field of water management and climate change (Zagreb, November 30 - December 2, 2011);
- 1st Meeting with the PR contacts of the Parties on the Sava Day 2012 celebration (Zagreb, February 17, 2012);
- Meeting on further preparation and fund raising for the project *Fostering contribution of the SME sector to sustainable development of the Sava River Basin* (SAVA-SME) (Zagreb, February 24, 2012);
- Roundtable on the *Draft Protocol on Transboundary Impacts to the FASRB* (Zagreb, March 6, 2012).

ANNEX IV. Overview of the activities performed within the Sava Day 2011 celebration

The central event within the Sava Day 2011 celebration was the 3rd Meeting of the Parties to the *FASRB*, held on May 31 and June 1, 2011, at Brdo (Slovenia). Documents of a great significance for further implementation of the *FASRB* were adopted or supported at the Meeting (see the Introduction of the *Report*). Within the evening reception, organized on May 31, with the aim to announce the Meeting and mark the Sava Day, a concert of the music from the Sava region, entitled „The Sava Water Suite“, was performed for the meeting participants. The concert was performed by a group of musicians from Austria, Italy, Slovenia and Croatia, seeking an inspiration in the popular music of the Sava region. The concert was organized in cooperation with the UNESCO Venice Office, as the first in a series of the events planned to be held within the UNESCO project *Water Suite* (another concert was performed in Fontanafredda, Italy, on August 27, 2011). The Meeting of the Parties was accompanied with an exhibition of the best photos from the Sava basin, *Sava River – Nature, People and Cultures*, as well.

In addition to the Meeting of the Parties, a number of other activities, financed through projects of social responsibility, were organized in cooperation with the Coca-Cola companies and the ministries responsible for implementation of the *FASRB*.

- In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the project *Clean Vrbas* was implemented by the UNDP B&H and Coca-Cola B&H, with the main objective to raise awareness on the need for water protection, and support the ongoing activities related to water protection in the Vrbas River Basin. The central event within the project, held on July 3, 2011, included:
 - public promotion of works for construction of the plant for the biological treatment of the wastewater of the primary school at Krupa settlement near Banja Luka, and
 - Krupa – Banja Luka rafting, as a part of the Second ecological rafting regatta on the Vrbas river, which took part from Gornji Vakuf/Uskoplje (June 30) to Srbac (July 5), thus covering the whole river length.

The ISRBC was represented at the event, upon invitation of the organizer.

In addition, the project *Successful Public Participation in the Water Management of the Sava River Basin* (IPA CBC project of B&H and Croatia) was launched in 2011. The project implementation started with a seminar in Bihać, B&H (May 16-21), where an introductory presentation was delivered by the ISRBC.

- In Croatia, the implementation of the project of social responsibility, *Our Beautiful Sava*, financed by Coca-Cola HBC Croatia, has continued. In comparison with 2009, when there were 4 partner organizations/institutions cooperating on the project (Ministry of regional development, forestry and water management, Ministry of sea, transport and infrastructure, Coca-Cola HBC Croatia, and the ISRBC), as much as 36 partners were involved in the project realization in 2011. According to Coca-Cola, approx. 15000 citizens gathered at the four Sava fairs (Zagreb, Sisak, Županja and Slavonski Brod), organized in the period June 3 – July 2, 2011, in a similar manner as in the previous years.

The project web-page (www.lijepanasasava.hr) was launched in 2011, too. Bearing in mind that the initial project idea was formulated in the contacts of Coca-Cola and the ISRBC, the first interviews released on the web-page were those made with the ISRBC representatives.

After winning the European Excellence Award for the best promotion campaign in South-Eastern Europe in 2009, two additional awards were won by the project in 2011:

- the national, CBTour (Croatian Business Tourism) prize, for a special contribution to linking cultures by means of tourism;
- a special prize for the best social responsibility campaign, targeting the community in which the company is acting, awarded by the *PR News' Platinum PR Awards*.

Additionally, the first ever *Nautical and Tourist Guide for the Sava River* was promoted on the Sava Day, June 1, in Sisak, at the event organized by the Croatian Chamber of Commerce – regional chambers Sisak and Zagreb.

Representatives of the ISRBC attended and actively participated at all above mentioned events.

- In Serbia, a number of activities were organized by the Directorate for water of the Ministry of agriculture, trade, forestry and water management. The following events were organized in the three cities along the Sava River, marking also the beginning of the Danube Day 2011 celebration in Serbia:
 - Action “Active for the rivers”, performed in Šabac on June 1, included an ecological performance and distribution of a promotion material to citizens (in the partnership with the Union of ecologists UNECO Podrinje – Šabac and pupils and teachers of a primary school), as well as welcoming a group of photographers from the Artcraft School, who previously made a series of photos of the Sava River and its floodplains, subsequently exhibited on the occasion of the Danube Day.
 - At the event, organized in Belgrade on June 1, three projects from the *Local Ecological Action Plan* were presented – *The children eco-festival at Savski venac*, *Green days at Savski venac – Eco-carneval* and *Public discussion on the environment* (in partnership with Coca Cola and the Municipality Savski venac).
 - A number of competitions were held in Sremska Mitrovica – kayaking (May 28), fishing (May 29), pottery workshop (May 30), ethno-fair (May 31), exhibition of paintings and photos of the bridges on the Sava River (June 1) and a three-day art colony (May 30 – June 1) (in partnership with the Youth Club and Municipality Sremska Mitrovica).
- In Slovenia, the river protection project *Mojareka.si*, launched in 2009, continued, as well. This social responsibility project, financed by Coca-Cola HBC Slovenia, included three contests in 2011, realized under the umbrella of the Ministry of environment and spatial planning, with the aim to stress the importance of water protection and to contribute to awareness raising on the importance of the water quality protection. The contests included creative and research work of the Slovenian youth (pre-school, primary and secondary school levels) over several months, on the following topics:
 - *Mojareka.si: Photo-leaflet of my river* (in partnership with Coca Cola Slovenia);
 - *Danube Art Master: From the source to my glass* (in partnership with the ICPDR) and
 - *Water Investigator: How the pottable water is protected?* (in partnership with the NGO »Institute for sustainable development and environment«).

The central event took place on May 31, 2011, at Brdo, where the winners were awarded the prizes by high representatives of the Slovenian ministries for school and sport, and for environment and spatial planning, as well as representatives of the ICPDR, ISRBC, and Coca-Cola Slovenia.

ANNEX V. List of acronyms

AEWS	Accident Emergency Warning System
B&H	Bosnia and Herzegovina
DG ENV	Directorate General of the EC for Environment
<i>DIKTAS</i>	<i>Protection and sustainable use of the Dinaric karst transboundary aquifer system</i>
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EC	European Commission
EIB	European Investment Bank
<i>Espoo Convention</i>	<i>UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context</i>
EU	European Union
<i>FASRB</i>	<i>Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin</i>
FRM	Flood Risk Management
FY	Financial Year of the ISRBC
GIS	Geographic Information System
GWP-Med	Mediterranean Regional Partnership of the Global Water Partnership
ICPDR	International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
IPA	EU Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance
ISRBC	International Sava River Basin Commission
<i>NAIADES</i>	<i>Navigation and Inland Waterway Action and Development in Europe</i>
<i>NELI</i>	<i>Cooperation-network for logistics and nautical education focusing on inland waterway transport in the Danube corridor supported by innovative solutions</i>
<i>NEWADA</i>	<i>Network of Danube Waterway Administrations</i>
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NHMS	National Hydro-Meteorological Service
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
PIAC	Principal International Alert Center
PIANC	Permanent Congress of the International Navigation Association
<i>PLATINA</i>	<i>Platform for the implementation of NAIADES</i>
RBM	River Basin Management
RCC	Regional Cooperation Council
REC	Regional Environmental Center

RIS	River Information Service
SedNet	European Sediment Network
SEE TCP	South East Europe Transnational Cooperation Programme
SEETO	South East Europe Transport Observatory
SME	Small and medium enterprises
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
WANDA	<i>Waste Management for Inland Navigation on the Danube</i>
WATCAP	<i>Water and Climate Adaptation Plan for the Sava River Basin</i>
WFD	EU Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC)
WMO	World Meteorological Organization