



ANNUAL REPORT
on the work and activities of the
International Sava River Basin Commission
for the period April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024

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Introduction

General tasks and competencies of the International Sava River Basin Commission (*ISRBC, Sava Commission*) are stipulated by the Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin (*FASRB, Framework Agreement*) and, more specifically, by Annex I of the FASRB – Statute of the International Sava River Basin Commission. One of the obligations of ISRBC, according to the Statute, is to submit annual reports on its work to the Parties of FASRB (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Croatia, Republic of Serbia and Republic of Slovenia). This *Annual Report on the work and activities of ISRBC for the period April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024 (Annual Report¹)* has been prepared accordingly.

It can be stated that the implementation of the Framework Agreement has successfully continued in all areas of cooperation, with substantial progress made. Further advances have been achieved in the so-called 3rd Sava River Basin Management (RBM) and the 2nd "Sava" Flood Risk Management (FRM) planning cycles, in continuation of the activities related to the rehabilitation of navigation on the Sava River waterway together with the work on the related safety standards, as well as in further development of linked integrated systems. Substantial efforts and resources have been invested in the preparation and implementation of the activities included in the Sava and Drina Rivers Corridors Integrated Development Program (SDIP), which officially started on August 31, 2022, by signing the grant agreement between the IBRD, acting as an implementing agency of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and the ISRBC for the financing of the regional component of SDIP. In the reporting period and coming years, this assistance represents key support for the most significant activities of the Sava Commission in achieving the priority goals of the cooperation of the Parties.

The Sava Commission is continuously investing significant efforts in cooperation with key stakeholders, particularly in involving youth in processes within the basin. Thus, this year, the central event in which young people from all the Parties to the FASRB participated was the 11th Sava Youth Parliament held in Ljubljana in October 2023, on the topic "Nature-Based Solutions in Water Management".

More details on the important issues are provided in Chapters 1 to 7 of this Report; useful information is also given in the annexes.

¹ *Annual report* corresponds to Financial Year (FY) of ISRBC which covers period from April 1 of the current year to March 31 of the following year

1. Integrated water management

The FY 2023 was marked by the initial steps of the 3rd "Sava" RBM cycle and the continuation of the 2nd "Sava" FRM cycle, activities addressing sediment-related issues, accident pollution prevention and control, and further development of the linked integrated systems.

1.1. River Basin Management

By the provisions of Article 12 of the FASRB, the development of joint and coordinated management plans for the Sava River Basin aims at improving the policy framework of the entire basin to prevent further deterioration or to achieve improvements of the water status, and at strengthening cooperation towards achievement of one of the ultimate goals of the FASRB—*the establishment of sustainable water management in the Sava River Basin.*

The 3rd "Sava" RBM cycle was initiated after the approval of the 2nd Sava RBM Plan on the 9th Meeting of the Parties to the FASRB held in Zagreb in December 2022, and continued in the FY2023, is implemented following the steps required by the EU Water Framework Directive.

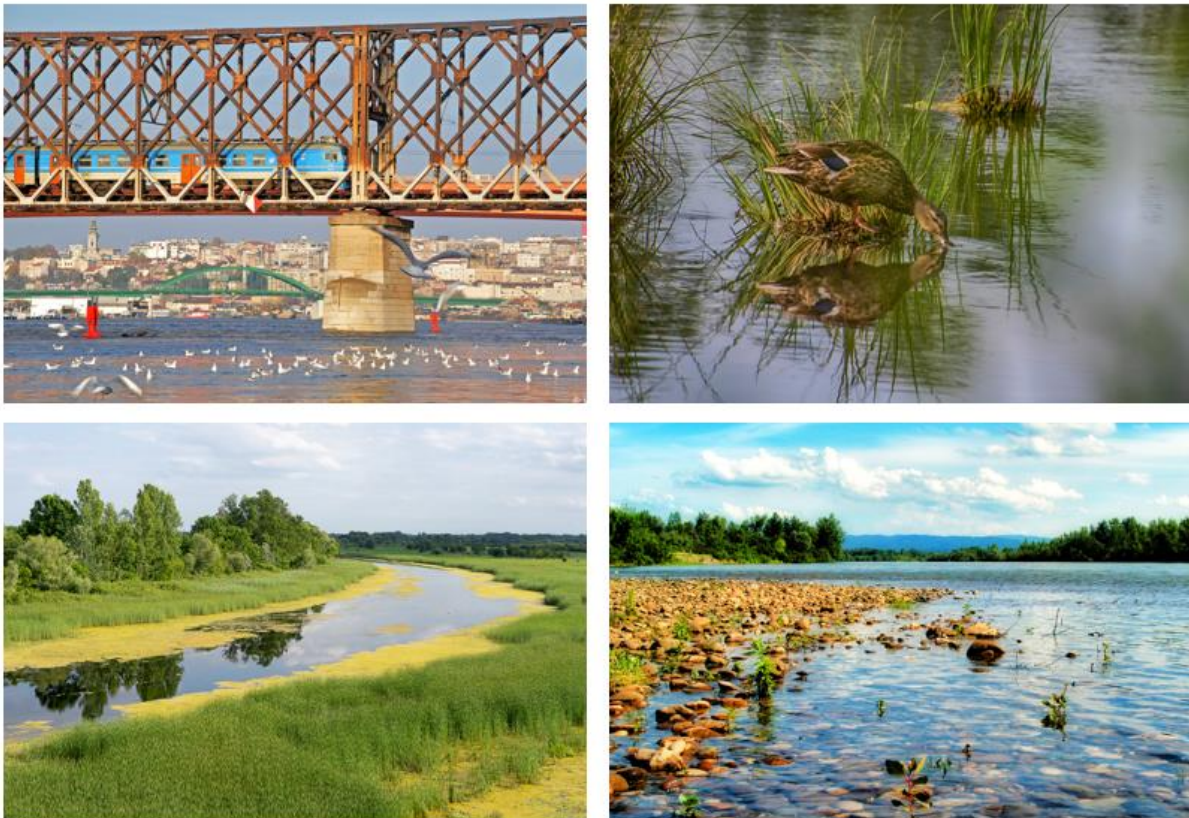


Figure 1: "One basin-1000 water stories" ISRBC Photo Contest 2023 (upper row: Vlada Marinković-Bridges over the Sava river, Zrinka Lovrić- Wild duck; lower row: Maja Simov-Swamp, Pantelija Ilić-Drina shallows)

During the reporting period, the activities were focused on critically assessing the gaps in river basin management identified during the preparation of the 2nd Sava RBM Plan. As an outcome of the process, the identified main gaps at the basin level were associated with the lack of knowledge base and available reliable data for sustainable groundwater management, the absence of harmonized monitoring and status assessment methodologies for transboundary water bodies, the lack of knowledge and data on sediment qualitative and quantitative issues, invasive species, and climate change adaptation. The analysis results were further utilized to

develop proposals for studies, which will be implemented through the regional component of the SDIP.

In the reporting period, activities for preparing the Interim Report on the implementation of the Programme of Measures (PoM) from the 2nd Sava RBM Plan were initiated. The methodology and timeline for developing the Interim Report, which will detail the level and types of implemented measures, have been agreed upon, and the finalisation is scheduled for FY2024.

By the Protocol on Sediment Management, the Parties are required to provide information on sediment dredging carried out in the previous calendar year and data on planned dredging for the current year. Based on the provided data, the Sava Commission has prepared a report on dredging activities in 2022. The report has been submitted to the competent institutions of the Parties. According to the data collected, the total volume of dredging carried out in the Sava River Basin in 2022 exceeds 2.2 million cubic meters. The percentage of sediment dredging executed per river in 2022 is illustrated in Figure 2.

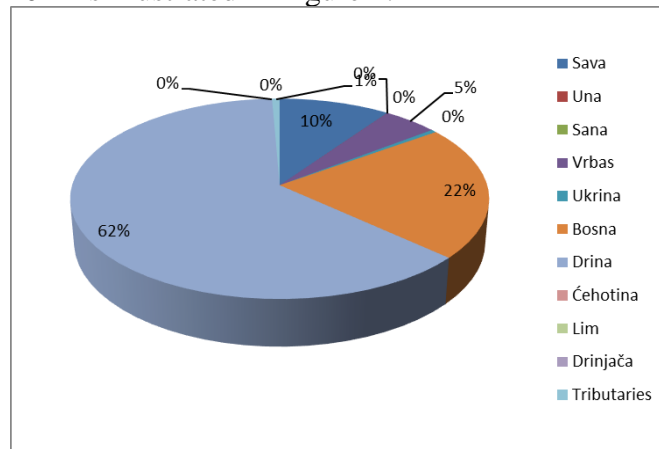


Figure 2. Percentage of executed sediment dredging per river in 2022

1.2. Flood management

Based on the updated report on Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment in the Sava River Basin (Sava PFRA), which was accepted in the previous year, activities related to the 2nd “Sava” FRM planning cycle, continued throughout FY 2023, by the exchange of information on the flood maps between countries through their common platform – ISRBC.

The updated (draft) Sava Flood Maps have been developed as an interactive web-based tool to better facilitate the exchange of information between countries, as required by Article 7.2 of the Protocol on Flood Protection to the FASRB. These web-based flood maps will also provide the foundation for the development of an updated Flood Risk Management Plan in the Sava River Basin.

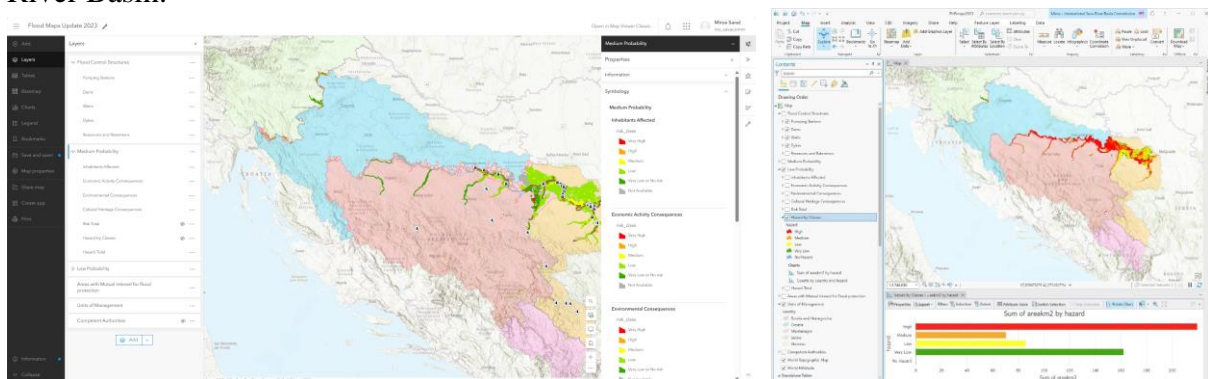


Figure 3. The draft updated Sava Flood Maps

The draft Sava Flood Maps, among information on other flood receptors, also included the impacts of floods on cultural and historical heritage. The results of the SHELTER project (Sustainable Historic Environments Holistic Reconstruction through Technological Enhancement and Community-based Resilience) have been utilized. The project focused on the Sava River Basin among five other case studies (referred to as Open Lab areas) co-coordinated by UNESCO and ISRBC. The SHELTER project officially concluded in May 2023 and significantly contributes to the understanding of the direct and indirect effects of flood hazards on cultural and historical heritage.

The *Flood Forecasting and Warning System in the Sava River Basin* (Sava FFWS) has been regularly used by 10 responsible national institutions from 5 countries. In FY 2023, Sava FFWS has been upgraded to the newest system software version (Delft-FEWS 2023.02) and this time with direct active engagement of the IT staff from the Sava FFWS hosting organizations. The upgrade also included all necessary interventions on the servers and database software. Improvement of the system included an update of the desktop version of the Sava FFWS Operator Client (OC) as well as for the first time implementation of the Sava FFWS Web OC. The upgrade was finalized by the knowledge transfer and participation of the Sava FFWS user organizations at the webinar on new functionalities held on March 7, 2024.

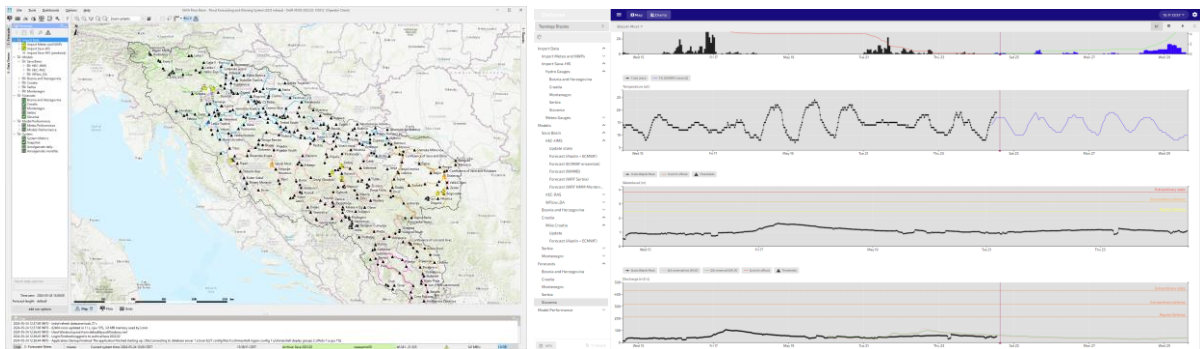


Figure 4: Sava FFWS (Desktop OC and Web OC) in operational use

The ISRBC Secretariat prepared the Annual Training Program for 2023, which included 13 different events such as workshops and trainings. These events provided an opportunity for organisations to build their capacity regularly. Among other events participated in by the forecasting experts of the Sava FFWS user organizations and supported throughout the Sava FFWS activities, 18 national experts from 9 Sava FFWS user organizations from 5 countries participated in the Delft Software Days - Edition 2023, including the courses in Probabilistic Forecasting and Web Services, from November 6-9, 2023. In addition, the ISRBC Secretariat organized several knowledge-transfer events in the reporting period.

The regular Annual Report on the Sava FFWS functioning in 2023 has been prepared in accordance with the *Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation concerning regular functioning and maintenance of the Sava FFWS*. Besides evaluating the functioning of the Sava FFWS, the report provides an overview of the engagement and assesses the costs of all organizations involved in its work.

1.3. Accident prevention and control

The Parties to the FASRB use the ICPDR's *Accident Emergency Warning System* (AEWS). The objectives of the AEWS are receiving, processing and disseminating information on pollution, prompt dealing with accidents and communication of information on emergencies. The ICPDR conducted two tests of the AEWS in 2023, on May 9 and October 5. The May 9 test was unannounced and aimed to assess the functionality of the system, the 24/7 operation of the

Principal International Alert Centers (PIACs), and the basic usage of the system. The test on October 5 was announced in advance. The results of both tests confirmed that the AEWS is functioning as expected without any technical issues. All PIACs in the Sava countries responded much quicker than the required 3-hour time limit. However, it is worth noting that the PIACs in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia are not yet operational 24/7, as has been emphasized in previous years.

It is important to note that there were no reported transboundary pollution accidents in the Sava River Basin in 2023.

As part of the Water Contingency Management in the Sava River Basin (WACOM) project, which concluded in December 2022, a module was developed to exchange data on pollution remedy equipment, pollution accident events, risk spots, and river access sites. The database is continually updated with new data crucial for preventing and controlling accidents.

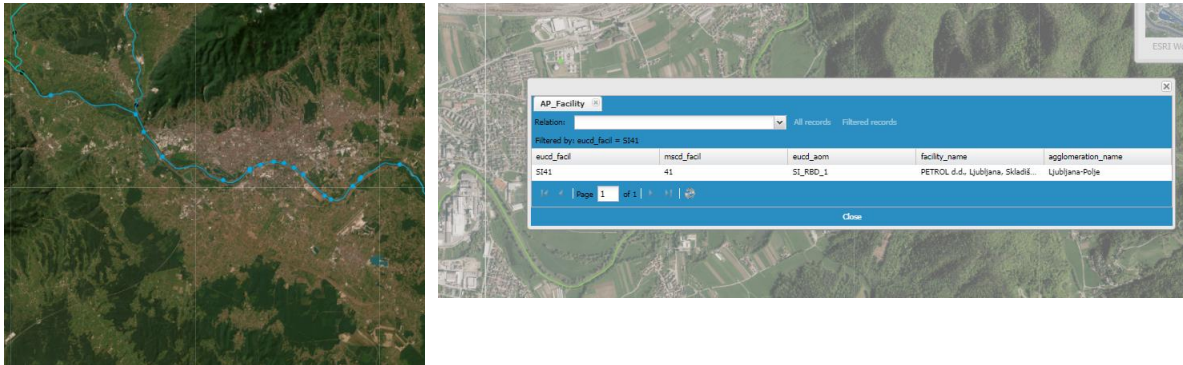


Figure 5: Module for accident prevention and control in SavaGIS

2. Navigation

As in the previous reporting periods, the ISRBC's work in navigation in FY 2023 primarily focused on the rehabilitation and development of navigation and transport on the Sava River waterway.

2.1. Rehabilitation and development of the Sava River waterway

Regarding the rehabilitation and development of the Sava River waterway, activities on solving navigation problems at critical sectors, the so-called bottlenecks, continued in this reporting period.

In Serbia, international passenger ports in Sremska Mitrovica and Šabac were officially opened in 2023. The activities related to the expansion of capacities of the Port of Sremska Mitrovica have begun with an estimated investment of 59 million EUR. The project will be funded by the EIB, the World Bank, and the national budget. The pre-qualification tender for the works has been published, including a public invitation for the initial selection of contractors.

Regarding the activities on solving critical sector for navigation at the mouth of the Drina and Sava Rivers, as well as the concluded agreement between the Government of Serbia and the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which regulates administrative procedures and the financing of the works, the public tendering and commencement of the works will follow after obtaining all necessary documentation from the B&H side and confirmation of the procurement documentation by the EIB.

As part of the commitment to enhancing navigation safety, the VTS and VHF system implementation project was successfully completed on the Sava River. The extension of the AIS AtoN-s system on the Sava River is ongoing, with a planned completion date of July 2024. Furthermore, active work was being done on establishing a system of hydrometeorological stations on the Sava River. The hydraulic and morphological modelling project of the Sava River is in its final preparation stage, and bid evaluation has begun.

In Croatia, following the completion of the documentation for the project *Development of Environmental Impact Assessment Study and Design for the Action: Improvement of the Navigability Conditions of the Sava River from rkm 300 to rkm 329* (project Jaruge-Novi Grad) valid building permits were obtained. The complete project documentation would be officially submitted to the B&H side, following the Decision of the Sava Commission no. 1/17, for its nostrification and obtaining all necessary permits from the B&H side, to fulfil all prerequisites for performing construction works. The B&H side's statement on joint plans related to the application for the execution of construction works at the section concerned for co-financing within the framework of available funds was also confirmed.

The Sava Commission supported the implementation of the project through the establishment of the Stakeholder Forum, consisting of the representatives of national bodies, NGOs, civil and academic society and local communities from Croatia and B&H, who contributed to the integrated approach of all sectors and balanced solutions of the implemented project.

Certain initial activities aimed at addressing other critical sectors of the Sava River were initiated, but the focus remained on carrying out the work on the Jaruge - Novi Grad section. This section posed a significant obstacle to navigation and access to ports and wharfs in Croatia and B&H located upstream of that area. Additionally, the project to improve the marking system in Croatia was successfully finished. As a result, the fleet for waterway marking and surveying was renewed, and all navigational markings, including those on the Sava River, were completely replaced and renewed.

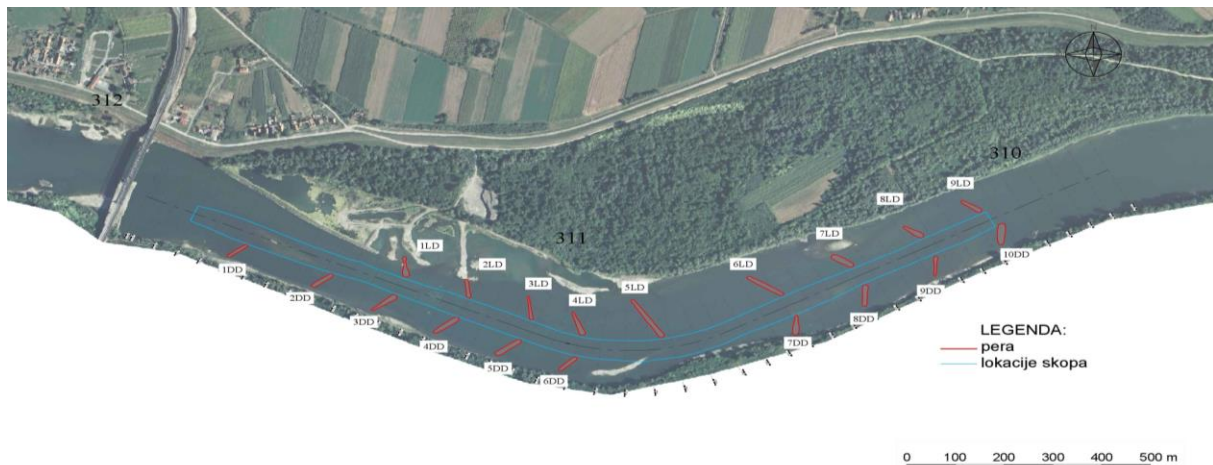


Figure 6: Ecologically friendly river engineering solution in the sector "Jaruge –Novi Grad "

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, regarding the demining of the right bank of the Sava River, the preparation of the environmental impact study (EIA), required by the World Bank's environmental standards, has begun. The signing of the Grant Agreement with WBIF was expected soon, followed by implementing the public procurement procedure for demining services. Accordingly, the works were expected to begin at the end of 2024 or the beginning of next year. Accordingly, in the dynamics of the execution of the works, the Jaruge - Novi Grad sector should be given priority in demining.

Certain activities were initiated to ensure the financing of the infrastructure and facilities of the port of Brčko through loans and grant agreements.

2.2. Navigation safety and related technical standards

Improving navigation safety is one of the most important activities of ISRBC, and work on navigation safety and other technical standards continued accordingly in this reporting period.

Following the integration of the two web applications in use (the system for support to national bodies responsible for the navigation safety inspection and the system for preparation of the Plan for Waterway Marking) into Sava GIS as well as the integration of the ENC for the whole Sava River waterway, which was finalised previously on the testing platform within the WACOM project, the navigation module of Sava GIS was also created and installed on the production platform. In FY 2023, the number of users of web applications for support to national bodies responsible for navigation safety inspection significantly increased.

Regarding publishing statistical data on transshipment and the fairway, the basic information about the collection, statistical processing, and analysis of data on goods and passenger transport in the Sava River Basin for 2023 has been completed and published on the ISRBC website. This data exchange and analysis is part of the annual edition of the European Inland Navigation Market Observation report, as a result of collaboration with the CCNR. The new release of the report is expected soon.

Using the legal capacity given by FASRB, ISRBC adopted Decision 1/24 on the Plan for Waterway Marking and Maintenance on the Sava River and its Navigable Tributaries for the Year 2024.

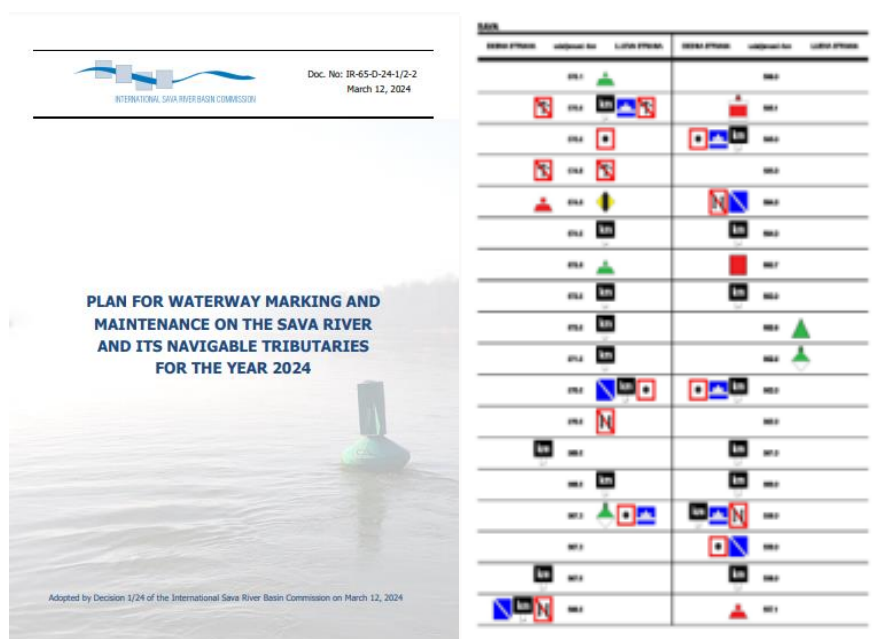


Figure 7: Plan for Waterway Marking and Maintenance on the Sava River and its Navigable Tributaries for the Year 2024

In FY 2023, the ISRBC Secretariat, jointly with experts from the Parties, drafted the proposal of the *Rules on the waterway maintenance on border sectors shared between Croatia and B&H*. Further work on the draft, with the ultimate goal of adopting the Rules, is expected through work at the bilateral level.

Taking into account the need to regulate issues related to the safety of recreational navigation on the common sectors of the Kupa River between Croatia and Slovenia and the readiness of the competent authorities of both states to harmonise the regime of navigation on the Kupa River, ISRBC adopted the *Recommendation 1/23 on regulating the use of the Kupa River navigation on the sector from Bridge/Kamenica mouth to the Cabranka mouth*. The Recommendation also supports the development of nautical tourism and recreational navigation in the relevant section.

After a common conclusion by the DC, ICPDR and ISRBC, that the *Joint Statement on Guiding Principles on the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin* (Joint Statement) and *Platina Manual on Good Practices in Sustainable Waterway Planning* needs to be updated and adjusted to the new policy, three commissions started process of its renewal. At the 14th Joint Statement follow-up meeting in Zagreb in September 2023, a joint proposal for updating the Joint Statement and its Manual was presented. This proposal was made by three commissions and is supported by all relevant stakeholders, including the related Priority Areas of the EUSDR. The Sava Commission will manage the process, with assistance from individual consultants through the regional component of the SDIP, following a positive response from the World Bank. The work is expected to be carried out from Q1 FY 2024 to Q2 FY 2025.

Regarding participation in other international activities, ISRBC took an active part in the work of the CEVNI EG. CEVNI EG has completed the preparation of the revised edition of the CEVNI Rev. 6, thus adopting proposals for further harmonisation and modernisation of European navigation rules. ISRBC particularly contributed to the initiatives on autonomous shipping, with particular attention paid to adapting related regulations (responsibility for ship damage, vessel identification rules, etc). New Navigation Rules in the Sava River Basin, in line with changes introduced in CEVNI Rev. 6, were finished in FY 2023, adopted by Decision 11/23, and published on the ISRBC website.

ISRBC has also continued its active participation in the work of the CESNI and its expert groups. CESNI objectives are to contribute to the adoption of uniform standards on the entire network of inland waterways in Europe to increase navigation safety and environmental protection in the context of inland navigation transport, thus promoting employment in inland navigation and rendering the sector more attractive while facilitating transport operations and promoting international trade.

The ISRBC Secretariat actively took part in events organized by relevant organizations or within the framework of related projects listed in Annex V, such as NAIADES, DINA, 1S4IWT – One System 4 Inland Water Transport (successor of the COMPETING project), FAIRWAY 2 WORKS, MERLIN, and METEET.

3. Data and information management

Data and information exchange through the Sava GIS and HIS systems provided the necessary tools for the successful implementation of relevant activities at the Sava River basin level. During the reporting period, Sava GIS-related activities continued with the collection of data required for various purposes within the framework of ISRBC activities.

3.1. Geo-information issues

The Sava GIS information system was completely operational in FY 2023. Sava GIS Geoportal, the central part of the platform, has 141 users (Secretariat - 7, expert groups - 59, external users and projects – 75) currently registered with appropriate management roles. The Geoportal statistically numbered approx. 3200 unique users continuously during the reporting period.

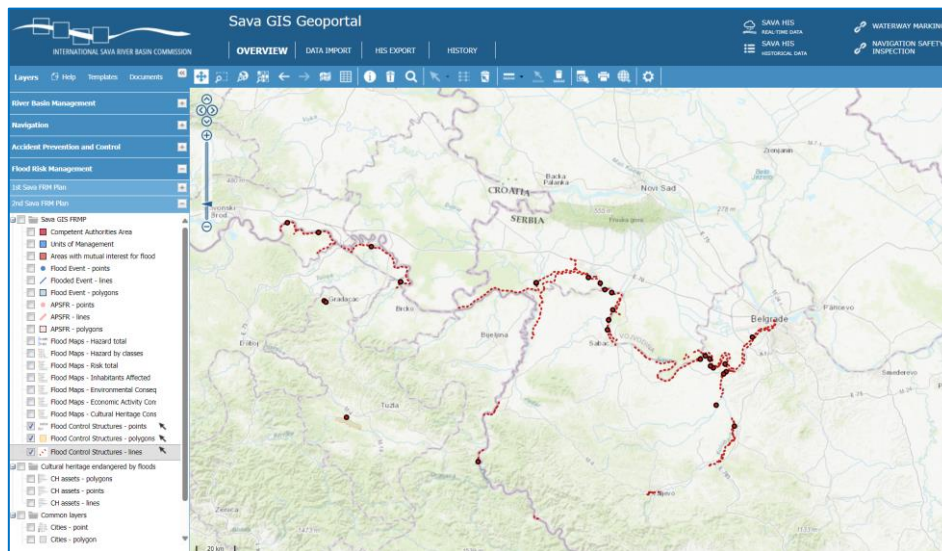


Figure 8: Sava GIS (www.savagis.org).

Data on cultural-historical heritage sites in the flood-prone areas in the Sava River Basin were continuously collected and described in the Sava GIS system.

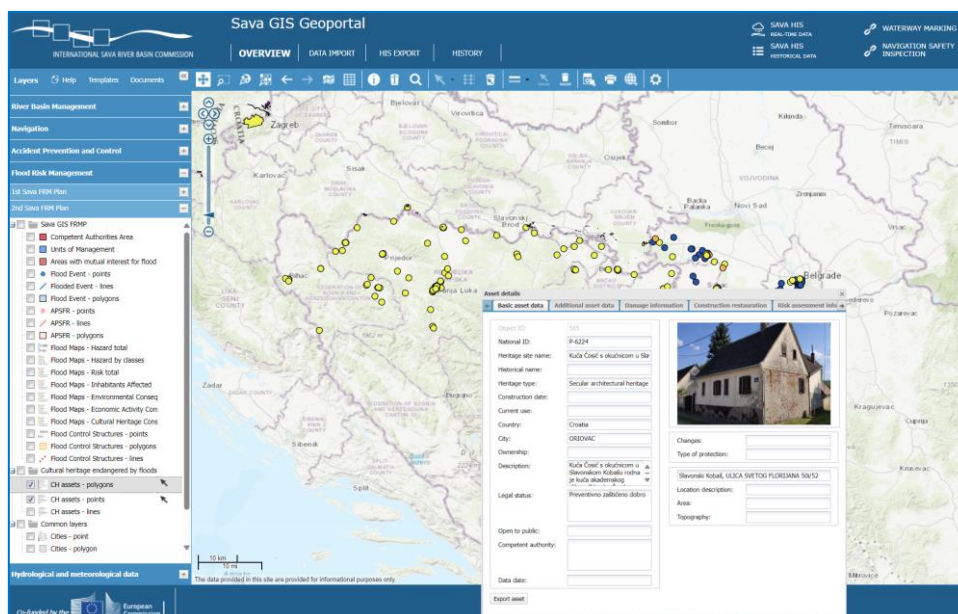


Figure 9: Cultural-historical heritage sites in the Sava GIS

In the upcoming period, a major upgrade of the Sava GIS system is planned within the framework of the SDIP implementation. The upgrade will comprise system hardware and software enhancements in line with the Sava GIS strategy and implementing documents.

3.2. Hydrological and meteorological issues

Sava HIS represents an efficient tool for collecting, storing, exchanging and reporting hydrological and meteorological data on precipitation, air temperature, snow depth, water level, discharge, water temperature, and turbidity, including a number of statistical parameters.

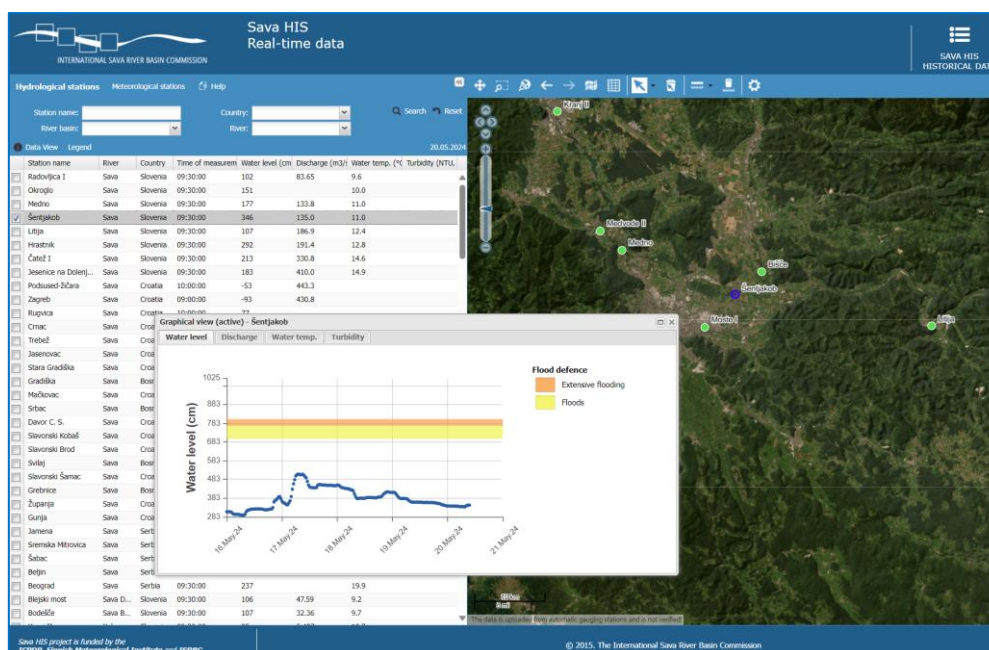


Figure 10: Sava HIS (www.savahis.org).

An overview of the available stations in Sava HIS is presented in the following table. Number of stations with data in near real-time is in brackets.

Table 1: Overview of available stations in Sava HIS

Type of gauging station	BA	HR	ME	RS	SI	Total
Hydrological stations	107 (82)	131 (126)	11 (11)	33 (32)	32 (26)	314 (277)
Meteorological stations	76 (73)	49 (42)	5 (4)	14 (14)	76 (76)	220 (210)

Based on the hydrological and meteorological data in Sava HIS, delivered by the data providers from the countries, the Secretariat has prepared the Hydrological Yearbook for 2020. It provides an overview of basic data on selected hydrological and meteorological stations in the Sava River basin, including related statistical analyses.

The hydrological yearbooks from 2006 to 2020 are accessible on the Sava Commission's [website](http://www.savacommission.org)².

² <https://www.savacommission.org/documents-and-publications/hydrological-yearbooks/10371>

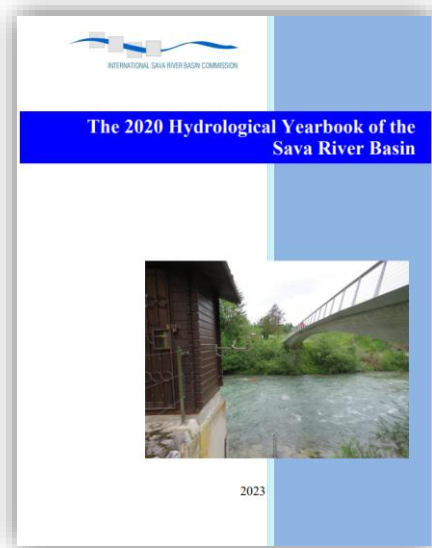


Figure 11: The 2020 Hydrological Yearbook of the Sava River Basin

3.3. ISRBC website and social networks

The ISRBC website is hosted on local hardware infrastructure at the Sava Commission premises and is available in English and all official languages of the Parties. The website serves as the primary information channel for the general public and professional stakeholders. It is implemented using the latest technological standards, including responsive web design, security standards, and user-friendly CMS and DMS solutions. Further enhancements to the website system are planned for FY 2024.

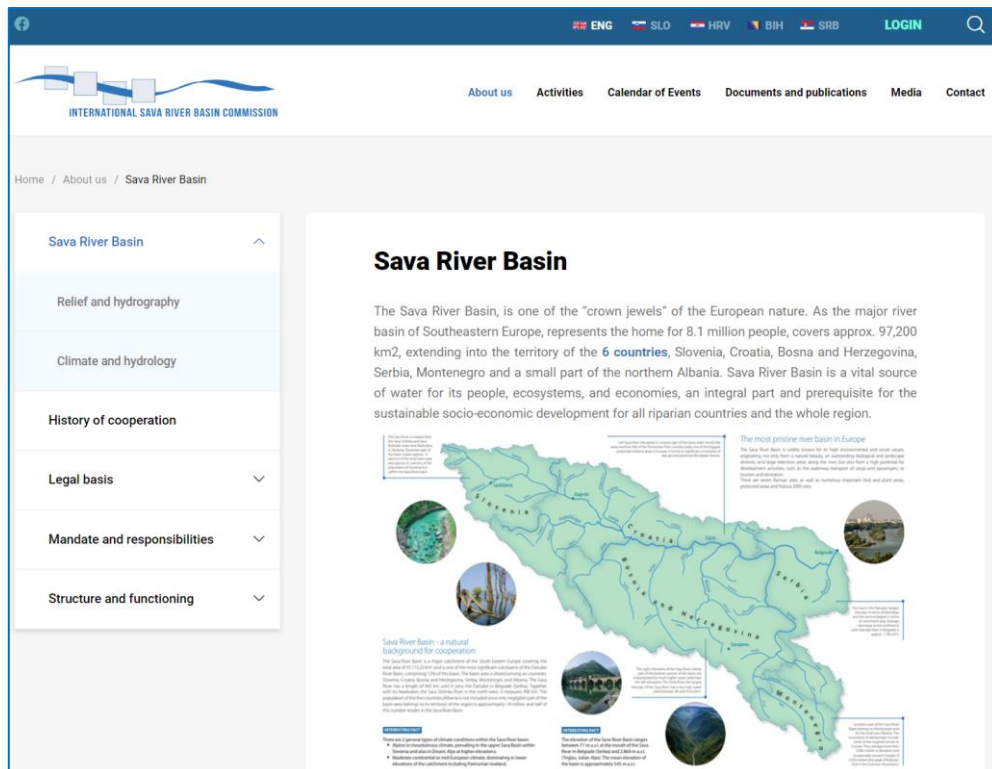


Figure 12: ISRBC website (www.savacommission.org)

4. Cross-cutting and development issues

As stated in the introductory part of the Report, the activities of the Sava Commission in the previous period were largely focused on the preparation and implementation of the regional component of the SDIP. The regional activities of SDIP are focused on strengthening strategic regional dialogue and joint planning, as well as sustainable management and development of the shared water resources in the Sava River Basin. This includes developing regional plans, studies, and strategies of basin-wide importance, promoting joint actions and decision-making among riparian countries and supporting ISRBC in reaching the goals set up by the FASRB. It fully aligns with the activities outlined in the *Joint Plan of Actions for the Sava River Basin*, a programmatic document, prepared by ISRBC with the support of the World Bank in 2017.

The Regional Project Implementation Unit (RPIU) was established within the ISRBC Secretariat to implement, coordinate, monitor, and evaluate regional activities of the SDIP. In the reporting period, the focus was on the preparatory activities for the development of the regional studies in close cooperation with the representatives of the Sava countries. Procurement activities are performed in accordance with the *World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers – Procurement in Investment Project Financing Goods, World, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services, July 2016, revised August 2018, and November 2020*.

The current status of the activities by March 31, 2024, is shown in Table 2.

Table 2: SDIP Phase I Part 4 Implementation-Status of the regional studies development (end of FY2023)

Regional Studies	Status
Master Plan for Sustainable Tourism Development in the Sava River Basin	In extensive collaboration with expert groups of the ISRBC (TTG, PEG RBM, and PEG NAV) the ToR was prepared and received "no objection" from the WB on the ToR, the procurement process for the engagement of a Consultant was initiated in March 2024.
Development of the Joint Statement 2.0	The ToR was developed through the close cooperation of the ICPDR, ISRBC, and DC. After receiving "no objection" from the WB on the ToR, the procurement of the Individual Consultant to perform the activity was initiated in March 2024.
Hydrological study for the Sava River Basin	ToRs for the development of the regional studies are in preparation.
Study on Sediment, Water and Biota in the Sava River Basin	
Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the Sava River Basin	
Enhancement of the existing Sava GIS and HIS capabilities	
Enhancement of Sava FFWS flood warning and alarm capabilities and development of low flow forecasting and warning component	
Updates of the Sava RBM and FRM plans and preparation of the first Sediment Management Plan for the Sava River Basin	Implementation activities have not yet been initiated.

5. Legal and financial issues

5.1. Legal issues

The Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin (FASRB) serves as the main legal framework for transboundary regional cooperation in managing water resources. It involves different sectors of the Parties, local authorities, and other stakeholders. Over the years, the FASRB has proven to be an effective and practical basis for improving collaboration, awareness, knowledge, and capacity building at various levels across the region. Additionally, the four protocols to the FASRB outline specific regulations and guidelines for different areas of regional cooperation.

Table 3: Overview of the status of the protocols to FASRB

Protocol on	Signed	In force since
Navigation Regime	Kranjska Gora, December 3, 2002	December 29, 2004
Prevention of Water Pollution caused by Navigation	Belgrade, June 1, 2009	October 8, 2017
Flood Protection	Gradiška, June 1, 2010	November 27, 2015
Sediment Management	Brčko, July 6, 2015	October 8, 2017

In addition to the four previously mentioned protocols, there has been extensive discussion on the draft Protocol on Emergency Situations. It was originally intended to regulate and encompass various objectives aimed at hazardous activities the identification, their characteristics and possible consequences, prevention, emergency planning, preparedness, response, and mutual assistance among the Parties.

In the meantime, all Parties ratified the Convention on the transboundary effects of industrial accidents, upon which the Protocol is mostly based. Expert consultations were organized to re-evaluate the actual benefits of the Protocol and to make adjustments to its text based on the already accepted amendments to the Convention.

The formal legal requirements for official negotiation on the draft Protocol had not been fulfilled by all Parties. After discussing the issue, the Sava Commission concluded during its 65th Session on 12-13 March 2024 that further development of the draft Protocol would not be considered at this time. However, if the circumstances and interests of the Parties change, discussions about the draft Protocol can be reopened at any time.

Regular legal affairs within the activities of the Sava Commission during the reporting period included the preparation of various acts such as contracts and decisions and work also continued in the preparation of various types of documents within the framework of the SDIP project.

5.2. Financial issues

The budget of ISRBC for FY 2023, in total amount of EUR 687,960.00, was adopted by Decision 7/23 at the 62th Session of ISRBC (Zagreb, March 22-23, 2023). It consists of the regular annual contributions of the Parties and miscellaneous inflows.

The inflows and expenditures of the *General Fund* in FY 2023 are detailed in Table 4 and Table 5, respectively. The balance of the Special and Trust Fund is shown in Table 6.

Table 4: General Fund income in FY 2023

Source of Income		Income (EUR)
1	Mandatory contributions from the Parties	547,960.00
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	136,990.00
	Croatia	136,990.00
	Serbia	136,990.00
	Slovenia	136,990.00
2	Transfer from the Reserve Fund	0.00¹
3	Miscellaneous	206,651.45²
Total income		754,611.45
<i>Notes:</i>		
¹ Transferred amounts for covering unexpected expenditures		
² A part of special funds for implementing WACOM, FFWS, SDIP, ERASMUS+ and bank interest.		

Table 5: General Fund expenditures in FY 2023

Budget Chapter		Expenditures ¹ (EUR)
1	Staff salaries and allowances	611,880.63
2	Current costs	32,382.64
3	Travel expenses	7,544.02
4	Operational costs	23,974.33
5	Equipment	1,223.40
Total expenditures		677,005.02²
<i>Notes:</i>		
¹ The amount of expenditures on March 31, 2024		
² In accordance with the Financial Rules of ISRBC, the rest of the General Fund will be allocated to the Reserve Fund.		

In FY 2023, the inflow into the Special and Trust Fund was for implementing ongoing projects and covering the costs of regular functioning and maintenance of the Sava FFWS. Details are provided in the following table.

Table 6: Special and Trust Fund in FY 2023

Special and Trust Fund		Opening balance	Inflow	Outflow	Balance
1	SHELTER Sava Case Study (EC - HORIZON 2020)	48,094.50	7,023.24	3,091.91	52,025.83
2	Water Contingency Management in the Sava River Basin-WACOM (DTP)	4.18	74,825.37	74,829.55	0.00
3	Sava FFWS (FASRB Parties and Montenegro)	283,175.29	106,913.30	71,786.22	318,302.37
4	GEF Sava and Drina River Corridors Integrated Development Program (SDIP)	450,005.38	157,896.35	202,176.45	405,725.28
5	Can you hear our river - Sava and Scheldt Youth Parliaments Cooperation - ERASMUS+	12,058.56	108.31	10,027.51	2,139.36
6	Special and Trust Fund of B&H	29,464.12	23.75	0	29,487.87
Total		822,802.03	347,806.84	362,928.16	807,680.71

In line with the Financial Rules of ISRBC, a regular audit of the financial management of ISRBC for FY 2022 has been performed, with a general conclusion that the financial management is correct and in accordance with ISRBC's rules and regulations and general accounting principles. ISRBC accepted the Report on Audit of the Financial Management of ISRBC in FY 2022 at the 64th Session (October 24-23, 2023).

6. Cooperation and stakeholder involvement

6.1. Cooperation with international, national and local institutions

The Sava Commission maintains strong contacts and cooperation with various EU bodies and consistently participates in their activities. The Sava Commission also continues to actively participate in implementing the EU Strategy for the Danube region, particularly within Priority Area 1A - Inland Waterways, Priority Area 4 - Water Quality, and Priority Area 5 - Environmental Risks.

ISRBC has maintained its collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) by regularly taking part in its working groups, task forces, workshops, and roundtable events. Additionally, a productive partnership with UNESCO has been focused on the joint SHELTER project. To strengthen this collaboration, UNESCO and ISRBC have developed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), with plans for a signing ceremony in sometime in 2024.

After the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the ISRBC came into effect on September 15, 2022, they collaborated to co-organize a Capacity Building Workshop on Hydrological Data Exchange, Standardization, and Interoperability in Region VI of WMO. The workshop took place online on January 25 and 26, 2024, and in person on January 29 and 30, 2024, at the premises of ISRBC in Zagreb. The workshop primarily targeted representatives of hydrometeorological services from the Sava countries, i.e. the Sava HIS data providers. Additionally, representatives of the hydrometeorological services from Romania and the Czech Republic, and experts from the ICPDR, also took part in the event.



Figure 13: The Memorandum of Understanding between WMO and ISRBC | Participants of the Capacity Building Workshop co-organized between WMO and ISRBC

On the basin level, in addition to national institutions responsible for implementing FASRB, cooperation has been maintained with other organizations, such as water agencies, national hydrological and meteorological services, inland waterway agencies, port master offices, shipping registers, regional chambers of commerce, tourism organizations, as well as faculties and institutes specialized in natural and technical sciences.

Good cooperation has also been maintained with the relevant bodies of Montenegro, especially for developing the 2nd Sava RBM Plan, Hydrological Yearbooks, and activities related to Sava FFWS.

Considering the significance of stakeholders' involvement within the framework of ISRBC activities, cooperation with other relevant stakeholders, such as NGOs, and local actors from the basin has been maintained throughout the reporting period. Active involvement of stakeholders is continuously ensured, above all, for institutions/organizations with observer status in ISRBC. The list of the observers in ISRBC is given in the next table.

Table 7: Observers in the Sava Commission (status on March 31, 2023)

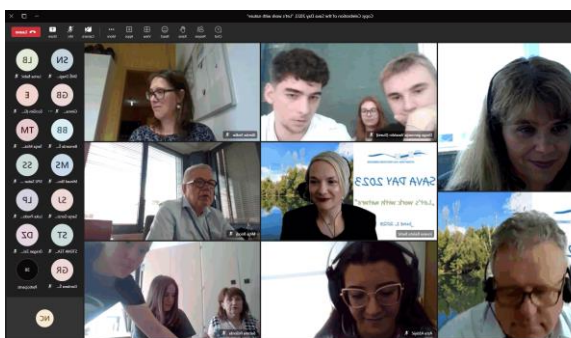
Name	Status	Web site
Government of the Republic of North Macedonia	Permanent	https://vlada.mk
ICPDR	Permanent	www.icpdr.org
Danube Commission	Permanent	www.danubecommission.org
Transport Community	Permanent	www.transport-community.org
GWP CEE	Temporary	www.gwp.org/en/GWP-CEE
WWF Adria	Temporary	www.wwfadria.org
EuroNatur Foundation	Temporary	www.euronatur.org

6.2. Marking the Sava Day 2023 and involving the young generation

The 11th Sava Youth Parliament was held from September 29 to 30, 2023 in Ljubljana (SI) under the slogan "Let's work with nature!" which referred to the use of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) in water management. The Parliament was organized in cooperation with Global Water Partnership Central and Eastern Europe (GWP CEE) and the University of Belgrade.

The schools were selected based on the contest for the best multi-media tool examples of existing NBS in their immediate surroundings and their view of how the problems in water and flood management could be solved using the NBS. The contest was open from March 17 until May 24, 2023.

All the works received (26 teams of secondary school students and young people from 18 to 25 years old) were presented at the online event organized as part of the celebration of Sava Day on June 1, 2023.



Message for the SAVA River

Message for the SAVA River

zajedno sa prirodom za
hvala sto nas spojas
zajedno smo izvor
ohranjeni ekosistemi
naj teče čista voda
flow vidimo
naj živi naša sava
vuger
bolju budućnost
da nam bude što čistija
da bude što zelenija
biodiversity
be like a river be open
green
vsem želim pitno vodo
plants
pozrav iz zelenika č
naučiti varo
živjela naša sava
zato se jih moramo
reke so naše bogastvo

humans
healthy
clean
sava šumi
sava
sava

Figure 14: Participants of the Sav Day 2023 celebration and the main messages for the Sava River

The Parliament gathered more than 40 pupils and professors from eight schools whose teams prepared the best works.

Table 8: Schools participated in the Sava Youth Parliament 2023

School	Team
Biotehniški izobraževalni center Ljubljana Živilska šola Ljubljana, Republika Slovenija	Konc 2
Gimnazija Celje – Center Celje, Republika Slovenija	Naravovarstvene ureditve ob hidroelektrarni Brežice na Savi
Ekonomska, trgovačka i ugostiteljska škola Samobor, Republika Hrvatska	Zeleni otočići
Gimnazija Sesvete, Republika Hrvatska	gerVu2
Srednja stručna i tehnička škola Gradiška, Bosna i Hercegovina	Ekipa 1
Srednja strukovna škola Jajce, Bosna i Hercegovina	Akvatim
Palanačka gimnazija Smederevska Palanka, Republika Srbija	EcoGim
Gimnazija Crnjanski, Beograd, Republika Srbija	Demetra

Like every year, a new presidency was elected. It consists of representatives from all Sava countries with the mandate lasting until the next Sava Youth Parliament.



Figure 15: Participants of Sava Youth Parliament 2023

At the Parliament, young people demonstrated their active and responsible role in seeking and implementing nature-based solutions (NBS) for adapting to climate change. They also conveyed their demand for meaningful participation in planning and decision-making on matters that impact their future.

More information on the Sava Youth Parliament is available at the website of the [Parliament](https://sava-youthparliament.com/)³.

The President of the Parliament participated in two significant international events. He attended the [COP23](https://cop23-slovenia.com/)⁴ session of the Barcelona Convention in Portorož, Slovenia from December 4th to 8th, 2023, and the [UN Regional Forum on Sustainable Development](https://unregionalforum.org/) in Geneva, Switzerland on March 13th and 14th. He presented the Parliament's work and the young generation's

³ <https://sava-youthparliament.com/>

⁴ <https://cop23-slovenia.com/>

perspective on climate change, environmental protection, and biodiversity loss. Blaž highlighted the importance of involving young people in international platforms, as many teenagers are eager to share their thoughts and ideas but lack such opportunities.



Figure 16: The president of the Sava YP, Blaž Lipovšek, at COP23 and UN Regional Forum

Young people have also participated in the project “Can you hear our rivers? – Sava and Scheldt Youth Parliaments Cooperation”, supported by the ERASMUS+ Programme of the EU. The project commenced in March 2022 and concluded in February 2024. GoodPlanet Belgium and the ISRBC collaborated and assembled youth from 7 European countries (Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Belgium, France, and the Netherlands) to collectively explore the topic of climate change. While some activities and training sessions of this project were conducted online, the key events included 2 study visits, with the final one occurring from April 21st to April 27th, 2023 in Croatia. Twenty participants from the Sava and the Scheldt Youth Parliament had the opportunity to meet scientists and policymakers, conduct research, engage in debates, enhance their knowledge and improve their skills. The activities were both educational and enjoyable. The participants went rafting on the Mrežnica River, visited the Freshwater Aquarium in Karlovac, took a tour around the Lonjsko Polje Nature Park, and visited Croatian Waters. As the idea of the project is to experiment with different approaches to communicate about environmental challenges, the programme included a street art workshop and video editing training. On the final day, participants had the opportunity to apply their newly acquired skills by creating their own videos.



Figure 17: Study visit to Zagreb (HR) in April 2023

6.3. Photo Contest 2023

In marking Sava Day 2023, the ISRBC has launched the photo contest „One basin-1000 Water Stories“ to showcase the significance of each individual and their authentic story throughout the process of use, protection and preservation of water as an invaluable common resource.



Figure 18: Poster for launching Photo Contest 2023

Until September 15, 2023, the final date of the contest, 42 applications (in total 346 photos) were received, from 38 amateur and 4 professional photographers. Out of these submissions, five photos were selected for awards - one for the 1st place, one for the 2nd place, and three for the 3rd place. Additionally, 60 selected photos, along with the authors' names and the titles of the photos, were published on the [official website of the ISRBC](#).



Figure 19: Photo contest 2023 “One basin-1000 water stories” -Awarded photos (upper row: 1st place: Ivica Brlić: Dusk on the river; 2nd place: Zvonko Radičanin: Lake Bohinj; lower row: 3rd place: Zoran Milutinović: Old Bridge; Vlada Marinković: Sava and Danube Confluence; Neno Mikulić: Nature Remembers)

Annexes

ANNEX I: List of the ISRBC members and deputy members

Name and surname	Function	Institution
Bosnia and Herzegovina		
Zoran Andrić	Member	Ministry of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Vanda Medić	Deputy Member	Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Republic of Croatia		
Duška Kunštek	Member Chairperson until June 28, 2023	Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Croatia
Elizabeta Kos	Deputy Member	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Green Transition of the Republic of Croatia
Republic of Serbia		
Maja Grbić	Member Chairperson since June 28, 2023	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Serbia
Predrag Petrović	Deputy Member	Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Serbia
Republic of Slovenia		
Mitja Bricelj	Member	Ministry of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning of the Republic of Slovenia
Tanja Miškova	Deputy Member	Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia

ANNEX II: List of the national institutions responsible for the implementation of the FASRB

	Institution	Contact details
Bosnia and Herzegovina		
1.	Ministry of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina	Trg Bosne i Hercegovine 1, 71000 Sarajevo Tel: +387 33 219 923
2.	Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina	Musala 9, 71000 Sarajevo Tel: +387 33 219 923
3.	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Srpska	Trg Republike Srpska 1, 78000 Banjaluka Tel: + 387 51 338 415
4.	Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry	Marka Marulića 2, 71000 Sarajevo Tel: +387 33 726 551
5.	Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Srpska	Trg Republike Srpska 1, 78000 Banjaluka Tel: +387 51 339 404
6.	Federal Ministry of Transport and Communications	Braće Fejića bb, 88.000 Mostar Tel: +387 36 550 025
7.	Ministry of Spatial Planning, Civil Engineering and Ecology of the Republic of Srpska	Trg Republike Srpska 1, 78000 Banjaluka Tel: +387 51 339 487
8.	Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism	Marka Marulića 2, 71000 Sarajevo Tel: +387 33 726 700
9.	Government of the Brčko District	Bulevar mira 1, 76100 Brčko Tel: +387 49 240-600
Republic of Croatia		
1.	Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Croatia	Prisavlje 14, 10000 Zagreb Tel: +385 1 6169 111
2.	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Green Transition of the Republic of Croatia	Radnička cesta 80, 10000 Zagreb Tel: +385 1 3717 111
Republic of Serbia		
1.	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Serbia	Bulevar Umetnosti 2a 11070 Novi Beograd Tel: +381 11 2013 360
2.	Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Serbia	Nemanjina 22-26, 11000 Beograd Tel: +381 11 3619 833
3.	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia	Kneza Miloša 24-26.11000 Beograd Tel: +381 11 3616 333
4.	Ministry of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Serbia	Omladinskih Brigada 1, 11070 Novi Beograd

	Institution	Contact details
		Tel: +381 11 3110 271
5.	Republic Hydro-meteorological Service of Serbia	Kneza Višeslava 66, 11000 Beograd Tel: +381 11 3050 864
6.	Republic Geodetic Authority	Bulevar Vojvode Mišića 39, 11000 Beograd Tel: +381 11 265 22 22
Republic of Slovenia		
1.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning of the Republic of Slovenia	Dunajska cesta 47, 1000 Ljubljana Tel: +386 1 478 70 00
2.	Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia	Prešernova cesta 25, 1000 Ljubljana Tel: +386 1 478 20 00
3.	Ministry of Economy, Tourism and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia	Kotnikova ulica 5, 1000 Ljubljana Tel: +386 1 400 33 11
4.	Ministry of Infrastructure of the Republic of Slovenia	Tržaška cesta 19, 1000 Ljubljana Tel: +386 1 478 80 00

ANNEX III: List of the events organised/co-organised by ISRBC in FY 2023

Event	Date	Method / Venue	Organizer
SHELTER 7 th Sava Open Lab Stakeholders Workshop	04 April 2023	hybrid	ISRBC
5 th SHELTER TG Meeting	05 April 2023	online	ISRBC
Study Trip to Zagreb within the project “Can you hear our rivers? - Sava and Scheldt Youth Parliaments Cooperation”	21-27 April 2023	Zagreb, (HR)	ISRBC
Regular Meeting of the ISRBC/ICPDR Secretariats	11-12 May 2023	Stainz, (AT)	ICPDR
Sava FFWS International Modelling Exercise,	17 May 2023	online	ISRBC
5 th Sava FFWS Technical Group	18 May 2023	online	ISRBC
19 th PEG HMI meeting	22 May 2023	online	ISRBC
6 th SHELTER TG Meeting	31 May 2023	online	ISRBC
5 th Sava FFWS Steering Group	05 June 2023	online	ISRBC
Meeting on the harmonization of the text of the Draft Rules for Waterway Maintenance on the Border Section of the Sava River Between Croatia and Bosnia and Hercegovina	20 June 2023	online	ISRBC
63 rd ISRBC Session	27-28 June 2023	Zagreb (HR)	ISRBC
14 th follow-up meeting on the Joint Statement (ISRBC, ICPDR, DC)	13-14 September 2023	Zagreb (HR)	ISRBC
50 th PEG RBM Meeting	20-21 September 2023	hybrid	ISRBC
48 th PEG FP Meeting	26-27 September 2023	hybrid	ISRBC
27 th PEG GIS Meeting	03 October 2023	hybrid	ISRBC
Sava FFWS International Team for Forecasting Meeting	04 October 2023	online	ISRBC
Sava FFWS International Team for Development Meeting	05 October 2023	online	ISRBC
Meeting on the harmonization of the text of the Draft Rules for Waterway Maintenance on the Border Section of the Sava River Between Croatia and Bosnia and Hercegovina	11 October 2023	online	ISRBC
64 th ISRBC Session	24-25 October 2023	Zagreb (HR)	ISRBC
WB SDIP mission	26 October 2023	Zagreb (HR)	WB/ISRBC
Sava FFWS Probabilistic Forecasting and Web Services courses	06-07 November 2023	Delft (NL)	Deltares/ISRBC
6 th Sava FFWS Technical Group	15 November 2023	online	ISRBC
6 th Sava FFWS Steering Group	19 December 2023	online	ISRBC
WB-ISRBC teams on SDIP	23 January 2024	online	WB/ISRBC

Event	Date	Method / Venue	Organizer
Capacity Building Workshop on Hydrological Data Exchange Standardization, and Interoperability in Region VI of WMO	25-26 January (online) and 29-30 January 2024	online, Zagreb (HR)	WMO/ISRBC
28 th PEG GIS Meeting	13 February 2024	hybrid	ISRBC
26 th PEG NAV Meeting	20 February 2024	Zagreb (HR)	ISRBC
51 st PEG RBM Meeting	21-22 February 2024	Zagreb (HR)	ISRBC
WB-ISRBC meeting on SDIP implementation	22 February 2024	Zagreb (HR)	WB/ISRBC
49 th PEG FP Meeting	27-28 February 2024	hybrid	ISRBC
28 th PEG APC meeting	5 March 2024	online	ISRBC
20 th PEG HMI meeting	7 March 2024	hybrid	ISRBC
65 th ISRBC Session	14-15 March 2024	Zagreb (HR)	ISRBC

ANNEX IV: List of the ISRBC projects implemented or ongoing in FY 2023

No	Project title	Status	Remark on the status / Implementation period	Lead partner(s) / Consultant	Budget (k€)	Funding source
1.	Sustainable Historic Environments Holistic Reconstruction through Technological Enhancement and Community-based Resilience - SHELTER	June 2019 - May 2023	<p>Started in June 2019 and ended in May 2023, with the official review, evaluation, and approval of results by the EC taking place in September 2023.</p> <p>The main outcomes at the Sava River Basin as one of five case studies (so-called Open Lab areas), jointly coordinated by UNESCO and ISRBC are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural and historical heritage sites (archaeological, architectural, sacral, memorial and garden architectural, urban, cultural landscape, historical landscape, other) located within flood-prone areas have been mapped in five riparian countries. Spatial and attribute data for more than 1.200 heritage assets endangered by floods have been collected, harmonized and stored in Sava GIS. Additionally, improvements have been made to the Sava GIS Geoportal. • Networking between relevant authorities, from six riparian countries, responsible for the cultural heritage, flood management, emergency responders and civil protection has been established. The Task Group, consisting of officially nominated members from 16 responsible institutions from five riparian countries, has been established to follow up on the project implementation and as a basis for the post-project collaboration of the relevant institutions. • Built capacity and increased knowledge sharing between different experts through seven stakeholder workshops, many Task Group meetings, several peer learning webinars, and a study tour for the Task Group to The Netherlands. • The 9th edition of the Sava Youth Parliament supported which brought together students of eight schools from four riparian countries to discuss the topic ‘Let’s protect our cultural heritage’. <p>ISRBC also contributed to many specific project tasks in the achievement of the overall project objective and establishment of the SHELTER Operative Knowledge Framework.</p>	Tecnia, ES/ISRBC as a project partner	5,999.448 (ISRBC - 209.365)	EC H2020

No	Project title	Status	Remark on the status / Implementation period	Lead partner(s) / Consultant	Budget (k€)	Funding source
2.	Can you hear our rivers? - the Sava and Scheldt Youth Parliaments Cooperation	Ongoing March 2022 – February 2024	In April 2023 a study trip to Zagreb (HR) was organized.	GoodPlanet Belgium	60	ERASM US+
3.	The Sava and Drina Corridors Integrated Development Program (SDIP)-Phase I	Ongoing September 2022-July 2026	<p>ISRBC has received financing, by signing the Grant Agreement with the World Bank, (WB), which acts as an implementing agency of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), for the GEF Sava and Drina Rivers Corridors Integrated Development Program (SDIP), toward the cost of the implementation of the Part 4 - Regional Cooperation of the SDIP. The SDIP project is planned to be implemented in a 10-year period in two phases, while Phase I lasts until July 2026.</p> <p>SDIP Phase I, Part 4-Regional Cooperation aims at strengthening strategic regional dialogue, joint planning and sustainable management and development of the shared water resources in the Sava River Basin, building resilience to climatic shocks, by supporting the preparation of basin-wide plans and studies, promoting investments to strengthen the nexus between various water uses, intersectoral development synergies and economic cooperation.</p> <p>Activities within the framework of Part 4- Regional Cooperation of the SDIP Phase I are ongoing in accordance with the scope and dynamics defined by the Grant Agreement and related project implementation documents. (elaborated in Chapter 4).</p>		8.000 USD	GEF

ANNEX V: List of external projects supported by ISRBC completed or ongoing in FY 2023

No	Project title	Status	Brief description	Budget (k€)	Funding source	Role of ISRBC
1.	Regenerating ecosystems with Nature-based solutions for hydro-meteorological risk reduction - RECONNECT	September 2018 - August 2023	<p>Started in September 2018, and ended in August 2023.</p> <p>The project aims to contribute to the European reference framework on Nature Based Solutions (NBS) by demonstrating, referencing and upscaling large-scale NBS and by stimulating a new culture for 'land use planning' that links the reduction of risks with local and regional development objectives in a sustainable way. The project draws upon the network of carefully selected Demonstrators and Collaborators that cover a range of local conditions, geographic characteristics, governance structures and social/cultural settings to successfully upscale NBS throughout Europe and Internationally. Among others, Bregana, Vrbanja, Jadar and Tamnava rivers were selected as case studies in the Sava River basin, where the development of prefeasibility studies and knowledge-sharing activities were performed.</p> <p>The main project outcomes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliverables <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demonstrators, pilots, prototypes (1) - Documents, reports (30) - Open Research Data Pilot (1) • Publications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Peer reviewed articles (33) - Book chapters (4) - Conference proceedings (6) - Thesis and dissertations (1) - Other (1) • Datasets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Datasets via OpenAIRE 	15,400	EU H2020	Observer
2.	FAIRway works in the Rhine Danube Corridor	March 2020 - December 2023	The project aimed to additionally eliminate existing bottlenecks by upgrading locks, creating and upgrading	42,576	CEF	Advisory Board

No	Project title	Status	Brief description	Budget (k€)	Funding source	Role of ISRBC
			<p>mooring infrastructure, as well as by improving navigability through hydrological services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade of Iron Gate 2 (Serbia); • Upgrade of 3 public mooring sites (Upper Austria, Lower Austria and Vienna); • Procurement of two multifunctional marking vessels (Austria and Serbia), one geodetic vessel (Serbia) and 100 modern buoys with AIS modules for the Sava River. <p>The project was successfully finalised.</p>			
3.	Preparation of FAIRway 2 works in the Rhine-Danube corridor	Ongoing July 2020 - April 2024	<p>The study is a joint project of Austria, Croatia and Serbia that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide a list of environmental and navigational characteristics of the joint Croatian-Serbian section of the Danube; coupled with depth analysis, this will help to identify potential future works, their options and potential next steps for future integrated river engineering projects; • specify further functionalities of the transnational waterway management system (WAMOS); • develop an improved method for stakeholder coordination; • prepare studies for needs assessment regarding commercial maritime transport in relation to the upgrade/construction of mooring sites along the Danube and the Sava River for Austria, Croatia and Serbia; • provide foundations for future implementation within the foreseen FAIRway Danube 2 project <p>Current status: The Project is extended till December 31, 2024</p>	3,292	CEF	Advisory Board
4.	The platform for the implementation of NAIADES - PLATINA 3	January 2021 - June 2023	PLATINA 3 bridges future research, innovation, and implementation needs within IWT in Europe. The development path for inland navigation in the Danube region	1,999	EU H2020	Advisory Board

No	Project title	Status	Brief description	Budget (k€)	Funding source	Role of ISRBC
			<p>will also be determined by defining the framework for future inland navigation in Europe.</p> <p>Key experts and stakeholders are partners of the PLATINA 3 consortium, ensuring needed expertise and support to implementation: IWT sector and shipping companies, member states and river commissions, waterway administrations, educational and vocational training institutes, Waterborne Technology Platform (Sea Europe), workers, competence centres.</p> <p>The project was successfully finalised in June 2023</p>			
5.	Platform for the implementation of the navigation action programme for action- PLATINA 4	January 2024 – December 2026	<p>The successor project - PLATINA 4, commenced at the beginning of 2024. The focus of the successor is, however, narrower for budgetary reasons, while it aims specifically for the deployment of solutions, mainly in the field of the transition towards zero-emission performance and digitalisation of inland waterway transport with the aim of achieving measurable emission reduction and modal shift objectives.</p>	1,500	EU (Horizon Europe)	Advisory Board
6.	Development of Environmental Impact Assessment study and design for the action: Improvement of the navigability conditions of the Sava River from rkm. 300 to rkm. 329 (Project Jaruge-Novi Grad)	2018-December 2023	<p>Rehabilitation of the most critical fairway section of the Sava River waterway on the section Jaruge – Novi Grad. The project is led by Croatia with support from Bosnia and Hercegovina, while the following activities were to be performed within it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • environmental impact assessment study, • preparation of project documentation for improvement of the navigability conditions of the Sava <p>The project was successfully implemented, and valid building permits were obtained on the Croatian side. The complete project documentation would be officially submitted to the B&H side in accordance with Decision 1/17 of the Sava Commission, for the purpose of its nostrification and further obtaining all necessary permits</p>	650	CEF	Organization and execution of the Stakeholder Forum meetings

No	Project title	Status	Brief description	Budget (k€)	Funding source	Role of ISRBC
			from the B&H side, leading to fulfilling all prerequisites and further actions to perform construction works.			
7.	Danube Sediment Balance - Sustainable, Integrated Transnational Sediment Quantity and Quality Management in the Danube River Basin - DanubeSediment_Q2	Started in January 2024	<p>The project aims to improve the management of sediment quantity and quality in the Danube River Basin to achieve environmental objectives. The main output will be the first Integrated Sediment Management Plan (ISMP) for the Danube River Basin and concrete solutions and upscaling options will be recommended. It will build on the Danube River Basin Sediment Improvement Strategy for solutions building on concrete case studies in each partner country using up-to-date monitoring and modelling.</p> <p>The DanubeSediment_Q2 project will facilitate an improved sediment balance and morphodynamics ensuring a good sediment quantity and quality. This will lead to a restored sediment continuity at barriers, reduced sedimentation in impoundments, reduced riverbed and coastal erosion and control of polluted sediment transport. The project partnership under the lead of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna consists of 15 Project Partners and 39 Associated Strategic Partners from 14 countries</p>	2.314,5	DTP	Associated strategic partner
8.	IS4IWT – One System 4 Inland Water Transport (successor COMPETING project)	Ongoing October 2022 – August 2024	<p>This project aims to design a system architecture for interconnecting education & training institutions' e-learning platforms with the Inland Navigation eLearning System (INeS) which has been developed in previously EU-funded projects.</p> <p>The main objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to create a resilient, easily accessible and future-proof education & training system for the inland waterway transport sector (by creating new content and building a platform); to achieve a process of structured cooperation, focusing on formulating and developing needs and learning outcomes between the fields of education, 	400	Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union	Advisory Board

No	Project title	Status	Brief description	Budget (k€)	Funding source	Role of ISRBC
			industry and social partners (by means of a community of practice); <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="927 331 1592 394">• to contribute to a strong brand to further improve the positioning of the sector.			

ANNEX VI: Acronyms & Abbreviations

AEWS	Accident Emergency Warning System
AIS	Automatic Identification System
APC	Accident Prevention and Control
AtoN	Aid to Navigation
B&H, BiH	Bosnia and Herzegovina
CCNR	Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine
CEF	Connecting Europe Facility
CESNI	European Committee for drawing up standards in inland navigation
CEVNI	European Code for Navigation
CMS	Content Management System
COP	Contracting Parties
CRO, HR	Republic of Croatia
DC	Danube Commission
DMS	Document Management System
EC	European Commission
EG	Expert Group
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIB	European Investment Bank
ENC	Electronic Navigational Charts
EU	European Union
EUR	Euro Currency
EUSDR	European Union Strategy for the Danube Region
FASRB	Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin
FEWS	Flood Emergency Warning System
FFWS	Flood Forecasting and Warning System
FP	Flood Prevention
FRM	Flood Risk Management
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIS	Geographic Information System
GWP CEE	Global Water Partnership for Central and Eastern Europe
HIS	Hydrological Information System
HMI	Hydrometeorological Issues
IBRD, WB	International bank for reconstruction and development, World Bank
ICPDR	International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
IPF	Investment Project Financing
IWT	Inland Waterway Transport
JS	Joint Statement
Mio	Million
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAV	Navigation
NBS	Nature-based solution
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NHMS	National Hydrometeorological Service
OC	Operator Client
PEG	Permanent Expert Group
PFRA	Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment
PIAC	Principal International Alert Center
PoM	Programme of Measures

RBM	River Basin Management
rkm	river kilometer
RPIU	Regional Project Implementation Unit
SDIP	Sava and Drina Rivers Corridors Integrated Development Program
SHELTER	Sustainable Historic Environments hoListic reconstruction through Technological Enhancement and community-based Resilience
TG	Task Group
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
VHF	Very High Frequency
VTS	Vessel Traffic Service



INTERNATIONAL SAVA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION