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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**on work and activities of the**  
**International Sava River Basin Commission**  
**for the period April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017**

**June 2017**



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## Introduction

General tasks and competencies of International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC) are stipulated by *Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin (FASRB)* and, more specifically, by Annex I to *FASRB – Statute of 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 and this *Annual Report on Work and Activities of ISRBC for Year 2016* is made accordingly.

The *Annual Report* corresponds to the Financial Year 2016, which covers the period as of April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017. All the work programmes and plans, mentioned throughout the 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 FASRB by ensuring new commitments of the Parties on principal activities of ISRBC. The most significant activities and results in the reporting period can be summarized as follows: finalization of the 2nd Sava River Basin Analysis (SRBA) at the technical level; set of the activities on the establishment of a flood forecasting system for the Sava River Basin, further advances in data and information exchange (enhancements of Sava GIS and Sava HIS), finalization of the hydrological model for the entire basin as well as the activities performed to improve the technical standards of navigation and navigation applications. A detailed elaboration of the activities and results has been provided in Sections 1-6 of this report.

Many important events were organized in FY 2016. The Sixth Meeting of the Parties to FASRB (Figure 1), held in Belgrade on June 1, 2016, represents the key event in this regard. It brought together high representatives of all Parties: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Croatia, Republic of Serbia and Republic of Slovenia, as well as representatives of different organizations, institutions and governments. The key objective of the Meeting was to discuss progress in implementation of FASRB and the main challenges and opportunities for future. The Meeting acknowledged the significant progress towards the achievement of jointly agreed objectives that has been made since the signing of FASRB and supported its further implementation in all areas of cooperation.



*Figure 1. The Sixth Meeting of the Parties to FASRB (Belgrade, June 1, 2016)*

Three sessions of ISRBC were held in FY 2016: 42<sup>nd</sup> (Zagreb, July 8, 2016), 43<sup>rd</sup> (Zagreb, October 25-26, 2016), and 44<sup>th</sup> (Zagreb, February 21-22, 2017). In addition, two strategic meetings of ISRBC (Zagreb, April 1, 2016 and January 16, 2017) were organized to discuss certain strategic issues and to agree on further actions.

Detailed overview of the ISRBC activities and results in FY 2016 is presented in the main text. The annexes to the *Report*, provided for completeness of information, contain the lists of the ISRBC members and deputy members (Annex I), the active expert groups of ISRBC, and their meetings in FY 2016 (Annex II), the *FASRB*-related projects, implemented and ongoing during the reporting period (Annex III), the planned projects (Annex IV), as well as a brief overview of the public participation and stakeholder involvement activities (Annexes V and VI). The list of acronyms is attached as Annex VII to the *Report*.

## 1. Navigation

The ISRBC's work in the field of navigation in FY 2016, was focused on continuation of the activities towards rehabilitation and development of the navigation and transport on the Sava River waterway. At the same time the work on the standards related to navigation safety and other technical standards has continued, in line with the latest EU advances in the field.

### 1.1. Navigation safety

ISRBC adopted Decision 4/16 on Amendments of Decisions 14/14, 19/10 and 30/07 on *Navigation Rules in the Sava River Basin*, which entered into force on January 1, 2017. It was based on the version 5 of *European Code for Navigation (CEVNI, UNECE, 2014)*. During the implementation of the above mentioned decision, possibilities for further improvements of the *Navigation Rules* have been noted. The Secretariat send to UNECE proposals on further amendments of *CEVNI* (navigation in restricted visibility, water skiing, anchors and spuds). The proposals were considered at the sessions of UNECE bodies in charge for standardization of technical and safety requirements in inland navigation in February and June 2016 and adopted thereafter.

On the basis of Chapter 12 of the *Navigation Rules – Rules for safety inspection*, a web application for safety inspection was developed in the last quarter of FY 2015 and some fine-tuning based on country reports on demo version was completed in the first and second quarter of the FY 2016. At the same time the Secretariat developed the draft Decision on the implementation of the system for the support to the national competent authorities for navigation safety inspection and sent it to the countries for consideration.

ISRBC has continued cooperation with the EU and other river commissions, with a common goal to develop a new European framework on professional qualifications and training standards. As a result, a proposal of the new EU directive was developed by the EC in the beginning of 2016, and passed on to the European Parliament and Council for adoption. The Secretariat cooperated with the Croatian Ministry of the Sea, Transport and infrastructure with the aim to actively promote the mutually agreed opinions of ISRBC regarding some aspects of the proposal of the new EU directive in the adoption procedure. At the same time, taking into account some new developments in national legislations regarding the crew members, Secretariat prepared the draft Decision on the *Rules for the Sava Navigation Personnel*, with the aim to modernize and present requirements for the crew qualifications and minimum manning for vessels in a single document.

ISRBC also participated in the work of the European Committee for drawing up standards in the field of inland navigation (CESNI). The CESNI objectives are to contribute to the adoption of uniform standards on the entire network of inland waterways in Europe with a view to increasing navigation safety and environment protection in the context of inland navigation transport, promoting employment in inland navigation and rendering the sector more attractive, and facilitating transport operations and promoting international trade. Main focus was on the standards for education and for practical exam and navigation simulators.

In order to facilitate the implementation, new rules are systematically presented to representatives of the competent authorities of the Parties. All the same, ISRBC follows implementation of all decisions in the Parties, in order to improve the content of the documents based on inputs of direct users.

Regarding publications related to navigation the main achievement in FY 2016 was development and publishing of the new *Album of Bridges on the Sava River and its navigable tributaries* (Figure 2). This second edition of the Album was upgraded with the information and data on the bridges for the sector upstream of Sisak to the Slovenian-Croatian border.

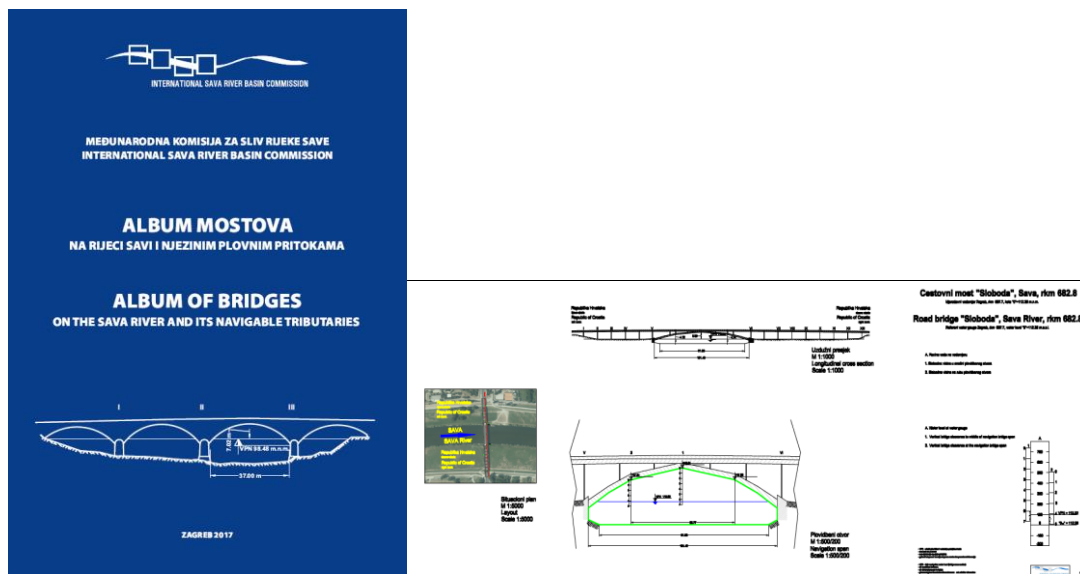


Figure 2. *Album of bridges on the Sava River and its navigable tributaries*

With the aim to promote *Manual for Navigation on the Sava River* and to improve the image of inland navigation, ISRBC continued with organizing public presentations of the *Manual* in the Sava countries. In FY 2016, such presentation was organized in Brčko, in cooperation with the Port of Brčko and with participation of representatives of shipping industry from B&H.

## 1.2. Technical standards

Based on conclusions from the meetings with national bodies responsible for implementation of the technical rules in the Sava countries and taking into account the establishment of CESNI and adoption of the ES TRIN (Standard laying down technical requirements for inland navigation vessels), a new draft Decision on *Technical Rules* was prepared. It has been prepared to enable direct application of the appropriate parts of the Directive (EU) 2016/1629 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 September 2016 laying down technical requirements for inland waterway vessels, amending Directive 2009/100/EC and repealing Directive 2006/87/EC on the waterways in the Sava River Basin. It is expected that the Decision will be adopted by the end of 2017.

ISRBC also continued cooperation on further harmonization of the *Technical Rules*, and procedures for amending it, with Danube Commission, UNECE and responsible EU bodies.

## 1.3. Waterway infrastructure

Bearing in mind difficulties and delay in the implementation of preparatory activities on rehabilitation and development of the Sava River waterway, the Parties and ISRBC started with a new approach. The basis of this approach is to start with the rehabilitation of the most critical sectors of the fairway. A number of activities were undertaken by the Parties and ISRBC in FY 2016 in this regard, including:



- Serbia secured financing and started with activities on rehabilitation of the fairway on the sector Kamičak. It is also planned to continue with rehabilitation of other critical sectors in Serbia in the coming years;
- ISRBC adopted the Decision 1/17 on the rehabilitation of the fairway in the sector Novi Grad. In accordance with the Decision, Croatia shall initiate activities on rehabilitation of the Sava River waterway on the section Jaruge - Novi Grad, which includes preparation of all necessary documentation for obtaining the location/environmental and construction permits, or any conditions and/or approval of the competent institutions for the entire waterway in the above mentioned section. Bosnia and Herzegovina shall provide for Croatia all conditions for development of the documentation and take actions to obtain all required permits and any conditions and/or approval of the competent institutions and authorities to perform works on the same section. Croatia applied for financing of the necessary project documentation for the sector Novi Grad. The project for a detailed bathymetric survey of the fairway, aiming to secure necessary data for improvement of the navigation conditions (one way navigation and upgrade of marking system), is also in the preparatory phase;
- RIS implementation in Croatia was completed and the Sava River waterway is now covered with RIS from Belgrade up to Sisak;
- ISRBC continued participation in the work of the Steering Committee for the Priority Area 1a of the EU Danube Strategy, with the aim to support development of navigation and promote the transport possibilities on the Sava River as a part of the European Core Transport Network.

In accordance with Article 10(4) of *FASRB* and Article 9 of *Protocol on Navigation Regime to FASRB*, ISRBC coordinated and supported activities of the Parties on the waterway marking during the reporting period and, in this respect, regularly adopted decisions on annual marking plans for the Sava River and its navigable tributaries and maintained the functionality of the web application for preparation of *Marking Plan for the Sava River and Its Navigable Tributaries*. ISRBC organized the meeting with the competent authorities of the B&H and Croatia with the aim of further upgrade of the fairway marking system on the B&H sector. After the meeting, the joint survey of the marking system on the B&H sector was organized and further improvement of the system was agreed.

## 2. Integrated water management

In FY 2016, the ISRBC's activities in integrated water management were focused on continuation of activities related to RBM planning, flood risk management, and development of integrated systems (GIS, HIS and monitoring, forecasting and early warning systems related to accidents and floods) for the basin. Significant efforts were invested *inter alia* in the activities dealing with climate change impacts, sediment issues, further enhancement of hydrologic and hydraulic models, as well as in preparation of various projects and project proposals aiming to support achieving the targets in the priority areas of cooperation, agreed by the Parties.

### 2.1. River basin management

Preparation of *Sava RBM Plan* represents the most important task in reaching one of the ultimate goals of *FASRB* – establishment of sustainable water management in the Sava River Basin. Following the approval of the first *Plan* at the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties (Zagreb, December 2, 2014), activities of the second RBM planning cycle started in 2015 and continued in 2016.

The main achievement of this process in FY 2016 was finalization of the second Sava River Basin Analysis (SRBA). SRBA represents truly collective effort of experts from the cooperating countries, working together in the ISRBC's expert groups, without any external support. This document represents an update of the first SRBA (2009) and a good basis for development of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sava RBM Plan.

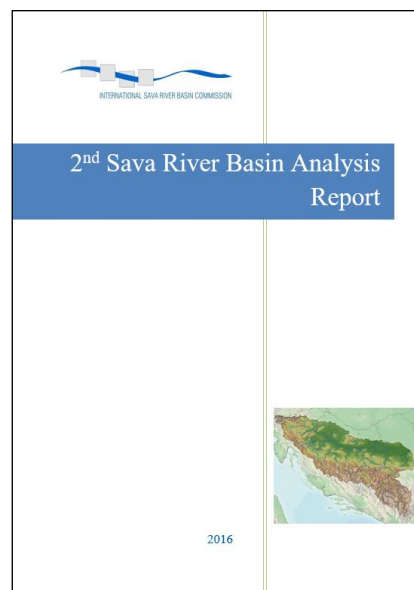


Figure 3. Cover page of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sava River Basin Analysis Report

Another important activity, which was performed in parallel with the SRBA report preparation, was a review of significant water management issues (SWMI) in the Sava River Basin. Beside the key issues, the SWMI paper also includes a brief interim overview of implementation of measures set by the first Sava RBM Plan. Public consultation was performed through ISRBC web site in the period of three months (July 29 – Oct. 20, 2016). Comments received from several non-governmental and business sector organizations were carefully considered and justified and the document has been upgraded thereafter.

Activities leading to the 2<sup>nd</sup> *Sava RBM Plan* will continue in FY 2017. In the meantime, the Secretariat will investigate all possibilities of getting the financial support for development of the *Plan*, which seems necessary for preparation of such comprehensive document.

Further progress regarding sediment management has been achieved within the project *Towards the Practical Guidance for Sustainable Sediment Management using the Sava River Basin as a Showcase*, launched by ISRBC in 2012, in cooperation with, and with support of, the UNESCO Venice Office and SedNet. Following the finalization of *Estimation of Sediment Balance for the Sava River (BALSES)* in 2013 and the report on *Establishment of the Sediment Monitoring System for the Sava River Basin* in 2015, the activities were focused to installation of the measurements equipment for suspended sediment at two pilot sites, Slavonski Brod (HR) and Sremska Mitrovica (RS). In the reporting period the turbidity sensors were purchased and installed in Sremska Mitrovica, while the installation in Slavonski Brod is expected in summer 2017. The workshop on sediment management, monitoring and modelling was held on March 22, 2017 (Figure 4). More information on the workshop is available [here](#).



Figure 4. Workshop on sediment monitoring (Zagreb, March 22, 2017)

The issue of adaptation to climate change was given due attention in the reporting period. In November 2015, ISRBC signed *Paris Pact on Water and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Basins of Rivers, Lakes and Aquifers*, a non-binding document calling for action on climate change adaptation in basins, and joined the family of more than 300 governments, international organizations, donors, national and transboundary basin organizations, local authorities, the civil society and companies worldwide which have signed the *Pact*. In FY 2106 ISRBC has started to negotiate with UNECE and the IOWater (*International Office for Water*) on development of an Outline of the Climate Adaptation Strategy and basin-wide priority measures for the Sava River Basin. The implementation will start in May 2017. It is expected that the outputs of this project will be a good basis for development of a full-fledged Climate Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan for the basin.

After finalization of the [Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus Assessment in the Sava River Basin](#), implemented as a part of the UNECE *Water Convention's* Work Programme 2013-2015, in FY 2016 similar nexus assessment were carried out for the Drina River Basin. Multidisciplinary local and international expertise has been mobilized to identify key linkages between energy, water, land and ecosystem resources, as well as potential solutions to help ensure that the basin's resources are developed and managed sustainably. Two workshops were held in 2016 and the technical report on Drina Nexus is under finalization. The project demonstrates the assessment of the intersectoral links, trade-offs and benefits in the Drina River Basin aiming to foster transboundary cooperation by identifying intersectoral synergies and determining measures that could alleviate tensions related to multiple needs of the riparian countries for common resources.

Joint Research Centre (JRC) has analysed the Sava Basin as a case study within the *Danube Water Nexus* project. The final report was produced in September 2016. However, activities on modelling the water demand and availability scenarios for current and future land use and climate in the Sava River Basin continued and the new results are expected to be presented to ISRBC in 2017.

The project *Towards the Assessment of Ecological Status of Water Bodies in the Sava River Basin (STAWA)* was finished in FY 2016. It has been supported by the START Danube Region Project Fund of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region. The main objective of the project was the proposal of the basis for establishment of basin wide actions for cooperation on data collection and effective sharing of information on ecological status in the Sava River Basin. The final report is available [here](#).

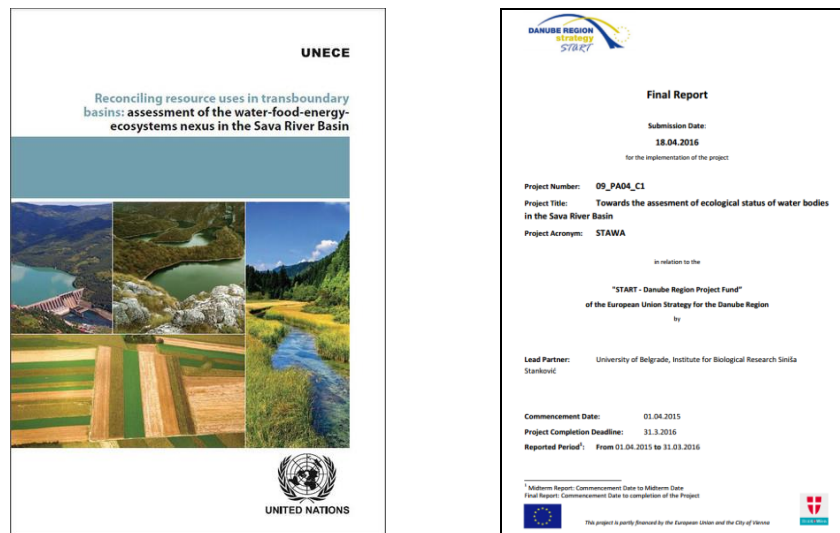


Figure 5. The Sava Nexus and STAWA final reports

## 2.2. Accident prevention and control

In 2016, two tests of Accident Emergency Warning System (AEWS) were held. The main objective of such exercises is to test functionality of the system, 24/7 operability of Principal International Alert Centres (PIACs) and basic usage of the system. The first (announced) test was held in April 2016. The second test (not announced before) and was held on October 27, 2016. Both tests have confirmed that the system itself is working as expected without problems from a technical point of view. In the October test all PIACs at the Danube level reacted very fast i.e. most in less than 10 minutes, all within 18 minutes and thus much faster than the 3 hours required response time, although the PIACs in B&H and Serbia are still not part of the national system which operates 24/7.

ICPDR has conducted the process to develop an inventory of Accident Risk Spots (ARS), which encompasses operational industrial sites associated with major risk of accidental pollution and Contaminated Sites (CS), including landfills and dumps in areas prone to flooding. From our basin, the information has been collected for Croatia, Serbia and B&H-Republika Srpska. ISRBC will continue efforts to support collection of data in FY 2017. Final report on ARS and CS is expected to be presented at the ICPDR's Ordinary meeting in December 2017.

### 2.3. Flood management

*Protocol on Flood Protection to FASRB*, which entered into force on November 27, 2015, has formalized a firm commitment of the Parties to implement activities aimed at improvement of flood protection in the Sava River Basin. In the reporting period *Program for Development of Flood Risk Management Plan in the Sava River Basin (Sava FRM Plan)* has been finalized and adopted at the 44<sup>th</sup> Session of ISRBC (Zagreb, February 21-22, 2017). It describes in detail the activities envisaged by the Protocol, and the modes of their implementation. It is available at the ISRBC website: [http://savacommission.org/basic\\_docs](http://savacommission.org/basic_docs),

Further implementation of the activities envisaged by the *Protocol* is supported through the project *Improvement of joint Flood Management Actions in the Sava River Basin*, approved by Western Balkan Investment Framework (WBIF) in June 2014 and financed and implemented by the World Bank (WB). It provides technical assistance for development of the Sava FRM Plan (Component 1) and establishment of the *Sava Flood Forecasting and Warning System (Sava FFWS)*, as the *Component 2 of the project*. By the end of FY 2016, the following activities have been completed:

- *Sava FRM Plan*: Following preparation and approval of the Terms of Reference by the beneficiaries, the WB launched the procurement process in September 2016, which ended in March 2017 by awarding the contract. Technical assistance for development of the Sava FRM Plan will last 15 months;
- *Sava FFWS*: The project is formally launched in June 2016. The future Sava FFWS will be based on the Delft-FEWS platform, which has also been applied in a number of basins across the world. This flexible system enables usage of variety of data formats and models in use in the basin. First pre-release 0.1 of the Sava FFWS was setup in mid-January 2017 (Figure 6) in ARSO in Ljubljana. Trainings for system administrators and for end-users from all five Sava countries were held in January and February 2017.

In the course of the project, several versions of the Sava FFWS will be released and tested by the country experts. The next version of the system is expected in June 2017.

The fully operational system shall be handed over to the beneficiaries for their use by September 2018.

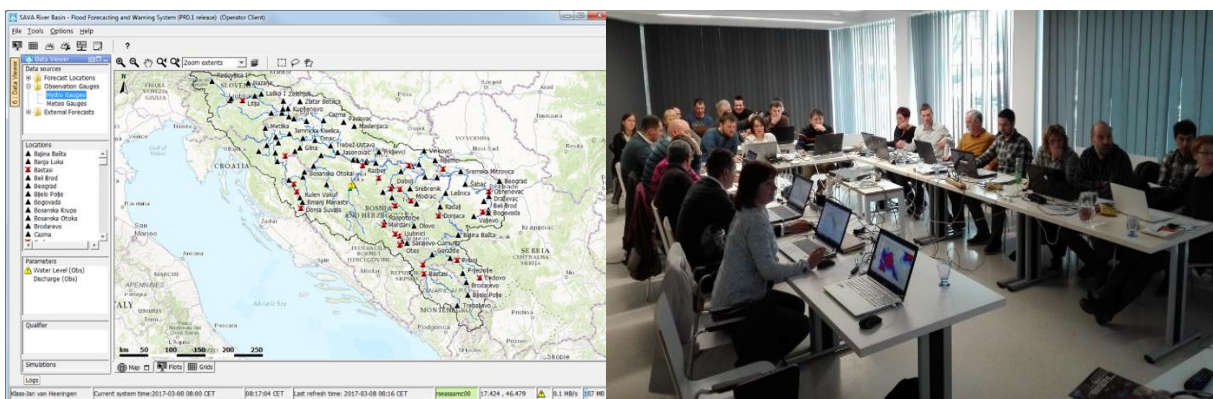
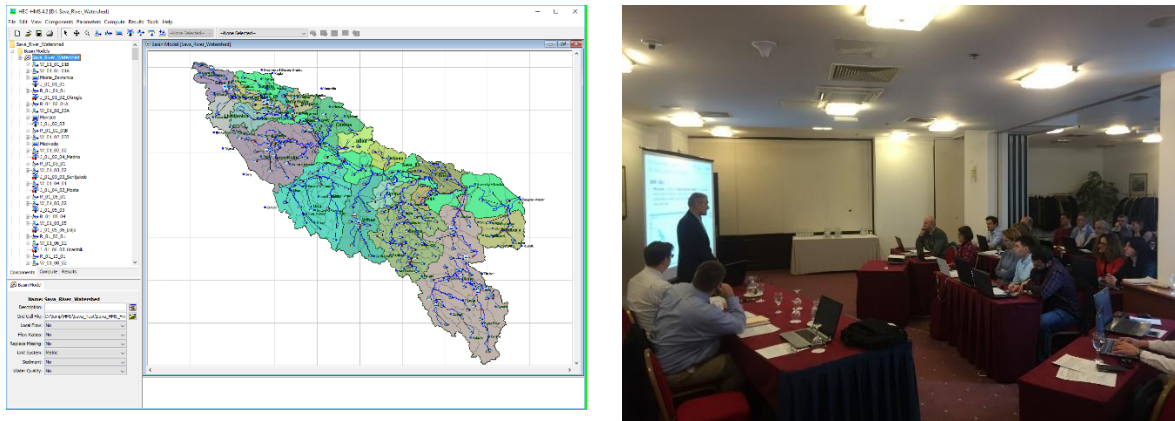


Figure 6. Interface of Sava FFWS application and photo from the training for end-users

A long-term support of the U.S. Government continued in FY 2016. A major progress has been made regarding the hydrologic-hydraulic modelling, in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).



A huge effort invested by the institutions of the Sava countries, ISRBC and USACE in hydrologic modelling resulted with the final model for the entire Sava River Basin and separate models for the major tributaries. The models were distributed in January 2017 to the ministries of the Parties to FASRB, agencies/institutions responsible for water management and hydro-meteorological services while the separate Drina model was provided to the relevant ministry and hydrometeorological service of Montenegro. In addition, models for specific sub-basins (Drina, Vrbas) were delivered to hydro-power companies which provided data for the related sub-models. Training for the advanced users was held on March 2-3, 2017 (Figure 7). The lecturers were the USACE experts, supported by the Secretariat. The Sava model has been also incorporated into Sava FFWS, as the backbone of the system.



*Figure 7. Screen of Sava HEC-HMS model and photo from the training for end-users*

Since the calibrated hydrologic model is completed, the efforts have intensified for enhancement of the hydraulic model of the Sava River mainstem. The LiDAR-based data were collected for the total project area of around 3.300 km<sup>2</sup> (along the Sava River stretch from Čatež to Belgrade). All LiDAR derived products, together with digital orthophoto of the whole area will be delivered in June 2017. Once the LiDAR derived products are completed, the USACE experts, jointly with the Secretariat, will start with setting up of a new highly accurate geometry of the model. It is expected that the fully calibrated Sava HEC-RAS model will be completed by September 2017 and delivered to ISRBC. An additional training for national experts on the use of LiDAR for the modelling purposes and the functional use of 1D -2D hydraulic models is planned by the end of FY 2017.

The purchase of IT equipment, also supported by the U.S. Government, is currently being scoped. IT equipment will be used for storage of all LiDAR data and products, digital orthoimagery and all other data collected or produced during the preparation and development of the models. Part of the equipment will be used for the purposes of hosting centres of Sava FFWS in Ljubljana, Zagreb, Sarajevo and Belgrade.

### 3. Cross-cutting and other issues

#### 3.1. Information management

The Sava Geoportal, along with the related SavaGIS database and the connecting web-applications, is fully operational. It is used for various purposes of ISRBC, including exchange of data for RBM and FRM activities, as well as for the exchange of hydrometeorological (HM) data and information.

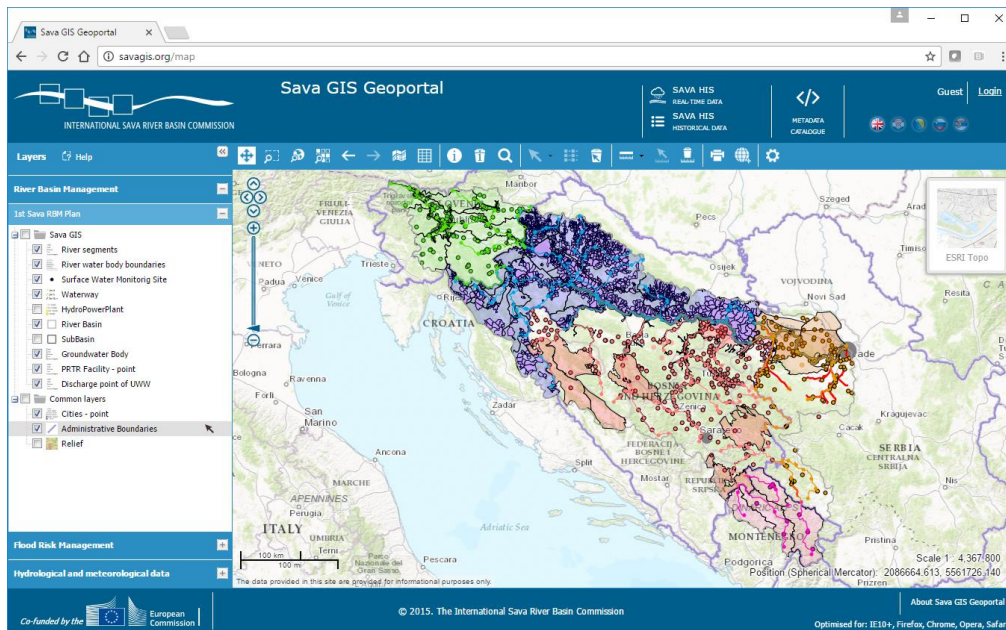


Figure 8. Sava GIS Geoportal ([www.savagis.org](http://www.savagis.org))

After a period of about a year of very successful use and simultaneous testing of all SavaGIS functionalities, the need for certain improvements of the system has been noticed. The issue was supported by the related expert groups and ISRBC and thereafter, in period Dec 2016 – Feb 2017, the activities were implemented. These improvements enable better administration of the Geoportal as well as an easier access to data for end-users. Further upgrade of the system with some additional capabilities has been planned. However, the implementation will strongly depend on available funding and human resources in the Secretariat. For now, preparatory activities for development of the navigation and sediment management modules are ongoing, together with further upgrade of the system in the part related to exchange of HM data (details are provided in the next chapter).

#### 3.2. Hydrological and meteorological issues

In cooperation with relevant national institutions of the Parties (ministries for environment and/or water management, water agencies and national hydro-meteorological services (NHMSs), and taking into account *Policy on the Exchange of Hydrological and Meteorological Data and Information in the Sava River Basin* (2014), ISRBC has established a joint platform Hydrological Information System for the Sava River Basin (Sava HIS) for the exchange and use of the hydrological and meteorological information and data. Sava HIS (Figure 9), as a component of Sava GIS, represents a tool for collecting, storing, analyzing and reporting of processed and real-time data.

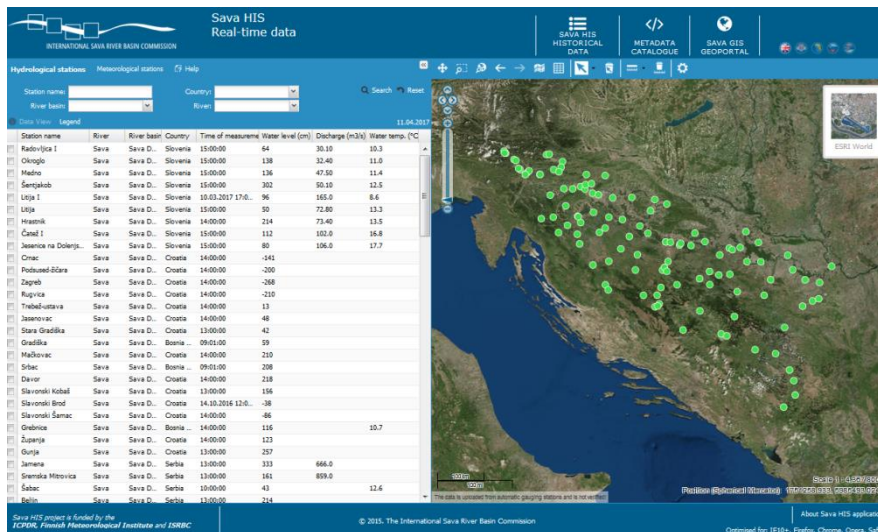


Figure 9. Sava HIS - real time data ([www.savahis.org](http://www.savahis.org))

After establishing the system in 2015 and finalization of the testing period in 2016, the Sava HIS database for processed hydrological and meteorological data is being filled constantly by the NHMSs and ISRBC, while the real-time data submodule from the beginning has been used for collecting and visualization of observed data in real-time.

The Sava HIS real-time data submodule will have an important function in the future flood forecasting system. After its establishment, the Sava HIS has contained data for all five countries, but only for the main hydrological (93) and meteorological gauges (53) listed in the *Data Policy*. For an optimal functioning of the Sava FFWS all required and available operational data should be used, so the data providers from all Sava countries have agreed to extend the list of hydrological (435), and meteorological (240) gauges to be included in Sava HIS. In addition, for precipitation it was decided to use hourly precipitation data instead of the existing 24-hourly aggregated values, where available. Exchange of the snow depth data will be also established.

Therefore, ISRBC in cooperation with the Sava FFWS project consortium has started an upgrade of the Sava HIS accordingly. Several new functionalities will be added and a *replica* of the Sava HIS, which is currently hosted at the Secretariat, will be included in the Sava FFWS at the central host location. These activities and the Sava HIS improvements will be performed already for the purpose of Sava FFWS pre-release 0.2, planned for mid-June, 2017.

### 3.3. Other development issues

Sustainable river tourism was identified at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Parties (Belgrade, June 1, 2009) as an area for future work of ISRBC. Since then, a number of activities have been performed in this field, as described in the previous annual reports.

Taking into account the findings of *Feasibility Study and Project Documentation for Rehabilitation and Development of Transport and Navigation on the Sava River Waterway*, and following the development of the first ever *Nautical and Tourist Guide for the Sava River* in cooperation with the Forum of Chambers of Commerce from the Parties, project proposals for preparation of *Master Plan for the Development of Nautical Tourism in the Sava River Basin* and *Establishment of Mooring Places for Tourist Vessels along the Sava River* have been developed and funding opportunities are being investigated.



ISRBC is a member of the international consortium consisting of partners from 8 countries, led by Regional Environmental Center (REC), which developed a project proposal *Wetlands Ecotourism in the Danube River Basin (Danube Wets Ecotour)*. The proposal addresses small and medium-sized wetlands areas in the Danube River Basin aiming to formulate a long term development framework for enhancing eco-tourism.

Keeping in mind a high interest for the development of bicycle lanes along the Sava River, expressed by cities and local communities along the river, preparatory activities for a project on this topic have been undertaken in close coordination with biking associations as direct end-users, which is another example of the combination of the “top-down” and “bottom-up” approaches. The *Sava B.I.K.E* project would improve connectivity and accessibility, traffic safety, environmentally-friendly low-carbon mobility, socio-economic growth and attractiveness of the Sava Corridor.

Both above mentioned projects were planned for financing within the Danube Transnational Programme 2014-2020, but still without positive results.

The ISRBC's activities related to cooperation with the tourism sector resulted in the preparation of the draft *Joint Statement on regional cooperation on development of sustainable tourism in the Sava River Basin*. In addition, the establishment of a task group consisting of the representatives of touristic organisations from the basin has been agreed. The signing of the Joint statement and establishment of the task group is scheduled for June 2017. A new momentum in cooperation in this sector is expected on the basis of these achievements.

Efforts have also been made to raise funds for implementation of the projects aimed at development of the small and medium enterprises (SME) sector, and integration of water sub-sectors with spatial planning and development in the Sava River Basin.

Concerning other development activities, at the end of FY 2016, in cooperation with the WB, work began on the so-called *Joint plan of actions for the Sava River Basin* that should be, with the political support of the countries, a platform for further activities related to the sustainable development of the region.

## 4. Cooperation, promotion activities and stakeholder involvement

### 4.1. Cooperation with international organizations and other relevant institutions

Cooperation of 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 *FASRB*.

Cooperation with 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 the reporting period, this coordination has been ensured by means of mutual participation at sessions, expert group meetings and other events of the commissions. The process of implementation of *Joint Statement on Guiding Principles for the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin*, coordinated jointly by ICPDR, Danube Commission and ISRBC, together with European Commission, continued by organizing the 7<sup>th</sup> *Joint Statement* follow-up meeting (Budapest, September 15-16, 2016). The next meeting will be organized in Zagreb in September 2017.

Cooperation with UNECE has been further intensified. In addition to participation of ISRBC in the framework of the UNECE working groups and other events, the two organizations have cooperated on the implementation of the project *Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus Assessment for the Sava River Basin* under *Programme of Work 2013-2015* of the UNECE *Water Convention*, as well as on *Drina River Basin Nexus Assessment*. On the other hand, ISRBC supported promotion of the UNECE *Water Convention*, which became global legal framework for transboundary cooperation in December 2015, following presentations of benefits of the river basin organizations to other UNECE sub-regions and the countries from outside the UNECE region. ISRBC actively participated in the work of the UNECE bodies in charge for standardization of technical and safety requirements in inland navigation.

ISRBC has been actively involved in the implementation of the EU *Strategy for the Danube Region*, in order to ensure implementation of the *FASRB*-related projects in the framework of the *Danube Strategy*, as well as in the process of drafting the new European legal framework for professional qualifications and training standards in inland navigation. ISRBC also actively participated in several events and workshops organized by different EU bodies.

Cooperation with UNESCO is developing progressively. Implementation of the project *Towards Practical Guidance for Sustainable Sediment Management using the Sava River Basin as a Showcase*, financially supported by the UNESCO Venice Office, has continued.

Cooperation with the U.S. Government's institutions has been further developed. In the reporting period, it was focused on the upgrade of the hydrologic and hydraulic models of the Sava River (Basin) with support of USACE, and the implementation of the project *Strengthening Public Participation and Stakeholder Involvement in the Sava River Basin*, supported by the U.S. Government (finished in FY 2016).

Cooperation is being maintained with other navigation commissions (i.e. CCNR and Mosel Commission), and other river and lake protection commissions (e.g. commissions for the protection of the rivers Rhine, Elbe, and Oder) from Europe, while an increased interest for cooperation (primarily, for transfer of experience) has been expressed by non-European basin commissions, e.g. from other parts of South-Eastern Europe, Middle East, Central Asia, and South-Eastern Asia.

There has also been a continued cooperation with regional organizations (OSCE, RCC, REC, GWP-Med, GWP CEE), international financial institutions and cooperation agencies (WB), specialized organizations, associations and groups (WMO, GIS Forum), business sector (Coca-Cola) and NGOs (WWF, Euronatur, etc.). Finally, contacts have been continued with the Diplomatic Corps in the Republic of Croatia.

#### 4.2. Cooperation with national institutions

A continuous cooperation of ISRBC with the national institutions responsible for implementation of *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 ISRBC's expert groups, a particular attention has been paid to:

- activities related to development of the Sava FFWS and FRM Plan (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 *FASRB*-related regional projects (all involved ministries), and
- preparatory activities on the organization of the Sava Day celebration and other PR activities related to the *FASRB* implementation (ministries, nominated representatives of the Parties).

In addition to the national institutions responsible for implementation of *FASRB*, a cooperation has been kept with other organizations, such as water agencies, NHMSs, inland waterway agencies, port master offices, registers of shipping, regional chambers of commerce, tourist organizations, faculties and institutes dealing with natural and technical sciences, all kinds of technologies, nature conservation, etc. Apart from the institutions of the Parties, good co-operation has been maintained with the relevant bodies of Montenegro.

#### 4.3. Promotion activities and stakeholder involvement

Taking into account the significance of stakeholders' involvement within the framework of activities of ISRBC and implementation of *FASRB*, the cooperation with relevant institutions, NGOs and local actors from the basin has been continued throughout the reporting period.

In FY 2016, the information on the *FASRB* implementation was provided to stakeholders and wider public via:

- Official web-site of ISRBC ([www.savacommission.org](http://www.savacommission.org)), where the information on the activities, projects and documents, are made available to wider public and continuously upgraded with the most recent facts and news;
- Trainings and workshops, organized or co-organized by ISRBC, as listed in Annex V;
- *Sava NewsFlash*, the official bulletin of ISRBC. In the reporting period, the issues No.17 to No.18 (Figure 10) were published;
- Reports and publications, including new, upgraded edition of *Album of Bridges on the Sava River and its navigable tributaries*, as well as various posters and leaflets;
- Contributions to projects, bulletins and web-sites of other organizations/institutions;
- Press-releases and media briefings, e.g. those related to Sixth Meeting of the Parties to *FASRB*, or to the Sava Day celebration;
- Facebook profile of Youth Parliament of the Sava River Basin, which was setup aiming to ensure permanent communication with, and among, the youth throughout a year, in

addition to the existing web-site of the Youth Parliament (<http://sava-youthparliament.com>). The profile was established within the project *Strengthening Public Participation and Stakeholder Involvement in the Sava River Basin*, supported by the U.S. Government;

- The Sava Day 2016 celebration (overview of the activities given in Annex VI).



Figure 10. Sava NewsFlash No.17 (May 2016) and No.18 (November 2016)

Consultation activities have been performed by organizing consultation workshops, public presentations and other meetings with stakeholders (listed in Annex V), as well as the consultations on the ISRBC web-site, in regard with the processes such as:

- the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle of river basin management planning in the Sava River Basin (SWMI document);
- development of Sava GIS and Sava HIS;
- implementation of *Joint Statement on Guiding Principles for the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin*, led jointly by ISRBC, ICPDR and Danube Commission;
- with preparation of the documents such as *Report on Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus Assessment in the Sava River Basin* and the similar one for the Drina basin.

Active involvement of stakeholders has been ensured primarily for the national bodies responsible for the *FASRB* implementation, and the institutions / organizations having the observer status in ISRBC, through their participation at the Meeting of the Parties, sessions of ISRBC, and meetings of the ISRBC expert groups.

The Sava Water Council (SWC), the advisory body of ISRBC established at the beginning of 2016, represents a unique example in international river basins regarding stakeholder involvement. SWC held its 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in Sevnica (SI) in June 2016. The meeting gathered more than 40 representatives and experts from municipalities, water agencies, research institutions, regional agencies, chambers of commerce and NGOs from all the Parties. The main topic of the meeting was *Implications of river basin management planning on local level*. Additional information has been provided in Annex VI.

In the reporting period, ISRBC has been invited to present its experiences in public participation and stakeholder involvement at a number of international events, in most cases as the only international basin organization from Europe. This shows that the activities performed by ISRBC are well-recognized even on a global scale.

## 5. Legal issues

### 5.1. FASRB and protocols to FASRB

During the reporting period, significant efforts were invested to launch the procedure for amendments of the FASRB with aim to ensure further progress in the *FASRB* implementation, by amending the procedure for adoption of the Sava RBM and FRM plans.

To this end, the ISRBC developed and officially delivered to the Parties the updated draft amendments to the FASRB and the *Protocol on Flood protection to FASRB*, for further consideration and launching corresponding internal procedures. Final harmonization of the amendments of the mentioned international agreements is expected in 2017, depending on readiness of the Parties.

*Protocol on Flood Protection to FASRB*, aimed at regulation of the issues related to sustainable flood protection by means of prevention and/or reduction of flood hazard, by undertaking appropriate measures and activities, along with adequate measures for the environment protection, entered into force on November 27, 2015. According to a provision of the *Protocol*, the Parties should develop a *FRM Plan*, which defines the 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 joint cooperation of the Parties in flood defense emergency situations. The bodies responsible for implementation of the *Protocol* have been officially designated by Croatia and Serbia so far.

*Protocol on Prevention of Water Pollution caused by Navigation to FASRB* was signed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Parties, on June 1, 2009. The *Protocol* 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 and development of spill response measures and monitoring of water quality. So far, the *Protocol* was ratified by B&H (2009), Croatia (2010) and Serbia (2015).

*Protocol on Sediment Management to FASRB* was signed at the ministerial meeting on regional water cooperation, held on July 6, 2015, in Brčko. The main objective of the *Protocol* is to facilitate establishment of sustainable sediment management in the basin, by addressing the quality issues such as sediment pollution (including risk assessment), control of source and deposition of polluted sediment, and the 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 *Protocol* has been ratified by B&H, Croatia and Serbia, while the internal procedure in Slovenia is in progress.

*Protocol on Emergency Situations to FASRB* comprises several goals aimed at identification of hazardous activities, their character and possible consequences, prevention, emergency planning and preparedness, adequate alarm and warning system compatible with already existing systems on the wider basin level, assessment of extraordinary impacts, emergency response and mutual assistance of the Parties. *Draft Protocol on Emergency Situations* was adopted by ISRBC in 2009 and distributed to the Parties for final review. Final harmonization of the *Protocol* is expected, depending on readiness of the Parties.

*Protocol on Transboundary Impacts to FASRB* was initially meant to regulate the issues concerning the measures for securing the integrity of the water regime in the Sava River Basin

and elimination or reduction of transboundary impacts on waters of other parties caused by economic and/or other activities. However, in the meantime, *Espoo Convention*, on which the *Protocol* mostly leans, was ratified by all the Parties and the expert consultations were organized to reconsider the actual benefit of the *Draft Protocol*. It was concluded that the *Protocol* in its present form is no longer indispensable as an added value to the already existing mechanisms. For further consideration of the issue, a task group has been established by ISRBC.

## **5.2. Administration management and legal support**

Under this section of work, a 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, organizational activities for the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties to *FASRB*, as well as preparation of various types of documents.

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 ISRBC. During the reporting period “Regional Partnership of the GWP for Central and Eastern Europe” (GWP CEE), “WWF Danube-Carpathian Programme“, “Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe“(REC) and NGO “Center for Environment” (Bosnia and Herzegovina) acted as *ad hoc* observers at ISRBC, while the Republic of Macedonia, ICPDR and Danube Commission have the permanent observer status at ISRBC.

## 6. Financial issues

### 6.1. Budget

At the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of ISRBC (Zagreb, February 18, 2016), the decision on adoption of *Budget of ISRBC for Financial Year 2016* (April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017), in the total amount of 535,700.00 Euro, was passed. The adopted *Budget* consists of the regular annual contributions in the amount of 515,960.00 Euro (i.e. 128,990.00 Euro per country) and of a transfer from the Reserve Fund in the amount of 19,740.00 Euro.

The list of the Parties' annual contributions and other inflows into the General Fund, as well as the list of expenses in FY 2016, can be seen in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1. Received regular annual contributions and other inflows for FY 2016 (in Euro)

<i>Parties</i>	<i>Inflows for FY 2015</i>
Bosnia and Herzegovina	128,990.00 <sup>1</sup>
Croatia	128,990.00 <sup>2</sup>
Serbia	128,990.00 <sup>3</sup>
Slovenia	128,990.00 <sup>4</sup>
Total received amount of contributions	515,960.00
Transfer from the Reserve Fund	41,463.35 <sup>5</sup>
Miscellaneous	19,442.92 <sup>6</sup>
Total General Fund Inflow	576,866.27

*Note:* <sup>1</sup> The contribution was paid in two parts, on June 20 and December 23, 2016. <sup>2</sup> The contribution was paid in two equal parts, on May 12 and June 9, 2016. <sup>3</sup> The contribution was paid on April 28, 2016. <sup>4</sup> The contribution was paid on May 16, 2016. <sup>5</sup> Transferred amount for covering unexpected expenditures. <sup>6</sup> A part of the UNECE, the UNESCO, the START-Danube Region Project Fund, the WMO and the WBIF/DELTA RES grant funds for implementation of projects.

Table 2. Expenditures per basic intention in FY 2016 (in Euro)

<i>Budget Chapter</i>	<i>Expenditures</i> <sup>1</sup>
Staff salaries and allowances	438.799,41
Current costs	33.972,11
Travel expenses	23.698,50
Operational costs	26.138,69
Equipment	22.018,24
Total expenditures	544.626,95 <sup>2</sup>

*Note:* <sup>1</sup> The amount of expenditures on March 31, 2017. <sup>2</sup> In accordance with Financial Rules of 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 98% realization of the approved with reallocation amount.

### 6.2. Financing projects and studies within special funds

In FY 2016 the opening balance of the Special and Trust Fund amounts at 77.385,91 Eur. The additional inflow to this Fund during the period from April 1, 2016, to March 31, 2017 was 76,877.65 Euro for implementation of the following activities:

- Support to ISRBC in the development of Sava GIS (EC grant);
- Support to implementation of the Sava FFWS (WBIF/WB grant);



- *Consultation workshop and publication of the Sava River Basin Nexus Assessment (UNECE grant);*
- *Drina River Basin Nexus Assessment and process support (UNECE grant);*
- *Establishment of Sediment Monitoring System for the Sava River (UNESCO grant), and*
- *Towards the Assessment of Ecological Status of Water Bodies in the Sava River Basin (STAWA) (START – Danube Region Project Fund grant).*

The total outflow of Special and Trust Fund during FY 2016 were 134,785.56 Euro, the main part of this amount for implementation of the following activities:

- *Support to ISRBC in the development of Sava GIS;*
- *Hydrological Information System of ISRBC;*
- *Strengthening Public Participation and Stakeholder Involvement in the Sava River Basin;*
- *Drina River Basin Nexus Assessment and process support;*
- *Consultation workshop and publication of the Sava River Basin Nexus Assessment;*
- *Workshop on Flood Risk Management Measures & Links to EU WFD;*
- *Support to implementation of the Sava FFWS;*
- *Establishment of Sediment Monitoring System for the Sava River and*
- *Towards the Assessment of Ecological Status of Water Bodies in the Sava River Basin (STAWA).*

### **6.3. Audit of the financial management in FY 2015**

In line with Financial Rules of ISRBC, a regular audit of the financial management of ISRBC for FY 2015 has been performed. ISRBC accepted the *Report on Audit of the Financial Management of ISRBC in FY 2015* at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session (Zagreb, October 25-26, 2016).

## **ANNEXES**

**ANNEX I. List of the ISRBC members and deputy members**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name and surname</b>	<b>Function</b>	<b>Institution</b>
<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b>			
1.	Enisa Babić	Member to ISRBC (temporary) <i>until May 25, 2016</i>	Ministry of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina
2.	Igor Pejić	Member to ISRBC, <i>as of May 25, 2016</i>	Ministry of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina
3.	Savo Gluvić	Deputy Member to ISRBC <i>until May 25, 2016</i>	VP "SAVA" Gradiška, Bosnia and Herzegovina
4.	Boško Kenjić	Deputy Member to ISRBC <i>as of May 25, 2016</i>	Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina
<b>Republic of Croatia</b>			
5.	Janko Brnardić	Member to ISRBC, <i>until January 12, 2017</i>	Ministry of the Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Croatia
6.	Maja Markovčić Kostelac	Member to ISRBC, <i>as of January 12, 2017</i>	Ministry of the Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Croatia
7.	Dražen Kurečić	Deputy Member to ISRBC <i>until April 20, 2016</i>	Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Croatia
8.	Elizabeta Kos	Deputy Member to ISRBC <i>as of April 20, 2016</i>	Ministry of Environment and Energy of the Republic of Croatia
<b>Republic of Serbia</b>			
9.	Nataša Milić	Member to ISRBC	Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Serbia, Republic Water Directorate
10.	Leposava Sojić	Deputy Member to ISRBC <i>until December 23, 2016</i>	Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Serbia

11.	Veljko Kovačević	Deputy Member to ISRBC <i>as of December 23, 2016</i>	Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Serbia
<b>Republic of Slovenia</b>			
12.	Mitja Bricelj	Chairman, Member to ISRBC	Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning of the Republic of Slovenia
13.	Marko Sotlar	Deputy Member to ISRBC	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia

## ANNEX II. List of the ISRBC expert groups and the overview of their meetings held in FY 2016

List of the expert groups that have been in function in FY 2016:

- Permanent Expert Group for River Basin Management (PEG RBM)
- Permanent Expert Group for Accident Prevention and Control (PEG APC)
- Permanent Expert Group for Flood Prevention (PEG FP)
- Permanent Expert Group for Navigation (PEG NAV)
- Permanent Expert Group for GIS (PEG GIS)
- Permanent Expert Group for Hydrological and Meteorological Issues (PEG HMI)
- *Ad hoc* Expert Group for RIS (RIS EG)
- *Ad hoc* Legal Expert Group (L EG)
- *Ad hoc* Financial Expert Group (FIN EG).

Meetings of the expert groups held in FY 2016:

No.	Meeting / event	Date	Venue
1.	29 <sup>th</sup> PEG FP Meeting	12 May 2016	Belgrade
2.	31 <sup>st</sup> PEG RBM Meeting	30 Jun - 1 Jul 2016	Zagreb
3.	14 <sup>th</sup> PEG GIS Meeting	6 Oct. 2016	Belgrade
4.	19 <sup>th</sup> PEG NAV Meeting	18-19 Oct. 2016	Zagreb
5.	32 <sup>nd</sup> PEG RBM Meeting	20-21 Oct. 2016	Zagreb
6.	13 <sup>th</sup> PEG HMI Meeting	29 Nov. 2016	Zagreb
7.	10 <sup>th</sup> <i>Ah</i> FIN EG Meeting	09 Dec. 2016	Zagreb
8.	21 <sup>st</sup> PEG APC	20 Dec. 2016	Zagreb
9.	33 <sup>rd</sup> PEG RBM Meeting	9 Feb. 2017	Zagreb
10.	30 <sup>th</sup> PEG FP Meeting	10 Mar. 2017	Zagreb
11.	15 <sup>th</sup> PEG GIS Meeting	16 Mar. 2017	Bled

**ANNEX III. List of the FASRB-related projects implemented, ongoing or launched in FY 2016**

Project title	Duration	Status	Remark on the status / Implementation period	Lead partner(s) / Consultant	Budget (k€)	Funding source
<b>River Basin Management</b>						
Water – food – energy – ecosystems nexus assessment for the Danube river basin– Sava case study	2 years	Ongoing	Started in Jan 2014. Expected to be finalized by Jun 2016	EC Joint Res. Centre	~ 50.0	EC
Towards the assessment of ecological status of water bodies in the Sava River Basin	1 year	Implemented	Apr 2015 – Mar 2016	Institute for Biological Research „Siniša Stanković“, Belgrade, RS	~ 35.0	EC (EUSDR)
Towards practical guidance for sustainable sediment management using the Sava River Basin as a showcase	~ 2.5 years	Ongoing	Started in Apr 2012; Finished: Step 1: SSM course-Part 1; Step 2: guidance application: under implementation; Step 3: SSM course-Part 2- fund-raising in progress Step 4: continuation of guidance application- not started yet Step 5: Final workshop- planned after finalization of previous steps	UNESCO, ISRBC	225.0	UNESCO (ISI, IHP, Venice Office), Sed-Net, Deltares, VMM, BRGM, HAW
Assessing the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus and benefits of transboundary water cooperation in the Drina River Basin	9 months	Ongoing	Started in Apr 2016; Implementation period extended for 3 months (until Apr 2017). Final report under finalization.	UNECE	~ 300.0	UNECE
<b>Flood Management</b>						
2 <sup>nd</sup> phase of the U.S. Gov. support to flood modelling activities in the Sava River Basin (including Sava LiDAR project & purchase of IT equipment)	~ 2 years	Ongoing	Started in Dec 2014	USACE, ISRBC	N/A	US Gov
Improvement of joint flood	Preparation of the FRM Plan	15 months	Ongoing	Started in Mar 2017; Inception phase in progress.	EPTISA Servicios de Ingenieria S.L, ES	WB through WBIF

Project title		Duration	Status	Remark on the status / Implementation period	Lead partner(s) / Consultant	Budget (k€)	Funding source
management actions in the Sava River Basin	Development of the FFWS	27 months	Ongoing	Started in June 2016 Inception phase finished; Pre-release 0.1 implemented; Pre-release 0.2 in progress.	Deltares, NL; Royal Haskoning DHV, NL; Eptisa, ES; HEIS, BA	2,000.0	
<b>Navigation Development</b>							
Web application for Navigation Safety Inspection Support System		4 months	Implemented	Nov 2015 – Mar 2016	IT Cooperative, Varaždin, HR	3.8	ISRBC
EIA study and Detailed design of the Sava river waterway (Section Brčko – Sisak)		~ 2 years	Ongoing	Review of preliminary documentation done; Development of detailed design pending	Parsons Brinckerhoff Ltd., US (Review); Witteveen+Bos, NL (Design)	2,125.0	EC (IPA HR)
						375.0	HR
Demining and project documentation (EIA study and detailed design) of the Sava river waterway (Section Belgrade – Brčko)		~ 2 years	Ongoing	Implementation pending	AECOM, ES (Study); VPB and IGH, HR (Design)	5,270.0	EC (IPA BA)
Implementation of RIS on the Sava river		3 years	Ongoing	In Serbia, implemented	Plovput, RS	~ 1,100.0	EC
				In Croatia, implementation finished in 2016	RGO komunikacije, HR	1,360.0	EC (IPA HR)
				In B&H, fund-raising in progress		240.0	HR
Rehabilitation of the Port of Brčko			Ongoing	Started in 2012. The project documentation developed. Negotiations on the financing of works pending.		5,800.0	World Bank
<b>Information Management</b>							
Upgrade of the SavaGIS Geoportal functionalities		4 months	Implemented	Dec 2016 – Mar 2017	IGEA Ltd., Varaždin, HR	7.8	ISRBC
<b>Hydrological and Meteorological Issues</b>							

<b>Project title</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Remark on the status / Implementation period</b>	<b>Lead partner(s) / Consultant</b>	<b>Budget (k€)</b>	<b>Funding source</b>
Rehabilitation and modernization of the HM observing network and data exchange procedures in RS and BA	2 years	Ongoing	Started in Jan 2015	Finnish Meteorological Institute, FI	~ 400.0	Finnish Government
<b>Climate Change Issues</b>						
Outline of the Climate Adaptation Strategy for the Sava RB	8 months	Ongoing	Mar 2017 – Oct 2017	Individual consultants	~ 34	UNECE, IOWater
<b>Public Participation and Stakeholder Involvement</b>						
Strengthening public participation and stakeholder involvement in the Sava River Basin	18 months	Ongoing	Started in Dec 2014; Ending in Jun 2016	ISRBC	47.5	US Gov, USAID



**ANNEX IV. List of the planned *FASRB*-related projects****Projects directly linked to the main objectives of *FASRB* („A list“)**

No.	Project title	Duration	Available documentation / Status	Budget (k€)	Possible funding source	Planned start of implementation
<b>Navigation Development</b>						
1	Construction works for the rehabilitation of the Sava River waterway	5-6 years	Securing funding for the development of the design documentation in progress.	~ 85,000	IPA, WB, EBRD	Following the design finalization
2	Establishment of the system for collection, treatment and disposal of hazardous and ship waste on the Sava River	~ 5 years	Project idea available	~ 4,000	IPA, IPF	Following the estab. of a new legal and financial framework, proposed by <i>COWANDA</i> project
<b>River Basin Management</b>						
3	Examination of biodiversity and environmental status of sediment, water and biota in the Sava River Basin	2 years	Project proposal available; Granted a LoR in the EUSDR PA4; A „quick start“ project <i>STAWA</i> , financed within the ‘START - Danube Region Project Fund’, is under implementation	1,490	EU funds (e.g. DTP), GEF	Ready for implementation as soon as funding is ensured
4	Towards sustainable sediment management in the Sava River Basin	~ 2.5 years	Project idea granted a LoR in the EUSDR PA4	~ 1,500	EU funds (e.g. DTP), GEF	
5	Protection and sustainable use of water resources from alluvial aquifers in the Sava River Basin	~ 2 years	Project idea granted a LoR in the EUSDR PA4	~ 1,500	EU funds (e.g. DTP), GEF	
6	Preparation of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sava RBM Plan	~ 4 years	Project idea included as Milestone No.8 in Road Map of Action 2 in the EUSDR PA4	/	EU funds, GEF	

No.	Project title	Duration	Available documentation / Status	Budget (k€)	Possible funding source	Planned start of implementation
<b>Accident Prevention and Control</b>						
7	Water pollution contingency management plan for the Sava River Basin	2.5 years	Project proposal available; Granted a LoR in the EUSDR PA5; Project application submitted in response to the 1 <sup>st</sup> DTP call	1,400	EU funds (e.g. DTP), GEF	Ready for implementation as soon as funding is ensured
<b>Information Management</b>						
8	Establishment and completion of the Sava GIS – 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> implementation phases	~ 3 years (Phase 2)	Project idea included as Milestone No.5 in Road Map of Action 3 („Support to data collection systems developed by the ICPDR“) in the EUSDR PA4	/	EU funds, GEF	
<b>Hydrological and Meteorological Issues</b>						
9	Hydrological study for the Sava River Basin	2.5 years	Detailed programme (ToR) available; Granted a LoR in the EUSDR PA4	~ 1,250	EU funds (e.g. DTP)	Ready for implementation as soon as funding is ensured

**Other regional projects beneficial for the implementation of FASRB („B list“)**

No.	Project title	Duration	Available documentation / Status	Budget (k€)	Possible funding source	Planned start of implementation
<b>River Tourism Development</b>						
1	Master Plan for development of nautical tourism in the Sava River Basin	~ 1 year	Project fiche available	500 - 1,000	EU funds (e.g. DTP)	
2	Setup of pontoon network for touristic vessels along the Sava River	~ 1 year	Project proposal available	~ 500	EU funds (e.g. DTP)	Ready for implementation as soon as funding is ensured
3	Master Plan for development of eco-tourism in the Sava River Basin	~ 1 year	<i>Transboundary Eco-tourism Guidelines for the Sava River Basin</i> available; Technical assistance for preparation of further steps ( <i>Sava Ecotour</i> ) finished; Application for the project <i>Wetlands Ecotourism in the Danube River Basin</i> submitted in response to the 1 <sup>st</sup> DTP call	~ 500	EU funds (e.g. DTP)	
4	Establishment of an ‘eco-mark’ for the Sava River Basin	6 months	<i>Transboundary Eco-tourism Guidelines for the Sava River Basin</i> available	~ 100	EU funds (e.g. DTP)	
5	Development of bike lanes along the Sava River	/	Project proposal for Phase 1 (development of the initial concept) available; Project application submitted in response to the 1 <sup>st</sup> DTP call	~ 75 (Phase 1)	EU funds (e.g. DTP)	Ready for implementation (Phase 1) as soon as funding is ensured
<b>Development of Small and Medium Enterprises</b>						
6	Development of infrastructure for food production and fish farming in the Sava River Basin	/	/	/	WBIF	
7	Development of infrastructure for waste water and manure treatment in the Sava River Basin	/	/	/	WBIF	
8	Development of small shipyards and small ports/marinas in the Sava River Basin	/	/	/	WBIF	

**ANNEX V. List of the meetings with stakeholders, organized or co-organized by ISRBC in FY 2016**

No.	Meeting / event	Date	Venue	Organizer
1.	Final workshop on the web application for Navigation Safety Inspection Support System	7 Apr. 2016	Zagreb	ISRBC
2.	Meeting on the preparation of <i>WAPCOS</i> project application	13 Apr. 2016	Zagreb	ISRBC
3.	Meeting on the preparation of <i>Danube Wets Ecotour</i> project application	19 Apr. 2016	Zagreb	ISRBC
4.	Workshop on assessing the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus and benefits of transboundary cooperation in the Drina River Basin	21-22 Apr. 2016	Podgorica	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Montenegro, UNECE, ISRBC
5.	Study tour to the Sava River Basin for the delegation of Chu-Talas Water Commission	2-7 May 2016	Zagreb, Sisak, Lonjsko polje	UNECE, UNDP, ISRBC
6.	11 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the EUSDR PA1a Steering Group	4 May 2016	Zagreb	EUSDR PA1a Techn. Secretariat, ISRBC
7.	29 <sup>th</sup> PEG FP Meeting	12 May 2016	Belgrade	Rep. Water Direct., ISRBC
8.	Sava fair (within the project „Our beautiful Sava“)	20-21 May 2016	Županja	Coca-Cola HBC HR, HR Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure, ISRBC, other partners
9.	Start of, and events within, the International Cycling Tour „Sava 2016“	27 May 2016	Zelenci (Kranjska Gora), Kranj, Ljubljana	Local authorities, tourist organizations, ISRBC
10.	Event within the International Cycling Tour „Sava 2016“	28 May 2016	Sevnica	Local authorities, ISRBC
11.	Events within the International Cycling Tour „Sava 2016“	29 May 2016	Kumrovec, Zaprešić	Local tourist organizations, ISRBC

No.	Meeting / event	Date	Venue	Organizer
12.	Events within the International Cycling Tour „Sava 2016“	30 May 2016	Zagreb, Sisak	Local tourist organizations, ISRBC
13.	Event within the International Cycling Tour „Sava 2016“	31 May 2016	Gradiška	Local authorities, ISRBC
14.	6 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties to <i>FASRB</i>	1 Jun 2016	Belgrade	Gov. of Serbia, ISRBC
15.	Events within the International Cycling Tour „Sava 2016“	1 Jun 2016	Bardača, Prud, Brod	NGOs, ISRBC
16.	Events within the International Cycling Tour „Sava 2016“	2 Jun 2016	Orašje, Šamac, Brčko	ISRBC
17.	Events within the International Cycling Tour „Sava 2016“	3 Jun 2016	Vrbanja, Sremska Mitrovica	Local authorities, ISRBC
18.	5 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Youth Parliament of the Sava River Basin	3-4 Jun 2016	Lonjsko Polje	ISRBC
19.	Sava fair (within the project „Our beautiful Sava“)	3-5 Jun 2016	Zagreb	Coca-Cola HBC HR, HR Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure, ISRBC, other partners
20.	Event within the International Cycling Tour „Sava 2016“	4 Jun 2016	Boljevci, Belgrade	Rep. Water Direct., PWC Srbijavode, ISRBC
21.	2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Sava Water Council	6-7 Jun 2016	Sevnica	Municipality of Sevnica, ISRBC
22.	Sava fair (within the project „Our beautiful Sava“)	18-19 Jun 2016	Sisak	Coca-Cola HBC HR, HR Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure, ISRBC, other partners
23.	Kick-off meeting on the project <i>Establishment of a Flood Forecasting and Warning System for the Sava River Basin</i>	21 Jun 2016	Zagreb	WB, ISRBC

No.	Meeting / event	Date	Venue	Organizer
24.	31 <sup>st</sup> PEG RBM Meeting	30 Jun - 1 Jul 2016	Zagreb	ISRBC
25.	Sava fair (within the project „Our beautiful Sava“)	1 Jul 2016	Slavonski Brod	Coca-Cola HBC HR, HR Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure, ISRBC, other partners
26.	42 <sup>nd</sup> Session of ISRBC	8 Jul 2016	Zagreb	ISRBC
27.	Consultation meeting with the beneficiaries of the project <i>Establishment of a Flood Forecasting and Warning System for the Sava River Basin</i> from Bosnia & Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia	9 Sep. 2016	Bijeljina	ISRBC
28.	Consultation meeting with the beneficiaries of the project <i>Establishment of a Flood Forecasting and Warning System for the Sava River Basin</i> from Croatia and Slovenia	15 Sep. 2016	Zagreb	ISRBC
29.	7 <sup>th</sup> Meeting on implementation of <i>Joint Statement on Guiding Principles for the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube Basin</i>	15-16 Sep. 2016	Budapest	DC, ICPDR, ISRBC
30.	14 <sup>th</sup> PEG GIS Meeting	6 Oct. 2016	Belgrade	ISRBC
31.	Inception workshop on the project <i>Establishment of a Flood Forecasting and Warning System for the Sava River Basin</i>	13-14 Oct. 2016	Zagreb	WB, ISRBC
32.	19 <sup>th</sup> PEG NAV Meeting	18-19 Oct. 2016	Zagreb	ISRBC
33.	32 <sup>nd</sup> PEG RBM Meeting	20-21 Oct. 2016	Zagreb	ISRBC
34.	Visit of a delegation from the Drin River Basin to ISRBC	20-21 Oct. 2016	Zagreb	GWP-Med, ISRBC

No.	Meeting / event	Date	Venue	Organizer
35.	43 <sup>rd</sup> Session of ISRBC	25-26 Oct. 2016	Zagreb	ISRBC
36.	1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Steering Board of the project <i>Establishment of a Flood Forecasting and Warning System for the Sava River Basin</i>	26 Oct. 2016	Zagreb	WB, ISRBC
37.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Workshop on assessing the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus and benefits of transboundary cooperation in the Drina River Basin	8-10 Nov. 2016	Belgrade	UNECE, ISRBC
38.	11 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Captains from the Portmaster Offices from the Sava River	9-10 Nov. 2016	Odžak	ISRBC
39.	Meetings with representatives of MOFTER and the Federal ministry of environ. and tourism, B&H, on tourism development in the Sava River Basin	22 Nov. 2016	Sarajevo	ISRBC
40.	Meeting with representatives of the Ministry of trade and tourism of Republika Srpska, B&H, on tourism development in the Sava River Basin	23 Nov. 2016	Banja Luka	ISRBC
41.	13 <sup>th</sup> PEG HMI Meeting	29 Nov. 2016	Zagreb	ISRBC
42.	6 <sup>th</sup> Conference on regulation and multipurpose use of the Sava River	1-2 Dec. 2016	Zagreb	NGO „SLAP“, ISRBC and other org.
43.	1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the International Working Group of the project <i>Establishment of a Flood Forecasting and Warning System for the Sava River Basin</i>	2 Dec. 2016	Zagreb	ISRBC
44.	10 <sup>th</sup> Ah FIN EG Meeting	9 Dec. 2016	Zagreb	ISRBC
45.	Meeting with representatives of the Ministry of trade, tourism and telecommunications, Serbia, on tourism development in the Sava River Basin	13 Dec. 2016	Belgrade	ISRBC
46.	Meeting with representatives of the Ministry of tourism, Croatia, on tourism development in the Sava River Basin	14 Dec. 2016	Zagreb	ISRBC

No.	Meeting / event	Date	Venue	Organizer
47.	Meeting with representatives of the Ministry for economic development and technology, Slovenia, on tourism development in the Sava River Basin	19 Dec. 2016	Ljubljana	ISRBC
48.	21 <sup>st</sup> PEG APC Meeting	20 Dec. 2016	Zagreb	ISRBC
49.	Meeting with representatives of B&H and Croatia on regulation of the Sava River waterway at the section Novi Grad	28 Dec. 2016	Zagreb	ISRBC
50.	Strategic meeting of ISRBC related to the <i>FASRB</i> implementation	16 Jan. 2017	Zagreb	ISRBC
51.	Meeting with the ICPDR Secretariat	18 Jan. 2017	Zagreb	ISRBC
52.	Workshop on delivery of the pre-release 0.1 of the Sava FFWS	26 Jan. & 2 Feb. 2017	Ljubljana	ISRBC
53.	33 <sup>rd</sup> PEG RBM Meeting	9 Feb. 2017	Zagreb	ISRBC
54.	Meeting for review of the draft report on Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus and benefits of transboundary cooperation in the Drina River Basin	13 Feb. 2017	Belgrade	Rep. Water Direct., UNECE, ISRBC
55.	44 <sup>th</sup> Session of ISRBC	21-22 Feb. 2017	Zagreb	ISRBC
56.	Meeting with Directors of NHMSs from the Sava River Basin	24 Feb. 2017	Zagreb	ISRBC
57.	Training on the use of the Sava River Basin hydrological model	2-3 Mar. 2017	Zagreb	USACE, ISRBC
58.	Roundtable on development of river tourism in the Sava River Basin	7 Mar. 2017	Zagreb	ISRBC
59.	30 <sup>th</sup> PEG FP Meeting	10 Mar. 2017	Zagreb	ISRBC



No.	Meeting / event	Date	Venue	Organizer
60.	15 <sup>th</sup> PEG GIS Meeting	16 Mar. 2017	Bled	ISRBC
61.	Workshop on establishment of sediment monitoring system on the Sava River	22 Mar. 2017	Zagreb	UNESCO, ISRBC
62.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the International Working Group of the project <i>Establishment of a Flood Forecasting and Warning System for the Sava River Basin</i>	31 Mar. 2017	Zagreb	ISRBC

## ANNEX VI. Overview of the activities performed within the Sava Day 2016 celebration

The celebration of the Sava Day 2016 included the events directly organized by ISRBC, and the events organized through national projects of the Parties. An overview of the activities has been provided as follows:

### Events organized/co-organized by ISRBC

The main event in the reporting period was the Sixth meeting of the Parties, held on June 1 in Belgrade. In addition, the following events were organized as a part of celebrating the Sava Day:

- Fifth meeting of the Youth Parliament of the Sava River Basin
- Second meeting of the Sava Water Council and
- Third International cycling tour "Sava 2016"

"Youth Parliament 2016" - the fifth meeting of secondary school students from the Sava countries was organized on June 3-4 in Lonjsko polje (HR), aiming to inform young people and to transfer of knowledge and exchange of experience in relation to the extraordinary ecological values and economic potential of the Sava River Basin. The students from seven secondary schools were selected on the basis of results of the competition for the best interview entitled "Living with floods". The aim of the competition was to show the complexity of life with floods in the Sava River Basin and to encourage critical thinking about the floods, response to the flooding, concerning measures to prevent floods and minimizing their consequences.

Sponsors of the Parliament in 2016 were UNDP in B&H, the U.S. Government and Coca-Cola HBC Croatia.



*Figure 12: Participants of the Youth Parliament 2016 in Park of Nature Lonjsko Polje*

The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the SWC was held in Sevnica (SI) on June 6-7, as noted in Section 4.3. The basic theme of the meeting was Implications of river basin management planning on local level. Beside examples of the projects on basin, transboundary/cross-border and local levels, a new ideas in the field of water protection, spatial planning and tourism development were defined. As a conclusion the participants proposed to prepare a project proposal for the development of

the sustainable river tourism which comprises nautical, rural, cultural and eco-tourism for the Sava River Basin. The participants also agreed that it would be necessary to find synergies with other similar projects proposed within the Danube Strategy but also with those proposed in the frame of the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR).

The meeting was jointly organized by the US Government, Sevnica Municipality and ISRBC.



Figure 13: Participants of the 2<sup>nd</sup> SWC meeting visiting HPP Arto-Blanca and at the session

The third *International Cycling Tour* along the Sava River was held from May 27 to June 6, 2016. The 11-day 850 km long tour included the whole course of the Sava River, from the source of the Sava Dolinka River to the mouth of the Sava River. The main objectives of the Tour were to promote the potential for development of the bicycle routes along the Sava and other types of sustainable river tourism, as well as to disseminate the key messages associated with the Sava Day celebration. Accordingly, events and gatherings of the cyclists with representatives of local authorities and citizens were organized (by the local authorities) at 18 locations along the Sava River, including all major cities in the four countries located along the river. All events were attended by representatives of ISRBC and/or its Secretariat. At most locations, the events were covered by media. This year there has been an increase in the interest of the television for live broadcasting (HRT) or in the thematic programs on traffic and tourism (BN TV and RTV FB&H). Also, within the web site of ISRBC, a "micro site" was created, on which it was possible to follow the Tour through blogs and photos. Additionally, the video material of the complete Cycling Tour was also created.

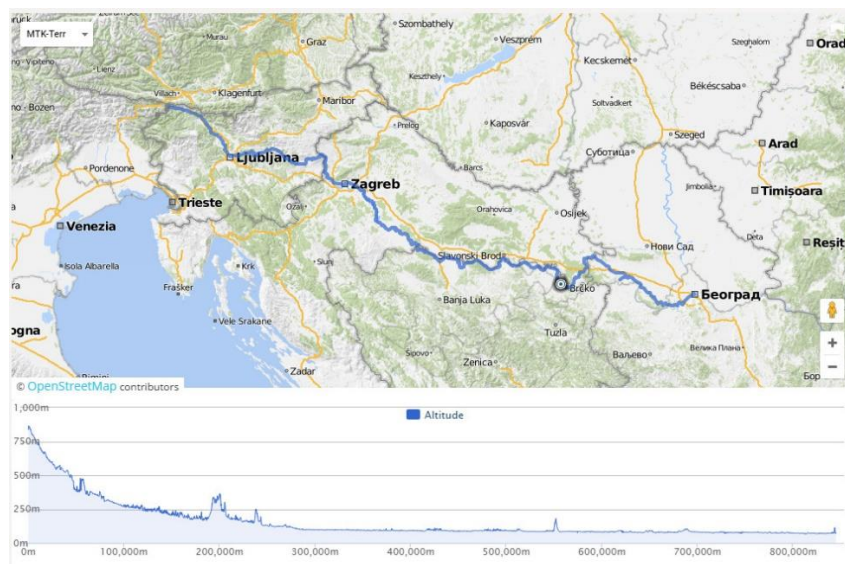


Figure 14: Sava Cycling Route 2016

### Events organized by Parties

In addition to the events organized by ISRBC, a number of activities were performed through national projects of the Parties, in which ISRBC was involved as a partner or a guest, depending on the type of a project:

- In Bosnia and Herzegovina the actions in the frame of "*Clean Vrbas*" initiative have continued, by organizing rafting tours and conferences to strengthen awareness regarding the protection of nature, reducing pollution and improving water quality in the Vrbas River, as well as the promotion of sustainable forms of river tourism on this river;
- In Croatia, the implementation of the project *Our Beautiful Sava* has continued. Based on a similar concept as in the previous years, the project included four Sava fairs (Zagreb, Sisak, Županja and Slavonski Brod). In addition to media coverage, the information on the events has also been disseminated through the project web-site and its Facebook profile;
- In Serbia the activities included the eco-educational triathlon for children, boat trip for secondary school students with talks about water protection, educational workshops for preschool and school children, teachers and parents, as well as creative thematic workshops about the importance of recycling and about the resources of the Sava River;
- In Slovenia, the implementation of the social responsibility project Mojareka.si was continued. In 2016, the project included a series of actions to clean up river banks and proclaimed the most successful holders of the shares.

ISRBC was represented at most of the above mentioned events. It is important to note a good cooperation between ISRBC and organizers of the events in the Parties, which contributes to the overall quality of the Sava Day celebration. Within the celebration, a number of promotion publications and a wide range of promotion articles of ISRBC were distributed.

**ANNEX VII. List of acronyms**

AEWS	Accident Emergency Warning System
APC	Accident Prevention and Control
BA, B&H	Bosnia and Herzegovina
BRGM	Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières, France
CESNI	European Committee for drawing up standards in the field of inland navigation
CEVNI	European Code for Navigation
COWANDA	The WANDA follow-up project
DC	Danube Commission
DTP	Danube Transnational Programme
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EC	European Commission
EG	Expert Group (of ISRBC)
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
Esposo Convention	Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context
EU	European Union
EUSDR	EU Strategy for the Danube Region (Danube Strategy)
FASRB	Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin
FFWS	Flood Forecasting and Warning System
FIN	Financial (issues)
FP	Flood Prevention
FRM	Flood Risk Management
FY	Financial Year of ISRBC
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIS	Geographic Information System
GIZ	German Agency for International Cooperation
GWP	Global Water Partnership
GWP CEE	Regional Partnership of GWP for Central and Eastern Europe
GWP-Med	Mediterranean Regional Partnership of GWP
HAW	Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften Hamburg, Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, Germany
HBC	Hellenic Bottling Company
HIS	Hydrological Information System

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HM(I)	Hydrological and Meteorological (issues)
HR	Republic of Croatia
ICPDR	International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
IHP	International Hydrological Programme
IOWater	International Office for Water
IPA	Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance
IPF	Infrastructure Projects Facility (for the Western Balkans)
ISI	International Sediment Initiative
ISRBC	International Sava River Basin Commission
JRC	Joint Research Centre
LiDAR	Light Detection and Ranging
ME	Montenegro
NAV	Navigation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NHMS	National Hydro-Meteorological Service
NL	The Netherlands
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
PA	Priority Area (of the EU <i>Strategy for the Danube Region</i> )
PEG	Permanent Expert Group
PIAC	Principal International Alert Centre
PR	Public Relations
Q	Quarter of a year
RBM	River Basin Management
RBMP	River Basin Management Plan
RCC	Regional Cooperation Council
REC	Regional Environmental Center
RIS	River Information Service
RO	Romania
RS	Republic of Serbia
SedNet	European Sediment Network
SEE	South East Europe
SI	Republic of Slovenia
SRBA	Sava River Basin Analysis
STAWA	Project Towards the Assessment of Ecological Status of Water Bodies in the Sava River Basin

SWC	Sava Water Council
SWMI	Significant Water Management Issues
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
U.S.	United States (of America)
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
US Gov	U.S. Government
VMM	Flemish Environment Agency, Belgium
WANDA	Waste Management for Inland Navigation on the Danube
WB	World Bank
WBIF	Western Balkans Investment Framework
WFD	Water Framework Directive
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WWF	World Wide Fund For Nature