

INTERNATIONAL SAVA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**on work and activities of the**  
**International Sava River Basin Commission**  
**for the period April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020**

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## Introduction

General tasks and competencies of International Sava River Basin Commission (*ISRBC, Sava Commission*) are stipulated by Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin (*FASRB*) and, more specifically, by Annex I to 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, 2019 – March 31, 2020 (*Annual Report*) has been prepared accordingly.

*Annual Report* corresponds to the Financial Year<sup>1</sup> 2019 (FY 2019). All the work programs and plans mentioned throughout the report also correspond to the financial year stated.

Major event that marked FY 2019 was the Eighth Meeting of the Parties (8<sup>th</sup> MoP), held in Sarajevo on October 24, 2019.



Figure 1. Eighth Meeting of the Parties –Sarajevo, October 24, 2019

The 8<sup>th</sup> MoP verified the two exceptional results achieved in the implementation of the FASRB since the last meeting of the Parties (Bled, June 7, 2018):

- development of the first joint Flood Risk Management Plan in the Sava River Basin (Sava FRMP), approved at the meeting through the adoption of the joint Declaration, and
- establishment and start-up of operational use of the Flood Forecast and Warning System in the Sava River Basin (Sava FFWS), whose further work and development will be facilitated through the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding which precisely regulates mutual rights and obligations of the institutions and whose early signing was strongly supported by high representatives of all countries at the meeting.

High representatives of the Parties also accepted the “*Report on implementation of the Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin for the period from April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019*” and acknowledged all the work and significant results achieved in the reporting period and confirmed priority actions in the future implementation of FASRB. The Parties also noted

<sup>1</sup> Financial Year of the ISRBC starts on April 1 of the current year and ends on March 31 next year

significant contribution of international organizations and institutions provided in the realization of the priority projects and called upon these organizations and institutions to support the implementation of the planned activities of ISRBC in the upcoming period.

In FY 2019 significant progress has also been made towards the development of the second Sava River Basin Management Plan (*Sava RBMP*) as well as in the implementation of the Protocol on Sediment Management to the FASRB. In *navigation*, ISRBC was focused on the activities towards rehabilitation and development of the navigation and transport on the Sava River waterway, and on the continuation of the work on standards related to navigation safety and other technical standards, in line with the latest European Union (EU) advances in the field. Regarding data and information exchange, both geographic and hydrological information systems (*Sava GIS and Sava HIS*) were furtherly improved. ISRBC actively participated in the preparation of the Sava-Drina River Corridor Integrated Development Program (SDIP), led by the World Bank as well as in the implementation of the FASRB-related projects and in preparation of various project proposals aimed to support planned activities.

A detailed elaboration of the activities and results is provided in Sections 1-6 of this report. The annexes contain: List of the ISRBC members and deputy members (Annex I); List of the national institutions responsible for implementation of the FASRB (Annex II); List of the events organized/co-organized by ISRBC in FY 2019 (Annex III); the FASRB-related projects, implemented and ongoing in FY 2019 (Annex IV); the FASRB-related project proposals prepared in FY 2019 (Annex V); List of acronyms and abbreviations (Annex VI).

## 1. Integrated water management

In the reporting period, ISRBC was focused on continuation of activities related to all aspects of integrated water management: the second cycle of river basin management planning, flood risk management planning, sediment issues, prevention of accidents, as well as in the development of related integrated systems including further enhancement of hydrologic and hydraulic models. However, as noted in the introductory remarks, the finalizing of the first joint Sava FRMP and the operational use of the Sava FFWS must be highlighted as the most measurable results. ISRBC also invested significant resources in the preparation of various projects and project proposals aiming to support its ongoing and planned activities.

### 1.1. River basin management

Development of the Sava RBMP, required by Article 12 of the FASRB, represents the most important task in reaching one of the ultimate goals of FASRB – the establishment of sustainable water management in the Sava River Basin. Following the approval of the first Sava RBMP 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 thereafter continued with the preparation of the second Sava River Basin Analysis Report (2<sup>nd</sup> SRBA), Interim Overview of the Significant Water Management Issues in the basin (SWMI), and an outline of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sava RBMP. Further steps towards the development of the second Sava RBMP are being carried out at the expert level through the work in the expert groups of ISRBC (PEG RBM and PEG GIS), and will continue in the next financial year. Timely submission of the required information and data by the countries is a necessary precondition for further progress in the preparation of the plan. Additional support for the development of the full-fledged Sava RBMP is expected from the EEA and Norway Grants Fund for Regional Cooperation. In response to the Fund's call for proposals, the project proposal "*Development of technical basis for international river basin management planning in the Sava river basin: An innovative filling of gaps in transboundary water management*" was submitted in June 2018. The main aim of the project is addressing the major shortcomings of the first Sava RBMP, using innovative methodologies in transboundary water management. After passing the first stage of selection as one of the 40 proposals out of more than 700 submitted, the full project application was submitted on July 4, 2019 for the second and final stage of assessment. The final decision on the selection of projects has not yet been announced at the time of preparation of this report.

Protocol on Sediment Management to the FASRB, which entered into force in October 2017, stipulates the exchange of data on planned dredging on yearly basis. For that purpose, a template for provision of information on planned dredging has been developed and distributed to the Parties in March 2019. The Parties were requested to provide information on locations, types of dredging, methods for sediment disposal and treatment for the Sava River and its main tributaries as well as summarized quantities of dredged sediment for the sub-basins of other tributaries. Based on received data *Report on planned dredging in the Sava River Basin for 2019* has been prepared. According to the report the total volume of dredging planned for 2019 in the Sava River Basin is approx. 3.9 million m<sup>3</sup>. The percentage of planned dredging per river is given in the figure below:

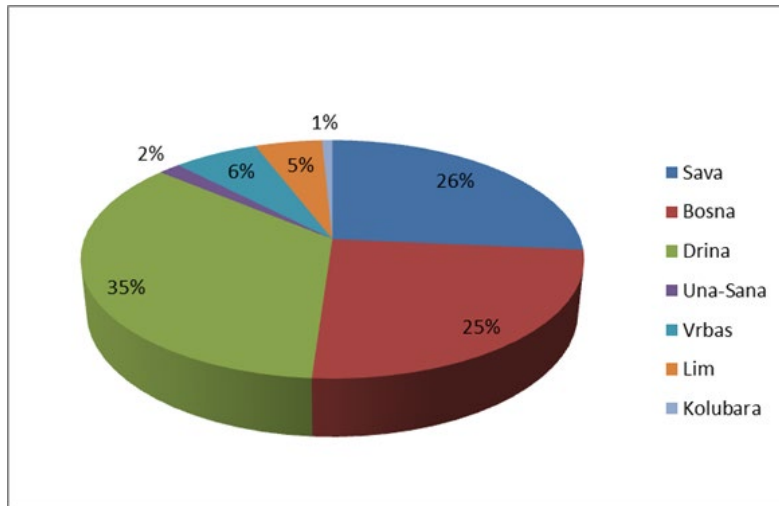


Figure 2: Percentage of planned dredging per river in 2019

In accordance to the Protocol on Sediment Management, the Parties are required to prepare the *Report on Realization of the activities under the Information on Planned Dredging for 2019* and the *Information on planned dredging for 2020* until the end of March 2020.

## 1.2. Flood management

In the reporting period, the Sava FRMP, which was prepared in line with the Protocol on Flood Protection to the FASRB and in accordance with the EU Floods Directive (2007/60/EC), was finalized and approved by the Parties at the 8<sup>th</sup> MoP (Sarajevo, October 24, 2019). The Parties also acknowledged active participation and contribution of Montenegro to the development of the Sava FRMP and welcomed its approval of the plan.

Sava FRMP represents a milestone in the cooperation of the Parties leading towards fulfilment of one of the main objectives of the FASRB – *to prevent or limit hazards and reduce and eliminate adverse consequences from floods*.

The Sava FRMP identified 21 Areas of Mutual Interest for flood protection at the Sava basin level (AMIs), as basic units for analyzing the flood risks, with a total surface of 5,659 km<sup>2</sup>, representing 5.8% of the Sava River Basin area and home to 1.4 million people. In AMIs, 38 structural measures were identified with a total value of over € 250 million while at 42 non-structural measures, that mostly relate to the entire AMIs or the Sava River basin as a whole, were also identified. Implementation of the measures will strongly contribute to meeting the commonly agreed objectives – avoidance of new flood risks, reduction of existing flood risks during and after the floods, strengthening resilience, raising awareness about flood risks and implementing solidarity principle.

The approved Plan, in all official languages to the Parties as well as in English and Montenegrin, is available in digital form at: [www.savacommission.org/sfrmp/](http://www.savacommission.org/sfrmp/).





Figure 3. Sava FRMP

After the finalization of the first plan and during its approval process, significant actions related to the second Sava flood risk management planning cycle have been taken. First draft of the update of joint Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment in the Sava River Basin has been prepared and discussed by relevant expert groups (PEG FP and PEG GIS) and currently the data gathering process related to this activity is ongoing.

Additionally, the Sava Commission is one of the 23 project partners within the EU H2020 project: *Sustainable Historic Environments hoListic reconstruction through Technological Enhancement and community based Resilience* (SHELTER; <https://shelter-project.com/>), launched in June 2019. The Sava River basin is one of the five project's case studies (open lab areas), with the following main activities:

- collection of data on cultural-historical heritage laying in flood-prone areas;
- conducting of a flood impact analyses on the identified heritage sites;
- networking between different sectors relevant for the project activities (water/floods, cultural-historic heritage and emergency management);
- continuous exchange of knowledge within the Sava open lab as well as exchange of best practices and peer-learning processes between all other project case studies.

The project will continue in the following years, until May 2023. It will significantly contribute to understanding the direct and indirect impacts of flood hazards on cultural-historic assets.

Following the successful establishment of the Sava FFWS in 2018, the system is regularly used by relevant national organizations (9 institutions from 5 countries responsible for flood forecasting), while ISRBC monitors the functionality and daily logins. Unique system even at the global level has proved efficient and of great added value to national forecasting centers.



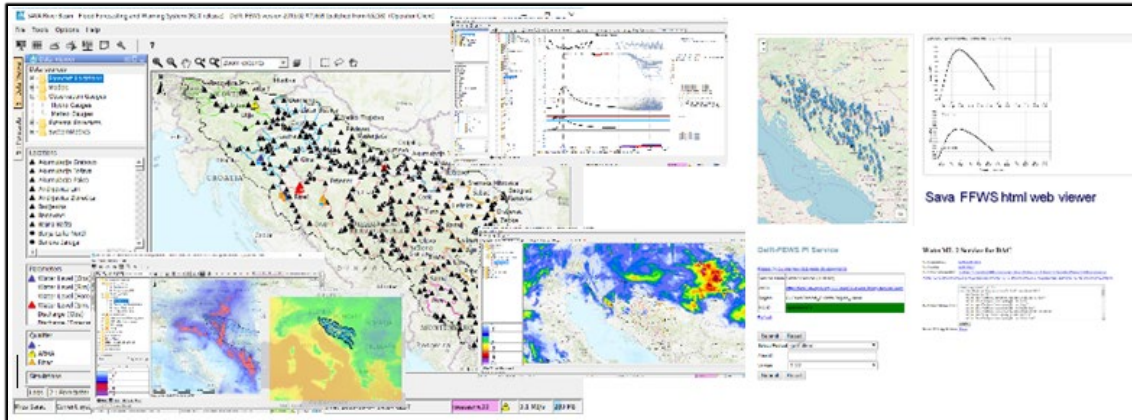


Figure 4. Sava FFWS in operational use

Protocol on Flood Protection requires the Parties to ensure regular maintenance of the system, and in this regard a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been prepared in the frame of ISRBC. MoU regulates roles and responsibilities of the hosting organizations and users of the system, as well as those of third parties. It also defines the structure of bodies to be established, funding and distribution of costs, and overall conditions of use of the system. The draft MoU was distributed to the Parties and Montenegro in July 2019 for their internal procedures that precede the signing. The signing of MoU as soon as possible is vital for the sustainability and further development of the system. Official establishment of the steering board and technical group (international teams) will ensure a full coordination, including evaluation and assessment of the work performed on national and international level.

Another significant activity related not only to the Sava FFWS but, potentially, also on other joint activities, started in FY 2019 - upgrade of the Sava HEC-HMS hydrological model. The original model was developed in 2016 through technical assistance of the US Army Corps of Engineers, supported by the Secretariat and relevant expert groups of ISRBC (PEG FP and PEG HMI). This model upgrade is done by national experts, with the coordination and technical support of the Secretariat. The Secretariat made an initial improvement of the 2016 model to take into account the impact of the new hydrological and meteorological stations and prepared necessary technical documentation and time plan for the work of national experts.

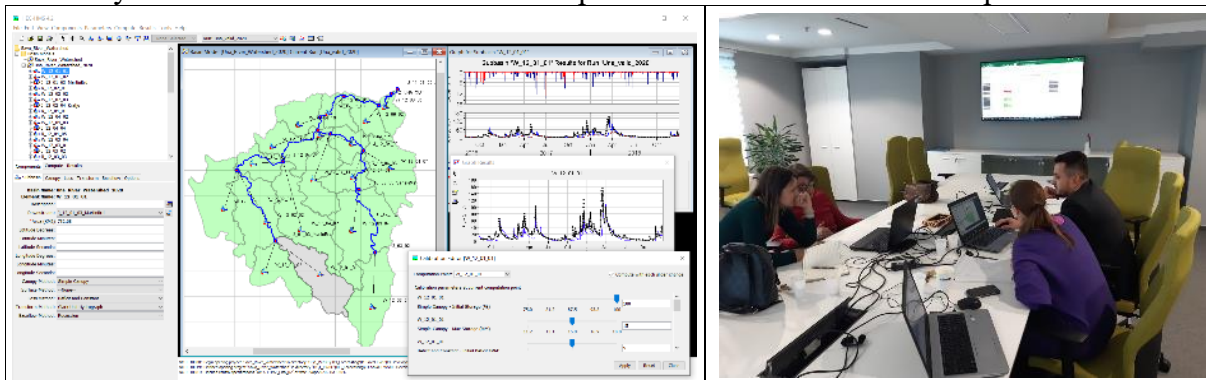


Figure 5. Sava HEC-HMS model and a photo illustration of the joint work

The collaboration was organized through teleconferences and included three joint web meetings, two cycles of individual meetings per institutions and several direct consultations. The final joint meeting with national experts was held in January 2020 in the ISRBC premises in Zagreb. Additional support of the Secretariat was provided to the institutions from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro, by workshops organized in Sarajevo and Bijeljina for the experts from Bosnia and Herzegovina in March 2020, and through several web-based consultations with the experts from Montenegro. Upon its finalization, which is expected by

the end of April 2020, the Sava HEC-HMS model will be put into operational use in Sava FFWS and thus contribute to improve flood forecasting in the Sava River Basin.

### **1.3. Accident prevention and control**

No transboundary pollution accidents were detected in the Sava River Basin in the reporting period.

The Parties to the FASRB use the Accident Emergency Warning System (AEWS), developed and maintained by the International Commission for protection of Danube River (ICPDR). The objectives of the AEWS are receiving, processing and transmission of information of pollution and prompt dealing with and communication of information on emergencies. The AEWS is tested regularly twice a year, with the main objective to check the functionality of the system. The unannounced test took place on November 5, 2019. It was confirmed that the system itself is working as expected without problems from a technical point of view. All Principal International Alert Centers (PIACs) in the Parties to FASRB were able to perform the major tasks, although PIACs in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia are still not part of the national systems which operate 24/7. In cooperation with the ICPDR, the Sava Commission organized the AEWS training in December 2019 for the experts from all the Parties. The main objective of training was capacity building of national experts involved in emergency events and the exchange of experiences related to the AEWS functioning.

For the purpose of implementation of the two protocols in force: Protocol on Prevention of Pollution Caused by Navigation and Protocol on Flood Protection, and timely preparation for the implementation of Protocol on Emergency Situations, improved operational response in emergency situations, including closer interaction and cooperation between river basin management authorities and civil protection sector, have been identified as a necessity. For that purpose, the project entitled Water Contingency Management in the Sava River Basin-WACOM has been prepared and submitted to the Danube Transnational Programme (DTP). The lead partner is University of Ljubljana, while the project partners are the institutions from water management, civil protection, hydropower, and navigation. The final decision on financial support is expected at the end of April/beginning of May 2020.

## 2. Navigation

The ISRBC's work in the field of navigation in FY 2019 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.

### 2.1. Rehabilitation and development of the Sava River waterway

Regarding the rehabilitation and development of the Sava River waterway, activities to address navigation problems on critical sectors, the so-called bottlenecks, continued in this reporting period. Significant progress has been made, both in terms of resolving some of the bottlenecks and in preparing project documentation for the continuation of activities.

In Serbia, after completion of works on the Kamičak sector in 2018, dredging works on the Šabac sector (rkm 90-rkm 104) were successfully completed in 2019. On the whole sector, the lowest depth across the full fairway width of the 75m is 3m at the low navigable level. Serbia also started with development of the project documentation for the fairway rehabilitation on the Drina Confluence sector.

In Croatia, 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) has continued in 2019. To involve important stakeholders from the very beginning of the project implementation, the ISRBC adopted Decision 7/19 establishing the Stakeholder Forum. Beside the members of the Navigation Committee<sup>2</sup>, the forum includes representatives of non-governmental, civil society and professional organizations, regional and local administration from Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The representation of both countries is extremely important because it is a common fairway sector. The first meeting of the forum was held in May 2019, to present and discuss variant solutions. At the second meeting in November 2019, a detailed elaboration of options and environmental optimization of the fairway conceptual solution was presented. The general opinion is that the forum represents an improvement in the practice of carrying out inland navigation projects and that similar practices should be applied in all future projects.



Figure 6. 2nd Meeting of the Stakeholder Forum for the project "Jaruge-Novi Grad"

Croatia also started with preparation of an application for financing the project documentation for the rehabilitation of the waterway on the sector Jasenovac-Sisak.

<sup>2</sup> Committee for Monitoring and Coordination of Implementation of the Project Rehabilitation and Development of Transport and Navigation on the Sava River Waterway (established in 2011)

In addition to full cooperation in the implementation of the Jaruge - Novi Grad project, Bosnia and Herzegovina has also had meetings with representatives of international financial institutions (IFIs) and the EU on priority navigation projects. The most important problem, the demining of the right bank of the Sava River, is already on track to be resolved as the grant application is submitted to the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF), with a good chance of being approved. The project is worth over 8 million Euro.

## 2.2. Navigation safety and related technical standards

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

ISRBC took part in the work of the European Code for Inland Waterways Expert Group (CEVNI EG), composed of representatives of the UNECE member states and river commissions. CEVNI EG has adopted proposals to further harmonize navigation rules in Europe regarding steering of the convoys, life-saving equipment, restricted view from the wheelhouse, and automatic identification system (AIS) equipment. Discussion on autonomous shipping continued with particular attention paid to the adaptation of the related regulations. ISRBC started with drafting of the amendments to *Navigation Rules in the Sava River Basin* in line with the fifth revised edition of CEVNI (CEVNI 5).

PEG NAV agreed upon the amendments to Chapter 11 “Additional local requirements” of the Navigation Rules in the Sava River Basin regarding the maximal dimensions of vessels and convoys on the sector Upper Sava and those amendments will be submitted to ISRBC for adoption in FY2020.

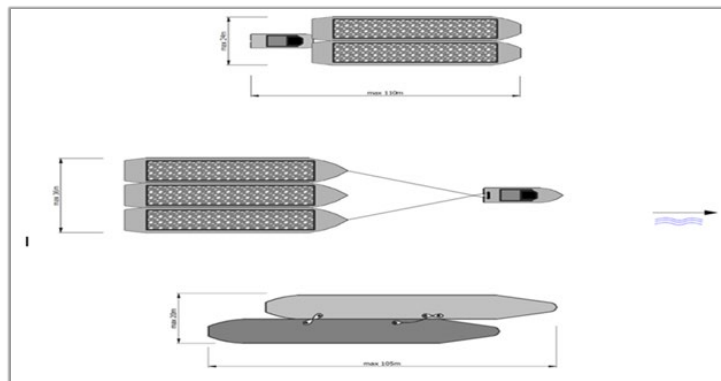
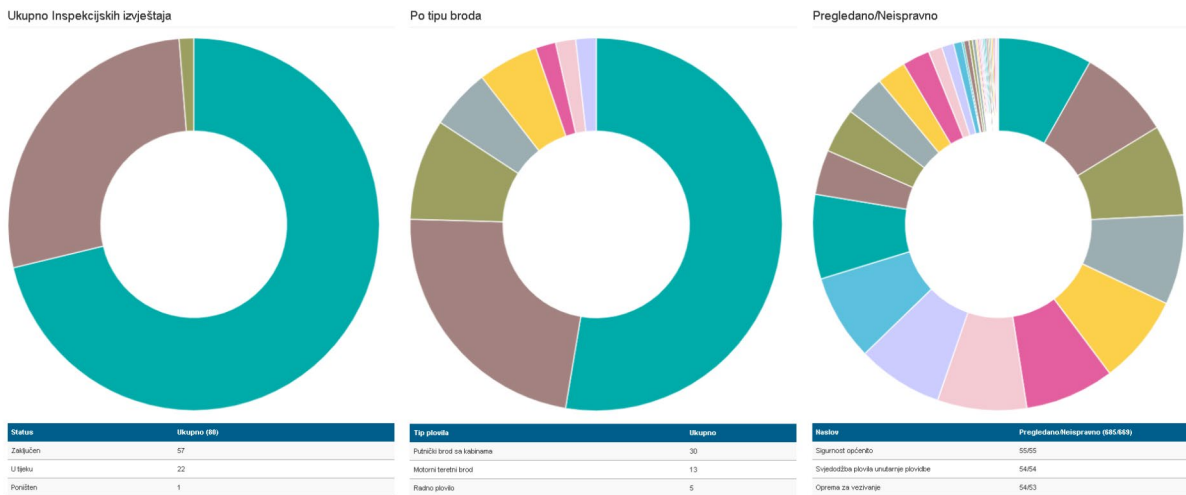


Figure 7. Convoy dimensions on the sector Upper Sava

ISRBC has also continued its participation in the work of the European Committee for drawing up standards in the field of inland navigation (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 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, while facilitating transport operations and promoting international trade. In 2019, CESNI prepared and adopted various standards related to technical requirements for vessels as well as for qualifications in inland navigation, with significant contribution of ISRBC.

In parallel, ISRBC continued its work on drafting *Decision on the Rules for the Sava Navigation Personnel* with the aim of modernizing and presenting requirements for the crew qualifications and minimum manning for vessels in a single document and harmonizing it with the CESNI standards.

In the framework of the follow-up of implementation of the Decision 16/17 on the introduction of the System for support to national bodies responsible for the navigation safety inspection, the migration of the web application to the ISRBC servers was completed and the application was successfully started on the new platform. The Secretariat regularly monitors the System and analyses the results of the completed inspection reports. In FY 2019, a total of 83 inspections were carried out. The basic statistic is shown in *Figure 8*. Additional analysis of the functionalities and results of the inspections were done with participation of inspectors for navigation safety from the countries on the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of Captains of Port Master Offices from the Sava River Basin, held in November 2019 in Slavonski Brod.



*Figure 8. Web application for support to national bodies responsible for the navigation safety inspection-statistics for FY 2019*

Taking into account the necessity to regulate issues pertinent 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 harmonize the regime of navigation on the Kupa River, ISRBC has asked the Secretariat to prepare a proposal of Recommendation on the Navigation Regime for Common Sectors on the Kupa River, on the basis of which Croatia and Slovenia would harmonize their existing and adopt new regulations. The draft Recommendation has been prepared and its adoption is expected early in FY 2020.

With the aim of improving and actualizing navigation manuals, ISRBC developed the new version of the Indicator of River Kilometers, which includes a new section from rkm 593,8 (Galdovo Road Bridge) to rkm 727,1 (Krško Nuclear Power Plant). The printed version of the Indicator will be available in May 2020. A new version of the Album of Bridges is being prepared from December 2019, and it will contain also the data on bridges in Slovenia.

Using the legal capacity given by FASRB, ISRBC adopted the following decisions related to navigation safety in FY 2019:

- Decision 7/19 on establishment of the Stakeholders Forum for development of Environmental Impact Assessment Study and Design for the Action: Improvement of the navigation conditions on the Sava River from rkm 300 to rkm 329
- Decision 13/19 on adoption of Standard for Electronic Ship Reporting in Inland Navigation in the Sava River Basin
- Decision 2/20 on adoption of the Plan for Waterway Marking and Maintenance on the Sava River and its Navigable Tributaries for the Year 2020 (Marking Plan)



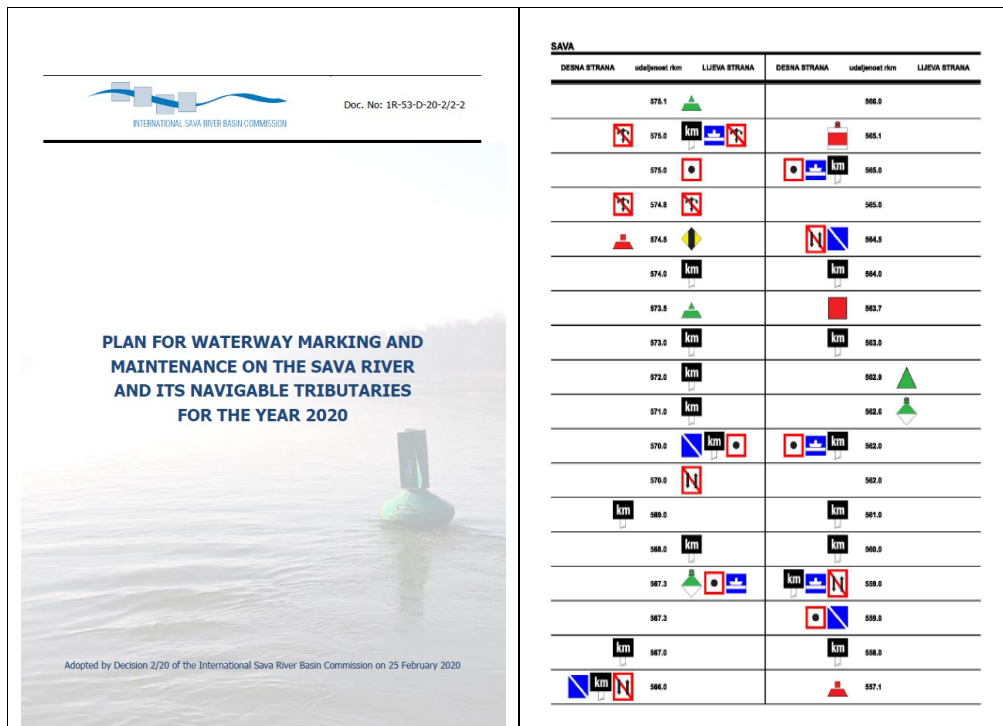


Figure 9. Plan for Waterway Marking and Maintenance on the Sava River and its Navigable Tributaries for the Year 2020

To facilitate their effective implementation, new rules are systematically presented to representatives of the competent authorities of the Parties. The rules adopted by ISRBC are regularly incorporated into the laws and regulations in Croatia and Serbia, while Bosnia and Herzegovina and Slovenia directly apply them into practice.

ISRBC continued its active role in the follow-up process of the *Joint Statement on Guiding Principles on the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin* (Joint Statement), what is elaborated in Section 7. The commission also continued participation in the work of the Steering Committee for the Priority Area 1a of the EU Danube Strategy and the Rhine-Danube Corridor Forum, 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.

### 3. Data and information management

Major advances in data and information management were achieved in the reporting period. Within the development of Sava FRMP, the new FRM database (compliant with the EU Floods Directive Reporting Guidance 2018) has been designed and successfully implemented within the central Sava GIS database. Further progress has been made in hydrometeorological data exchange through Sava Hydrologic Information System (Sava HIS) and special advances in information exchange have been achieved through the full functionality of Sava FFWS

#### 3.1. Geo-information issues

In FY 2019 the draft *Policy on the exchange and use of Sava GIS data and information* (Sava GIS Data Policy) was prepared by the Secretariat and PEG GIS, with support of other relevant expert groups (PEG RBM, PEG FP and PEG HMI). Sava GIS Data Policy was adopted by ISRBC in September 2019, as a “living” document which shall be updated on ad hoc basis, as necessary. It is a very important step required for precise regulating the rights and obligations in data sharing among the Sava countries.

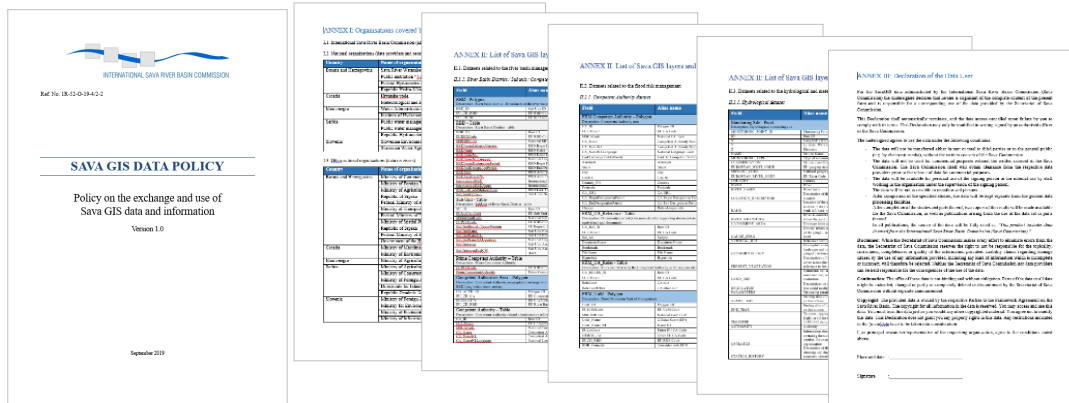


Figure 10. Cover page of the Sava GIS Data Policy and annexes

Sava Geoportal, together with its related databases and web applications, was fully operational in FY 2019. Currently available spatial and attribute datasets in the system are:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sava RBMP datasets
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sava RB Analysis related data and metadata
- 1<sup>st</sup> joint Sava PFRA report datasets
- 1<sup>st</sup> Sava FRMP datasets

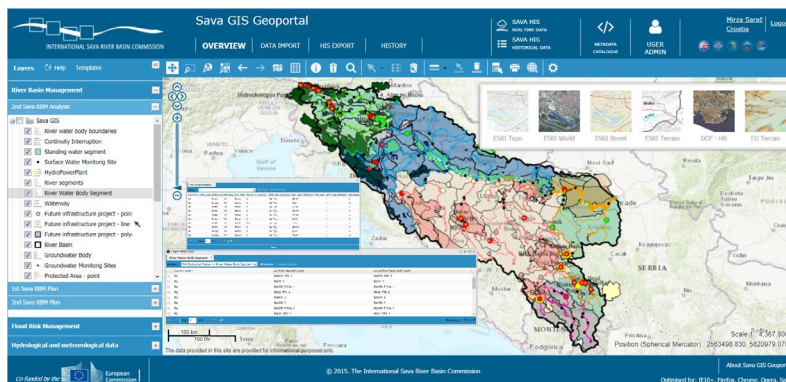


Figure 11. Sava GIS Geoportal ([www.savagis.org](http://www.savagis.org))



Data gathering cycle for the purpose of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sava RBMP development is ongoing and will be continued in FY 2020, as well as the collection of data for the update of joint Sava PFRA report.

Preparatory activities for collection of data on cultural-historical heritage within the floodplains in the Sava River basin, as a part of the SHELTER project goals (described under chapter 1.2), have been performed. Collected data will be consolidated in a properly structured way and stored in the Sava GIS for use in flood impact analyses within the next cycles of flood risk management planning. For this purpose, the existing Sava GIS IT infrastructure will be upgraded, and database improved.

Due attention was paid to maintaining the system and to data security. The backup is scheduled to run every 4 months, while an additional backup is created manually after every data delivery cycles (e.g. within the river basin and flood risk management planning).

Activities on the further system enhancements, including development of the new Sava Geoportal modules for navigation, sediment management and accident prevention as well as development of advanced tools for mapping and reporting services and decision support system, are still in planning phase, while seeking financial support from external sources.

### 3.2. Hydrological and meteorological issues

Sava HIS, established for the purpose of implementation of the *Policy on the Exchange of Hydrological and Meteorological Data and Information in the Sava River Basin* (2014), represents a very efficient tool for collecting, storing, analyzing and reporting of hydrological and meteorological data on: precipitation, air temperature, snow depth, water level, discharge, water temperature, turbidity, as well as a number of statistical parameters.

The number of hydrological and meteorological stations in Sava HIS is continuously increasing, primarily due to the needs of Sava FFWS. Overview of the existing stations (number of real-time stations in brackets) in Sava HIS is presented in the following table.

*Table 1. Overview of available stations in Sava HIS*

| Type of gauging station | BA       | HR        | ME      | RS      | SI      | Total            |
|-------------------------|----------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|------------------|
| Hydrological stations   | 108 (96) | 131 (125) | 11 (11) | 28 (25) | 32 (26) | <b>310 (283)</b> |
| Meteorological stations | 75 (74)  | 49 (42)   | 5 (4)   | 12 (10) | 76 (76) | <b>217 (206)</b> |

The Sava HIS submodule for real-time data collection, is continuously used by the Sava FFWS platform, through the replica installed at the primary host location of the system in ARSO (Ljubljana). It also functions without any problems.

According to available hydrological and meteorological data in Sava HIS, delivered by the data providers from countries, the Secretariat has prepared draft Hydrological Yearbooks for the years 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016. The Hydrological Yearbooks provide the overview of basic data on selected hydrological and meteorological stations in the Sava River basin, including related statistical analyses. The Yearbooks will be completed after delivery of missing data by the national hydrometeorological services, which is expected early in FY 2020.

#### 4. Cross - cutting and development issues

Joint Plan of Actions for the Sava River Basin (*JPA SRB*) was developed in spring 2017, and supported by *Joint Statement of the representatives of the Parties to the FASRB and Montenegro on Plan of Action and Milestones for the Sava River Basin as a Catalyst for Cooperation in the region*<sup>3</sup>, adopted in Bled (SI) on June 15, 2017. JPA SRB outlines the path towards sustainable development and growth of the region with the aim to serve as a catalyst for further enhancement of the cooperation.

The World Bank, which supported the drafting of JPA SRB, in a certain way continued this effort by preparation of the *Sava and Drina Rivers Corridors Integrated Development Multiphase Approach Program* (SDIP). The high-level objective of SDIP is to facilitate integrated transboundary water resources management and development along the Sava and Drina River Corridors. SDIP will be implemented through a sequential and simultaneous two-phased programmatic approach. The two phases will be implemented over a ten-year planning horizon (2020-30), with five participating countries: Serbia, BiH, Montenegro, Croatia, and Slovenia. Phase I of the SDIP aims to improve flood protection, inland waterway freight transport, and enhance transboundary water cooperation in the Sava and Drina Rivers Corridors. Phase I includes sub-projects with high implementation readiness and relevance to the program objectives. The second phase will partially overlap with Phase I and is envisaged to implement sub-projects that will be prepared during Phase I, to further strengthen regional integration and connectivity. The sub-projects will be implemented at national level and will have cumulative regional benefits.

Table 2: Proposed SDIP Scope and Implementing timeline

| Focus Areas                                   | Countries                                      | Phase I                           | Phase II  |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|-----------|
|   |  | 2020-2026                         | 2023-2030 |
| Flood Protection and Environmental Management | BiH, Serbia, Montenegro                        |                                   |           |
|   | BiH, Serbia                                    |                                   |           |
| Waterway Improvement                          | BiH  | Demining of Sava river right bank |           |
|   | Croatia  |                                   |           |
| Enhancement of Port Facilities                | BiH, Croatia                                   |                                   |           |
|   | Serbia   |                                   |           |
| Regional Dialogue and Studies                 | BiH, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia |                                   |           |

##### Legend

Implementation of Phase I
  Preparation for Phase II
  Implementation of Phase II

ISRBC has actively supported the preparation of SDIP, by providing necessary information, reviewing interim outputs and through continuous dialogue with the World Bank representatives.

Regional component of SDIP will support policy dialogue, consultations, preparation of plans and studies, to strengthen the nexus between water services and connectivity with the regional development and economic cooperation objectives. Proposed activities<sup>4</sup> within regional component (e.g. preparation of the 2nd Sava RBMP, hydrological study, sediment study, climate change adaptation strategy, master plan for sustainable tourism development, and

<sup>3</sup> Joint Statement and JPA SRB is available here: <https://www.savacommission.org/publication>

<sup>4</sup> Indicative list of regional activities is proposed based on list of priority projects of ISRBC and will be subject to further review after grant funds are mobilized.

upgrade of flood monitoring, forecasting and management system for the Sava River Basin) will contribute to implementation of FASRB and improve results of other ongoing relevant regional collaborations. Additionally, for the cooperation in the frame of ISRBC, a specific weight has the planned demining of the Sava right bank (in Bosnia and Herzegovina), to be performed by grant funds.

SDIP will be implemented by participating countries in a coordinated manner through two levels of coordination: at national and regional levels. At the regional level, a task force consisting of the authorized representative(s) of the ISRBC Secretariat and country senior officials from key sectors such as water, transport, energy, and tourism will facilitate dialogue and cooperation in the region<sup>5</sup>, should be established, supported by the grant financing. Regional task force will provide a platform to facilitate knowledge exchange and sharing of implementation experiences, ensuring stronger transboundary dialogue. Additionally, a new regional project implementation unit will be housed within ISRBC Secretariat to implement regional activities that will be financed exclusively from grant funds to be mobilized from different sources, including WBIF and GEF. The grant agreement will be signed with ISRBC after the financing is secured, and it will specify the agreed activities and implementation arrangements. During the preparation of the agreement, the Secretariat's capacity needs assessment will be conducted in order to ensure its smooth functioning in carrying out all regular activities provided for by FASRB. The approval and start of the implementation of SDIP is expected in FY 2020.

ISRBC has continued the efforts to gain financial support for activities related to sustainable river tourism. In this regard, the project proposal Danube EcoTOURism has been prepared with several partners led by the European Wilderness Society (AT). The main objective of the project was to strengthen interregional cooperation to pursue joint and integrated approaches for the preservation and management of natural and cultural heritages and resources in the Danube region, by using ecotourism as a tool to achieve sustainable economic development. Unfortunately, the project proposal submitted to DTP was not selected.

The second project proposal submitted to DTP is SavaBike, with the Posavje Regional Development Agency (SI) as the lead, and ISRBC as an associate partner. Main objectives of the project are to design long distance cycling route along the Sava River and to promote cycling as a sustainable mobility mode. Sava Bike was selected for the 2<sup>nd</sup> step of evaluation and the final decision on funding is expected at the end of April/beginning of May 2020.

Activities on the development of the Sava River cycling lane were also discussed at the meeting of Task group for sustainable tourism (TTG), held in October 2019. TTG members also shared information on other actual projects and activities and exchanged ideas for future projects related to sustainable tourism development. Moreover, part of the meeting was held together with PEG NAV to initiate and discuss a project aiming to develop a multilingual mobile application for the river tourism, in order to improve the exchange and dissemination of information on tourist offer, to facilitate access to tourist facilities and to generally encourage the development of sustainable tourism in the Sava River Basin. In the next period the funding possibilities will be sought.

Following the assessment of the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus in the Sava River basin in 2016, and the similar assessment of the Drina River Basin in 2017, the *Drina Nexus follow up project* funded by Italy and implemented by the UNECE Water Convention Secretariat

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<sup>5</sup> The existing bodies, formed under the framework of or coordinated by ISRBC, will help implement regional activities that are already under ISRBC's coordination mandate (e.g., the Committee for monitoring and coordination of implementation of the project "Rehabilitation and development of transport and navigation on the Sava river waterway").

started in 2018. The activities have been focused to (1) improving bilateral monitoring and information exchange procedures, (2) assessing the status of erosion and sedimentation and anthropogenic impacts in the Drina basin and proposing priority measures to limit erosion, (3) reviewing relevant international experiences and legal options for formalizing flow regulation for different needs and (4) organizing multi-stakeholder dialogues about sustainable renewable energy investments. As a part of this project, ISRBC hosted an expert group meeting on flow regulation and environmental flows in June 2019, and also took part in the workshop *Action across sectors and borders for sustainable future of the Drina River Basin* which was organized by UNECE in Belgrade on 29 October 2019. Furthermore, interim results of the project *Desk study on environmental flows and flow regulation in the Drina River, sediment and erosion study and monitoring in Drina River Basin* were presented and discussed at the PEG RBM meeting in January 2020. Final reports with recommendations will be available soon.

## 5. Legal and financial issues

### 5.1. Legal issues

FASRB and its protocols provide a very effective basis for cooperation in the region, involving various sectors of the Parties, local authorities, and a number of other stakeholders. This improves collaboration, awareness, knowledge and capacity at cross-sectoral and multi-layered levels in each Party and in the regional context.

Regarding the status of FASRB, ISRBC submitted to the Parties a proposal for certain amendments to ensure additional efficiency in its implementation, primarily by amending the procedure for adopting the Sava RBM and FRM plans but the information on readiness of all Parties to conduct the final harmonization process is still waiting. The current status regarding the protocols to FASRB is provided in the table below.

*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 | Beograd, June 1, 2009                                      | October 8, 2017   |
| Flood Protection                                   | Gradiška, June 1, 2010                                     | November 27, 2015 |
| Sediment Management                                | Brčko, July 6, 2015  | October 8, 2017   |
| Emergency Situations                               | Final harmonization is expected in 2020                    |                   |
| Transboundary Impacts                              | Need for development of the protocol under reconsideration |                   |

Besides the four above-mentioned protocols in force, the table provides information on the two protocols that need to be further discussed, either by means of the final harmonization or by reaching the consent about necessity/added value of its development. Protocol on Emergency Situations comprises several goals aimed at the 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 basin level, assessment of extraordinary impacts, emergency response and mutual assistance of the Parties. Draft Protocol was adopted by ISRBC and distributed to the Parties for the final review. Final harmonization of the Protocol is expected by the end of 2020. Protocol on Transboundary Impacts 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. 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, a task group has been established by ISRBC and several roundtables were held to discuss the issue. A consensus on the need for this protocol has not been reached yet and the issue is still under consideration.

Permanent legal support was provided to the work of ISRBC, its working groups and the Secretariat, including organization of Commission's sessions, activities related to the 8<sup>th</sup> MoP as well as preparation of various types of documents within the projects in which ISRBC participates (e.g. SHELTER) and development of new international acts (e.g. Sava FFWS MoU).

## 5.2. Financial issues

Budget of ISRBC for FY 2019 (April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020), in total amount of EUR 546,100.00, was adopted by Decision 4/19 at the 51<sup>st</sup> Session of ISRBC (Zagreb, March 5-6, 2019). It consists of the regular annual contributions of the Parties, transfers from the Reserve Fund and of miscellaneous inflows.

The *General Fund* inflows and expenditures in FY 2019 are shown in Table 4 and Table 5, respectively.

Table 4. General Fund income in FY 2019

| Source of Income                 |  | Income (EUR)            |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 1                                | Mandatory contributions from the Parties | 515,960.00              |
|                                  | 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> |
| 2                                | Transfer from the Reserve Fund           | 25,407.27 <sup>5</sup>  |
| 3                                | Miscellaneous                            | 25,699.52 <sup>6</sup>  |
| <b>Total General Fund income</b> |  | <b>567,066.79</b>       |

Note: <sup>1</sup> The contribution was paid on July 5, 2019. <sup>2</sup> The contribution was paid in two equal parts, on March 22 and 27, 2019. <sup>3</sup> The contribution was paid on May 14, 2019. <sup>4</sup> The contribution was paid on April 12, 2019. <sup>5</sup> Transferred amount for covering unexpected expenditures. <sup>6</sup> A part of grant funds for implementation of projects: EU HORIZON 2020-SHELTER and UNDP-Kura II Study Visit.

Table 5. General Fund expenditures in FY 2019

| Budget Chapter                         |                               | Expenditures <sup>1</sup> (EUR) |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1                                      | Staff salaries and allowances | 444.065,05                      |
| 2                                      | Current costs                 | 28.739,10                       |
| 3                                      | Travel expenses               | 13.955,71                       |
| 4                                      | Operational costs             | 8.664,97                        |
| 5                                      | Equipment                     | 6.332,81                        |
| <b>Total General Fund expenditures</b> |                               | <b>501.757,64<sup>2</sup></b>   |

Note: <sup>1</sup> The amount of expenditures on March 31, 2020. <sup>2</sup> In accordance with Financial Rules of ISRBC, the rest of the General Fund shall be allocated to the Reserve Fund.

In FY 2019 the opening balance of *Special and Trust Fund* amounts at EUR 31.371,11. Additional inflow to this Fund during the period April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020 was EUR 87,737.37, for the implementation of the following project activities:

- Sustainable Historic Environments holistic reconstruction through Technological Enhancement and community based Resilience – SHELTER (EU-HORIZON 2020)
- International Study Tour for the KURA II Project Key Stakeholders (UNDP)

For the above-mentioned project activities, the total outflow of Special and Trust Fund during FY 2019 was EUR 33,267.59.

In line with Financial Rules of ISRBC, a regular audit of the financial management of ISRBC for FY 2018 has been performed, with a general conclusion that the financial management is correct and in accordance with the ISRBC's rules and regulations and the general accounting principles. ISRBC accepted the Report on Audit of the Financial Management of ISRBC in FY 2018 at the 53<sup>rd</sup> Session (February 25-26, 2020).

## 6. Cooperation and stakeholder involvement

### 6.1. Cooperation with international, national and local institutions

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

ISRBC has maintained good contacts and cooperation with various EU bodies. It has continued active involvement in the implementation of the EU *Strategy for the Danube Region*, as well as in the process of drafting the new European legal framework in inland navigation. ISRBC also actively participated in several events and workshops organized by different EU bodies.

Cooperation with ICPDR and DC 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 was ensured by means of participation at sessions, expert group meetings and other events organized by the partner commissions. ISRBC co-organized the 10<sup>th</sup> follow-up meeting of the Joint Statement, hosted by DC in Budapest, in September 2019. Aiming to agree upon steps necessary for reinforcement and certain “refreshment” of the JS process the Secretariat of ISRBC met with the secretariats of DC and ICPDR, in October 2019 and in February 2020, respectively. A trilateral meeting of the commissions was held in Zagreb in March 2020, at which it was agreed that the joint proposal for the future Joint statement process would be presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> follow-up meeting, to be hosted by ISRBC on 16 and 17 September 2020 in Zagreb. One regional workshop on challenges and needs of the water and agriculture sectors was co-organized with ICPDR in February 2019.

Cooperation is being maintained with other navigation commissions (e.g. CCNR and Mosel Commission), and other river and lake protection commissions. ISRBC participated in the traditional meeting of heads of European river commissions in charge of water management in August 2019 in Koblenz (DE), and will host the meeting in August 2020.

Fruitful cooperation continued with the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO) with participation in the General Assembly of INBO in October 2019, at the invitation of the organizers. Cooperation with UNESCO has intensified through joint work in SHELTER project.

Cooperation with UNECE has also been continued. In addition to a regular participation of ISRBC in the framework of the UNECE working groups and other events, the two organizations have cooperated in the Drina Nexus follow-up project, as described in Chapter 4.3.

Cooperation with regional international organizations (UNDP, REC, GWP-Med, GWP-CEE), international financial institutions (e.g. WB), specialized organizations, associations and groups (WMO, GIS Forum), the business sector and non-governmental organizations (WWF, Euronatur, etc.) also continued. Finally, contacts have been maintained with the Diplomatic Corps in the Republic of Croatia.

Increased interest in the work of ISRBC has been expressed from many regions from all over the world. In April-May 2019 ISRBC hosted and presented its work and shared experiences with the representatives of water administration and key stakeholders from Azerbaijan and Georgia (Study tour for the Kura II project Key Stakeholders) and the Central Asian delegation (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan).



On a basin level, in addition to the institutions responsible for the implementation of FASRB, 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, tourism organizations, faculties and institutes dealing with natural and technical sciences, etc. Fruitful cooperation has been established with numerous other institutions which took part in preparation and implementation of various regional projects. Apart from the institutions of the Parties, good co-operation has been maintained with the relevant bodies of Montenegro.

Considering 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. A good example of stakeholder involvement from the very beginning of a project preparation is the newly established Stakeholder Forum for the navigation project "Jaruge-Novigrad", what is described in Chapter 2.1.

Consultation activities have been performed by organizing consultation workshops, public presentations and other meetings with stakeholders (listed in Annex III), as well as the consultations on the ISRBC website, in regard with different activities (e.g. development of the first Sava FRMP).

Active involvement of stakeholders is ensured, above all, for institutions / organizations with observer status in ISRBC, through their participation in meetings of the Parties, meetings of ISRBC and its expert groups. In FY2019, EuroNatur Foundation was granted by the observer status.

## 6.2. Involving young generation through Sava Youth Parliament

Particular attention is paid to involving the young generation in processes in the basin, primarily through the activities of the Youth Parliament of the Sava River Basin (Youth Parliament). The 8th Youth Parliament took place on 31 May and 1 June 2019 in the border region of Slovenia and Croatia along the Sutla River (Kumrovec, Vunarska and Kozjansko Regional Park). Participants were selected based on the best works on the topic "Let's cooperate for water". Teams of the students from the following schools were selected: Secondary school Ivan Goran Kovačić Kiseljak and Secondary technical school Gradiška (BA); Administration school Zagreb and School of Economics, Commerce and Hospitality Samobor (HR); Secondary school Partizan Pavle and Secondary school Crnjanski Belgrade (RS); Biotechnical Education Center - food school Ljubljana and Secondary school Maribor (SI).



Figure 12. Youth Parliament group photo and setting the high-watermark at Sotla/Sutla River

The aim of the gathering was to present and discuss the ideas of young people from the basin on methods how to harmonize different interests of water users at specific area, and to learn how young people would resolve potential conflicts between different stakeholders or groups at local, regional and transboundary level.

In parallel with the Youth Parliament the First international conference of professors of geography was held in Podsreda (SI). The representatives of the Youth Parliament and the conference participated at the joint ceremony of setting the high-water mark at the bridge on the Sotla/Sutla River between Slovenia and Croatia. The ceremony was also attended by Mr. Péter Kovács, the president of ICPDR, who also participated in the work of the parliament by presenting the work of ICPDR and stakeholder involvement in the Danube river basin level processes.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Sava Youth Parliament was sponsored by UNDP in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management - Republic Directorate for Waters of the Republic of Serbia.

More information is available at the web site of the [Sava Commission](#) and the [web site](#) and [Facebook](#) of the Sava Youth Parliament.

## **Annexes**

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

| <b>Name and surname</b>       | <b>Function</b>     | <b>Institution</b>   |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b> |                     |  |
| Igor Pejić                    | Member - Chairman   | Ministry of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina   |
| Boško Kenjić                  | Deputy Member       | Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina                                   |
| <b>Republic of Croatia</b>    |                     |  |
| Duška Kunštek                 | Member - Vice Chair | Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Croatia                                 |
| Elizabeta Kos                 | Deputy Member       | Ministry of Environment and Energy of the Republic of Croatia  |
| <b>Republic of Serbia</b>     |                     |  |
| Nataša Milić                  | Member              | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Serbia, Republic Water Directorate |
| Veljko Kovačević              | Deputy Member       | Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Serbia                             |
| <b>Republic of Slovenia</b>   |                     |  |
| Mitja Bricelj                 | Member              | Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning of the Republic of Slovenia                                    |
| Marko Sotlar                  | Deputy Member       | Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia  |

**Annex II. List of the national institutions responsible for implementation of the FASRB**

|                               | <b>Institution</b>  | <b>Contact details</b>  |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b> |   |   |
| 1.                            | Ministry of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina                    | Trg Bosne i Hercegovine 1,<br>71000 Sarajevo<br>Tel: +387 33 219 923  |
| 2.                            | Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina            | Musala 9,<br>71000 Sarajevo<br>Tel: +387 33 219 923                   |
| 3.                            | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Srpska      | Trg Republike Srpske 1,<br>78000 Banjaluka<br>Tel: + 387 51 338 415   |
| 4.                            | Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry                        | Marka Marulića 2,<br>71000 Sarajevo<br>Tel: +387 33 726 551           |
| 5.                            | Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Srpska                    | Trg Republike Srpske 1,<br>78000 Banjaluka<br>Tel: +387 51 339 404    |
| 6.                            | Federal Ministry of Transport and Communications                                      | Braće Fejića bb,<br>88000 Mostar<br>Tel: +387 36 550 025              |
| 7.                            | Ministry of Spatial Planning, Civil Engineering and Ecology of the Republic of Srpska | Trg Republike Srpske 1,<br>78000 Banjaluka<br>Tel: +387 51 339 487    |
| 8.                            | Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism   | Marka Marulića 2,<br>71000 Sarajevo<br>Tel: +387 33 726 700           |
| 9.                            | Government of the Brčko District  | Bulevar mira 1,<br>76100 Brčko<br>Tel: +387 49 240-600                |
| <b>Republic of Croatia</b>    |   |   |
| 1                             | Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Croatia          | Prisavlje 14,<br>10000 Zagreb<br>Tel: +385 1 6169 111                 |
| 2                             | Ministry of Environment and Energy of the Republic of Croatia                         | Radnička cesta 80,<br>10000 Zagreb<br>Tel: +385 1 3717 111            |
| <b>Republic of Serbia</b>     |   |   |
| 1.                            | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Serbia      | Bulevar umetnosti 2a<br>11070 Novi Beograd<br>Tel: +381 11 2013 360   |
| 2.                            | Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Serbia      | Nemanjina 22-26,<br>11000 Beograd<br>Tel: +381 11 3619 833            |
| 3.                            | Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia                                 | Kneza Miloša 24-26,<br>11000 Beograd<br>Tel: +381 11 3616 333         |
| 4.                            | Ministry of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Serbia                        | Omladinskih brigada 1,<br>11070 Novi Beograd<br>Tel: +381 11 3110 271 |

|                             | <b>Institution</b>  | <b>Contact details</b>  |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| 5.                          | Republic Hydro-meteorological Service of Serbia                             | Kneza Višeslava 66,<br>11000 Beograd<br>Tel: +381 11 3050 864         |
| 6.                          | Republic Geodetic Authority   | Bulevar vojvode Mišića 39,<br>11000 Beograd<br>Tel: +381 11 265 22 22 |
| <b>Republic of Slovenia</b> |   |   |
| 1                           | Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning of the Republic of Slovenia   | Dunajska cesta 47,<br>1000 Ljubljana<br>Tel: +386 1 478 70 00         |
| 2                           | Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia                     | Prešernova cesta 25,<br>1000 Ljubljana<br>Tel: +386 1 478 2000        |
| 3                           | Ministry of Economic Development and Technology of the Republic of Slovenia | Kotnikova 5, 1000 Ljubljana<br>Tel: +386 1 400 33 11                  |
| 4                           | Ministry of Infrastructure of the Republic of Slovenia                      | Langusova ulica 4,<br>1535 Ljubljana<br>Tel:+386 1 478 80 00          |

**Annex III. List of the events organized/co-organized by ISRBC in FY 2019**

| <b>Event</b>   | <b>Date</b>          | <b>Venue</b> | <b>Organizer</b>                   |
|--|----------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Study Tour of Key Stakeholders of the Kura II project                        | 7-13 April 2019      | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| Central Asian Delegation Study Visit   | 16 May 2019          | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| 1st Stakeholder Forum „Jaruge –Novi Grad“                                    | 22 May 2019          | Zagreb       | ISRBC/<br>Ministry of transport HR |
| 5th Meeting of the working group for the Sava FFWS post-project organization | 28 May 2019          | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| 8th Youth Parliament   | 31 May-1 June 2019   | Kumrovec     | ISRBC                              |
| 1st meeting of the Organizational Board of the 8th MoP                       | 6 June 2019          | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| Drina Nexus Follow-up Project Workshop                                       | 11-12 June 2019      | Zagreb       | ISRBC, UNECE                       |
| 39th PEG RBM meeting   | 18 June 2019         | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| Strategic Meeting of ISRBC   | 02 July 2019         | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| 10th Joint Statement follow up meeting                                       | 11-12 September 2019 | Budapest     | DC, ICPDR, ISRBC                   |
| 52nd Session of ISRBC  | 17-18 September 2019 | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| 40th PEG FP meeting  | 01 October 2019      | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| 1st Stakeholder Workshop of SHELTER project                                  | 02 October 2019      | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| 40th PEG RBM meeting   | 21-22 October 2019   | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| 8th Meeting of the Parties   | 24 October 2019      | Sarajevo     | ISRBC, B&H<br>Authorities          |
| 22nd PEG NAV Meeting   | 29-30 October 2019   | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| 4th meeting of the TTG   | 30 October 2019      | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| 2nd Stakeholder Forum - Jaruge –Novi Grad                                    | 12 November 2019     | Zagreb       | ISRBC/<br>Ministry of transport HR |
| 19th PEG GIS meeting   | 12-13 November 2019  | Belgrade     | ISRBC                              |
| 14th Meeting of Captains of Port Master                                      | 14-15 November 2019  | Sl. Brod     | ISRBC/<br>Ministry of transport HR |
| Round table on the need for development of Protocol on Transboundary impacts | 03 December 2019     | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| AEWS training  | 06 December 2019     | Zagreb       | ISRBC, ICPDR                       |
| 13th Ad hoc FIN EG meeting   | 9 December 2019      | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| 16th PEG HMI meeting   | 22 January 2020      | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| Sava HEC-HMS model calibration   | 23 January 2020      | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| 41st PEG RBM meeting   | 29-30 January 2020   | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| 41st PEG FP meeting  | 11-12 February 2020  | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| 53rd Session of ISRBC  | 25-26 February 2020  | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |
| ISRBC-DC-ICPDR secretariats joint meeting                                    | 10 March 2020        | Zagreb       | ISRBC                              |



## Annex IV. List of the FASRB-related projects implemented or ongoing in FY 2019

| No | Project title  | Status   | Remark on the status / Implementation period   | Lead partner(s) / Consultant   | Budget (k€)   | Funding source  |   |
|----|--|--|--|--|---|-----------------|---|
| 1  | Towards practical guidance for sustainable sediment management using the Sava River Basin as a showcase  | Ongoing  | Started in April 2012;<br>Step 1: SSM course-Part 1- finished<br>Step 2: guidance application- under implementation;<br>Step 3: SSM course-Part 2- fund-raising in progress<br>Step 4: continuation of guidance application- not started yet<br>Step 5: Final workshop- planned after finalization of previous steps | UNESCO, ISRBC  | 225.0   | UNESCO, Sed-Net |   |
| 2  | Assessing the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus and benefits of transboundary water cooperation in the Drina River Basin - follow up                                | Ongoing  | 2019-2020  | UNECE  | N/A   | Italian Gov.    |   |
| 3  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> phase of the U.S. Government support to flood modelling activities in the Sava River Basin (including Sava LiDAR project & purchase of IT equipment) | Implemented  | Started in Dec 2014;<br>Hydrological model, Hydraulic model, LiDAR data, IT equipment delivered to the Parties   | USACE, ISRBC   | N/A   | U.S. Gov.       |   |
| 4  | Improvement of joint flood management actions in the Sava River Basin  | Preparation of the Flood Risk Management Plan for the Sava River Basin - Sava FRMP           | Implemented  | Started in March 2017;<br>Final draft of the Sava FRMP prepared, adopted as the official proposal of ISRBC;<br>Sava FRMP approved at the 8 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties, while Montenegro approved the Plan earlier;<br>The Sava GIS FRMP database implemented along with the technical and user documentation;<br>Printing of Sava FRMP in all official languages of the Parties, English and Montenegrin finalized;<br>Dissemination of the Sava FRMP ongoing. | EPTISA Servicios de Ingenieria S.L, ES                      | Est.<br>2,000.0 | Western Balkans Investment Framework, implemented by World Bank |
|    |  | Development of the Flood Forecasting and Warning System for the Sava River Basin - Sava FFWS | Implemented  | Started in June 2016;<br>3 pre-releases, Release 1.0 including testing and Release 2.0 implemented and handed over to the Parties and Montenegro along with the technical and user documentation; Sava HIS upgrade implemented; Workshops and User trainings conducted;  | Deltares, NL; Royal Haskoning DHV, NL; Eptisa, ES; HEIS, BA |                 |   |

| No | Project title  | Status  | Remark on the status / Implementation period   | Lead partner(s) / Consultant  | Budget (k€)          | Funding source   |
|----|--|---------|--|---|----------------------|------------------|
|    |  |         | MoU on cooperation on regular functioning and maintenance of the Sava FFWS has been developed. Signing of the MoU is expected.   |   |                      |                  |
| 5  | Sustainable Historic Environments hoListic reconstruction through Technological Enhancement and community based Resilience - SHELTER | Ongoing | Started in June 2019;<br>Implementation period 4 years;<br>Kick off meeting held on June 13-14, 2019;<br>First stakeholder workshop related to the Sava case study (open lab) held on October 02, 2019;<br>ISRBC was involved in development of several project deliverables so far (e.g. the Open labs management plan, the Dissemination and communication plan, the Data management plan, the Ethics requirements documents in accordance with the EU GDPR.   | Tecnalía (ES)/<br>ISRBC is a Project Partner                                  | 5,999<br>(ISRBC 209) | EU funds (H2020) |
| 6  | Rehabilitation of the Sava River Waterway on the Sector Jaruge - Novi Grad   | Ongoing | Contract for preparation of the design documentation and EIA signed on 20 Dec 2018.<br>Kick off meeting held on 04 Feb 2019.<br>Based on the Decision 2/19 and Decision 7/19, ISRBC established Stakeholders Forum for development of Environmental Impact Assessment Study and Design for the Action: Improvement of the navigation conditions on the Sava River from rkm 300 to rkm 329 (SF). The Members of the SF are members of the Committee for rehabilitation of navigation and representatives from the non-governmental, civil society and professional organizations and regional and local administration from the territory of the project execution from Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Croatia identified on the basis of the publicly announced Call for expression of interest for the membership in the SF.<br>First Meeting of the SF was held on May 22, 2019. All present members of the SF supported the establishment of the SF and they are of the opinion that this is an improvement in the practice of carrying | IGH d.o.o., Zagreb<br>Hidrokonzalt d.o.o Zagreb<br>Elektroprojekt d.d. Zagreb | 648,8                | EC (CEF HR)      |

| No | Project title                           | Status  | Remark on the status / Implementation period   | Lead partner(s) / Consultant | Budget (k€) | Funding source |
|----|---|---------|--|------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
|    |   |         | out projects in the field of inland navigation and that similar practices should continue in all future projects.<br>Second Meeting of the SF was held on November 12, 2019. |                              |             |                |
| 7  | Implementation of RIS on the Sava river | 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)    |
|    |   |         |  |                              | 240.0       | HR             |
|    |   |         | In B&H, fund-raising in progress   |                              |             |                |

### Annex V. List of the FASRB-related project proposals prepared in FY 2019

| No | Project title   | Duration (years) | Budget (k€) | Possible funding source                        | Lead partner/ role of ISRBC   | Status   |
|----|---|------------------|-------------|--|---|--|
| 1  | Development of technical basis for international river basin management planning in the Sava River Basin: An innovative filling of gaps in transboundary water management | 2.5              | 2,335       | EEA and Norway Grants Fund                     | Environmental institute (SK)/ ISRBC is Expertise Partner                          | Project proposal prepared and submitted to the 1 <sup>st</sup> call for proposals of EEA and Norway Grants Fund (deadline 01 July 2018).<br>It passed the 1 <sup>st</sup> stage of evaluation.<br>Full proposal submitted before deadline- 04 of July 2019 |
| 2  | Efficient, innovative and regionally harmonized national flood warning procedures in the Sava River Basin - SAVA WAPROC   | 3                | ~ 2,220     | EEA and Norway Grants Fund<br>EU funds<br>WBIF | Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning (SI)/ ISRBC is Expertise Partner | Project application prepared and submitted to EEA and Norway Grants Fund.<br>Not selected for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> stage.   |
| 3  | Inter-sectoral approach with hydropower and navigation sectors for operative flood prevention measures in Sava River Basin - INAS   | 2,5              | 1,400       | EU funds (e.g. DTP)                            | Institute for Water of the Republic of Slovenia/ ISRBC is a Project Partner       | Project application submitted to the 3 <sup>rd</sup> DTP call in March 2019  |
| 4  | Water contingency management plan for the Sava River Basin - WACOM  | 2.5              | ~1,700      | EU funds (e.g. DTP), GEF                       | University of Ljubljana/ ISRBC is a Project Partner                               | Project application submitted to the 3 <sup>rd</sup> DTP call in March 2019  |
| 5  | Danube Ecotour innovation   | 2.5              | ~ 1,200     | EEA and Norway Grants Fund                     | Ferto-Hansag National Park Directorate (HU)/ ISRBC is Expertise Partner           | Project application prepared and submitted to EEA and Norway Grants Fund.<br>Not selected for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> stage  |
| 6  | Danube EcoTOURism   | 2.5              | ~ 2,000     | EU funds (e.g. DTP)                            | European Wilderness Society (AT)/ ISRBC is a Project Partner                      | Project proposal submitted to the 3 <sup>rd</sup> DTP call in March 2019.  |
| 7  | Balkan Bike: Sava cycling trail in the heart of the Balkans   |                  | ~ 2,000     | EU funds (e.g. DTP)                            | Regional Development Agency Posavje (SI)/ ISRBC is Associated Project Partner     | Project proposal submitted to the 3 <sup>rd</sup> DTP call in March 2019.  |

## Annex VI. Acronyms & Abbreviations

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| AEWS                | Accident Emergency Warning System   |
| AMI                 | Area of mutual interest (for flood protection)                                |
| APC                 | Accident Prevention and Control   |
| ARSO                | Slovenian Environment Agency  |
| BA, B&H             | Bosnia and Herzegovina  |
| CCNR                | Central Commission for Navigation of the Rhine                                |
| CESNI               | European Committee for drawing up standards in the field of inland navigation |
| CEVNI               | European Code for Inland Waterways  |
| DC                  | Danube Commission   |
| DHMZ                | Croatian Meteorological and Hydrological Service                              |
| DTP                 | Danube Transnational Programme  |
| EC                  | European Commission   |
| EEA                 | European Economic Area  |
| EG                  | Expert Group  |
| Espoo<br>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                                   |
| FEWS                | Flood Early Warning System  |
| FFWS                | Flood Forecasting and Warning System  |
| FHMZ                | Federal Hydrometeorological Service   |
| FIN                 | Financial (issues)  |
| FP                  | Flood Prevention  |
| FRM                 | Flood Risk Management   |
| FY                  | Financial Year  |
| GEF                 | Global Environment Facility   |
| GIS                 | Geographic Information System   |
| GWP CEE             | Regional Partnership of GWP for Central and Eastern Europe                    |
| GWP-Med             | Mediterranean Regional Partnership of GWP                                     |
| HEC-HMS             | Hydrologic Engineering Center's Hydrologic Modeling System                    |
| HIS                 | Hydrological Information System   |
| HM(I)               | Hydrological and Meteorological (issues)                                      |
| HR                  | Republic of Croatia   |

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| ICPDR     | International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River  |
| INBO      | International Network of Basin Organizations   |
| ISRBC     | International Sava River Basin Commission  |
| JPA SRB   | Joint Plan of Actions for the Sava River Basin   |
| LiDAR     | Light Detection and Ranging  |
| ME        | Montenegro   |
| NAV       | Navigation   |
| NGO       | Non-Governmental Organization  |
| NHMS      | National Hydro-Meteorological Service  |
| PEG       | Permanent Expert Group   |
| PIAC      | Principal International Alert Centre   |
| RBM (P)   | River Basin Management (Plan)  |
| RCC       | Regional Cooperation Council   |
| REC       | Regional Environmental Center  |
| RIS       | River Information Service  |
| RS        | Republic of Serbia   |
| SDIP      | Sava and Drina Rivers Corridors Integrated Development Program   |
| SHELTER   | Sustainable Historic Environments hoListic reconstruction through Technological Enhancement and community based Resilience |
| SI        | Republic of Slovenia   |
| SRBA      | Sava River Basin Analysis  |
| SWMI      | Significant Water Management Issues  |
| UNDP      | United Nation Development Programme  |
| UNECE     | United Nations Economic Commission for Europe  |
| UNESCO    | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization   |
| USACE     | United States Army Corps of Engineers  |
| U.S. Gov. | Government of the United States of America   |
| WACOM     | Water Contingency Management in the Sava River Basin   |
| WB        | World Bank   |
| WBIF      | Western Balkans Investment Framework   |
| WFD       | Water Framework Directive  |
| WMO       | World Meteorological Organization  |
| WWF       | World Wide Fund for Nature   |