SEE River: Towards Contemporary River Corridor Management

Bruno Mazzorana
Mateja Softić
Alexander Zinke
Aleš Bizjak
on behalf of the SEE River Partnership

Photos by:
SEE River team,
D. Lesar,
SOS/BirdLife Slovakia,
AKL/S.Tichy,
W. Petutschnig
Towards Contemporary River Corridor Management in South Eastern Europe:

Multitude of Interests: development desires and contradictions of the different sectors

- Hydropower
- Irrigation
- Water Supply
- Water Quality
- Nature conservation
- Resource Extraction
- Flood Protection

Need for integrative, cross-sectoral and transboundary cooperation
Towards Contemporary River Corridor Management in South Eastern Europe: Emerging Requirements

The Multitude of Interests and Power Structures and Asymmetries

1. The Legal and Policy Landscape: Interpretation Complexity
2. The spatial scale for effective river management: The River Corridor
3. Various Scientific Perspectives with partial overlaps, gaps in knowledge, sustainability
4. Emergence of Robust River Visions and Key Innovation Instruments
5. Towards Contemporary River Corridor Management
Towards Contemporary River Corridor Management In South Eastern Europe: Emerging Requirements

The Legal and Policy Landscape: Interpretation Complexity

- Water Framework Directive - 2000/60/EC
- Floods Directive - 2007/60/EC
- Birds and Habitats Directives - 2009/147/EC & 92/43/EEC
- Green Infrastructure – COM (2013) 249 final
- Water Blueprint - COM (2012) 673 final
- National Laws, Regional Laws, Administrative Procedures, different Guidelines and Recommendations

Implementation Bottleneck

Capacity gaps in:
- Power sharing; Cross Sectoral Cooperation;
- Integrated Thinking and Planning; Stakeholder Engagement, Effective Communication and Culture
Towards Contemporary River Corridor Management In South Eastern Europe: Emerging Requirements

Various scientific perspectives with partial overlaps and disciplinary intersections

Examples:
The HYDRO-GEOMORPHIC PERSPECTIVE
The RIVER-ECOSYSTEM HEALTH PERSPECTIVE
The RISK MANAGEMENT PERSPECTIVE
The SOCIO-ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE
The QUALITY OF LIFE PERSPECTIVE

All Photos by: http://www.see-river.net

Photos by: SEE River team, D. Lesar, SOS/BirdLife Slovakia, AKL/S.Tichy, W. Petutschnig
Towards Contemporary River Corridor Management In South Eastern Europe:
CSC — CROSS SECTORAL COOPERATION

Key Innovation Instruments identified in the EU — Water Blueprint

GI — Green Infrastructure

NWRM — Natural Water Retention Measures

CSC — Cross-Sectoral Cooperation

The emergence of robust river visions

THE DRAVA RIVER VISION DECLARATION

Signed in Maribor in 2008 by the representatives of the 5 DRAVA RIVER countries

10 guiding principles to align river management activities on the Drava from the local to the transboundary level

Photos by: SEE River team, D. Lesar, SOS/BirdLife Slovakia, AKL/S. Tichy, W. Petutschnig
Towards Contemporary River Corridor Management: 
Emerging Requirements

The spatial scale for effective river management:

The River Corridor

The holistic approach:

Contemporary River Corridor Management - CRCM

Photos by: SEE River team, D. Lesar, SOS/BirdLife Slovakia, AKL/S.Tichy, W. Petutschnig
Towards Contemporary River Corridor Management: The River Corridor - WORKING DEFINITION

The RC:

- is an area along both river banks where fluvial processes took or take place.

- its outer boundaries are defined by hydrological, morphological, phytocoenological, pedological and/or ecological phenomena.

- it must be managed in a sustainable manner.

- in the SEE River project, it is seen as the main area of human interest and impact along a river.
The Contemporary River Corridor Management in SEE - CRCM: The basic Ingredients

CONTEMPORARY RIVER CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT (CRCM) SCHEME

Stakeholder involvement as a principle of work

Knowledge and experience Sharing

Capacity building and Dissemination (→ PROACTIVE MINDSET)
Practical application experiences in SEE pilot rivers: Pioneers at work towards contemporary rivers

THE SEE RIVER PARTNERSHIP
Practical application experiences in SEE pilot rivers: Pioneers at work towards contemporary rivers

SEE River Project Landmarks:

- Initiation of the SEE River project
- Setting project aims and objectives
- Establishing the partnership network
- Selecting six transboundary rivers
- Fostering Cross-sectoral Cooperation
- Planning and implementing top-down and bottom-up approaches
Practical application experiences in SEE pilot rivers: Pioneers at work in 5 Pilot River Corridors along the Drava

HUNGARY

CROATIA

SLOVENIA

AUSTRIA

ITALY

Photos by: SEE River team, D. Lesar, SOS/BirdLife Slovakia, AKL/S. Tichy, W. Petutschnig
Practical application experiences on the SEE Pilot Rivers: Main Highlights and Results

HIGHLIGHTS:

Drava in Hungary:

JOINT INTEREST IN RIVER CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT

Drava in Croatia:

FIRST SPATIAL PLAN OF A DRAVA COUNTY – A NEW MODEL FOR CROATIA

Drava in Slovenia:

SECTORAL INTERESTS ALIGNED IN ONE DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT

Drava in Austria:

CONSENSUS ON CONTINUED INTEGRATED RIVER CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION OF EFFECTS

Drava in Italy:

CONSENSUS ON OPTIMIZATION OF PLANNED LOCAL INTEGRAL FLOOD RISK MITIGATION
SEE River TOOLKIT: Being equipped for Action-Learning in the River Corridor

The proposed workflow: key phases, key actors, levels of engagement

Roadmap for facilitating cross-sectoral management of river corridors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preparing</th>
<th>Understanding the state of play</th>
<th>Articulating guiding view and common vision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core team</td>
<td>Reps of key sectors and admin levels</td>
<td>Stakeholder workshops participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steering Developing Drafting</td>
<td>Regular consultations</td>
<td>Consensus building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organise team Define river corridor Set goals (internal vision) Identify and analyse stakeholders</td>
<td>Cross-sectoral analysis Interests, needs, Development pressures and conflicts</td>
<td>Detailed understanding of sectors' views</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vision interests, needs, Opportunities Proposed solutions</td>
<td>Workshop promotion and dissemination of results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Disseminating, gaining feedback for finalisation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wider community
Informing, awareness raising
Announce process Inform about aims, benefits, outputs
SEE River TOOLKIT: Being equipped for Action-Learning in the River Corridor

The proposed workflow: key phases, key actors, levels of engagement

Preparation and agreeing solutions:
- Prepare possible solutions (measures)
- Consult on solutions

Action planning and sustainability:
- Discuss solutions, prioritisation, Action Planning and engagement
- Workshop promotion and dissemination of results
- Prepare Draft Planning document with action plan
- Engage cross-sectoral stakeholders to commit to agreed actions
- Further development of actions
- Final planning document
- Presentation to all stakeholders and general public

Integration into policies and daily work of all levels and sectors
- Implementation, monitoring, evaluation, revision
SEE River TOOLKIT:
Being equipped for Action-Learning in the River Corridor

"Concerned Society" in conjunction with the "Representative Steering Panel"

Opinion polls
Choice Experiments
CV Experiments

Laws / Regulations
Procedures
Resources
Audits / Expert Elicitations
Assessments / Scenario based analyses
Modeling

Collaborative Expert Panel – Planning Team

Desiderata
Objective setting and weighing, Preference structures, WTP, WTA, Risk acceptance, Disturbance tolerance

Constraints
Budget Restrictions, Conjunctive and disjunctive Restrictions, modus operandi and mode of allocation restrictions

Developmental possibility
RC evolution trajectories, Ecosystem resilience, Natural Hazard Risk, "Objective" Developmental trends and opportunities

Decision Space – Dimensions for Decisions

"Anticipated" River Corridor Creation

Problem Solving in the Prototype Space

"Anticipated" Feedback

ROBUST MODELING

with respect to all key objectives

ROBUST MONITORING

Problem Solving in the real River Corridor

"Material" River Corridor Creation

"Real World" Feedback

SEE River TOOLKIT: Being equipped for Action-Learning in the River Corridor

-Learning in the River Corridor
Practical application experiences in SEE pilot rivers: Pioneers at work
Dipping into the process on International Rivers Pilot Corridors

Photos by: SEE River team, D. Lesar, SOS/BirdLife Slovakia, AKL/S. Tichy, W. Petutschnig
HIGHLIGHTS:

BODROG River pilot corridor:
BRIDGING GAPS AMONG SECTORAL INTERESTS IN CROSS-BORDER CORRIDOR

NERETVA River pilot corridor:
FIRST COMMON VISION AND SOLUTIONS FOR THE TRANSNATIONAL RIVER CORRIDOR

PRUT River pilot corridor:
INCREASED INTEREST OF STAKEHOLDERS FROM RIPARIAN COUNTRIES

Soča River pilot corridor:
ESTABLISHMENT OF A FORMAL STAKEHOLDER COOPERATION BODY

VJOSA River pilot corridor:
REALISED COMMITMENT FOR BILATERAL INTEGRATED RIVER MANAGEMENT
THE SEE River Project: An Overview in Numbers

DURATION: 01/10/2012 – 30/11/2014 –
BUDGET: 2,107,354.30 Euro

6 Rivers
14 Languages
16 Countries
26 Project Partners

5 International Workshops
8 Study Visits
96 Project team members

10 Capacity Building Seminars
12 Action Plans

34 National and Local Workshops
687 Stakeholders involved

6 Newsletters
210 Facebook Followers

1489 Newsletter Subscribers
20800 Web Visitors

782452 Individuals reached

1 Wedding
5 New Dances
8 Newborns
317 Litres of Coffee

511 Selfies
∞ Friendships

Photos by: SEE River team, D. Lesar, SOS/BirdLife Slovakia, AKL/S.Tichy, W. Petutschnig
In particular and not exclusively!

Plenary Session 02: Plenary Interactive Session See River Project: Drava River Case on Contemporary River Corridor Management

Session 04: Converting Policy into Action: From Community Engagement to Stakeholder Commitment

Session 09: Cooperative Transboundary River Restoration Management
Spreading the seeds and looking ahead

EQUIPPED WITH:

10 STAKEHOLDER AGREEMENTS (5 for the Drava Pilot Areas, 5 for the International River Corridors)

10 ACTION PLANS

10 Capacity Building Seminars to transfer knowledge to other river corridor management processes

Established cross-sectoral transboundary stakeholder networks for future cooperation in managing five SEE Rivers

Several project ideas for the future
Why to apply Contemporary River Corridor Management?

1. Integrative management is contemporary and reflects the EU policy.
2. It bridges gaps between conservation requirements and development interests.
3. Upfront awareness and involvement reduces complex handling of valid critique and objections at a late stage.
4. It increases the management quality and reduces the risk of failure in preparing and implementing projects.
5. It increases the support by affected stakeholders and the wider public.
6. It improves transboundary coordination and cooperation at all levels.
7. It increases fairness in and transparency of responsible decision-making.
8. Overall, in a comprehensive assessment, it can save costs.
THANKS

Hand in Hand for Rivers

Photos by: SEE River team, D. Lesar, SOS/BirdLife Slovakia, AKL/S. Tichy, W. Petutschnig