

# **Transboundary Cooperation as a Basis of Integrated Water Resources Management in the Sava River Basin**

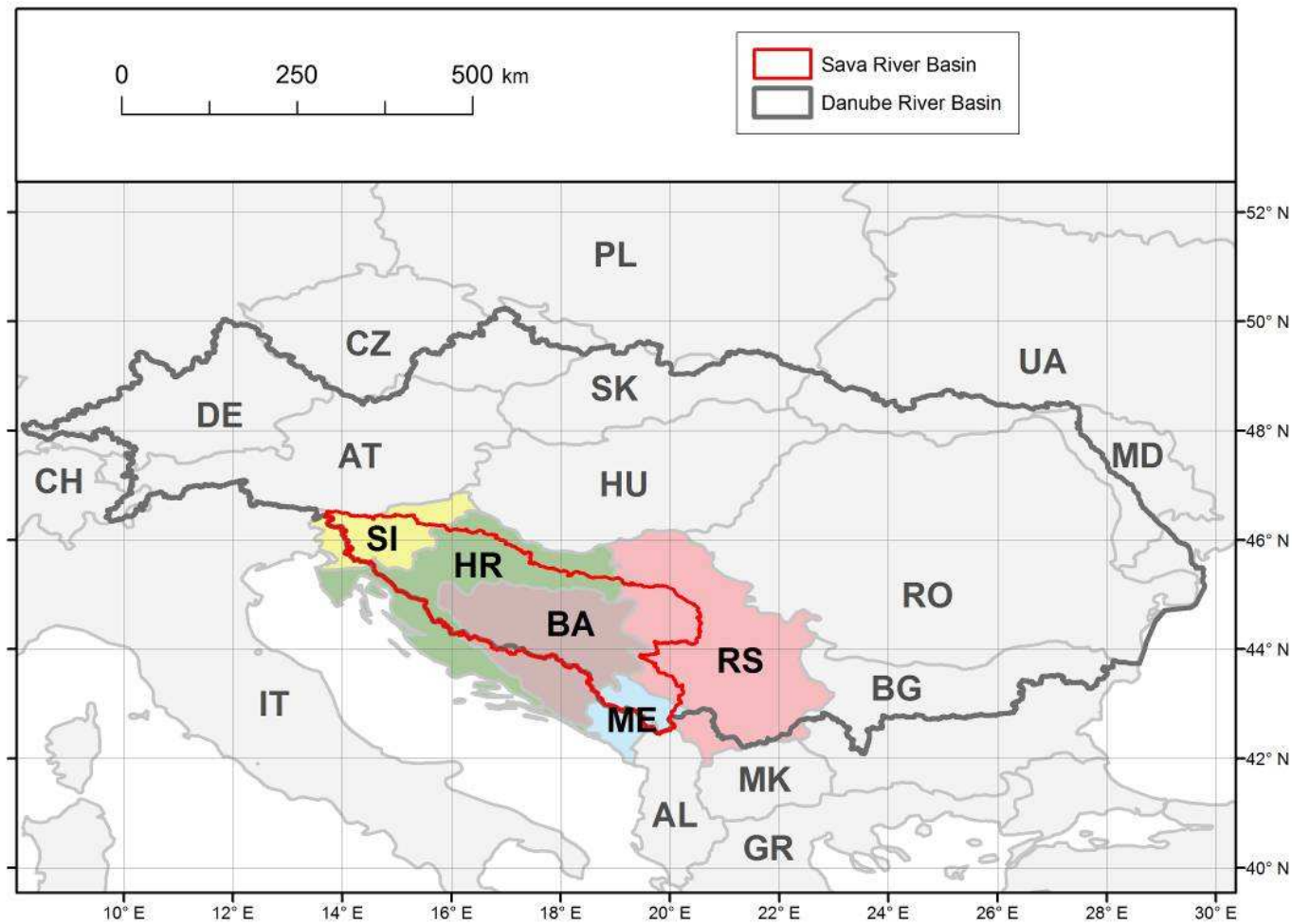
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Chairman of the ISRBC

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# Sava river basin



# Sava river basin

- **Area:** 97 713 km<sup>2</sup> (the second largest Danube sub-basin; share: 12%)
- **Average flow** at the mouth: 1722 m<sup>3</sup>/s  
(the largest Danube tributary; contribution: 25%)
- **River length:** 940 km (594 km of which is the waterway)
- **Population:** approx. 9 million

Country	Share of the basin (%)	Share of the territory (%)
Albania	0.2	0.6
Bosnia & Herzegovina	39.2	75.8
Croatia	26.0	45.2
Montenegro	7.1	49.6
Serbia	15.5	17.4
Slovenia	12.0	52.8

# Sustainability and development

- **Sustainability**
  - Water and ecosystem protection
  - Protection against floods, droughts and accidental water pollution
- **Development**
  - Navigation
  - River tourism
  - Other water uses (e.g. hydropower)
- **Broadest scope of work** among int'l basin organizations in Europe





# Outcomes of cooperation

- **Joint / integrated plans** for the basin
- **Integrated systems** for the basin
- Development of water-related **economic activities**
- Harmonized **regulation** (national → EU)
- **Protocols** to the FASRB



# Integration of sectors

Activity / Field of work	E	F	N	H	A	T	C
River Basin Management Plan (EU WFD)	+	+	+	+	+		+
Water and Climate Adaptation Plan		+	+	+	+		+
Integrated Information System (INSPIRE Dir.)	+	+	+	+	+		
Navigation	+		+	+		+	
Tourism	+	+	+	+		+	

E – Environ. protection  
F – Flood management

N – Navigation  
H – Hydropower  
A – Agriculture

T – Tourism  
C – Climate change

# Integration of sectors

- **Navigation development**

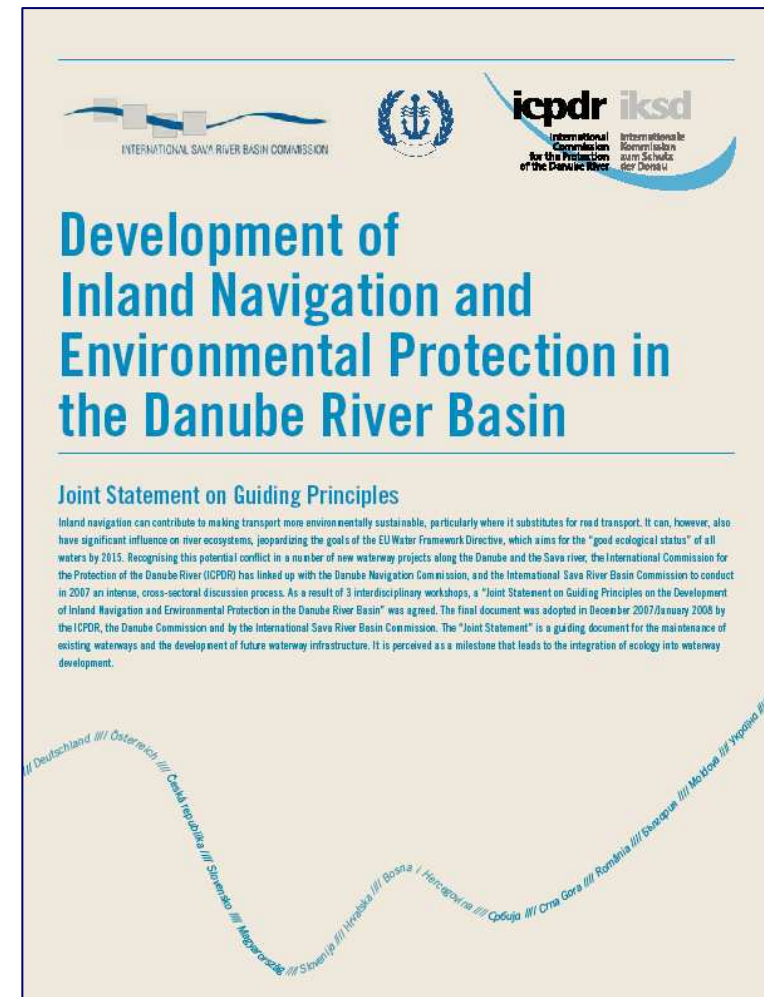
- Addressed in the **basin plans** (water, climate, sediment)
- **Sustainable solutions** (administrative, legal and technical)
  - Improvement of technical standards and safety of navigation (harmonization with the EU standards)
  - Lower waterway class than economically feasible
  - Minimum changes of the existing river course (one-way navigation in sharp bends)





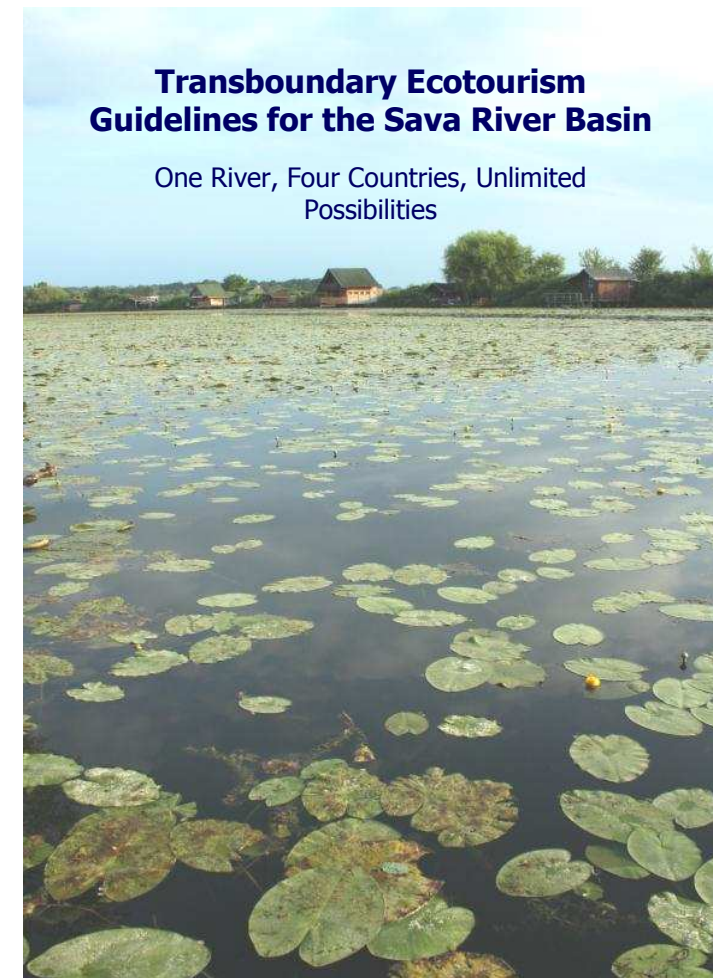
# Integration of sectors

- **Navigation development**
  - **Integrated approach** to planning
    - Platform for stakeholder dialogue
    - Committee for monitoring and coordination of project implementation
    - Water, environment and transport sectors involved
    - Governmental, non-governmental, academic and business sectors involved
  - Combination of **'top-down'** and **'bottom-up'** approaches



# Integration of sectors

- **Sustainable river tourism**
  - Integration of sustainability and development



# Integration of sectors

- **Sustainable river tourism**
  - “Bottom-up” approach
  - ISRBC recognized as a good platform for coordination of further activities



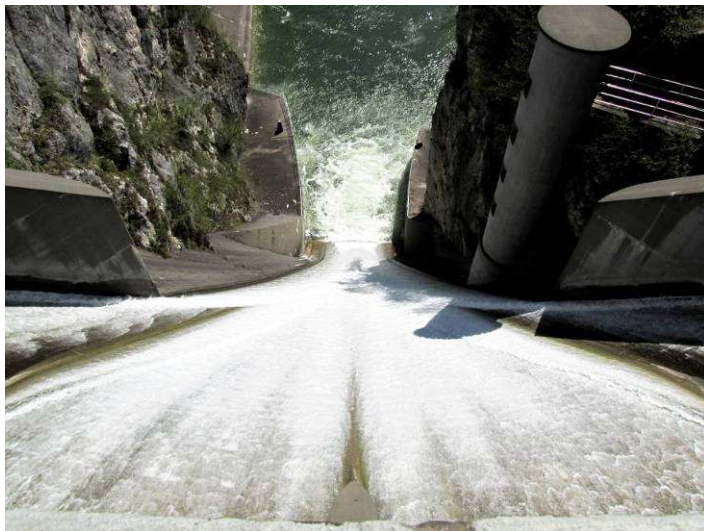
The 6th European River Restoration Conference, Vienna, 27-29 Oct 2014



# Integration of sectors

- **Hydropower and agriculture**

- So far addressed in:
  - **Sava RBM Plan** (partly)
  - **Water and Climate Adaptation Plan**
- Involvement in the **processes on the Danube level** (ICPDR)



# Integration of sectors

- **Further activities** on the integration of sectors (water, navigation, tourism, energy, agriculture, environment, spatial development)
  - **Sava Nexus Assessment** (UNECE)
  - **Danube Water Nexus** (EC JRC)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle of **RBM planning**



# Flood management – needs

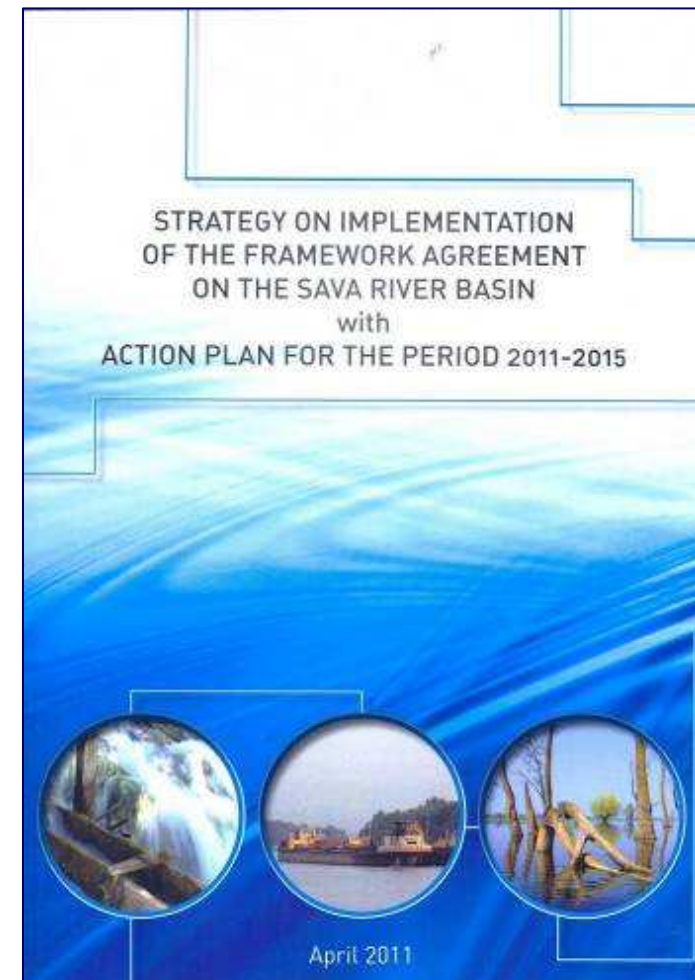
- Preparation of **Sava FRM Plan** and development of **Flood Forecasting and Warning System** – Phase 1
  - **2.9 M€** proposal submitted to WBIF, **2 M€** approved
  - **0.9 M€** needed
- Completion of **Flood Forecasting and Warning System**
  - **Capacity building** of national institutions
  - **Purchase of equipment** for national institutions
  - Additional **10 M€** needed





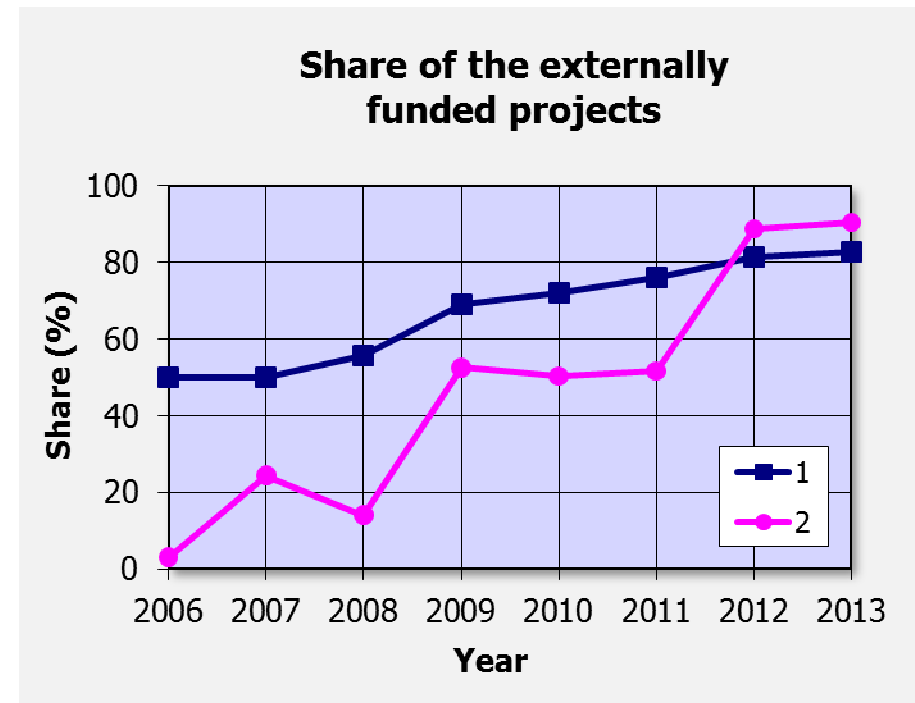
# Projects

- Majority of activities performed through **implementation of projects**
- **All projects**
  - Agreed by the **four countries** (Strategy, Action Plan)
  - **Aligned** with EU directives / strategies
    - WFD, Directives on habitat, birds, floods, INSPIRE, RIS
    - Danube Strategy, Strategy EU 2020
  - **Complementary** with the processes on the Danube level



# Projects

- **Total number of projects:** 30  
(implemented or ongoing)
- **Total budget:** 24 M€
- **Share of external funding:**  
87% (20.8 M€)



- 1 – Share in terms of the **number** of the projects  
2 – Share in terms of the **budget** of the projects

# Commitment of the countries

- Sessions of the ISRBC
- Meetings of the Parties (ministerial)
- Other high-level meetings



The 6th European River Restoration Conference, Vienna, 27-29 Oct 2014



# Conclusions

- **ISRBC approach** to transboundary cooperation
  - Whole basin covered
  - Sustainability and development
  - Outcomes of cooperation
  - Integration of sectors
  - Implementation of projects
- **Transboundary cooperation** in the framework of ISRBC provides a **good basis for integrated water resources management** in the Sava river basin

# Contact information

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