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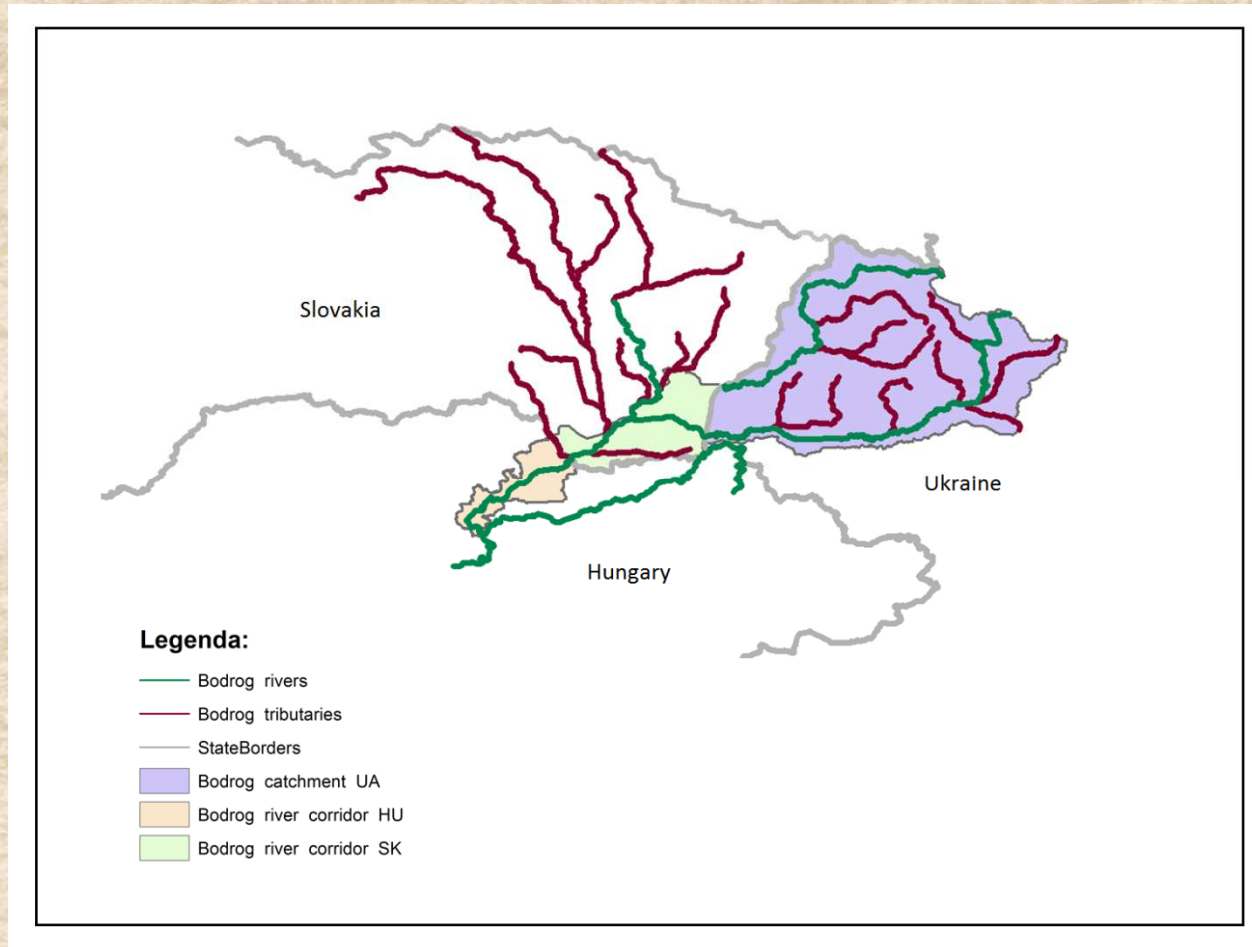
River restoration practices and the institutional capacity building aspects of Bodrog river corridor management

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The SEE River project & Bodrog pilot river approach:

- **river corridor concept**
- **stakeholder involvement**
- **both cross-sectoral and at different levels (local/regional/national)**
- **integration of water management + nature conservation + regional development, pilot areas and pilot rivers, trans-boundary cooperation**

The Bodrog river corridor in general



Common issues and goals

- **promoting regional development,**
- **improvement of water management and conservation practices at local/regional level, trans-national cooperation for common river corridor management goals,**
- **sustainability of activities after the project, etc.)**

The Bodrog procedure

- **National level workshops involving stakeholders**
- **discussion of potential common goals by Bodrog partners**
- **trans-national Bodrog workshop with stakeholders and project partners**
- **Bodrog Vision, Action plan**

Slovakia – specific problems, solutions, and achievements

Problems:

- Intensive agriculture production
- Erosion and increased vulnerability of area to floods
- Property rights changes
- Harmful subsidies to farmers applied

Solutions:

- Intersectoral approach, synergy among supporting schemes
- Sanitation of small municipalities
- Making space for water
- Drainage systems, flood protection and wetland restoration
- Support for Local Action Groups

Achievements:

- Local and trans-border partnership established
- Several projects executed: local projects, “Making space for waters” in Laborec-Uh
- Several project proposals prepared

Hungary – specific problems , solutions, and achievements

Specific problems, solutions

- Maintenance and upgrading of the existing flood defense system
- Elimination of the transboundary influx of floating litter
- Precedence of nature conservation regulations over economic development projects
- Development of cooperation among Bodrog countries (SK, UA, HU)in the filed of river management, nature conservation, tourism, cultural exchange
- Rehabilitation of ecosystems in the river and on the river corridor (incl. revitalization of oxbows)
- Improvement of nature friendly tourism infrastructure (bicycle path along the river, harbors and camp sites for boaters)
- Strengthening of the environmental education, environmental awareness raising in connection with the Bodrog
- Improvement of the communication between the two riverbanks (by bridge or ferry)
- Complex development program for tourism along the Bodrog
- Promoting nature friendly agricultural activities on the floodplain (grazing, bio products, etc.) instead of intensive production

Achievements

- Broad consensus of main stakeholders concerning necessary measures
- Prioritization of possible measures

Ukraine – specific problems , solutions, and achievements

Problems

- Insufficient communal waste management
- Absence of centralised wastewater treatment
- Bad quality of drinking water
- Inundation of settlements
- Dominance of invasive species (*Heracléum sosnówskyi*, *Reynoutria sachalinensis*)
- Low income of the people

Solutions

- Waste water management - institutional (waste tariffs establishment) and technical support (waste management infrastructure – containers, trucks, landfills)
- Joint small scale flood protection measures as the ones which were implemented in Baranintsy
- Low cost wastewater treatment solutions + tools for additional treatment of priority pollutants found already (cadmium)
- Joint project on green tourism opportunities in the basin (including new routes)

Achievements

- Highlighting again at international level of need of communal waste management infrastructure – synergy: Coca-Cola beverages Ukraine supplied containers for separate waste collection for Baranintsi village
- Feasibility study of the drinking water preparation (following Drinking Water directive requirements) is implemented in Kvasovo village: opening of drinking water source.

The Bodrog Vision and Action Plan

Proposed and agreed: 8 strategic targets
And 17 areas of measures

Covering:

- Tourism
- Flood Protect and Prevention
- Transport
- Water quality
- Nature Protection and Conservation
- Environment protection
- Green Economy

Lessons learned

- the relevant stakeholders are interested in solving inter – sectorial problems, national – local approaches
- EU, national and other financial support schemes are very complex, the consultation is necessary. The project can facilitate effectively these consultations.
- Participants at the National and International Workshops were very active. It seems that the project is interesting for them because of inter – sectorial approach and proper timing (after ending of current EU financial period and before starting of new 2014 – 2020 period)

Thank you for your attention