



Terms of Reference (ToR) for a Short-Term assignment

Technical assistance requested	Expert for climate change mitigation and adaptation
Project Title	Outline of the Climate Adaptation Strategy and basin-wide priority measures for the Sava River Basin
Main Beneficiary	International Sava River Basin Commission
Target Beneficiary	Parties to the Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin (BA, HR, RS and SI) and ME
Content of assignment	Support to the development of the outline of the Climate Adaptation Strategy and basin-wide priority measures basin-wide for the Sava River Basin from the national perspective (Slovenia/Croatia/Bosnia and Herzegovina/Serbia/Montenegro)
Expert Category	Senior Expert
Duration of assignment	June- October 2017

1. Background information

The four riparian countries of the Sava River Basin (Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia) ratified the Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin (FASRB) as a unique international agreement which integrated many aspects of water resources management and established the International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC) for its implementation of the FASRB.

According to the FASRB, Article 12, “The Parties agree to develop the joint and/or integrated Plan on the management of the water resources of the Sava River Basin and to cooperate on its preparatory activities”. In the last 10 years the Parties have cooperated in development of many plans and programmes covering navigation, water management, flood protection etc.

Regarding the climate change and following the implementation of the pilot project *Building the link between flood risk management planning and climate change assessment in the Sava River Basin* (finalized in 2013), three projects for the Sava River Basin have already been implemented:

- Project *Water – Food – Energy – Ecosystems Nexus Assessment in the Sava River Basin*, implemented within the Programme of Work for 2013–2015 under the UNECE Water Convention (finalized in 2015)
- *Danube Water Nexus Project – Sava Case Study*, implemented by the EC Joint Research Center (finalized in 2016)
- Project *Water and Climate Adaptation Plan for the Sava River Basin (WATCAP)*, implemented by World Bank (finalized in 2015).

The climate change has also been addressed in the 1st Sava River Basin Management Plan where was noted that the Sava countries are at different stages of preparing, developing and implementing national climate change adaptation strategies. The extent of development depends on the magnitude and nature

of the observed impacts, assessments of current and future vulnerability and the capacity for adaptation. As a priority in dealing with climate, a set of guiding principles was proposed to be developed to assist Sava River Basin managers to establish a strategy for building adaptive capacity to manage the Sava River Basin regarding climate change, such as:

- Consideration of changes in risk, due to climate change, due to not achieving the EU WFD objectives (e.g. good status of water bodies) as a consequence of the identified pressures (e.g. organic pollution);
- Looking for opportunities in the monitoring programmes, and in ongoing and future projects which would support decisions on these issues in the second RBM planning cycle to improve the understanding of climate change trends.

After adoption of the 1st Sava RBM Plan, the Parties to the FASRB entered into the second cycle of RBM planning according to the EU WFD requirements.

Although these comprehensive and recent studies provide relevant analysis and recommendations in order to tackle climate impacts in the coming decades, many gaps still exist, given that:

- So far, a number of sectors have not been addressed in the climate change context at all (e.g. forestry, fishery, aquaculture, spatial and urban planning, infrastructure development, tourism, health)
- For the sectors that have been considered so far (i.e. water management, flood protection, navigation, hydropower use, agriculture), potential adaptation measures have been identified and recommended, however these measures have to be elaborated into more details, so as to allow for prioritization and implementation of basin relevance measures.

The coming step consists in integrating climate change adaptation into the planning process of the Sava transboundary basin level. Therefore the main conclusions of the existing studies, including climate change adaptation strategies/policies at country level, need to be embedded in a regional strategy document targeted at policymakers and practitioners of the 5 countries in order to provide a common orientation for actions.

In addition, the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) developed a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy in 2012 and is currently revising it.

Finally there is a need to integrate actions into planning activities at state level and insure full consistency between work being done at the basin and national levels.

2. Description of assignment

2.1. Specific objectives

The specific objective of this assignment is providing experiences in:

- to assist in development of outline of the climate change adaptation strategy for the transboundary Sava River Basin from the country perspective.

- to assist in definition of modalities and cost estimates for the full development of the strategy and of its action plan, and possibly for a pilot priority measure

A good interaction with the international consultant in charge of drafting the outline of the climate change adaptation strategy for the transboundary Sava River Basin is expected under the ISRBC Secretariat coordination.

2.2. Requested services

The Expert is expected to:

A/ Analyse climate change adaptation activities at country level. The results will be mentioning when possible or relevant the specific situation of the border water bodies. The country report will be presented as follows:

- i. State of the art of the implementation of international conventions related to climate change and transboundary water management national climate change adaptation strategies, plans, communications to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as well as Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs): their elements on water and any transboundary aspects/ implications should be highlighted
- ii. Summary of the priority issues related to climate change adaptation (for example: significant pressures, status of water bodies, objectives...)
- iii. Information on the latest projects implemented or under implementation with regards to adapting water management to climate change (use preferably a matrix : who, what, where, when, how much),
- iv. the latest climate change scenarios and the water related impacts for the Sava River Basin from the national perspective (whenever possible mention the model used, expected extreme events, and the existence of early warning systems, drought management or flood risk plans)
- v. Public Information and participation: data access, education program...
- vi. Adaptation measures to be part of the Sava climate change adaptation strategy: expectations from the Authorities at country level, proposals from the consultant.

Obtaining this information might require interviews with relevant authorities and stakeholders at national level, research and document analysis. The use of existing maps or cartography is encouraged.

B/ Contribute to the definition of the action plan in line with the Sava climate change adaptation strategy that will be presented during a workshop mid-October:

- to input and comment on the consistency of the draft outline of the adaptation strategy (to be prepared by the international consultant) with the priorities at country level;

C/ Participate to two events :

- to participate at the kick-off and meeting of the Permanent Expert group for River Basin Management. The costs of travel and accommodation will be covered by Contracting Authority. The participation to the final workshop is optional.

2.3. Deliverables

The Expert is expected to deliver the following:

- A draft report on the climate change activities, climate change scenarios and adaptation measures related to border water bodies (maximum 25 pages without annexes) from the country perspective- mid August, tentatively (1 month before the meeting of the Permanent Expert group for River Basin Management)
- A final report on the climate change activities, climate change scenarios and adaptation measures will be delivered one week after the RBMP Expert group meeting
- Powerpoint presentations, if requested, for the participation to the 2 meetings
- List of official documents (links of documents), collected during the assignment.

2.4. Period of assignment

June 2017 until end of October 2017.

2.5. Location/Place of assignment

It is expected that most of the work will be home based. The consultant should be present at the kick-off mid-July, and at the meeting of Permanent Expert group for River Basin Management mid-September 2017. All meetings will be held in Zagreb (HR), except the final workshop which will be held in one of the Sava riparian countries.

2.6. Working language

English

3. Cost of the assignment

Gross value: 2,500 EUR (per each country) has been planned for the assignment..

4. Expert profile

4.1. Qualification and skills (20 points)

- hold university degree education on Master's or equivalent degree (ISCED level 7²) with major in water management;
- Proficiency in English and preferably the official language of the country

4.2. General professional experience (30 points)

- Minimum 10 years of postgraduate experience in the field of water management and climate change.

4.3. Specific professional experience (50 points)

- Professional experience in national and international conventions, rules and programs referring to water management and climate change adaptation such as UNFCCC;
- Proven professional experience in analysis of climate change risks and opportunities;
- Professional experience in climate change adaptation measures;
- Professional experience in the Sava River Basin Country/Countries related to the assignment.

5. Applications

Applications (CV and application letter, both in English) should be submitted by e-mail to the Sava Commission (isrbc@savacommission.org) no later than June 26, 2017, titled: *“Outline of the Climate Adaptation Strategy for the Sava River Basin for position of national expert in climate change-**(indicate country)**”*.

References must be available on request. Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

All applications will be considered strictly confidential.

For more information please contact Samo Grošelj at the Secretariat of the Sava Commission (sgroselj@savacommission.org, phone: +385 1 488 69 67), Kneza Branimira 29, Zagreb (HR).