



INTERNATIONAL SAVA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

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FINAL REPORT 16. November 2009

3rd Meeting of the Ad-hoc GIS Expert Group

Zagreb, October 28, 2009

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Minutes of the meeting

AD.1 Opening of the meeting

1.1 Welcome by the Cochairman

Mr. Špegar opened the meeting at 10:20 and welcomed all participants to the meeting. He noted that Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Croatia and Republic of Serbia are represented by at least one Ad-hoc GIS Expert Group member. Representative of Republic of Slovenia, Mr. Veršič, apologized, since he had not able to participate to the meeting.

Mrs. Omerbegović participated to the meeting as a Team Leader of SavaGIS Project.

The full List of Participants is attached to this report as Annex I.

1.2 Adoption of the Agenda

1. The Group adopted the Agenda of the 3rd Meeting of the Ad-hoc GIS Expert Group with one modification, the new Agenda item 2.1 INSPIRE, proposed by Mrs. Omerbegović, is added.

AD.2 Project of Preparation of Implementing Documents for Establishment of the Sava GIS

2.1 INSPIRE

Mrs. Omerbegović presented main articles of the INSPIRE Directive and reviewed dates when Members States have obligation to implement or report on implementations of the Directive, rules for spatial data and established services.

2.2 and 2.3 Presentation of the Project status and discussion

a) Consultant presented an updated list of datasets and GIS layers. The most of layers were marked as of relevance for SavaGIS except three which are out of scope of the ISRBC. Therefore it was recommended to delete them from the list. These datasets are SRB_Torrents, SR_FloodAlarm (Flood Forecasting, Warning and Alarm System), and SRB_UrbanRuralAreas development.

Below are summarised main points provided during the discussion:

- Criteria for defining lakes and lake water bodies will be defined afterward (SRB_Lakes and SRB_LWB)
- For clarification purposes, abbreviation or naming convention for datasets such as LWB, GWB, PA, etc should be defined.
- Monitoring network for surface waters consists of several subsets. Subsets comply with WFD monitoring requirements. It was suggest to use inherit main GIS layer type for subset instead of table. When SavaGIS database model would be completed, subset will receive appropriate data type.
- SRB_SWDrinkingAbstraction was replaced by SRB_SWDrinkingAbstraction Sites.
- Datasets describing flood and navigation will be amended according to the suggestion of the Secretariat and Permanent Navigation Expert Group.
- It was concluded that list should be extended with two columns: preparation status (yes, no, in progress) at national level and remarks (if any).

Action points:

1. Consultant will correct the list according to aforementioned suggestions.
2. Consultant will extend the list - table of SavaGIS datasets and GIS layers by adding two columns, status which describe existence of particular dataset at national level (yes, no, preparation in progress) and remarks
3. List will be distributed to the members of the Ah GIS EG. Answers should be provided within two weeks starting from 29th October 2009.

b) Mrs. Omerbegović reported on the recommendation provided in the Reports. She said that data needed for the reporting to the EC and for the preparation of the RBM plan are well described in WFD and set of guidance. Taking into account achieved results on the development and implementation of the WISE and INSPIRE, before proposing final set of themes to be encompassed by the SavaGIS, Consultant have had a broad insight into the results and details of all already available INSPIRE and WISE data specifications. Furthermore, Consultant made comparison between content of the INSPIRE data specification and dataset candidates for including into SavaGIS. Mrs. Omerbegović reported also on very last recommendations given by the JRC Institute - Spatial Data Infrastructures Unit of European Commission at the meeting of the EU Working Group D on Reporting in Brussels (29-30 September 2009), that proposed following:

"...not to wait for transposition into national legislation, because INSPIRE as a Directive and its related implementing rules have to be implemented according to the calendar ... not later than May 15, 20012, and

"... not to wait for a fitting metadata editor for all purposes but to use it with any XML editor and start filling metadata as soon as schema (EEA) will be released...",

Taking aforementioned into account, Consultant proposed adoption of 5 recommendations to ensure successful development and implementation of the SavaGIS.

The main obstacles were given by Mr. Zeljko. These imply some formulations which were addressed to the ISRBC, but either does not correspond to the rules of the procedure, or are not correctly expressed. Therefore, following remarks and recommendations was issued:

Action points:

1. 1st recommendation should be changed thereby that Ah GIS EG recommends to the ISRBC adoption of the following INSPIRE theme specification for SavaGIS: Hydrography, Protected sites, Transport Network (water transport), Administrative boundary, Coordinate Reference System and Geographical names.
2. Since ISRBC do not have to fulfill reporting obligation but FASRB goals, it was requested that Consultant change a formulation accordingly.
3. 3rd recommendation remains as it is.
4. Because ISRBC do not have capacity to participate proactively in the INSPIRE processes, it was recommended to Ah GIS EG to join INSPIRE to receiving the information the latest developments. Thereby, recommendation should be corrected accordingly.
5. Recommendation no. 5 should be deleted in the report on Task #3 and #4, but may stay in the report of the AH GIS EG.

c) It was again highlighted that Secretariat of the ISRBC and Ah GIS EG have been expecting more details on the SavaGIS architecture and more solutions to be presented. It was also expected that, since Consultant has been familiar with GIS's architecture of the Parties, more concrete solutions for particular country would have been presented.

It is also stressed out that for the moment it is difficult to estimate on how much effort would be required from the Parties to follow recommendation on utilization of INSPIRE themes from the Annex1 and on how much additional investments may be needed in establishment of the services for sharing data within ISRBC.

Action points:

1. Consultant will:
 - a. provide more detailed description of the SavaGIS architecture;
 - b. presents more options and
 - c. provide information on needed investments and costs.
2. With regard to the SavaGIS data model, Consultant will test compliance of INSPIRE application scheme (for example one featureType from Hydrography theme, i.e. rivers in the basin) with corresponding Croatian GIS datasets and GIS datasets of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

d) To be able to assess all possible options for SavaGIS architecture aligned with the current and future development plans of the Parties, wider IT and WM expert's assistance and support from all Parties would be very useful.

Action points:

Therefore, it is recommended to invite experts to participate next Ah GIS EG meetings and workshop. Especial invitation is forwarded to Mr. Miloš Mančić from Srbijavode and Dragana Ninković from Institute Jaroslav Černi.

AD.3 ISRBC Grant Application – IPA funding:

Support to the ISRBC in preparation and implementation of the Sava River Basin Management Plan

Mr. Zeljko briefed the Ah GIS EG on the ISRBC grant application supported by the EU IPA fund. He said that final application was sent to DG ENV on 23.09.2009 and that evaluation of tenders is ongoing. DZe presented goals and expected results of the Project. Project is divided into 6 components:

1. Project management and coordination of the activities;
2. Data collection and knowledge building:
 - a. Facilitation of the process of detailed gap analysis and preparation of methodologies for data collection through work in the ISRBC expert groups,
 - b. Facilitation of the process of identification of data gaps that need to be resolved for the subsequent RBM cycle (until 2015),
3. Coordination of the integrated Sava River Basin Management Plan completion by 2010-2011;
4. Sava GIS core establishment, including:
 - a. Refinement and verification of the collected national data sets and upgrade of the Sava RBA maps,
 - b. Initial activities on the establishment of Sava GeoPortal core functionalities,
5. Public participation & dissemination in the Sava River Basin;
6. Sava RBMP follow-up strategy.

One aspect of Component 4, SAVA GIS core establishment, will be focused on the checking and making necessary refinements of basic GIS data sets used for the Sava RBA purposes such as rivers, sub-basins etc. Based on these data, upgrade of existing maps

prepared for the Sava RBA report will be done. Some additional maps (surface water bodies...) will be provided too and based on the data collected as well as additional products prepared by the Secretariat of the ISRBC, a geodatabase which will serve as an initial input in the Sava GIS system, will be compiled.

To be able to establish initial functionality for SAVA GIS system following activities need to be performed:

- a. *Procurement and installation* of the information and communication equipment (database and application server, Geoportal software...);
- b. *Location and /or creation* of required data services;
- c. Two workshop with the Sava countries experts
- d. Core training for the ISRBC staff and
- e. ***The Sava Geoportal prototype*** will include establishment of testing environment and thematic datasets that can be reported throughout services. If Party will not be able to publish spatial data and metadata via services, data/datasets will be reported in traditional way by uploading the files in appropriate format at the Sava Geoportal.
- f. Geoportal Prototype tools, services and products to support preparation of the Sava River Basin Management Plan,

AD.4 Any other issue

Given that involvement of Ah GIS EG in the Project "Preparation of Implementing Documents for Establishment of the SavaGIS" is of high importance, it has been stated that 4th meeting of the Ah GIS EG should be hold this year, instead of, according to the Work Programme of the AH GIS EG for the FY 2009, in February 2010.

There were no other issues, so Mr. Špegar and Mr. Zeljko thanked to all participants for their contribution and closed the meeting.

Report from the 3rd Meeting of the Ad-hoc GIS Expert Group
Zagreb, October 28, 2009

Annex I: LIST of PARTICIPANTS

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