



INTERNATIONAL SAVA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

ANNUAL REPORT
on the work and activities of the
International Sava River Basin Commission
for the period April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023

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Introduction

General tasks and competencies of the International Sava River Basin Commission (*ISRBC, Sava Commission*) are stipulated by the Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin (*FASRB, Framework Agreement*) and, more specifically, by Annex I to FASRB – Statute of the International Sava River Basin Commission. One of the obligations of ISRBC, according to the Statute, is to submit annual reports on its work to the Parties of FASRB (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Croatia, Republic of Serbia and Republic of Slovenia). This *Annual Report on the work and activities of ISRBC for the period April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023 (Annual Report¹)* has been prepared accordingly.

In the previous reporting period, the Sava Commission adapted very well to the conditions of operation in a pandemic situation. The experience gained was very useful, and it can be said that the set goals and planned results for the Financial Year 2022 (FY 2022) were successfully achieved. Despite the difficulties in terms of functioning in a specific situation, substantial progress has been achieved in all areas of activity of the Commission: finalization and approval of the 2nd River Basin Management Plan for the Sava River Basin (Sava RBM Plan); further advances in flood risk and sediment related issues, continuation of the activities towards rehabilitation and development of the navigation on the Sava River waterway together with the work on the related safety standards, as well as further development of linked integrated systems. Substantial efforts and resources have been invested in the implementation of the ongoing projects as well as in the preparation of activities planned for the following years, with special attention given to finalizing the preparation of the regional component of the Sava and Drina Rivers Corridors Integrated Development Program (SDIP), which implementation actually started on August 31, 2022 by signing the grant agreement between the IBRD, acting as an implementing agency of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and the ISRBC for the financing of the regional component of the SDIP. In the coming years, this assistance will represent key support for the most significant activities of the Sava Commission in achieving the priority goals of the cooperation of the Parties.

The most important event that marked the reporting period was the 9th Meeting of the Parties to the FASRB (MoP) which was held in Zagreb on 9th December 2022. Details about the MoP and its results are given in Chapter 1.

Among other events, the three sessions of the Sava Commission and organizing the 10th Sava Youth Parliament can be highlighted. More details on the important issues are provided in Chapters 1 to 7 of this Report; in addition, useful information is also given in the annexes.

¹ *Annual report* corresponds to Financial Year (FY) of ISRBC which covers period from April 1 of the current year to March 31 of the following year

1. 9th Meeting of the Parties – short overview of the results

The high delegations of the Parties to the FASRB gathered in Zagreb on December 9, 2022 at the 9th MoP and reaffirmed the vital importance of regional cooperation. They expressed satisfaction with the remarkable progress towards the achievement of the jointly agreed objectives set by the FASRB and its protocols that have been made in the period since the last MoP held in Sarajevo in October 2019.

In that regard, the Parties accepted the Report on the implementation of the FASRB for the period from July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2022, prepared by the Sava Commission.



Figure 1. 9th Meeting of the Parties to the FASRB (Zagreb, December 9, 2022)

In addition, the MoP approved the second Sava RBM Plan as a major achievement in regional cooperation in the water sector, leading towards the fulfilment of one of the main objectives of the FASRB - *the establishment of sustainable water management*.

The Parties also welcomed the achievements in other areas of cooperation: flood risk management, sediment management, navigation, data and information exchange systems. The Parties acknowledged the exceptional work invested in the successful preparation of the regional component of the SDIP, which will serve as a catalyst for further strengthening cooperation and achieving concrete results in the years to come.

The Parties expressed satisfaction with the work of the Sava Youth Parliament and also expressed appreciation to donors, partner organizations and all other contributors for supporting the work of the Sava Commission.

The integral text of the Declaration of the 9th MoP in English and all official languages of the Parties, the reports on the implementation of the FASRB as well as the 2nd Sava RBM Plan are available on the ISRBC website: [Ninth Meeting of the Parties to the FASRB²](https://www.savacommission.org/activities-178/178?datum=9.12.2022) .

² <https://www.savacommission.org/activities-178/178?datum=9.12.2022>.

2. Integrated water management

Water resources of the Sava River Basin, as a source of life, habitat for many important ecosystems, and basis for socio-economic prosperity of the whole region, require dedicated management, careful protection, and conscious use. In the field of integrated water management during the reporting period, the Sava Commission stays dedicated to performing steps leading towards transboundary solutions that integrate social, environmental, and economic principles for sustainable and resilient development of the Sava River Basin for mutual benefit and increased well-being of its people, society, and the nature.

FY 2022 is marked by the official finalization of the 2nd "Sava" river basin management (RBM) cycle. As well, ongoing were the continuation of the 2nd "Sava" flood risk management (FRM) cycle, activities addressing sediment-related issues, accident pollution prevention and control, and further development of the linked integrated systems.

2.1. River Basin management

In accordance with the provisions of Article 12 of the Framework Agreement, the development of joint and coordinated management plans for the Sava River basin aims to improve the policy framework of the entire basin in order to prevent further deterioration or achieve improvements in the water status and strengthen cooperation in the long-term and sustainable use of common water resources within Sava river basin.

The second "Sava" RBM cycle was initiated after the approval of the first Sava RBM Plan on the 5th MoP to the FASRB, held in Zagreb in 2014, and continued in the following years, in accordance with the steps required by the Water Framework Directive (WFD). Its finalization represents the result of years of joint and dedicated work and great collective effort of numerous institutions and experts from the Sava countries, coordinated by the ISRBC Secretariat.



Figure 2. Approved 2nd Sava RBM Plan in English and all official languages of the Parties

The 2nd Sava RBM Plan was prepared for the period 2022-2027, in accordance with the WFD requirements to the most possible extent, following the methodology applied at the Danube River Basin level and in accordance with the structure of the 1st Sava RBM Plan.

The plan contains an updated assessment of significant anthropogenic pressures on the surface and groundwater resources, provides a compilation of national monitoring networks for both surface and groundwater bodies of interest for the basin-wide planning and a preliminary inventory of areas protected under EU and national legislation. Furthermore, the 2nd SRBM Plan provides a comprehensive assessment of the ecological status/potential and chemical status of surface water bodies and the chemical and quantitative status of groundwater bodies. It includes an overview of the environmental/management objectives and the list of existing exemptions for surface and groundwater bodies. The 2nd SRBM Plan addresses the water management issues of significant importance for the Sava River Basin, such as navigation, flood risk management, hydropower production, and agriculture, and outlines the activities related to climate change adaptation. An economic analysis of significant uses of water and water services in the transboundary context was prepared, together with the Program of measures developed to specify the activities required to meet the WFD objectives defined for the Sava River Basin through visions and specific management objectives.

The 2nd Sava RBM Plan preparation process also represented the platform for public consultation and the involvement of stakeholders in the river basin management planning. At the beginning of the reporting period, activities were focused on further actions related to the draft Plan after the public consultation process, which was completed in March 2022. The collected comments were addressed and the revised draft of the 2nd Sava RBM Plan was prepared and agreed on at the technical level in April 2022. Thereupon, the final draft of the 2nd Sava RBM Plan was translated into all official languages of the Parties, subsequently endorsed by the Sava Commission in July 2022 and afterwards, as its official proposal, distributed to the Parties (and Montenegro) for their national approval procedures.

Finally, by the Declaration from the 9th MoP, the Parties to the FASRB (and Montenegro), approved the 2nd Sava RBM Plan as a major achievement in regional cooperation in the water sector, and thus officially marked the end of the 2nd "Sava "planning cycle.

The [2nd Sava RBM Plan](#) is printed in English and all official languages of the Parties³, and it is, alongside the [2nd Sava RBM Plan Summary](#), which aims to provide brief information about the process to all interested and [Summary on Public Participation Activities for the 2nd Sava RBM Plan-Process and Outcomes](#), is available on the official web site of the Sava Commission.

Pursuant to the Protocol on Sediment Management, the Parties are obliged to deliver information on sediment dredging executed in the previous year and data on planned dredging for the current year. Based on the delivered data, the Sava Commission prepared a report on executed dredging in the year 2021 and a report on planned dredging for 2023. The reports have been delivered to competent institutions of the Parties. According to the collected data, the total volume of executed dredging in the year 2021 in the Sava River Basin is more than 2,0 Mio m³. The percentage of executed sediment dredging per river in 2021 is provided in Figure 3.

³[2nd Sava River Basin Management Plan \(slo\)](#)

[2nd Sava River Basin Management Plan \(hrv\)](#)

[2nd Sava River Basin Management Plan \(bos\)](#)

[2nd Sava River Basin Management Plan \(BA_srp\)](#)

[2nd Sava River basin Management Plan \(srp\)](#)

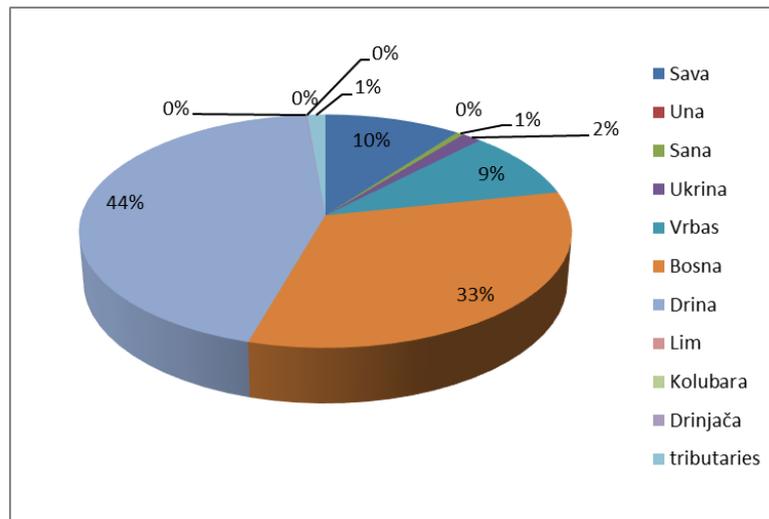


Figure 3. Percentage of executed sediment dredging per river in 2021

2.2. Flood management

Activities related to flood management at the Sava River Basin level, based on the *Protocol on Flood Protection to the FASRB*, continued throughout FY 2022. The updated report on *Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment in the Sava River Basin (Sava PFRA)*, prepared in cooperation with institutions of the Parties to the FASRB and Montenegro, has been finalized and accepted by ISRBC at its 60th Session. *Areas of Mutual Interest for flood protection (AMI)* in the Sava River Basin identified in the 1st “Sava” planning cycle have been revised, in line with analyses of *Areas of Potential Significant Flood Risk (APSF)* conducted in the Parties.

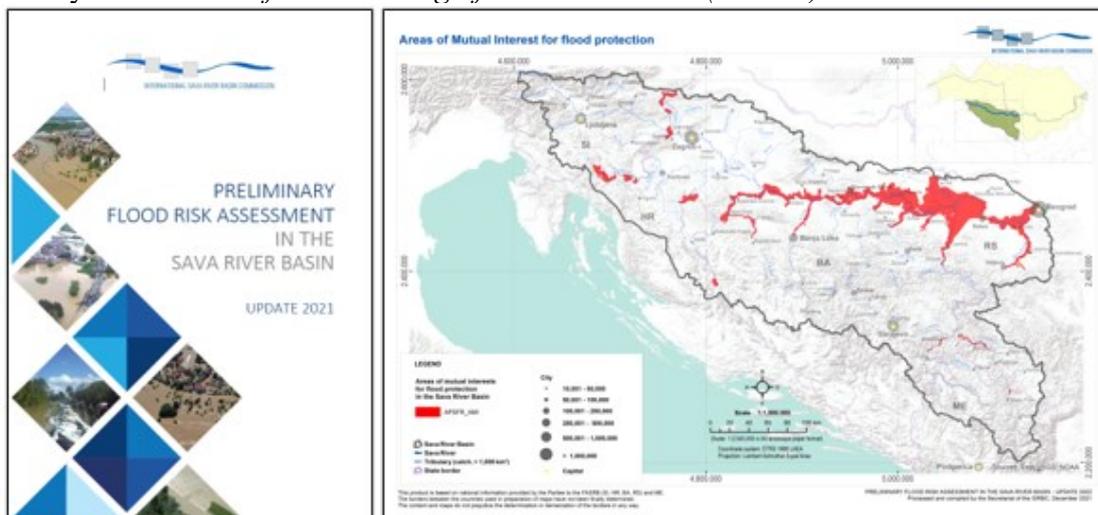


Figure 4. The Sava PFRA update 2021 and map of updated AMIs

The Sava PFRA updated report is published and is available here: [Sava PFRA Update 2021 \(savacommission.org\)](https://savacommission.org). Particular attention in the report was paid to the impacts of floods on human health as well as cultural and historical heritage. Protection of the cultural and historical heritage has been analysed through the project *Sustainable Historic Environments hoListic reconstruction through Technological Enhancement and community based Resilience (SHELTER: <https://shelter-project.com/>)* which included the Sava River Basin as one of five case studies (so-called Open Lab areas), jointly coordinated by UNESCO and ISRBC. The project, which ends in May 2023, substantially contributes to understanding flood hazards' direct and indirect effects on cultural and historical heritage.

Implementation of non-structural measures approved by the *Flood Risk Management Plan in the Sava River Basin (Sava FRM Plan)* has been accomplished or ongoing, while information on the implementation of structural measures, which are the responsibility of national institutions, is continuously exchanged.

The *Flood Forecasting and Warning System in the Sava River Basin (Sava FFWS)* has been regularly used by 10 responsible national institutions from 5 countries. It runs on the recently updated version of Delft FEWS software (2021.01). The Copernicus GloFAS (Global Flood Monitoring services for the near-real-time delineation of floods using satellite imagery) was made available as a new capability at the Sava FFWS platform.

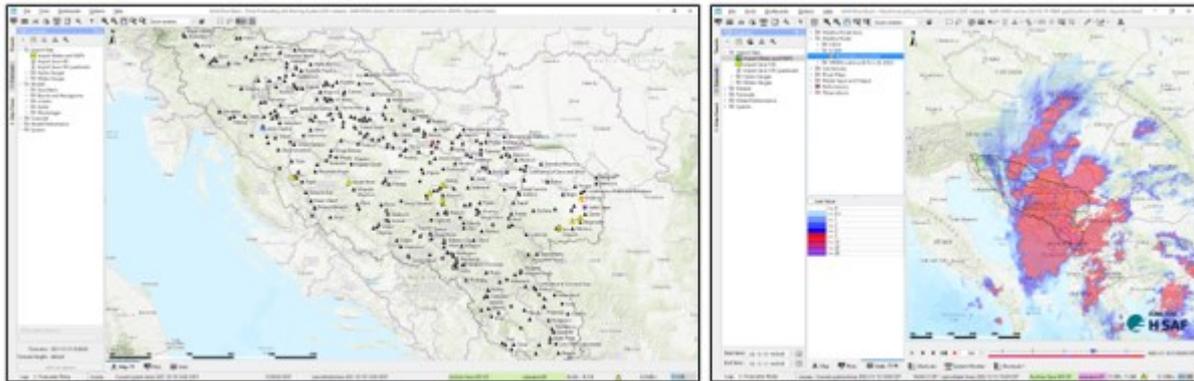


Figure 5. Sava FFWS in operational use

The Annual Training Program for 2022, prepared by the ISRBC Secretariat, consisted of 20 different events (workshops and trainings) that were an opportunity for the responsible organizations for capacity building on a regular basis. In addition, the ISRBC Secretariat organized several knowledge-transfer events in the reporting period.

The regular annual report on the Sava FFWS functioning (for the period January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022), has been prepared in accordance with the *Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation concerning regular functioning and maintenance of Sava FFWS*. Besides an evaluation of the Sava FFWS functioning, the report includes an overview of the engagement and the assessment of costs of all organizations included in its work.

2.3. Accident prevention and control

The Parties to the FASRB use the ICPDR's Accident Emergency Warning System (AEWS). The objectives of the AEWS are receiving, processing and disseminating information on pollution, prompt dealing with accidents and communication of information on emergencies. The ICPDR tested the AEWS two times in 2022, in April and October. The tests showed that the AEWS works as expected without any problems from a technical point of view. The reactivity and connectivity to the server was very smooth throughout the test, and all participating Principal International Alert Centers (PIACs) were able to perform their tasks despite the fact that PIACs in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia are still not operational 24/7. As for real events in the reporting period, the PIACs downstream of Slovenia received the information on a train accident at the railway station in Zidani most (SI) on January 7, 2022, but no leakage of hazardous substances was observed.

Implementation of the *Water Contingency Management in the Sava River Basin (WACOM)* project, which was co-funded by the *Danube Transnational Program (DTP)*, commenced in July 2020 and ended in December 2022. The main objective of the project, essentially of a cross-sectoral nature, was the reduction of environmental risks related to accidental pollution and floods. The lead project partner was the University of Ljubljana. The other partners were

institutions responsible for water management, flood risk management, navigation and civil protection, and the Sava Commission as an international organization.

The project delivered various outputs, including different tools such as: a modelling toolbox created to enable better prediction of the propagation of accidental pollution; an Incident Command System (ICS), with a Transnational Incident Coordination tool, which enables efficient communication among institutions involved in the flood/accidental pollution response, and the Situational Awareness Tool which provides the framework for the exchange of information on the incident among the activated headquarters in the complex transnational event (accidental pollution or floods).

Through the WACOM project, Sava GIS was upgraded with two additional modules: accident prevention and control (APC) and navigation (NAV). More about these modules in Chapter 4. - Data and Information management.

As part of the implementation of the project, the three so-called "table-top" exercises were organized in Brežice (SI), Slavonski Brod (HR) and Brčko (BA), with the participation of representatives of water management, civil protection and navigation sectors. These exercises demonstrated the importance of improving practical cooperation in all phases of the disaster risk management cycle. In that regard, the project analysed the existing practices in transnational management of extreme events in case of accidental pollution and flood events and proposed the two strategic documents with the proposal of measures for enhancing the procedures for coordination, modelling, and situational awareness.

The Sava Commission was the partner responsible for the official communication of the WACOM project. In this regard, the four newsletters were published on the project website and sent to target groups. The Commission also provided the media coverage of the workshops organized in the course of the project, the 10th Sava Youth Parliament held in October 2022 and the final conference held in November 2022. Articles on the project have also been published in the Sava NewsFlash - the official bulletin of the Sava Commission, in Hrvatska Vodoprivreda - the official bulletin of Croatian Waters and in Danube Watch - the official bulletin of the ICPDR. The video material and bilingual booklet have been developed and disseminated to the participants for the final conference.



Figure 6. The cover of the booklet and the screenshot of the video

The project was also presented at different international events (e.g. Danube Strategy meetings, conferences and meetings of permanent expert groups and sessions of the Sava Commission).

Additional information about the WACOM project is available at the project's official website [Interreg Danube \(interreg-danube.eu\)](https://interreg-danube.eu), and on social networks [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

3. Navigation

The ISRBC's work in the field of navigation in FY 2022, as has been the case so far, was primarily focused on continuing the activities towards rehabilitation and development of the navigation and transport on the Sava River waterway.

3.1. Rehabilitation and development of the Sava River waterway

Regarding the rehabilitation and development of the Sava River waterway, activities on solving navigation problems at critical sectors, the so-called bottlenecks, continued in this reporting period.

Following the finalization of dredging works at several critical sectors in Serbia over the previous years, as for the remaining two critical sectors, Sremska Mitrovica and the Drina River mouth, the first one is included in the project of expanding the capacity of the port of Sremska Mitrovica and will be financed through SDIP, and the second - the Drina mouth, which is shared by Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, the preparation of a preliminary feasibility study with the main project has been completed. The works are planned to start soon, and 50% of the financing will be provided through the European Investment Bank (EIB), while for the rest, Serbia applied for grants from the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF).

In Croatia, the documentation for the project *Development of Environmental Impact Assessment Study and Design for the Action: Improvement of the Navigability Conditions of the Sava River from rkm 300 to rkm 329* (project Jaruge-Novigrad) was finalized in 2022. The environmental impact assessment (EIA) study was prepared in December 2019, amended in January 2020, July 2021 and April 2022, and approved thereafter in June 2022. The Sava Commission supported the preparation of the project by establishing the Stakeholder Forum (SF), consisting of the representatives of national bodies, NGOs, civil and academic society and local communities from Croatia and BiH, which share this sector. The three SF meetings have been organized so far, while the next meeting is planned for FY 2023 in cooperation with the authorities of both countries.

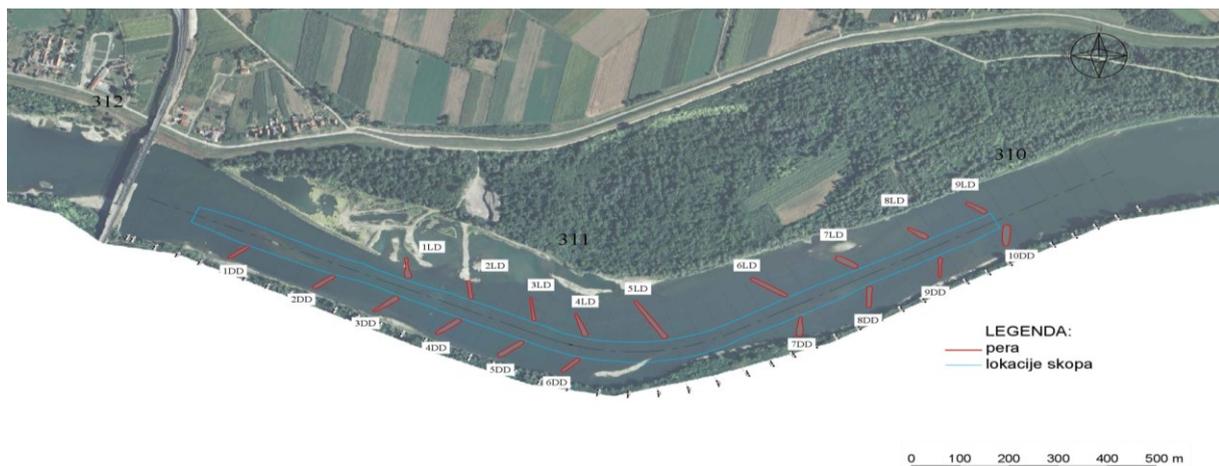


Figure 7. Ecologically approved river engineering solution in the sector "Jaruge –Novi Grad "

Out of the other works, following the previous finalization of the construction of two vertical quays to the existing vertical quay (total length of 370m) in the port of Slavonski Brod, the construction of a management and logistics area for a ca 5.200 m² container terminal is underway.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, although the grant for demining the Sava right bank in the amount of 8.16 M € was approved in 2020, implementation is still pending due to certain administrative procedures between WBIF and the World Bank. Solving this problem is the essential prerequisite for further progress in the rehabilitation of navigation on the Sava River. Certain activities were initiated to ensure the financing of works on the BiH side of the Jaruge - Novi Grad sector in the second phase of the implementation of the SDIP. Accordingly, that sector should be given priority in demining.

3.2. Navigation safety and related technical standards

Improving navigation safety is one of the most important activities of ISRBC, and work on navigation safety and other technical standards continued accordingly in this reporting period.

Integration of the two web applications in use (the system for support to national bodies responsible for the navigation safety inspection and the system for preparation of the Plan for Waterway Marking) into Sava GIS as well as the integration of the electronic navigational charts (ENC) for the whole Sava River waterway, was finalized on the testing platform within the WACOM project. Furthermore, the navigation module of Sava GIS was also created and installed on the test platform. These activities will continue in FY 2023 with their inclusion into the production GIS platform.

The latest updated and amended edition of the *Manual on the Sava River Navigation* (including vessel marking, waterway marking, etc.) has been completed, while the digital edition of the Manual has been published on the Sava Commission website. A translation of the edition into English is planned for FY 2023.



Figure 8. Cover page of the 2nd edition *Manual on the Sava River Navigation*

Regarding publishing statistical data on transshipment and fairway, the basic information regarding the collection, statistical processing, and analysis of data about goods and passenger transport in the Sava River Basin for 2022 has been prepared. It will be published on the ISRBC website in the first quarter of FY 2023. As a part of the collaboration with the CCNR, this data exchange and analysis is part of their annual edition of the European Inland Navigation Market Observation report.

Using the legal capacity given by FASRB, ISRBC adopted Decision 2/23 on the Plan for Waterway Marking and Maintenance on the Sava River and its Navigable Tributaries for the Year 2023.



Figure 9. Plan for Waterway Marking and Maintenance on the Sava River and its Navigable Tributaries for the Year 2023

In FY 2022, the ISRBC Secretariat worked on the proposal of the Rules on the waterway maintenance on border sectors between Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina so as to ensure safe navigation. The text of the preliminary proposal was discussed between the experts from the Parties, and certain amendments were agreed following the discussion. It was also agreed that the competent authorities from Croatia and BiH should inform the Secretariat about the necessary border procedures that must be followed in order to carry out maintenance work on the joint sections. As soon as the remaining issues are resolved, and the final proposal of the text of the Rules is completed, the Secretariat will organize a meeting with the participation of the competent authorities from the countries concerned with the aim of coming to an agreement related to the next steps, which is expected in FY 2023.

The Decision on Rules on Crew for Vessels in the Sava River Basin was repealed following the opinion and request of the European Commission, mainly because of procedural issues. In order to adopt common rules, the Secretariat launched thematic cooperation with CCNR to deal with the new Rules for navigation personnel. The Secretariat will continue the activities in FY 2023 on the preparation of the optimal solution aimed at implementing the Directive (EU) 2017/2397 on the recognition of professional qualifications in inland navigation.

Taking into account the need to regulate issues related to the safety of recreational navigation on the common sectors of the Kupa River between Croatia and Slovenia and the readiness of the competent authorities of both states to harmonise the regime of navigation on the Kupa River, ISRBC prepared the draft proposal of the *Recommendation on the Navigation Regime for Common Sectors on the Kupa River*. The finalization and adoption of the Recommendation is expected in FY 2023.

After the consideration and common understanding reached by the DC, ICPDR and ISRBC, it is concluded that the *Joint Statement on Guiding Principles on the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin* (Joint Statement) and *Platina Manual on Good Practices in Sustainable Waterway Planning*, needs to be updated and adjusted to the new policy developments. The idea to support this important initiative through the regional component of the SDIP was presented to the World Bank in October 2022 and received a positive response. An agreement on the next steps among the three commissions is expected in the first half of FY 2023.

Regarding the participation of the Commission in international activities, ISRBC took active

part in the work of the European Code for Inland Waterways Expert Group (CEVNI EG). CEVNI EG has completed the preparation of the revised edition of the European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI 6), thus adopting proposals for further harmonisation and modernisation of European navigation rules. ISRBC particularly contributed to the initiatives on autonomous shipping, with particular attention paid to adapting related regulations (responsibility for ship damage, vessel identification rules, etc). Drafting of amendments to the Navigation Rules in the Sava River Basin in line with changes introduced in CEVNI 6 was finished, and the adoption of the Decision on the updated Navigation Rules is expected in FY 2023.

ISRBC has also continued its active participation in the work of the European Committee for drawing up standards in the field of inland navigation (CESNI) and its expert groups. CESNI objectives are to contribute to the adoption of uniform standards on the entire network of inland waterways in Europe to increase navigation safety and environmental protection in the context of inland navigation transport, thus promoting employment in inland navigation and rendering the sector more attractive while facilitating transport operations and promoting international trade.

The Secretariat of the Sava Commission actively participated in the events organized within the framework of the related projects or by relevant organizations, such as NAIADES, DINA, COMPETING, MERLIN and METEET.

4. Data and information management

The exchange of data and information (through the Sava GIS platform) provided the necessary basis for the successful implementation of relevant activities at the level of the Sava river basin. The Sava GIS-related activities continued in the reporting period with the collection of data required for different purposes in the frame of the ISRBC activities as well as by developing additional modules as integral parts of the platform.

4.1. Geo-information issues

The Sava GIS platform as a whole was completely operational in FY 2022. Sava GIS Geoportal, the central part of the platform, has 141 users (Secretariat - 7, expert groups - 59, external users and projects – 75) currently registered with appropriate management roles. The Geoportal statistically numbered approx. 3000 unique users continuously during the reporting period. Besides the existing modules (RBM & FRM) with their related datasets in the reporting period, two additional modules were added: Navigation (NAV) and Accident Prevention and Control (APC).

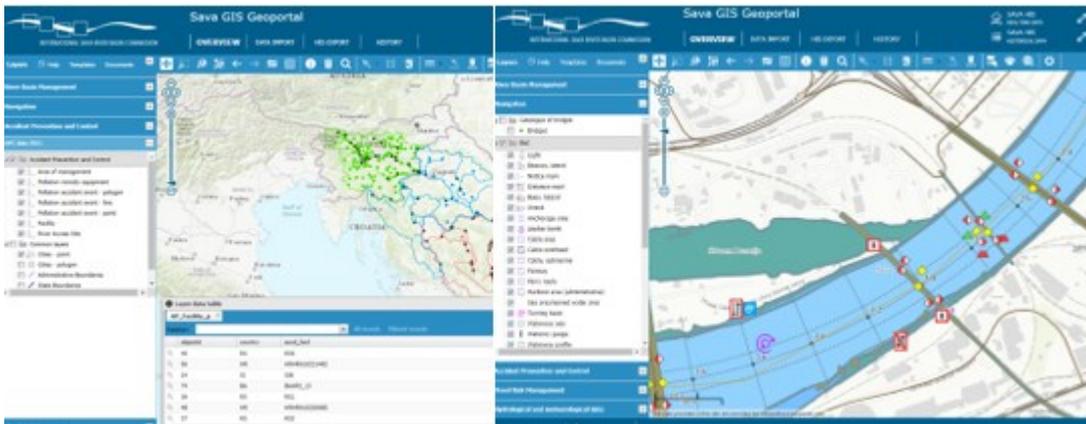


Figure 10. Sava GIS (www.savagis.org) additional modules - APC (left) and NAV (right)

The modules were successfully designed, tested and implemented within the scope of the WACOM project. The APC module provides the potential accidental pollution hazard site locations, visualization of pollution propagation, locations of remedy equipment and locations of possible access to the river. The NAV module consists of Electronic Navigational Charts, the album of bridges on the Sava River, a web application for the Navigation Safety Inspection Support System and for development of the Marking Plan and indicator of river kilometers for the Sava River and its navigable tributaries.

In the frame of the SHELTER project, the data on cultural-historical heritage sites in the flood-prone areas in the Sava River Basin were collected and included in the Sava GIS Geoportal.

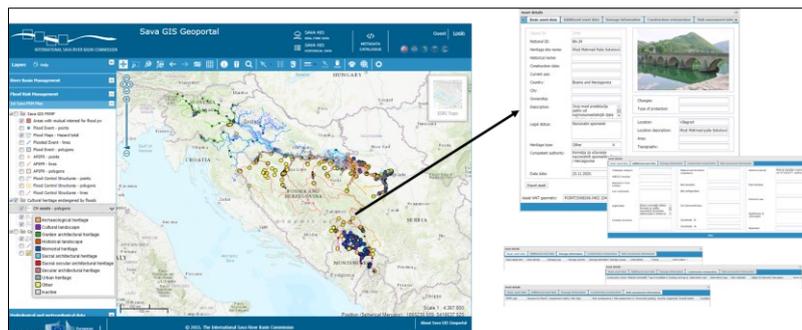


Figure 11. Upgraded Sava GIS with the cultural-historic related datasets

In the next period, a major upgrade of the Sava GIS is planned in the framework of the implementation of SDIP.

4.2. Hydrological and meteorological issues

Sava HIS (www.savahis.org) represents an efficient tool for collecting, storing, exchanging and reporting hydrological and meteorological data on precipitation, air temperature, snow depth, water level, discharge, water temperature, turbidity, including a number of statistical parameters. An overview of the available stations in Sava HIS is presented in the following table. Number of stations with data in near real-time is in brackets.

Table 1. Overview of available stations in Sava HIS

| Type of gauging station | BA | HR | ME | RS | SI | Total |
|-------------------------|----------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|------------------|
| Hydrological stations | 107 (82) | 131 (126) | 11 (11) | 33 (32) | 32 (26) | 314 (277) |
| Meteorological stations | 76 (73) | 49 (42) | 5 (4) | 14 (14) | 76 (76) | 220 (210) |

Based on the hydrological and meteorological data in Sava HIS, delivered by the data providers from the countries, the Secretariat has prepared the Hydrological Yearbook for the year 2019. The Hydrological Yearbooks provide an overview of basic data on selected hydrological and meteorological stations in the Sava River basin, including related statistical analyses. They are available on the [website](#)⁴ of the Sava Commission.

4.3. ISRBC website and social networks

The new website is hosted on the local hardware infrastructure at the Sava Commission premises and is available to the general public in English and all official languages of the Parties. The website contains a modern interface and highly improved functionalities with the latest standards applied (responsive web design, security standards, user-friendly CMS and DMS solutions etc.). Website content backup procedures are fully automated in line with the existing Sava GIS system backup logic.

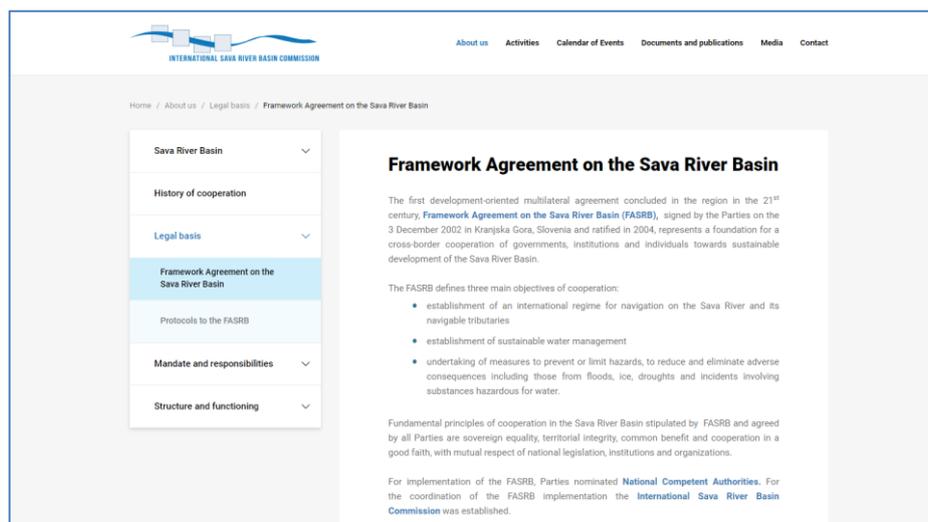


Figure 12. New ISRBC website (www.savacommission.org)

⁴ <https://www.savacommission.org/documents-and-publications/hydrological-yearbooks/10371>

5. Cross-cutting and development issues

Striving to fulfill the main goal of the FASRB, *sustainable development of the Sava River Basin*, Sava Commission together with national, regional, and international stakeholders, is dedicated to looking for opportunities to facilitate the economic development of the region without compromising the possibilities for future generations.

Contributing to the efforts of the Parties to the FASRB and Montenegro to ensure sustainable economic development in the Sava River Basin, the Sava Commission, with the support of the World Bank, prepared in 2017 the Joint Plan of Actions for the Sava River Basin, which served as a basis for the Sava and Drina Rivers Corridors Integrated Development Mulgram (SDIP). The SDIP is structured in the following components: (1) integrated management and development of the Sava River Corridor; (2) integrated management and development of the Drina River Corridor; (3) project preparation and management; and (4) regional activities. Participating countries of SDIP are Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro, while the Sava Commission implements regional activities.

The problem of financing prolonged the start of the implementation of the regional activities of the SDIP. After a long preparation process, with the exceptional support of the World Bank, the Grant Agreement for the GEF financing was signed between the ISRBC and IBRD in August 2022, and the effectiveness of the grant began in November 2022. Furthermore, intensive cooperation with the World Bank continued with support missions and meetings as progress on the agreed key milestones in the implementation of the regional component of the SDIP (December 2022, March 2023) would be discussed.

Besides the above-mentioned, in FY 2022, activities within the Sava Commission were focused on establishing procedures for the project implementation and monitoring. In accordance with the World Bank methodological framework, standard procedures, and the Sava Commission's specific plan of actions and dynamics required by the Grant Agreement, internal administrative, organizational, financial, and procurement mechanisms were put in place. In these terms, the Sava Commission passed the registration processes into the World Bank systems for the project financial (*Client Connection System*) and procurement management (*STEP- Systematic Tracking of Exchanges in Procurement*). Furthermore, preparatory activities have been started for the implementation of the regional component itself, i.e. the creation of plans, studies and systems of great importance for the entire basin. In the reporting period, the focus was on the regional studies related to the upgrade and further development of the Sava FFWS, new basin-wide hydrological study, study on sediment, master plan of sustainable tourism development and climate change adaptation strategy.

SDIP will be implemented in two partially overlapping phases over a period of ten years, creating opportunities for significant improvement and strengthening of strategic regional dialogue, joint planning, sustainable management and development of shared water resources in the Sava River basin, which will significantly contribute to the implementation of the FASRB.

6. Legal and financial issues

6.1. Legal issues

FASRB provides a very effective legal basis for cooperation in the region, involving various sectors of the Parties, local authorities, and a number of other stakeholders. This improves collaboration, awareness, knowledge and capacity at cross-sectoral and multi-layered levels in each Party and in the regional context. Protocols to the FASRB specify activities in certain fields of cooperation. There are currently four protocols in force (see Table below).

Table 2. Overview of the status of the protocols to FASRB

| Protocol on | Signed | In force since |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Navigation Regime | Kranjska Gora, December 3, 2002 | December 29, 2004 |
| Prevention of Water Pollution caused by Navigation | Belgrade, June 1, 2009 | October 8, 2017 |
| Flood Protection | Gradiška, June 1, 2010 | November 27, 2015 |
| Sediment Management | Brčko, July 6, 2015 | October 8, 2017 |

In addition to the four protocols mentioned above, the draft *Protocol on Emergency Situations* is the subject of a long-term discussion. The protocol comprises several goals aimed at the identification of hazardous activities, their character and possible consequences, prevention, emergency planning, preparedness and response, as well as mutual assistance of the Parties. Negotiations on final harmonization are expected as soon as all the Parties notify the Secretariat about the finalization of the respective internal legal procedures required for the beginning of negotiations.

Regular legal affairs within the activities of the Sava Commission during the reporting period included the preparation of various acts such as contracts and decisions, and work also continued on the preparation of various types of documents within the framework of projects in which the Sava Commission participates (e.g. SHELTER and WACOM), including documents related to the preparation of SDIP.

At the international level, considerable effort has been invested in the preparation of memorandums of understanding with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). More details are provided in Chapter 7.

6.2. Financial issues

The budget of ISRBC for FY 2022, in total amount of EUR 582,960.00, was adopted by Decision 5/22 at the 59th Session of ISRBC (Zagreb, March 15-16, 2022). It consists of the regular annual contributions of the Parties and of miscellaneous inflows.

The *General Fund* inflows and expenditures in FY 2022 are shown in Table 4 and Table 5, respectively. The balance of the Special and Trust Fund is shown in Table 6.

Table 3. General Fund income in FY 2022

| Source of Income | | Income (EUR) |
|--|--|------------------------------|
| 1 | Mandatory contributions from the Parties | 547,960.00 |
| | Bosnia and Herzegovina | 136,990.00 ¹ |
| | Croatia | 136,990.00 ² |
| | Serbia | 136,990.00 ³ |
| | Slovenia | 136,990.00 ⁴ |
| 2 | Transfer from the Reserve Fund | 0.00⁵ |
| 3 | Miscellaneous | 37,246.22⁶ |
| Total income | | 585,206.22 |
| <i>Notes:</i> | | |
| ¹ The contribution was paid on May 12, 2022 | | |
| ² The contribution was paid in two equal parts, on April 06 and April 20, 2022 | | |
| ³ The contribution was paid on April 20, 2022 | | |
| ⁴ The contribution was paid on April 22, 2022 | | |
| ⁵ Transferred amounts for covering unexpected expenditures | | |
| ⁶ A part of special funds for implementation: EU HORIZON 2020- SHELTER, DTP – WACOM and Sava FFWS | | |

Table 4. General Fund expenditures in FY 2022

| Budget Chapter | | Expenditures ¹ (EUR) |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Staff salaries and allowances | 482,267.59 |
| 2 | Current costs | 21,280.38 |
| 3 | Travel expenses | 6,270.06 |
| 4 | Operational costs | 28,856.33 |
| 5 | Equipment | 710.29 |
| Total expenditures | | 539,384.65² |
| <i>Notes:</i> | | |
| ¹ The amount of expenditures on March 31, 2023 | | |
| ² In accordance to Financial Rules of ISRBC, the rest of General Fund shall be allocated to Reserve Fund. | | |

In FY 2022 the inflow into Special and Trust Fund was for the implementation of the ongoing projects and covering the costs of regular functioning and maintenance of the Sava FFWS. Details are provided in the following table.

Table 5. Special and Trust Fund in FY 2022

| Special and Trust Fund | | Opening balance | Inflow | Outflow | Balance |
|------------------------|--|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | SHELTER Sava Case Study (EC - HORIZON 2020) | 43,955.57 | 33,926.77 | 29,787.84 | 48,094.5 |
| 2 | Water Contingency Management in the Sava River Basin-WACOM (DTP) | 8,271.03 | 57,694.42 | 65,961.27 | 4.18 |
| 3 | Sava FFWS (FASRB Parties and Montenegro) | 20,3695.42 | 142,248.4 | 62,768.53 | 283,175.29 |
| 4 | GEF Sava and Drina river corridors integrated development program (SDIP) | 0 | 450,005.49 | 0.11 | 450,005.38 |
| 5 | Can you hear our river - Sava and Scheldt Youth Parliaments Cooperation - ERASMUS+ | 0 | 16,820.63 | 4,762.07 | 12,058.56 |
| 6 | Special and Trust Fund of B&H | 29,458.88 | 5.24 | 0 | 29,464.12 |
| Total | | 285,380.9 | 700,700.95 | 163,279.82 | 822,802.03 |

In line with Financial Rules of ISRBC, a regular audit of the financial management of ISRBC for FY 2021 has been performed, with a general conclusion that the financial management is correct and in accordance with the ISRBC's rules and regulations and the general accounting principles. ISRBC accepted the Report on Audit of the Financial Management of ISRBC in FY 2021 at the 61st Session (October 27-28, 2022).

7. Cooperation and stakeholder involvement

7.1. Cooperation with international, national and local institutions

The Sava Commission maintains good contacts and cooperation with various EU bodies, with active participation in activities in their organization, including meetings of working bodies and events organized by EU-funded projects that requested and received support from the Sava Commission. The Sava Commission also continued to actively participate in the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Danube region, especially within priority area 1A - inland waterways, priority area 4 - water quality and priority area 5 - environmental risks..

Cooperation with UNECE has also continued through regular participation of ISRBC in the framework of its working/task force groups and other events like workshops and roundtables.

Fruitful cooperation with UNESCO continued through joint work, primarily on the SHELTER project. In order to further improve cooperation, UNESCO and ISRBC drafted a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), and it is expected that the signing will be organized in 2024.

After many years of successful cooperation and jointly implemented activities in the field of hydrological and meteorological issues, ISRBC and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) signed the MoU on September 15th, 2022.



Figure 13. The Memorandum of Understanding between ISRBC and WMO | Signing Ceremony, Mr. Petteri Taalas, General Secretary on behalf of WMO (right) and Mr. Dragan Zeljko, Executive Secretary on behalf of ISRBC (left)

The MoU between ISRBC and WMO particularly supports activities related to cooperation in the planning and implementation of projects, the exchange of knowledge, experiences, good practices and results of scientific, research and development projects and joint work on promoting the exchange of data and information at the regional and global level. As the first concrete result of cooperation, the Sava River Basin will soon be integrated as one of the pilot areas in the WMO Hydrological Observing System (WHOS) through the Sava HIS.

On the basin level, in addition to national institutions responsible for the implementation of FASRB, cooperation has been kept with other organizations, such as water agencies, NHMSs, inland waterway agencies, port master offices, registers of shipping, regional chambers of commerce, tourism organizations, faculties and institutes dealing with natural and technical sciences, etc. Apart from the institutions of the Parties, good cooperation has been maintained

with the relevant bodies of Montenegro, especially for the purpose of the development of the 2nd Sava RBM Plan, Hydrological Yearbooks and activities related to Sava FFWS.

Considering the significance of stakeholders' involvement within the framework of ISRBC activities, cooperation with relevant institutions, NGOs, and local actors from the basin has been maintained throughout the reporting period. Active involvement of stakeholders is continuously ensured, above all, for institutions/organizations with observer status in ISRBC. The list of the observers in ISRBC is given in the next table.

Table 6. Observers in the Sava Commission (status on March 31, 2023)

| Name | Status | Web site |
|---|-----------|--|
| Government of the Republic of North Macedonia | Permanent | https://vlada.mk |
| ICPDR | Permanent | www.icpdr.org |
| Danube Commission | Permanent | www.danubecommission.org |
| Transport Community | Permanent | www.transport-community.org |
| GWP CEE | Temporary | www.gwp.org/en/GWP-CEE |
| WWF Adria | Temporary | www.wwfadria.org |
| EuroNatur Foundation | Temporary | www.euronatur.org |

7.2. Marking the Sava Day 2022 and involving young generation

The slogan of Sava Day 2022 was "Protect our rivers from plastic and microplastics!". On June 1, 2022, the Sava Commission, together with the National Institute of Biology and the Institute for Water of Slovenia, organized an online round table on the topic of the problem of plastic in waters, with the participation of schools that cooperate in the Sava Youth Parliament and that presented the results of monitoring at selected locations on the Sava, which was carried out during April 2022. The joint conclusion of more than 80 participants is that plastic represents a significant threat to our environment, with the message that every person in the world, especially young people, should contribute to reducing the use of plastic by changing their behaviour, while the industry should use ecologically more acceptable materials wherever possible, taking care of the future of new generations.

The news of the Sava day celebration has been published in different media, such as: [24 ur-Čas za zemljo](#), [Jutranji list](#), [Večernji list](#), [SEEbiz](#), [Ekovjesnik](#), [ONASA](#), [Business magazin](#) and on the webpage of [Ministry](#) of Economy and Sustainable Development of Croatia.

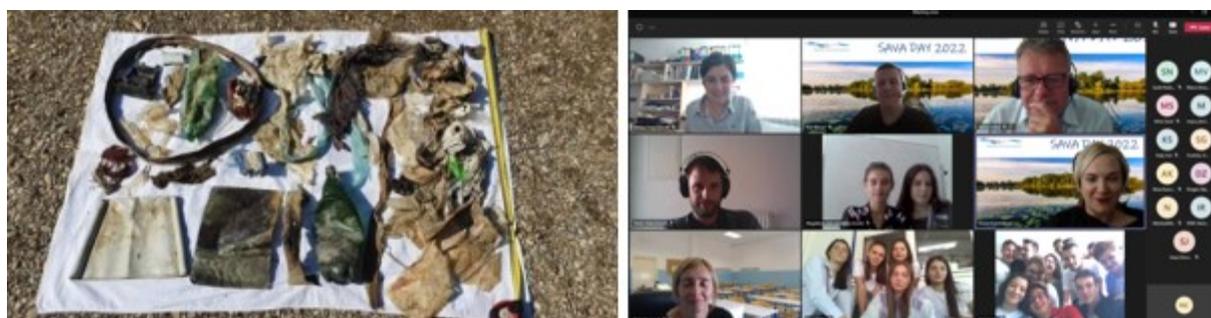


Figure 14. Monitoring campaign on plastic (April 2022) and the roundtable (1st of June 2022)

The 10th Sava Youth Parliament, held in Belgrade between the 13th and 15th of October 2022, gathered more than 50 students and their mentors from secondary schools in Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Serbia. It was organized with the support of the WACOM project.

The following schools have been selected to participate in the event:

- Center Ljubljana Food school Ljubljana (SI)- 2 teams,
- School of Economics, Commerce and Catering, Samobor (HR),
- Gymnasium Sesvete, Sesvete (HR),
- Secondary Vocational and Technical School, Gradiška (BA),
- Mixed Secondary School "Hazim Šabanović", Visoko (BA) and
- Gymnasium Crnjanski Belgrade (RS).

The slogan of this year's Youth Parliament was “Let’s manage the emergency situations”, aiming to increase the awareness of people, especially youth, about the procedures and methods of how to respond and behave in the case of accidental pollution and floods, thereby minimizing the hazard to people, property, and nature.

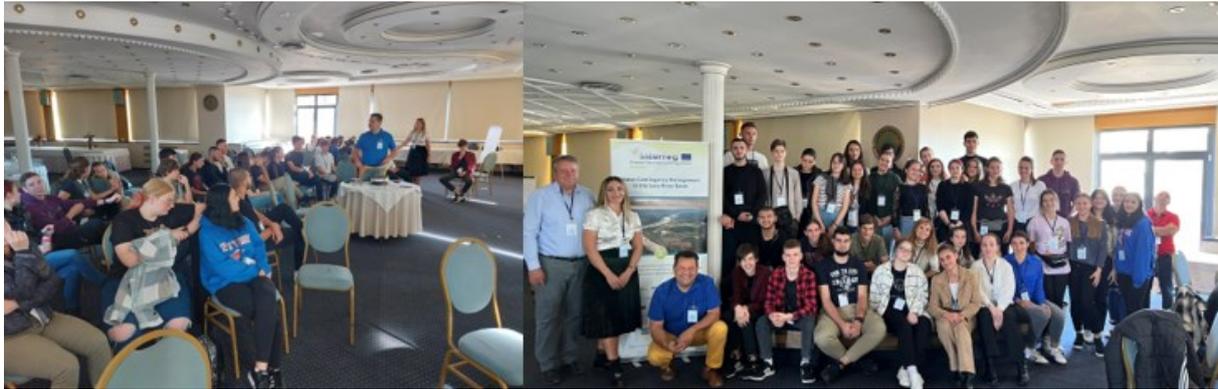


Figure 15. Participants of the 10th Sava Youth Parliament

More information on the Sava Youth Parliament is available at the web site of the [Parliament](https://sava-youthparliament.com/)⁵.

Young people have also been included in the project “Can you hear our rivers? – Sava and Scheldt Youth Parliaments Cooperation”, financed by ERASMUS+ Programme of the EU. The project started in March 2022, and the project coordinator is GoodPlanet Belgium, while the ISRBC is the project partner. The main objective of the project is to bring together young people from 7 European countries (SI, HR, BA, RS, BE, FR and NL) to jointly research and reflect on solutions to climate change-related issues and to learn from each others’ experiences. Of the two study trips planned by the project, one has already been realized – a study trip to Ghent (Belgium) that took place from 6-12 September 2022. There were 10 participants from the Sava Youth Parliament and 10 from the Scheldt Youth Parliament. The programme included training on how to make podcasts and interviews, lectures at Ghent University, a visit to Zwin Nature Park, water quality analyses and many other interesting activities.



Figure 16. Study visit to Ghent (BE) in September 2022

⁵ <https://sava-youthparliament.com/>

The second study trip will be held in Zagreb from 21-27 April 2023. The programme will include training on video editing, a lecture on climate change to be given by the WMO expert, a visit to Lonjsko Polje Nature Park and freshwater aquarium in Karlovac, a street art workshop and some intercultural exchange activities.

Annexes

ANNEX I: List of the ISRBC members and deputy members

| Name and surname | Function | Institution |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | | |
| Zoran Andrić | Member | Ministry of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina |
| Vanda Medić | Deputy Member | Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina |
| Republic of Croatia | | |
| Duška Kunštek | Member Chairperson | Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Croatia |
| Elizabeta Kos | Deputy Member | Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of the Republic of Croatia |
| Republic of Serbia | | |
| Nataša Milić | Member until 16 March 2023 | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Serbia |
| Maja Grbić | Member since 16 March 2023 | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Serbia |
| Veljko Kovačević | Deputy Member until 16 March 2023 | Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Serbia |
| Predrag Petrović | Deputy Member since 16 March 2023 | Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Serbia |
| Republic of Slovenia | | |
| Mitja Bricelj | Member | Ministry of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning of the Republic of Slovenia |
| Mojca Deželak | Deputy Member until 9 February 2023 | Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia |
| Tanja Miškova | Deputy Member since 9 February 2023 | Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia |

ANNEX II: List of the national institutions responsible for the implementation of the FASRB

| | Institution | Contact details |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | | |
| 1. | Ministry of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina | Trg Bosne i Hercegovine 1, 71000 Sarajevo Tel: +387 33 219 923 |
| 2. | Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina | Musala 9, 71000 Sarajevo Tel: +387 33 219 923 |
| 3. | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Srpska | Trg Republike Srpska 1, 78000 Banjaluka Tel: + 387 51 338 415 |
| 4. | Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry | Marka Marulića 2, 71000 Sarajevo Tel: +387 33 726 551 |
| 5. | Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Srpska | Trg Republike Srpska 1, 78000 Banjaluka Tel: +387 51 339 404 |
| 6. | Federal Ministry of Transport and Communications | Braće Fejića bb, 88.000 Mostar Tel: +387 36 550 025 |
| 7. | Ministry of Spatial Planning, Civil Engineering and Ecology of the Republic of Srpska | Trg Republike Srpska 1, 78000 Banjaluka Tel: +387 51 339 487 |
| 8. | Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism | Marka Marulića 2, 71000 Sarajevo Tel: +387 33 726 700 |
| 9. | Government of the Brčko District | Bulevar mira 1, 76100 Brčko Tel: +387 49 240-600 |
| Republic of Croatia | | |
| 1. | Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Croatia | Prisavlje 14, 10000 Zagreb Tel: +385 1 6169 111 |
| 2. | Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of the Republic of Croatia | Radnička cesta 80, 10000 Zagreb Tel: +385 1 3717 111 |
| Republic of Serbia | | |
| 1. | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Serbia | Bulevar Umetnosti 2a 11070 Novi Beograd Tel: +381 11 2013 360 |
| 2. | Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Serbia | Nemanjina 22-26, 11000 Beograd Tel: +381 11 3619 833 |
| 3. | Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia | Kneza Miloša 24-26.11000 Beograd Tel: +381 11 3616 333 |
| 4. | Ministry of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Serbia | Omladinskih Brigada 1, 11070 Novi Beograd |

| | Institution | Contact details |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| | | Tel: +381 11 3110 271 |
| 5. | Republic Hydro-meteorological Service of Serbia | Kneza Višeslava 66, 11000 Beograd Tel: +381 11 3050 864 |
| 6. | Republic Geodetic Authority | Bulevar Vojvode Mišića 39, 11000 Beograd Tel: +381 11 265 22 22 |
| Republic of Slovenia | | |
| 1. | Ministry of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning of the Republic of Slovenia | Dunajska cesta 47, 1000 Ljubljana Tel: +386 1 478 70 00 |
| 2. | Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia | Prešernova cesta 25, 1000 Ljubljana Tel: +386 1 478 20 00 |
| 3. | Ministry of Economy, Tourism and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia | Kotnikova ulica 5, 1000 Ljubljana Tel: +386 1 400 33 11 |
| 4. | Ministry of Infrastructure of the Republic of Slovenia | Tržaška cesta 19, 1000 Ljubljana Tel: +386 1 478 80 00 |

ANNEX III: List of the events organised/co-organised by ISRBC in FY 2022

| Event | Date | Method / Venue | Organizer |
|---|--|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 4th SHELTER Task Group meeting | 05 April 2022 | Video link | ISRBC |
| 47th PEG RBM Meeting | 12 April 2022 | Video link | ISRBC |
| 3rd Sava FFWS Steering Group | 13 April 2022 | Video link | ISRBC |
| Sava FFWS International IT System Management Exercise | 21 April 2022 | Video link | ISRBC |
| WACOM project ⁶ Tabletop exercises | 12 May 2022–SI 18-19 May 2022–HR 23-24 May 2022–BA | hybrid | WACOM project partners |
| 3 rd Sava FFWS International Team for Development meeting | 24 May 2022 | Video link | ISRBC |
| 3 rd Sava FFWS International Team for Support meeting | 25 May 2022 | Video link | ISRBC |
| 3 rd Sava FFWS International Team for Forecasting meeting | 26 May 2022 | Video link | ISRBC |
| 3 rd Sava FFWS Technical Group | 25 August 2022 | Video link | ISRBC |
| Sava Day 2022 – roundtable “Protect our rivers from plastic and microplastic!” | 1 June 2022 | Video link | ISRBC, NIB, Institute for Water (SI) |
| 60 th Session of ISRBC | 30 June -1 July 2022 | Hybrid meeting | ISRBC |
| 48 th PEG RBM Meeting | 21 September 2022 | Video link | ISRBC |
| The 13 th Follow-up Meeting of the Joint Statement on Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin | September 14-15, 2022 | Budapest | ISRBC, DC, ICPDR |
| 10 th Sava Youth Parliament | 13-15 October 2022 | Belgrade | ISRBC, WACOM project partners |
| WACOM 3 rd national workshops | 19 October 2022-SI 25 October 2022-HR 26 October 2022-BA 5 December 2022-RS | Hybrid | WACOM project partners |
| 26 th PEG APC meeting | 24 October 2022 | Video link | ISRBC |
| 61 st Session of ISRBC | 27-28 October 2022 | Hybrid meeting | ISRBC |
| 25 th PEG GIS meeting | 3 November 2022 | Video link | ISRBC |
| WACOM Final Conference | 15 November 2022 | Hybrid-Sarajevo | WACOM project partners |
| SHELTER Task Group Study Tour | 11-14 September 2022 | The Netherlands | ISRBC, UNESCO |
| 4 th Sava FFWS International Team for Support meeting | 11 October 2022 | Video link | ISRBC |
| 46 th PEG FP meeting | 13 October 2022 | Hybrid | ISRBC |

⁶ Only the key events are stated for projects

| Event | Date | Method / Venue | Organizer |
|---|------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 4 th Sava FFWS International Team for Forecasting and Development meeting | 14 October 2022 | Video link | ISRBC |
| 4 th Sava FFWS Technical Group | 07 November 2022 | Hybrid | ISRBC |
| 4 th Sava FFWS Steering Group | 24 November 2022 | Video link | ISRBC |
| 9 th Meeting of the Parties to the FASRB | 9 December 2022 | Zagreb | Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Croatia, ISRBC |
| SHELTER 6 th Sava Open Lab Stakeholder Workshop and Training for end-users | 14 December 2022 | Video link | ISRBC, UNESCO |
| 5 th Sava FFWS International Teams meeting | 25 January 2023 | Video link | ISRBC |
| SHELTER Task Group end-user Q&A session | 07 February 2023 | Video link | ISRBC |
| 49 th PEG RBM Meeting | 21 February 2023 | Video link | ISRBC |
| 27 th PEG APC meeting | 22 February 2023 | Video link | ISRBC |
| 47 th PEG FP meeting | 23 February 2023 | Video link | ISRBC |
| 25 th PEG NAV meeting | 27 February 2023 | Video link | ISRBC |
| 62 nd Session of ISRBC | 09-10 March 2023 | Hybrid meeting | ISRBC |
| 26 th PEG GIS meeting | 14 March 2023 | Video link | ISRBC |
| Webinar “Nature based Solutions- Let’s work with nature!” | 30 March 2023 | Video link | ISRBC, GWP CEE and University of Belgrade |

ANNEX IV: List of the ISRBC projects implemented or ongoing in FY 2022

| No | Project title | Status | Remark on the status / Implementation period | Lead partner(s) / Consultant | Budget (k€) | Funding source |
|----|--|----------|---|--|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Sustainable Historic Environments holistic reconstruction through Technological Enhancement and community based Resilience - SHELTER | Active | <p>Started in June 2019; Implementation period 4 years; Kick-off meeting held on June 13-14, 2019; Six stakeholder workshops related to the Sava case study (open lab) held; Task Group established for monitoring project implementation, with representatives of competent institutions (cultural heritage protection, flood, emergency management) from 5 Sava countries. Four meetings held; Data collected on cultural assets in areas with potential flood risk; IT equipment for the purpose of Sava GIS improvement was purchased and installed; Sava GIS improved, including the integration of collected data; Background for flood impact analysis concerning potentially threatened cultural assets prepared; Study Tour of the Task Group members to the Netherlands and peer-learning activity with the Dordrecht open lab performed; Continuous knowledge transfer performed; Support to the organization of the Sava Youth Parliament 2021; ISRBC is involved in the development of all other tasks at project level.</p> | Tecnia, ES/ ISRBC as project partner | 5,999.448 (ISRBC - 209.365) | H2020 |
| 2 | Water Contingency Management Plan for the Sava River Basin - WACOM | Finished | <p>The WACOM project was approved within the 3rd call for the Danube Transnational Program (DTP) project proposals. The lead partner is the University of Ljubljana, while project partners include water management, navigation, and civil protection entities from the Sava Countries and ISRBC. The project commenced on 1 July 2020 and finished on 31 December 2022 (30 months). Main activities implemented: – Establishment of model of oil slick propagation</p> | University of Ljubljana/ ISRBC as project partner | 1,570.581 (ISRBC- 214.820) | DTP |

| No | Project title | Status | Remark on the status / Implementation period | Lead partner(s) / Consultant | Budget (k€) | Funding source |
|----|-------------------------|--------|--|------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of Incident Command System Tools (Transnational Incident Coordination Tool and Situational Awareness Tool) - Upgrade Sava GIS with APC and NAV modules - Execution of Tabletop Exercises (water management, civil protection and navigation sectors) - Development of strategies for emergency response (Sava STEER) - Communication activities (e.g. newsletters, articles in newspapers and bulletins, video, workshops, conferences, presentations at > 50 events, Sava Youth Parliament etc.) | | | |
| 3 | Can you hear our rivers | Active | The project “Can you hear our rivers? - the Sava and Scheldt Youth Parliaments Cooperation” has been approved by the ERASMUS+ Programme of the European Union. The main objective is to bring together young people from 7 European countries (SI, HR, BA, RS, BE, FR and NL) to learn from each other, jointly research and reflect on solutions to climate change-related issues. The project started in May 2022, and in September 2022, a study trip to Ghent (BE) was organized. In April 2023, the study visit to Croatia is foreseen. | GoodPlanet Belgium | 60 | ERASMUS+ |

ANNEX V: List of external projects supported by ISRBC completed or ongoing in FY 2022

| No | Project title | Status | Brief description | Budget (k€) | Funding source | Role of ISRBC |
|----|--|---|--|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1 | Regenerating ecosystems with Nature-based solutions for hydro-meteorological risk reduction - RECONNECT | Ongoing September 2018 - August 2023 | The objective of the RECONNECT project is to contribute to the European reference framework for Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) by showcasing, promoting and improving large NBSs, as well as by supporting a new culture of “land use planning”, bringing together risk mitigation and local and regional development goals in a sustainable manner. The project draws upon a network of case studies, among which Bregana, Vrbanja, Jadar and Tamnava rivers are selected as case studies in the Sava River Basin, where the development of prefeasibility studies and knowledge-sharing activities is currently ongoing. | 15,400 | EU H2020 | Observer |
| 2 | FAIRway works in the Rhine Danube Corridor | Ongoing March 2020 - December 2023 | The project will additionally eliminate existing bottlenecks by upgrading locks, creating and upgrading mooring infrastructure, as well as by improving navigability through hydrological services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade of Iron Gate 2 (Serbia); • Upgrade of 3 public mooring sites (Upper Austria, Lower Austria and Vienna); • Procurement of two multifunctional marking vessels (Austria and Serbia), one geodetic vessel (Serbia) and 100 modern buoys with AIS modules for the Sava River. <p>Current status: Equipment for improving the waterway was acquired for the Austrian Danube. The first part of this equipment has been in use since the spring of 2021 in the form of the lighter „Bojenleger 2“ for fairway marking.</p> | 42, 576 | CEF | Advisory Board |
| 3 | Preparation of FAIRway 2 works in the Rhine-Danube corridor | Ongoing July 2020 - April 2024 | The study is a joint project of Austria, Croatia and Serbia that will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide a list of environmental and navigational characteristics of the joint Croatian-Serbian section of the Danube; coupled with depth analysis, this will | 3,292 | CEF | Advisory Board |

| No | Project title | Status | Brief description | Budget (k€) | Funding source | Role of ISRBC |
|----|---|-------------------------------------|--|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | | <p>help to identify potential future works, their options and potential next steps for future integrated river engineering projects;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • specify further functionalities of transnational waterway management system (WAMOS); • develop improved method for stakeholder coordination; • prepare studies for needs assessment regarding commercial maritime transport in relation to the upgrade/construction of mooring sites along the Danube and the Sava River for Austria, Croatia and Serbia; • provide foundations for future implementation within the foreseen FAIRway Danube 2 project <p>Current status: The contract for monitoring the joint CRO-SRB section was signed. Serbian partner is implementing the tendering procedure. The contract is expected in autumn 2023.</p> | | | |
| 10 | The platform for the implementation of NAIADES - PLATINA 3 | Ongoing January 2021 - June 2023 | <p>PLATINA 3 serves as a bridge towards future research, innovation and implementation needs within IWT in Europe. By defining the framework for future inland navigation in Europe, the development path for inland navigation in the Danube region will be determined, as well.</p> <p>Key experts and stakeholders are partners of the PLATINA 3 consortium, ensuring needed expertise and support to implementation: IWT sector and shipping companies, member states and river commissions, waterway administrations, educational and vocational training institutes, Waterborne Technology Platform (Sea Europe), workers, competence centers. The final event of the project was held in Brussels in March 2023, while the finalization of the project is expected in June 2023.</p> <p>The successor project - Platina 4, is expected to commence in January 2024. The focus of the successor is, however,</p> | 1,999 | EU H2020 | Advisory Board |

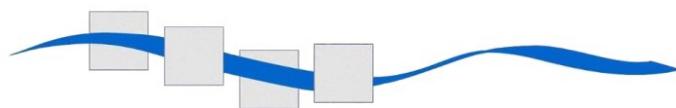
| No | Project title | Status | Brief description | Budget (k€) | Funding source | Role of ISRBC |
|----|---|---|---|-------------|----------------|--|
| | | | narrower as it aims specifically for the deployment of solutions, mainly in the field of the transition towards zero-emission performance and digitalisation in view of the drastic emission reduction and modal shift targets. | | | |
| 11 | Improving water quality in the Danube River and its tributaries by integrative floodplain management based on Ecosystem Services - IDES | Ongoing July 2020 - December 2022 | The main objective of IDES is to improve water quality management along the Danube and its tributaries by applying integrative floodplain management (IDES tool), founded upon ecosystem services. The expected change is improved implementation of water quality management in the Danube region by mitigating conflicts and promoting synergies among various social interests in floodplain areas, thus also determining sustainable, effective and integrative management options. | 1581,3 | DTP | Associated strategic partner |
| 12 | Tackling hazardous substances pollution in the Danube River Basin by Measuring, Modelling-based Management and Capacity building- Danube Hazard m3c | Ongoing July 2020 - December 2022- prolonged until March 2023 | The objective of the project is to pave the way for permanent and effective transnational control and decrease of hazardous substances water pollution in the Danube River Basin. Increasing understanding of the status and harmonized institutional capacities, which are expected to result from project activities, will improve the manner in which hazardous substances pollution is resolved in the Danube River Basin Management Plan, in sub-basin management plans and national river basin management plans. | 2597,5 | DTP | Associated strategic partner |
| 13 | Development of Environmental Impact Assessment study and design for the action: Improvement of the navigability conditions of the Sava River from rkm. 300 to rkm. 329 (Project Jaruge-Novigrad) | Ongoing Started in 2018 | Rehabilitation of the most critical fairway section of the Sava River waterway on the section Jaruge – Novi Grad. The project is led by Croatia with support from Bosnia and Hercegovina, while the following activities are to be performed within it: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> environmental impact assessment study, preparation of project documentation for improvement of the navigability conditions of the Sava Current status: | 650 | CEF | Organization and execution of the Stakeholder Forum meetings |

| No | Project title | Status | Brief description | Budget (k€) | Funding source | Role of ISRBC |
|----|---------------|--------|---|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| | | | The EIA study was approved, as it was found acceptable for the environment and the ecological network by applying environmental protection measures. Continuation of activities with the next Stakeholder Forum is to be carried out in FY 2023. | | | |

ANNEX VI: Acronyms & Abbreviations

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| AEWS | Accident Emergency Warning System |
| AMI | Area of mutual interest (for flood protection) |
| APC | Accident Prevention and Control |
| APSFR | Areas of Potential Significant Flood Risk |
| BA, BiH | Bosnia and Herzegovina |
| BE | Belgium |
| CCNR | Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine |
| CESNI | European Committee for drawing up standards in inland navigation |
| CEVNI | European Code for Navigation |
| CMS | Content Management System |
| DC | Danube Commission |
| DMS | Document Management System |
| DTP | Danube Transnational Programme |
| EG | Expert Group |
| EIB | European Investment Bank |
| EU | European Union |
| FASRB | Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin |
| FFWS | Flood Forecasting and Warning System |
| FIN | Financial issues |
| FY | Financial Year |
| FP | Flood prevention |
| FR | France |
| FRM | Flood Risk Management |
| GEF | Global Environment Facility |
| GIS | Geographic Information System |
| GWP CEE | Regional Partnership of GWP for Central and Eastern Europe |
| HIS | Hydrological Information System |
| HR | Republic of Croatia |
| IBRD | International Bank for Reconstruction and Development |
| ICPDR | International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River |
| ISRBC, Sava Commission | International Sava River Basin Commission |
| ME | Montenegro |
| MoP | Meeting of the Parties |
| NAV | Navigation |

| | |
|---------|--|
| NL | The Netherlands |
| PEG | Permanent Expert Group |
| PFRA | Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment in the Sava River Basin |
| PIAC | Principal International Alert Center |
| RBM | River Basin Management |
| RS | Republic of Serbia |
| SDIP | Sava and Drina Rivers Corridors Integrated Development Program |
| SF | Stakeholders Forum |
| SHELTER | Sustainable Historic Environments hoListic reconstruction through Technological Enhancement and community-based Resilience |
| SI | Republic of Slovenia |
| UNECE | United Nations Economic Commission for Europe |
| UNESCO | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization |
| WACOM | Water Contingency Management in the Sava River Basin |
| WBIF | Western Balkans Investment Framework |
| WFD | Water Framework Directive |
| WMO | World Meteorological Organization |
| WWF | World Wide Fund for Nature |



INTERNATIONAL SAVA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION