



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL SAVA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2024

Ref. No. WD-25-1/2-3

Contact

Secretariat of the Sava Commission
Kneza Branimira 29
10000 Zagreb / Croatia
Phone: +385 (1) 488 – 6960
E-mail: isrbc@savacommission.org
Web: www.savacommission.org

© ISRBC 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	INTRODUCTION.....	1
2.	INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT.....	3
3.	NAVIGATION	8
4.	DATA AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT	12
5.	CROSS-CUTTING AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES	15
6.	COOPERATION AND STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT	17
7.	LEGAL AND FINANCIAL ISSUES	20
	ANNEXES.....	22
	ANNEX I: LIST OF INSTITUTIONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FASRB IMPLEMENTATION	23
	ANNEX II: LIST OF THE ISRBC MEMBERS AND DEPUTY MEMBERS	25
	ANNEX III: STATUS OF THE SDIP COMPONENT 4 - REGIONAL ACTIVITIES ON 31 MARCH 2025	26
	ANNEX IV: LIST OF EXTERNAL PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE ISRBC, COMPLETED OR ONGOING IN THE REPORTING PERIOD	30
	ANNEX V: SELECTED EVENTS ORGANIZED/CO-ORGANIZED BY THE ISRBC IN THE REPORTING PERIOD	32
	ANNEX VI: LIST OF ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS	33

1. Introduction

The Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin (Framework Agreement; FASRB) was signed on 3 December 2002, in Kranjska Gora and entered into force on 29 December 2004. With the Framework Agreement, the Parties committed to cooperation in the field of sustainable water management and inland navigation. The main objectives of the cooperation include:

- Creating sustainable water management practices in the Sava River Basin,
- Establishing an international regime of navigation on the Sava River and its navigable tributaries, and
- Implementing measures to prevent or limit hazards and to reduce or eliminate adverse consequences, including those caused by floods, ice, droughts, and incidents involving hazardous substances in water.

The Parties implement the Framework Agreement through their designated national institutions. The coordination of the activities is managed by the International Sava River Basin Commission (Sava Commission, ISRBC), which is composed of one member and one deputy from each Party. As the professional body of the Sava Commission, the Secretariat prepares and monitors planned activities and organizes the work of the Commission's permanent, ad hoc, and task expert groups, as well as the bodies established to support the implementation of specific activities and projects. A principal scheme of organisation, operation, and decision-making is shown in Figure 1.

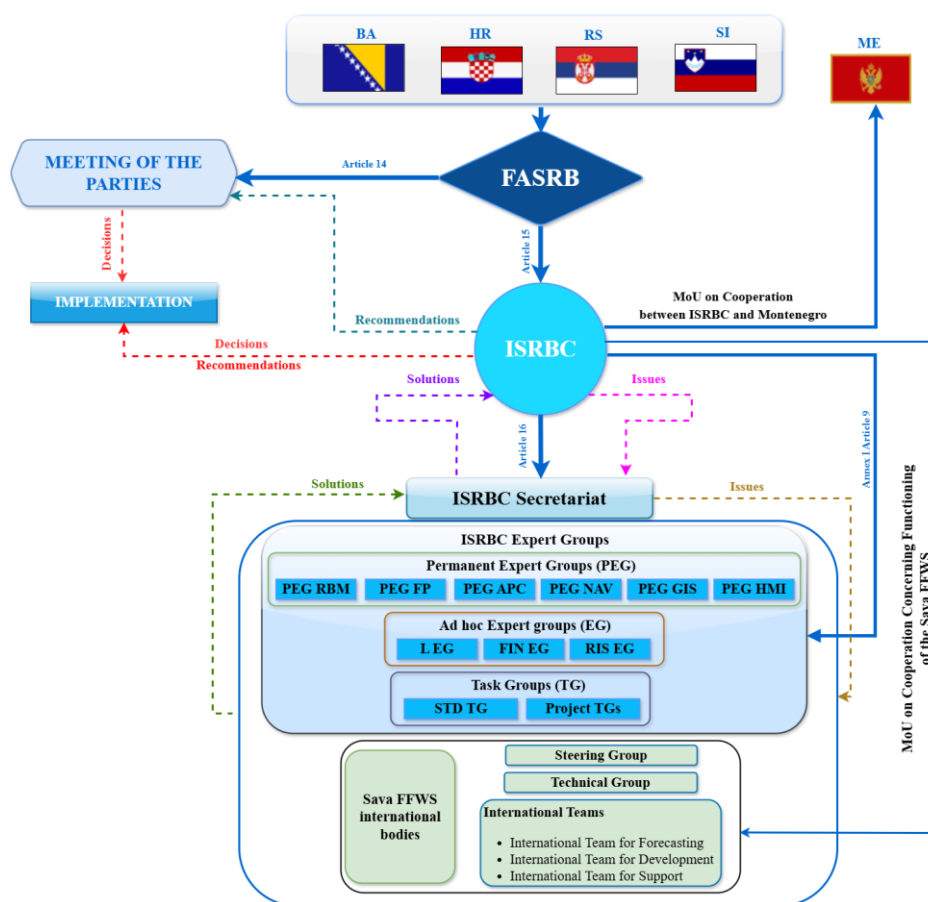


Figure 1. Principal scheme of the ISRBC functioning

One of the obligations of the ISRBC, according to its Statute (Annex I of the FASRB), is to submit annual reports on its work to the Parties of the FASRB (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Croatia, Republic of Serbia and Republic of Slovenia). This Annual Report on the work and activities of the ISRBC covers the period 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025¹.



Figure 2. 68th Session of the Sava Commission

It can be stated that the implementation of the Framework Agreement has successfully continued in all areas of cooperation, with substantial progress made. Further advances have been achieved in the so-called 3rd Sava River Basin Management (RBM) and the 2nd "Sava" Flood Risk Management (FRM) planning cycles, in continuation of the activities aimed at the rehabilitation of navigation on the Sava River waterway, as well as in further development of linked integrated systems. Substantial efforts and resources have been invested in the implementation of the activities of the regional component of the Sava and Drina Rivers Corridors Integrated Development Program (SDIP), which represents key support in achieving the priority goals of the cooperation of the Parties.

Details on the performed activities and the most significant issues are provided in Chapters 1 to 7 of this report, with further useful information provided in the annexes.

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

2. Integrated Water Management

During the reporting period, significant efforts were devoted to continuing and advancing activities related to integrated water management. This included actions in the “Sava” river basin and flood risk management cycles, sediment management, accident prevention, and the ongoing operational use and further development of linked integration systems. A brief overview of these efforts is presented in the following text.

River Basin Management: The 3rd "Sava" RBM cycle was initiated after the approval of the 2nd Sava RBM Plan in December 2022 and continued in the subsequent period.

Following the requirements set by the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD), the development of the Interim report on the implementation of the 2nd Sava RBM Plan Programme of Measures (PoM) was initiated in September 2023 and finalized at the beginning of 2025. The [Interim Report](#) contains information on implementation progress and the types of measures enacted in the Sava countries and at the basin-wide level, aiming to recognize advancements and challenges in implementing measures. Additionally, best practices or lighthouse projects in measures implementation are highlighted where available.

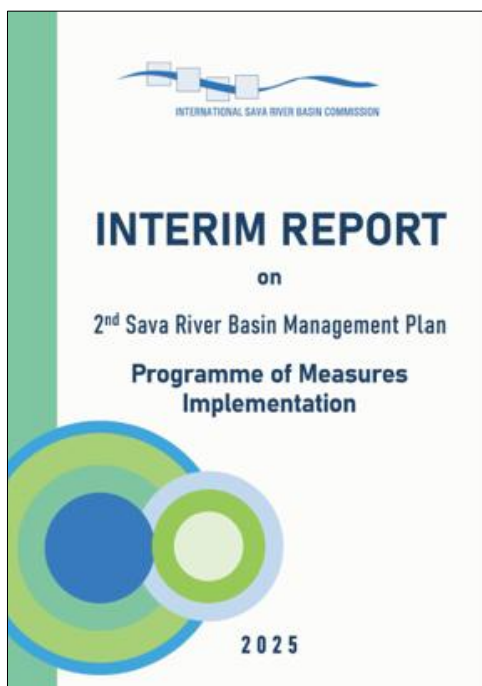
		Contents
1	Introduction.....	2
2	Background.....	2
3	Sava River Basin Management Planning.....	3
3.1	The 2 nd Sava RBMP Programme of measures.....	6
4	The 2 nd Sava RBMP Programme of Measures Implementation.....	8
4.1	Organic pollution.....	8
4.1.1	Lighthouse projects Republic of Croatia.....	11
4.1.2	Lighthouse project Bosnia and Herzegovina.....	12
4.2	Nutrient pollution.....	13
4.2.1	Lighthouse project Montenegro.....	16
4.3	Hazardous substances pollution.....	17
4.4	Hydromorphological Alteration.....	20
4.4.1	Interruption of river and habitat continuity.....	20
4.4.1.1	Lighthouse project Republic of Serbia.....	23
4.4.2	Hydrological alteration-water abstraction.....	24
4.4.3	Hydrological alteration-impoundment.....	26
4.4.4	Hydrological alteration-hydropeaking.....	28
4.4.5	Morphological alteration.....	31
4.4.5.1	Lighthouse project Republic of Slovenia.....	34
4.4.6	Lighthouse project Republic of Serbia.....	35
4.4.6.1	Future infrastructure projects.....	36
4.5	Groundwater.....	39
4.5.1	Groundwater quality.....	39
4.5.2	Groundwater quantity.....	42
4.6	Measures for other (candidate) SWMs.....	45
4.6.1	Invasive alien species.....	45
4.6.2	Sediment quality and quantity.....	48
4.7	Additional issue-Protected areas.....	51
4.8	Other issue- Unregulated solid and waste disposal.....	54
5	Progress on measures implementation on the Sava River Basin level.....	56
6	Future tasks, gaps identified and remaining challenges.....	62
7	Conclusions.....	62
ANNEXES.....		64
Annex I SWMs, visions and management objectives and measures addressing them.....		64
Annex II: The 2 nd Sava RBMP Programme of measures- Implementation progress.....		71
Annex III Types of measures implemented.....		77
Annex IV Financing of measures.....		86

Figure 3. Cover Page and Content of the Interim Report

The implementation of measures outlined in the 2nd Sava RBM Plan can be considered satisfactory. For more than 70% of important issues, the level of progress in implementation is 50% or above. The highest level of implementation is reached for measures related to organic and nutrient pollution, water abstraction, groundwater quality and quantity, and protected areas. The lowest level of progress is recognized in implementing measures related to hydro-morphological pressures, invasive alien species and sediment issues.

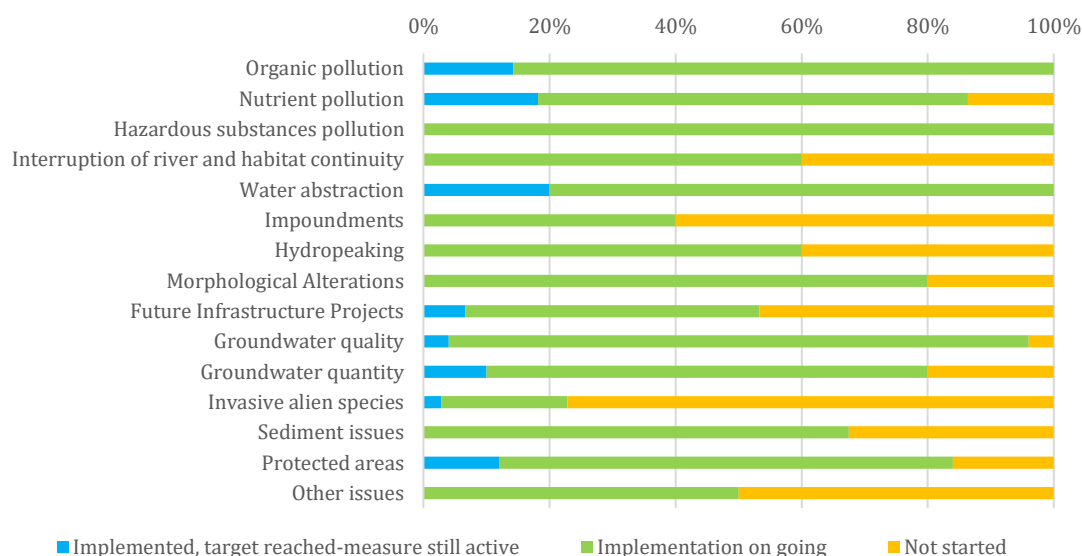


Figure 4. Progress in the 2nd Sava RBM Plan Programme of Measures implementation

While notable progress has been made in implementing various measures, further joint and coordinated efforts are necessary to meet shared objectives. The Interim Report outlines guidelines for preparing the PoMs for upcoming planning cycles. The development of the updated Sava RBM Plan will continue in line with the EU RBM planning dynamics. Technical assistance will be provided through the SDIP-Phase I implementation. The approval of the plan is expected by the end of 2027.

Since the Protocol on Sediment Management came into effect in October 2017, the Parties have committed to conducting significant joint activities related to this important issue. One of these activities, established in 2019, involves the annual exchange of information between the Parties regarding planned and executed dredging. Based on the information received, the Sava Commission prepares consolidated reports that include relevant data on the location and type of dredging, assessment of sediment quality and quantity, and details on the disposal and treatment of sediments. The report on dredging activities executed in 2023, as well as plans for dredging in 2024, have been prepared and delivered to the Parties. According to the collected data, the total volume of dredging carried out in the Sava River Basin in 2023 exceeded 6.94 million cubic meters.

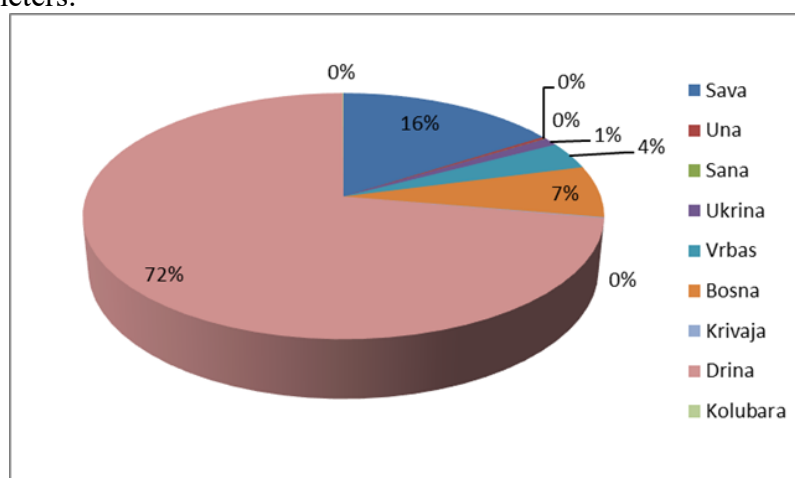


Figure 5. Percentage of executed sediment dredging per river in 2023

Flood Management: Activities related to flood management at the Sava River Basin level, based on the Protocol on Flood Protection to the FASRB, continued through the second “Sava” flood risk management planning cycle. Following the preparation of the updated report on Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment in the Sava River Basin (Sava PFRA), which was accepted by the ISRBC in 2022, activities related to the exchange of information on the flood maps between countries started and were successfully finalized by compiling the Report on the Flood Maps in the Sava River Basin – Update 2024.



Figure 6. Cover page of the Sava Flood Maps Report and [Online Sava Flood Maps - Update 2024](#)

For the first time, the countries have exchanged all relevant data and information through a common data-sharing platform, Sava GIS. The updated maps are available through an interactive web-based tool, designed to easily facilitate the exchange of information between countries, in line with Article 7.2 of the Protocol on Flood Protection. These web-based flood maps will also serve as a key foundation for the development of an updated Sava FRM Plan.

Flood hazard maps include the total surface of hazard area of 4.596,6 km² in Areas of Mutual Interest for Flood Protection in the Sava River Basin (AMI) for the medium probability scenario, while the total surface area for the low probability scenario is 5.934,6 km². Flood risk maps include the potential adverse consequences in AMIs on human health, economic activity, environment and cultural heritage. The adverse consequences in AMIs for the medium probability scenario are as follows:

- human health: 591.268 inhabitants affected
- economic activity: 424 different economic activity types (28 economic activities, 62 infrastructure facilities, 197 properties, 137 rural land use),
- environment (including affected surface water bodies: 110; ground water bodies: 55; potential pollution sources from IED/IPPC and Seveso installations or other significant industrial pollution sources: 66; protected areas: 93)
- cultural heritage (archaeological heritage: 30; secular architectural heritage: 36; sacral architectural heritage: 2; sacral-secular architectural heritage: 13; memorial heritage: 42; garden architectural heritage: 2; urban heritage: 16; cultural landscape: 2; other cultural heritage: 22).

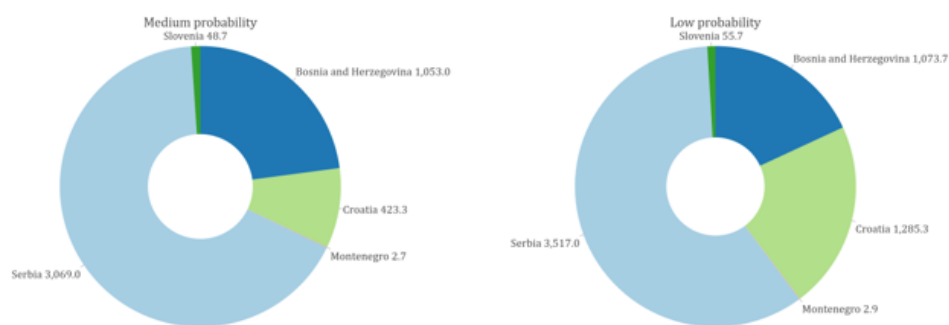


Figure 7. Flood hazard areas in AMIs (in km2)

Since its launch in October 2018, the Flood Forecasting and Warning System in the Sava River Basin (Sava FFWS) has become an essential tool, regularly used by 10 national institutions across 5 countries. Its seamless operation and maintenance are supported by a Memorandum of Understanding, effective from 1 June 2021, which clearly defines mutual rights and responsibilities and establishes basin-wide implementing and coordinating bodies. That enabled the system to maintain high operational standards, including knowledge transfer and regular training of experts.

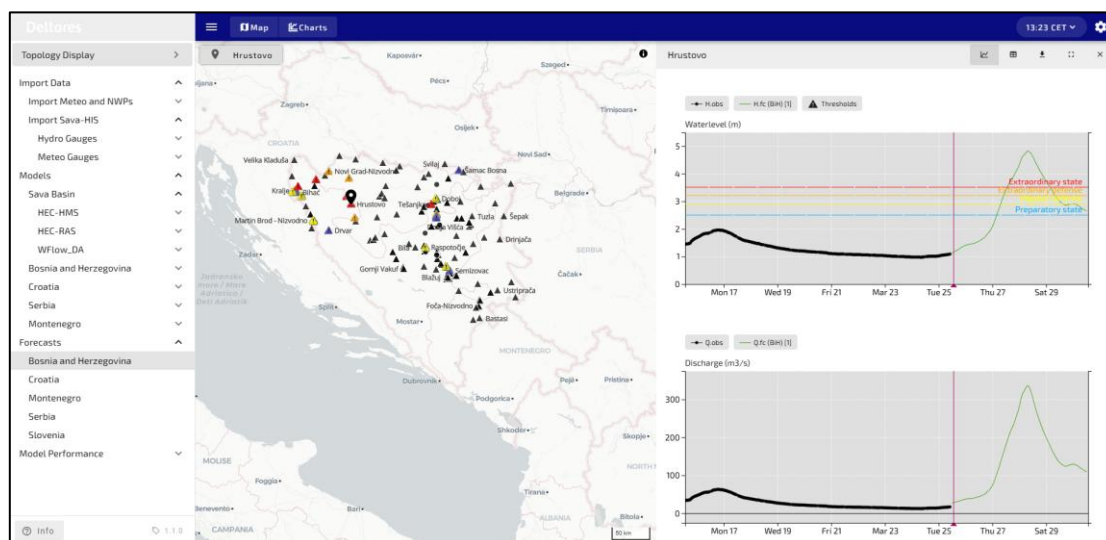


Figure 8. Sava FFWS Operator Client Web Portal

The training has been continuously implemented through the Annual Training Programs, which include participation in various events such as workshops and training sessions. These events provide forecasting organizations with valuable opportunities to strengthen their capacities.



Figure 9: The Sava FFWS users as participants of the Delft Software Days-Edition 2024

Accident Prevention and Control: The Parties to the FASRB use the Accident Emergency Warning System (AEWS), which is maintained by the ICPDR. The objectives of the AEWS are to receive, process, and promptly communicate information on pollution in case of an accident. To ensure functionality and verify the performance of the Principal International Alert Centres (PIACs), the AEWS is regularly tested, in principle, twice a year. The tests, performed in the reporting period, confirmed that all PIACs in the Parties are capable of executing their main tasks, although the PIACs in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia are still not integrated into national systems operating on a 24/7 basis.

3. Navigation

During the reporting period, efforts in the field of navigation were concentrated on the actions related to the rehabilitation and development of navigation and transport on the Sava River waterway. Additionally, work continued on establishing standards related to navigation safety and other technical requirements, in accordance with the latest EU legislation.

Rehabilitation of the Sava River Waterway: Following the approach related to the rehabilitation and development of navigation on the Sava River and its navigable tributaries, which prioritizes regulating critical sectors of the waterway (“bottlenecks”), the Parties, supported by the Sava Commission, proceeded with a series of activities in this direction during the reporting period.

In this context, Serbia has continued its activities to regulate the critical sector at the confluence of the Sava and Drina rivers in collaboration with Bosnia and Herzegovina. The project, valued at €8.58 million, is co-financed equally by the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the Serbian budget. Additionally, significant funds have been invested in ports and port infrastructure. The passenger ports in Sremska Mitrovica and Šabac were successfully inaugurated in 2023, representing an important advancement for passenger transport. The Sremska Mitrovica port is set to be reconstructed and expanded with a €59 million investment, backed by funds from the World Bank (through SDIP), EIB, and the national budget, with the works contract scheduled to be signed in 2025.

As for other activities, a study on the construction of berths on the Sava and Danube rivers was finalized in 2024 to enhance nautical tourism in Serbia. 38 hydrometeorological stations along the Sava and Danube, valued at €4.39 million, have been installed to further enhance navigation safety. Another project, costing €4.6 million, focuses on hydraulic and morphological modelling of the Sava and Danube, started in 2024 and is currently underway.

In Croatia, technical documentation for regulating the most critical sector for navigation on the Sava River, the Jaruge - Novi Grad and Šamac sections, was completed in 2023. The construction permits have also been obtained, and the complete project documentation was handed over to the B&H side, following the Sava Commission’s Decision 1/17, for the official approval of the project documentation and obtaining necessary permits from the B&H side.



Figure 10. 12th meeting of the bilateral HR- B&H commission

Moreover, the project application for executing works on this critical section was submitted for financing through the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) in January 2025. In addition to this project, the application for the preparation of project documentation and an environmental impact assessment (EIA) study for rehabilitating the waterway from Račinovci to Sisak (excluding the aforementioned section) was also submitted to CEF. The ISRBC supported the joint Croatian-Bosnia and Herzegovina applications for these projects as an associated partner. The expected date for the announcement of the results is July 2025.

During the reporting period, Croatia continued its extensive efforts to improve the fairway within its jurisdiction through actions to remove obstacles to navigation, thereby enhancing access to ports to the greatest extent possible. Furthermore, technical documentation, along with an EIA study, has been completed for constructing the passenger terminal in Slavonski Brod, with construction anticipated to begin shortly. In Sisak, the construction of a marina for recreational and tourist vessels is currently underway, aimed at increasing local attractiveness for river tourism, recreational activities, and other related uses.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, one of the most challenging issues—the presence of mines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) on the right bank of the Sava River—is about to be resolved. The Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) approved a grant of €8.16 million for demining. Currently, tender documentation for selecting a contractor is being prepared. The planned implementation period of the demining project is two years from the commencement of works, which is expected in summer 2025. Implementing this activity is an essential prerequisite for further activities related to the rehabilitation of navigation on the Sava River.

Furthermore, activities related to preparing project documentation and environmental impact studies for constructing the port in Gradiška and the passenger pier in Višegrad are underway, supported by the World Bank within the SDIP framework. Bosnia and Herzegovina has also secured partial funding for its side of the Jaruge–Novi Grad and Šamac sectors. Consequently, these sectors will be prioritized for demining. Significant upgrades have been made to Brčko Port, including the installation of a new crane, the construction of a plateau, the development of an access road, and the establishment of a railway link. These improvements have substantially enhanced the port's logistics capabilities, leading to increased optimism among stakeholders regarding its future. The upgrades were financed through loans from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and grants from the European Union (EU). Short-term strategies focus on improving energy efficiency and expanding port operations. Institutional development has also progressed, as demonstrated by the capacity-building workshop held in 2024, hosted by the Danube Commission. This workshop, supported by DG MOVE, the Sava Commission, and the Transport Community, aimed at elevating the port's status as a logistics hub along the Rhine-Danube Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) Corridor.

Navigation Safety and Related Technical Standards: Improving navigation safety is one of the most crucial tasks of the Sava Commission and the Parties. In that regard, in Serbia, following the upgrade of the VTS and voice VHF system completed in 2023, the extension of the existing AIS AtoNs system on the Sava River, which involved adding navigation buoys with AIS transponders for real-time tracking, was also completed in 2024. The project was valued at €1.5 million and was funded by the EIB and CEF. Regarding other national activities, it is worth mentioning that Croatia and Serbia are both committed to enhancing their education systems for professional qualifications in inland navigation. These simultaneous efforts aim to address the urgent issue of crew shortages, promote labor mobility, and improve the integration of inland waterway transport (IWT) professionals from the Sava region into the broader international inland navigation industry.

Based on the legal powers established by the FASRB, the Sava Commission adopts decisions and issues recommendations concerning navigation. The decisions adopted in the reporting period are presented in the table below.

Table 1. Navigation-related decisions of the ISRBC in the reporting period

No.	Type	Subject	Adoption date
7/24	D	Acceptance of the preparation of the analysis on trends in inland waterway transport	28 October 2024
1/25	D	Adoption of the Plan for Waterway Marking and Maintenance on the Sava River and its Navigable Tributaries for the Year 2025	25 March 2025


		<p>Plan for Waterway Marking and Maintenance on the Sava River and its Navigable Tributaries for 2025</p> <p>Table of Contents</p> <p>1. DESCRIPTION OF CRITICAL SECTORS3</p> <p>1.1. LIST OF CRITICAL SECTORS3</p> <p>1.1.1. Critical sectors at the Sava River section entirely in Croatia.....3</p> <p>1.1.2. Critical sectors at the Sava River joint section between Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.....3</p> <p>1.1.3. Critical sectors at the Sava River section in Serbia.....4</p> <p>1.2. HYDROMORPHOLOGICAL CHANGES AT SPECIFIC SECTORS5</p> <p>1.2.1. Hydromorphological changes at the Sava River section in Croatia.....5</p> <p>1.2.2. Hydromorphological changes the Sava River joint section between Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina11</p> <p>1.2.3. Hydromorphological changes at the Sava River section in Serbia26</p> <p>2. MARKING PLAN34</p> <p>2.1. CODES OF SIGNS USED IN MARKING PLAN34</p> <p>2.2. SAVA RIVER.....38</p> <p>2.3. KUPA RIVER.....38</p> <p>2.4. SUMMARY OF USED MARKING SIGNS BY TYPE67</p> <p>2.5. EXPLANATORY NOTES68</p> <p>3. REGULATION MEASURES PLAN FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF REQUIRED DIMENSIONS OF THE SAVA RIVER FAIRWAY.....69</p> <p>3.1. MAINTENANCE OF DEFINED PARAMETERS OF THE FAIRWAY69</p> <p>3.1.1. Dredging works planned in Croatia.....69</p> <p>3.1.2. Dredging works planned in Bosnia and Herzegovina.....69</p> <p>3.1.3. Dredging works planned in Serbia69</p> <p>3.2. MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW RIVER ENGINEERING STRUCTURES69</p> <p>3.2.1. Construction works planned in Croatia.....70</p> <p>3.2.2. Construction works planned in Bosnia and Herzegovina.....70</p> <p>3.2.3. Construction works planned in Serbia70</p>	
--	--	--	--

Figure 11. Plan for Waterway Marking and Maintenance on the Sava River and its Navigable Tributaries for the Year 2025

As for other publications issued by the ISRBC, the *Indicator of River Kilometres for the Sava River and its Navigable Tributaries* and the *Manual on the Sava River Navigation* are continuously updated to reflect new changes and additions for subsequent editions. Additionally, preparing material for updating the *Album of Bridges on the Sava River* related to the newly constructed bridges on the Sava River is also performed.

Other Important Navigation-Related Activities: The ISRBC regularly prepares and publishes basic information annually regarding the transshipment and fairway data related to the transport of goods and passengers in the Sava River Basin on its website. Additionally, the ISRBC collaborates closely with the Central Commission for the Navigation on the Rhine (CCNR) in preparing the European Market Insight Report. As part of the SDIP program, efforts are currently underway to develop an application for collecting statistical data in the Sava River Basin.

The development of the new Joint Statement on Guiding Principles for the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin (JS 2.0) is currently underway. This joint effort of the ISRBC, ICPDR and the Danube Commission is supported by the World Bank and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) through SDIP. The updated document aims to address the future needs of IWT and river ecology while enhancing the integrated waterway planning approach in the Danube and Sava basins. Additionally, a JS 2.0 Manual will be prepared through this initiative, along with an online knowledge management

system that will provide practical guidance, reference approaches, and examples of best practices for integrated waterway planning. This will serve as a valuable resource for translating the JS 2.0 principles into actionable practices.

The ISRBC continues to actively contribute to the work of related international bodies, such as the European Committee for establishing standards in inland navigation (CESNI) and its expert groups. CESNI aims to promote the adoption of uniform standards across the entire network of inland waterways in Europe to enhance navigation safety and environmental protection in the context of inland waterway transport, fostering employment in the sector while making it more appealing, facilitating transport operations, and promoting international trade.

The ISRBC Secretariat actively participated in the activities and events organized by relevant organizations and within the framework of related projects, either as an observer or associated strategic partner. The list of projects with basic information and the role of the ISRBC is given in Annex IV.

4. Data and Information Management

During the reporting period, the information and communication tools have proven essential for the effective implementation of activities across the Sava River Basin. To support the operation of these complex systems, major upgrades were carried out: the Commission's core ICT infrastructure was modernized, and the Sava GIS platform was significantly enhanced with improved features and newly developed functionalities, fully aligned with the Sava GIS strategy and implementation documents. The official website of the ISRBC continues to be regularly maintained and updated to ensure transparency and accessibility, while the refreshed website of the Sava Youth Parliament is currently in development and scheduled to launch in spring 2025. These improvements further empower collaboration, visibility, and stakeholder engagement across the region. Further details are provided below.

ICT Infrastructure: A major upgrade of the ISRBC ICT infrastructure, including servers and network equipment, was completed in 2024 as part of the ongoing SDIP project, along with capacity improvements to the existing optical internet connection. These upgrades will provide the foundational infrastructure for ongoing and planned enhancements to Sava GIS, Sava FFWS, the ISRBC website, and other future projects.

ISRBC Web and Social Network: The ISRBC website (www.savacommission.org) operates on local infrastructure and is available in English and the official languages of the riparian countries. The website system (content management system, document management system, security parameters) and content are regularly updated, serving as the main communication channel to stakeholders and the general public.

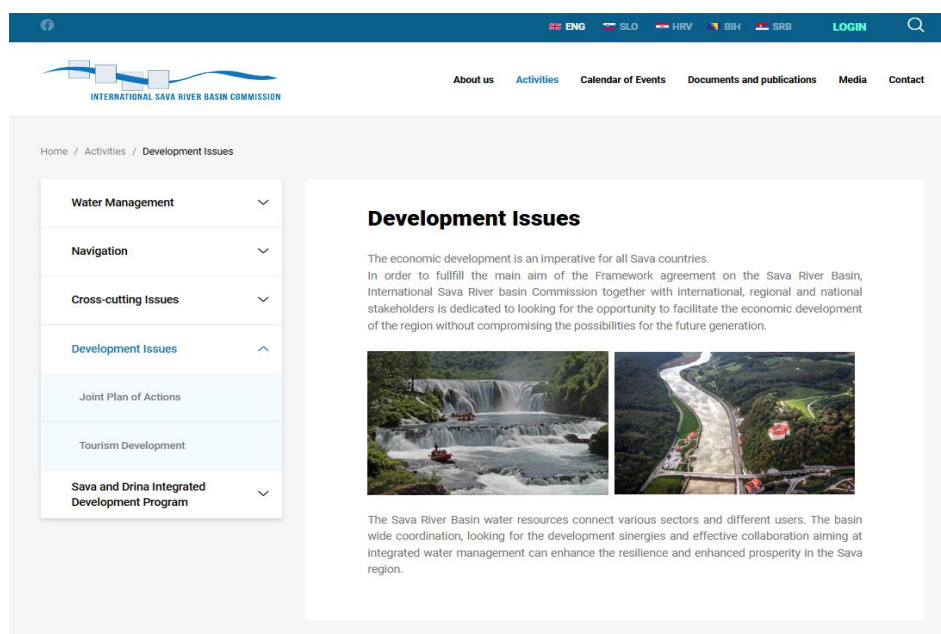


Figure 12. ISRBC website.

The website of the Sava Youth Parliament (www.sava-youthparliament.com), managed by the Secretariat of the Sava Commission, contains information on youth activities in the Sava River Basin. The content is continuously updated, and a renewed version is planned to be launched in spring 2025. To better connect with the younger audience, an Instagram account of the Sava Youth Parliament has been created, which is actively managed by the Parliament members themselves.

Sava GIS: The Sava GIS platform was fully operational during the reporting period. The Geoportal (www.savagis.org), a central component of the platform, serves approximately 3,000 unique users annually, including members of the ISRBC expert and task groups, national institutions, ongoing project teams, and other experts and public domain users.

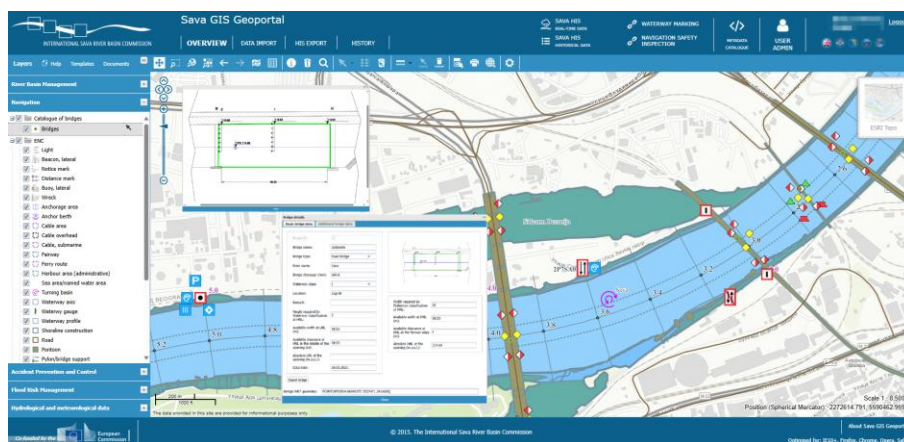


Figure 13. ENC and Album of bridges data visualized on the Geoportal.

Additional capabilities were secured by the Sava Commission joining the Esri Non-Profit Organization Program in 2024. The deployment of the ArcGIS Enterprise system enabled faster data sharing, smoother collaboration, and efficient decision-making through the dedicated on-premises portal (portal.savacommission.org). The portal serves as a website and repository for data dissemination, mapping, and visualization, with the primary function to publish finalized data (FRMP, RBMP, Navigation) as interactive resources, allowing comprehensive insights into the data and its context.

Further enhancement of the Sava GIS, which is currently in the planning phase within the ongoing SDIP program, envisages complete modernization of the system that will include refining and improving existing functionalities, and establishing a new set of tools and functions for efficient and comprehensive data and information management within the Sava River Basin.

Sava HIS: The ISRBC consistently ensures access to high-quality and up-to-date hydrometeorological data, which are essential for effective water management in the Sava River Basin. Sava HIS (www.savahis.org) functions as an efficient tool for collecting, storing, exchanging, and reporting that data. National meteorological and hydrological services, environmental regulators, researchers, and the public regularly utilize data on precipitation, air temperature, snow depth, water level, discharge, water temperature, turbidity, and various statistical parameters. These data provide support for flood forecasting and warning activities, water resource assessments, riverine transport information, aquatic ecosystem management, and much more in the Sava River Basin. Sava HIS also serves as a backbone for hydrometeorological data collection in the Sava FFWS.

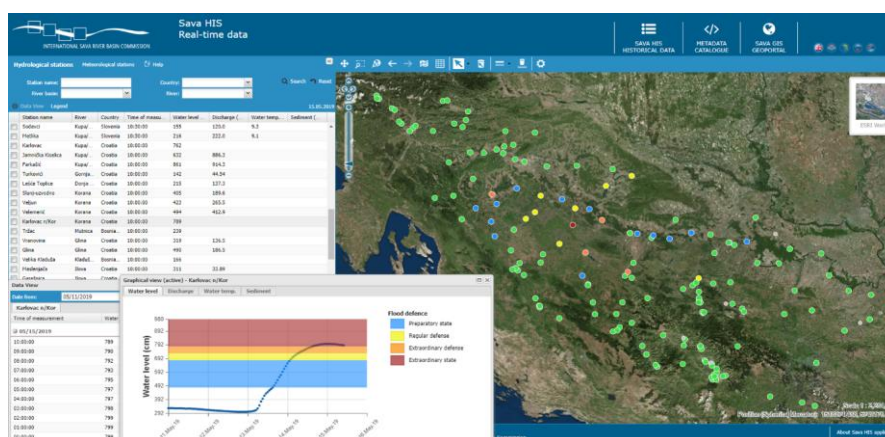


Figure 14. Sava HIS - real-time and processed data

An overview of the available stations in Sava HIS is presented in the following table, with the number of stations providing near real-time data in brackets.

Table 2. Overview of available gauging stations in Sava HIS

Type of station	BA	HR	ME	RS	SI	Total
Hydrological stations	108 (96)	131 (125)	11 (11)	28 (25)	32 (26)	310 (283)
Meteorological stations	75 (74)	49 (42)	5 (4)	12 (10)	76 (76)	217 (206)

Based on the hydrological and meteorological data delivered by the data providers from the respective countries, the Secretariat has been preparing hydrological yearbooks for the Sava River Basin. These yearbooks offer an overview of essential data from selected hydrological and meteorological stations in the basin, along with related statistical analyses. Digital versions of the finalized yearbooks are available on the ISRBC website: [Hydrological Yearbooks -Sava River Basin](#).

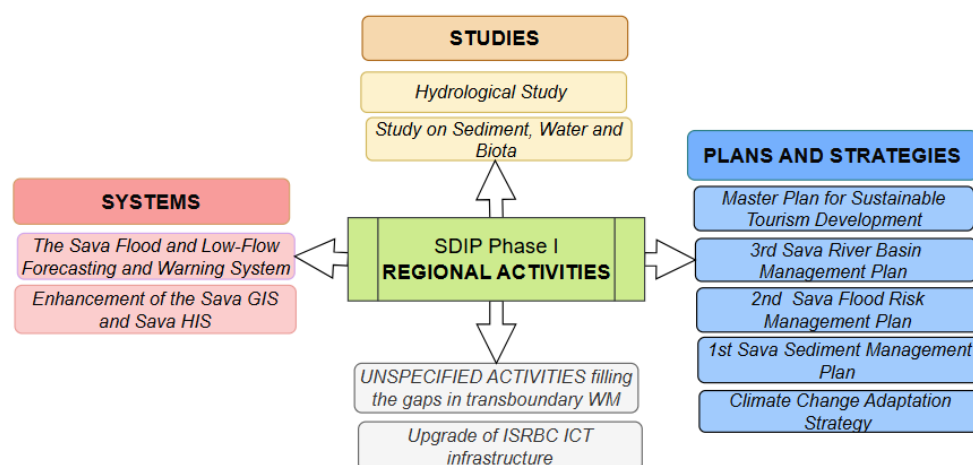
5. Cross-Cutting and Development Issues

Sava and Drina River Corridors Integrated Development Program (SDIP): The *Joint Plan of Action for the Sava River Basin (JPA SRB)* was developed in spring 2017, with the World Bank's support, and endorsed by the Parties to the FASRB and Montenegro through a Joint Statement adopted in Bled on 15 June 2017. The JPA SRB served as one of the foundations for the development of SDIP², which specifically aims to support integrated management of the Sava and Drina corridors to (i) improve the protection from floods, (ii) enhance the navigability of the Sava river, (iii) improve flood forecasting and management capacities among riparian countries and enhance management and operations of Drina dams for hydropower production as well as flood and drought management, and (iv) enhance nature values and tourism. It is implemented in the two partially overlapping phases, from 2021 to 2030, with an estimated total cost of US\$332.4 million.

Components	Serbia	MNE	BiH			Total Cost Phase I	Total AF Phase I
			RS	FBiH	BD		
Component 1: Integrated Management and Development of the Sava River Corridor							
1.1 Flood protection and environmental management	48.44		20.6	8.7	24.7	69.04	33.40
1.2 Waterway improvements (demining)			8.00 ^c			8.00	
1.3 Enhancements of ports, services, and logistics	16.96					16.96	
Component 2: Integrated Management and Development of the Drina River Corridor							
2.1 Flood protection and environmental management	4.04		3.40	0.9		7.44	0.9
2.2 Integrated development of Drina watershed (civil works)		13.90				13.90	
Component 3: Project Preparation and Management							
3.1 Phase II Preparation (consultancy) ^b	2.20	0.30	3.60	1.6		6.10	1.6
3.2 Institutional strengthening and project management	6.56	0.80	2.40	0.8	0.3	9.76	1.1
Component 4: Regional Activities							
4.1 Regional dialogue, project management, and coordination	0.90 ^d					0.90	
4.2 Regional plans, studies, and strategies of basin-wide importance	7.20					7.20	
Total Cost						139.3	
Of which IBRD						78.20	15.00
Of which other sources (WBIF, GEF, and so on)						30.00	12.00
						25.00	123.20
						8.00	37.00
						16.10	
Legend: <div><div></div> IBRD-financed activities. <div></div> grant-financed activities (WBIF and GEF). <div></div> Additional financing Phase I (FBiH and BD)</div>							

Figure 15. SDIP Components

Component 4 of the SDIP, which is implemented by the ISRBC, aims to promote policy dialogue and consultations while ensuring coordination in the overall execution of the program. Additionally, it supports the development of various plans and studies that are pertinent to the entire basin, thereby making a significant contribution to the implementation of the FASRB. An overview of the activities carried out by the ISRBC is presented in Figure 16.



Source: [World Bank: 1st Phase of SDIP PAD](#)

Figure 16. SDIP Regional activities

Key expected achievements include:

- A new, comprehensive hydrological study - the first since 1976 – that will provide a critical knowledge base to support integrated water management, flood and drought risk reduction and navigation safety.
- Sediment study will enhance understanding of sediment-related issues, address data gaps, and support the development of an integrated Sava SM Plan.
- Master Plan for sustainable tourism development will promote ecotourism in protected areas, nautical tourism, and cycling along the Sava Corridor—ensuring socio-economic development while preserving ecosystems, biodiversity, and cultural heritage.
- Basin-wide management plans: RBM, FRM and SM plans will foster integrated and synergistic planning across sectors and countries.
- Modernization of the Sava GIS and HIS will strengthen decision-making and regional cooperation through smart technologies and integrated data services.
- The existing Sava FFWS will be significantly improved to reduce risks from floods and droughts. The upgrade will include advanced forecasting models, enhanced warning services, and a web-based dissemination platform.
- A regional climate change strategy will assess vulnerabilities and climate-related risks, define adaptation objectives, and provide an actionable plan to enhance the resilience and adaptive capacity of water systems and dependent sectors in the basin.

More details on each activity and the status at the end of FY 2024 have been provided in Annex III.

6. Cooperation and Stakeholder Involvement

During the reporting period, the ISRBC continued its cooperation with various national and international organizations and bodies, as well as with stakeholders, including the younger generation. A summary of these activities is provided below.

Cooperation with international organizations: The ISRBC maintained strong cooperation with a range of international organizations and institutions. Cooperation with the World Bank intensified following the signing of the SDIP GEF Grant Agreement in August 2022. The activities included hosting periodic World Bank missions, holding regular monthly meetings on environmental issues, conducting online consultations on implementation matters, and participating in events organized by the Bank. The ISRBC also sustained productive engagement with various EU bodies, regularly attending meetings of EU-funded projects that had requested and received its support. It continued to contribute to the EU Strategy for the Danube Region actively and took part in initiatives aimed at enhancing navigation and promoting inland waterway transport.

Cooperation with the ICPDR and the Danube Commission (DC) enabled the coordination of aligned or jointly agreed activities. This was facilitated through mutual participation in sessions, expert group meetings, and other events. The process of implementing the Joint Statement on Guiding Principles for the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin, coordinated jointly by the ICPDR, DC, and ISRBC, continued with the organization of the 15th Follow-up Meeting, which was hosted by the ICPDR. Furthermore, the process of updating the Joint Statement was initiated in autumn 2024, involving intensive internal consultations and two dedicated stakeholder workshops.

Cooperation is being maintained with other similar transboundary organizations (river and lake commissions operating in Europe), including through participation in annual meetings of the heads of European water and lakes commissions, as well as with the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO) through participation in INBO-related events.

Engagement with the UNECE remained active, including participation in its working groups and events, and involvement in NEXUS-related follow-up activities. Cooperation with UNESCO was reinforced, particularly through the joint implementation of the SHELTER project.

Cooperation with national organizations: In addition to collaboration with institutions officially responsible for the implementation of the FASRB, the ISRBC maintained cooperation with various national bodies, including water agencies, national hydrometeorological services (NHMSs), inland waterway agencies, port authorities, registers of shipping, regional chambers of commerce, tourism organizations, and academic institutions. Apart from the institutions of the Parties, good cooperation has been maintained with the relevant bodies of Montenegro.

Stakeholders' Involvement: Recognizing the importance of public consultation in the context of its mandate and the implementation of the FASRB, the ISRBC continued to promote broad stakeholder engagement. Consultation activities have been conducted through the organization of consultation workshops, public presentations, and other stakeholder meetings, as well as through consultation on the ISRBC website regarding various activities. Active stakeholder involvement is particularly ensured for entities with observer status in the ISRBC, primarily through participation in Commission sessions and meetings of expert groups. The current list of observers is provided in the following table.

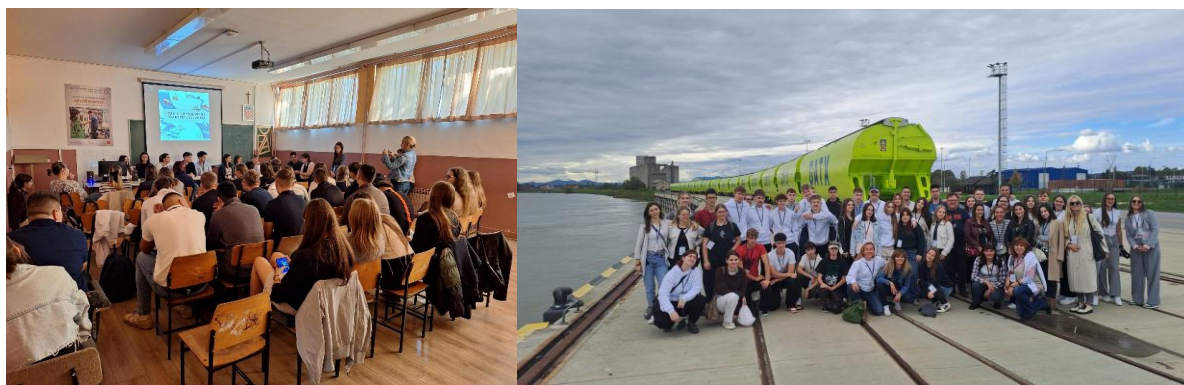
Table 3. Observers in the Sava Commission

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

Engaging the young generation in basin processes: The future of the Sava River Basin is being shaped by its youngest citizens. Through the Sava Youth Parliament, young people from across the region are stepping up, speaking out, and driving change on the most pressing water-related issues. During the past reporting period, the 12th session of the Sava Youth Parliament took place, preceded by an open call for creative and innovative projects. It was organized on 11-12 October 2024, in Slavonski Brod, with support from the World Bank. The event, under the slogan “Let's Navigate into a Green Future!”, significantly increased young people's knowledge and understanding of navigation. A key activity was the debate „Development of River Navigation – YES or NO?“, which raised many questions, dilemmas, and differing views regarding navigation as one of the most environmentally friendly modes of transport.

Table 4. Schools participated in the Sava Youth Parliament 2024

School	Team
Biotehniški izobraževalni center Ljubljana Živilska in naravovarstvena šola Ljubljana, Slovenija	1. Tourism on Sava 2. Narava in ljudje
X. gimnazija „Ivan Supek“ Zagreb, Croatia	Sava i ekipa
Gimnazija Sesvete, Zagreb (Sesvete), Croatia	Sesvete exploration team
Srednja škola „Ivan Goran Kovačić“, Kiseljak, Bosna i Hercegovina	Kada se male ruke slože
Srednja stručna i tehnička škola Gradiška, Bosna i Hercegovina	Prijatelji Save
Palanačka gimnazija, Smederevska Palanka, Serbia	EcoGim
Gimnazija Crnjanski, Beograd, Serbia	Flumen
Youth aged 18 – 25 years, Zagreb (Sesvete), Croatia	gerVu

*Figure 17. Participants of the 12th Sava Youth Parliament in Slavonski Brod*

The teams were selected based on their video submissions, which focused on showcasing the benefits, potential, and conditions for developing and increasing the use of inland navigation, as well as the environmental impacts of such navigation. The goal was to gather the perspectives and ideas of young people on how to improve the balance between promoting inland waterway transport and conserving rivers. The contest ran from 22 March to 24 May 2024. All submitted works were presented online at the event organized in the frame of the Sava Day celebration on 3 June 2024.

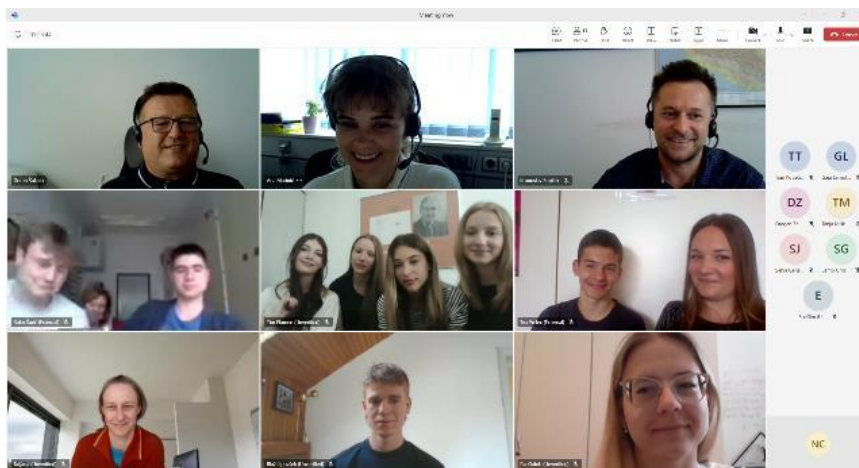


Figure 18. Presentation of works in the frame of the Sava Day 2024 celebration

Since its founding in 2012, the Sava Youth Parliament has grown into a respected regional hub for youth engagement. Today, it enjoys recognition across Europe, with representatives frequently invited to international conferences, workshops, and forums.

Key event attended by the Sava Youth Parliament delegation was the 16th European Youth Parliament for Water (EYPW), which took place on 20-26 October 2024, in Budapest and Szolnok. Among the 70 young participants, Magdalena Živanović, an alumna of the Sava Youth Parliament, has been elected as the new President of EYPW. Together with her two vice presidents, she is shaping the future actions and priorities of EYPW, guiding members as they tackle pressing water-related challenges across the continent.

A notable highlight was the involvement of three Parliament members in the Danube Youth Leadership Roundtable, which took place in November 2024 in Bratislava as part of the DANURELY-WS project led by GWP CEE. This event provided an opportunity to connect with young leaders from the Danube region and collaboratively establish a Community of Practice—a dynamic platform for collaboration, innovation, and knowledge sharing.

Other events in which representatives of the Sava Youth Parliament participated during FY 2024 include:

- The UNECE Forum on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD): Empowering Youth for Sustainable Futures - Entrepreneurship Education and Youth Engagement, held on 27 -28 June 2024, in Limassol, Cyprus.
- The EUSALP (EU Strategy for the Alpine Region) Annual Forum and General Assembly, which took place on 14 -15 November 2024, at Brdo pri Kranju.
- The Dialogue Session titled “From the Bandung Spirit Water Summit to the UN 2026 Water Conference,” held on 6 December 2024, at the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in Geneva.
- The “Drops of the Future” concluding event of the Youth Workshop Series on the Water-Food-Energy Nexus, organized by the OSCE in collaboration with Switzerland, which occurred on 26 -27 February 2025, in Vienna.
- 1st World Day for Glaciers and World Water held on 20-21 March 2025 in UNESCO Headquarters in Paris

7. Legal and Financial Issues

Legal Issues: The FASRB provides a solid and comprehensive framework for regional cooperation in water management and navigation. Cooperation promoted under the FASRB involves various sectors, including administrations of the Parties, local authorities, and diverse stakeholders. This enhances collaboration between sectors and raises awareness and capacity at both national and regional levels. The implementation of the FASRB also depends on institutional mechanisms within the states and their readiness to accept and implement in practice the decisions and conclusions of the ISRBC. No significant legislative barriers to the FASRB implementation were reported. However, challenges persist, including limited capacities, resource constraints, and weak enforcement in some cases. Internal procedures within the Parties can also delay progress, as many ISRBC decisions rely on formal national responses to proceed. Regarding the protocols to the FASRB, while most Parties have shown commitment and assigned relevant authorities, some nominations remain pending, hindering effective operational communication and implementation. The status of the four protocols currently in force is summarized in Table 4.

Table 5. Overview of the status of the protocols to FASRB

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

In addition, bilateral agreements on water and navigation remain relevant, requiring careful coordination to align bilateral commitments with those under the ISRBC framework.

Financial Issues: The ISRBC's budget for FY 2024 was EUR 783,436.57 in total. It included the mandatory annual contributions from the Parties, each amounting to EUR 136,990.00, along with miscellaneous inflows. The overview is provided in the following table.

Table 6. General Fund income in FY 2024

Source of Income		Income (EUR)
1	Mandatory contributions from the Parties	547.960,00
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	136.990,00
	Croatia	136.990,00
	Serbia	136.990,00
	Slovenia	136.990,00
2	Transfer from the Reserve Fund	0.00¹
3	235.476,57²	235.476,57²
Total income		783.436,57
Notes:		
¹ Transferred amounts for covering unexpected expenditures		
² A part of special funds for implementing SHELTER, FFWS, SDIP, ERASMUS+ and bank interest.		

The General Fund's miscellaneous inflows comprise contributions from projects either directly implemented by the ISRBC or undertaken in partnership, income from the Sava FFWS, and interest accrued on financial holdings. The amount and percentage of project-related income is shown in the figure below.

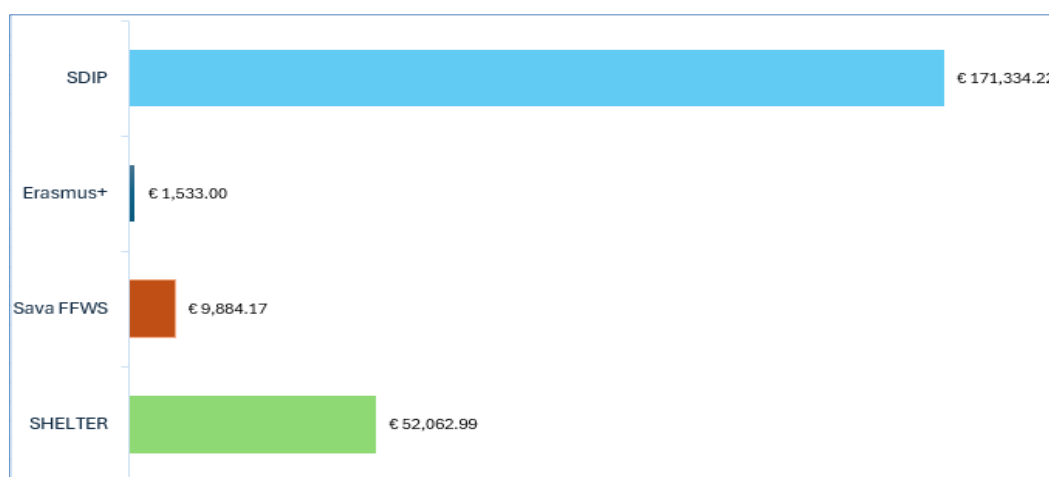


Figure 19. Project-related income

The expenditures of the General Fund amounted to a total of EUR 678,056.63, which by category includes salaries and other remuneration of the Secretariat staff, current expenses, travel costs, operational costs, and equipment. In accordance with the Financial Rules of the ISRBC, the remaining amount of the General Fund, EUR 105,379.94, is allocated to the Reserve Fund.

A regular audit of the ISRBC's financial management for FY 2023 has been conducted by appointed experts from Serbia and Slovenia, with a conclusion that financial management is accurate and complies with ISRBC's rules, regulations, and standard accounting principles. ISRBC accepted the Report on the Audit of Financial Management for FY 2023 at the 68th Session (25-26 March 2025).

An external, independent audit of the financial statements for the “SDIP-Part 4-Regional activities” for the period from 27 December 2022 to 31 March 2024 has also been completed, following the relevant rules of the World Bank, The Independent Auditor's Report states that the financial statements for the project accurately present the balances and movements of resources, expenditures by category and activity, the statement of expenses, as well as withdrawals and changes in the Project Designated Account for the audited period.

ANNEXES

Annex I: List of institutions responsible for the FASRB implementation

Institution	Contact details
Bosnia and Herzegovina	
Ministry of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina	Trg Bosne i Hercegovine 1, 71000 Sarajevo 387 33 284 750 Web: www.mkt.gov.ba
Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina	Musala 9, 71000 Sarajevo Tel: +387 33 220 093 Web: www.mvteo.gov.ba
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republika Srpska	Trg Republike Srpske 1, 78000 Banjaluka Tel: + 387 51 338 549 Web: www.vladars.net
Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry	Marka Marulića 2, 71000 Sarajevo Tel: +387 33 726 550 Web: www.fmpvs.gov.ba
Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republika Srpska	Trg Republike Srpske 1, 78000 Banjaluka Tel: +387 51 339 603 Web: www.vladars.net
Federal Ministry of Transport and Communications	Braće Fejića bb, 88000 Mostar Tel: +387 36 550 025 Web: www.fmpik.gov.ba
Ministry of Spatial Planning, Civil Engineering and Ecology of the Republika Srpska	Trg Republike Srpske 1, 78000 Banjaluka Tel: +387 51 339 520 Web: www.vladars.net
Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism	Marka Marulića 2, 71000 Sarajevo Tel: +387 33 726 700 Web: www.fmoit.gov.ba
Government of the Brčko District	Bulevar mira 1, 76100 Brčko Tel: +387 49 240-600 Web: www.bdcentral.net
Republic of Croatia	
Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Croatia	Prisavlje 14, 10000 Zagreb Tel: +385 1 6169 111 Web: https://mmpi.gov.hr
Ministry of Environmental Protection and Green Transition	Radnička cesta 80, 10000 Zagreb Tel: +385 1 3717 111 Web: https://mzozt.gov.hr
Republic of Serbia	

Institution	Contact details
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Serbia- Republic Water Directorate	Bulevar umetnosti 2a 11070 Novi Beograd Tel: +381 11 2013 360 Web: www.rdvode.gov.rs
Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Serbia	Nemanjina 22-26, 11000 Beograd Tel: +381 11 3619 833 Web: www.mgsi.gov.rs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia	Kneza Miloša 24-26, 11000 Beograd Tel: +381 11 3616 333 Web: www.mfa.gov.rs
Ministry of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Serbia	Omladinskih brigada 1, 11070 Novi Beograd Tel: +381 11 3110 271 Web: www.ekologija.gov.rs
Republic Hydro-Meteorological Service of Serbia	Kneza Višeslava 66, 11000 Beograd Tel: +381 11 3050 864 Web: www.hidmet.gov.rs
Republic Geodetic Authority	Bulevar vojvode Mišića 39, 11000 Beograd Tel: +381 11 265 22 22 Web: www.rgz.gov.rs
Republic of Slovenia	
Ministry of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning of the Republic of Slovenia	Dunajska cesta 47, 1000 Ljubljana Tel: +386 1 478 70 00 Web: Ministrstvo-za-naravne-vire-in-prostor
Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia	Prešernova cesta 25, 1000 Ljubljana Tel: +386 1 478 20 00 Web: Ministrstvo-za-zunanje-in-evropske-zadeve
Ministry of Economy, Tourism and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia	Kotnikova ulica 5, 1000 Ljubljana Tel: +386 1 400 33 11 Web: Ministrstvo-za-gospodarstvo-turizem-in-sport
Ministry of Infrastructure of the Republic of Slovenia	Tržaška cesta 19, 1000 Ljubljana Tel: +386 1 478 80 00 Web: Ministrstvo-za-infrastrukturo

Annex II: 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	Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Croatia
Elizabeta Kos	Deputy Member	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Green Transition of the Republic of Croatia
Republic of Serbia		
Maja Grbić	Member Chairperson	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Serbia, Republic Water Directorate
Predrag Petrović	Deputy Member until 31 October 2024	Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Serbia
Aleksandar Banjac	Deputy Member as of 31 October 2024	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
Tanja Miškova	Deputy Member	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia

Annex III: Status of the SDIP Component 4 - Regional Activities on 31 March 2025

No	Project Title		Basic Info
1	Sava and Drina Corridors Integrated Development Program – Component 4		<p>Description: The ISRBC has secured financing by signing a Grant Agreement with the World Bank (WB), which serves as the implementing agency for the Global Environment Facility (GEF), for the GEF Sava and Drina Rivers Corridors Integrated Development Program (SDIP) to cover the costs of implementing Part 4 - Regional Cooperation of the SDIP. The SDIP project is scheduled for implementation over 10 years in two phases, with Phase I extending until July 2026. SDIP Phase I, Part 4 - Regional Cooperation aims to enhance strategic regional dialogue, joint planning, and the sustainable management and development of shared water resources in the Sava River Basin, increasing resilience to climatic shocks by supporting the preparation of basin-wide plans and studies, and promoting investments that strengthen the nexus between various water uses, intersectoral development synergies, and economic cooperation.</p> <p>Budget: USD 8.000.000,00 (GEF Grant funds)</p> <p>Role of ISRBC: ISRBC is implementing SDIP-Phase I Part 4: Regional Cooperation, and the ISRBC Secretariat acts as the regional Project Implementation Unit (RPIU).</p> <p>Status: Ongoing since September 1, 2022. Activities under implementation within Phase I of the project are listed below.</p>
	Studies		
	1.1	Hydrological Study of the Sava River Basin	<p>Description: The Hydrological Study will be prepared using a consistent methodology for a consistent dataset at relevant gauging stations, while the results will be integrated into the Sava HIS and into a dedicated web-based application for presenting the Hydrological Study. The activity will enhance knowledge of the water cycle dynamics and components and their spatial and temporal distribution in the Sava River basin, by improving hydrological and meteorological data reliability and management, considering current climate variability and future climate change.</p> <p>Budget: EUR 1.264.625,00</p> <p>Contract signing planned: May 2025</p> <p>Consultant: Joint Venture led by Vodoprivredno-projektni biro d.d., Croatia</p> <p>Duration: 23 months</p>
	1.2	Study on Sediment, Water and Biota in the Sava River Basin	<p>Description: The Study will make a crucial contribution to further understanding of sediment-related issues in the Sava River basin by building the knowledge base, filling the recognized gaps, and providing state-of-the-art knowledge to support the implementation of the FASRB and its related Protocol on Sediment Management. Furthermore, the Study will provide significant support for achieving the WFD objectives and help fulfil requirements of other environmental EU legislation, as well as relevant sectoral policies, such as those for agriculture, energy, and transport.</p> <p>Budget: EUR 722.214,00</p>

No	Project Title		Basic Info
			Contract signing planned: May 2025 Consultant: Joint Venture led by Jaroslav Černi Water Institute LLC, Serbia Duration: 14 months
	Systems		
	1.3	Improvement, extension and operationalization of flood and low-flow forecasting and warning system in the Sava River Basin	Description: Building on the knowledge, good practices, and tools available within the operational Sava FFWS, the activity will allow for the incorporation of forecasting and warning tools aimed at improving the forecasting of flood and low flow events and supporting the preparation of scenarios to mitigate their consequences. The activity will optimize the operational work of the hydrological forecasting offices at national meteorological and hydrological services and water agencies in the Sava River Basin (i.e., Sava FFWS users). The specific objectives are: (i) improved and upgraded modeling tools; (ii) operational low-flow forecasting system integrated; (iii) further developed and enhanced flood and low flow warning system; (iv) well-trained staff of the user organizations; (v) recommendations for future developments of the forecasting system. Budget: EUR 1.637.475,00 Contract signed: 02 December 2024 Consultant: Joint Venture led by Stichting Deltares Duration: 23 months
	1.4	Enhancement of the Sava GIS and HIS	Description: The overall objective of the activity is to establish a new, intelligent, integrated platform that enhances decision-making and regional cooperation in the Sava River Basin. It will be done by transforming the Sava GIS into an advanced platform that utilizes smart technologies and knowledge to address the modern needs and challenges of the Sava River Basin riparian states for sustainable, efficient, and secure water management. Estimated budget: EUR 480.000,00 Estimated duration: 15 months (Implementation planned to start in 2026)
	Basin-wide plans and strategies		
	1.5	Design of a Master Plan for Sustainable Tourism Development in the Sava River Basin	Description: The Master Plan covering the Sava River Basin focuses on the development of ecotourism in the Ramsar sites and other protected areas (national parks, and UNESCO cultural heritage sites) in the Sava River Basin, nautical tourism on the Sava River and its navigable tributaries, and cycling tourism along the Sava Corridor. It aims to facilitate development that balances the needs of visitors along with environmental preservation and to ensure the minimization of negative impacts on the basin's unique ecosystem, biodiversity, and cultural resources while supporting socio-economic development. Budget: EUR 629.900,00. Contract signed: 02 December 2024 Consultant: THR Tourism Industry Advisors SL (with Sub-consultant: Oikon Ltd. – Institute of Applied Ecology, Zagreb/Croatia).

No	Project Title	Basic Info
		Duration: 14 months
1.6	Updating of RBM and FRM plans and developing the Sediment Management plan	<p>Description: Through this activity, technical assistance will be provided in the process of developing the 3rd Sava RBM and the 2nd FRM Plan, and the preparation of the first Sediment Management Plan for the Sava River Basin, including related programs of measures. It will foster coordinated actions across all planning instruments within the region, ensuring integration, consistency, and synergies in planning, financing, and policy development.</p> <p>Estimated budget: EUR 1.000.000,00</p> <p>Estimated duration: 18 months (Implementation planned to start in 2026)</p>
1.7	Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the Sava River Basin	<p>Description: The Strategy will provide an assessment of climate change vulnerability, risks, and impacts on water resources, water infrastructure, aquatic ecosystems, and water-dependent sectors, taking into consideration climate-related hazards. Furthermore, it will define vision and adaptation objectives and identify adaptation options suitable for the Sava River Basin, including an Action Plan for implementation of adaptation actions focused on adaptive and flexible management approaches, with the aim of enhancing adaptive capacity and resilience to climate shocks in the Sava River Basin.</p> <p>Estimated budget: EUR 420.000,00</p> <p>Estimated duration: 13 months (Implementation planned to start in September 2025)</p>
Other activities		
1.8	Support the process of development of the Joint Statement on Guiding Principles for the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin 2.0 (Joint Statement 2.0)	<p>Description: Process of the renewal of the Joint Statement by assessment of the Joint Statement process to date and providing the recommendations based on developments in the new waterway transport system, ecological status in the Danube and the Sava River basins, shifts in the legal and policy framework for mobility and the environment, considering the impact of climate change. The aim is the development of the Joint Statement 2.0 document with a new Joint Statement Manual and the proposal for the structure and content of an interactive online knowledge management system.</p> <p>Contract signed: June 28, 2024</p> <p>Budget: EUR 74.650,00.</p> <p>Consultant: Dr. Dejan Komatina</p> <p>Duration: 14 months</p> <p>Status: Implementation ongoing</p>
1.9	Upgrade of the ISRBC ICT infrastructure	<p>Description: Part I - Supply and installation of the IT equipment (servers and network equipment) intended to be used for the smooth functioning of various software and web applications hosted by the Sava Commission. Part of the equipment is installed to protect the Sava Commission's digital assets from unauthorized access, cyber threats, and data breaches.</p> <p>Contract signed: 21 June 2024</p> <p>Budget: EUR 68.910,00</p> <p>Contractor: Integra Group d.o.o. Croatia</p>

No	Project Title	Basic Info
		Duration: 2.5 months
		Description: Part II- Supply and installation of the ICT equipment (conferencing equipment) intended to be used for upgrading and enhancing the conference equipment in the Sava Commission premises. Contract signed: 21 June 2024 Estimated Budget: EUR 22.000,00 Duration: 2.5 months

Annex IV: List of external projects supported by the ISRBC, completed or ongoing in the reporting period

No	Project title	Status	Description	Role of ISRBC
1	Preparing FAIRway 2 works in the Rhine-Danube corridor	Completed July 2020 - December 2024	<p>The study "Preparing FAIRway 2 works in the Rhine-Danube corridor" is a joint project of Austria, Croatia, and Serbia, co-funded by the EU CEF that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -investigates possible integrated river engineering projects of the Croatian-Serbian common Danube section; -specifies further development of the transnational waterway management system (WAMOS); -prepares construction and upgrading measures of mooring places in Austria, Croatia and Serbia <p>More info: Preparing FAIRway2 works in the Rhine-Danube Corridor - viadonau</p>	Advisory Board
2	1S4IWT – One System 4 Inland Water Transport (successor COMPETING project)	Ongoing October 2022 – May 2025	<p>This project aims to design a system architecture for interconnecting education & training institutions' e-learning platforms with the Inland Navigation eLearning System (INeS), which has been developed in previously EU-funded projects. The main objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -to create a resilient, easily accessible and future-proof education & training system for the inland waterway transport sector (by creating new content and building a platform); -to achieve a process of structured cooperation, focusing on formulating and developing needs and learning outcomes between the fields of education, industry and social partners (by means of a community of practice); -to contribute to a strong brand to further improve the positioning of the sector. <p>The project is funded by Erasmus+.</p> <p>More info: https://www.1s4iwt.eu</p>	Advisory Board
3	Platform for the implementation of NAIADES - PLATINA 4	Ongoing January 2024 – December 2026	<p>The successor project - PLATINA 4, commenced at the beginning of 2024. The focus of the successor is, however, narrower for budgetary reasons, while it aims specifically for the deployment of solutions, mainly in the field of the transition towards zero-emission performance and digitalization of inland waterway transport with the aim of achieving measurable emission reduction and modal shift objectives.</p> <p>More info: https://platina4action.iwtprojects.eu</p>	Advisory Board

No	Project title	Status	Description	Role of ISRBC
4	Danube Region's Youth Leadership in Ensuring Resilience through a Proactive Approach in Water Sector - DANURELY-WS Project	Ongoing September 2024 - August 2025	<p>The main objective of the project is to equip young leaders in the Danube region with the tools and knowledge necessary to ensure a sustainable future for the region. By fostering leadership, building skills, and creating spaces for collaboration, the project empowers participants to take meaningful actions in their communities. The project has launched the Community of Practice, a dynamic platform for ongoing collaboration, innovation, and knowledge-sharing among youth leaders in the Danube region.</p> <p>Funded by: Interreg DTP</p> <p>More info: DANURELY-WS Homepage, DanuRELY - GWP</p>	Associated strategic partner
5	Danube Sediment Balance - Sustainable, Integrated Transnational Sediment Quantity and Quality Management in the Danube River Basin - DanubeSediment_Q2	Ongoing Started in January 2024	<p>The project aims to improve the management of sediment quantity and quality in the Danube River Basin to achieve environmental objectives. The main output will be the first Integrated Sediment Management Plan (ISMP) for the Danube River Basin and concrete solutions and upscaling options will be recommended. It will build on the Danube River Basin Sediment Improvement Strategy for solutions building on concrete case studies in each partner country using up-to-date monitoring and modelling.</p> <p>The Danube Sediment_Q2 project will facilitate an improved sediment balance and morphodynamics, ensuring a good sediment quantity and quality. This will lead to a restored sediment continuity at barriers, reduced sedimentation in impoundments, reduced riverbed and coastal erosion and control of polluted sediment transport.</p> <p>The project partnership under the lead of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna consists of 15 Project Partners and 39 Associated Strategic Partners from 14 countries.</p> <p>Funded by Interreg DTP.</p> <p>More info: https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/danubesediment-q2</p>	Associated strategic partner

Annex V: Selected events organized/co-organized by the ISRBC in the reporting period

Event	Date	Venue	Organizer
9th Meeting of the Committee for monitoring and coordination of the Sava navigation project	26 April 2024	Sarajevo	ISRBC
Celebration of Sava Day 2024	3 June 2024	Video link	ISRBC
66 th Session of the ISRBC	20-21 June 2024	Vukovar	ISRBC
Workshop "Promoting Port of Brčko as a Logistics Gateway and Its Better Integration into the Rhine-Danube TEN-T Core Corridor"	19 Sept. 2024	Brčko	DC, ISRBC, TC
DANURELY-WS project kick-off meeting	25 Sept. 2024	Video link	GWP CEE project partners ASP (ISRBC)
15 th Follow-up on the implementation of the Joint Statement meeting	26 Sept. 2024	Vienna	ICPDR, ISRBC, DC
1 st Stakeholder Workshop of the Joint Statement 2.0 process	27 Sept. 2024	Vienna	ICPDR, ISRBC, DC
15 th meeting of captains and inland navigation safety inspectors	2-3 Oct. 2024	Višegrad	ISRBC
12 th Sava Youth Parliament	11-12 Oct. 2024	Slavonski Brod	ISRBC
16 th European Youth Parliament for Water	20-26 Oct. 2024	Szolnok, Budapest	SWE, ISW, GWP Hungary, Partner organizations (ISRBC)
67 th Session of the ISRBC	28-29 Oct. 2024	Bihać	ISRBC
Danube Youth Leadership Stakeholders Roundtable within the DANURELY-WS project	26-27 Nov. 2024	Bratislava	GWP CEE Project partners, ASP (ISRBC)
Kick-off Meeting for the Development of the Master Plan for Sustainable Tourism Development in the Sava River Basin	22-23 Jan. 2025	Zagreb, hybrid	ISRBC, Consultant (THR)
2 nd Stakeholder Workshop of the Joint Statement 2.0 process	30 Jan. 2025	Budapest	DC, ISRBC, ICPDR
68 th Session of the ISRBC	25-26 March 2025	Zagreb	ISRBC
Kick-off Meeting for Improvement, extension and operationalization of flood and low-flow forecasting and warning system in the Sava River Basin	27-27 March 2025	Zagreb	Consultant (JV-Lead Deltares) ISRBC

Annex VI: List of 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
ARSO	Slovenian Environment Agency
ASP	Associated Strategic Partner
AtoNs	Aids to Navigation System
BA, B&H	Bosnia and Herzegovina
CEF	Connecting Europe Facility
CESNI	European Committee for drawing up standards in the field of inland navigation
CHH	Cultural-historical heritage
DC	Danube Commission
DTP	Danube Transnational Programme
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EG	Expert Group
EIB	European Investment Bank
ENC	Electronic Navigation Chart
EU	European Union
EYPW	European Youth Parliament for Water
EUR	Euro
FASRB	Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin
FFWS	Flood Forecasting and Warning System
FRM	Flood Risk Management
FY	Financial Year
GA	Grant Agreement
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIS	Geographic Information System
GWP CEE	Global Water Partnership - Central and Eastern Europe
HIS	Hydrological Information System
HR	Republic of Croatia
HY	Hydrological Yearbook
ICPDR	International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
INBO	International Network of Basin Organizations
ISRBC	International Sava River Basin Commission
ISW	International Secretariat for Water
IT	Information Technology
IWT	Inland Waterway Transport
JPA SRB	Joint Plan of Actions for the Sava River Basin
ME	Montenegro
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAV	Navigation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NHMS	National Hydro-Meteorological Service
PFRA	Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment
PIAC	Principal International Alert Centre

RBM	River Basin Management
RBMP	River Basin Management Plan
RS	Republic of Serbia
SDIP	Sava-Drina River Corridors Integrated Development Program
SHELTER	Sustainable Historic Environments holistic reconstruction through Technological Enhancement and community-based Resilience
SI	Republic of Slovenia
TEN-T	Trans-European Transport Network
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
USD	United States Dollar
UXO	Unexploded ordnance
WB	World Bank
WBIF	Western Balkans Investment Framework
WFD	Water Framework Directive (60/2000/EC)
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature



INTERNATIONAL SAVA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION