
Environment and Climate Regional Accession Network (ECRAN)

3rd Screening Workshop at Pilot – Drina River Basin and 2nd Annual Meeting of Water Management Working Group

10-12 March 2015, Podgorica

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMA REGIONAL NETWORK FOR ACCESSION - ECRAN

TRAINING REPORT

ACTIVITY NO. 2.3 WATER MANAGEMENT

3RD SCREENING WORKSHOP AT PILOT – DRINA RIVER BASIN

2ND ANNUAL MEETING OF WATER MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

10 – 12 MARCH 2015 PODGORICA, MONTENEGRO

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List of Abbreviations

Acquis	Acquis Communautaire - Community legislation
B&A	Bosnia and Herzegovina
BAP	Best Agricultural Practice
BAT	Best Available Techniques
BEP	Best Environmental Practice
BLS	Baseline Scenario
BSC	Black Sea Commission
BWD	Bathing Water Directive
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
CIS	Common Implementation Strategy
DPSIR	Driver, Pressure, State, Impact and Response framework for environmental analysis
DRB	Danube River Basin
DRBD	Danube River Basin District
DRBMP	Danube River Basin Management Plan
Drina RB	Drina River Basin
DRPC	Danube River Protection Convention
EC	European Commission
ECRAN	Environment and Climate Regional Accession Network Project
EEC	European Economic Community
EPER	European Pollutant Emission Register
EPTR	European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register
EQS	Environmental Quality Standard
EQSD	Directive on Environmental Quality Standards
ERC	Environmental and Resource Cost
FASRB	Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin
FBiH	Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
GES	Good Ecological Status
HMWB	Heavily Modified Water Body
HRC	Danube RBD in Croatia
HRJ	Adriatic RBD in Croatia
ICPBS	International Commission for the Protection of the Black Sea
ICPDR	International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
IED	Industrial Emissions Directive
IMPRESS	Impact pressures assessment guidance
IPPC	Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control
KTM	Key Type of Measures
MS	Member State
MSDF	Marine Strategy Framework Directive
ND	Nitrates Directive

List of Abbreviations

NVZ	Nutrient Vulnerable Zones
PoM	Programme of Measures
PRTR	Pollutant Release and Transfer Register
PS	Priority Substances
RB	River Basin
RBD	River Basin District
RBMP	River Basin Management Plan
RBSP	River Basin Specific Pollutants
RefCond	Reference Conditions
RR	Roof Report
RS	Republic of Srpska
SAA	Stabilisation and Association Agreement
SAP	Stabilization and Association process
SWMI	Significant Water Management Issue
TAIEX	Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Office
UWWT	Urban Waste Water Treatment
WFD	Water Framework Directive
WMWG	Water Management Working Group



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Glossary Terms and Definitions

- **Best available techniques (BAT):** The latest stage of development (state of the art) of processes, facilities or methods of operation which indicate the practical suitability of a particular measure for limiting discharges, emissions and waste
- **Best environmental practice:** The application of the most appropriate combination of environmental control measures and strategies
- **Common Agricultural Policy (CAP):** providing direct subsidies to farmers and land managers. A small part of these funds support rural development actions that mainly relate to agricultural activities, as well as forestry and environmental improvements on farmland.
- **Common Implementation Strategy (CIS):** This strategy was agreed by the European Commission, Member States and Norway in 2001. The aim of the strategy is to provide support in the implementation of the Water Framework Directive and its daughter directives, by developing a common understanding and guidance on key elements of the Directives.
- **Competent Authority:** An authority or authorities identified under Article 3(2) or 3(3) of the Water Framework Directive. The Competent Authority will be responsible for the application of the rules of the Directive within each river basin district lying within its territory.
- **Cost effective:** In the context of the Water Framework Directive, it describes the least cost option for meeting an objective. For example, where there are a number of potential actions that could be implemented to achieve Good Ecological Status for a water body, Cost Effectiveness Analysis is used to compare each of the options and identify which option delivers the objective for the least overall cost.
- **Characterisation (of water bodies):** A two-stage assessment of water bodies under the Water Framework Directive. Stage 1 identifies water bodies and describes their natural characteristics. Stage 2 assesses the pressures and impacts from human activities on the water environment. The assessment identifies those water bodies that are at risk of not achieving the environmental objectives set out in the Water Framework Directive. The results are used to prioritize both environmental monitoring and further investigations to identify those water bodies where improvement action is required
- **Catchment:** The area from which precipitation contributes to the flow from a borehole spring, river or lake. For rivers and lakes this includes tributaries and the areas they drain.
- **Chemical Status (surface waters):** The classification status for the surface water body. This is assessed by compliance with the environmental standards for chemicals that are listed in the Environmental Quality Standards Directive 2008/105/EC, which include priority substances, priority hazardous substances and eight other pollutants carried over from the Dangerous Substance Daughter Directives. Chemical status is recorded as good or fails. The chemical status classification for the water body, and the confidence in this (high or low), is determined by the worst test result.
- **Classification:** Method for distinguishing the environmental condition or “status” of water bodies and putting them into one category or another.
- **Coastal water:** surface water on the landward side of a line every point of which is at a distance of one nautical mile on the seaward side from the nearest point of the baseline from which the breadth of territorial waters is measured, extending where appropriate up to the outer limit of transitional waters.



- **Current Chemical Quality:** A measure of the present chemical condition of a water body (also called Chemical Status). There are two classes of chemical status of a water body (good or fail).
- **Current Ecological Quality:** A measure of the present ecological condition of a surface water body (also called Ecological Status). There are five classes of ecological status of surface waters (high, good, moderate, poor or bad)
- **Driver, Pressure, State, Impact and Response framework for environmental analysis (DPSIR):**
Driver: an anthropogenic activity that may have an environmental effect (e.g. agriculture, industry); Pressure: the direct effect of the driver (for example, an effect that causes a change in flow or a change in the water chemistry; State: the condition of the water body resulting from both natural and anthropogenic factors (i.e. physical, chemical and biological characteristics); Impact: the environmental effect of the pressure (e.g. fish killed, ecosystem modified); Response: the measures taken to improve the state of the water body (e.g. restricting abstraction, limiting point source discharges, developing best practice guidance for agriculture)
- **Diffuse sources:** Sources of pollution that are not discrete and extend over a wide geographical area
- **Discharge:** Intentional transfer of substances into water
- **Disproportionate cost:** The determination of disproportionate cost requires a decision making procedure that assesses whether the benefits of meeting good status in a water body are outweighed by the costs.
- **Ecological potential:** The status of a heavily modified or artificial water body measured against the maximum ecological quality it could achieve given the constraints imposed upon it by those heavily modified or artificial characteristics necessary for its use. There are five ecological potential classes for Heavily Modified Water Bodies/Artificial Water Bodies (maximum, good, moderate, poor and bad).
- **Ecological status:** Ecological status applies to surface water bodies and is based on the following quality elements: biological quality, general chemical and physico-chemical quality, water quality with respect to specific pollutants (synthetic and non-synthetic), and hydromorphological quality. There are five classes of ecological status (high, good, moderate, poor or bad). Ecological status and chemical status together define the overall surface water status of a water body.
- **Ecosystem:** A complex set of relationships among the living resources, habitats, and residents of an area. It includes trees, plants, animals, fish, birds, microorganisms, water, soil and people. The community of organisms and their physical environment interact as an ecological unit.
- **Environmental impact assessment (EIA):** Procedure to identify the potential impacts of a project or activity on the environment and to develop mitigation measures to reduce these to acceptable levels.
- **Ecosystem approach:** The comprehensive integrated management of human activities based on the best available scientific knowledge about the ecosystem and its dynamics, in order to identify and take action on influences which are critical to the health of the marine ecosystems, thereby achieving sustainable use of ecosystem goods and services and maintenance of ecosystem integrity



- **Eutrophication:** It means the enrichment of water by nutrients, especially compounds of nitrogen and/or phosphorus, causing an accelerated growth of algae and higher forms of plant life to produce an undesirable disturbance to the balance of organisms present in the water and to the quality of the water concerned
- **Exemptions:** The environmental objectives of the Water Framework Directive are set out in Article 4. These include the general objective of aiming to achieve good status in all water bodies by 2015 and the principle of preventing any further deterioration in status. There are also a number of exemptions to the general objectives that allow for less stringent objectives, extension of deadline beyond 2015 or the implementation of new projects. Common to all these exemptions are strict conditions that must be met and a justification must be included in the river basin management plan. The conditions and process in which the exemptions can be applied are set out in Article 4.4, 4.5, 4.6 and 4.7.
- **Groundwater:** all water which is below the surface of the ground in the saturation zone and in direct contact with the ground or subsoil.
- **Good chemical status (surface waters):** Means those concentrations of chemicals in the water body do not exceed the environmental standards specified in the Environmental Quality Standards Directive 2008/105/EC. These chemicals include Priority Substances, Priority Hazardous Substances and eight other pollutants carried over from the Dangerous Substance Daughter Directives.
- **Good chemical status (groundwater):** See chemical status (groundwater). Means the concentrations of pollutants in the groundwater body do not exceed the criteria set out in Article 3 of the Groundwater Daughter Directive (2006/118/EC).
- **Good ecological potential:** Those surface waters which are identified as Heavily Modified Water Bodies and Artificial Water Bodies must achieve 'good ecological potential' (good potential is a recognition that changes to morphology may make good ecological status very difficult to meet). In the first cycle of river basin planning good potential may be defined in relation to the mitigation measures required to achieve it.
- **Good chemical status: (surface waters):** Means that concentration of chemicals in the water body do not exceed the environmental standards specified in the Environmental Quality Standards Directive 2008/105/EC. These chemicals include Priority Substances, Priority Hazardous Substances and eight other pollutants carried over from the Dangerous Substance Daughter Directives.
- **Good ecological status:** The objective for a surface water body to have biological, structural and chemical characteristics similar to those expected under nearly undisturbed conditions.
- **Good status:** Is a term meaning the status achieved by a surface water body when both the ecological status and its chemical status are at least good or, for groundwater, when both its quantitative status and chemical status are at good status.
- **Groundwater:** All water which is below the surface of the ground in the saturation zone and in direct contact with the ground or subsoil.
- **Hazardous substances:** Substances or groups of substances which are toxic, persistent and liable to bioaccumulate, and other substances or groups of substances which give rise to an equivalent level of concern.
- **Heavily Modified Water Body:** A surface water body that does not achieve good ecological status because of substantial changes to its physical character resulting from physical



alterations caused by human use, and which has been designated, in accordance with criteria specified in the Water Framework Directive, as 'heavily modified'.

- **Inland waters:** all standing or flowing water on the surface of the land, and all groundwater on the landward side of the baseline from which the breadth of territorial waters is measured.
- **Measure:** This term is used in the Water Framework Directive and domestic legislation. It means an action which will be taken on the ground to help achieve Water Framework Directive objectives.
- **Mechanisms:** The policy, legal and financial tools which are used to bring about actions (measures). Mechanisms include for example: legislation, economic instruments; codes of good practice; negotiated agreements; promotion of water efficiency; educational projects; research; development and demonstration projects.
- **Monitoring points:** A location within a water body where different environmental parameters are measured, including biology, hydromorphology, physico-chemical, priority and priority-hazardous substances for surface waters.
- **Objective (surface waters):** Three different status objectives for each water body. These are:
 - Overall status objective;
 - Ecological status or potential objective; and
 - Chemical status objective.

These are always accompanied by a date by when the objective will be achieved.

- **Ecological status (or potential) objectives** will be derived from the predicted outcomes for the biological elements and physico-chemical elements, plus any reasons for not achieving good ecological status (or potential) by 2015.
- **Chemical status objectives** will be derived from the predicted outcomes for the chemical elements plus any reasons for not achieving good chemical status by 2015.
- **Overall status objectives** will be derived from the ecological status and chemical status objectives.
- **Point source:** Identifiable and localized point of emissions to air and discharges to water
- **Pressures:** Human activities such as abstraction, effluent discharges or engineering works that have the potential to have adverse effects on the water environment.
- **Priority substances:** A pollutant or group of pollutants, presenting a significant risk to or via the aquatic (surface water) environment that has been identified at Community level under Article 16 of the Water Framework Directive. They include 'priority hazardous substances'.
- **Pollution:** The introduction by man, directly or indirectly, of substances or energy into the maritime area which results, or is likely to result, in hazards to human health, harm to living resources and marine ecosystems, damage to amenities or interference with other legitimate uses of the sea
- **Population equivalent** is a measure of pollution representing the average organic biodegradable load per person per day: it is defined in Directive 91/271/EEC as the organic biodegradable load having a five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD5) of 60 g of oxygen per day.



- **Programme of Measures:** A Programme of Measures, as used in the Water Framework Directive, is a group of actions designed to improve the environment in a river basin district and meet the objectives of the Directive.
- **Reference conditions:** The benchmark against which the effects on surface water ecosystems of human activities can be measured and reported in the relevant classification scheme. For waters not designated as heavily modified or artificial, the reference conditions are synonymous with the high ecological status class. For waters designated as heavily modified or artificial, they are synonymous with the maximum ecological potential class.
- **Risk:** The likelihood of an outcome (usually negative) to a water body or the environment, or the potential impact of a pressure on a water body.
- **Risk assessment:** The analysis that predicts the likelihood that a water body is at significant risk of failing to achieve one or more of the Water Framework Directive objectives.
- **Risk category:** The numerical or descriptive category assigned to water bodies that have been risk assessed, in order to make the risk-based prioritization of water bodies for action under the Water Framework Directive more manageable.
- **River basin:** A river basin is the area of land from which all surface run-off and spring water flows through a sequence of streams, lakes and rivers into the sea at a single river mouth, estuary or delta. It comprises one or more individual catchments.
- **River basin district:** the area of land and sea, made up of one or more neighboring river basins together with their associated groundwaters and coastal waters, which is identified under Article 3(1) as the main unit for management of river basins.
- **River Basin Management:** The management and associated planning process that underpins implementation and operation of the Water Framework Directive. It is both an overarching process in terms of existing processes and also defines new sub-processes such as those for hydromorphology. The river basin management plans are plans for river basin management.
- **River Basin Management Plan:** For each River Basin District, the Water Framework Directive requires a River Basin Management Plan to be published. These are plans that set out the environmental objectives for all the water bodies within the River Basin District and how they will be achieved. The plans will be based upon a detailed analysis of the pressures on the water bodies and an assessment of their impacts. The plans must be reviewed and updated every six years.
- **Surface water:** inland waters, except groundwater, transitional waters and coastal waters, except in respect of chemical status, for which territorial waters are also included.
- **Significant Water Management Issues:** This is a report on each River Basin District that highlights significant water management issues in that River Basin District which will need to be addressed to achieve environmental objectives under the Water Framework Directive.
- **Transitional waters:** bodies of surface water in the vicinity of river mouths which are partly saline in character as a result of their proximity to coastal waters but which are substantially influenced by freshwater flows.
- **Urban waste water** means waste water from residential settlements and services which originates predominantly from the human metabolism and from household activities (domestic waste water) or a mixture of domestic waste water with waste water which is discharged from premises used for carrying on any trade or industry (industrial waste water) and/or run-off rain water;



- **Water body:** A manageable unit of surface water, being the whole (or part) of a stream, river or canal, lake or reservoir, transitional water (estuary) or stretch of coastal water. A 'body of groundwater' is a distinct volume of groundwater within an aquifer or aquifers



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I. Background/Rationale

1. General information about the training

The 3rd screening workshop has been organised back to back with the 2nd Annual Meeting of the Water Management Working Group (WMWG) as planned by ECRAN project team in 2014.

The tasks of the WMWG within the frame of ECRAN project are mainly focused on the strengthening of the technical capacities of the competent authorities in ECRAN beneficiaries' countries on the implementation of WFD, specifically in providing assistance in the development of transboundary River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs, and performing economic and financial analysis of the Program of Measures (PoM). In addition, the WMWG provides the frame for capacity building on interlinkages between the WFD and Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD).

The principal component of the WFD for each river basin district is the development of river basin management plans which will be reviewed on a six yearly basis and which set out the actions required within each river basin to achieve set environmental quality objectives.

Considering the need to ensure a greater particularization of the water management issues on a smaller scale but having potentially a larger impact, the countries in the Drina River Basin (Drina RB) will develop the **Drina River Basin Management Plan** which will include a **Joint Program of Measures**.

Drina River Basin (Drina RB) has been selected within the frame of the 2nd Screening Workshop (September 2014) as the most appropriate **pilot river basin** for assistance to the beneficiary countries in the development of transboundary river basin management plans.

This process will set off interfaces between a sub – unit (3 countries) and the Sava River Basin (4 countries) and the whole Danube River Basin (19 countries), through the exchange and comparison of state-of-the-art knowledge, frameworks, practices and experiences gained at the Sava and Danube basin scale. The different scale and degree of detailing - at the sub unit level - will offer the possibility of filling the missing data and gaps and bringing together the most comprehensive and up-to-date information and statistics when addressing the key challenges for the Drina basin.

The intent of the 3rd Screening workshop was to provide an open forum for consideration of practical approaches and concepts, discussions of countries inputs, needs and challenges, presentations and exchange of experience on issues relevant for producing the PoM for Drina River Basin.

The benefits of strengthening the technical capacity of the workshop participants were maximised through the training and exchange of experience offered by TAIEX assistance to the ECRAN project beneficiaries.

The 3rd Screening Workshop at Pilot Drina River Basin took place in Podgorica (Montenegro) from 11 to 12 March 2015.

The 2nd Annual Meeting of the Water Management Working Group

The 2nd Annual Meeting of the Water Management Working Group took place on 10 March 2015, in Podgorica, Montenegro. The meeting focused on the adoption of the agenda of the 3rd Screening Workshop organised back to back to the 2nd Annual meeting, the approval of the 2015 Work Plan of the Water Management Working Group, the presentation of topics (approaches, key issues and



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challenges) for developing synergies for capacity building with other WGs, the introduction of the new pragmatic approach for reaching the ECRAN project objectives, and proposal for enhancing the ECRAN beneficiaries' active involvement.

Key points of discussions:

- Proposal for a new approach: building on past achievements and consider areas of improvement;
- Learning by doing - practical application of various analysis required for the development of the RBMP and related PoM, performing economic analysis of water use, or implementing MSFD;
- Enhanced understanding on the need to establish a comprehensive database that can meet a wide range of requirements for assessment and reporting;
- Facilitate active participation and interaction, and motivated involvement (national inputs, short presentations on selected topics which can stimulate interest);
- Encouraging careful selection of case studies/applications to “real life” tasks/situations;
- Analysis, synthesis and presentations of the countries inputs;
- Evaluation of the presented methodologies;
- Careful documentation of the topics, reference materials available, follow on EU developments;
- Speakers interested and engaged in mobilizing the audience through knowledge, skills and attitudes;
- Mind the overload information - fewer topics, but in detail;
- Panels discussions organized right after TAIEX training presentations;
- Training materials: written materials, in preparation of the meetings, handouts with key points to guide the discussion;
- Ensure continuation in representation of the target audience;
- Shift towards more cross cutting issues in enforcement;
- Emphasis on integration issues – to reduce burden on implementation through streamlined info management and reporting.

The **key results** of the 2nd Annual Meeting include:

- Agenda of the 3rd Screening Workshop accepted;
- Workplan 2015 for WM WG approved;
- Clarification of the pragmatic approach for future activities, specifically for:
 - River Basin Management Plan/ Program of Measures - following the logical flow of WFD implementation steps;
 - Economic Analysis – better link with the Program of Measures (PoM);
 - MSFD – as it a very complex topic, it is important to avoid duplication, and to ensure integration issues with the WFD on the implementation.



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- Proposal for the involvement of the participants in preparing inputs into the joint effort of developing RBMP/PoM, and securing the continuation of the same professionals, in the remaining activities to be implemented.

2. Current state of the affairs in the beneficiary countries in the specific sector

2.1 Comparative analysis of legal and institutional arrangements

The importance of understanding the current state of the affairs in the water sector, in the beneficiary countries – Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, FYR Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia, and Turkey, from a comparative perspective is due to several rationales.

Firstly, a cross national analysis may improve water resources management and accelerate the implementation process of EU policies and directives, through:

- Improved understanding of the shortcomings and challenges regarding institutional and legal arrangements, status of transposition and implementation of EU policies and directives,
- Enhanced acceptance of transboundary dimension and consequently of the international cooperation to provide solutions when dealing with joint program of measures,
- Exchange of concepts and methodologies towards implementation of EU policies and directives,
- Learning from successes and failures to improve the practice of river basin management plans, from Member States (MS), and
- Enhanced national contribution towards meeting the international commitments, considering the basin wide perspective.

Secondly, considering the need of joint efforts for ensuring coordination of actions in transboundary context, knowledge on the status of WFD implementation in neighbouring countries will facilitate the compliance with the EU policies and directives and mobilize efforts towards meeting the international requirements in transboundary river basins.

The present overview and comparative analysis of the existing national legal and institutional frameworks for integrated water resources management and river basin management, and of the status of transposition and implementation of EU policies and directives is based on the existing information in the seven project countries, which were summarised by the participants representing the beneficiary countries during the workshop, but also supplemented with information available, reviewed and analysed in the context of the most relevant international legal frameworks, such as the Water Framework Directive (WFD), and existing national legislation.

The process of approximating the legal and administrative systems required by the complexity of the WFD in the ECRAN beneficiary countries is a huge task that requires careful planning, organization, administration and management on an ongoing basis. The commitments and steps already undertaken so far through adequate measures will facilitate compliance with the WFD requirements according to their respective deadlines as future Member States. The integration process places before all beneficiary countries the requirement to align their national institutional and legal arrangements to the European legislation and structures.



Currently, the process of approximation is ongoing with different level of development regarding the three components: transposition, implementation and enforcement. The approximation is influenced by the political status of the project countries “as countries prepared to join the EU”.

A key step of the approximation process was the establishment of the European Partnerships setting out the short and medium term priorities that the countries and territory need to fulfil in their approximation to EU norms and standards. Further, the approximation process and the WFD implementation were accelerated in the beneficiary countries involved in the development of the Danube River Basin Management Plan (DRBMP), and Sava River Basin Management Plan (SRBMP).

The importance of regulatory reform is acknowledged and it gained political support in all beneficiary countries. This is currently reflected by:

- (i) the simplification of the existing legislation during the transposition of EU Directives;
- (ii) reducing of the administrative burden and avoiding duplication of responsibilities, through gradual elimination of fragmentation of competencies on water/river basin management;
- (iii) promoting of integration of sectoral strategies into national strategy;
- (iv) concluding bilateral or international declarations/agreements for coordinated transboundary cooperation;
- (v) enhanced awareness of the benefits of complying with EU legislation, reflected in the national strategic documents.

It is proposed that the comparative analysis will be updated in the 4th Screening Workshop Report (June 2015) according to the new developments along the implementation of EU policies and directives.

2.2 Countries overview of the current status

Albania is a candidate country following the Brussels European Council of June 2014. European integration is the first priority for the government’s programme. The National Plan 2014-2020, adopted in July 2014 provides a set up for six areas (including water) and specially designed delivery units under the coordination of the Prime Minister’s Office to ensure implementation.

Specifically, the Technical Secretariat of the National Water Council of Albania - a newly established institution under the office of the Prime Minister of Albania coordinates the efforts to reform the fragmented responsibilities in the water sector - in addressing issues like: the different models of water governance, water resources and water services management, international waters, risk and information management and the legal and regulatory framework. In the area of water quality, the law on integrated water management came into force in December 2014. The water supply and sewerage strategy has not yet been adopted. A new wastewater treatment plant was put into operation in Shiroka (Shkodra lake), bringing the total number of functioning wastewater treatment plants to five. Three other plants are completed, but not yet operational and two are under construction. Implementation of the acquis in the area of water quality remains at a very early stage.

Significant further efforts are needed in all areas to strengthen administrative capacity and to ensure proper implementation and enforcement of legislation and its further alignment with the acquis.

Since **Bosnia and Herzegovina (B&H)** was identified as a potential candidate for EU membership (Thessaloniki European Council summit in June 2003) a number of developments took place in field of



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river basin management, water quality and flood protection and control. River basin management plans have been prepared according to the WFD requirements for the rivers Neretva-Trebišnjica and Sava. Following the commitment to implement the WFD within the frame of the platform coordinated by the International Commission for the Protection of Danube River (ICPDR), B&H also contributed to the development of the Danube River Basin Management Plan (RBMP), 2009. Currently, B&H is actively participating in the second cycle of the development of the Danube RBMP, for the period 2009-2015, in line with the WFD.

At present, there are efforts to achieve a consistent and harmonised approach to water management at State level. This includes implementing water laws, functioning monitoring in compliance with the WFD, river basin management plans, appropriate wastewater treatment plants, flood management. In addition, consideration is given to strengthening the institutional structure, to ensure inter-ministerial cooperation and coordination mechanism required to address significant capacity, cooperation and coordination needs.

Since October 2009, when the Commission recommended that accession negotiations be opened, for the **Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia** (candidate country), the EU agenda is the country's strategic priority. The country accelerated the alignment with the acquis in the field of environment, and is making efforts to address the WFD requirements regarding institutional arrangements and appropriate competencies for implementing the RBMP, the gaps in the water monitoring system, water infrastructure investment needs, and to set up an appropriate system for water pricing.

The country registered progress in setting up the structures for river basins, but still efforts are needed to ensure their operations and further alignment with the acquis which is less advanced in the area of water quality.

On 25 July 2014, the EU and **Kosovo*** have signed the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the EU and Kosovo. Kosovo* is a potential candidate for EU accession.

On environment, the Law on the Inspectorate of Environment, Waters, Nature, Spatial Planning and Construction was adopted in October 2013. Some administrative instructions have recently been adopted. Still efforts are needed to address increasing environmental challenges in Kosovo*.

In the area of water, Kosovo* has not established River Basin Authorities or an independent water management authority as stipulated in the Water Law of 2013. Investment needs in reducing huge water losses in the networks - 75 % - are substantial. Water utilities are hampered by low collection levels. The water resource monitoring system is incomplete. Kosovo* does not have a groundwater monitoring system. Monitoring of the quality of drinking water has improved because of increased capacity (also funded by the EU) at the Institute of Public Health and an administrative instruction to monitor the chemical parameters of drinking water.

Montenegro

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.



Montenegro applied for EU membership in December 2008. The country was given candidate status in December 2010, and accession negotiations were opened in June 2012. In line with the EU's 'new approach' to the accession process, accession negotiations with Montenegro started on 29 June 2012.

As regards the environment, in the area of horizontal legislation, the government adopted amendments to the decree on projects that are subject to environmental impact assessment (EIA) to fully align with the relevant directive. Further efforts are needed to implement EIA and Strategic Environmental Assessments Directives, both at national and local level. As regards access to environmental information, the three Aarhus Centres are functioning well. The law on environmental liability was adopted.

Water quality remains an issue of concern. Significant efforts are still needed to align water quality legislation with the *acquis* and to implement it. Monitoring networks and river-basin water management plans are in their earlier phases of developments, and the infrastructure for wastewater treatment is in need of large investments efforts.

Two new wastewater treatment facilities were put into operation, in Zabljak and in Budva.

Republic of Serbia submitted its application for EU membership in December 2009 and was granted candidate status in March 2012. In September 2013 a Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the EU and Serbia entered into force, and on 21 January 2014, the 1st Intergovernmental Conference took place, signalling the formal start of Serbia's accession negotiations.

Republic of Serbia had made great progress for transposition, implementation and enforcement of environmental *acquis* through further implementation of principles from Environmental Approximation Strategy. According to the EC 2012, Serbia aligned its legislation with EU *acquis* on emission limit values (ELVs) for water pollutants and deadlines for complying with them, as well as on parameters of ecological and chemical status of surface and of chemical and quantitative status of ground waters, in line with the Water Framework Directive (WFD). The Law on Public Utility Services is largely in line with the WFD tariff principles. However, cost-covering tariffs for water remain to be introduced in the Water Law. The development of the groundwater monitoring network needs to advance.

In the area of the environment, there has been further progress with regard to horizontal legislation, while improvements in environmental reporting continued.

As regards water quality, the decree on limit values for priority and priority hazardous surface water pollutants was amended in February 2014. The amended decree increases the number of priority substances to be monitored in line with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive. Significant investment is needed to modernise drinking water treatment capacity in all types of agglomerations. The lack of a wastewater treatment plant in Belgrade limits the scope of investment in wastewater treatment of upstream urban agglomerations. Efforts are still needed to improve and expand the monitoring network. The capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture's Water Directorate needs to be significantly enhanced to manage transposition and implementation of the EU water law. The extreme floods that took place in May 2014 call for swift improvements in flood prevention and water management systems and infrastructure.

In relation to **Turkey**, the European Council of December 2004 decided to open negotiation talks on 3 October 2005. The screening process destined to evaluate the level of transposition and



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implementation of the EU legislation took place from April to June 2006. The Council reached agreement on the Screening Report for Environment on 3 October 2007 and 2 opening benchmarks were agreed.

Turkey prepared a comprehensive strategy for the gradual well-coordinated transposition, implementation and enforcement of the *acquis*, including plans for building up the necessary administrative capacity at national, regional and local level and required financial resources, with an indication of milestones and timetables.

Turkey fulfils its obligations as regards the implementation of applicable environment *acquis* in line with the relevant EC-Turkey Association Council decisions. Environment chapter is open for negotiation. Streamlining national law with EU directives and regulations on the environment is an important step in preparing for membership of the union. Turkey's IPA funding supported key projects, such as providing municipalities with water and wastewater systems and rolling out bathing water monitoring.

Turkey has yet to take a holistic approach to water resource management, one that encompasses both environmental and economic aspects. Decreasing precipitation and an increasing population has placed pressure on water resources in some regions. Water distribution systems are generally unproductive, with an average loss ratio of 45%, far above the 10% average in other developed countries. In order to protect water resources for present and future generations, a series of interim targets are necessary to attain an efficient, reasonable and equitable use of water, in a way that accommodates economic and social progress. Achieving these targets requires providing institutions with assistance in applying economic approaches and instruments to enable cost-effective measures for river basin management planning and in terms of water quality and quantity.

Part of the overall objective of fulfilling the economic requirements of the EU's Water Framework Directive, nine specific areas to achieve good water status were identified in Turkey aiming to ensure water efficiency and develop economic instruments. The main efforts are directed to achieve full implementation of the EU's Water Framework Directive and to draft Turkish legislation on water loss and leakage control as well as on the reuse of water. Further, river basin management plans for the Akarçay, Batı Akdeniz and Yeşilırmak river basins are currently finalized.

3. Summary of the main topics covered as per Training Needs Assessment

The main topics presented and discussed at the 3rd Screening Workshop included:

1. Methodology for preparing the PoM as part of the RBM Plan, including the presentation of the concept, steps and related templates and docs;
2. Methodology for preparing the PoM as part of the RBM Plan – Romanian experience , with the presentation of the concept, steps and related results;
3. The implementation of WFD Art 5 in the Ebro River Basin, Spain;
4. Key issues of WFD - Presentation of key messages from Guidance Documents, key principles of Art 4, and key focus for Drina RB;



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5. Identification of Significant Water Management Issues (SWMIs) in the Danube River Basin
Case studies for identification of SWMIs in the Danube River Basin;
6. Significant Water Management Issues (SWMIs) in the Drina RB - Introduction of the basic concept and screening templates;
7. WFD environmental objectives, visions and management objectives in Drina RB; Introduction of the basic concept;
8. Significant pressures in Drina RB countries. Countries short information on the current status of data availability, knowledge gaps and uncertainties and solutions- criteria, scale, aggregations methodologies;
9. Significant pressures in Drina RB Presentation and discussion of the pressures assessment approach for Drina RB;
10. Surface and groundwater monitoring networks and compatibility with the WFD. Information on the national monitoring networks, surveillance and operational monitoring in line with WFD;
11. Issues for integration in Danube River Basin Policy synergies and integrated approach in the Danube River Basin. Case Study for Tisza River Basin;
12. Best Practices in Information Management during the WFD Implementation process in Spain. Illustration on how a National Water Information System supported the integration of the different articles information from the different river basins;
13. Issues for integration in the WFD – MSFD applicable for Romania Policy synergies and integrated approach in the River Basin Management Plan, Romania;
14. Issues for integration in Drina RB Presentation and discussion regarding the synergy across policy domains (WFD, Waste FD, MSFD, etc), integration water quality and quantity, water management and land, water scarcity and floods, water and economics (cost effectiveness of measures), EIA and SEA, connection top-down (Drina, Sava, Danube) levels;
15. Proposal for round tables and suggestions for training needs to be discussed at the next workshop.



II. Objectives of the training

General objectives

The 3rd Screening Workshop aimed to acknowledge, encourage and mobilize efforts towards WFD implementation, through the development of the River Basin Management Plan and related Program of Measures, as a key to reaching the good water status in the Drina River basin throughout the capacity building activities within the frame of ECRAN project.

Specific objectives

The workshop referred to:

- introducing and receiving feedback from participants on the Water Management WG Work Plan for 2015 – 2016;
- benefit of TAIEX assistance for a more profound understanding of key topics and its implementation based on countries needs and priorities;
- presenting and discussing the methodology of preparing the Program of Measure, as the key component of the producing the Drina RBM Plan, following the logical flow of steps in line with the WFD
- introduce the reference and concept documents required for implementation process;
- discuss the needs of the countries and possible options of support through the activities of ECRAN project, including training needs;
- facilitate dialogue among the countries on specific concepts and actions that are needed to ensure WFD implementation;
- explore any national obstacles (involvement and commitment, data and methodologies, coordination and cooperation, capacity building needs) towards implementing the WG Water tasks and identify possible solutions;
- brainstorm and discuss the activities (guidance, capacity building, practical case studies) needed for performing the economic analysis in line with WFD requirements in the Drina RB and involvement of participant countries;
- select topics reflecting the specificity of the Drina RB which could be approached in an integrated manner, such as water quantity and quality, climate, droughts and floods) and to consider actions to assist in the development of synergies for capacity building (training, guidance) at both national and Drina RB levels.

Achieved results/outputs

- WMWG Work Plan 2015 – 2016 approved;
- Guidance documents containing the methodologies, concepts and screening templates related to the WG tasks discussed and clarified;
- Key obstacles impeding the tasks implementation and related solutions identified;
- Enhanced understanding of the topics, challenges and remaining tasks, and related responsibilities along the implementation;



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- Exchange of experiences and knowledge significantly improved;
- Engagement of participants.



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III. EU policies and legislation covered by the training

1. Summary of the main provisions for each EU Directive/Regulation covered by the training

The Water Framework Directive - the new European water policy Getting Europe's waters cleaner, getting the citizen

1.1 Water Framework Directive (WFD)

The Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 is establishing the framework for Community action in the field of water policy for the protection of inland surface waters, groundwater, transitional waters; and coastal

waters.

This Framework-Directive has a number of objectives, such as preventing and reducing pollution, promoting sustainable water usage, environmental protection, improving aquatic ecosystems and mitigating the effects of floods and droughts, aiming to achieve **“good ecological and chemical status” for all Community waters by 2015.**

Several successive amendments and corrections (2001, 2008 and 2009), have been incorporated to the WFD.

The river basin management established under the WFD (entered into force December 2009) begins with an analysis of the characteristics of the river basin district, a review of the impact of human activity on water status, and an economic analysis of water use. Programmes to monitor water status must be established, along with programmes of measures for each river basin district in order to achieve the specified environmental objectives. Then, for each river basin district, a river basin management plan must be produced with the active involvement of all interested parties.

Finally, the specific programmes of measures must be implemented so as to achieve the objective of good status for all waters within each river basin. The first RBM plans cover the period 2009-2015. They shall be revised in 2015 and then every six years thereafter.

1.1.1 The River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) and the Program of Measures (PoM)

The principal component of the Water Framework Directive for each river basin district is the development of river basin management plans which will be reviewed on a six yearly basis and which set out the actions required within each river basin to achieve set environmental quality objectives.

The best model for a single system of water management is management by river basin - the natural geographical and hydrological unit - instead of according to administrative or political boundaries. While several Member States already take a river basin approach, this is at present not the case everywhere. For each river basin district - some of which will traverse national frontiers - a "river basin management plan" will need to be established and updated every six years, and this will provide the context for the co-ordination requirements identified above.

The river basin management plan (RBMP) is essentially a snapshot in time and is the subject of continual review. Essentially, the first river basin management plans finalized ended on December 2009 and represents the transition between the initial analysis carried out in 2004 and



implementation of the Directive. Their 6-years updating is a refining process based on improved data and understanding and allowing for revision of the circumstances in the river basins.

The first river basin management plans have been published by the end of 2009 and summarized the quality and quantity objectives to be achieved by 2015.

The river basin management plan (RBMP) represents the main achievement tool of the WFD objectives, which is realized in 6-year cycles and consists of preparation, implementation and revision phases.

Essentially, the RBMP provides:

- (i) evidence and documentation mechanism for the information gathered including: pressures and impact assessment, environmental objectives for surface and ground waters, quality and quantity of waters, and the impact of human activity on water bodies;
- (ii) facilitates coordination of the programmes of measures and other relevant programmes within the river basin district, and
- (iii) guarantees the main progress reporting mechanism to the EC as required by the WFD Art. 15.

The river basin management plan for each river basin district includes the following chapters:

- General description of the characteristics of the river basin district, including a map showing the location and boundaries of the surface and ground water bodies and a further map showing the types of surface water bodies within the basin;
- Summary of the significant pressures and the impact of anthropogenic activity on the status of surface and ground waters, including point source pollution, diffuse pollution and related land use, the quantitative status of water including abstractions and an analysis of other impacts of human activity on water status;
- List of the environmental objectives set for all water bodies, including those where the use has been made of derogations;
- Summary of the economic analysis of water use;
- Summary of the programme or programmes of measures;
- Register of any more detailed programmes and management plans and a summary of their contents;
- Summary of the public information and the consultation measures taken, their results and the changes to the plan as a consequence;
- List of competent authorities;
- Contact points and procedures for obtaining background documentation and information, including actual monitoring data.

The RBMP includes several maps, such as: map of the results of the pressures assessment (point and diffuse pollution), of the monitoring network and programme showing the status of all water bodies and protected areas, or of the protected areas.

Within the Water Framework Directive (WFD), the environmental objectives will be set for all water bodies. One of its main aims is that all water bodies (including rivers, lakes, coasts, estuaries and groundwater) achieve 'good status' by 2015. Water bodies must also be protected to prevent any deterioration in status.



Through the gap analysis, for each water body, any possible discrepancy between its existing status and that required by the Directive is identified.

If a water body is considered unlikely to achieve its environmental objectives by 2015 (including those for protected areas and groundwater), the WFD requires that management measures to be put in place to meet the WFD goals. Individual measures and/or packages of measures for water bodies must be integrated in a co-ordinated and cost-effective programme of measures

1.1.2 Guidance documents

In order to address the WFD implementation challenges in a coordinated way, the Commission agreed on a number of 33 guidance documents and 10 technical reports which have been produced to assist EU Member States with an overall methodological approach, which could be adjusted to specific circumstances by each EU Member State. The Guidance documents cover many aspects of implementation, such as establishing monitoring programmes, undertaking economic analyses, engaging the public, developing classification systems, how to identify and designate heavily modified and artificial water bodies.

- Guidance documents finalized are made available on CIRCA.
- N° 1 – Economics and the Environment
- N° 2 – Identification of Water Bodies
- N° 3 - Analysis of Pressures and Impacts
- N° 4 – Identification and Designation of Heavily Modified and Artificial Water Bodies
- N° 5 - Transitional and Coastal Waters
- N° 6 - Intercalibration Network and Intercalibration Exercise
- N° 7 - Monitoring under the Water Framework Directive
- N° 8 - Public Participation
- N° 9 - Implementing the Geographical Information System Elements (GIS)
- N° 10 - Rivers and Lakes - Typology, Reference Conditions
- N° 11 - Planning Processes
- N° 12 - The Role of Wetlands in the Water Framework Directive
- N° 13 - Overall Approach to the Classification of Ecological Status and Potential
- N° 14 - Guidance on the Intercalibration Process
- N° 15 - Groundwater Monitoring
- N° 16 - Groundwater in Drinking Water Protected Areas
- N° 17 - 2006/118/EC Directive on protection of groundwater
- N° 18 - Groundwater Status and Trend Assessment
- N° 19 - Surface water chemical monitoring
- N° 20 - Exemptions to the environmental objectives
- N° 21 - Guidance for reporting under the WFD



- N° 22 - Updated WISE GIS guidance
- N° 23 - Eutrophication Assessment
- N° 24 - River Basin Management in a changing climate
- N° 25 - Chemical Monitoring of Sediment and Biota
- N° 26 - Risk Assessment and the Conceptual Models for Groundwater
- N° 27 - Deriving Environmental Quality Standards
- N° 28 - Preparation of Priority Substances Emissions Inventory
- N° 29 - Floods Directive
- N° 30 - Updated classification methods for intercalibration exercise
- N° 31 - Ecological Flows
- N° 32 - Biota Monitoring
- N° 33 - Analytical Methods for Biota Monitoring

The most relevant EU documents in support of the WFD implementation include:

- "Common Strategy on the Implementation of the Water Framework Directive" (CIS);
- "Carrying forward the Common Implementation Strategy for the Water Framework Directive - Progress and Work Programme 2003/2004";
- "Moving to the next stage in the Common Implementation Strategy for the Water Framework Directive - Progress and Work Programme 2005/2006";
- "Improving the comparability and the quality of Water Framework Directive implementation – Progress and Work Programme 2007-2009";
- "Supporting the implementation of the first river basin management plans – Work programme 2010-2012";
- "Strengthening the implementation of EU water policy through the second river basin management plans - Work Programme 2013-2015".

The CIS is a key document, prepared in recognition that an integrated approach to river basin management throughout Europe is crucial for the successful implementation of the WFD Directive.

The purpose is:

- to develop a common understanding and approach to implementation throughout the EU,
- elaborate informal technical guidance and
- share experiences between MS to avoid duplication of effort;
- support efficient application of the WFD requirements.

In addition, the Commission produced Thematic CIS information sheets which provided more information and resource material publicly available on a variety of subjects, such as:

Topic 1: River Basin Management

Topic 2: Reporting and WISE (Water Information System for Europe)

Topic 3: Ecological Status



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Topic 4: Groundwater

Topic 5: Chemical Aspects

Topic 6: Flood Risk Management

Topic 7: Climate Change and Water

Topic 8: Water Scarcity and drought

Topic 9: Agriculture and Water

Topic 10: Biodiversity and water

Topic 11: Hydromorphology

Topic 12: Economic Issues

1.2 The Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)

The Marine Strategy Framework Directive 2008/56/EC (MSFD) is establishing a framework for community action in the field of marine environmental policy; it was formally adopted by the European Union in July 2008. The MSFD is the environmental pillar of Europe's maritime policy designed to create a framework for sustainable use of Europe's marine waters.

The European Union Marine Strategy Framework Directive provides a legislative framework to sustainably manage human activities at all scales - from local to national to regional seas. The MSFD promotes an Ecosystem Approach (EA) to reach Good Environmental Status (GENS) by 2020.



The MSFD outlines a transparent, legislative framework for an ecosystem-based approach to the management of human activities which supports the sustainable use of marine goods and services. The overarching goal of the Directive is to achieve 'Good Environmental Status' (GES) by 2020 across Europe's marine environment (Figure 1).

Figure 1 Guideline for MSFD implementation to reach GES

In order to achieve GES in a coherent and strategic manner, the MSFD established four European Marine Regions, based on geographical and environmental criteria. The North East Atlantic Marine Region is divided into four sub regions, with UK waters lying in two of these (the Greater North Sea and the Celtic Seas). Each Member State is required to develop a marine strategy for their waters, in coordination with other countries within the same marine region or sub region. This coordination is being achieved through the Regional Seas Conventions.



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Marine strategies are being implemented to protect and conserve the marine environment, prevent its deterioration, and, where practicable, restore marine ecosystems in areas where they have been adversely affected.

The marine strategies, developed by each Member State, contain:

- An initial assessment of the current environmental status of that Member State's marine waters;
- A determination of what Good Environmental Status means for those waters;
- Targets and indicators designed to show whether a Member State is achieving GES;
- A monitoring programme to measure progress towards GES;
- A programme of measures designed to achieve or maintain GES.

The MSFD does not state a specific programme of measures that Member States should adopt to achieve GES, except for the establishment of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). The MSFD does however outline 11 high level descriptors of GES in Annex I of the Directive.

The MSFD will be complementary to, and provide the overarching framework for, a number of other key Directives and legislation at the European level. Examples include the EC Habitats Directive, the EC Birds Directive, the EU Water Framework Directive, and the Common Fisheries Policy.

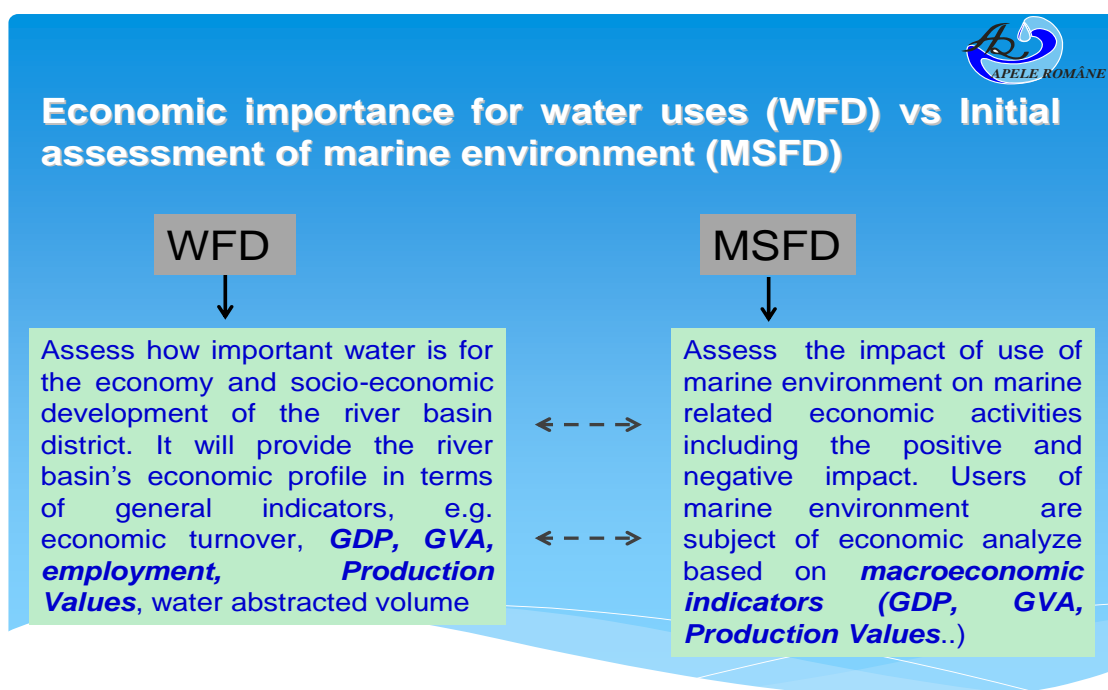


Figure 2. Synergies between the economic analysis within WFD and the Initial assessment of MSFD

There are 7 EU guidelines which explain and illustrate the social, economic and environmental science base and methods to tackle key management tasks necessary to implement the MSFD during preparation, planning and implementation phases. Key messages are highlighted for managing multiple uses of coastal and marine resources and space to help decision makers prepare spatial plans.



1.3 Other relevant EU legislation for approaching WM WG topics

1.3.1 Preparing the River Basin Management Plan and the Program of Measures

- Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field.
- Decision 2455/2001/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 November 2001 establishing the list of priority substances in the field of water policy and amending Directive 2000/60/EC of water policy (WFD).
- 2005/646/EC: Commission Decision of 17 August 2005 on the establishment of a register of sites to form the intercalibration network in accordance with Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council.

Groundwater

- Council Directive 80/68/EEC of 17 December 1979 on the protection of groundwater against pollution caused by certain dangerous substances.
- Directive 2006/118/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration

Flood protection

- Directive 2007/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2007 on the assessment and management of flood risks.

Municipal urban wastewater treatment

- Council Directive 91/271/EEC of 21 May 1991 concerning urban waste-water treatment
- 93/481/EEC: Commission Decision of 28 July 1993 concerning formats for the presentation of national programmes as foreseen by Article 17 of Council Directive 91/271/EEC.
- The Sewage Sludge Directive (86/278/EEC).

Drinking water

- Council Directive 98/83/EC of 3 November 1998 on the quality of water intended for human consumption.
- Council Directive 79/869/EEC of 9 October 1979 concerning the methods of measurement and frequencies of sampling and analysis of surface water intended for the abstraction of drinking.

Dangerous substances

- Council Directive 76/464/EEC of 4 May 1976 on pollution caused by certain dangerous substances discharged into the aquatic environment of the Community.
- Council Directive 86/280/EEC of 12 June 1986 on limit values and quality objectives for discharges of certain dangerous substances included in List I of the Annex to Directive 76/464/EEC.
- Directive 2006/11/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 February 2006 on pollution caused by certain dangerous substances discharged into the aquatic environment of the Community.
- Council Directive 82/176/EEC of 22 March 1982 on limit values and quality objectives for mercury discharges by the chlor-alkali electrolysis industry.



- Council Directive 83/513/EEC of 26 September 1983 on limit values and quality objectives for cadmium discharges.
- Council Directive 84/491/EEC of 9 October 1984 on limit values and quality objectives for discharges of hexachlorocyclohexane.
- Council Directive 84/156/EEC of 8 March 1984 on limit values and quality objectives for mercury discharges by sectors other than the chlor-alkali electrolysis industry.

Industrial discharges

- Council Directive 96/61/EC of 24 September 1996 concerning integrated pollution prevention and control.
- Directive 2008/1/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 January 2008 concerning integrated pollution prevention and control (Codified version).
- Directive 2010/75/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 November 2010 on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control).
- The Major Accidents (Seveso) Directive (96/82/EC).

Agriculture

- Council Directive 91/676/EEC of 12 December 1991 concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources.
- Common Agricultural Policy.

Bathing water

- Council Directive 76/160/EEC of 8 December 1975 concerning the quality of bathing water
- Directive 2006/7/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 February 2006 concerning the management of bathing water quality and repealing Directive 76/160/EEC

Nature

- Council Directive 79/409/EEC of 2 April 1979 on the conservation of wild birds
- Council Directive 92/43/EEC of the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.

MSFD

- Directive 2008/56/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 June 2008 establishing a framework for community action in the field of marine environmental policy

Bathing water

- Bathing Water Directive (EC, 2006)

Common Fishery Policy

- Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy

ICZM

- Recommendation of European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2002 concerning the implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Europe



Maritime Spatial Planning

- Directive 2014/89/EC of European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014 establishing a framework for maritime spatial planning

Environmental Impact assessment

- The Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (85/337/EEC).
- Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2001/42).

1.3.2 Selection of WFD measures

Art. 11.3 of WFD - Programme of basic measures which may include:

- a. Measures to implement existing Community water legislation and other environmental legislation (set out in Article 10 and in Part A of Annex VI):
 - i. The Bathing Water Directive (76/160/EEC);
 - ii. The Birds Directive (79/409/EEC);
 - iii. The Drinking Water Directive (80/778/EEC) as amended by Directive (98/83/EC);
 - iv. The Major Accidents (Seveso) Directive (96/82/EC);
 - v. The Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (85/337/EEC);
 - vi. The Sewage Sludge Directive (86/278/EEC);
 - vii. The Urban Waste-water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC);
 - viii. The Plant Protection Products Directive (91/414/EEC);
 - ix. The Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC);
 - x. The Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC);
 - xi. The Integrated Pollution Prevention Control Directive (96/61/EC).
- b. Measures to implement Article 9 (cost recovery);
- c. Measures to promote efficient and sustainable water use;
- d. Measures to protect drinking water quality and reduce level of treatment required;
- e. Measures to control abstraction from surface and groundwater;
- f. Measures to control recharging of groundwater;
- g. Measures to control point source discharges;
- h. Measures to prevent or control inputs of diffuse pollutants;
- i. Measures to address any other significant impacts on status, in particular the hydromorphological condition;
- j. Measures to prohibit direct discharges to groundwater;
- k. Measures to eliminate or reduce pollution by priority substances;
- l. Measures to prevent accidental pollution.

Supplementary measures (see Art. 11.4 of WFD) are:



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- Those measures planned and implemented in addition to the basic measures, where it is necessary to achieve the environmental objectives of the WFD as established in Article 4 and Annex V, and
- Can include additional legislative powers, fiscal measures, research, educational campaigns that go beyond the basic measures and are considered as necessary to achievement of environmental objectives.

Additional measures (see Art. 11.5 of WFD) are necessary to consider in case when a water body probably will not achieve the Art. 4 objectives after the adoption of the measures defined in first RBMP. If the implementation of an additional measure lasts longer than one river basin management planning cycle such a measure should be “address” either as a basic or as a supplementary measure.

2. Useful references on practical guides or links to various web sites

At the EC, <https://circabc.europa.eu/> provides comprehensive sources of reference documents related to WFD, MSFD, Flood Directive, and other relevant policies and directives.

EU LEGISLATION, GUIDELINES AND REPORTS

WATER

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/objectives/implementation_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/flood_risk/

MARINE

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/marine/eu-coast-and-marine-policy/marine-strategy-framework-directive/index_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/marine/docs/marine_guidelines.pdf

MSDF REPORT

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/marine/eu-coast-and-marine-policy/implementation/reports_en.htm

LANDLOCKED COUNTRIES

<https://circabc.europa.eu/sd/a/896f377b-1d4a-4502-b3b9-12f3ccfa79e6/Joint%20session%20-%20MSFD%20and%20landlocked%20MS-final.DOC>

ECRAN & RENA NETWORK

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/>

<http://www.renanetwork.org/>

TAIEX

<http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taiex/>

RELEVANT Projects in Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea

http://ec.europa.eu/research/bioeconomy/fish/research/ocean/index_en.htm

<http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/coordination/>



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http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy/marine_knowledge_2020/index_en.htm

<http://www.kg.eurocean.org/>

<http://www.devotes-project.eu/>

<http://www.perseus-net.eu/site/content.php>

<http://medsea-project.eu/>

<http://www.misisproject.eu/>

<http://www.pegasoproject.eu/>

<http://www.coconet-fp7.eu/index.php/about-coconet>

<http://www.envirogrids.net/>

<http://www.seas-era.eu/np4/homepage.html>

OTHER

<http://www.msfd.eu/knowseas/about.html>

3. Case studies/examples from EU Member States to illustrate practical situations or best practices that have been covered during the training

3.1 Identification of the Significant Water Management Issues (SWMIs) in the Danube River Basin

The definition of the SWMIs is based on the identification of the main pressures at the Danube basin-wide level, as assessed in the Danube Basin Analysis Report (2004).

The most relevant general and cross-cutting issues in connection with the SWMIs selection include:

- Interrelation between the basin-wide, national/sub-basin and sub-unit level;
- Long-term visions and management objectives;
- Basin-wide approach;
- Joint Programme of Measures (JPM);
- Financing issues.

The SWMIs require integration with other sectorial policies, such as:

- Inland Navigation;
- Hydropower;
- Agriculture;
- Floods and droughts;
- EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

The SWMIs identified at the Danube basin wide level are:

- Organic pollution;
- Nutrient pollution;



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- Hazardous substances;
- Hydromorphological alterations.

For each of the identified SWMIs, a vision was selected, specifically:

Organic pollution: No untreated municipal and industrial waters are discharged into the Danube waters

Nutrient pollution: The nutrient balance in the Danube River Basin is environmentally sustainable. The emissions of nutrients via point and diffuse sources are managed in a balanced way for the entire Danube River Basin, that neither the waters from this basin nor the Black Sea are threatened or impacted by eutrophication.

Basin

Hazardous substances: Hazardous substances are not threat for aquatic environment of the waters within the Danube River Basin and Black Sea Basin. No untreated municipal and industrial waters are discharged into the Danube waters. Best available techniques are implemented for the treatment of industrial wastewaters to eliminate and reduce the discharge of the dangerous substances

Hydromorphological alterations: Hydromorphological alterations do not impact the aquatic ecosystems in the Danube River Basin. The aquatic environment functions in a holistic way – hydromorphological alterations are managed in such a way that necessary habitats and structures are provided to ensure self-sustaining aquatic populations.

Lesson learned: the Drina countries have selected five SWMIs, of which four are similar with those identified at the Danube basin wide level. Similar exercise has been undertaken for the selection of SWMIs for Sava River Basin Management Plan.

Significant Water Management Issues



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Figure 3. SWMIs in the Danube River

3.2 Best practices in information management for WFD implementation in Spain

The European Commission sets out criteria for the generation of information, both in relation to the format as the mechanisms of integration, through the establishment of new European standards for data processing and set up the European Information System for Water - WISE and mandatory electronic reporting by Member States.

The new integrated management model posed as challenges:

- A new philosophy of environmental study based on an integrated vision;
- The need to generate a new data model supporting this vision.



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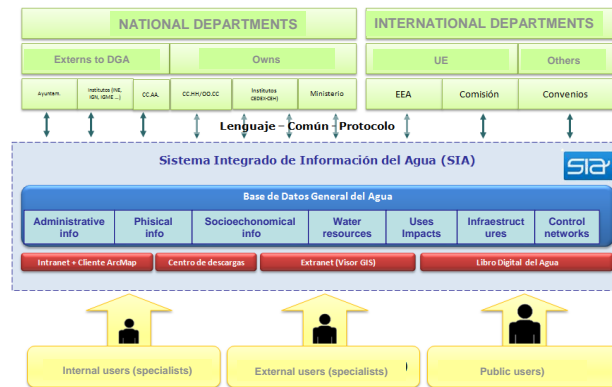


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2. Development criteria of Water Information System



- With the implementation of the **new information system**, different available data sources were **organized** and **integrated** on the **same platform**.
- Since that moment all national user can access to the information using one single application with different types of access depending of the type or user ((technical, specialist or general public)



www.adasasistemas.com

Figure 4. New information system implemented in Spain

Because of the new information system (Figure 4), different available data sources were **organized** and **integrated** on the **same platform**. From this moment, all national users can access the information using one single application with different types of access depending of the type or user ((technical, specialist or general public).

The Data Administration Model includes 3 levels of administration:

- **Generate their own content** (Directorate General of Water) to maintain and operate within the SIA;
 - On these data Directorate General of Water is responsible for creating, updating and validating;
 - Directorate General of Water is responsible for formal and conceptual content.
- Integrate or replicate **external data** that are maintained, operated and updated in a system that is not the SIA;
 - On this model it is apply a level of validation 'formal' on the data but not on the content: we 'believe' that the data are correct.
- Proposes patterned **exchanges of information** in which we provide infrastructure (e.g. Exchange Portal) and organize the conceptual validation process;
 - On this model we apply a level of validation 'formal' on the data but not on the content: we 'believe' that the data are correct.



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Lessons learned:

The advantages of having a Water Information System are:

- To have an information base on water wide, consolidated and updated;
- To have a single and open system that offers a real frame of reference for environmental information on water;
- It has been essential to comply with reporting obligations of environmental information
- It is required to develop a network of contacts related to water world and a working group on which to build a common future;
- This system has facilitated and improved the various processes of European exchange, especially the Water Framework Directive.

3.3 Issues for integration in the WFD-MSFD applicable for Romania

When assessing the overlaps between the WFD and MSFD, Romania considers the following components:

Environmental objectives:

- Status objectives:
 - GS/GEP (WFD) – GEnS (MSFD);
 - Protect and enhance/restore the status of aquatic ecosystems (WFD – MSFD).
- Precautionary principle: prevent/reduce further deterioration of status (WFD) ~ preserve the marine environment (MSFD) ~ conserve the status for habitats and species directly depending on water (BHD).

Geographical scale: WFD and MSFD address transitional, coastal and territorial waters

Economic assessment

Assessment of pressures and impacts generated by anthropic activities:

- Nutrient and organic matter enrichment (MSFD – WFD – indirectly for BHD);
- Contamination by hazardous substances (MSFD – WFD – indirectly for BHD).

Quality elements/descriptors for the status assessment:

- Protected areas (WFD: Register of protected areas for abstraction of drinking water, for aquatic species important from economic point of view, for habitats and species where water is an important factor, for vulnerable and sensitive zones, for bathing waters)

The program of measures:

- Measures taken under WFD for land based pressures and riverine input (e.g. contamination by hazardous substances) will contribute to reaching GEnS under the MSFD X see WFD and MSFD example on reporting of Programmes of Measures (Figure 5).



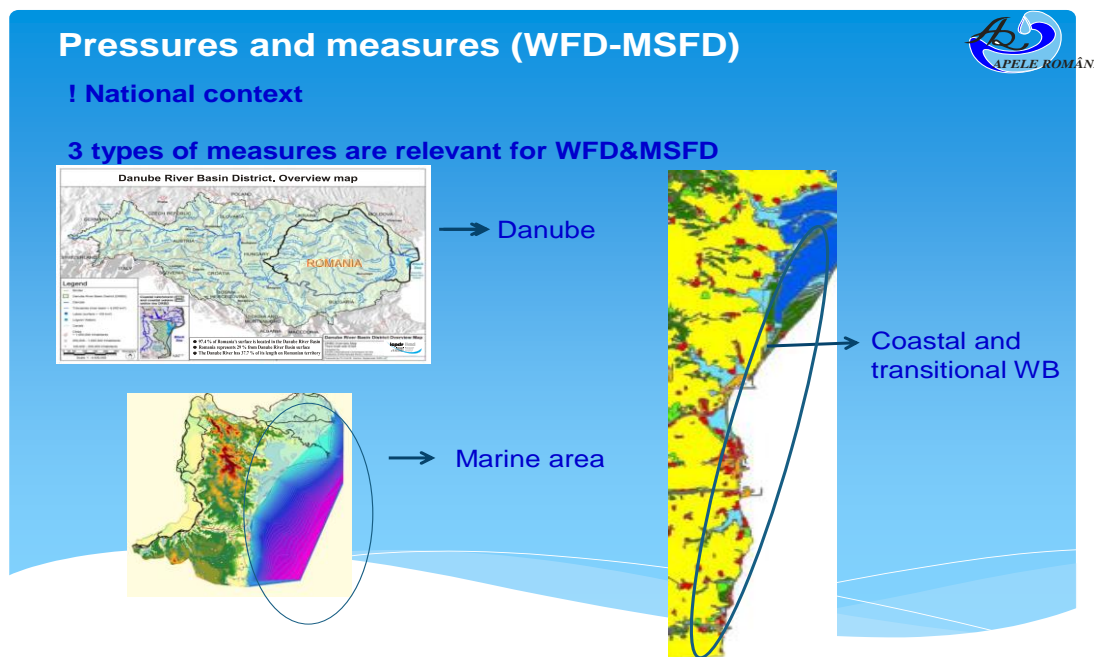


Figure 5. Types of common measures WFD&MSFD

Lesson learned: Integration of all information and coordination of common issues WFD – MSFD are essential to identify if additional actions are needed. MSFD can be considered an integrative tool.

3.4 Methodology for preparing the PoM as part of the RBM Plan – Romanian experience

Article 11 WFD states the need to build a programme of measures: “Each member state shall ensure the establishment for each river basin district, or for a part of an international river basin district within its territory, of a programme of measures, taking into account the results of the analysis required under article 5, in order to achieve the objectives established under article 4.”

The PoM is selected to meet the environmental objectives described in article 4 WFD:

- Preventing the further deterioration of water bodies;
- Improving the status of water bodies;
- Preventing pollution from hazardous substance sources;
- Achieving all of the norms and objectives related to protected areas

The programme of measures must provide the means to fill important gaps identified during the initial status at district level. In the spirit of the DPSIR scheme, the programme of measures would represent the Response.

The approach for selecting the measures considers:

- The measures need to be a precised tasks that are clearly relevant to the final goal;
- A measure is not to be considered as a general concept, but as a pragmatic action established with the purpose of reaching an environmental objective;



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- Other actions coming from different sectorial policies can also be considered as measures and implemented (urban plans, best agricultural practices, and risk plans for floods may be measures regarding achieving environmental objectives.

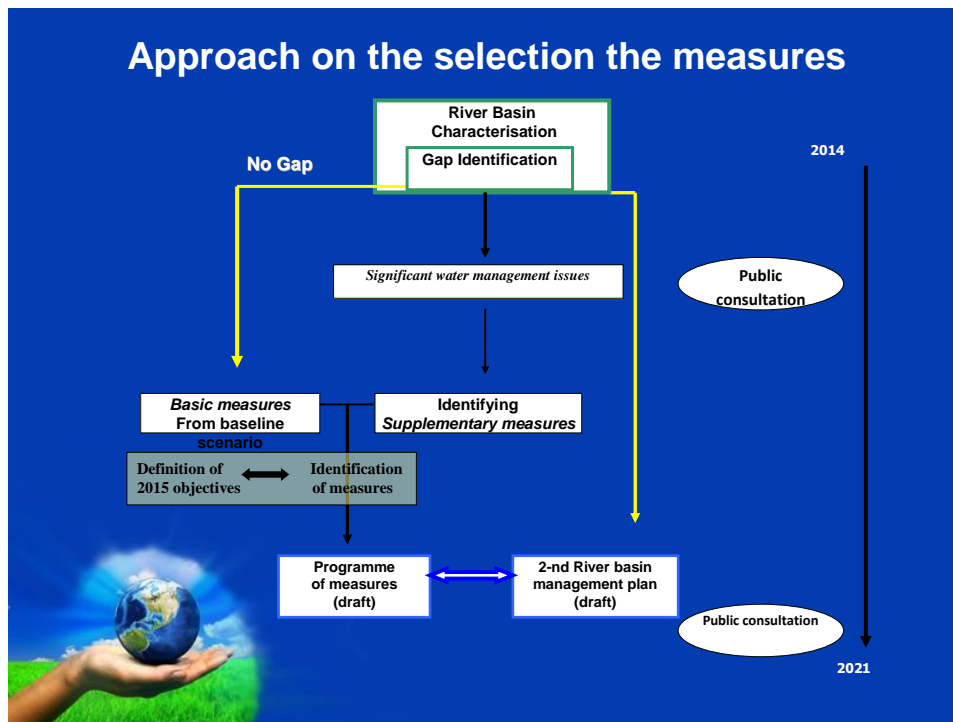


Figure 6. Approach for selecting the measures according to the WFD

On the assessment of the costs of PoM, different types of cost that need to be evaluated include:

- Operating, maintenance, renewal, etc;
- Fixed and variable;
- Marketable and non-marketable.

In order to elaborate an efficient programme of measures for both the environment and the concerned parties of a river basin, it is clearly necessary to consider the costs of the different measures which will be taken to achieve good status.

Lessons learned:

For assessing the cost and benefits of the packages of measures, it is important to consider that:

- the analysis of costs and benefits remains in most cases the basis for deciding on cost disproportionality and implicitly on exemptions
- the assessment of the proportion the costs of POM related to different economic sectors could be considered disproportionate, and to identify which is the threshold for disproportionality ?) – and this can be an issue to be approached during the 2nd RBMP cycle
- the social and distributional impacts, including ability to pay in the justification for exemption due to disproportionate costs.



3.5 Issues for integration in the Tisza River Basin

The Tisza region faces serious threats from pollution, structural changes as well as from floods and droughts. The current water reserves are sufficient, but because of increasing demand for agricultural irrigation, together with a fluctuating climate, **the integration of water quality and quantity aspects in land and water planning is an essential issue.**

Key water quantity management relevant for integrated water management are divided in the following three categories:

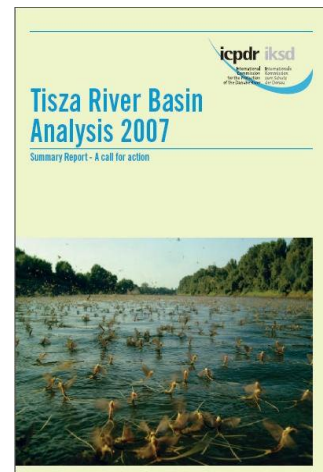
- A) Floods and Excess water;
- B) Droughts and Water scarcity;
- C) Climate change.

The Vision for integration of water quality and quantity management in the Tisza River Basin covers the following aspects:

- Hydrological alterations are managed in a way to minimize impacts on ecosystem development and distribution;
- Land is managed in such a way that the negative impacts as a consequence of floods and droughts on good water status (e.g. pollution from contaminated sites or agricultural impacts) are minimized;
- Floodplains/wetlands in the entire Tisza River Basin are reconnected and restored. The integrated function of these riverine systems ensures the development of self-sustaining aquatic populations, flood protection and reduction of pollution in the Tisza River Basin;
- Future infrastructure projects are conducted transparently using BEP and BAT in the entire Tisza River Basin;
- Impacts of the deterioration of the good status and negative transboundary effects are fully prevented, mitigated or compensated.

Management objectives to achieve the integrated visions include:

- Ensure that all adverse effects linked to any additional water supply/water quantity infrastructure (like dams or reservoirs) are fully taken into account in the environmental assessments for such infrastructure;
- Protect, conserve and restore wetlands/floodplains to ensure biodiversity, pollution reduction in relation to the achieving of good status in the connected river and flood protection;
- Progress towards a harmonized implementation of the WFD and the Floods Directive;
- Put in place water tariffs based on a consistent economic assessment of water uses and water value, with adequate incentives to use water resources efficiently and an adequate contribution of the different water uses to the recovery of the costs of water services, in compliance with WFD requirements;
- Set up appropriate coordinated measures to restore sustainable balance between water resource availability, water demands and supply;
- Set up appropriate coordinated measures to ensure good groundwater quantity.



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Lessons learned: to ensure integration of qualitative and quantitative measures it is necessary to design land-use development measures (e.g. agriculture, future irrigation projects) and overall flood management measures in such a way that they contribute to reaching good ecological status and good ecological potential.

Further, it is necessary to identify climate change impacts at the Basin-wide scale and assess whether and how these impacts affect the respective Programme of Measures and vice versa (e.g. are certain measures effective or can certain measures be considered as no-regret measures in relation to climate change adaptation).



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IV. Highlights from the training

1. Summary of each training session

1.1 WFD implementation in Drina RB

A Guidance document has been prepared to support the countries efforts in developing the RBMP and related PoM, outlining the required technical issues.

It aims to offer clear evidence on the topics of training the experts in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Republic of Serbia, based on the logical flow of preparatory process of the Program of Measures in the selected pilot basin: Drina River Basin.

The guidance document will be updated along the ECRAN project implementation, based on the results of specific assessments, such as the identification of Significant Management Issues in Drina RB, the definition of the Drina River Basin long vision for each of the identified SWMI, and the description of the respective management steps required to reach the WFD objectives.

An important component will be attached in the next project phase related to the economic analysis and financing of the Program of Measures, in line with the WFD requirements. The river basin management plan has an important role in reaching the precise balance between the benefits delivered by environmental improvements and the associated costs imposed on those who use the water environment.

The practical steps of preparing the PoM include:

- Pressures and impact assessment at the Drina RB level;
- Selection of Significant Water Management Issues;
- Assessment of interlinkages between specific topics and their integration;
- Definition of visions for each SWMI;
- Description of management objectives for each SWMI/vision;
- Compilation of measures in the Pom;
- Economic analysis;
- Financing;
- Assessment of anticipated effects to achieve the WFD objectives based on the compiled PoM, making use of scenarios of future developments.

1.2 Coordination mechanism

Appropriate coordination mechanisms on the A level enable transboundary cooperation and ensure the development of the River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) on the basin-wide level. In general, three different levels of coordination have been established both in the Danube River Basin and as well in the Sava River Basin levels: the basin- wide level (Danube/Sava), the bilateral/multilateral level and the national level (Figure 7).

Most sub-basins in the Danube river basin cover the territories of several countries, since the hydrographical boundaries of sub-basins generally do not correspond to national or administrative



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borders. Furthermore, some sub-basins are very large and therefore entail a great deal of coordination for the development of the river basin management plan. In order to facilitate the management of data for the presentation of results in national and bilateral coordination processes, so-called "sub-units" have been introduced as manageable units.

WFD implementation in Drina RB



Figure 7. The coordination mechanism in RBMP

It is up to the countries in the Drina RB to decide which approach to take for enabling transboundary cooperation and ensuring the development of the Drina RBM Plan (Figure 8).

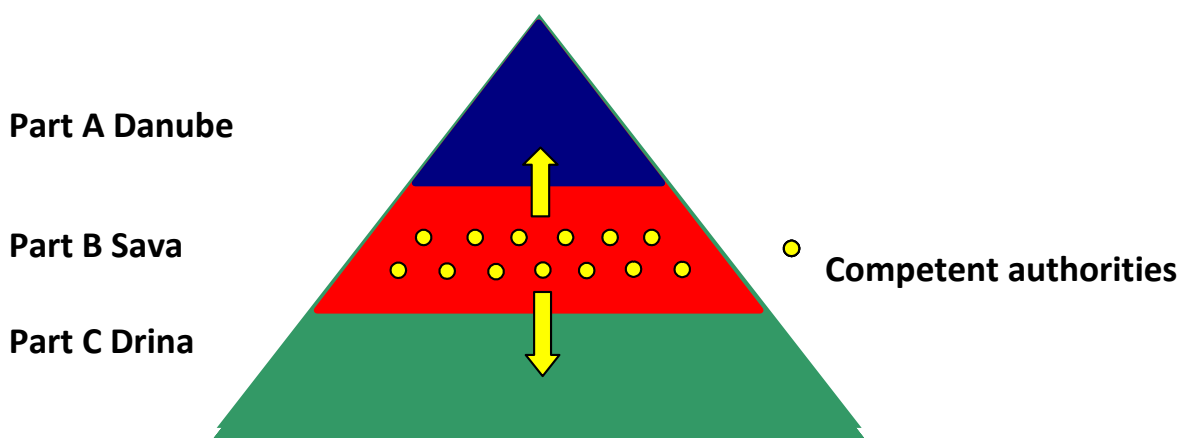


Figure 8. The coordination mechanism in Drina RB

1.3 What are the main pressures that will require measures?

The pressures identified in WFD Annex II, Sub-section 2.1 correspond to the first three of the categories identified for surface waters, specifically:

- **Point sources** of pollution (such as the wastewater discharges from agglomerations and industry, mining, contaminated land, agriculture point waste management, aquaculture)
- **Diffuse sources** of pollution (such as the urban drainage, including runoff, agriculture diffuse, forestry and other diffuse), and,



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- Changes in water levels and flow caused by abstraction or recharge.

Both Sava and Danube River Basin analysis assessed a wide range of pressures on the water environment as part of an initial risk screening exercise. This analysis has been refined and combined with the assessments completed for the first River Basin Management Plan which was produced in 2009. The Reports identified four significant water management issues in the Danube Basin District for surface waters, as well for Sava River Basin: pollution by organic substances, nutrients and hazardous substances, and alterations to hydromorphology (such as the structural characteristics of the shape, natural morphology and boundaries of rivers, lakes, transitional and coastal waters); and transboundary groundwater issues including alterations to quality and quantity.

1.4 The WFD type of measures

A combination of basic and supplementary measures is likely to be the most effective means of reducing the point and diffuse pollution, but this will vary between catchments.

The WFD identifies two types of measure:

Basic measures

These are the minimum requirements for PoMs and include measures to implement existing EU legislation for the protection of water such as the Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control/ Industrial Emissions Directive, Urban Wastewater Treatment and Habitats Directives. A full list is given in Annex VI of the WFD. In addition, Article 3 of the WFD gives a list of pressures that must be controlled using statutory measures. This list includes diffuse and point sources of pollution, abstraction of water and 'any other significant adverse impacts on the status of water'.

Basic Measures required under the Directives are presented by Table 1.

The Bathing Water Directive - (76/160/EEC)
The Birds Directive - (79/04/EEC)
The Drinking Water Directive - (80/778/EEC) <i>as amended by Directive (98/83/EC)</i>
The Major Accidents (Seveso II) Directive - (96/82/EC)
The Environmental Impact Assessment Directive - (85/337/EEC)
The Sewage Sludge Directive - (86/278/EEC)
The Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive - (91/271/EEC)
The Plant Protection Products Directive - (91/414/EEC)
The Nitrates Directive - (91/676/EEC)
The Habitats Directive - (92/43/EEC)
¹ The Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Directive - (96/61/EC)

Table 1 Basic measures to be included in the Programme of Measures

Supplementary measures

¹ Based on Annex VI (Part A) of Directive 2000/60/EC.



If a water body is considered unlikely to achieve its environmental objectives by 2015 based only on the implementation of the basic measures (including those for protected areas and groundwater), the WFD requires taking supplementary measures to improve the status and to meet the objectives.

Therefore, the Program of Measures may also need to include supplementary, or alternative, measures to provide further controls on pressures. The WFD provides a non- exhaustive list of such measures including legislative and economic instruments, codes of practice, projects, promotion of water efficient technologies and education.

In practice, measures will be applied at different scales (e.g. national, catchment, site-specific).

The list of the supplementary measures that may be included in the Programme of Measures² is presented in the Table 2.

- Legislative, administrative, economic and fiscal instruments.
- Abstraction and emission controls.
- Negotiated environmental agreements.
- Codes of good practice.
- Demand management measures.
- Efficiency and re-use measures.
- Artificial recharge of aquifers.
- Recreation and the restoration of wetlands.
- Construction projects.
- Desalination plants.
- Rehabilitation projects.
- Education projects
- Research, development and demonstration projects.
- Other relevant measures.

Table 2. Supplementary measures that may be included in the Programme of Measures

1.5 Significant water management issues (SWMIs)

Significant water management issues may arise from:

- ongoing human activity (e.g. farming, abstraction);
- historic human activity (e.g. abandoned mines, contaminated land);
- new development (e.g. increasing demand for drinking water supplies).

The significant water management issues are the pressures acting on the water environment to be considered in the preparation of the Program of Measure to achieve the environmental objectives of the Water Framework Directive.

The significant issues are those issues that will warrant the most attention at the river basin district level during the first river basin planning cycle (2015-2021).

² Based on Annex VI (Part B) of Directive 2000/60/EC.



The most relevant questions in connection with the identification of the SWMIs are:

- To what extent does the respective SWMI impact adversely on the achievement of the WFD's objectives for each category of water body in the river basin district?
- To what extent is the evidence that the selected SWMI is likely to impact on WFD's objectives based on sound and validated scientific evidence?
- To what extent will the measures already being implemented in the river basin district fail to address current issues by 2021?
- The SWMIs need to be identified in the Drina RB, valid for the whole Drina sub unit. However, significant issues will differ geographically between the sub-basins/sub-units or at the national level, and shall therefore be presented by sub-unit Drina.

The basic concept for the identification of the SWMIs in the Drina RB

The countries in the Drina RB have developed their national and regional strategies to complement the Sava and Danube RBM Plans and, where it was necessary, addressing several significant water management issues.

Investigations have also been, through various projects, and will be undertaken to identify other relevant issues and their significance in the Drina RB.

Significant issues need to be identified separately for each water body category (rivers, coastal and groundwater) because the pressures differ between the water body types. Artificial and heavily modified water bodies need to be included in the relevant water body category.

The SWMIs need to be defined in terms of the pressure type and the source (i.e. industry sector or activity) of the pressure. For example, point source pollution from the collection and treatment of sewage, and morphology from land claim, etc. Describing the significant issues at this level of detail will enable the Competent Authorities in the countries in the Drina RB, to identify existing measures and gaps in these measures.

Even though a pressure may not impact the entire length or area of a water body, the whole of the water body will fail to comply with good status if the Directive's objectives are not achieved in a significant part of the water body.

It is essential that, in addition, investigations to be undertaken to identify other relevant issues and their significance on the Drina basin-wide scale such as: climate change, flood/drought events, and changes in sediment transport due to erosion, or navigation.

The Drina basin is affected by floods, and this requires regional dialogue to balance competing demands for flood protection, hydropower production, and ecosystems needs.

Issues like the need for integration of water quality and water quantity due to changes related to water quantity through flood and drought events take an equally important role in the Drina RB.

The inter-linkage of flood management, flood protection measures and measures to achieve the objectives of the EU WFD will be aimed for to ensure best possible solutions. Moreover, the water management issues will be reviewed on a regular basis, e.g. the importance of water scarcity and droughts and the need for water saving measures, in the context of the discussion on adaptation of climate change.



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Further, hydropower represents a SWMI in the Drina water management.

The Drina RB is also impacted by other anthropogenic pressures of more local nature. Inappropriate land use and management and zoning have resulted in significant soil erosion along the river banks. The absence of proper wastewater treatment facilities at the municipalities and industrial units, the disposal of untreated sewage into the river has resulted in point and diffuse pollution in the basin.

The SWMIs selection in the Drina RB need to be based on the basin – wide approach, knowing that the waters of the Drina and its tributaries are strongly connected to local economies, living standards and environmental values, requiring therefore, coordination of actions to increase effectiveness and efficiency, sharing of experiences, approaches and information and creating solidarity between the countries sharing the Drina river basin.

At the same time, the basin-wide approach will take into account the different conditions in the Drina countries, such as the natural conditions and the socio-economic aspects.

As starting point, the scale of the national as well as of the Joint Programmes of Measures (JPM) of Drina RB level needs to be agreed to ensure the basin-wide overview of the collection of national measures.

Suggestions are made:

- *rivers with catchment areas >1000 km²*
- *lakes > 20 km²,*
- *rivers and lakes of important international sub-basins (catchment areas >500 km²) and*
- *transboundary groundwater water bodies > 1000 km².*

Through the Drina JPM, it is expected that the Drina countries can report national measures for catchment areas <1000 km² and/or will provide a description of measures (number of measures, finances), which will be undertaken in the catchment areas <1000 km², and therefore to highlight additional efforts in the Drina RBM Plan - if considered of importance for the basin-wide level.

1.6 Thematic issues of integration

Interlinkages between the WFD - other EU Directives, such as Flood Directive, Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Environmental Impact Assessment Directive, but also thematic issues such as water quality and water quantity, flood and droughts, water pricing, prioritization of water investments and financing - have been presented and discussed at the training.

The list of thematic issues for integration presented includes:

- Integration environmental, economic, social objectives – WFD and ICZM
- Integrated information sources
- Spatial integration – land use planning
- Cross sectoral integration
- Priority for Quality and quantity (water, sediments..)
- Application of EIA and SEA for water investments in relation to WFD objectives
- Institutional interplay – responsibilities, competencies (water, agriculture, environment,..)



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- Policy integration of those sectors having a spatial impact - urban, agricultural, ..., considering that the SEA is a strong driving force for policy integration
- PoM and climate changes: “climate proof” measures
- Flooding, draughts
- Role of economic instruments in achieving the WFD objectives through integration of policies
- PoM – prioritization of investments.

Additional integration topics reflecting the specificity of the Pilot Drina RB which could be approached in an integrated manner need to be further identified, together with the most appropriate approaches and relevant partner for cooperation from other ECRAN WGs.

2. Description of the training activities (delivered presentations, small group work, plenary discussions, etc.) done during each training session

The topics of the training activities at the 3rd Screening workshop were clustered according to the five major themes which follow the steps towards the preparation of the PoM, specifically:

- methodology for preparing the PoM;
- basic concept and selection of SWMIs for Drina RB;
- procedure for defining the environmental objectives, long term visions and management objectives;
- approach for pressures assessment;
- concept for capacity building on issues for integration.

A number of 24 presentations have been made, of which two were related to the conclusions of the training.

The training was attended by the EC, the ECRAN project staff and representatives of the beneficiary countries, all of whom have intimate knowledge and extensive experience in the water and river basin management topics.

The meeting program included **"Sessions"** chaired by designated officials, **"Introductory presentations"** made by known experts, and **"Case studies"** — to get insight into the EU policy implementation needs from explicitly case-studies. Through the discussion over the **"Screening Templates"**, the participants had the opportunity to provide input on the PoM topic, in a structured discussion.

3. Outputs during individual/group work.

The countries have contributed to the preparatory process of developing the PoM through completion of screening templates which were prepared and circulated before the training workshop.

At the workshop the results of the compilation of countries contributions have been presented and discussed.

1. Transboundary issues: template for data collection for Drina countries

Based on countries inputs, an overview of WFD relevant transboundary issues in the Drina River Basin has been prepared and discussed at the meeting. The templates collected information on the



pressures and impacts with transboundary effect. The PoM in Drina RB will address only pressures of transboundary relevance.

No. ³	Name of impacted water body ⁴	Sub-unit(s)	Type of water body ⁵	Location of pressure ⁶	Type of pressure or impact ⁷	Name(s) of other country(ies) impacted
	<i>Example:</i>					
BH-1	<i>River Tara</i>	<i>Drina</i>	<i>RIV</i>	<i>Mojkovac</i>	<i>A.1. Point source (municipal)</i>	<i>?(Montenegro)</i>
BH-2						

2. Screening template for selection of Drina SWMIs

Based on the above considerations, for the preparation of the PoM for Drina RB, a simplified screening template has been proposed. The selection of the SWMIs is linked to the work carried out on identifying pressures and impacts on the water environment in Drina RB, to ensure a target-oriented Drina River Basin Management Plan and an appropriate Joint Programme of Measures.

This process, coupled with monitoring programmes, will provide scientific information upon which to base the summary of significant water management issues.

In addition to the scientific information, other aspects must be taken into account, such as social, economic and governmental issues. This exercise is the first stage in gathering this information in the Drina RB for selection of SWMIs.

The compilation of national contributors presented and discussed during the training highlights the prioritized identified SWMIs in the Drina RB:

Question: Which are the agreed Drina SWMIs?

Answers

- Organic pollution: insufficient sewage and WWTPs coverage;
- Flooding;
- Hydromorphological alterations: hydropower energy facilities;
- Nutrient pollution: diffuse pollution from agriculture;
- Priority and hazardous substances: industrial emissions.

³ Country code and number (beginning with 1)

⁴ Name of river, lake, coastal water, artificial water body, name or location of groundwater body receiving pressure or impact

⁵ River (RIV), international lake (IL), coastal water (CW) artificial water body (ART) or groundwater body (GW)

⁶ Give name of industry or municipality or town or river confluence nearby; if in neighbouring country: give name of country; for diffuse sources, give approximate area; if unknown, write "unknown"

⁷ select category from Explanations footnote 5; if unknown, write "unknown"



Question: Additional SWMIs

Answers

- Sand and gravel extraction;
- Damp site used as municipal landfill.

Question: How should these issues be addressed?

Answers

- Increase of the sewage coverage and building of WWTPs;
- Development of sustainable flood management;
- Implementation of financial water management tools (water price, PPP);
- Improvement of Water polluter's cadastre;
- Building of fish paths;
- Introduction of BMP in agriculture and nutrient management (soil testing, fertilizer application).

Question: Barriers

Answers

- Lack of resources;
- Lack of local experts;
- Lack of awareness of importance of water related issues;
- Lack of relevant data.

Question: Possible solutions

Answers

- EU funding for water related projects
- Public participation in educational programmes and workshops
- Better collaboration of institutions in charged for water related issues.
- **Linkages SWMIs and PoM: background document for all ECRAN project beneficiaries**

An Annex has been prepared and discussed at the meeting regarding the interlinkages between the SWMIs and the Program of Measures in the RBM Plan. For each identified SWMIs, the basic concept for data evaluation and pressures analysis, and preparatory process of ensuring the input into the PoM is presented.

- **Monitoring programs: template for data collection from all ECRAN beneficiaries countries**

Screening Templates on Monitoring networks and compatibility with the WFD have been prepared and discussed. Countries have presented the requested information during the meeting, specifically on the status of monitoring networks and programmes.

4. Conclusions for further improvements in the relevant field



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Following the discussions at the workshop, the conclusions are directed to:

(i) the **needed actions for the project team** to more efficiently support the beneficiary countries towards the WFD implementation:

- Ensure practical application of various analysis required for the development of the RBMP and related PoM, performing economic analysis of water use, or implementing MSFD;
- Facilitate active participation and interaction, and motivated involvement (national inputs, short presentations on selected topics which can stimulate interest);
- Encouraging careful selection of case studies/applications to “real life” tasks/situations;
- Analysis, synthesis and presentations of the countries inputs;
- Evaluation of the presented methodologies;
- Make use of the existing expertise of the participants to accelerate the absorption of knowledge and practices;
- Careful documentation of the topics, reference materials available, follow on EU developments;
- Speakers interested and engaged in mobilizing the audience through knowledge, skills and attitudes;
- Mind the overload information - fewer topics, but in detail. The training should always follow on the WFD approach Panels discussions organized right after TAIEX training presentations;
- Training materials: written materials, in preparation of the meetings, handouts with key points to guide the discussion;
- Clarification of the legal relationship between the WFD, especially the RBMP and the PoM (Article 11), and the assessment under the other directives;
- Examination of those potential duplications which are possible and synergy/coordination needs between authorities managing RBMPs, within river basins;
- Identification of joint solutions to overcome different related problems;
- Select 2-3 case studies, each with the potential to underline different sets of interlinkages, synergies and actions and overlaps between the WFD and other Directives.

(ii) summarize **issues of consideration for the beneficiary countries** based on their involvement and contributions

- The process of approximation is ongoing with different level of development regarding the three components: transposition, implementation and enforcement. The approximation is influenced by the political status of the project countries “as countries prepared to join the EU” – accession being the driving force;
- The implementation of the WFD is a national priority in the beneficiary countries;
- A practical approach to feature the development of the PoM has been introduced and discussed;
- Clear policy and institutional arrangements are needed for implementing the EU policies and directives;
- Need to further reinforce the capacity of the countries to prepare RBMP and PoM;



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- Improving access to good practice studies with the aim of facilitating better knowledge and expertise;
- Sectoral and cross-sectoral integration of concerns and targeted discussion for concluding the Drina JPM is crucial for the sustainable utilization of natural and financial resources and this can be embedded in the EU WFD implementing process;
- Shift towards more cross cutting issues in enforcement to avoid duplication and waste of resources;
- Need to establish a comprehensive database that can meet a wide range of requirements for assessment and reporting.



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V. Evaluation

The WM WG tasks are implemented through provision of support and practical work with the selected experts, exchange of experience with the experts from the EU Member States and capacity building organized in cooperation with the TAIEX facility.

From the concluding remarks of the participants, there is a very positive appreciation of the expertise and professionalism of the beneficiary countries representatives at the March training, which should be further strengthen to meet the challenges that exist.

In addition, the input of the EC and the project team helped considerable the discussion and facilitated a correct understanding of the project activities implementation to achieve the expected outcomes.



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ANNEX I – Agenda

Day 1 – Tuesday, 10 March 2015, Podgorica

Topic: WMWG - 2nd Annual Meeting Chair and Co-Chairs: Marta Moren Abat and Mihail Dimovski Venue: Podgorica, Montenegro				
Start	Finish	Topic	Speaker	Sub topic/Content
08:30	09:00	Registration		
09.00	09.15	Welcome and opening	Welcome and opening Ms. Marta Moren Abat, European Commission, DG Environment Mr. Mihail Dimovski (ECRAN Team Leader)	Address by EC Address by ECRAN
09.15	09.30	Introduction of the new WG Coordinator	Ms. Mihaela Popovici, ECRAN Expert	Presentation and adoption of the agenda Introduction to the purpose of the annual WG meeting and workshop and its expected outcome
09.30	10.30	Presentation and discussion of the results outputs achieved in 2014	Ms. Mihaela Popovici	Presentation of the approach and methodology that have been applied for implementation of the activities with the output and results achieved in 2014 Method : PPP and Q&A
10:30	11:00	Coffee Break		
11.00	12.30	Discussion and agreement on the approach, contents and time schedule of follow-	Ms. Mihaela Popovici, All participants	General work plan with the specifics for 2015 - 2016 adopted. Materials provided: - Detailed draft work plan for 2015



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		up training programs for 2015 - 2016		– 2016 - Guidance documents connected with the Drina RBM Plan and its PoM Method : PPP and Q&A
12:30	14:00	Lunch Break		
14:00	14:30	Methodology for DRINA RB Pilot	Ms. Mihaela Popovici All participants	Presentation of methodology, outline screening templates, data collection process Materials provided: screening templates Method : PPP and Q&A
14:30	15:00	Drina RB Pilot vision	Ms. Mihaela Popovici All participants	Drina RB Pilot vision: key factors in establishing a long term vision and suggestion for the approach Method : PPP and Q&A
15:00	15:30	Coffee Break		
15:30	16:00	Thematic synergies with other WGs Cooperation with TAIEX Suggestions on experts involvement Next steps Conclusions	Ms. Mihaela Popovici All participants	Integration issues accepted Conclusions Method : PPP and Q&A



Day 2 – Wednesday, 11 March 2015, Podgorica

Topic: Assistance in the development of transboundary River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) – Framework for the preparation of acceptable and efficient Programme of Measures (PoMs) for pilot, Drina River Basin – 3rd Screening workshop

Chair and Co-Chairs: Mihail Dimovski and Mihaela Popovici

Venue: Podgorica, Montenegro

Start	Finish	Topic	Speaker	Sub topic/Content
08:30	09:00	Registration		
09.00	09.15	Welcome and opening	Welcome and opening Ms. Marta Moren Abat, European Commission, DG Environment Mr. Mihail Dimovski (ECRAN Team Leader)	Address by EC Address by ECRAN
09.15	09.30	Introduction of the workshop	Ms. Mihaela Popovici, ECRAN Expert WMWG Coordinator	Presentation and adoption of the agenda Introduction of the purpose of the workshop and its expected outcomes Method : PPP
9:30	10:00	Overview of the results of the 1 st and 2 nd Workshop	Ms. Mihaela Popovici, ECRAN Expert	Key outcomes, results and lessons learned for all targeted beneficiaries Method : PPP
10:00	11:00	Methodology for preparing the PoM as part of the RBM Plan	Ms. Mihaela Popovici, All participants	Presentation of the concept, steps and related templates and docs Method : PPP and Q&A Materials provided: concept and screening templates
11:00	11:30	Coffee Break		
11:30	12:00	Methodology for preparing the PoM	Mr. Cristian Rusu Head of Unit National	Presentation of the concept, steps and related results



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		as part of the RBM Plan – Romanian experience	Administration “Apele Romane” TAIEX Expert All participants	Method : PPP and Q&A
12:00	12:30	The implementation of WFD Art 5 in the Ebro River Basin	Ms. Elena Borell, ECRAN expert	Presentation of the concept and results of Ebro analysis according to WFD Art 5.
12:30	14:00	Lunch Break		
14:00	14:30	Key issues of WFD	Ms. Mihaela Popovici, All participants	Presentation of key messages from Guidance Documents, key principles of Art 4, and key focus for Drina RB Method : PPP and Q&A
14:30	15:00	Identification of SWMIs in the Danube River Basin	Mr. Gheorghe Constantin, Head of Water Department, Ministry of Environment. Romania TAIEX Expert All participants	Case studies for identification of SWMIs in the Danube River Basin Method : PPP and Q&A
15:00	15:30	Significant Water Management Issues (SWMIs) in the Drina RB	Ms. Mihaela Popovici, All participants	Introduction of the basic concept and screening templates Method : PPP and Q&A Material provided: Methodology and screening template
15:30	16:00	Coffee Break		
16:00	17:00	WFD environmental objectives, visions and management objectives in Drina RB	Ms. Mihaela Popovici, ECRAN Expert WMWG Coordinator All participants	Introduction of the basic concept Suggestions for Drina RB Method : PPP and Q&A

Day 3 – Thursday, 12 March 2015, Podgorica



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Topic: Assistance in the development of transboundary River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) – Framework for the preparation of acceptable and efficient Programme of Measures (PoMs) for pilot, Drina River Basin – 3rd Screening workshop

Chair and Co-Chairs: Mihail Dimovski and Mihaela Popovici

Venue: Podgorica, Montenegro

Start	Finish	Topic	Speaker	Sub topic/Content
08:30	09:00	Registration		
09:00	09:15	Wrap up of the key points of discussion from the 1 st day meeting	Ms. Mihaela Popovici, ECRAN Expert WMWG Coordinator	
09:15	10:30	Significant pressures in Drina RB countries	1 expert nominated per country or 1 speaker for assessing all 3 countries	Countries short information on the current status of data availability, knowledge gaps and uncertainties and solutions- criteria, scale, aggregations methodologies Method : PPP and Q&A
10:30	11:00	Coffee Break		
11:00	11:30	Significant pressures in Drina RB	Ms. Mihaela Popovici, ECRAN Expert WMWG Coordinator	Presentation and discussion of the pressures assessment approach for Drina RB Method : PPP and Q&A Material provided: Methodology and screening template
11:30	12:30	Surface and groundwater monitoring networks and compatibility with the WFD	1 expert nominated per country or 1 speaker for assessing all 3 countries	Information on the national monitoring networks, surveillance and operational monitoring in line with WFD Method : PPP and Q&A
12:30	13:30	Lunch Break		



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13:30	14:00	Issues for integration in Danube River Basin	Mr. Gheorghe Constantin TAIEX Expert All participants	Policy synergies and integrated approach in the Danube River Basin Case Study for Tisza River Basin Method : PPP
14:00	14:30	Best Practices in Information Management during the WFD Implementation process in SPAIN	Ms. Elena Borell, ECRAN expert	Illustration on how the National Water Information System supported the integration of information from different river basins
14:30	15:00	Issues for integration in the WFD – MSFD applicable for Romania	Mr. Cristian Rusu TAIEX Expert All participants All participants	Policy synergies and integrated approach in the River Basin Management Plan, Romania Method : PPP
15:00	15:30	Issues for integration in Drina RB	Ms. Mihaela Popovici, ECRAN Expert All participants with inputs via Score Board	Presentation and discussion regarding the synergy across policy domains (WFD, Waste FD, MSFD, etc), integration water quality and quantity, water management and land, water scarcity and floods, water and economics (cost effectiveness of measures), EIA and SEA, connection top-down (Drina, Sava, Danube) levels. Proposal for round tables and suggestions for training needs Method : PPP and Score Board
15:30	16:30	Coffee Break		
16:30	17:00	Next steps and conclusions	Ms. Mihaela Popovici, ECRAN Expert	



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ANNEX III – Presentations (under separate cover)

Presentations can be downloaded from:

http://www.ecranetwork.org/Files/Presentations_pdf_10-12.03.2015.7z

Background Documents can be downloaded from:

http://www.ecranetwork.org/Files/3rd_Screening_Workshop_background_docs.7z

Workshop Countries Input can be downloaded from:

http://www.ecranetwork.org/Files/3rd_Screening_Workshop_countries_inputs.7z



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