**ECRAN** **Water Management Working Group**

**Activity 2.3. Water Management**

**INVITATION TO THE**

**SCREENINING WORKSHOP AT PILOT - DRINA RIVER BASIN**

**Podgorica, June 23,** **2014**

**Background**

The river basin management planning is an inherently chaotic, iterative and adaptive process. This is mainly because of the complexity, changing conditions, limited understanding and uneven management that are characteristic in most basins. Whilst his means that the entire process cannot be planned out in the beginning, a coherent procedure and method for iteratively screening information and focusing planning attention is required to guide the process.

The process initially narrows from broad screening, through comprehensive analysis, to prioritisation and objective-setting, and then broadens again through strategic action down to detailed implementation planning and it can be represented in the following stages:

* Conducting the situation assessment to gain an understanding of the current and future conditions in the basin, as well as identify and prioritise the key issues.
* Formulating the vision and wider goals to provide the long-term aspirational desired state for the river basin together with preliminary objectives and principles to achieve this over time.
* Specifying a coherent suite of specific objectives, outcomes and actions related to protection, use, disaster and institutions in the river basin, designed to achieve the vision and underpinning wider goals.

Water Framework Directive (WFD) implementation requires the development of River Basin Management Plans (RBMP) and Programmes of Measures (PoMs) have been prepared for each of the River Basin Districts (RBD). A programme of measures describes the actions that must be taken to bring water bodies into “good status”, for which the key measures are as follows: improving hydromorphology via restoration; removing or scaling back migratory obstacles and transverse structures such as weirs so as to restore river continuity; and sewage treatment plant optimisation; implementation of good agricultural practice to reduce chemical inputs into water bodies.

In order to meet the WFD objectives the beneficiaries will need to coordinate their RBMPs and PoMs in a cross-border fashion to ensure that water management problems can be evaluated and managed based on uniform or comparable criteria. The neighbour states will need to engage in extensive cooperation to elaborate cross-border monitoring programmes, develop and harmonise comparable assessment procedures and defining cross-border water management issues.

The purpose of the screening workshop is primarily focused on exchange of initial information between ECRAN experts and Water Management Coordinators from the beneficiary countries in shared Drina River Basin related to development of part, i.e. framework for an acceptable and efficient Programme of Measures (PoMs), of future transboundary River Basin Management Plans. Drina River Bain is selected to be a pilot for demonstrating how Programme of Measures needs to be accustomed to the general and specific conditions/requirements of the countries.

**Objectives of the Workshop:**

Wider Objectives:

* Kick off meeting with Water Management Coordinators in order to establish common understanding of basic terms and definitions which is very important for the creation of favourable setting for the future trans-boundary cooperation and coordination of Programme of Measures for Drina River Basin.
* To adopt work plan for accomplishing screening objectives.

Through discussion the scope and objectives of the screening workshop will be fine-tuned in order to better fit the needs of the beneficiary countries that share Drina River Basin taking into account as well, the needs of the other beneficiary countries of the ECRAN project.

Specific Objectives:

* To present the scope and goals of Task 2.3.2, schedule of the activities, level of the participant’s involvement into provision of the information for pilot river basin and for other countries, explain approach and organisation of the work and define expectations.
* To establish common understanding of basic terms and definitions, different policies and regulatory frameworks as well as differences in delegation of responsibilities, for development, adoption, implementation and control of implementation of Programme of Measures.
* To present and discuss principles and requirements of WFD, Integrated Water Resources (IWRM) and Integrated Water Resources Governance (IWRG) with regard to PoMs.
* To present and discuss the main obstacles in development of PoMs.
* To present and discuss various techniques and tools for screening and evaluation of acceptable and efficient Programme of Measures for Drina River Basin.
* To present and discuss screening process in details including assessment, evaluation of options, options and substituting techniques in case of gaps and uncertainties, selection of viable PoMs throughout practical work (filling screening templates) with participants on example.
* To agree on rules and procedures.
* To agree on to-do list and screening work plan.

**Expected Results of the workshop:**

The expected results are going through and concluding on all the points listed above

**Draft Agenda Outline and List of Confirmed Participants**

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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**  **Chairs: Visnja Omerbegovic**  **Co-chair: Mihail Dimovski**  **Venue: Podgorica, Montenegro** |

| **Start** | **Finish** | **Topic** | **Speaker** | **Output/Note** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **08:30** | **09:00** | **Arrival, informal discussion** | | |
| 9:00 | 9:10 | Address by ECRAN | Ms Ruza Radovic, ECRAN Project Director |  |
|  | 9:20 | Address by the representative of the Montenegro | TBD | TBD |
|  | 9:30 | Introduction to the Activity 2.3 | Mr Mihail Dimovski, ECRAN Project Team Leader | Brief recap on the tasks within Activity 2.3 Water Management |
|  | 9:40 | Introduction to the screening workshop | Ms Visnja Omerbegovic, SSTE Coordinator of the Water Working Group | Presentation of the agenda, scope, objectives, approach and expected results of the screening workshop  Method : PPP  Adoption of the Agenda |
| 9:50 | 10:30 | Task 2.3.2 Specific topic of assistance in the development of transboundary River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs): Programme of Measures   1. Introduction – Rational, scope and goals of the Task 2.3.2 2. Approach and organisation of the work on the Task 2.3.2 3. General schedule 4. Expectations | Ms Sanja Barbalic, Head of the Water Management Institute of Hrvatske vode  All participants | Presentation of and discussion on approach to Task 2.3.2, particularly to establishment of acceptable and efficient PoMs  Method : PPP  Materials provided : Document “Preparation of an acceptable and efficient Programme of Measures” |
| 10:30 | 11:00 | Programme of Measures in the context of WFD and IWRM  Overview of the main obstacles in development of PoMs | Ms Vesna Grizelj Simic, Deputy Head of the Department of Development of Hrvatske vode  All participants | Presentation of and discussion on overall requirements of WFD and IWRM towards PoMs. Identification of main concerns in terms of data availability, technical and professional capacities, financial potential, regulatory gaps etc.  Method : PPP and Q&A  Materials provided: Document “Preparation of an acceptable and efficient Programme of Measures” |
| 11:00 | 11:30 | ***Coffee Break*** | | |
| 11:30 | 12:00 | Screening process elaboration and practical work on example:   1. Selected techniques and tools to be used:    * Screening steps    * Screening templates for PoMs    * Criteria for assessment    * Gaps and uncertainties | Ms Vesna Grizelj Simic, Deputy Head of the Department of Development of Hrvatske vode  All participants | Presentation of and discussion on techniques and tools for screening and evaluation of acceptable and efficient Programme of Measures for Drina River Basin. Practical work on example.  Method : PPP and Q&A  Materials provided:   * Guidance on screening, evaluation and selection of viable PoMs with notes for filling templates. * Empty templates to be filled by participants at the workshop |
| 12:00 | 14:00 | Lunch | | |
| 14:00 | 15:00 | Screening process elaboration and practical work on example (continuation):   1. Assessment of the options 2. Options and substituting techniques for overcoming gaps and uncertainties | Ms Sanja Barbalic, Head of the Water Management Institute of Hrvatske vode  All participants | Presentation of and discussion on techniques and tools for screening and evaluation of acceptable and efficient Programme of Measures for Drina River Basin. Practical work on example.  Method : PPP and Q&A  Materials provided:   * Guidance on screening, evaluation and selection of viable PoMs with notes for filling templates. * Empty templates to be filled by participants at the workshop |
| 15:00 | 15:30 | ***Coffee Break*** | | |
| 15:30 | 16:30 | Screening process elaboration and practical work on example (continuation):   1. Selection of viable PoMs 2. Screening Report | Ms Sanja Barbalic, Head of the Water Management Institute of Hrvatske vode  All participants | Presentation of and discussion on techniques and tools for screening and evaluation of acceptable and efficient Programme of Measures for Drina River Basin. Practical work on example.  Method : PPP and Q&A  Materials provided:   * Guidance on screening, evaluation and selection of viable PoMs with notes for filling templates. * Empty templates to be filled by participants at the workshop |
| 16:30 | 17:00 | Proposal of the further activities and schedule | Ms Sanja Barbalic, Head of the Water Management Institute of Hrvatske vode  All participants | To-do-list.  Agreed rules and procedures.  Screening work plan adopted. |
|  |  | Summary conclusions and closure of the meeting | Ms Visnja Omerbegovic  Ms Ruza Radovic |  |