

Water – Food – Energy – Ecosystems Nexus Assessment in the Sava River Basin

2nd Meeting of the Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Nexus under the Water Convention

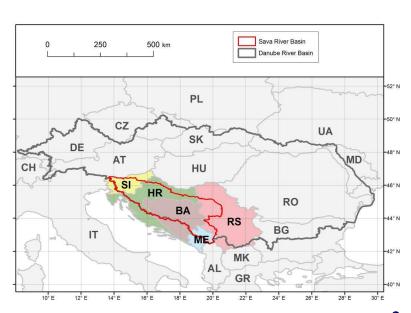
Geneva, 8-9 September 2014

Dr Dejan Komatina, Secretary, ISRBC



Sava river basin

- Challenges
 - Use of resources: development and protection
 - Management of resources: national → transboundary
- Legal and institutional framework for cooperation
 - Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin
 - ISRBC
- Broad scope of work →
 Many sectors involved





Sava nexus assessment

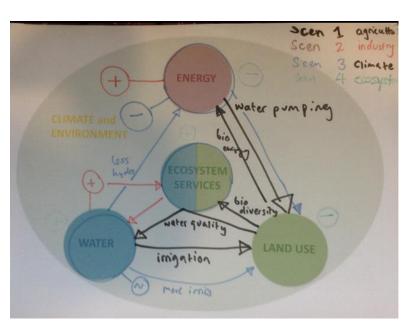
- **Objectives / expectations** to contribute to:
 - Dialogue with sectoral stakeholders
 - Integration of policies
 - Inter-sectoral coordination
 - RBM planning





Introductory workshop

- Development plans and sectoral goals shared (national & basin level)
- Key intersectoral linkages identified (future development of sectors; climate change)
- Scenarios discussed
 - Hydropower development
 - Agriculture expansion
 - Climate change





- **Hydropower expansion** upstream and on tributaries
- Need for flood protection measures and related transboundary coordination

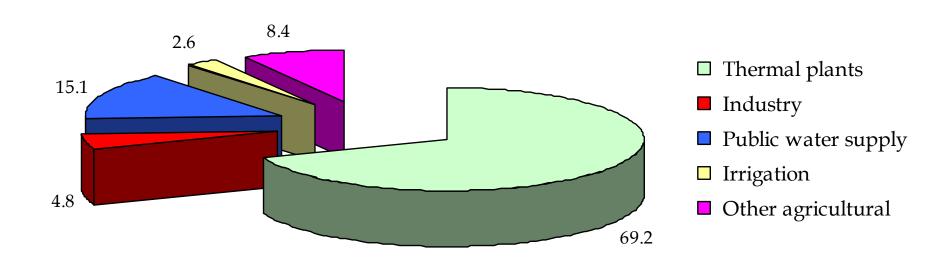




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- Agricultural land expansion (irrigated)
- **Dependence on energy production** from thermal power plants (using water for cooling)

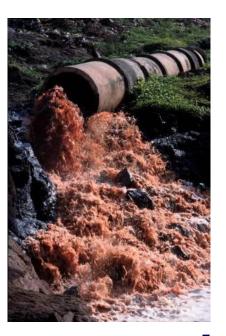




- Point source pollution (lack of wastewater treatment) and diffuse pollution (from agriculture, in particular)
- Sedimentation and erosion (depending on land use and practices)
- Hydromorphologic alterations of the river
- Pressure on groundwater (increasing)



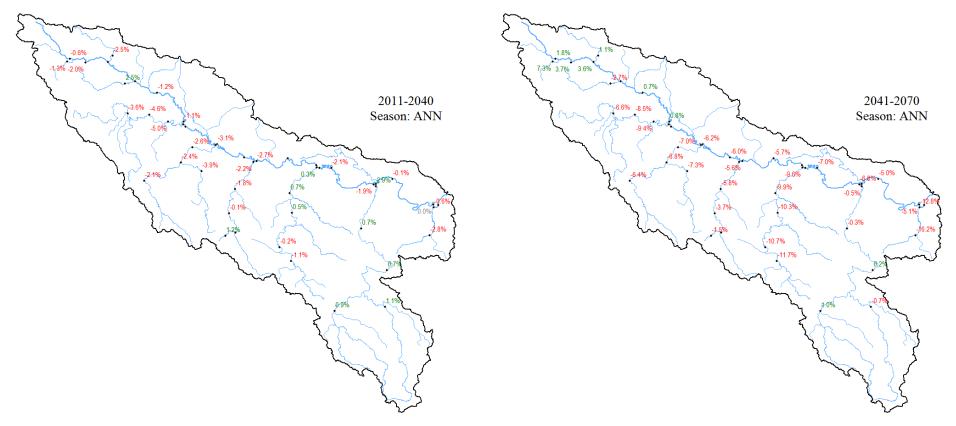




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• Climate change (mean flow reduction; increase in frequency of extreme events)





Potential solutions

- Multipurpose use of the existing and planned infrastructure (including dams) across countries (example from Croatia and Slovenia)
- Navigation & sediment control at the basin level
- Targeting energy efficiency (proposal from Energy Community)
- Further integration of the energy and agriculture sectors in the RBM planning and implementation process



Potential solutions

- Improvement of flood protection infrastructure and flood management (e.g. operation of reservoirs and dams)
- Economically valuing ecosystems (proposal from WWF)
- Drought resilience water management and in particular demand for cooling water in power plants
- Development of renewable solutions to supply local demand (solar and wind integrated with hydropower)



Ongoing activities

- Data collection
- Analyses and (limited) quantification (KTH + JRC)
- Development of maps and graphics
- Preparation of the institutional assessment



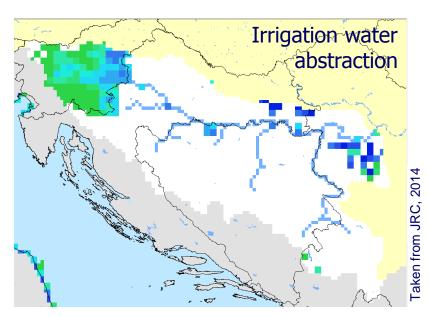
Challenges (data collection)

- Considerable amount of data needed
- Data owned by many institutions
- Different level of the data availability in the countries
- Data collection is not an easy process
- Difference between data existance and data availability
- Consultation with national experts



Modelling by JRC

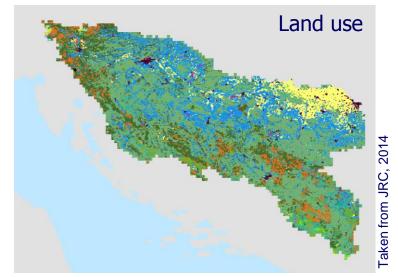
- Hydro-economical models linked to a multi-criteria optimisation toolbox
 - To identify combination of measures that would best fulfill the water needs of various sectors
 - Cooperation with partners involved in the UNECE study
- Modelling at 1 km resolution
- Special attention paid to:
 - Irrigation requirements
 - Hydropower
 - Other specific demands





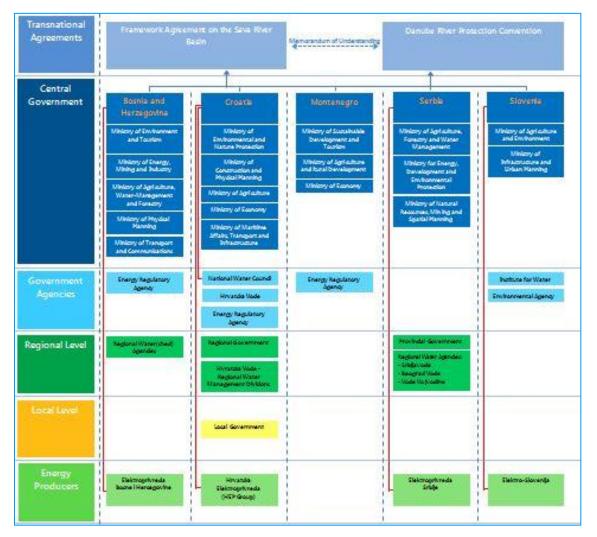
Modelling by JRC

- Modelling water availability versus water demand (identifying areas and sectors with water scarcity)
 - For current and future climate
 - For current and modified land use (e.g. increased irrigation)
- Water demands (agriculture, industry, public sector) taken into account
- Addressing ecological flow
- Estimation of economic damage of individual sectors under water scarcity





Institutions considered





Further steps

- Meeting with the RBM Expert Group (October 6, 2014) –
 Consultation with national experts
- Review of the draft assessment (Parties, ISRBC Secretariat)
- 5th Meeting of the Parties to the FASRB (December 2, 2014) presentation of findings
- Review and endorsement by the nexus Task Force (April 2015)



Recommendations

- Templates for data collection
 - Keep them as simple as possible
 - Make clear what the data will be used for
- National 'facilitators': give them a more important role in the process (more responsibility, more time)
- Plan a consultation meeting on the data to be used for the assessment (moderate costs, considerable benefit)
- **Plan an additional workshop** at the end of the consultation process on the draft assessment report (best feedback of the countries, best outcome of the assessment)



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