

**Convention of the Protection and Use of
Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes**
14th meeting of the Task Force on Water and Climate
Geneva, Switzerland, 28 February 2024



**Recent activities on climate change adaptation in
transboundary basins under the Water Convention**
**Sava River Basin shared by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia,
Montenegro, Serbia and Slovenia**

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The Sava River Basin

- Extending through 6 countries:
 - Slovenia
 - Croatia,
 - Bosnia and Herzegovina,
 - Serbia, Montenegro,
 - and a small part of the northern Albania.
- The size: 95,419 km²
- About 39 % of the Sava River Basin, lies in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



Source: UNEP/DEWA/GRID

The Sava River Basin

- Considerable part of the basin area is covered by forests. Northern part in the Pannonian Plain have fertile agriculture land.
- (Almost all) right tributaries of the Sava River have torrential behavior.
- Left tributaries (except in Slovenia) having lower slopes and flow velocities, smaller and meandering streams.



Source: UNEP/DEWA/GRID

Framework Agreement on Sava River Basin

2001 Sava River Basin Initiative to establish an appropriate **institutional framework for transboundary cooperation** which will ensure sustainable use, protection and management of the water resources in the Sava River Basin and thus enable *“better life conditions and raising the standard of population in the region”*.

2002 **Framework Agreement on Sava River Basin** concluded (FASRB) between four countries, establishing the joint **International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC, or Sava Commission)**



Climate Change Impacts

Based on various global and regional climate prediction models, it is expected that all countries in the SRB will suffer from frequent and more intense extreme weather events:

- longer periods of droughts, and
- shorter and locally distributed periods of intense precipitation leading to floods

The CCA has been included in the 2nd Sava River Basin Management Plan approved on December 9, 2022



Source: <https://www.icpdr.org/danube-basin/sub-basins/sava-basin/worst-floods-balkans-decades>

Sava and Drina River Corridors Integrated Development Program (SDIP), phase I

- Supported by World Bank and Global Environment Facility (GEF).
- SDIP components:
 - C1: Integrated Management and Development of the Sava River Corridor (flood protection and forecasting, environmental management and climate change adaptation, waterways improvement)
 - C2: Integrated Management and Development of the Drina River Corridor (flood protection and environmental management, integrated development of Drina watershed)
 - C3: Project Preparation and Management (preparation of Phase II regional activities)
 - C4: Regional Activities

Sava and Drina River Corridors Integrated Development Program (SDIP), phase I

C4: Regional Activities

- Strengthening strategic regional dialogue, joint planning and sustainable management and development of the shared water resources, including building resilience to climatic shocks.
- Preparation of basin-wide plans and studies, and investments.
- Support the prioritization and preparation of activities related to the regional dialogue and studies that enhance transboundary water cooperation, flood early warning system and risk management, wetland protection and management plan.

C4: Regional Activities done by ISRBC

- In line with the work program the ISRBC is finalising four ToRs for four regional activities concerning sustainable tourism, hydrological study for the SRB, study on sediment, water and biota in SRB, and enhancement of Sava flood warning and alarm capabilities. The four documents are in various phases, all nearly completed with the plan to tender for in 2024.
- Other planned activities are going to be done in 2024, one of which is the CCA Strategy based on the Outline of the Climate Adaptation Strategy and basin-wide priority measures for the Sava River Basin was finalized in 2018.

CCA Activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina

- **NAP (National Adaptation Plan)** with proposed measures
 - Prepared in line with UNFCCC guidelines and adopted in October 2022;
 - Overview of CC per sector and identification of the priority ones (agriculture, water resources, forestry and biodiversity, residential, health and tourism);
 - It includes the list of recommended measures for most vulnerable sectors (including responsible institutions, estimate of required funds, timeframe);
- **CCA and Low Emission Development Strategy** for BiH
 - Covering period 2020-2030, and identified six priority sectors for CCA, with water management and agriculture considered to be the main priorities that, to a greater or lesser extent, affect other sectors as well.

CCA Activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina

- **Flood Risk Management Plans**, prepared in line with EU Floods Directive, cover both basins (Sava and Jadran).
- Financing (own funds, donor or IFI funds) of **various flood risk management projects**, intensified since 2011, cover both structural and non-structural measures to address the issue of increasing vulnerability of communities in BiH to disasters caused by floods by adopting an integrated approach to flood risk management and strengthening the flood forecasting and early warning systems.
- Participation in **regional activities with NEXUS approach**.

Thank you!