

Experiences of the International Sava River Basin Commission in transboundary cooperation

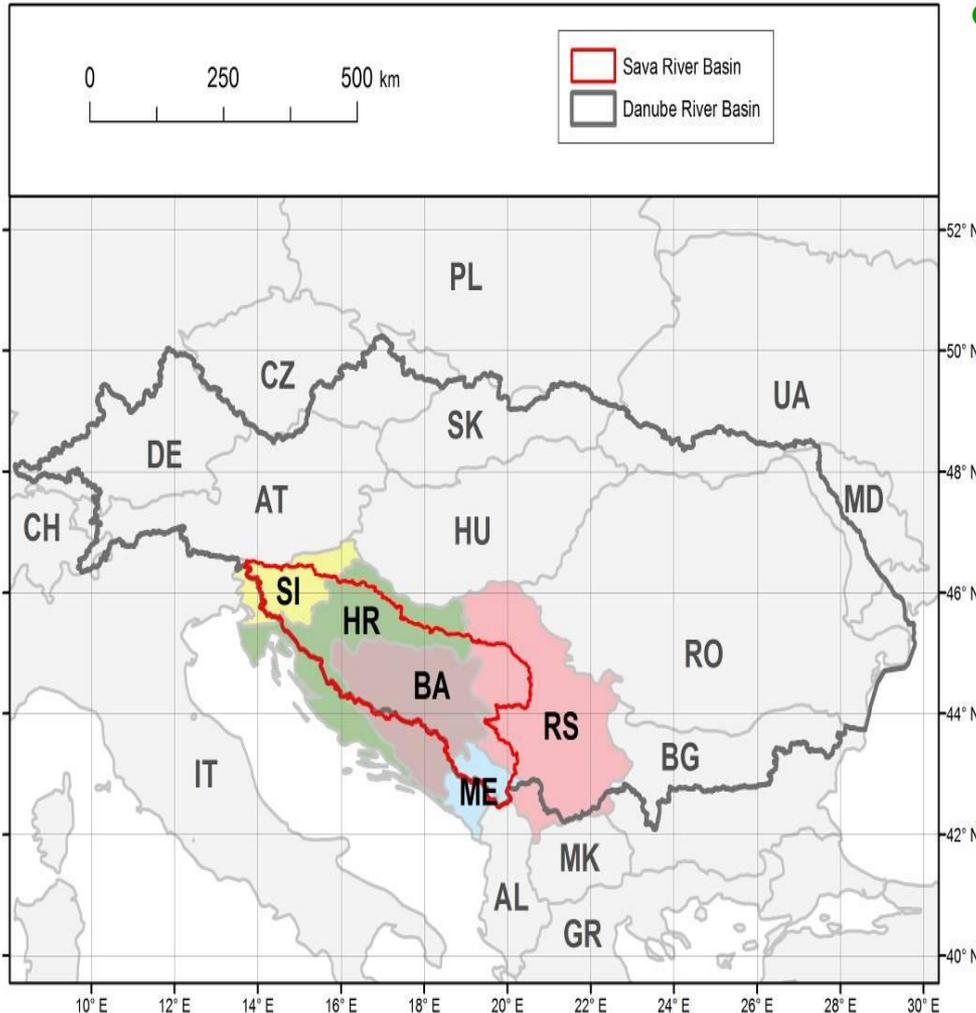
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Secretary of ISRBC

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Sava River Basin – general info

INTERNATIONAL SAVA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION



● Main facts & figures

- **Area:** 97 700 km² (2nd Danube sub-basin; share: 12%)
- **River length:** 990 km (594 km of which is the waterway)
- **Discharge** (mouth): 1722 m³/s (1st Danube tributary; contr. 25%)
- **Population:** approx. 9 million

Country	Share of the basin (%)	Share of the territory (%)
Albania	0.2	0.6
Bosnia & Herzegovina	39.2	75.8
Croatia	26.0	45.2
Montenegro	7.1	49.6
Serbia	15.5	17.4
Slovenia	12.0	52.8

Background and legal basis of cooperation

- **Geopolitical changes** in the region in the 1990-ies
Sava: the largest **national** river → **international** river

A need for a new, international framework
to manage water resources on the basin-wide level

➤ **Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin (2004)**

- **Parties to the FASRB:** Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, Slovenia; Montenegro – MoU
- **Implementation** coordinated by the **ISRBC**
- **Scope of cooperation:** water management and navigation

Permanent expert groups

- River Basin Management
- Accident Prevention & Control
- Flood Prevention
- Hydrometeorological issues
- GIS
- Navigation

Ad-hoc expert groups

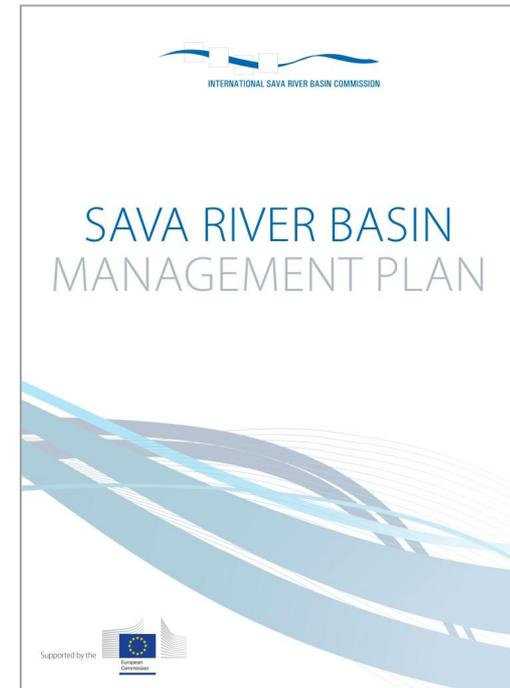
- Legal
- Financial
- River Information Services

Task groups

- Sustainable tourism development

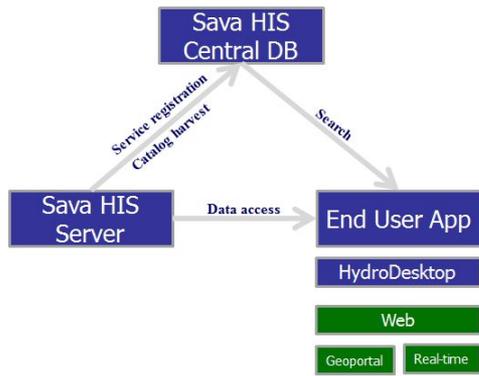
Sava RBM Plan

- Based on **commonly agreed SWMIs** for the whole basin:
pollution, hydromorphological alterations and groundwater quality
- Public *participation & stakeholder* involvement through:
 - Providing information to general public – web, publications
 - Consultation activities
 - Workshop on the significant water management issues
 - Workshop on the Programme of Measures
 - Stakeholder Forum
 - Active involvement- observers to the ISRBC
- Main challenges:
 - Different status of the Sava countries regarding EU membership
 - Data and information availability
 - Preparation of the Plan in 8 language versions
 - Long-lasting procedure of the Plan approval

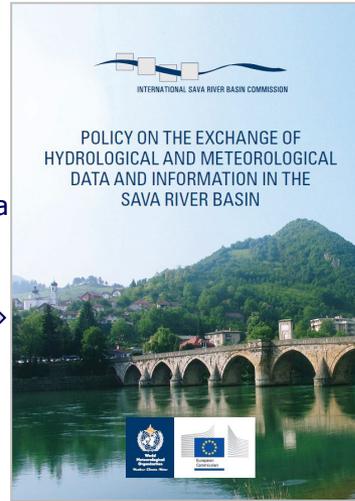


Sava HIS

Hydrological and meteo data management within Sava GIS



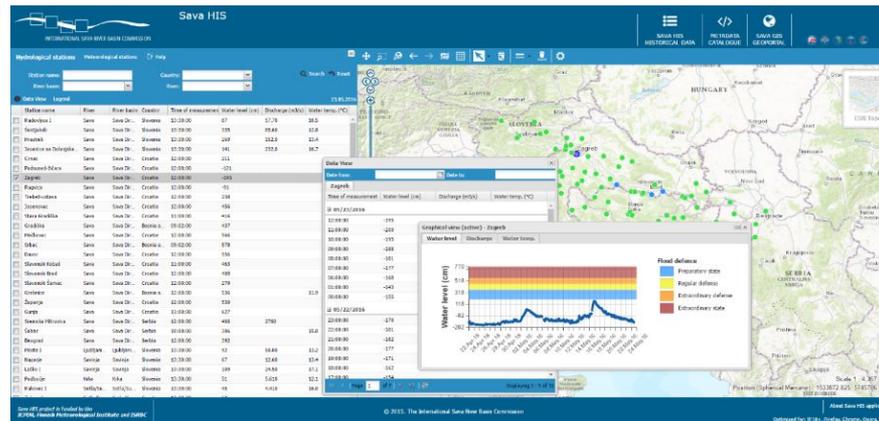
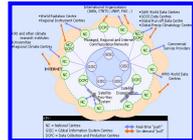
Database
 Historical HM data
 Real time HM data
 Sediment transport data



Standards
 INSPIRE
 WMO resolutions
 WaterML 2.0



WIS – WMO Information System



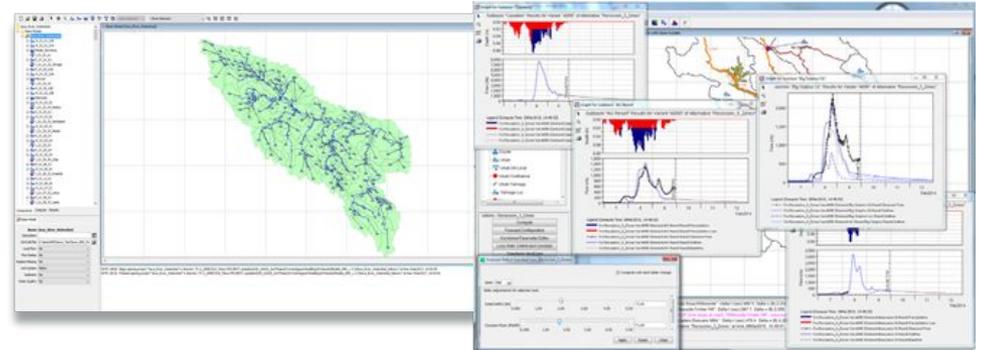
www.savahis.org

Common H&H models

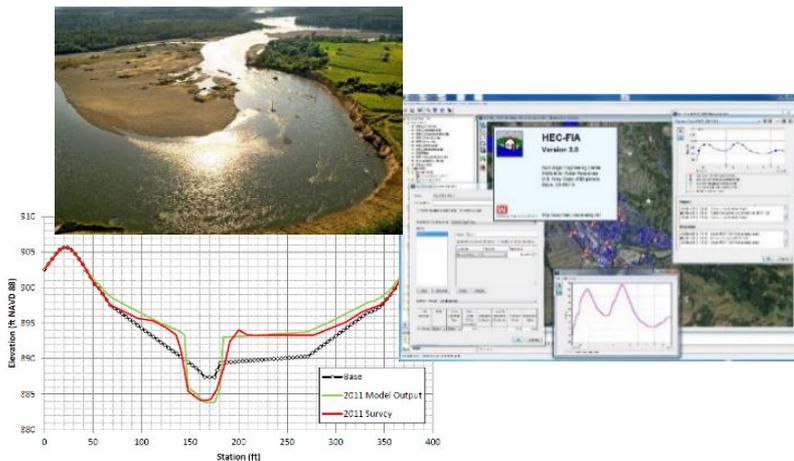
Hydrologic model of the Sava River Basin

Sava HEC-HMS model contains a separate basin models for each tributary basin and mainstem reach (**22 models in total**):

- 1 for the complete Sava River basin (**SavaFFWS**)
- 4 for the Sava River mainstem
- 17 for the main tributaries

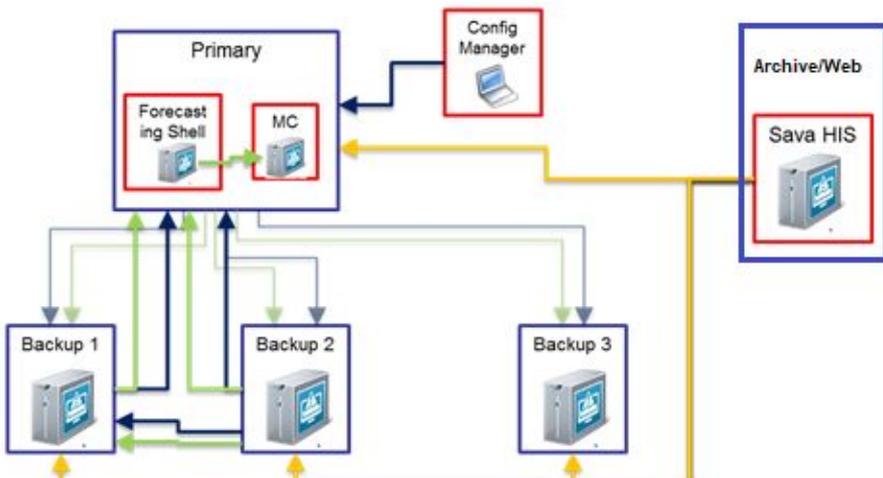
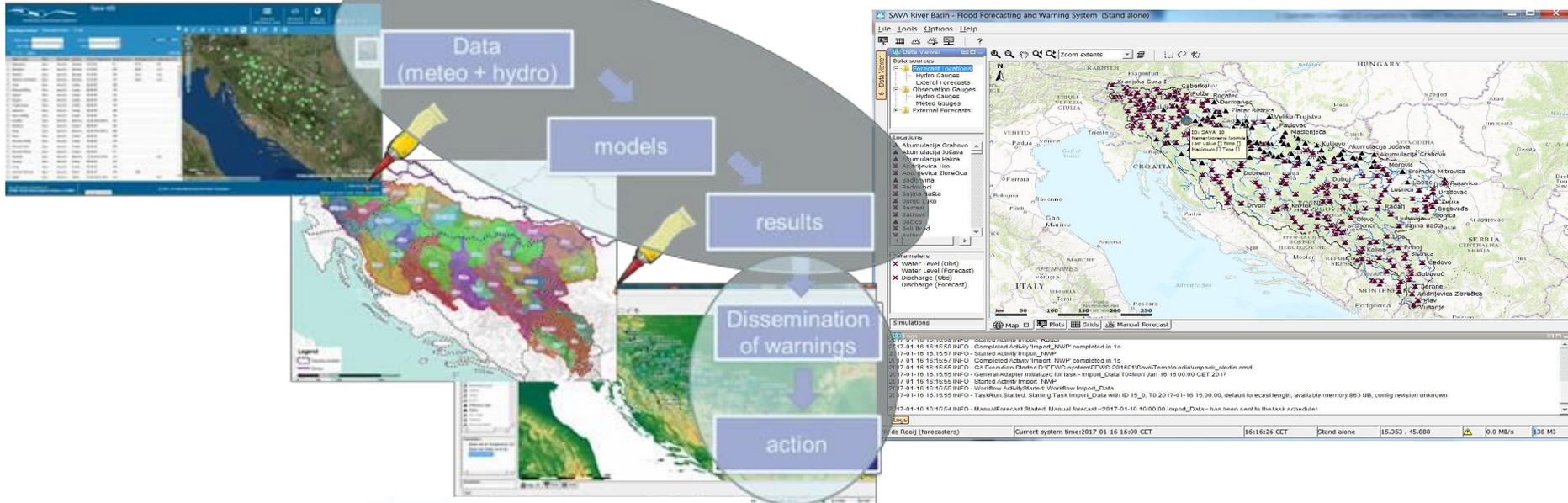


Hydraulic model of the Sava River

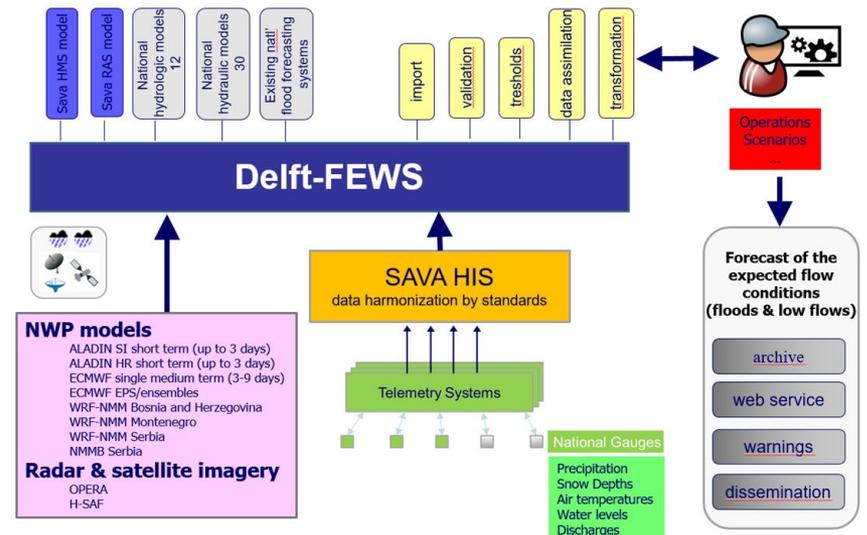


Sava FFWS

Built upon existing tools & knowledge



EUROPE-INBO 2018, Seville, 17-20 OCTOBER 2018



Stakeholder involvement

- Wide range of stakeholders
- Participation through:
 - Informing (web, publications...)
 - Consultation (web, workshops, forums)
 - Active involvement (observers)
- **Sava Water Council**
- **Youth Parliament**
 - 2016: “Living with floods”
 - 2017: „Impact of Climate Change on the life in the Sava RB”
 - 2018: “Sustainable Tourism – Opportunity for the Development of the Sava River Basin”
 - web page: <http://sava-youthparliament.com/>
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SavaYouth/>



Summary (1/2)

Challenges

- Differences between the countries (i.e. EU membership, languages)
- Different priorities
- Broad scope of work
 - Demanding process (requires significant resources both in the ISRBC and in the Parties),
 - Requires good inter-sectoral coordination and communication within a country
 - Meeting interests of different actors (within a country / between countries)
 - Need for additional regulation of specific issues (protocols to the FASRB)
- Continuous commitment and support to joint processes

Approach

- Integrated (whole basin, scope of work, all societal sectors)
- Aligned with the international regulations and standards
- Pragmatic and practical
- Educative (capacity building, awareness raising)
- Participatory
- Complementary with the processes on the Danube & national levels

Summary (2/2)

Benefits

- Improved cooperation / Increased level of mutual trust among the countries
- Broad scope - an opportunity for all Parties to meet their interests
- Implementation of projects/activities of common interest
- Data and information sharing
- Harmonization of regulation, methodologies and procedures
- Sharing of experiences and transfer of knowledge
- Enhancement of cross-sectoral cooperation on national level

Contact information

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