

Second Workshop
River Basin Commissions and other Joint Bodies for Transboundary Water Cooperation:
Technical Aspects
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Session 3: Funding transboundary cooperation

Sustainable financing of joint bodies -
perspective of a joint bodies' party

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Germany – Joint bodies

- 10 river basins
- 6 international river basin commissions
 - Danube, Elbe, Odra, Meuse, Rhine, Moselle-Saar
- 4 bilateral water commissions, with
 - Austria, Czech Republic, Poland and the Netherlands
 - Mainly concerning management of water bodies at the frontiers
- Implementation of measures takes place on national level, paid by the countries, not the commissions



Flussgebietseinheiten in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland (Richtlinie 2000/60/EG - Wasserrahmenrichtlinie)

Die Markierung und Kennzeichnung der außerhalb der Grenzen der Bundesrepublik Deutschland liegenden Teile internationaler Flussgebietseinheiten dienen lediglich der Veranschaulichung und lassen Festlegungen anderer Staaten sowie internationale Abstimmungen unberührt.

Kartengrundlage:
Länderarbeitsgemeinschaft Wasser (LAWA),
Bundesamt für Kartographie und Geodäsie (BKG)

Quelle: Umweltbundesamt, Juni 2004

International river basin commissions

Financing – regular budget (I)

- Regular budget, especially
 - Permanent Secretariats
 - Staff
 - Executive secretary, technical experts, support staff
 - Interpretation/Translation
 - Rent for rooms, buildings
 - Technical Equipment etc.
 - Travel costs
 - Development of maps, data platforms
 - Implementation of EU Directives, e.g. WFD
 - Sometimes outsourced
 - Publications
 - Technical reports, brochures
 - Meetings of commissions, heads of delegations, expert groups
 - Workshops

International river basin commissions

Financing – regular budget (II)

- Regular budgets
 - Drafted and decided on a yearly basis
 - Budget outlines for the next 2 or 3 years
 - To enable parties to secure the necessary resources in the national budgets
 - Budget increase often difficult due to financial constraints in the countries
 - Amount differs according to size of basin and number of parties
 - ICPDR (Danube) budget 2014: around 1,14 Mio. EUR
 - 15 parties, basin of around 800.000 km²
 - ICPMS (Moselle-Saar) budget 2014: 260.000 EUR
 - 3 parties, Rhine sub-basin of 28.000 km²
 - Germany: ca. 1 million EUR per year for all river basin commissions
 - Between 67.000 and 490.000 EUR per commission per year

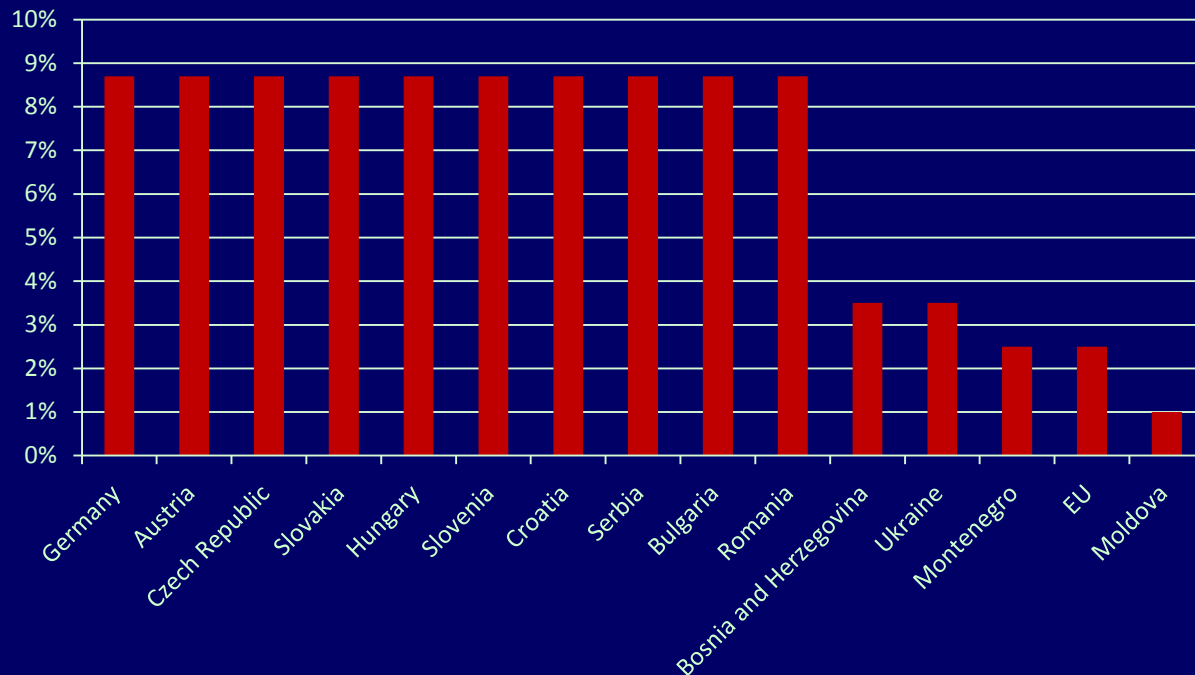
International river basin commissions

Financing – regular budget (III)

- Contribution keys
 - Either fixed in the river basin convention or in the rules of procedure or financial rules
 - Based on share of the basin and population
 - E.g. International Meuse Commission
 - Surface-share of the International Hydrographic District for each contracting party and its population = FR 15%, DE 14,5%, NL 30%, BE 0,5%, BR 4,5%, VL 5%, WL 30%, LU 0,5%
 - E.g. International Commission for the Protection of the Elbe
 - Share of the Elbe river and share of the catchment = DE 66,7%, CZ 33,3%
 - Alternative: Equal parts
 - E.g. International Commission for the Protection of the Danube

Equal Parts – Example ICPDR

- The budget is shared by member countries – de jure on an equal basis, de facto with a levelled contribution system that takes into consideration economic differences but aims at achieving equal cost-sharing.



International river basin commissions

Other financing sources (I)

- Projects, which can not be covered by the regular budget
 - Separate funds co-financed by the parties
 - E.g. development of a tool to evaluate the effects of flood risk management measures of the ICPR (Rhine)
 - Parties share the costs of this project on the basis of their contribution keys of the regular budget
- EU funds
 - Application by countries necessary, competition of projects
 - EU covers up to 75% of the costs
 - E.g. INTERREG = funds for regional cooperation
 - FLOW MS project in the Moselle-Saar basin
 - Flood protection, climate change
 - E.g. South East Europe Transnational Cooperation Programme
 - FLOODRISK project in the Danube basin
 - Danube Atlas with hazard and risk maps

International river basin commissions

Other financing sources (II)

- E.g. UNDP/GEF Danube Regional Project
 - Part of a 15 years' strategic approach to manage the Black Sea and the Danube River Basin
 - 2001- 2006
 - To reinforce regional cooperation of the Danube countries
 - To ensure a common approach to the protection of international waters, sustainable management of natural resources and biodiversity
 - 17 million USD
 - Support of the development of national policies and legislation and the definition of priority actions for pollution control
 - Vital to help develop the ICPDR into a functioning and effective joint body

International river basin commissions

Other financing sources (III)

- Cooperation with companies
 - E.g. cooperation of ICPDR with Coca Cola Hellenic
 - Danube box (education tool for teachers and students)
 - Items for yearly Danube Day (posters, bags etc.)
 - Based on a bilateral agreement
- In kind contributions of parties
 - Organising meetings on their territory
 - Meeting rooms, catering etc.
 - Translation of documents
 - Temporary secondment of staff

Bilateral Water Commissions

- No regular budgets
- Meetings and work (e.g. monitoring programmes) are organised and paid by countries
 - E.g. commissions' meetings by Germany every second year
 - Federal Environment Ministry has regular financial resources for such events
- EU funds are sometimes used for studies, which also give input into the bilateral work
 - E.g. German-Polish project NEYMO on climate and hydrological modelling on the Lausitzer Neiße, a shared Odra tributary
 - Results will be used for the work of the German-Polish bilateral water commission

Financing joint bodies

What happens on national level?

- Two budget items in Germany
 - Contributions
 - International
- Financial resources have to be part of the Federal Government's overall yearly budget
 - Budget of the Federal Environment Ministry
- Relevant division has to declare financial resources to the internal budget division
 - For the next budgetary year
 - On the basis of joint bodies' budget outlines and other financing needs
 - Internal Meeting to justify the numbers if necessary
- Budget development procedure including the parliament
 - Budget for the next year is normally decided in the year before
- Contributions are paid to the joint bodies' secretariats at the beginning of the budget year
- International account is used e.g. for co-financing projects of joint bodies, meetings and workshops, travel costs of eligible experts etc.
- Each payment has to be allowed by the internal budget division



Thank you for your attention!