Funding transboundary adaptation through national funds and integration into river basin management plans: example from a Danube country

Dragana Milovanovic, MAEP WD Serbia

Sixth workshop on Water and Climate Change Adaptation in Transboundary Basins
Geneva, 13-14 September 2016
The Danube River Basin District Management Plan

Part A – Basin-wide overview
Update 2015

• Danube River Basin and Flood Risk Management Plans adopted by ICPDR
• Politically endorsed at Danube Ministerial Conference
• Addressing 6-years planning period 2015-2021
• Climate Change Adaptation integrated
• “Climate check” of Program of Measures
• Next steps outlined and agreed
EXAMPLES: PROGRAM OF MEASURES 2015-2021

- Flood Hazard and Risk Mapping
- Flood Risk Management Measures

- Measures on pollution reduction
- Improvement ecosystem status and resilience
- Regulations on groundwater abstraction
- etc.
**KEY ISSUE: INVESTIGATIVE MONITORING**

- Catastrophic floods but also droughts during last years, however
- Challenge to *distinguishing climate variability from climate change*
  - **Effective long-term monitoring** to better identify climate change signals
  - **Candidate sites** for climate change impacts **monitoring** selected, including information on available data series and evaluation
  - **Different parameters agreed** to be monitored in the frame of the Danube Transnational Monitoring Network (TNMN), e.g.
    - Water and air temperature
    - Water level and discharge
    - pH and oxygen
NEXT STEPS AND FUTURE PLANS

• **Update of scientific knowledge base**
  - Latest scientific and research studies for Danube River Basin
  - Update on climate change scenarios and water-related impacts
  - Potential adaptation measures
  - etc.

• **Update ICPDR Strategy** on Adaptation to Climate Change foreseen for 2018

• Afterwards **integration into further improved River Basin and Flood Risk Management Plans** in 2021

⇒ More detailed planning of work currently ongoing

More **targeted activities on droughts** launched:

⇒ Elaboration of **report on 2015 droughts** in the Danube River Basin currently ongoing...
SAVA RIVER BASIN

- ISRBC—platform for cooperation within Sava River Basin
- Intersectoral coordination - basin and country level
- Impact of climate change on the water sector
- Recent floods
Concrete results in the past year

- Sava RBM Plan (EU WFD)
  - 1st Plan approved in 2014
  - 2nd cycle in progress

- Climate change issues in RBM Plans
  - 1st Plan: Recommendations on further activities
  - 2nd cycle: More detailed elaboration
TRANSBORDER CYL COOPERATION

Signing of Paris Pact on Water and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Basins of Rivers, Lakes and Aquifers (2015)

Budapest, 17 Nov. 2015
OUTCOMES OF THE PROJECT

• Climate simulations in two projects:
  Sava Nexus Assessment (UNECE Water Convention) – 2015
  Danube Water Nexus – Sava Case Study (EC JRC) – 2016

• Water and Climate Adaptation Plan (2015)
  – Hydrologic model (hydrologic response to future climate scenarios)
  – Consultation with stakeholders
  – Main report
  – Guidance notes
    • Navigation
    • Hydropower
    • Agriculture
    • Flood protection
    • Economic impacts of climate change
ONGOING / FUTURE PROJECTS

- Nexus assessment in the Drina River Basin (the largest Sava sub-basin) – Implemented jointly with UNECE 2016

- Climate–related project potentially to be implemented under the UNECE Water Convention – expected to contribute to:
  - Development of Climate Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan for the Sava Basin
  - Updated Sava River Basin Management Plan
  - Flood Risk Management Plan for the Sava River Basin
HARMONIZATION WITH EU CLIMATE ACQUIS

• developing First and Second National Communication of the Republic of Serbia to the UNFCCC
• establishment of National Climate Change Committee 2014
• Signing of Paris agreement 22 April 2016
• Law on system for reduction of GHG - next months - Law will establish a system for monitoring, reporting and verification of GHG in industry and energy sector, preparing all relevant stakeholders for the EU Emission trading scheme
HARMONIZATION WITH EU CLIMATE ACQUISS

• Climate change strategy and action plan will be developed under the IPA 2014 project and will start in 2016.

• The preparation of National Adaptation Strategy is requirement of the EU Regulation 525/2013 (MMR), while the transposition of Regulation 525/2013 starts with support of IPA 2013 twinning project: “Establishment of a mechanism for implementation of MMR”.

• Climate change division in cooperation with UNDP and external national exerts developed a publication “The Heating up Of Crops – How to Respond” considering the impact of climate change on agriculture sector.
Activities in the field of adaptation to climate change in the Republic of Serbia – Water Sector

• Development of the "Water Management Strategy for the territory of the Republic of Serbia" which will establish a long-term direction of water management has been completed. Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment has been completed and public consultation was held.

• Also, the development of Water Management Plan for the Danube River Basin and Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment have been completed and public consultation was held. The adoption of both documents is planned for September 2016.

• Action plan for the implementation of the Strategy will be prepared - 2016

• New Law on Water 2017, full transposition of EU Acquis 2018
FUNDING INSTRUMENTS

- National budget: environment (green fund), water management (water fund), agriculture, energy sector
- EU funds: IPA, IPARD, Danube transnational program, WBIF
- IFIs, bilateral donors
ONGOING / FUTURE PROJECTS

• Regional GEF-SCCF Drina River Basin Management Project - World Bank's Board of Executive Directors has approved grants USD 8.73 million on May 9 2016

• Support to Water Resources Management in the Drina River Basin - ongoing

• Nexus assessment in the Drina River Basin (the largest Sava sub-basin) – Implemented jointly with UNECE through 2016

• Climate–related project – expected to contribute to:
  – Development of Climate Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan for the Sava Basin
  – Updated Sava River Basin Management Plan
CHALLENGES / LESSONS LEARNED

- So far, **limited funds** have been allocated for a comprehensive elaboration of adaptation measures.

- To agree upon **adaptation measures** than will be implementable on the ground, it is necessary to:
  - Keep the process of development of the Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan **transparent and interactive**.
  - Ensure **strong involvement of national institutions from all relevant sectors** in the whole process.
THANK YOU!

The Second national communication of the R. of Serbia as well as the Report on the impact of climate change on agricultural production in Serbia could be found on the website: www.klimateskepromene.rs

- Water directorate www.rdvode.gov.rs
- Sava: savacommission.org
  - Flood Risk Management Plan for the Sava River Basin