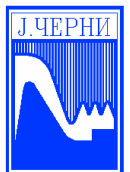


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**IMPLEMENTATION OF EU WFD IN  
NON-EU COUNTRIES:  
SERBIA IN THE DANUBE RIVER BASIN**



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## **GOAL:**



**To show challenges and difficulties in process  
of implementation of  
EU legislation  
in a  
non-EU Member State**

## **CONTENT:**

- **EU Water Framework Directive**
- **Territorial and institutional scope**
- **Serbia: political background and legal basis**
- **WFD as a new "water philosophy" – challenges and difficulties**
- **WFD implementation in Serbia**
- **Serbian position in the first Danube RBMP preparation activities**
- **Final considerations**

# EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)

- Framework for the protection of all kinds of waters
- The main goal: to achieve **good status** of all waters until 2015
- Way to the goal: development of the River Basin Management Plan
- Milestones defined:
  - ❑ 2004 - Characterisation Report
  - ❑ 2007 – Monitoring Report
  - ❑ 2009 – first River Basin Management Plan
  - ❑ 6 years cycle
- WFD managing unit: **River Basin District**
- Danube RBD: covers **both EU and non EU Member States**
- Republic of Serbia: non EU MS; covers 10% of the Danube RB both by state territory and population

# Territorial and institutional scope

- **The Danube River Basin: 800,000 km<sup>2</sup>; 19 countries; 81 mio of people**
- **Serbia: more than 90% of its territory in the Danube RB**
- **WFD implementing body: The International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR)**
- **ICPDR : “Convention on Cooperation for the Protection and Sustainable Use of the Danube River” (Sofia, 1994)**
- **ICPDR bodies: Ordinary Meeting Group (political decisions), Standing Working Group (political guidance) and Technical **Expert Groups****
- **EGs: backbone of the ICPDR: national experts + observer organisations**
- **EGs: policy measures to reduce water pollution + **implementation of the EU WFD****

# Serbia: political background and legal basis

- **2003: DRPC ratification (State union Serbia and Montenegro)**
  - **2004: start of WFD implementation**
  - **2006: Serbia - independent country**
  - **Serbian Ministry of AFWM / Directorate for Water: competent authority for activities of the ICPDR and its working bodies (WFD implementation)**
  - **Kosovo and Metohija: under competence of UN; not covered by WFD analyses and activities**
  - **Water management activities based on the Water Law (1991)**
  - **Water Law: use of water, water protection, flood control, pollution control, water regime**
  - **New Water Law compliant with EU legislation – under preparation**
- WFD implementation in Serbia is not based on national legislative but mostly on obligations related to DRPC and activities of the ICPDR**

# WFD as a new "water philosophy" – challenges and difficulties

**Serbian Water management issues (Water Law 1991):**

- **use of water**
- **protection of water**
- **protection from adverse impact of water**

**+**

**WFD: based mainly on ecological aspects of water**

**=**

**New water management philosophy**



# **WFD as a new "water philosophy" – challenges and difficulties (cont.)**

- **Late start of implementation process (on 2004, only a few months to get acquainted with WFD provisions until provision of first results)**
- **Terms: not familiar with Serbian language (e.g. "water body" )**
- **Lack of data and information:**
  - ❑ **pressures and impacts analyses**
  - ❑ **risk assessment**
  - ❑ **GIS basics and techniques**
  - ❑ **biological monitoring not developed**
- **Lack of capacities**
- **Coordination among experts from various institutions**



# WFD implementation in Serbia – participants

- **Serbian Directorate for Water (Ministry AFWM)– Competent Authority**
- **"Jaroslav Cerni" Institute for the Development of Water Resources (coordinating the process)**
- **Public Water Management Companies "Srbijavode" and "Vode Vojvodine"**
- **Institute for Biological Research "Siniša Stanković", Belgrade**
- **Faculties**
- **Public institutions (Republic Hydrometeorological Service, Statistical Office)**
- **Other ministries (Ministry of Environmental Protection)**

# WFD implementation in Serbia – step-by-step approach

- **March, 2005** – contribution in DRB Characterisation Report in accordance with WFD Article 5: Danube RB scale + national level
  - ❑ **Surface Waters: Data and information on Danube River and its tributaries (12 rivers with catchment size larger than 4000 km<sup>2</sup>)**
  - ❑ **Groundwaters: all transboundary groundwater bodies larger than 4000 km<sup>2</sup>**
- **2006, 2007: WFD Article 5 analyses for smaller rivers and groundwater bodies**

# **WFD implementation in Serbia – capacity building, parallel activities**

- **Capacity building**
  - ❑ **active participation in ICPDR Expert groups**
  - ❑ **related Projects (e.g. Sava CARDS Regional Project, Twinning Project with German Ministry for the Environment, Nature Protection and Nuclear Safety, etc.)**
  - ❑ **participation in training seminars, exchange and sharing information, experiences and knowledge among related experts from both EU and non-EU states**
- **International Sava River Basin Commission activities**
  - ❑ **ISRBC: established in 2005; former Yugoslav riparian republics**
  - ❑ **opportunity for further development of know-how among experts in the region**

# **Serbian position in the first Danube RBMP preparation activities**

- **First Danube RBMP: 2009**
  - ❑ **under umbrella of the ICPDR**
  - ❑ **basin wide scope (large rivers, large GW bodies)**
  - ❑ **all Expert Groups involved**
  - ❑ **all Danubian countries participate**
- **DanubeGIS**
  - ❑ **established in order to collect data for analyses**
  - ❑ **tailored in way that both EU and non EU countries can contribute**
- **Serbia's contribution**
  - ❑ **in accordance with available data and information**
  - ❑ **data unavailability reasons: no relevant legal basis, still missing data but**
  - ❑ **more data and information than in 2004**

# Final considerations

- **Republic of Serbia – non EU Member State situated in the largest transboundary European River Basin, Danube RB**
- **EU WFD implementation based not on national legislative but on the DRP Convention and membership in ICPDR**
- **Difficulties:** lack of time, data and information, capacities...
- **Challenges:**
  - ❑ **Serbian water management authorities started preparation for EU integration procedure**
  - ❑ **after adoption of new Water Law compliant with EU WFD Serbian previous activities in WFD implementation process should make easier related tasks in the future**

# Thanks for your attention!





# Danube River Basin District

## Map 2: Relief and Topography



### Legend

- Danube River Basin District (DRBD)
- Danube
- Tributaries (river basins > 4,000 km<sup>2</sup>)
- Lakes (surface area > 100 km<sup>2</sup>)
- Black Sea Coastal Catchments
- Lagoons (surface area > 100 km<sup>2</sup>)
- Canals

Altitude in meters above sea level:

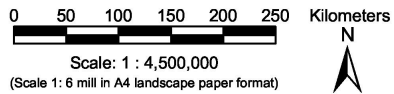
0	50	200	500	800	1000	1200	1500	1800	2000	3000	4000
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— National borders

Cities:

- > 1,000,000 inhabitants
- 250,000 - 1,000,000 inhabitants
- 100,000 - 250,000 inhabitants

The digital elevation model (DEM) is based on the global GETOP030 data with a horizontal grid spacing of approximately one kilometer.



This product includes geographical data licensed from European National Mapping Agencies. EuroGlobalMap v1.0 was used as the basic topographic layer for DE, AT, CZ, IT, SI and HR. The data for the other countries is based on VMAP Level 0 data from NIMA. The outer border of the DRBD is based on national information from DE, AT, CH, CZ, SK, SI, HR, BA, CS, BG, RO, UA and MD. For PL, AL, MK and IT the data of the European Commission, Joint Research Centre was used.