



Study Tour Report

Experiences from the Sava River Basin, the Rhine River Basin and the BRIDGE Academy

“Strengthening transboundary water governance and cooperation in the IGAD region”



24-29 September 2017

1. Background

From 24 to 29 September 2017, the IGAD Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members¹ and representatives from the Sio-Malaba-Malakisi (SMM) demonstration basin² visited the International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC) in Zagreb, Croatia, the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR) in Koblenz, Germany and the IUCN Environmental Law Centre (ELC) in Bonn, Germany to strengthen their understanding of the legal, institutional frameworks and cooperative mechanisms for the governance and management of shared waters. The list of participants is herein attached to this report as Annex 1.

This study tour was conceived as a platform for learning and discussing about the challenges, lessons and experiences from the two of the most iconic river basin organisations in Europe, in order to reflect on the best institutional and legal frameworks that could support effective transboundary water cooperation, peace and sustainable development in the IGAD region. The detailed programme for the Study Tour is herein attached to this report as Annex 2.

The materials and additional information from the Study Tour are available at: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B7D0f3UTyTNUQmJITDkwd0pubVk>

2. Expectations from the Study Tour

Participants expressed their expectations from the Study Tour most of which are reflected under the following learning questions:

We would like to reflect on
What motivates cooperation?
How different actors in a basin interact and cooperate?
Why should an upstream country cooperate with downstream countries?
How agreements can facilitate cooperation?
Is it possible to cooperate without an agreement?
Is there potential for a broader cooperation based on water?
How can different riparian states upstream or downstream benefit from the use of waters?
What are best practices from Europe that could be applicable in the IGAD region?

3. Water challenges in the IGAD Region

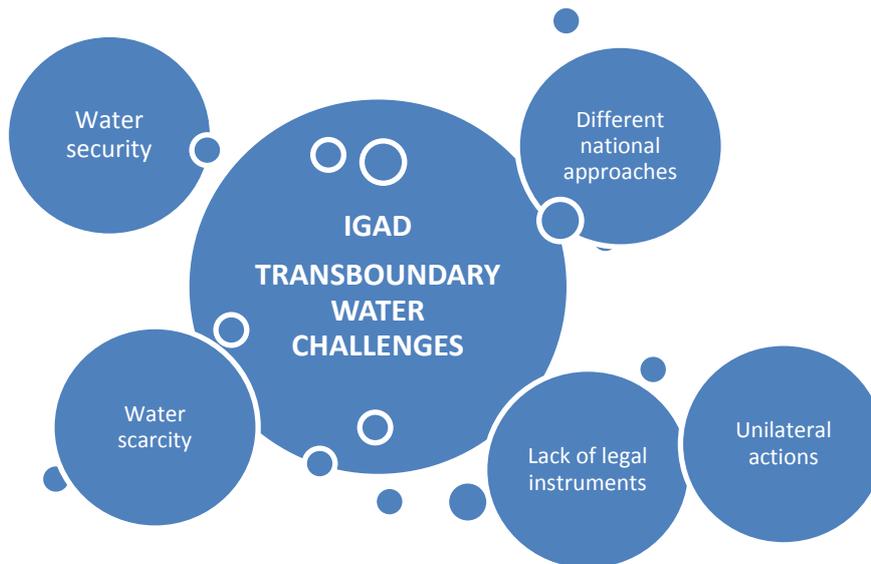
By Fred Mwangi, IGAD Secretariat

After the presentation on the main expectations of the Study Tour, Fred Mwangi, in his presentation enunciated the main challenges in Transboundary Water Governance in the IGAD Region emanating from issues related to; Water security, Water Scarcity, Population increase, high climatic variabilities/ climate change and lack of frameworks for managing such shared transboundary resources.

He highlighted some of their main challenges around their transboundary water governance as illustrated below:

¹ Senior government officials from the IGAD Member States, they are the advisors of the Ministers in-charge of water affairs in the IGAD Member States

² Representing various sectors (water, energy, irrigation etc) and actors (NGOs basin organization etc) in the SMM basin



4. Experiences from the Sava River

By Dragan Zeljko, Samo Grošelj and Mirza Sarač, ISRBC

History,

During the period of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the Sava River was a nationally managed river. After the dissolution of this Republic in the early nineties, the Sava became a transboundary river flowing through the newly independent countries of Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Serbia.

The first step toward supporting water cooperation among the Sava countries came from the European Union initiative through the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe. Within the framework of this Pact, Sava River countries signed a “Letter of Intent” in 2001, to agree upon joint activities for the better utilization, protection and control of the Sava and its tributaries.

After signing the Letter of Intent, negotiations started discussing the different priorities in regard to the management of the Sava, at this point it was realized that every country had a different approach on how to use this river. To overcome these differences, a Joint Expert Group supported the negotiations that led to the signing of the Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin (FASRB) in 2002 and the subsequent establishment of the International Sava River Basin Commission in 2006. The Commission was established to implement the Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin. Some of its main activities include:

- Coordination for the development of River Basin Management Plans, Flood Risk Management Plans and Contingencies Plans,
- Joint data management,
- Preparation and realization of development programs,
- Harmonization of national regulations with the EU regulation,
- Creation of addition protocol to the FASRB as appropriate, and
- Promotion of cooperation and public participation

Key factors for successful cooperation in the Sava River

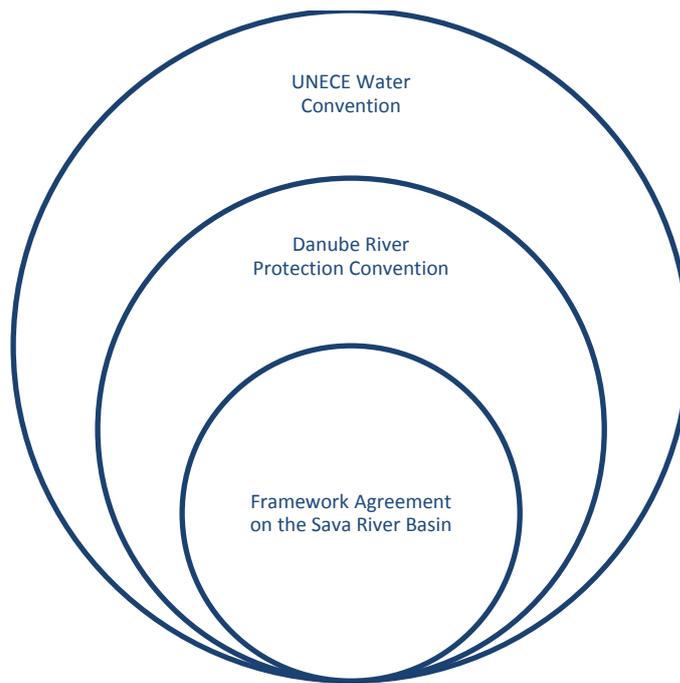


Questions from participants

- **What motivates a country to share information?**
Sava river countries realised the importance of data sharing for the elaboration of flood risk management plans and to secure navigation in the river.
- **Is it necessary to have a protocol to share data and information?**
It is not necessary to have a protocol in place to share data and information. In fact, a Protocol can take a long time to negotiate, countries could start by sharing basic information and data through “informal” means such as memorandums of understanding.

What normative frameworks promote cooperation in the Sava?

- European Union countries within the Sava River Basin (Croatia and Slovenia) are obliged by law (European Water Framework Directive), to cooperate with riparian countries to develop common management plans for the basin. In the case of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia, even though, they are not EU countries, have to incorporate similar standards as the ones in the EU to implement joint plans. Furthermore, Sava River countries are Parties to sets of International instruments that promote and facilitate transboundary water cooperation, namely: the 1994 Danube River Protection Convention and the 1992 UNECE Water Convention.



UNECE Water Convention ratification status	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Accession in 2009
Croatia	Accession in 1996
Serbia	Accession in 2010
Slovenia	Accession in 1999

- How to align countries which are not willing to cooperate**
Cooperation is not an easy task, but data about the health of the river showed the urgency and need to act jointly.
- How do countries reflect regional commitments into national priorities?**
Priorities differ from country to country, but after years of cooperation, all Sava countries understood that they can't progress without cooperation. Some goals are common, some other are very specific to some countries.

At beginning of the negotiation, each country came with different priorities and expectations, in the end, countries had to agree to address the basin-wide common issues in a comprehensive and integrated manner.
- What motivates Slovenia being the upstream country to cooperate?**
All riparian countries are interdependent and rely on one another either through a common heritage, trade etc. In addition, water cannot be divided; therefore every challenge and issue needs to be discussed and addressed in a manner that is beneficial to all.
- What is the road to build cooperation in transboundary waters?**
To build cooperation it is essential first to understand the interdependencies and connectedness between the countries. These interdependencies can be of different nature such as Promotion of sustainable development of the region, Joint water Management, Accident prevention, Economic reasons etc.

Reflections

- Cooperation in the Sava River Basin was possible because there was trust among its riparian countries. It is worth noting that few decades ago these countries were one nation (and the Sava was a national river) the violent separation notwithstanding.
- Negotiations are not easy but are essential in the context of transboundary water governance.
- The Sava River has a spirit of cooperation, based on the principle of good faith among its riparian states.
- In the Sava River Basin, cooperation is promoted in different dimensions, such as economic, social and environmental.

5. Lonjsko polje Nature Park

By Valeria Hima, Lonjsko polje Nature Park

Participants visited the Lonjsko polje Nature Park, Ornithological Reserve, Protected Landscape, Wilderness Area to appreciate the role of natural infrastructure in transboundary water management. The park is a vast floodplain along the Sava River, covered by oak alluvial forest, alder swamp forests, wet meadows and pastures. The area supports more than two thirds of Croatian bird species (250 species), 138 of which breed in the Park. The area also supports stable populations of species that depend on the forest integrity, such as the White-Tailed Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla* and the Lesser Spotted Eagle *Aquila pomaria*. The site is also one of the biggest spawning areas for fish in the Danube basin. Ecological processes and inundation dynamics set the pattern for the traditional land use, creating a unique mosaic of anthropogenic and natural habitats important for the preservation of biological and landscape diversity. Land use activities in the Park includes grazing, hunting, fishing and water management. The natural floodplain is used for floodwater retention.



6. BRIDGE Academy

At the BRIDGE Academy at the IUCN Environmental Law Centre in Bonn, Germany, participants were taken through series of lectures on transboundary water governance as presented below:

6.1. *Transboundary Water Cooperation by Lena Salame*

Taking into consideration all the vital characteristics of water, it is essential to promote cooperation, since no country can afford to have a conflict around this natural resource. In a transboundary basin context, maintaining good relationships with neighboring countries is essential. A crucial step in any transboundary basin is to understand the interdependencies between the countries and opportunities for the same countries, for example: navigation, flood management, trade, energy and power production, fisheries, water supply, tourism, conservation, development, joint research etc. To facilitate the identification of these interdependences it is key to go beyond water and explore opportunities including for benefit sharing etc. It is also important to take note that conflicts are not always avoidable. A conflict can also be any type of disagreement or a divergence of views, interests, position and not necessarily an armed conflict.

Question

Participants wanted to know what a good negotiation outcome is?

A good negotiation outcome is reaching an agreement that takes into account the interests of all parties involved in a just manner, this is a win-win situation. It is important to separate bargaining which is a win-lose situation from negotiation. If the interests of the others are not taken into account i.e. if the outcome is win-lose, then they will not follow through on the agreement hence its implementation will be a challenge.

Reflections

To enhance cooperation, it is essential to: increase interdependencies, institutionalize interdependencies, reach an agreement that is clear and sustainable and operational.

6.2. *International Water Law by Prof. Owen McIntyre*

Sovereign States enjoy freedom and power to make law and decisions. States have egos, pride, feelings that can easily be offended. International law serves as a culture of communication, creating a common language whereby States can communicate, negotiate and engage with each other, to reach agreements. International Water law is converging around a series of almost universally accepted ideas, requirements, and principles.

A culture of communication means, a shared understanding – a common language fitting in interaction theory of international law. There are accepted concepts that have been gradually developed and reflected in the conventions. For example, reasonable and equitable utilization (UNWC Art. 5), prevention of significant transboundary harm (UNWC Art. 7), duty of cooperation (UNWC Art. 8).

Questions

Why ratify the UNWC or the UNECE Convention, which one to ratify?

Both should be ratified since they are considered as complementary instruments. Each of these two frameworks put emphasis on different concepts and aspects, for example the UNECE framework is much stronger in terms of ecological and ecosystems protection and very specific on Transboundary aquifers, whereas the UNWC is the classic framework setting everything out in broad terms. In essence, they are both framework conventions and

they create the common positions and the shared understandings, the common language for States to cooperate.

The UNECE has institutional structures, the Secretariat etc., and has developed further elaboration and/or guidance notes on a number of issues. It provides a platform for cooperation and sharing experiences. On the other hand, UNWC has second Party compliance rule, i.e. when States are negotiating, they can't deny those key requirements that are stipulated therein.

Reflections

- No State sharing a transboundary water basin is free from the obligations imposed by the International Law. Even without the ratification or being a Party to it, there is the Customary Law in place reflecting the principles of International Water Law which is binding.
- States have an interest in being seen to collaborate, because of a range of interactions beyond water with their neighbors.
- An upstream State in a geographically powerful position will naturally resist any development that will restrict their national development options. That is the starting point and reality of most basins especially in cases where knowledge or appreciation of interdependence is limited. In a general sense, there is need to demonstrate the benefit of harmonizing national water law among riparian States, to create more opportunities for foreign investment and to build trust. There is a considerable governance advantage in cooperation and harmonization. Considerable advantages that balance out the worries relating to national interest. It is not a cure for all issues, but efforts should be made in this direction.

6.3. *Transboundary Water Cooperation in Germany by Heide Jekel*

Germany has 10 shared river basins. 6 big international basins include the Rhine, the Elbe, the Oder and Danube each having a river basin commissions and 4 bilateral commissions with Austria, Czech Republic, Poland and Netherlands. The Commissions were mainly established in the 1990s, but there are older ones, such as the Rhine. Germany's coordination bodies are mainly at the subnational level (Germany is a federal republic, each region coordinating the management of its rivers) and at the international level (Austria, Poland, Czech Republic, Netherlands).

German history is essential to understand transboundary water cooperation as it is today. In the beginning, cooperation occurred only around navigation, dating back to the Conference of Vienna, when Europe was reorganized after the defeat of Napoleon. In this framework, the commission for the navigation on the Rhine was established, 1866. Increased awareness of environmental issues rising in the 1970s and 1980s, with major incident and toxic spill on the Rhine in 1986 which served as a wakeup call for cooperation. The end of World War II was important due to renewed contact with former war enemies. For example, with the Rhine, serious concerns about water pollution pushed for this to become the first cooperative step in the 1950s. The convention came later, after dynamics of cooperation were defined. The iron curtain: Elbe was the border between East and West Germany so no cooperation on the management of Elbe until the unification of Germany. After the unification a lot of agreements between Germany and the eastern European countries were made.

Question

What is the legal basis for Germany cooperation in Transboundary waters?

Germany is today both a party of the UNECE and the UN Watercourses Convention, and has signed multilateral and bilateral transboundary rivers and basin treaties. International treaties for Transboundary Rivers or basins, multilateral and bilateral. EU Water Law is adding on to

what already exists at the national level. National Water Act and other instruments are highly influenced by EU Directives (Water, Flood Risk, Marine).

Transboundary cooperation has benefits like joining forces to protect the water resources (water bodies cross borders and cannot be managed at national level only), joint evaluation of the basin, deciding on coordinated approaches, enhancing mutual understanding, trust building is essential for good relationships, etc.

Reflections

From the German point of view, what is essential for successful cooperation: we need an agreement, bilateral or multilateral; a fixed working structure (regular meeting on political and technical levels), a permanent Secretariat (not needed, but helpful), sufficient financial resources. What should be taken into account is that establishing transboundary cooperation needs time, and history has to be taken into account. Differences in the riparian or basin countries make compromises necessary e.g. political priorities with regard to water management, upstream and downstream interests, languages etc.

7. Experience from the Rhine River

Dr. Anne Schulte-Wülwer-Leidig, Adrian Schmid-Breton ICPR

Background

The Rhine is one of the main river basin in West and Central Europe. Many economic activities rely on its navigability and almost 30 million people depend on it as a source of drinking water.

On 11 July 1950, Germany, France, Luxemburg, the Netherlands and Switzerland founded the International Commission on the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR) in order to analyze the pollution of the Rhine, to recommend water protection measures, to harmonize monitoring and analysis methods and to exchange monitoring data. The rallying common call was then made to create conducive environment for once again, the Salmon fish.

In 1986, a fire and a later chemical spill at a pesticide industry near Basel in Switzerland, also known as the Sandoz Accident, caused the death of the aquatic life in the Rhine. This accident was the trigger to take action and develop the “Rhine Action Program”. The Rhine Action Program aimed at guaranteeing drinking water production, improving water quality, reduce the input of toxic substances and reduce events like the Sandoz Accident in the future. This program was the model for the EU Water Framework Directive.

The Rhine has a long history of negotiation and drafting of agreements for the protection of the environment and water. The instruments governing the protection of the Rhine are:

- Convention on the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution (Berne, 29 April 1963),
- Convention on the Protection of the Rhine against Chemical Pollution (Bonn, 3 December 1976),
- Convention on the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution with Chlorides (Bonn, 3 December 1976),
- Additional Agreement concerning the Convention on the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution signed in Berne on 29 April 1963 (Bonn, 3 December 1976),
- Additional Protocol to the Chlorides Convention (25 September 1991), and
- Convention on the Protection of the Rhine (Berne, 12 April 1999).

Questions

What are the key elements for the successful cooperation in the Rhine basin?

First, the willingness of all countries to have a better water quality, but also the industrial sector who have seen that increasing gains from being more environmentally friendly.

Does the political and economic integration of the countries sharing the Rhine River Basin have helped the success of the work of the Commission? And do you think that the European Union helped out the success of the ICPR's activities?

The ICPR was initiated before the establishment of the European Union, so the ICPR did not need the EU to be established. The willingness to cooperate within Europe was there after the Second World War because the war affected very much Europe and the European nations, they learnt that a stable and peaceful community has to be based on cooperation among the different countries. The European Union came later and also developed its frameworks for water quality and floods protection. The European Union has learnt to some extent from commissions like the ICPR.

There was an interaction via Skype with a member of one of the task force for the ICPR from Switzerland from whom participants wanted to learn more about issues around upstream/downstream relationship through the following questions:

What motivated Switzerland as the upstream country of the Rhine and the water tower of Europe to cooperate with the downstream countries of the Rhine?

First, water is a common good for everyone that has to be shared. Switzerland consists of 26 different cantons and some of them are upstream and others downstream, so already in Switzerland itself, the government has an obligation of ensuring that there is good water quality and enough quantity for the downstream residents, that activities by upstream residents do not negatively affect water quality and quantity for the downstream residents. Second, Switzerland is an island within Europe and it is surrounded by many countries, it cooperates with them not only in transboundary water management but also in many other issues. As it take care of the downstream cantons in Switzerland it does the same for the downstream countries in Europe. Switzerland is cooperating with other European countries even though it is not a member of the European Union.

Reflections from Switzerland as the upstream country in the Rhine basin

Participants realised that Switzerland is surrounded by other countries and it does not only share water with them but also, trade with them. There is a considerable amount of European citizens living and working in Switzerland. It is not possible to look at one issue such as water and decide to cooperate without taking into account other aspects of common interests such as trade.

Water is a common good and the prevention of pollution in Switzerland is essential, in order to ensure other downstream countries are not affected. Its legislation obliges every single person to take care of water and ensure that water is not polluted. Finally, since there are upstream and downstream cantons, the benefits to cooperate are expressed naturally.

A key reflection from the Swiss experience was that it would be important to look at all different issues, not only water, and make a good deal together, since all countries are interdependent to each other.

8. Reflections from SMM Representatives to take back home

- Having had the chance to visit the Sava and the Rhine Commission, it is clear that transboundary water basins have general and common challenges that can be solved through cooperation. But it is also clear, that every single basin has its particularities and specific challenges that are dealt by the respective Commissions.
- In order to cooperate, it is essential to build trust, we realize that stakeholders and countries have to be open and must identify common challenges and opportunities together.
- The efforts of the ICPR to bring back the salmon into the river are impressive; this fish has become a symbol and the spirit of cooperation for the Rhine. In the SMM basin we can promote this spirit of cooperation through the protection of our biodiversity.
- It is time to discuss in order to have a common understanding of our common challenges and draft a plan of activities to start addressing them.
- All stakeholders should be part of negotiations in order to be able to defend their interests and feel ownership in the negotiation processes.
- Having seen the interactions between different River Basin Commissions particularly in the Sava with regards to the Danube Commission. It is clear that the potential for the IGAD Secretariat, the Nile Basin Initiative and the Lake Victoria Basin Commission to be the appropriate platform for discussion and cooperation.
- It is essential to have a SMM platform of discussion to identify specific challenges and opportunities for the basin.

9. Closing remarks by the Study Tour participants

- Resources and technical assistance are needed for basins in East Africa
- We saw contrasting situations, you can cooperate in different contexts, every basin is different and yet the same kind of regiment is working.
- Ownership and commitment are essential to achieve stable institutions.
- There must be an increasing involvement of stakeholders, open up space and listen to everyone for more credibility and confidence
- Cooperation is possible even without an agreement

Annex 1. List of participants for the Study Tour to Sava in Croatia, Rhine and Bridge Academy in Germany

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7. Ms. Rose Ogara, Regional
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Technical Team – International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC)

21. Dragan Zeljko, Secretary,
ISRBC Secretariat

22. Melita Žižanović-Dakić, Legal
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23. Dragana Milovanović, Deputy
Secretary for River Basin
management, ISRBC
Secretariat

24. Samo Grošelj, Deputy
Secretary for Protection of
Waters and Aquatic Eco-
system, ISRBC Secretariat

25. Željko Milković, Deputy
Secretary for Navigation,
ISRBC Secretariat

26. Mirza Sarač, Advisor for
Protection against Detrimental
Effects from Waters and
Extraordinary Impacts on the
Water Regime, ISRBC
Secretariat

Technical Team – BRIDGE Academy and the Rhine River Basin Commission

27. Lena Salame, Independent
Consultant

28. Prof. Owen McIntyre, University
College Cork

29. Heide Jekel, German Federal
Ministry for the Environment

Annex 2. The programme

Study tour: Experiences from the Sava, the Rhine and the BRIDGE Academy

In order to strengthen the understanding of institutional frameworks and cooperative mechanisms for the governance of shared waters, the IGAD Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members³ and representatives from the Sio Malaba Malakisi (SMM) demonstration basin⁴ will visit the International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC), as well as the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR) and the Environmental Law Centre of the IUCN.

They will learn more about dialogue and transboundary water cooperation for the protection and management of shared basins and related freshwater ecosystems, as well as about the history, success factors and lessons learnt from cooperation processes over the management of Transboundary Rivers from these two river basin organizations in the European region.

The study tour visit will provide the opportunity to the IGAD Member States representatives and key stakeholder representatives from the SMM transboundary basin to review practical examples on the benefits of cooperation, institutional building, joint water management mechanisms and benefit sharing arrangements with a view to using these experiences back home in building their transboundary water governance and cooperation.

The main objective of this study tour is to serve as a platform for learning and discussing about the challenges, lessons and experiences from two of the most iconic river basin organisations in Europe, in order to reflect on best institutional practices that could support effective transboundary water cooperation, peace and sustainable development in the IGAD region.

³ Senior government officials from the IGAD Member States, they are the advisors of the Ministers in-charge of water affairs in the IGAD Member States

⁴ Representing various sectors (water, energy, irrigation etc) and actors (NGOs basin organization etc) in the SMM basin

Day 1 – Sunday, 24 September 2017	
<i>Travel and arrival to Zagreb, Croatia</i> <i>Transfer from Zagreb airport to the Hotel Arcotel Allegra (Kneza Branimira 29, Zagreb), according to the attached Airport transfers list</i>	
<i>Between 18:30 and 21:00</i>	<i>Dinner in Hotel Arcotel Allegra</i> <i>Dinner will be served individually, depending on arrival time.</i>
<p>Experience from the Sava</p> <p>The International Sava River Basin Commission was established in a post-conflict situation and has become a successful institution for the cooperation and integrated management of the Sava Basin, fostering peace and economic integration in the region.</p> <p>The participants will learn from the experience of the Sava Commission in developing an advanced transboundary water cooperation agreement in a post-conflict situation, in establishing an institution for multi-sectoral cooperation on water and navigation, including thematic work of the Commission in different areas and innovative approaches to multi-stakeholder engagement.</p>	
<p>Day 2 – Monday, 25 September 2017</p> <p>Introduction to cooperation in the Sava basin</p> <p><i>Objectives of the day</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understand expectations of IGAD representatives considering specificities for transboundary water cooperation in the IGAD region 2. Determine the importance of having coherent basin agreements and institutional mechanisms at all levels of governance for the effective management and development of shared water resources 3. Identify the roles of different stakeholders/sectors at multiple levels to support the work of river basin commissions 	
9:00-13:00	Introduction by the International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC) secretariat <i>Hotel Arcotel Allegra (Kneza Branimira 29, Zagreb)</i> <i>Meeting room Galileo (1st floor)</i> Facilitator: <i>John Owino, IUCN</i>
9:00	Welcoming speeches <i>Dragan Zeljko, Secretary, ISRBC secretariat</i> <i>Juan Carlos, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)</i> <i>Chantal Demilecamps, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)</i> <i>Fred Mwangi, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)</i>
9:15	Round of introduction Major challenges faced in the IGAD region to advance transboundary water governance, <i>Fred Mwangi, IGAD secretariat</i> Expectations for the study tour Objectives of the study tour
10:00	ISRBC: Mission, History, Vision and Organisation <i>Dragan Zeljko, Secretary, ISRBC Secretariat</i> Questions and answers

10:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00	<p>ISRBC: Activities and Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RBM • Flood Risk Management • Accident Prevention and Control • Navigation • Climate Change: adaptation, mitigation, resilience • Stakeholders Involvement • Cross-cutting issues: SavaGIS, SavaHIS, information exchange <p>Questions and answers <i>Dragan Zeljko, Secretary, ISRBC Secretariat</i> <i>Melita Žižanović-Dakić, Legal Advisor, ISRBC Secretariat</i> <i>Dragana Milovanović, Deputy Secretary for River Basin management, ISRBC Secretariat</i> <i>Samo Grošelj, Deputy Secretary for Protection of Waters and Aquatic Eco-system, ISRBC Secretariat</i> <i>Željko Milković, Deputy Secretary for Navigation, ISRBC Secretariat</i> <i>Mirza Sarač, Advisor for Protection against Detrimental Effects from Waters and Extraordinary Impacts on the Water Regime, ISRBC Secretariat</i></p>
12:30	<p>Interactive discussion: Maximizing the benefits of transboundary water cooperation <i>Moderated by Juan Carlos Sanchez, IUCN and Chantal Demilecamps, UNECE</i></p>
13:00-14:00	<i>Lunch in Hotel Arcotel Allegra</i>
14:00-18:00	<p>Sava River Basin Management Plan (RBM) Expert Group Meeting</p> <p><i>Hotel Arcotel Allegra (Kneza Branimira 29, Zagreb)</i> <i>Meeting room Galileo (1st floor)</i></p>
14:00	<p>Outline of the Climate Adaptation Strategy and basin/wide priority measures for the Sava River Basin Presentation on the status of the project by <i>national and international consultants</i> Discussion on next steps</p>
16:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
17:00	<p>Open forum for discussion: Exchange between IGAD and Sava countries representatives on their progress in river basin management planning <i>Facilitator: Juan Carlos Sanchez, IUCN</i> Why to cooperate in transboundary water management: an upstream country perspective <i>Representatives from Sava countries</i></p>
19:00	<i>Group departure from Hotel Arcotel Allegra to restaurant (by walk)</i>
19:30	<i>Joint dinner in Restaurant Vinodol (Teslina 10, Zagreb)</i>

Day 3 – Tuesday, 26 September 2017**Field trip****Objectives of the day**

First-hand experience on how river basin organizations facilitate cooperation over shared waters

9:00-17:00	Visit to the Nature Park Lonjsko polje http://www.pp-lonjsko-polje.hr/new/english/index.html
09:00	Bus departure from Hotel to Nature Park Lonjsko polje Welcoming by managers of the Nature Park
11:00–12:00	Introduction to the Park: Importance, management challenges, priorities and actions taken for conservation, Ecosystem preservation and transboundary cooperation, Park rangers
12:00–13:00	Walk to the ornithological reserve
13:30–14:30	Lunch in Restaurant Kod ribiča (Vladimira Nazora 24, Jasenovac)
14:30–16:00	Boat trip
16:00	Bus departure from the Nature Park to Hotel Arcotel Allegra
19:00	Dinner in Hotel Arcotel Allegra

Day 4 – Wednesday, 27 September 2017**Experience sharing / discussion****Objectives**

Building the experience of transboundary water cooperation gained by ISRBC and the main challenges faced in IGAD region, identify possibly ways of improvement for transboundary water governance

9:00-12:30	Exchange of experiences – a dialogue between experts <i>Venue: Premises of the ISRBC (Kneza Branimira 29/II, Zagreb)</i>
9:00	Summary of the main priorities for improvement of transboundary water governance in the IGAD region and SMM basin
10:30	<i>Fred Mwangi, IGAD secretariat</i> Facilitated open discussion on the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Negotiating a basin agreement in a post conflict context - Relationship between basin, regional and international agreements - Establishing and securing the sustainability of a River Basin Organization - Benefit sharing between countries and sectors - Upstream and downstream perspectives of basin countries Resource experts: <i>Melita Žižanović-Dakić, Legal Advisor, ISRBC Secretariat</i> <i>Samo Grošelj, Deputy Secretary for Protection of Waters and Aquatic Eco-system, ISRBC Secretariat</i> <i>Željko Milković, Deputy Secretary for Navigation, ISRBC Secretariat</i> Facilitator: <i>Chantal Demilecamps, UNECE</i>
12:30-13:30	Lunch in the Premises of the ISRBC (Kneza Branimira 29/II, Zagreb)
14:00	Bus departure from Hotel Arcotel Allegra to Zagreb airport (Flight no. LH1715 departing from Zagreb airport at 16:55)
Travel and arrival in Germany Transfer to the hotel Kurfürstehof, Baumshulallee, Bonn	
	Dinner

Day 5 - Thursday 28 September 2017
Environmental Law Centre BRIDGE Academy

Objectives

1. Identify existing power relations in the IGAD Region and explore opportunities for improved transboundary water cooperation
2. Understand the importance of strong legal cooperative frameworks to ensure cooperation and peace

9:30-9:45	<p>Welcoming words</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juan Carlos Sánchez, IUCN
9:45 – 10:00	<p>The role of the Environmental Law Centre in conserving nature, cooperation and peace</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Li Ning, IUCN - Training to young water professionals
10:00 -10:30	<p>ELC resources to conserve nature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexandra Fante, IUCN - Guided tour to the ELC library
10:30-10:45	<p><i>Coffee break</i></p>
10:45-11:45	<p>From Conflict to Cooperation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lena Salame, Independent Consultant - Water challenges and potentials for conflict - Why to cooperate? - Mechanisms of cooperation <p>Questions and answers</p>
11:45–13:00	<p>International Water Law: An opportunity to enhance water cooperation in the IGAD Region</p> <p>Prof. Owen McIntyre, University College Cork</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The role of Multi-level governance frameworks - Why to adopt and ratify the UN Watercourses Convention and the UNECE Water Convention, or why not? <p>Questions and answers</p> <p><i>Lunch at Restaurant Gustav Stresemann Institute</i></p>
13:00–14:30	<p>Transboundary Water Cooperation in Europe: The German Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heide Jekel, German Federal Ministry for the Environment
14:30–16:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existing mechanisms to prevent or solve water related conflicts - An overview of transboundary water cooperation from the German perspective - Existing mechanisms to prevent or solve water related conflict <p>Questions and answers</p>
19:30	<p>Joint dinner at restaurant Bastei, Bonn</p>

Day 6 - Friday 29 September 2017 (am)**Introduction to cooperation in the Rhine basin****Objectives**

1. Determine how crucial the ICPR has been to secure cooperation and protect the environment of the Rhine river and how to replicate the best examples of good governance of shared waters
2. Understand ICPR as a coordination mechanism for cooperation in Rhine: what has worked well? What have been challenges?
3. Show previous conflicts and how they have been solved

7:30	Meeting at the reception of the hotel Kurfürstenhof
7:45-9:00	Bus departure from Bonn Central Station to the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR), Koblenz
9:30-9:45	Introduction by the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR) secretariat
9:45- 9:55	Welcome - Anne Schulte-Wülwer-Leidig , ICPR Executive Secretary
9:55 – 10:30	ICPR Film Current challenges to cooperation <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Flood Risk Management Plan 2015 and preparatory work for 2021 b. Climate change adaptation strategy 2015 River Basin Management Plans (2009 & 2015) and preparatory work for 2021 according to the WFD Adrian Schmid-Breton, ICPR
10:30-10.45	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:45-12:00	History and past challenges to cooperation <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Step by step approach to integrated River basin management - evolution of the work of ICPR b. Current legal and institutional frameworks c. Mechanisms for stakeholder participation d. Role of the commission e. Dispute solving examples f. Lessons learnt Anne Schulte-Wülwer-Leidig , ICPR Executive Secretary
12:00–12:30	Dialogue with upstream country representative of the ICPR (video conference) Gian Reto Bezzola , Federal Office for the Environment
13:00–14:30	<i>Lunch at restaurant Augusta, Koblenz</i>
14:30–16:00	<i>Bus departure from Koblenz to ELC in Bonn</i>

Day 6 - Friday 29 September 2017 (pm)**Debriefing from the study tour and conclusions****Objectives**

Reflect on the lessons and experiences learned during the week and bring best practices and knowledge for the establishment and promotion of coherent frameworks of cooperation in the IGAD Region

16:30- 17:00	Recap <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reflection, going through different concepts crucial for good water governance - Take away messages home - Possible next steps (Mentoring? Twinning?) Facilitated by IUCN, IGAD and UNECE
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Day 7 - Saturday 30 September 2017

	Departure from Germany
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