



Invitation

Kick-off conference

We are very happy to invite you to the kick-off conference held on

October 16th, 2020

from 9:00 until 12:30 - on line,

aiming at the **introduction of Interreg Danube project**

WACOM - Water Contingency Management in the Sava River Basin.

Challenge, Objective, Results of the WACOM project

The **key challenge** of the WACOM project *is lack of coordinated response to emergencies* in case of accidental pollution and floods on transboundary watercourses in the Sava River Basin. The situation is a threat to people, environment and all water uses in the basin. It should be addressed by improved transboundary coping capacity. Project WACOM will enable development of response mechanisms, where some components have already been implemented i.e. flood forecasting and warning system for the Sava river basin, while the response component is still missing.

The **main objective** of the project is the *reduction of environmental risks related to accidental pollution and floods*, especially with potential transboundary impact by improved cooperation of key actors and jointly developed common operational system for activating the accident management protocols within the Sava River Basin. It will also bring overall improved transnational cooperation on the Sava River Basin which requires specific attention, developing improved ties among people, institutions, and countries. The project will be focused to implementation of three protocols: Protocol on flood protection- in force since 2015, Protocol on water pollution caused by navigation- in force since 2017 and the Protocol on emergency situation- final harmonization is expected.

The **main result** of the WACOM project is *reduced risks induced by the accidental pollution and floods of transnational dimension* by strengthening the transnational and trans-sectorial cooperation among institutions, especially governmental institutions

(responsible for water and flood management and the civil protection) managing the flood and accidental pollution preparedness and response stage.

This will lead to

- **Improved preparedness and management of the response** (coping capacity) of all involved stakeholder during the pollution and flood incidents with improved definition of roles, and response assignments.
- **Capacity building and transnational stakeholder dialogue** defining common operational environment of all stakeholders.
- **Development of integrative tools** enabling more efficient and therefore more effective transnational preparedness and response in the case of water disasters, especially by common situational awareness.
- **Filling the identified gap** between the two pillars of floods/accidental pollution response institutions – to the complexity of the transnational response on the same river basin an additional complexity – cooperation between water management institutions and disaster management institutions (e.g. civil protection) is imposing another challenge, which will be addressed by the project.

More information on the WACOM project is available at [DTP web site](#)

Budget, Partnership, Timeframe of the WACOM project

Budget:

1,570,581.00 EUR (Project is co-funded by the European Union funds (ERDF, IPA))

Project partners:

- **SI:** Univerza v Ljubljani (UL) -*Lead partner*, Direkcija Republike Slovenije za vode (DRSV), Hidroelektrarne na spodnji Savi (HESS),
- **HR:** Hrvatske vode (HV), JU Lučka uprava Slavonski Brod (LUSB),
- **BA:** Asocijacija za upravljanje rizicima AZUR (AZUR), Federalna uprava civilne zaštite (FURS), Republička uprava civilne zaštite Republike Srpske (RUCZ RS),
- **RS:** Institut za vodoprivredu Jaroslav Černi (JCI),
- International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC).

Associated Strategic Partners:

- **HR:** Hrvatski državni hidrometeorološki zavod (HDMZ),
- **BA:** Agencija za vodno područje rijeke Save (AVP SAVA), Republički hidrometeorološki zavod Republike Srpske (RHMZRS), Javno poduzeće Vode Srpske (PIVS), Luka Brčko (LB)
- **RS:** Javno vodoprivredno preduzeće "Srbijavode" Beograd (Srbijavode), Republički hidrometeorološki zavod Srbije (RHMS), Ministarstvo poljoprivrede, šumarstva i vodoprivrede Republička direkcija za vode (RD VODE)
- International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR).

Start of the project: July 1st, 2020

End of the project: December 31st, 2022

A. Agenda of the Kick off conference

Date	Time	Topic	Lecturer/ description	Institution
Friday, October 16 th , 2020 Chairing: University of Ljubljana	8.45-9.00	Registration and testing of the connections		UL
	9.00-9:10	Welcome		Dragan Zeljko (ISRBC)
	9.10-9.30	The WACOM project introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target groups • Main objectives • Specific objectives • Legal background • Main results 	dr. Primož Banovec (UL)
	9.30-10.30	The introduction of Technical Work Packages (T1-T4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of the work packages of the WACOM project 	WP Leaders: WP T1: AZUR WP T2: UL WP T3: HESS WP T4: JCI
	10.30-10.45	Break		
	10.45-12:15	Panel Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International cooperation in accident pollution and flood management • Cross-sectoral cooperation in accident pollution and flood management • Potential impact of WACOM project to transboundary accident pollution and flood management 	Moderator: UL Panellists: <i>Navigation:</i> dr. Duška Kunštek (Ministarstvo mora, prometa i infrastrukture - HR) <i>Water management:</i> dr. Mitja Bricelj (Ministrstvo za okolje in prostor- SI) <i>Flood protection:</i> Biljana Savić (JVP Srbijavode - RS) <i>Civil protection:</i> Almir Beridan (Ministarstvo Sigurnosti – BA) <i>International:</i> Adam Kovacs (ICPDR)
	12:15-12.30	Closing remarks		UL/ISRBC

Logistic information

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<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/465190053>

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<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/465190053>

We would like to ask you to confirm your participation by email to isrbc@savacommission.org.