

Report on the results of the integration of stakeholders' feedback into the joint PoM of draft ITRBMP and lessons learned

Deliverable 6.5.2.

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Chapter 1. Introduction

This deliverable is part of the Activity 6.5, part of the public involvement of the JOINTISZA project. Different levels and steps of involvement were planned and described in the original project proposal.

The direct involvement of SHs started with a training for project experts:

“As a kick-off...a 2-day training (seminar) on stakeholder (SH) involvement will be developed for the planning experts, and organized back to back with the 1st project management unit meeting. This will be a documented learning interaction, which will cover the knowledge gaps of the planning colleagues on effective public involvement and its methodologies and help the planning exercise and preparation of the ITRBMP. The content of the ‘train the planners’ seminar will be developed by involving experts in communication and social sciences and by taking in consideration the general and country specifics. Within this the Shared Vision Planning (SVP) methodology will be presented.”

This step was documented in the “Deliverable 6.5.1” by WWF HU (ERDF PP9) and accepted by the QC of the project. After this training a first – national-level – SH involvement step was carried out. This “Deliverable 6.5.2” refers to these activities, described as Activity 6.5/3 in the project proposal:

“This will be followed by 10 national level follow-up meetings with the project partners, in order to make the PIP of the draft ITRBMP the most effective possible. 1st round will focus on identifying the tools that fit best to the WP’s development, while the 2nd round, after the implementation of the selected methods, will focus on discussing the feedback from the stakeholders...and their integration into the WPs’ planning mechanism.”

This document describes the national-level SH involvement in the 5 Tisza countries, mainly coordinated by WWF HU (ERDF PP9) and GWP CEE (ERDF PP8) and its results. The document also gives an overview about the integration into the future documents (JoPMs, ITRBMP) compiled by the planning experts of the project partners. However, as these documents are not ready in this phase of the project, an annex of this document will be finalized later (the exact integration of the SH views and comments into the new documents). In that sense this is a – partially – running document.

The goal of the national-level SH involvement is:

- to establish a list of SHs of the 5 countries for further steps (Activity 6.5/4);
- to receive general comments of the SHs on basin wide importance problems of the Tisza River and the 1st ITRBMP (there are no drafts of the new Plan available) – *and integrate them into the new Plan.*

This document is based on the 5 national-level SH involvement reports compiled by WWF HU (ERDF PP9) and its subcontractors (Hungary, Romania, Serbia, Ukraine) and GWP CEE (ERD PP8) (Slovakia). These are internal reports, shared within the project and uploaded to the ftp.vizugy.hu in order to give a detailed overview to the project partners. However these reports contain too much technical details and only their summarized and unified content was incorporated into this current document.

Chapter 2. Preparatory meeting - ‘Train the planners’ learning interaction – 28.06.2017, Szolnok, Hungary

As described above, the SH involvement in the framework of the JOINTISZA project practically started with this training. This step was documented in the “Deliverable 6.5.1” by WWF HU (ERDF PP9) and accepted by the QC of the project. The event was held in Szolnok and organized mainly by the project partner WWF Hungary (with the support of OVF, MTDWD and REC) with more than 50 participants, representing the most important planners of the ITRBMP.

In order to make the project partners able to discuss the important issues along the Tisza River with SHs WWF HU organized a thematic training with group works too. During the last facilitated group work participants were split into groups by nations. The main goal of these sessions was to finalize the road map for the SH involvement process on national level by the planners.



Picture 1. participants of the Hungarian Group Work at the ‘Train the planners’ event in Szolnok, 28.06.2017
(photo: Dávid Bogyó/WWF HU)

The participants developed national level action plans on SHI during their work on the updating of the ITRBMP. According to these plans, together with WWF HU (and its subcontractors) and GWP CEE, project partners could start to implement SHI in their own country and they can use the input during the updating of the ITRBMP. This process started after the training and lasted until the end of the PP3 as it was foreseen in the AF (Activity 6.5/3).

Chapter 3. Follow-up meetings in the Tisza countries and methodology

3.1. The role of the follow-up meetings

According to the project proposal 10 follow-up meetings had to be held together with project partners. This was performed during the PP2 and PP3 in each country (an average of 2 per country). The role of the first follow-up meeting usually was to finalize the national SH involvement roadmaps and agree on the SH involvement methodology, dates...etc. After this step usually SH meetings and interviews were carried out. As a final action, usually a second follow-up meeting was organized in each country in order to evaluate the process and discuss the lessons learned. Of course if it was needed, more than 2 meetings were organized for those who were responsible for proper SH involvement.

3.2. Follow-up meetings in Hungary

The follow-up and SH meetings were coordinated by WWF HU in Hungary.

3.2.1. I. National level follow-up meeting in Hungary

The 'I. National level follow-up meeting' for Hungarian partners was held in Budapest in 20.10.2017. 4 out of 5 Hungarian partners were represented with 7 colleagues.



Picture 2. National-level follow-up event in Budapest, 20.10.2017 (photo: Klára Kerpely/WWF HU)

The goal of the personal meeting of the Hungarian project partners was to finalize the Hungarian Road Map, to agree on the SH involvement methodology for Hungary and to clarify tasks and responsibilities. A minutes of this meeting was circulated among Hungarian partners.

3.2.2. Stakeholder involvement methodology in Hungary

Steps agreed during the 'I. National level follow-up meeting' in Hungary:

- the partners finalized the list of the important SHs and after categorizing them the Hungarian partners also gave them priority which was mostly reflected by the SH involvement methodology;

- the main goal was to reach all the SH groups and to reach the important SH's in the way of organization of individual face-to-face events;
- meetings were organized and documented by WWF HU with the cooperation of other Hungarian partners;
- less important SHs were connected electronically through mass emails.

As it was discussed on the project level, in this stage of the project there were no newly developed draft elements of the new ITRBMP, so the focus was on the general issues and concerns in relation of the Tisza river basin, according to the SH's needs and on the 1st ITRBMP in general.

In order to help this process, a basic presentation was developed and translated about the 1st ITRBMP and the JOINTISZA project, as well as a general list of questions was developed (and circulated for comments to the WP6 leader and the lead partner). The most important strategy was to organize face-to-face meetings to the important SHs, give them an overview about the case and encourage them to give us later an organized, written feedback. Prior to those meetings the mentioned basic materials and links were sent with the SHs in order to be prepared to the meetings and commenting.

The SH meetings and the collection of comments lasted from November 2017 to the end of May 2018.

3.2.3. II. National level follow-up meeting in Hungary

The II. National level follow-up meeting was held as a SKYPE meeting due to the workload of the participants. The meeting was based in Budapest in 28.05.2017. 3 out of 5 Hungarian partners were represented with 6 colleagues. Topics of the meeting:

- the details of the first round – national – SH involvement in Hungary, led by WWF HU;
- results of the Hungarian SH involvement;
- processing of the SH involvement results;
- the final summary of the 5 nation's report's: the draft structure of the Deliverable 6.5.2

A minutes of the meeting was circulated among all Hungarian partners. The Hungarian partners agreed that the Hungarian first level SH involvement seems to be successful. The most important SH groups were:

| SH groups | No. of representatives |
|---|------------------------|
| Water Management Bodies (Water Management Directorates) | 6 |
| National Park Directorates | 5 |
| Governemental Offices (covering most of the relevant Authorities) | 11 |
| Disaster Management Authorities (Water Management Authorities) | 7 |
| Water Management Advisory Bodies - Catchement level | 7 |
| Local governments | 14 |
| Significant water users | 11 |
| NGO's - Agriculture, industry, trade and chambers | 34 |
| NGO's - Nature, environment and sports | 17 |
| Scientific and educational institutions | 11 |
| TOTAL | 123 |

Note: in Hungary there is a special advisory board for the river basins with different levels (Water Management Councils). In the case of the Tisza there are 6 lower level Water Management Councils covering smaller sub-catchments of the Hungarian Tisza Basin, who regularly have meetings (normally twice a year). These councils consist from different high level local SH's. The work of these level Water Management Councils coordinated and summarized by the Tisza Sub-River Basin Water Management Council which covers the whole Hungarian Tisza Basin and consists from the representatives of the lower level Water Management Councils and other high level SH's.

We reached all of these bodies to have as much relevant comments as possible. The project partners, together with the council members of the Tisza Sub-River Basin Water Management Council agreed that at a project level, the final comments will be used (based on the comments recieved from the 6 lower level Water Management Councils).

3.3. Follow-up meetings in Romania

The follow-up and SH meetings were coordinated by the company Invisible Nature, subcontracted by WWF HU.

In prior of the first follow-up meeting in Romania *a preparatory meeting* was organized with RO Partners in September 2017 at the Romanian Waters National Administration (NARW), in which 8 representatives from the institutions of RO partners participated. The following points were discussed during the meeting:

- clarification of tasks and responsibilities; National Roadmap for SH involvement; past SH involvement experiences of the partners; identification of SHs.

Based on these extensive lists the SH analysis and SH prioritization will be made during the first follow-up workshop (3.3.1.).

3.3.1. I. Follow-up meeting in Romania

The first national level follow-up workshop took place on 09.11.2017 at the NARW headquarters and 24 representatives from the project partners and Water Basin Administrations from Tisza Basin participated.

The content of the workshop was the following:

- setting the scene;
- through a visual tool participants analyzed the SHs and created SH maps;
- for the prioritization part, participants were split in 4 groups, one for each region of the Tisza Basin in Romania (Banat, Mures, Crisuri, Somes-Tisa), in order to prioritize the SHs from the lists developed by the Water Basin Administrations. For the prioritization a scoring method was proposed that takes into consideration how is a SH affected by the ITRBMP and/or the level of influence that the SH has.



Picture 3. National-level follow-up event in Bucharest, 09.11.2017 (photo: Invisible Nature)

Besides offering a score to each SH in the list, the participants in the workshop had also to associate each SH with the most relevant SWMIs. The prioritization of the SHs was done partially in the workshop, and it was decided in the meeting that the Water Basin Administration would finalize the prioritization after the meeting.

The following steps:

- based on the final prioritization, Invisible Nature sent an updated analysis of the SHs;
- the consultation with an online survey is done and afterwards, when the measures for the new plan will be developed, the relevant SHs (according to prioritization) can be consulted through thematic surveys or through one to one meetings and debates;
- Invisible Nature proposed a concept and objectives for the online survey;
- a new meeting with the representatives of the project partners took place in December 2017 (3.3.2).

3.3.2. Working meeting with RO Partners

The meeting took place at the NARW headquarters (06.12.2017, Bucharest). After clarifying several aspects related to the project and SHs engagement process, the following ideas were agreed:

- at this point, the only method for consulting the SHs was the online survey;
- the online survey was used not only for consulting the SHs, but also for informing them about the project;
- NARW requested that the questions in the survey cover the four SWMIs (organic pollution, hazardous substances; nutrient pollution; hydromorphological alterations) and floods;
- project partners and Invisible Nature developed the questionnaire together.

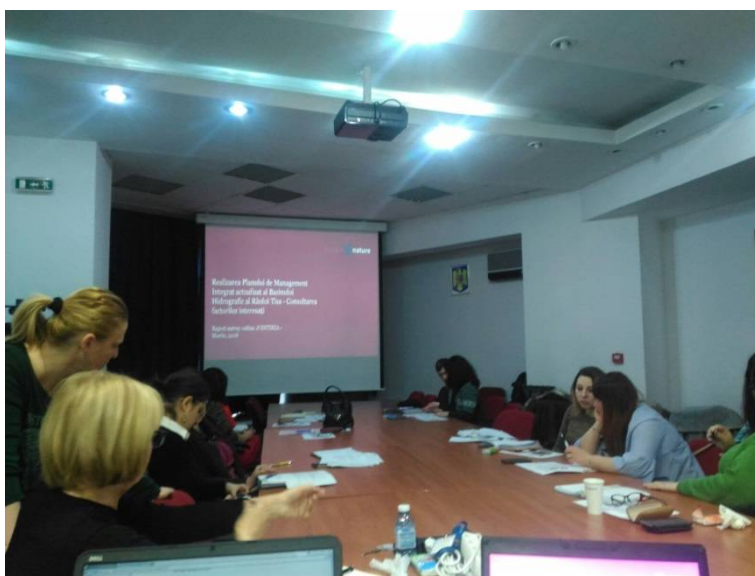
3.3.3. Stakeholder involvement methodology in Romania

The methodology for SHs involvement consisted of the following steps:

- identification of the SHs: listing all the SHs that can be affected by the ITRBMP or that have an interest or influence on the implementation of the Management Plan;
- SH analysis and prioritization: the SHs were analyzed based on their relation with the Management Plan (what is their role regarding ITRBMP) and their relation with the SWMIs (e.g. the impact they have on SWMIs; their expertise and work related to SWMIs etc.) and prioritization based on a scoring method;
- the consultation phase: the invitation to respond to the online questionnaire was sent to 507 SHs and the questionnaire was open on the online platform between 15.02.2018 – 05.03.2018.

3.3.4. II. National level follow-up meeting in Romania

The second follow-up meeting took place on 23.03.2018 at the NARW headquarters, 15 representatives from the RO Partners participating in the meeting. The scope of the meeting was to discuss the results of the online survey and the next steps for SH involvement.



Picture 3. National-level follow-up event in Bucharest, 23.03.2017 (photo: Invisible Nature)

Topics covered during the meeting:

- the results of the online survey;
- Invisible Nature prepared an analysis with the most recurrent topics/themes for each SWMI;
- Invisible Nature presented some SH maps updated with the survey.

Some of the participants considered the comments of SHs and the results of the survey useful for their institution activity and for the JOINTISZA project and development of the updated Management Plan.

The Partners decided not to continue consulting/involving the SHs at this phase of the project through other methods (e.g. interviews, roundtables). Partners mentioned that they will continue to consult the SHs in the later phases of 2018 and 2019, when they will also have the legal requirement to consult the SHs for the updated Management Plan and when the new measures will be developed.

The Romanian Ministry of Waters and Forests organized in June 2018, presentations about JOINTISZA Project during the meetings dedicated to the International Danube Day, which took place within the River Basin Committee meetings held at the level of 4 River Basin Administrations of Tisza River Basin on the Romanian territory (Mures, Banat, Somes-Tisa and Crisuri).

Important information concerning the Project objectives, activities and its results have been presented to over 250 participants, mainly territorial and local administration representatives including relevant stakeholders, but also to major mass-media institutions from the local level.

During these meetings, the experts from the Romanian Ministry of Waters and Forests presented important issues on this Project followed by Q&A sessions. These activities took place on 25th of June in Oradea, on 29th of June in Targu Mures, on 29th of June in Orsova and Satu-Mare.

One of the most successful events has been organized in Orsova, where more than 100 people, together with the Minister of Water and Forests, Mr. Ioan Deneş, participating at the celebrations organised in honour of International Danube Day, where they have been informed about the medium and long term objectives of the project, the results and the benefits, both for environment and for the local communities of Tisa basin area. This event has included also activities for children, where the little ones participated in talks and experiments concerning the effects of water pollution on human health. One of the subject of children activities referred to finding out which are the sources of water pollution with nitrates as well as the dangerous effects of this type of pollution for human households and agriculture. The children analyzed water samples taken from different sources of water.

Besides this aspect, information about joint PoM of draft ITRBMP will be disseminated in 2019 at the level of these 4 River Basin Administrations of Tisza River Basin on the Romanian territory.

3.4. Follow-up meetings in Serbia

The follow-up and SH meetings were coordinated by the NGO World and Danube, subcontracted by WWF HU.

3.4.1. I. National level follow-up meeting in Serbia

The first meeting with Serbian Partners took place in 20.10.2017 at the Public Water Management Company "Vode Vojvodine", in which 2 representatives from the Serbian project partner institutions participated, plus a national coordinator. The following points were discussed:

- methodology for choosing and involving SHs (identifying SH, differentiating between SHs and categorizing SH and investigating relationships between SHs);
- national roadmap for Serbia, proposal for Timetable of SHs involvement;

3.4.2. II. (additional) National level follow-up meeting in Serbia

The second national level follow-up meeting took place in 06.11.2017, Novi Sad, Serbia at the Public Water Management Company "Vode Vojvodine", in which participated 2 representatives from the Serbian project partner institutions, plus the national coordinator.

At this meeting, a selection of SHs was defined, with the following explanations and eligibility criteria:

1. Competence/ Municipals plans
2. Competence/ Navigation
3. Competence/ Nature Conservation
4. Competence/ Forestry
5. Competence/ Civil society organizations (NGOs)

Project partners provided a short list with national level SHs, it was discussed about the need to have a more holistic, transparency and wide approach in terms of SH identification and create SH lists that cover all groups of SHs that are affected or that can influence the development and implementation of the ITRBMP.

3.4.3. Stakeholder involvement methodology in Serbia

Communication and dissemination information with SHs in Serbia, coordinated by NGO World and Danube (WWF HU subcontractor), verified by PP IPA 1, PP IPA 2 and ERDF PP9 will be going on through:

1. Meetings/Workshops
2. Active listening
3. Questionnaires
4. Training Info Session
5. Email list
6. Personal interviews
7. Interactive web page: (<http://groupspaces.com/jointisza-sh-sr/>)

3.4.4. III. National level follow-up meeting in Serbia

This meeting was organized through SKYPE (11.05.2018), among partners and the NGO World and Danube (3 participants). Some of the general conclusions are:

- reaching consensus within government constitutes a first layer in SH consultation: coordination between government agencies in policy development can be a challenge;
- consider setting up a body specifically to bring together certain SHs;
- create a platform where external and governmental SHs can interact. External SHs and government departments jointly participate in a SHs group.

3.5. Follow-up meetings in Slovakia

The follow-up and SH meetings were coordinated by GWP CEE.

3.5.1. I. National level follow-up meeting in Slovakia

The first internal Slovak partners follow-up meeting was held on 06.09.2017 in the office of GWP CEE, Bratislava, Slovakia. During this first meeting, the national roadmap was updated, as well as the SH list and prioritization. The Slovak partners have also agreed on the methodology how to approach all relevant SHs. The partners discussed who would be the best to approach which SHs, based on working relationships and previous experience with them. Participants agreed on SH involvement methodology for Slovakia (see 3.5.2.).

3.5.2. Stakeholder involvement methodology in Slovakia

- GWP CEE will approach all SHs with a general email, informing them about the project, the follow-up process and inviting them to be involved;
- the first stage of involvement was set to be the completing of the online questionnaire prepared and published by REC;
- Slovak project partners identified all possible events, where they could present the JOINTISZA project and talk to SHs face-to-face encouraging them to actively participate in the follow-up process.

3.5.3. II. National level follow-up meeting in Slovakia

The second internal Slovak partner's follow-up meeting was held on 13.02.2018 in the office of GWP CEE, Bratislava, Slovakia. During this second meeting, the following main points were discussed:

- JOINTISZA brochure in Slovak language;
- follow-up process in other countries;
- online questionnaire and its results from Slovakia;
- preparation of a SH workshop (April 2018);
- role assignment, timetable, next steps.

The partners shared the most updated information they had on the current developments within the project. They discussed the questionnaire results in Slovakia and commented on the collected answers. The focus of the meeting was though on the upcoming national consultation workshop, which was scheduled to be held on 10.04.2018 in Kosice, Slovakia (in the Tisza River Basin).

After the consultation workshop in Kosice GWP CEE sent the received comments and their report to WWF HU.

3.6. Follow-up meetings in Ukraine

The follow-up and SH meetings were coordinated by Olga Denyschuk (WWF HU subcontractor).

3.6.1. I. National level follow-up meeting in Ukraine

The meeting was held in Uzhgorod, Ukraine on the 05.10.2017 with 5 participants (a communication expert, a coordinator and 3 project partners).

Main points of the discussion were the following:

- national roadmap for the project activities;
- draft of the List of the SHs prepared by the national coordinator;
- communication strategy;
- to conduct three workshops on the river basin bases: workshop in Uzhgorod (the Uzh River basin), workshop in Mukachevo (the Latorytsya River Basin), workshop in Tyachiv (Upper Tisza Basin) and a final workshop on the oblast level to be held in Uzhgorod;
- to make a questionnaire for the participants of the workshops for collecting the comments and feedback.

3.6.2. Stakeholder involvement methodology in Ukraine

It was decided that the SHs should be involved through: (1) workshops, (2) questionnaire (on-line and hard copy distributed during the workshops). On-line questionnaire was advertised through media and social media.

After the first follow-up meeting and on-line discussion we have finalized the list of the SHs involves considering the following:

- governmental bodies planned to be involved in ITRMP development and implementation;
- main business organizations, water users;
- NGOs dealing with the water issues.

Participants of the seminars were invited to fill the questionnaire as well. On-line questionnaire was widely communicated through mass media. SHs were divided by the territories of the rivers basins:

- the Uzh River;
- the Latorytsya River;
- the Tisza (upper part) River.

3.6.3. Further national level follow-up meeting in Ukraine

JOINTISZA project partners from Ukraine participated at the SH meetings and also held presentations about expert issues. They followed the process from a first hand perspective. The final conclusions and report was discussed personally and electronically with the subcontracted expert.

3.7. Summary of the follow-up meetings and stakeholder involvement methodology at a basin level

3.7.1. Summary of the follow-up meetings at a basin level

Altogether the number of follow-up meetings was higher than the originally planned 10 (2 in each country). In some cases partners required more time and possibilities to develop their own national SH involvement strategies, so they organized more technical and evaluation meetings. On the other hand, many of the project partners were taking part on SH meetings too – mostly to present water management expert topics - or about the role of the 1st ITRBMP and the JOINTISZA project itself.

| | Follow-up meetings | |
|----------|--------------------|--------------|
| | Number of meetings | Participants |
| Hungary | 2 | 13 |
| Romania | 2+2 | 47 |
| Serbia | 2+1 | 9 |
| Slovakia | 2 | 11 |
| Ukraine | 1+(1) | 5 |

Table 1. Summary of the follow-up meetings in the 5 Tisza countries

The meetings served as platforms in order to:

- decide on National Roadmaps, tasks, responsibilities, timeline;
- list and prioritize SHs;
- agree on SH involvement methodology based on needs and national specifications (see 3.7.2)
- draw conclusions on the SH involvement and summarize the lessons learnt;
- define possible next steps within the project Activity 6.5/4.

3.7.2. Summary of the stakeholder involvement methodology at a basin level

Most of the national working groups of partners and coordinators have chosen more than 1 method (an average of 2.4/country, see Table 2). In general 4 methods were used: group meetings for SHs (once together with a training-info session), face-to-face meetings (interviews), online questionnaires and mass emails.

| SH involvement methods used | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Hungary | SH group meetings, face-to-face meetings, mass email |
| Romania | Online questionnaire |
| Serbia | SH group meetings +training-info session, face-to-face meetings (online questionnaire) |
| Slovakia | SH group meeting, face-to-face meetings, online questionnaire |
| Ukraine | SH group meetings, online questionnaire |

Table 2: Summary of the SH involvement methodologies in the 5 Tisza countries

The development of the methodology was mostly based of former experiences of the partners and/or national coordinators, however it was a dynamic process, where actual new information could alter some directions. F.e. in Hungary, during a face-to-face first meeting the National Chamber of Agriculture requested a much more detailed local workshop with sectoral presentations and widened scope of participants from the agricultural sector. Another example: in Serbia it became clear during the first steps that SHs have very limited information about the river basin management and the 1st ITRBMP, so an additional training information session was organized to them.

However – according to the results of the involvement (see Chapter 5) – there is no golden rule for local SH involvement. It is hard to compare the quality and quantity of SH comments and recommendations, but it is clear, that the mapping of local needs and possibilities is a must prior to the SH involvement.

Chapter 4. Stakeholder meetings, interviews and online questionnaires

4.1. Stakeholder meetings in Hungary

In Hungary, the project team led by WWF HU carried out and managed 8 SH group meetings as well as 3 other individual meetings. In total, 149 representatives of the targeted SHs were reached. The SH meetings started on the 15.11.2017 and lasted until 03.05.2018 (6 months).

The targeted sectors were mostly successfully involved:

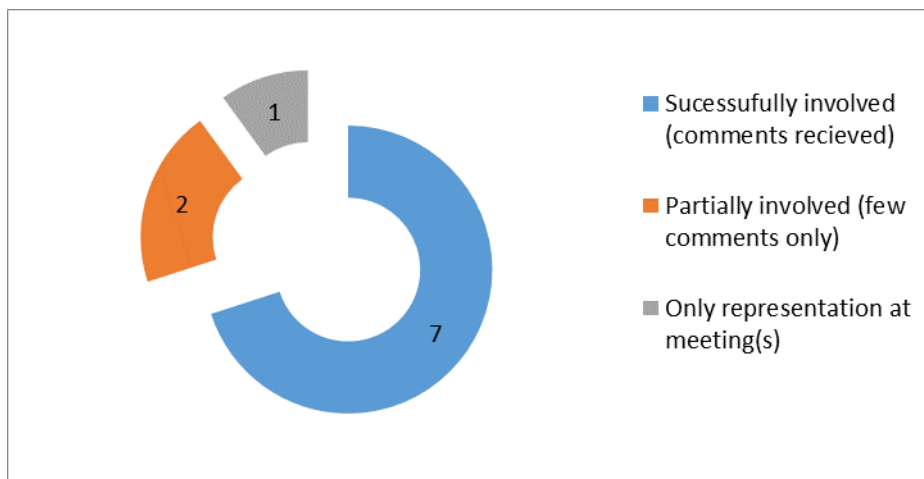


Figure 1. The number of target sectors in Hungary during national-level SH involvement

During our SH meetings SHs were mostly encouraged to summarize their views and send them after a short time to WWF HU in a written form, possibly in short, compact bullet points, indicating the connections to the 1st ITRBMP. The team recieved detailed comments from 41 organisations/institutions (merged into 19 comments – see 3.2.3 and Chapter 5). Compared to the original SH list (123 SHs – ANNEX_1), this is a rate of 33%. The comments were recieved in Hungarian and translated by to English by an external expert (ANNEX_2).



Picture 4. Stakeholder meeting for the agricultural sector in Hungary, Szolnok, 22.03.2018 (photo: Dávid Bogyó, WWF HU)

In their comments, the SHs targeted basically all of the SWMIs, described in the 1st ITRBMP. The agricultural sector strongly recommended to the planners to have a focus on water quantity issues (mainly the drought, water scarcity and climate change), which is a highly important issue in the lower areas of the Carpathian basin.

4.2. Stakeholder meetings in Romania

In Romania, the project partners and the national coordinator (Invisible Nature) agreed on an online questionnaire as SH involvement method. The online questionnaire was designed in a way that it contributes to the following objectives:

- Inform the SHs about the project, the ITRBMP, SWMIs and the future updated Management Plan;
- Offer the SHs the opportunity to comment on the SWMIs through open questions.
- Evaluate the level of involvement in the development of the 1st ITRBMP
- Find out the opinion of the SHs related to floods and the management of the risks associated to flooding.

The invitation to respond to the online questionnaire was sent to 507 SHs and the questionnaire was open on the online platform between 15.02.2018 – 05.03.2018. The questionnaire was sent from an online platform (Survey Monkey) to the SHs from the lists that resulted from the identification phase. The final number of respondents was 45, which represents a good response rate for a questionnaire that contains a high number of open questions.

The questionnaire resulted in over 350 comments (bullet points) from SHs (the most relevant comments can be found in ANNEX_3). 26 SHs responded that they want to be involved further in the process (see ANNEX_4).

The graphs (quantitative data) that resulted from the closed questions can be found in the survey report of the Invisible Nature (ANNEX_5) which is an annex of the Romanian national-level report also. The Romanian national-level report was circulated amongst Romanian project partners.

4.3. Stakeholder meetings in Serbia

In Serbia, the project team coordinated by the NGO World and Danube carried out and managed 2 SH group meetings as well as 4 other individual meetings. In accordance, the national coordinator also attended to an international meeting for the region, where she also presented the issue. In total, 85 representatives of the targeted SHs were reached. The SH meetings started on the 06.11.2017 and lasted until 14.05.2018 (6 months).



Picture 5. National-level SH event in Novi Sad, Serbia 06.11.2017 (photo: NGO World & Danube/D.Stojkovic)

15 detailed comments from 11 organisations were received. The comments were received in Serbian and translated by an external expert to English (ANNEX_6). The list of the Serbian SHs can be found in ANNEX_7. The final report was carefully checked by the Serbian project partners too.

The project team coordinated by the NGO World and Danube carried out online questionnaires too in two steps. For this purpose Survey Monkey online platform was used. The first JOINTISZA online questionnaire sent to Serbian SHs via email: 15 participants. The main purpose of this method was to find out the exact criteria for involvement and consideration of the SHs level of knowledge in Serbia about the 1st ITRBMP.

It is notable (Figure 2) that the largest number of SHs comes from institutions dealing with water management bodies, 30%, there are equal number of the scientific and educational institutions, as well as civil society organizations, 20%, and a slightly smaller number comes from government offices and authorities 10%, which is equal with other SHs.

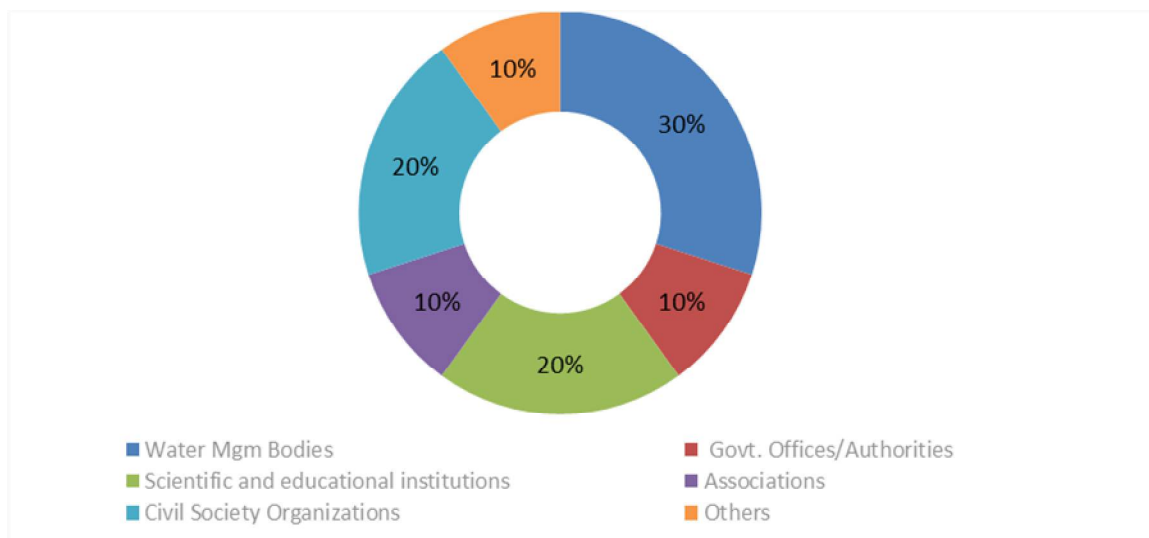


Figure 2. The ratio (%) of different sectors among SHs in Serbia (source: Serbian national-level report/NGO World and Danube)

About half of the SHs felt themselves ready to get involved in commenting on existing measures, as well as giving proposals for new measures, while the same percentage (42,86 %) opted for the role of the observer. Further details are available in the Serbian national-level report.

The second JOINTISZA online questionnaire was sent to 25 participants (Serbian SHs) via email (15.12.2017), answers received from 20 SH's. It is important to note that the second set of questions went to SHs after a workshop and a training session, which together enabled more precise project requirements and better knowledge of the I. ITRBMP.

Further details are available in the Serbian national-level report. These comments are incorporated into the comments of the Serbian SHs (ANNEX_6).

4.4. Stakeholder meetings in Slovakia

In Slovakia, the project team, coordinated by GWP CEE carried out and managed one SH group meeting („The Slovak National Consultation Dialogue on the Integrated Tisza River Basin Management Plan” at the Slovak Water Management Enterprise in Kosice, Slovakia) as well as 4 other individual meetings.

The first stage of involvement was set to be the completing of the online questionnaire prepared and published by REC. This helped to get a better overview about SHs in Slovakia and their views and needs regarding the involvement.

In total, 30 representatives of the targeted SHs were reached. The SH meetings started on the 09.11.2017 and lasted until 10.04.2018 (5 months).



Picture 6. Opening of the workshop “Slovak National Consultation Dialogue on the Integrated Tisza River Basin Management Plan” by Richard Muller, GWP CEE (photo: GWP CEE)

18 detailed comments from 12 organisations were received. The comments were originally in Slovakian and translated by experts of the project staff to English (ANNEX_8). The list of the Slovakian SHs can be found in ANNEX_9. The final report was carefully checked by the Slovakian project partners too.

4.5. Stakeholder meetings in Ukraine

In Ukraine 4 SH group meetings were organized. Altogether, follow up process have gathered 141 participants for these workshops to collect the comments. 96 participants were representing governmental organizations, 31 – business circles and 12 were NGOs.

The SH meetings started on the 27.02.2017 and lasted until 11.05.2018 (4 months).



Picture 7. SH group meeting in Tyachiv, Ukraine (photo: Olga Denyschik)

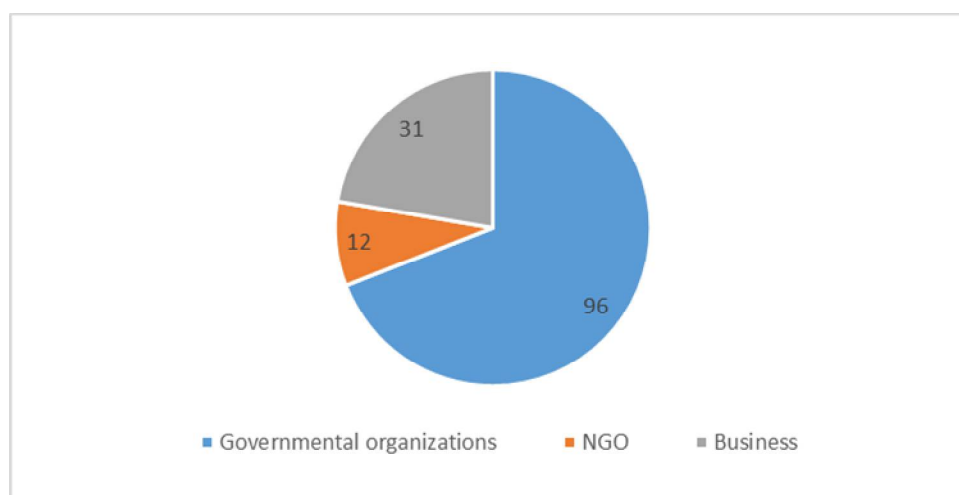


Figure 3. The number of different SHs in Ukraine (source: Ukrainian national-level report/Olga Denyschik)

Additionally an online questionnaire was used with the same questions as asked during the SH group meetings. It was available on-line from a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/events/1334898156610199/>) and was distributed during seminars. 51 questioners were collected, however not all the respondents completed correctly. The lowest level of involvement was shown by the participants from the forestry sector. The results of the questionnaire are included into the final list of Ukrainian comments.

60 – mostly in bullet point - comments were received from 146 representatives of different SHs (see ANNEX_10). The comments were originally in Ukrainian, later edited and translated to English by an external expert. The list of the Ukrainian SHs is available in the ANNEX_11.

For all SHs it was the first experience of being involved into any kind of dialogue with the Tisza Basin Management Unit, so the efforts were appreciated and we have received a lot of positive comments.

4.6. Stakeholder meetings in the 5 Tisza countries - summary

In the 5 Tisza countries the following activities were carried out:

- 15 SH group meetings performed;
- 11 individual interviews were done;
- more than 400 SHs participated on these events basin wide;
- these SHs were educated through dissemination materials and presentations about the relevant significant water management issues of the Tisza river and the 1st ITRBMP;
- more than 500 SHs in two countries were targeted with online questionnaires;
- most of the involved SHs sent or expressed suggestions or comments related to the Tisza river basin management in general, or to the ITRBMP;
- more than 200 active SH's who wants to contribute to the further steps (Activity 6.5.5. – e.g. commenting on draft elements of the new ITRBMP). For a full list of active SHs see ANNEX_12;
- 5 JOINTISZA homepage articles produced and disseminated through the project partner's online tools.

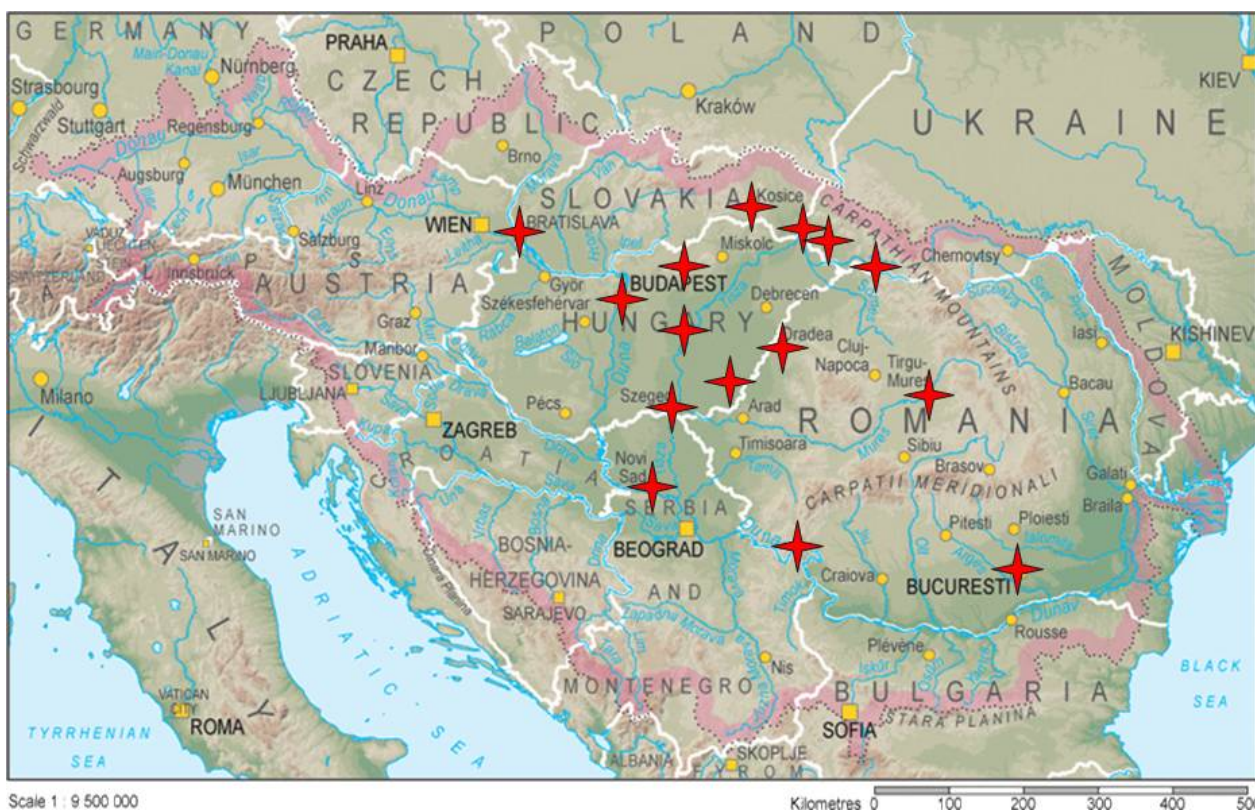


Figure 4. Location of the SH group meetings in the Tisza river basin carried out in the framework of the JOINTISZA project (marked with red cross)

Chapter 5. Comments received from stakeholders

5.1. Stakeholder comments from Hungary

As a result of the SH group meetings and face-to-face interviews detailed comments from 41 organisations/institutions (merged into 19 comments – see 3.2.3) were received. Compared to the original SH list (123 SHs – ANNEX_1), this is a rate of 33%. The comments were received in Hungarian and translated by an expert to English (ANNEX_2).

In their comments, the SHs targeted basically all of the current SWMIs, described in the 1st ITRBMP. Most of the SHs highlighted the importance of water quantity issues (floods, inland water, drought, water scarcity and climate change). The agricultural sector strongly recommended to the planners to have a focus on these issues which is a highly important issue in the lower areas of the Carpathian basin. Many SHs highlighted the importance of environmental issues, nature conservation and alterations of river morphology also. The harmonization with national plans and legislations was also regularly mentioned. Most of the SHs had a limited knowledge about the Plan, however, they strongly expressed their will in order to participate in the further SH involvement of the project, as well as the follow-up of the implementation of the 2nd ITRBMP.

5.2. Stakeholder comments from Romania

The questionnaire resulted in over 350 comments/bullet points from 32 SHs (the most relevant comments can be found in ANNEX_3 – edited into 32 detailed comments. 26 SHs responded that they want to be involved further in the process (see ANNEX_4).

Some key results from SH consultation:

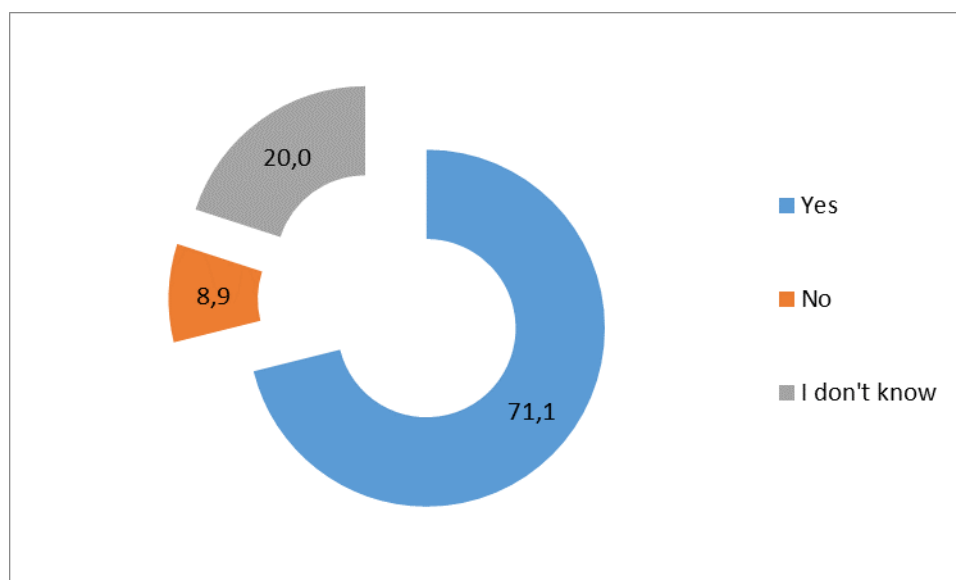


Figure 5. Ratio (%) of SH views on the question “Has your organization contributed to the implementation of the measures of the 1st ITRBMP?” (source: Romanian National level follow-up report/Invisible Nature)

The results from the survey show a low involvement of SHs in the development of the 1st ITRBMP: more than half of the respondents in the survey (57.8%) answered that their organization did not participate in the

consultations for the Plan and 71.1% responded that their organization did not contribute to the implementation of the measures from the 1st ITRMBP.

Based on the comments on the SWMIs made by the SHs in the survey, an analysis of the most recurrent issues/topics for each SWMI was carried out and included in the National-level follow-up report also.

Hydromorphological alterations - Causes and solutions in hydromorphological alterations by the stakeholder meetings inputs.

Causes: river regularization, bank consolidation, micro hydro power plants, gravel extraction activities; longitudinal works (e.g. dikes) and transversal barriers on the river.

Solutions: Green infrastructure; the use of natural materials; ecological restoration/floodplain restoration; fish migrations passages/ ladders; natural based solutions and natural water retention measures; restoration of longitudinal connectivity of the river; banning of constructions in the floodplains.

Causes and solutions in hydromorphological alterations by the Romanian partners opinion:

Causes: River dams with individual and multiple purposes (hydropower, water supply, flood protection), weirs, dykes, river regularization, bank consolidation, small hydro power plants);

Solutions: Fish migration facilities, green infrastructure measures, natural water retention measures; ecological restoration;

Organic Pollution - Causes and solutions in organic pollution by the stakeholder meetings inputs.

Causes: livestock farms and pig farms that do not apply the regulations of the good agricultural practices; lack of functional water treatment units; lack of sewage systems – by the Romanian partners' opinion this should be removed, it seems to be redundant with the cause "households that are not connected to sewage treatment"; inadequate collection of solid household waste and zootechnical waste – by the Romanian partners' opinion „it should be clarified what type of waste refers to, may be organic fertilizer (manure)”. Moreover the partners cannot find in the answer of the stakeholders the reference to the zootechnical waste at the question „*In what situations have you encountered organic pollution?*”; households that are not connected to sewage treatment plants or have no septic tank.”

Solutions: create zonings such as buffer zones/riparian vegetation and specific measures (the obligation to not cultivate these areas, planting them) so that the waters can be treated naturally as far as possible; Infrastructure and connecting the population to the sewerage network and to the water treatment units; constructing or upgrading the water treatment units; very rigorous control of establishing new animal farms.

Organic Pollution - By the Romanian partners' feedback, these corrections are necessary in the stakeholders' opinion in the organic pollution's causes and solutions:

Causes: livestock farms and pig farms that do not fully comply with the legislation / regulations and with the Code of good agricultural practices; bad function of the industrial waste water treatment units; ~~lack of sewage systems~~; inadequate collection and storage of solid household waste and zootechnical waste - To clarify what type of waste refers to, may be organic fertilizer (manure)”. Moreover we cannot find in the answer of the stakeholders the reference to the zootechnical waste at the question „*In what situations have you encountered organic pollution?*”; ; pollution diffuse from households that are not connected to sewage treatment plants or have no individual adequate systems (septic tank).

Solutions: create protective zonings such as buffer zones/riparian vegetation and applying specific measures (the obligation to not cultivate these areas, ecological agriculture) so that the pollutants can be treated

naturally as far as possible; connecting the population to the sewerage network and to the waste water treatment plants; constructing or extension of the sewage network, constructing or upgrading the waste water treatment plants; applying BAT technologies for reduction of organic pollution from industrial units and large farms; rigorous control of establishing new animal farms.

Nutrient Pollution - Causes and solutions in nutrient pollution by the stakeholder meetings inputs.

Causes: intensive/conventional agriculture; lack of fertilizers' management in agriculture; the cultivation of land without taking into consideration a strip for maintaining a riparian vegetation; washing of the hill slopes on which chemical fertilizers were applied on the agricultural land; the existence of arable land in the floodplains – by the Romanian partners' opinion in Romania the land cultivation in the floodplain is not a usual practices. Moreover, in the Code of good agriculture practice it is not allowed to apply fertilizers in the raining periods and on flooded areas; application of manure generated by pig breeding farms as an organic fertilizer on agricultural land (arable, pasture).

Solutions: Rigorous control of the use of nutrients, amendments and pesticides in conventional farming – by the Romanian partners' opinion it is not the case because the pesticides are not related to the nutrient pollution, they are associated with priority substances pollution; promotion of ecological agriculture; setting clear conditions for farms according to the BAT provisions.; Compliance with the provisions of the regulatory documents issued by the (water, environment) authorities and of the annual fertilization plans created by OSPAs; Prohibiting arable land in floodplain areas – by the Romanian partners' opinion according to the Water Law there are some specific conditions for agriculture in the protected zones; verifying the quality of the treated water entering into rivers in case of commercial companies; maintaining the riparian vegetation.

Nutrient Pollution - By the Romanian partners' feedback, these corrections are necessary in the stakeholders' opinion in the nutrient pollution's causes and solutions:

Causes: intensive/conventional agriculture practices; deficiencies on fertilizers' management in agriculture; in some cases, the buffer zones are not completely taken into consideration by the farmers; pollution from runoff in the case of applied fertilizers on slopes and the incorporation in the soil was not made immediately; ~~the existence of arable land in the floodplains~~; improper manure management at the breeding farms related to the storage and application of manure on agricultural land (arable, pasture, etc.); diffuse pollution from households without collection systems, nutrient pollution from urban (mainly agglomerations with more than 10.000 population equivalents) and industrial waste water treatment plants.

Solutions: Rigorous control of the use of fertilizers ~~amendments and pesticides~~ in the conventional farming; promotion of ecological agriculture; setting clear conditions for breeding farms according to the BAT provisions; compliance with the provisions of the regulatory documents issued by the water and environment authorities and Action Programme of the Code of good agriculture practices (i.e. the annual fertilization plans); arising awareness of farmers about condition for land cultivation in floodplain areas and preventive actions; construction and extension of infrastructure for waste water collection and treatment, monitoring and control of the treated effluents discharged into water courses from the urban and industrial waste water treatment plants; maintaining the buffer zones.

Pollution by dangerous substances - Causes and solutions in pollution by dangerous substances by the stakeholder meetings inputs.

Causes: tailing dumps; closed/abandoned mines; accidental hydrocarbons pollution on watercourses

Solutions: projects of ecological restoration and treatment of mining wastewater; appropriate closing of the mining galleries; greening the tailings dumps and tailings ponds; installation of observation points / water sampling.

Pollution by dangerous substances - By the Romanian partners' feedback, these corrections are necessary in the pollution by dangerous substance's causes and solutions:

Causes: mainly caused by historical mining activity: tailing dumps; closed/abandoned mines; accidental pollution ; diffuse pollution

Solutions: projects of ecological restoration and treatment of mining wastewater; appropriate closing of the mining galleries; greening the tailings dumps and tailings ponds; stabilization/remediation of the tailings dumps; rehabilitation and isolation of mining sites, installation of monitoring points; applying of the BAT, upgrading the mining wastewater treatment plants, establishing some specific conditions in the permits; collecting and treating mine water; control of the industrial wastewater treatment efficiency; the greening of the mining sites after demolition; developing plans to prevent and combat accidental pollution by water users can produce this kind of pollution; improving control, monitoring and regulatory activities for water users discharging wastewater into the sewerage network and / or directly into urban wastewater treatment plants.

Flood risks - Causes and solutions in flood risk by the stakeholder meetings inputs.

The factors SHs believe that contribute the most to flooding risks in the Tisza River Basin are climate change, deforestation in the river basin and reduction of floodplains. The top 3 solutions chosen by SHs were:

- increasing, at water basin level, the natural capacity of water retention (72.1% of respondents agree to a greater extent);
- information actions regarding areas with significant flood risks and the possibilities for adaptation to these risks (65.1% of respondents agree to a greater extent);
- early warning of floods so that the affected ones have time shelter (69.8% of respondents agree to a greater extent).

Flood risks - By the Romanian partners' feedback, these corrections are necessary in the flood risk's solutions:

The factors SHs believe that contribute the most to flooding risks in the Tisza River Basin are climate change, deforestation in the river basin and reduction of floodplains. The top 3 solutions chosen by SHs were:

- increasing, at water basin level, the natural capacity of water retention (72.1% of respondents agree to a greater extent);
- information actions regarding areas with significant flood risks and the possibilities for adaptation to these risks (65.1% of respondents agree to a greater extent);
- early warning of floods so that the affected ones have time shelter (69.8% of respondents agree to a greater extent).

5.3. Stakeholder comments from Serbia

15 detailed comments from 11 organisations were received. The comments were received in Serbian and translated by an expert to English. These comments were edited and merged with the comments from other countries (ANNEX_6). In their comments the Serbian SHs basically all of the current SWMIs, described in the 1st ITRBMP. The most significant chapters for the wider group of SHs are:

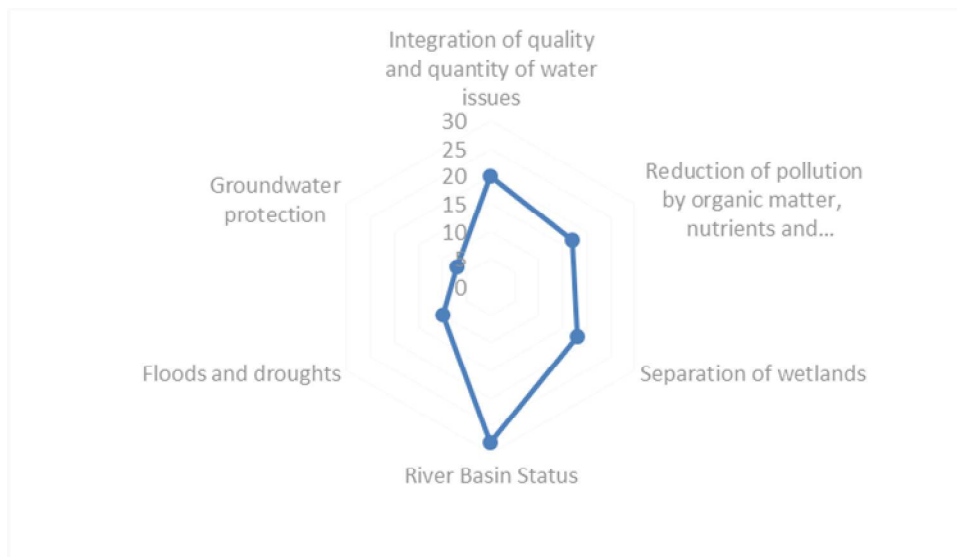


Figure 6. The most significant chapters of the 1st ITRBMP for SHs (source: Serbian national-level report/NGO World and Danube)

In order to gain the trust of the SHs and their participation or collaboration, things have to be made different from the past and organizations have to be open to innovation. The first and greatest difficulty is little or no knowledge of strategic documents having in mind the 1st Integrated Tisza River Management Plan. Therefore a stronger communication must be adapted in the future, with the define channels of communication. Nevertheless, with all this in mind, the strongest impression is certainly the SH's willingness to engage in the improvement of the general status of the Tisza River Basin, as well as the requirement to be recognized as partners in a joint venture. Somehow it would be great to encourage SHs from different sectors to identify the role of their sector in the implementation of measures of the ITRBMP.

By the Serbian partners' feedback there were very detailed discussions with the stakeholders where all of their comments were answered. The stakeholders communicated many expectations and recommendations, but all of them can't be delivered and solved by the water management authorities/bodies. It is suggested that the stakeholders are also asked how they see their role in contributing to the implementation of the recommendations.

5.4. Stakeholder comments from Slovakia

In Slovakia, in total 18 detailed comments from 12 organisations were received. The comments were received in Slovakian and translated by experts of the project staff to English – these were edited into bullet points and merged with the comments from other countries (ANNEX_8). The list of the Slovakian SHs can be found in ANNEX_9.

The most important issues targeted by the SHs were as it follows:

- JPoMs:

more concrete measures and their impact, including agriculture and forestry
identify concrete measures to address drought;

- NATURA 2000 and lateral connectivity;
- impact of aquaculture on the Tisza river-basin;
- land use planning and land use in inundated areas;
- flows (e-flows) and modelling;
- strengthening SH participation;
- suggestions for preparing an updated plan – mainly water governance issues related to the ITRBMP.

Feedback of Slovakian project partners to the stakeholders' comments is in the annex 13, on the Slovakian sheet.

5.5. Stakeholder comments from Ukraine

Altogether 60 comments were received from 146 representatives of different SHs. The comments were received in Ukrainian and were translated and edited by an external expert to English. These were edited into even more compact bullet points (ANNEX_10) and merged with the comments from other countries (ANNEX_12).

The Ukrainian SHs basically all of the current SWMIs, described in the 1st ITRBMP. However, according to the comments and the questionnaire, the highest importance was given to flood and drought (e.g. water quantity) issues.

Among the key questions was an issue of receiving funding support from the EU for the ITRMP implementation due to the failure to ensure governmental funding for the previous plan.

Feedback of Ukrainian project partners to the stakeholders' comments is in the annex 13, on the Ukrainian sheet.

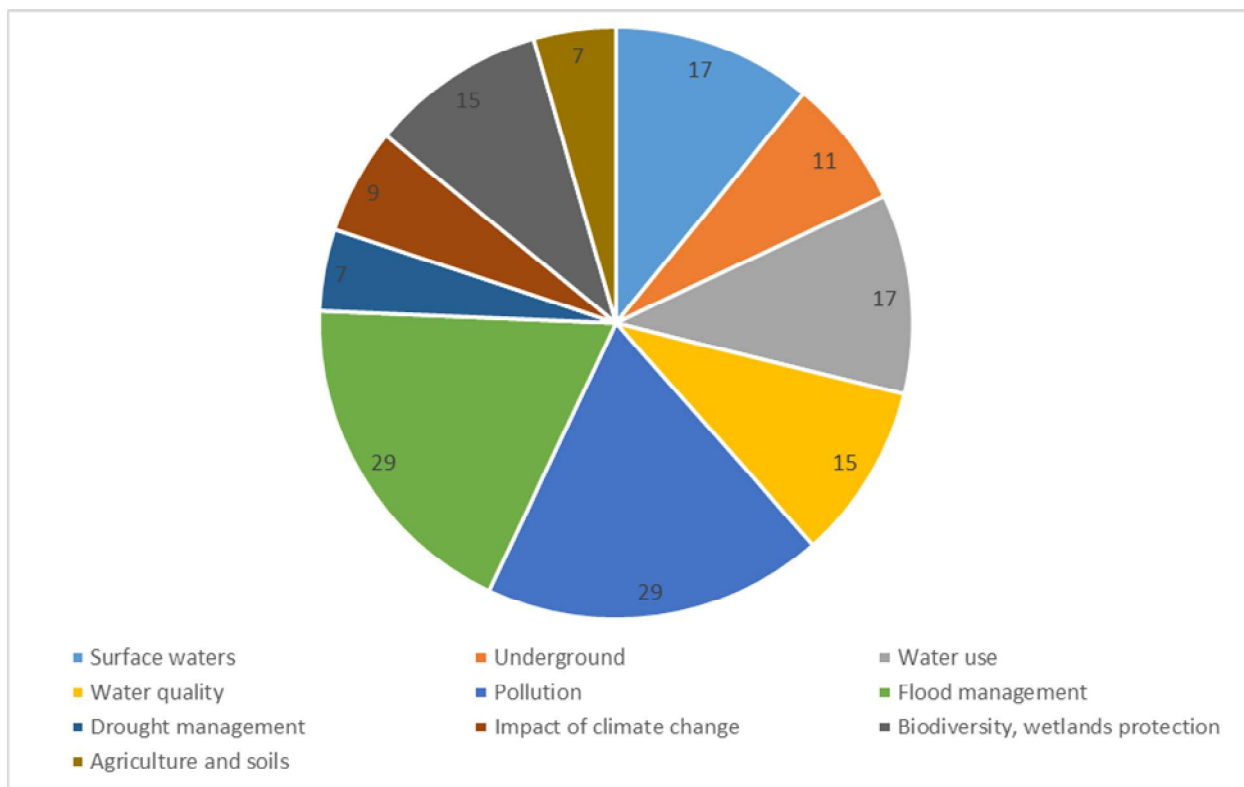


Figure 7. Important water management issues of the Tisza Basin in Ukraine, based on the SHs views. Numbers refer to the number of respondent SHs. SHs were asked to choose issues up to 3. (source: Olga Denyschuk)

5.6. Stakeholder comments from the 5 Tisza countries - summary

According to the nature of the methodology written in the project proposal (the national working groups can choose different SH involvement methodologies according to their vision) it is difficult to draw basin-wide conclusions according to the summarized SH comments after this first SH involvement step. It is clear that they cover a wide range of complex SWMIs, possible measures and other ideas.

The number of the comments is also a difficult issue: some of those are detailed, complex answers, while others are only bullet points. In the upcoming integration phase a more uniform shape will be given to these SH points (see Chapter 6).

Altogether 180 comments were received (detailed/bullet points together) – see ANNEX_13. These comments will give a quite good overview about the basic views, interests and knowledge of SHs of the 5 Tisza countries to incorporate them into the draft documents. Those draft documents will be circulated among the SHs again (Activity 6.5/4) in order to give them the opportunity to see the development of the 2nd ITRBMP.

The SH comments in almost all countries covered all of the current SWMIs, described in the 1st ITRBMP, but raised quite less new ones.

Most of the SHs highlighted the importance of further cooperation among sectors at national level and among water governance in an international relation.

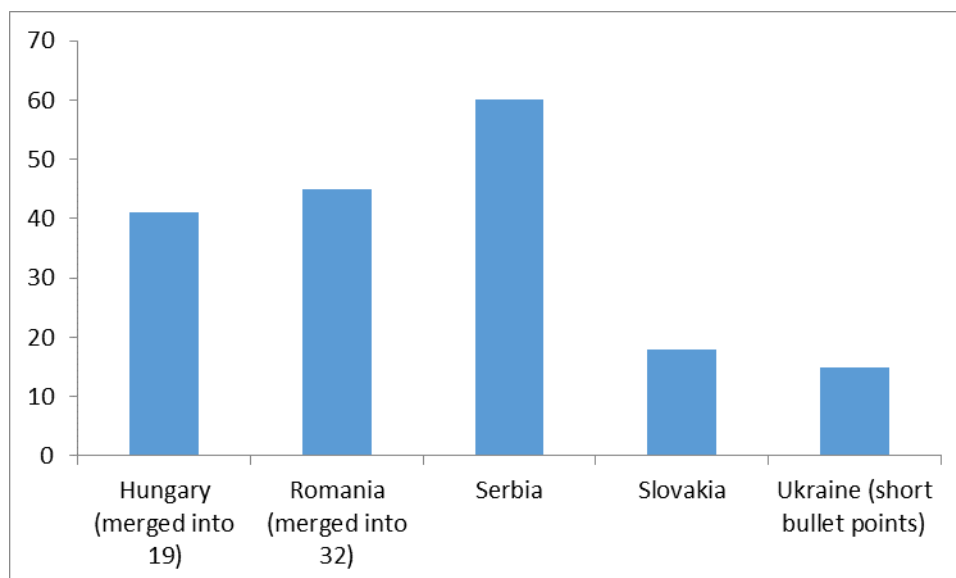


Figure 8. Number of SH comments per country

For next steps of processing and evaluation of the comments and further recommendations see Chapter 6.

Chapter 6. Lessons learned

The most important lessons learned during the national-level SH involvement:

- during the consultations it became clear, that the 1st ITRBMP is generally not known by the SHs. One reason for that is the **language barrier (the full version is only available in English)** and other might be the relative **novelty of the Plan** (known only since 2010-2011) compared to other Plans and Directives;
- **some sectors were contacted and involved, however, they sent no significant comments yet:** industry and chambers in Hungary, agriculture, aquaculture, industry in Slovakia, forestry in Ukraine, etc.;
- **it is easier to reach governmental institutions, then private ones;**
- **personal or sectoral connections are highly important:** without these it is difficult to effectively reach some SHs;
- **some SHs are already overloaded** with different consultations from different projects, while others face this opportunity for the very first time (f.e. Ukraine);
- **the „quality” of the comments is mixed**, many of those focus on local issues or have not searched for exact connections with the existing ITRBMP. The reason of this must be the lack of knowledge and the availability of the plan and other supporting documents, plus the language barrier mentioned above;

- many SHs proposed to have more detailed or exact comments after they would receive new drafts of the plan or its elements. On the other hand it took time to make them understood that during the preparation phase, gathering their inputs is useful and their inputs will be considered during the compilation of the 1st draft of the 2nd ITRMP;
- there is a need to **focus on the SHs role too in the implementation of the Plan** in the future („not only blaming water sector or others”) – however it is very important to build a partnerships.

Chapter 7. Next steps for the integration into the JPoMs of the draft ITRBMP, recommendations

7.1. Next steps

- SH lists and experiences are handed over to the REC (ERDF PP6) in order to support the Activity 6.5.4 (from the project proposal: „Building on these (*i.e. on the national-level SH involvement*), basin-wide consultations will be done: i) electronic/written consultation on the significant water management issues (SWMIs) (outcomes of WP3 and WP4) and ii) basin-wide consultation event on the draft ITRBMP/JPoMs. SHs will be informed on the outcomes of their involvement through emails and summary reports.”) – **foreseen date: June-July 2018;**
- the first internal workshop for the compilation of the Joint Programme of Measures will be organized in September 2018, while the first internal draft of the ITRBMP is foreseen to be compiled around August 2018. In advance, the WP6 leader together with WWF HU will prepare the collected SH comments for evaluation by the project partners and WP leaders on this events. This means a pre-evaluation and editing in order to make this work more effective. Comments dealing with only local (national) questions or having unclear or zero connection to the Tisza river basin will be sorted. Long detailed comments dealing with many issues will be organized into bullet point style making the evaluation easier (in the case of Hungary). In the case of Romania the evaluation might be done using the relevant analysis of the National level follow-up report (see 5.2) and the ANNEX_5. – **foreseen date: July-August 2018;**
- at the meetings above (the first internal workshop for the compilation of the Joint Programme of Measures and the first internal draft of the ITRBMP) project partners and WP leaders will evaluate the edited comments with the WP6 leader. The responses to the SH comments will be incorporated to the final SH comment lists (ANNEX_13 – running document until this step). The SH comments that were gathered in the above mentioned documents are thoroughly read by the planners and these are considered during the preparation of the 1st draft of the 2nd ITRBMP or it is referred clearly why the comments are not relevant for the ITRBMP. – **foreseen date: August-October 2018;**
- it is highly important to report back to the SHs, in order to keep them interested. This could be done through mass emails, however its proposed to combine it (WWF HU and REC) with the Activity 6.5.4. (*i*) *electronic/written consultation on the significant water management issues*)– **foreseen date: July-August 2018;**

- as a special request WWF HU and REC will produce a „Certificate” to all Ukranian SHs to thank their efforts. Thanks to this documents they will be able to show their committment to EU level integration in terms of river basin management– **foreseen date: June-July.2018;**

7.2. Further recommendations

- it is recommend to the project partners (mainly REC) to use the merged list of the active SHs (ANNEX_12) during the Activity 6.5/4, however also add the SHs from those sectors who were indicated as still missing (see Chapter 5) and incorporate their own results from the online questionnaire implemented by themselves in 2017;
- during the remaining project period and more likely after the acceptance of the 2nd ITRBMP it is highly recomended for the project partners and other high level institutes (f.e. ICPDR) to promote the Plan and organize sectoral trainings, meetings and discussions about its implementation.

Chapter 7. List of Annexes

ANNEX_1: Original (full) list of Hungarian SHs
 ANNEX_2: Hungarian SH comments and the list of active SHs
 ANNEX_3: Romanian SH comments
 ANNEX_4: List of active SHs in Romania
 ANNEX_5: Romanian survey reports of the online questionnaire
 ANNEX_6: Serbian SH comments
 ANNEX_7: List of active SHs in Serbia
 ANNEX_8: Slovakian SH comments
 ANNEX_9: List of active SHs in Slovakia
 ANNEX_10: Ukrainian SH comments
 ANNEX_11: List of active SHs in Ukraine
 ANNEX_12: Full (merged) list of the Tisza basin SHs
 ANNEX_13: Full (merged) list of comments by the Tisza basin SHs

Abbreviations

| | |
|----------|--|
| (J)PoM | Joint Programme of Measures |
| AF | Application form |
| BAT | Best Available Techniques |
| ERDF | European Regional Development Fund |
| ERDF PP9 | Project Partner funded through European Regional Development Fund |
| EU | European Union |
| GWP CEE | Global Water Partnership Central Eastern Europe |
| IPA | Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance |
| ITRBMP | Integrated Tisza River Basin Management Plan |
| MTWMD | Közép-Tisza-vidéki Vízügyi Igazgatóság (Middle Tisza Water Management Directorate) |
| NARW | National Administration Romanian Waters |
| NGO | Non-governmental Organization |
| OSPA | County Soil Testing Laboratory |
| OVF | Országos Vízügyi Főigazgatóság (General Water Directorate) |
| PIP(S) | Public involvement and participation (strategy) |
| PP IPA | Project Partner funded through Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance |
| PP2, 3 | Project Period 2, 3 |
| QC | Quality control |
| REC | Regional Environmental Center |
| RO | Romania/Romanian |
| SH(I) | SH involvement |
| SVP | Shared Vision Planning |
| WP | Work package |
| WWF HU | World Wildlife Fund for Nature Hungary |

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Partners: General Directorate of Water Management, Hungary | Global Water Partnership Central and Eastern Europe, Slovakia | International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River | Ministry of Water and Forests, Romania | Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Hungary | National Administration "Romanian Waters", Romania | National Institute of Hydrology and Water Management, Romania | Public Water Management Company "Vode Vojvodine", Serbia | Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe, Hungary | The Jaroslav Černi Institute for the Development of Water Resources, Serbia | Water Research Institute, Slovakia | World Wide Fund for Nature Hungary

Associated Partners: Interior Ministry, Hungary | Republic of Serbia Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection - Water Directorate | Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention (SCC), Austria | State Agency of Water Resources of Ukraine | Tisza River Basin Water Resources Directorate, Ukraine