

**Local action report
Draft version**

LOCAL ACTION:

Hungarian / Romanian Körös /Crisuri water information system (KOCRIS)

Framework theme:

Risk Management

Cross-cutting perspectives:

Institutional Development and Political Processes.

Application of Science, Technology and Knowledge.

Targeting, Monitoring and implementation Knowledge.

SESSION

5.13 Developing and implementing Water Information Systems- WIS

SYNOPSIS

The main objective of the whole project is to assist the Hungarian and Romanian authorities to implement a sustainable development policy in the Körös/Crisuri transboundary catchment area with development of preliminary river basin management plan as a pilot/working area of the Tisa River sub-basin, according the requirements of 2000/60/EC Water Framework Directive (WFD).

The Hungarian-Romanian shared project area covers about 30 000 km² within the Tisa River sub-basin shared by five countries (SK, HU, RO, CS, UA). The Tisa River sub-basin is part of the 2nd largest river basin district in Europe: the Danube River Basin District (DRBD) covering more than 801.000 km². In whole or partly 18 States belongs to the DRBD, from 13 have more than 2000 km² area belonging to the district. The ongoing project for the shared pilot catchment has begun in summer of 2005 and will be finished in the middle of 2007. The total project duration is 3 years. The main basic legal background is the 2000/60/EC Water Framework Directive (WFD), which requires ensuring the good status of the European waters by 2015. The additional international legal frame on Danube River Basin District level is the Danube River Protection Convention (DRPC, 1994. Sofia). Bilateral Agreement on Waters also exists between Hungary and Romania, which was renewing according the WFD and came into force in 17 May 2004.

For good transboundary water basin governance, the efficient elaboration of necessities management plan and water contingency plan can only rely on the use of comparable data and information coming from the various countries.

Because of that a specific component of the project focus on data management aspects, with an IT group of Hungarian and Romanian experts working with the support of IOWater experts.

After an analysis of the complex legal institutional and technical situation related to data management at regional level and within the countries, a first IT meeting focused on the definition of needs of the users of information, particularly in terms of mapping production necessary for the various component of the project, and preparation of tools accessible on internet (Web site, Web mapping).

The data harmonization activity supposes before all to agree on common data models as well as on common referential and common formats for data exchange. For that, IT group developed a specific procedure taking into consideration the last development of ICPDR related to GIS data management (GIS layers templates, Metadata templates, Upload functionality for the already harmonized layers based on templates). Concretely, once identified the layers of information necessities to answer to the expected maps, a comparative analysis of Hungarian and Romanian available layers was developed and a

process of attributes harmonization based on ICPDR templates was organized. Difficulties occurred concerning the horizontal and vertical topological consistency of some layers because of the lack of already harmonised common state boundary. Using the official datasets this type of the problem can be handled after the multilateral political agreement of responsible authorities.

LESSONS LEARNED

The existence of the international and bilateral legal frame is essential to develop comprehensive and integrated management of data and information within a transboundary catchment area. This legal background ensures the efficiency of developing and maintaining of an information system as a necessary tool for water management not only local even also on international level.

KEY MESSAGES