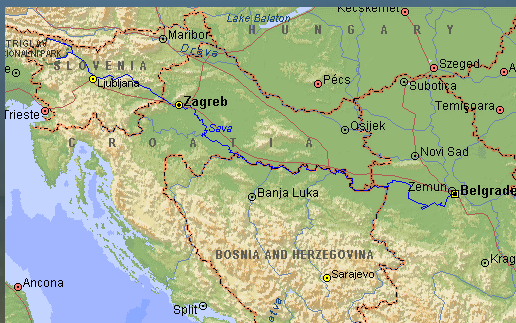


The Sava River – a transboundary river of national and international importance

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Ministarstvo
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of Croatia
Ministry
of Culture



General information

- the Sava river – the longest water course in Croatia
 - total length 945 km
 - Croatian part 510 km
 - watershed 95,719 km²
- dependent on transboundary co-operation
- the whole area rich in natural values:
 - floodplain forests and pastures
 - swamps and oxbows
 - rich in rare and endangered species
 - cultural significance
 - traditional wooden architecture
 - extensive and traditional farming, horses, pigs

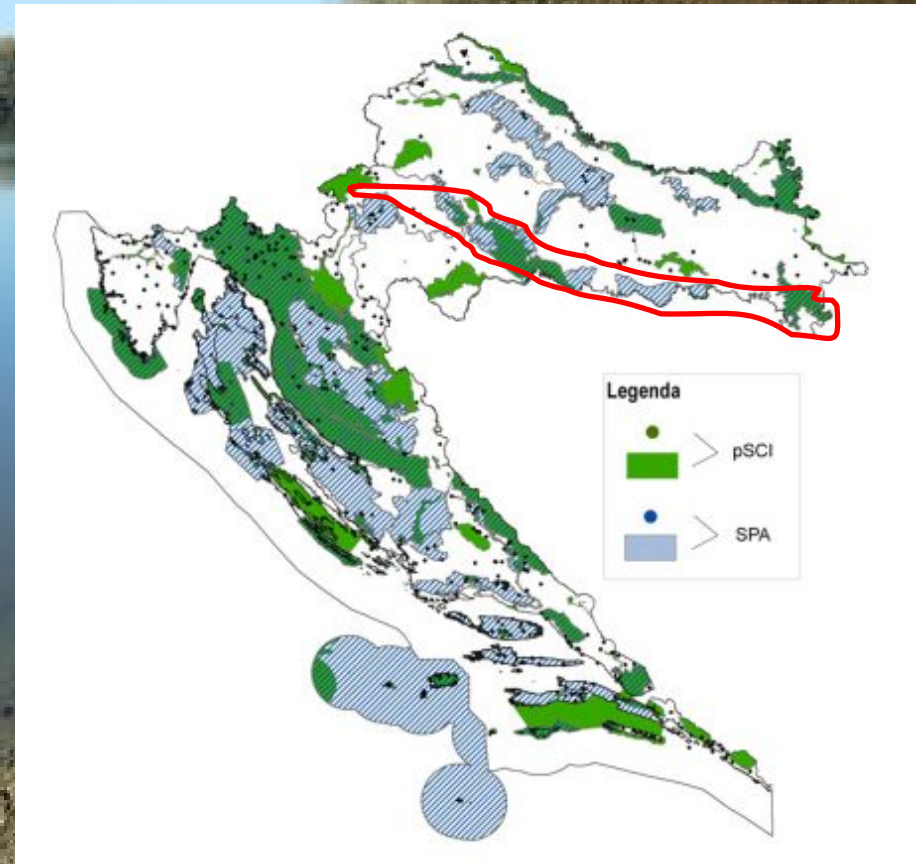


Protection of the area

Central Sava Basin – in the continental biogeographical region

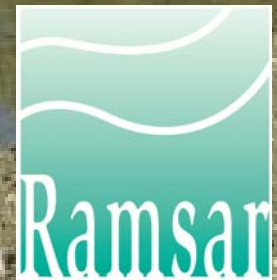
- legal basis of the protection and use of the area:

- Law on Nature Protection
- National Ecological Network
- NATURA 2000
- International – Convention on Wetlands – RAMSAR 1971



PROTECTED AREAS

- Law on nature protection
 - 9 categories of protected areas
- 4 of them represented in the area:
 - Nature Park
 - Special Reserves
 - Forest Parks
 - Protected Landscapes
- 40 protected areas proclaimed
- International Legislation – RAMSAR sites (2)



NATIONAL ECOLOGICAL NETWORK

- Law on Nature Protection, article 58 – the Government proclaims the ecological network – ecologically important areas and ecological corridors – *Regulation on proclamation of the ecological network (OG 109/07)*
- connection with:
 - European legislative – Habitat Directive on conservation of natural habitats and wild fauna and flora
 - Birds Directive on the conservation of wild birds, on the basis of Natura 2000 network

- **National Ecological Network** in Croatia covers more than 1500 areas, 39% of the national territory



- the National ecological network includes sites important for conservation of species and habitat types on the national and international level, including potential NATURA 2000 sites

Legally protected areas:

- nature park including most important areas e.g. special reserves
- some areas proposed in spatial plans
- natural corridors – watercourses, forest corridors, swamp areas – important for migration of species



- Central Sava Basin – 30 areas important for birds and habitats among them:
 - entire watercourse of the Sava River in Croatia is part of National Ecological Network
 - Lonjsko Polje Nature Park
 - Spačva Forest Basin





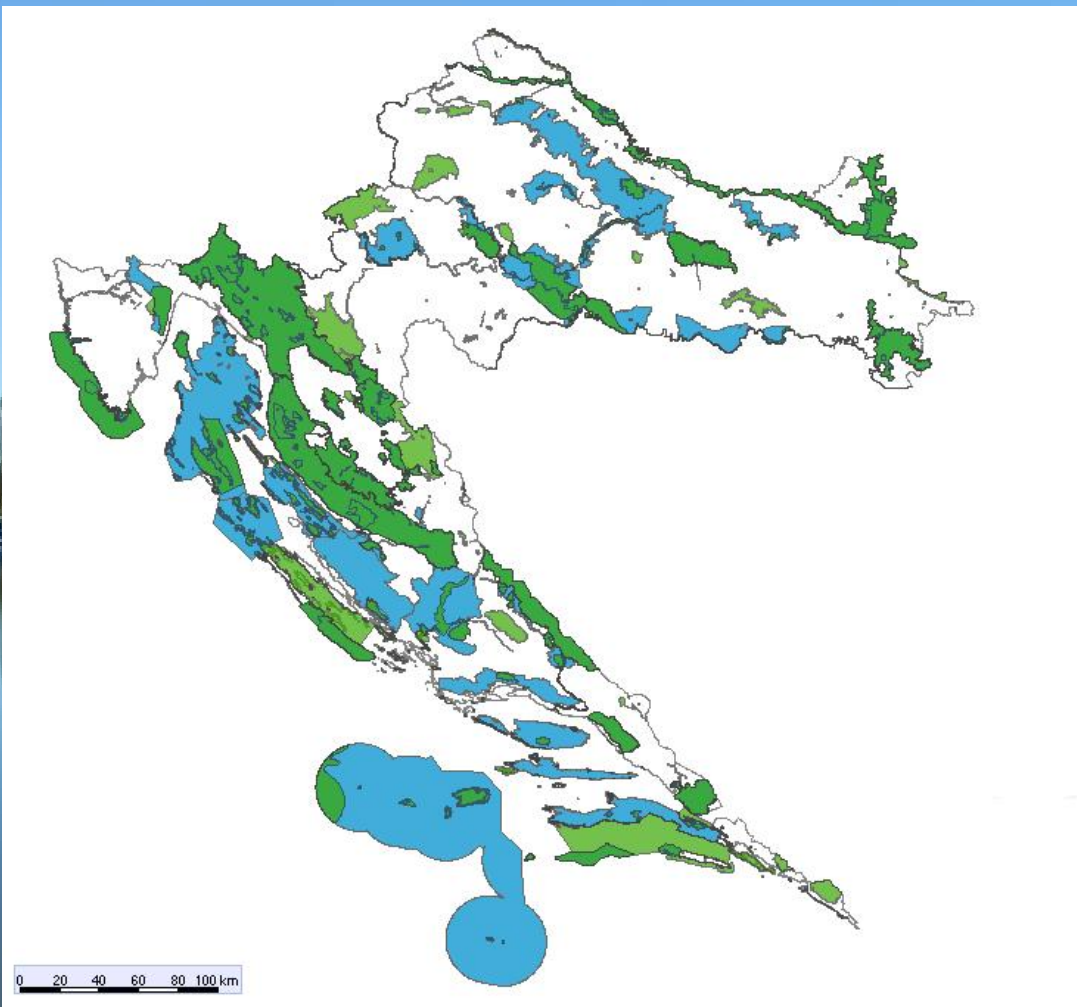
NATURA 2000

Croatia:

- 39 important areas for birds – according to Bird Directive
- 1083 important areas – according to Habitat Directive

Central Sava Basin:

- 29 important areas – 24 pSCI areas
5 SPA areas



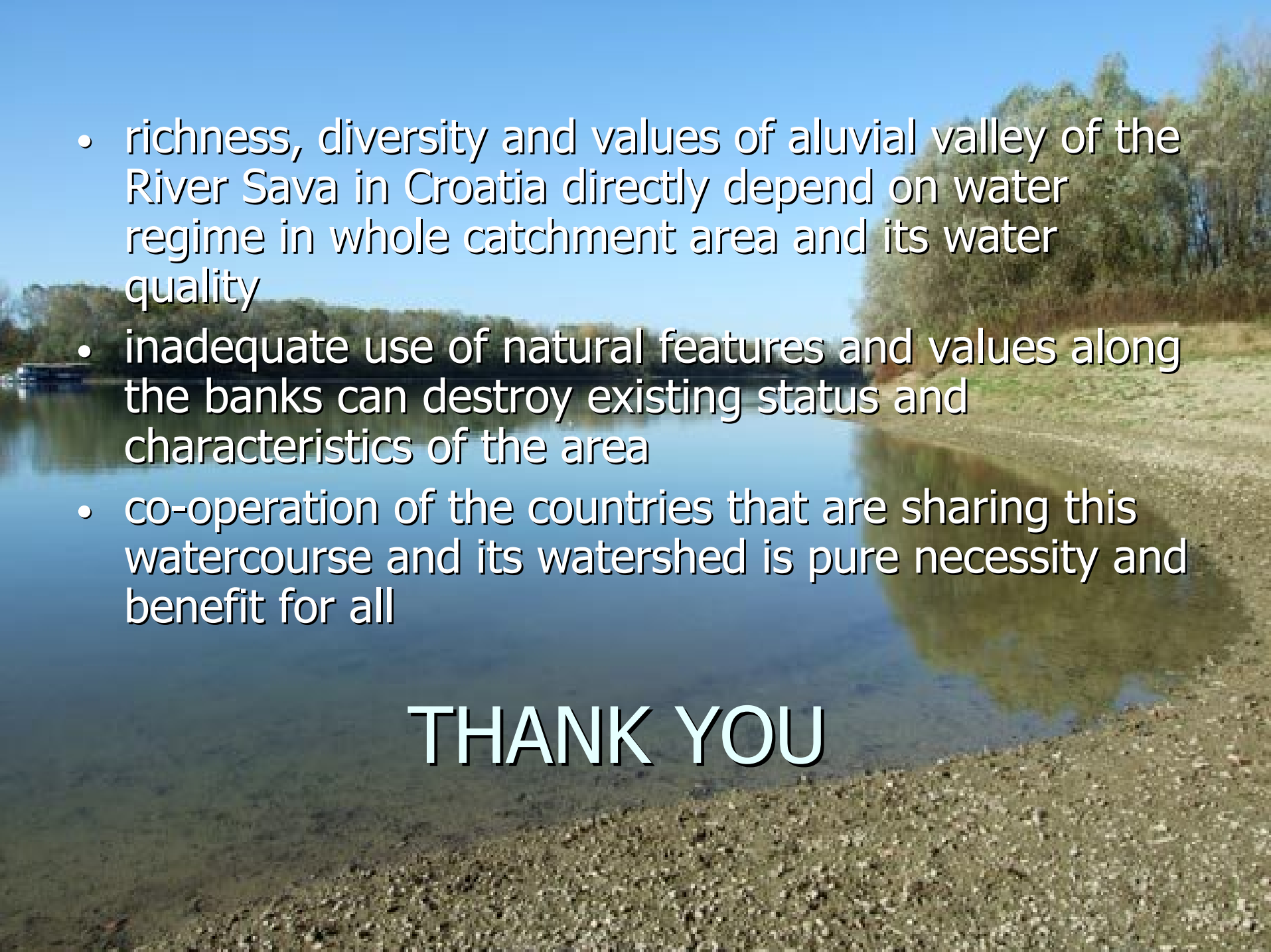
- **NATURA 2000 Database** – maintained by the State Institute for Nature Protection of Croatia



RAMSAR SITES

- within Central Sava Basin – two wetlands of international importance
 - Crna Mlaka fishponds
 - Lonjsko Polje Nature Park



- 
- richness, diversity and values of aluvial valley of the River Sava in Croatia directly depend on water regime in whole catchment area and its water quality
 - inadequate use of natural features and values along the banks can destroy existing status and characteristics of the area
 - co-operation of the countries that are sharing this watercourse and its watershed is pure necessity and benefit for all

THANK YOU