

Harmonising Nature Protection and River Basin Management

Towards a shared vision of the Sava River
Conference
Zagreb, 4 – 5 November 2009

Main goals of integration nature protection - RBM

- ⇒ Open and widened approaches necessary
- ⇒ Transparent communication and tolerance needed
 - ⇒ Joint understanding
- ⇒ Capacity building on both RBM and protection sides
- ⇒ Political will!

**Integrated approaches – respecting all aspects - HAVE to be followed
for successful results**

Who is responsible for nature protection and RBM?

- ⇒ National and regional levels
- ⇒ National role: Guiding and legal implementors
- ⇒ Regional level: Direct and practical implementors
 - ⇒ Information/knowledge exchange?
- ⇒ Increase of efficiency and transparency needed

Crucial: Good organisation and coordination of guiding and implementing role.

Agreed priority setting between levels!

Which sectors need to be involved for harmonisation?

- ⇒ Get all relevant ministries (environment, water management, agriculture, transport), experts and stakeholders together for planning and implementation from beginning
- ⇒ Nature protection needs to „take lead“ and convince the other ministries for their goals and for cooperation

**Crucial: Inter-ministerial working groups for clear recommendations
and commonly agreed solutions**

Best approach to integrate nature protection/RBM & recommendations for improvement

- ⇒ Sound legal backgrounds for transparent implementation
- ⇒ Adequate capacities
- ⇒ Important role of international level as information exchange platform, to ensure transparency and objective views
- ⇒ Sufficient data exchange and shared databases
- ⇒ Combination of top-down and bottom-up (regional level) approaches