



ANNEX C1: Twinning Fiche

Project title: Support to policy planning in water management sector

Beneficiary administration: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management – Republic Water Directorate

Twining Reference: SR 16 IPA EN 01 18

Publication notice reference: Europe Aid/160548/ID/ACT/RS

EU funded project

TWINNING INSTRUMENT

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AP	Autonomous Province
BC	Beneficiary Country
CFCU	Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes
CLC	Corine Land Cover inventory
EC	European Commission
EEC	European Economic Community
EU	European Union
EU WFD	Water Framework Directive of the European Union
EUD	Delegation of the European Union
GIS	Geographic Information System
ICPDR	International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
IPA	Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance
ISP	Indicative Strategy Paper
ISRBC	International Sava River Basin Commission
MAFWM	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management
MEI	Ministry of European Integration
MS	Member State
PSC	Project Steering Committee
PWMC	Public Water Management Company
RBMP	River Basin Management Plan
RS	Republic of Serbia
RTA	Resident Twinning Adviser
SAA	Stabilisation and Association Agreement
STE	Short – term expert
TAIEX	Technical Assistance and Information Exchange instrument
TNA	Training Needs Assessment
WGC	Groundwater Working Group
WWF	World Wildlife Fund
WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant

1. Basic Information

1.1 Programme: Country Action Programme for Serbia for the year 2016/Indirect management with ex-ante control

For British applicants: Please be aware that eligibility criteria must be complied with for the entire duration of the grant. If the United Kingdom withdraws from the EU during the grant period without concluding an agreement with the EU ensuring in particular that British applicants continue to be eligible, you will cease to receive EU funding (while continuing, where possible, to participate) or be required to leave the project on the basis of Article 12.2 of the General Conditions to the grant agreement.

1.2 Twinning Sector: Environment

1.3 EU funded budget: EUR 1.500.000

2. Objectives

2.1 Overall Objective(s):

To support Serbian administration to effectively conduct accession negotiations and successfully manage overall EU integration and pre-accession assistance geared towards EU membership.

2.2 Specific objective:

To strengthen capacities of Republic Water Directorate and Public Water Management Companies *Srbijavode* and *Vode Vojvodine* to implement the principles of the EU WFD in integrated water management, through development of elements of the River Basin Management Plan.

2.3 The elements targeted in strategic documents i.e. National Development Plan/Cooperation agreement/Association Agreement/Sector reform strategy and related Action Plans

The attainment of results proposed under this project will contribute to the fulfilment of multiple priorities defined in the strategic documents.

Council Decision (2008/213/EC) of 18 February 2008 on the principles, priorities and conditions contained in the European Partnership with Serbia, Annex II, Section Sectoral Policies/Environment provides an overview of both key short term and medium term priorities to be accomplished by the Republic of Serbia.

Key short term priorities listed in the annex and referring to the present fiche are as follows:

- Accelerate approximation of legislation and standards to the EU *acquis*;
- Strengthen the administrative capacity of bodies in charge of planning, permits, inspection and monitoring, and also project management, strengthen capacity at local level and ensure coordination between central and local levels.

Medium term priorities foreseen by the same annex are:

- Ensure full implementation and enforcement of legislation approximated to the EU legislation;
- Implement fully the national environmental protection strategy and the water strategy;

- Strengthen further the administrative capacity of environmental institutions at national and local level.

In accordance with the aforementioned, the Project will assist strengthening capacities of Republic Water Directorate and Public Water Management Companies *Srbijavode* and *Vode Vojvodine* in integrated water management, according to the principles of the EU WFD. It will also assist the development of RBMPs for 3 water districts: Danube, Sava and Morava, thus allow further alignment with the EU standards in the area of water management and environmental protection.

Article 1, Section 2 (d) of the **SAA** between the EU and the Republic of Serbia (entered into force in 2013) states that the aim of the Association established is "to support the efforts of Serbia to develop its economic and international cooperation, including through the approximation of its legislation to that of the Community". The joint work under this twinning project will assist further international cooperation, as well as alignment of national regulations with the EU WFD.

The conclusion of the **Progress Report 2016** of the EC under **Section 5.27. Chapter 27: Environment and climate change** states *"Preparatory work on river basin management plans is ongoing. Some progress has been made towards adopting a water management strategy and a water management plan for the Danube river basin. Serbia needs to make significant efforts to further align its legislation with the acquis, to implement it and to strengthen administrative capacity, in particular for enforcement and inter-institutional coordination."*

The **Indicative Strategy Paper (ISP)** for Serbia (2014-2020) adopted on 19/08/2014, in Part I: Introduction, states that one of four specific objectives of the financial assistance under IPA II will be "strengthening the ability of the beneficiaries listed in Annex I to fulfil the obligations stemming from Union membership by supporting progressive alignment with, implementation and adoption of the Union acquis" and that one of the five policy areas that will be addressed by the financial assistance will be reforms in preparation for EU membership and related institution-and capacity-building. In Part IV: EU assistance during the period 2014-2020, under Section 3, Environment and climate action, the ISP says "Serbia has advanced with harmonising its legal framework with the environment acquis in recent years, but further substantial efforts are needed, especially in the areas of waste management, water management and wastewater treatment, nature protection, industrial pollution control and risk management, and air quality." The activities within this project will help further harmonizing of domestic regulations in the area of water management with the relative regulations under the EU water framework directive.

3. Description

3.1 Background and justification:

WFD and RBMPs

River Basin Management Plans represent a requirement of the Water Framework Directive adopted in 2000 and its key planning instrument. The Directive requires member states to strive to achieve at least good status in each water body within their river basin districts. It is an obligation of each member state to produce a plan for each of the river basin districts within its territory.

River Basin Management Plans include an integrated approach to the protection, improvement and sustainable management of the water environment. Every six years a revised river basin management plan is developed.

Among others, river basin management plans should cover following elements: general description of characteristics of river basin district (mapping of location and boundaries of surface water bodies and groundwater bodies), significant pressures and impact of human activity on water status, identification and mapping of protected areas (drinking water areas, areas for economically significant aquatic species, nutrient-sensitive areas (such as those designated for eutrophication or elevated nitrate content in groundwaters), nature protection areas, map of established monitoring networks and results of monitoring programmes carried out, and summary of measures to meet the environmental objectives as well as the measures for applying the principle of costs recovery for water use and summary of economic analysis of water use measures taken to prevent/reduce impacts of accidental pollution incidents; public information and consultation measures including their results and consequences etc.

JURISDICTION

Most of the territory of the Republic of Serbia belongs to the Danube River Basin. All major rivers, except the Morava whose entire course lies within Serbia, either cross or define the state border. Considering the evident and increasing climate change impact to adequate available water resources, the need for sustainable integrated water resources management is increased. In the Republic of Serbia, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management - Republic Water Directorate is the authority responsible for integrated water resources management, water resources management policy, multipurpose water usage, water regime, protection from water, and water protection measures maintenance.

Other ministries, such as Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government, Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure also have their role in integrated water resources management.

The two autonomous provinces, Vojvodina in the north, and Kosovo and Metohija in the south, also have some jurisdiction in water management.

Two operational bodies – Public Water Management Company *Vode Vojvodine* and Public Water Management Company *Srbijavode* are responsible for sustainable water resources management: water resources management, water use, flood protection and water protection. Public Water Management Company *Vode Vojvodine* ensures planned maintenance and the improvement of water regime in the territory of Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, and Public Water Management Company *Srbijavode* for the rest of the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

EU NEGOTIATIONS

The start of Serbia's negotiations to join the EU was formalized by the first Intergovernmental Conference held on 21 January 2014 at the European Council in Brussels. Explanatory and bilateral screening for Chapter 27 – Environment and climate change were held from September to November 2014. Water management is a part of this Chapter, and following the bilateral screening, the Negotiating Group 27 was required to prepare a Post-Screening Document with a detailed description of the relevant Acquis transposition and implementation: the strategic framework for full transposition and implementation of directives, preliminary deadlines for full implementation of the relevant EU legislation, particularly for heavy investment directives, as well as financial sources to fund the implementation, with the aim to demonstrate Serbia's preparedness in the accession process. The Post-Screening Document ***“Transposition and Implementation of Environmental and Climate Change Acquis (Chapter 27): Status and Plans”*** was adopted on September 4, 2015, and submitted to the European Commission. The Screening Report from the European Commission was received in January 2017. With no benchmarks, the opening of Chapter 27 is being expected. Meanwhile, the preparation of negotiation position is on-going.

The transposition of water related directives is planned by the year 2020 with adoption of new Water Law and all relevant by-laws.

In December 2016, the Government of the Republic of Serbia adopted the ***Strategy for Water Management in the Republic of Serbia up to 2034***. It is a comprehensive planning document determining long-term water management policy to be pursued on the national territory, that is, the directions of sustainable action in the areas of water use, water protection, the regulation of water flow and protection against the harmful effects of water. The improvement in the water sector in this timeframe will be carried out in accordance with the social and economic capabilities of the state, and with respect to the introduction of standards, technologies and regulations of the EU in the field of water. Strategic goals defined by the Strategy represent a basis for development of River Basin Management Plan for the Danube River on the territory of the Republic of Serbia, as well as proposal of amendments to the Water Law, financing aspect included.

RBMP FOR THE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA 2021-2027

The representatives of the Republic of Serbia were fully involved in the preparation of River Basin Management Plans for the Danube, Sava and Tisza river basins, as members of the International Commission for the Protection of Danube River and International Commission for the Sava River Basin.

Using this experience, the River Basin Management Plan for the Danube River on the territory of the Republic of Serbia was drafted. The Strategic Environmental Assessment (process by which environmental considerations are required to be fully integrated into the preparation of Plans and Programmes and prior to their final adoption) was done, the public hearing performed, and the related information was sent to the neighbouring countries according to the ESPOO Convention. The adoption of the plan was envisaged by the end of 2016. Due to the long period of adoption of the Strategy and sustainable plan for the production of the new River basin management plan in accordance with WFD requirements, it was decided not to continue with the formal adoption of the Draft River Basin Management Plan for the Danube River on the territory of the Republic of Serbia but to focus on the preparation of the River Basin Management Plan for the territory of the Republic of Serbia 2021-2027 (When the Strategy was adopted, the Amendments to the Water Law were adopted as well, with which the water areas were changed, and the entire plan for the Danube river had to be aligned with those changes. Thus, it was concluded that it was better to develop the entire plan in line with the WFD, instead of correcting the River Basin Management Plan for the Danube River).

In this regard, in December 2016, the Republic Water Directorate has established the working group to draft the elements of the River Basin Management Plan for the territory of the Republic of Serbia 2021-2027, consisting of employees of the Public Water Management Companies. It is planned that the River Basin Management Plan for the territory of the Republic of Serbia 2021-2027 will be adopted by the end of 2021.

During 2017, Public Water Management Companies (with the training and supervision of experts who have worked on the development of RBMPs of the ICPDR and ISRBC, as well as on the Draft River Basin Management Plan for the Danube River on the territory of the Republic of Serbia) started to work on identification of watercourses with the basin of 10-100 km²; typology of water bodies with the basin of 10-100 km² (based on natural-physical characteristics); revision of water bodies identified in the Draft River basin management plan for the Danube River on the territory of the Republic of Serbia - watercourses with the basin >100 km². The next activity should encompass: pressure and impact analyses, assessment of status of surface and ground water bodies, and later on the definition of adequate programme of measures and economic analysis according to the EU WFD.

In the Danube river basin in Serbia there are more than 4,700 human settlements, of which 498 have a population greater than 2,000. There is a substantial disparity between public water supply and public sanitation coverage, particularly in settlements whose population is less than 50,000. It is estimated that 65-70% of the settlements have separate sewer systems for wastewater and storm water, while the remaining only have access to combined systems. There is an evident issue with regard to industrial wastewater treatment prior to discharge into recipients, which is a precondition for achieving prescribed standards. More than 40 urban wastewater treatment plants have been built in the Republic of Serbia over the past several decades, but according to available data, only 26 are operational at present, of which only 8 WWTPs works according to designed parameters.

Also, significant influence on water quality has the nutrient load from agricultural sources. Proposal for the Nitrates Vulnerable Zones and draft of the Code of Good Agricultural Practice has been developed. The key challenge is implementing requirement of Nitrate directive taking into consideration socio economic impacts, especially on small farmers. Affordability is also a serious problem which has to be taken into consideration.

National water quantity and quality monitoring is in place but is not in accordance with the requirements of WFD and daughter directives. Current monitoring practice complies only partially with the requirements of WFD.

The national monitoring network consists of more than 140 surface water discharge stations and water quality monitoring stations, and 60 ground water quantity and quality monitoring stations. These monitoring stations cover less than 30% of the surface water bodies defined in regulations (493 surface water bodies and 153 ground water bodies, Regulations on Determination of surface and groundwater bodies, Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, no. 96/2010) and the extent and frequency of sampling is typically changed every year as a function of the annual monitoring program passed by the Government which is formulated depending on the annual budget allocation for the monitoring purpose.

Current monitoring practice does not cover all the water bodies nor all the water status parameters prescribed by the law due to lack of capacity (financial, personnel, equipment and skills) in the responsible institutions.

The on-going activity of Republic Water Directorate is optimizing the water quality monitoring network (surface and ground waters) as a function of the national water management needs and the requirements of WFD and other related directives. This project is expected to result in a significant increase of spatial coverage (coverage of required number of water bodies) and extent and frequency of monitoring (list of parameters and sampling frequency and methodology) to the effect that the national monitoring network would grow significantly. This would be accompanied by appropriate strengthening and growth of capacities of institutions responsible for the implementation of the monitoring activities. The project will take into consideration the number of delineated water bodies (watercourses with the basin >10 km²) done by Public Water Management Companies.

The project will assist the strengthening of institutional and administrative capacities and improve their expertise to undertake the full requirements of the EU WFD.

3.2 Ongoing reforms:

The European Council granted Serbia the status of candidate country in 2012. The Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) between Serbia and the EU entered into force in September

2013. Accession negotiations were launched in January 2014. The analytical examination of the EU acquis (screening process) was completed in March 2015.

The EC assessed that Serbia should be capable of assuming the membership obligations in the medium term in almost all areas of the acquis, provided that the alignment and adoption of legislation is accompanied by its effective implementation and enforcement. This aspect remains a challenge in a number of sectors. In addition, the screenings of the state of play of Serbia legislation and structures related to the Chapters of the acquis also demonstrated that there is a lack of specific knowledge and expertise in a number of areas.

Accession negotiations will, therefore, require that Serbia improves the capacity of public administration, both in terms of developing the adequate institutional structures, but also in terms of ensuring the sufficient number of qualified experts and competent civil servants with knowledge to work on the harmonisation of the national legislation with the acquis.

In line with the EU requirements, the Serbian administration is working on the draft of the new Water Law and by-laws which will transpose water related directives and give legal background for implementation of requirements.

3.3 Linked activities:

Two TAIEX workshops supported the Serbian administration in water resources planning:

- **TAIEX Workshop on Surface and Ground Waters Pressures and Impact Assessment (18 – 19 September 2017).** The aim of this workshop was the capacity building of the Republic Water Directorate, as well as of the Public Water Management Companies with regard to pressures and impacts analysis. The focus was on the methodology for determining the runoff from various surfaces (The Corine Land Cover Database, CLC) and on calculation of the pressures on surface and ground waters from agricultural activities. The EU Member State experts provided advice in relation to the application and implementation of the relevant EU legislation. More specifically, the recall of the Water Framework Directive requirements had been explained and relevant EU best practice examples had been presented. The participants had an opportunity to learn about the methodology for determining the runoff from various surfaces, the calculation of the pressures on surface and ground waters from agricultural activities, and the hydro morphological pressure impact assessment.

- **TAIEX Workshop on Environmental Monitoring (23 – 24 October 2017).** The aim of this workshop was to provide the advice to the Republic Water Directorate with regard to the monitoring programme required by the EU legislation, and needed for the enforcement of the River Basin Management Plan. The assistance in relation to the application and implementation of the EU legislation regarding the monitoring programme was provided. The EU Member State experts provided advice in relation to the implementation of the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and other EU water related directives. The participants had an opportunity to learn about adequate monitoring and allocated budget funds by listening to practical experiences from Croatia and Malta. The work of the Groundwater Working Group (WGC) with respect to future perspectives for monitoring in the EU was discussed, as well as problems and solutions that occur in the establishment process of an adequate monitoring programme.

3.4 List of applicable *Union acquis*/standards/norms:

The List of EU applicable directives is given below:

- Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy, as amended by Decision 2455/2001/EC, and Directives 2008/32/EC, 2008/105/EC, 2009/31/EC, 2013/39/EU and 2014/101/EU);
- Directive 2008/105/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on environmental quality standards in the field of water policy, amending and subsequently repealing Council Directives 82/176/EEC, 83/513/EEC, 84/156/EEC, 84/491/EEC, 86/280/EEC and amending Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council;
- Directive 2009/90/EC of 31 July 2009, laying down, pursuant to Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, technical specifications for chemical analysis and monitoring of water status;
- Council Directive 2006/118/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration
- Council Directive 91/676/EEC of 12 December 1991 concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources as amended by Regulations 1882/2003/EC and 1137/2008/EC;
- Council Directive 91/271/EEC of 21 May 1991 concerning urban waste water treatment, as amended by Commission Directive 98/15/EC, Regulation 1882/2003 and Regulation 1137/2008, Commission Implementing Decision concerning formats for reporting on the national programmes for the implementation of Council Directive 91/271/EEC (notified under document C (2014) 4208, (2014/431/EU);
- Council Directive 98/83/EC of 3 November 1998 on the quality of water intended for human consumption;
- Directive 2006/7/EC of European Parliament and of the Council of 15th February 2006 concerning the management of bathing water quality and repealing Directive 76/160/EEC and Commission Implementing Decision of 27 May 2011 establishing a symbol for information to the public on bathing water classification and any bathing prohibition or advice against bathing.

3.5 Results per component

Mandatory Result 1 (Component 1): Existing RBMP development process assessed.

To achieve the aforementioned result, the following intermediary results as a minimum will be achieved:

Existing development process of RBMPs assessed, gaps established and necessary recommendations provided.

Mandatory Result 2 (Component 2): Knowledge and practices of RWD and technical bodies on pressure and impact analysis, cost recovery and cost effectiveness analysis improved.

To achieve the aforementioned result, the following intermediary results as a minimum will be achieved:

- assessment of cost recovery level of water services, including all relevant calculations needed for taking into account the principle of cost recovery;

- assessment of the contribution to cost recovery from key water uses, as well as the assessment of the extent of cost recovery by water services and sectors;
- assessment of baseline scenarios and trends in the next planning period, as well as the methodology for base line scenarios development;
- carrying out the cost-effectiveness and cost-benefit analysis, making the judgements about the most effective combination of measures taking into consideration financial costs and environments and resources costs.

Mandatory Result 3 (Component 3): Public and stakeholder involvement related to development of elements of RBMPs increased.

To achieve the aforementioned result, the following intermediary results as a minimum will be achieved:

Communication Strategy developed;

Consultation & information sessions of stakeholders on elements of RBMPs implemented;

Communication leaflets & campaigns for stakeholders on elements of RBMPs implemented.

3.6 Means/input from the EU Member State Partner Administration(s)*:

The Project Leader (PL) responsible for the overall coordination of project activities, and the Resident Twinning Adviser (RTA) responsible for management and implementation of the foreseen project activities shall provide support to the responsible Serbian authorities in, the implementation of this project, thus in strengthening of their capacities. It is essential that the team, short-term experts included, has broad expertise which will all the areas included in the description of the project.

During the implementation of this project, the RTA will be positioned in the premises of the Republic Water Directorate within the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management.

3.6.1 Profile and tasks of the PL:

The MS PL will manage the project team of selected member state(s) experts and supervise and co-ordinate the implementation of project activities.

Tasks of MS PL

- Accountable for the overall guidance and implementation of the project in cooperation with the BC PL;
- Supervises the RTA;
- Ensures that all team members are aware of their tasks and responsibilities;
- Ensures, together with the RTA that the project remains within allocated budget;
- Project reporting;
- Ensuring backstopping and financial management of the project in the MS;
- Ensuring timely, effective and efficient implementation of the project and achievement of results, through proposed activities;
- Coordination of deployment of short-term experts;
- Coordination (with the MS RTA) of the Project Steering Committee meetings;
- Participation at the Steering Committee meetings (every three months);

The PL profile

Requirements:

- High-ranking official/senior civil servant;
- University degree or equivalent professional experience of 7 years in public administration in the area of water management;
- Experience in project management;
- Working knowledge of English language;
- Computer literacy.

Asset:

- Proven experience in the implementation of at least 1 similar project;
- Proven experience with EU regulations in the area of water management.

3.6.2 Profile and tasks of the RTA:

The Resident Twinning Advisor (RTA) works on a daily basis with the BC staff to implement project, support and coordinate activities in the beneficiary country.

The RTA should have adequate experience and knowledge in the field of water management which will enable him/her to organize interdisciplinary team for successful implementation of the project. She/he should be an employee of the governmental competent authority for water management (Ministry or Agency) in an EU Member State.

He will liaise with the BC Project Leader and will report to the MS Project Leader. The RTA will also be responsible for ensuring that experts' input and distribution of their working days will be used in the most efficient and effective way and in line with the agreed work plan to enable timely completion of project results.

Tasks of RTA

- Responsible for monitoring project implementation and proposing corrective management actions if required;
- Support and coordination of all project activities in BC in line with the agreed work program to enable timely completion of project results and delivery of the outputs;
- Advise on related EU policies and best practices, legislation and regulations;
- Establish and maintain cooperation with all beneficiaries involved in the implementation of the project and other related projects (ensuring the avoidance of overlapping), in close co-ordination with the Project Leader;
- Nomination, mobilization and supervision of the short-term experts, together with the Project Leader;
- Facilitation of the contacts with peer institutions in EU member states in order to stimulate a proper exchange of information and data;
- Organization of visibility events (kick-off and final event);
- Responsible for organization of the Project Steering Committee meetings and reporting on the project progress in close cooperation with the Project leader;
- Identifying and reporting to the Contracting Authority, at early stage, all difficulties that may jeopardize the implementation of the project and the achievement of its results.

The RTA profile

Requirements:

- University degree or equivalent professional experience of 5 years in water management or related area;

- At least 3 years of working experience in the field of water management in the public administration of the selected Member State or Mandated body;
- Working knowledge of English language;
- Computer literacy.

Asset:

- Experience in at least 1 project related to the preparation/implementation of relevant EU legislation, preferably in the field of water management, with same or similar assignments.

The aforementioned roles and tasks of the PL and RTA will be detailed and refined by the agreed twinning work plan.

3.6.3 Profile and tasks of Component Leaders:

- University Degree in studies related to Water Management or equivalent professional experience of minimum 3 years;
- Proven participation in development of RBMPs according to WFD; development of training plans and training organization and delivery, and development and implementation of communication strategies/campaigns targeted to stakeholders.
- Working knowledge of English language;
- Computer literacy: Knowledge of Microsoft Office.

3.6.4 Profile and tasks of other short-term experts:

The twinning partner will decide on the profile, number and involvement of the short term experts during the drafting of the project work plan. STEs should be identified by the Project Leader/RTA and have to be agreed with the beneficiary institutions in the course of designing and delivery of the expected project outputs. Selection procedures shall be transparent and based on pre-defined criteria, including detail professional qualifications, and work experience. Each expert will have individual Terms of Reference, including the expert profile requirements and outputs to be produced which will be endorsed by the beneficiary institutions. Following the endorsement by the beneficiary institutions, the terms of reference and selected experts are subject to final approval.

Main areas of expertise required by the team of short-term experts should cover the following fields (the list of fields is non-exhaustive):

- Water management;
- Environmental protection;
- GIS and Data management;
- Environmental Law;
- Training material development;
- Organization and delivery of trainings.

Tasks of the short- term experts

STEs will provide specialized know-how for the individual tasks in this project. Therefore, the experts should have a relevant professional experience in administration and minimum qualifications required, as well as specific skills needed for individual task. As a general approach, the STEs will take the responsibility for the implementation of the Project and the achievement of the results, each for his/her individual mission tasks, as defined by individual ToR. They will also prepare the required reports and the output described.

Detailed profiles and tasks of short - term experts, including the duration of their assignments, will be provided in the Twinning Work Plan. The minimum indicative requirements are the following:

Profile of the short- term experts

Requirements:

- University degree in the fields relevant to this project;
- At least 3 years of professional working experience in the field for which the expert is mobilized;
- Working knowledge of English language;
- Computer literacy: Knowledge of Microsoft Office.

Assets:

- Previous experience in assessing EU membership candidate country's legislation for determining compliance with EU requirements;
- Previous experience in implementation of projects, with same or similar assignments.

4. Budget

The total budget for this Twinning is EUR 1.500.000.

Title	IPA Community Contribution	National Co-financing	TOTAL
Twinning Contract (EUR)	100% 1.500.000	0%	1.500.000

Interpretation and translation costs for trainings/training materials, documentation/reports/legal acts and other project activities are estimated up to 6 % of the budget which will be calculated in the twinning working plan budget. At least two major visibility events will be organized in the course of the implementation of the project: Kick-off meeting at the start of the implementation process and the Final meeting at the end of project implementation activities.

5. Implementation Arrangements

5.1 Implementing Agency responsible for tendering, contracting and accounting (AO/CFCE/PAO/European Union Delegation/Office):

The Implementing Agency of the project is the Central Finance and Contracting Unit (CFCU). The CFCU will be the Contracting Authority and it will be responsible for publishing tenders, concluding contracts and authorizing the Treasury to make contract related payments.

Ministry of Finance

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (CFCU)

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5.2 Institutional framework

The main beneficiary of the project will be the administrative body within the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management – Republic Water Directorate/Group for participating in the strategic planning and management. There will also be 2 (two) other beneficiaries involved in project implementation:

- Public Water Management Company *Srbijavode*;
- Public Water Management Company *Vode Vojvodine*.

Main beneficiary:

Group for participation in the strategic planning and management performs tasks related to: implementation of the national program for the integration of the Republic of Serbia into the European Union and transposition and implementation of the European Union directives from the scope of the Group; coordination of the development of the River Basin Management Plan and monitoring of its implementation; preparation and monitoring of the implementation of projects implemented in the field of water management from the scope of the Group; preparation of expert bases for preparation of regulations in the field of water management from the scope of the Group; establishment and development of the Water Information System of the Republic of Serbia.

Republic Water Directorate, as an administrative body within the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, carries out tasks related to: water management policy; multipurpose use of water; water supply, except for the distribution of water; protection against water; implementation of measures for water protection and planned rationalization of water consumption; regulation of water regimes; monitoring and maintaining the regime of waters that make and cross the border of the Republic of Serbia; inspection supervision in the field of water management.

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management was established in 2017 when, in accordance with the Law on Ministries of 29 June 2017, it succeeded the former Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection. The Ministry performs state administration tasks related to: agriculture and food industry strategy and development policy; analysis of production and agricultural product markets; balances for agri-food products and commodity reserve system of basic agri-food products; measures of market and price policies, structural policy and land policy in agriculture; investment measures for improving agricultural production; proposal of systemic solutions and protective measures in respect of imports of agricultural products and foodstuffs; protection and use of agricultural land; production of agricultural inputs for agriculture and food industry, production and trade of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, ethanol, tobacco and tobacco products as well as foodstuffs; quality control of agricultural products and foodstuffs, wine, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, fruit juices and concentrated fruit juices, mineral water, ethanol, tobacco and tobacco products in domestic

and international trade; rural development; agricultural cooperatives; extension services; market information system in agriculture; production, certification and quality and transport control of seed and planting material; acceptance and protection of plant varieties and domestic animal breeds; determination of eligibility, risk assessment and implementation of control measures related to biosafety in respect of limited use; introduction into production, marketing and import of genetically modified organisms; conservation and sustainable use of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture; creating conditions for access and implementation of projects within the competence of the Ministry funded by the EU IPA funds, donations and other forms of development assistance; inspection in the field of agriculture, as well as other tasks prescribed by law.

Other beneficiaries:

Public Water Management Company *Srbijavode* was founded by the Republic of Serbia on 26th of December 1996 (establishment of the company was entered in the Commercial Court registry in Belgrade in registration note 1-78228-00, Decision Fi VII 424/97 of 3rd January 1997, and transposed to Register of Business entities in Agency for Business Registers by the Decision BD 2544/2005 of 20th of August 2005) with the Government of the Republic of Serbia as a holder of a founding rights. The company was founded to carry out the tasks of public interests related to engineering activities and technical consultancies in water sector with the focus on integrated water management, watercourse regulation, protection against harmful effects of water, water utilization and water protection in order to ensure sustainable water use, protection and amelioration of water regime, environmental protection and reduction of detrimental effect of climate change in water sector.

Public Water Management Company *Vode Vojvodine* was founded by the Assembly of AP Vojvodina on May 8, 2002, by adopting the Decision on the Establishment of a Public Water Management Company on the territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina („Official Gazette of AP Vojvodina“, No. 7/2002 and 2/2010). It started working on March 1, 2003. PWMC *Vode Vojvodine* carries out the tasks related to: watercourse regulation and protection against harmful effects of water; water management and use and protection of water from pollution. PWMC *Vode Vojvodine* also manages water facilities for drainage which are public property and also ensures their intended use, maintenance and conservation, manages dams with accumulations, shiplocks on canals and irrigation systems, aside from the structures constructed by legal entities for their own purpose. The company manages other activities which do not obstruct the function of water management activities but contribute to a better and fuller utilization of available resources: management of fishing waters, management a protected natural park of nature Jegricka and Beljanska bara, raising and care of the forests beside the rivers and canals.

Other stakeholders:

Working Group consisting of: Ministry of Environmental Protection, Environmental Protection Agency, Republic Hydrometeorological Service of Serbia, Ministry of Health, Provincial Secretariat for Urban Planning and Environmental Protection, Provincial Secretariat for Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry, the Jaroslav Černi Institute for the Development of Water Resources, Institute for Biological Research „*Siniša Stanković*“, Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia, Belgrade University, Novi Sad University, Institute of Public Health of Serbia „*Dr Milan Jovanović Batut*“, Ministry of Mining and Energy, WWF, etc.

Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be established for the direct control and supervision of the project implementation. The PSC will be responsible for the overall quality of project

implementation, provide strategic direction and ensure that the project outputs and goals are met in time, approve work plans and reports, offer guidance and advise on project activities.

The composition of the PSC will be defined by the Twinning Contract. Nevertheless, the PSC will be composed of following members: MS Project Leader, BC Project Leader, RTA, RTA BC counterpart, Assistant Minister in charge for International Cooperation in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, representatives of the Ministry of Finance, Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programs (CFCU), representatives of the MAFWM/IPA Unit, representatives of the Ministry for European Integration (MEI) and the representatives of other key institutions involved in the project. Representatives of the EUD will be invited as observer(s). If deemed necessary, representatives of other institutions with relevant expertise or key experts who can enhance the quality of the project should be invited to join the Steering Committee Meetings as observers.

The role, responsibility and main tasks of the PSC will be as follows:

- to assess progress in achievement of objectives and results planned in the project;
- to ensure exchange of information on implementation of contracts;
- to ensure synchronization of activities within contracts;
- to ensure cooperation of relevant stakeholders;
- to discuss any critical points, risks or bottlenecks in contract implementation;
- to propose and discuss remedies in case of problems;
- to review and make recommendations on reports, submitted by the contractor;
- to closely coordinate with other EU contracts related to this field and with other relevant donors' contracts to promote synergies and integration.

Project will ensure the secretariat function of the PSC, including organization of meetings, preparing and circulating the agenda, as well as writing and distributing PSC minutes to all members. The PSC meetings should be announced at least two weeks before the actual date and all relevant papers (agenda, minutes of the last meeting, progress report and other documents to be discussed at the PSC meeting) should be circulated one week before the meetings to the PSC members. The PSC will meet on quarterly basis and ad hoc when required. It will be chaired by the BC Project Leader and in accordance with the previously circulated agenda to the PSC members.

5.3 Counterparts in the Beneficiary administration:

The PL and RTA counterparts will be staff of the Beneficiary administration and will be actively involved in the management and coordination of the project.

5.3.1 Contact person:

Daria Janjić Nišavić, Acting Assistant Minister
Nemanjina 22-26
11000 Beograd

5.3.2 PL counterpart

Nataša Milić, Acting Director of Republic Water Directorate
Bulevar umetnosti 2a
11070 Beograd

5.3.3 RTA counterpart

Marija Lazarević, Head of Group for International Cooperation in the Field of Water Management
Bulevar umetnosti 2a
11070 Beograd

6. Duration of the project

18+3 months

7. Sustainability

In the long run, the project will contribute to environmental sustainability.

In the short run, it will produce sustainable results since it is designed to support the already existing beneficiary institutions and structures, but which require additional assistance in the complex process of the harmonisation with the EU Acquis. This process is a key political priority to the Serbian Government, and the resources and attention of the national authorities are strongly geared toward achieving the steps needed for the opening and closing of the negotiation chapters, and for the achievement of all benchmarks in the process of EU accession negotiations. All of the capacities developed through this project will be used in the future period for the further alignment as part of the accession, and they will be a crucial resource for the EU integration process.

The basis for the sustainability of the project will be created through active and dedicated participation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management and Republic Water Directorate staff involved in implementation of project activities. After the completion of the project, the newly gained information and skills will be disseminated by the staff that was trained during the project. The performance of daily job activities related to preparation of water management plans will be adjusted to skills acquired during the project implementation by the beneficiaries. This project will create an opportunity to establish long-lasting professional relationships between beneficiary administration and its EU MS partner, even after the completion of the project implementation which can enable further cooperation and exchange of ideas in the area of water management (e-mails, calls, meetings etc.). In this way, the beneficiaries will remain open to meet and further implement the best EU practices of the present. The sustainability of project results could be also ensured not only by development of new business relations, but by boosting the existing ones as well.

8. Crosscutting issues (*equal opportunity, environment, climate etc...*)

Equal opportunity

The project activities will support equal participation of both men and women, regardless of their racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability or sexual orientation. Equal opportunities will be also secured through appropriate information and publicity material, in the design of activities and accessibility to the opportunities they offer. The different project implementation structures will ensure the observance of the principles of equal opportunities and non-discrimination.

Minorities and vulnerable groups

The application of the national policy and strategic documents and the best EU standards and practices in the promotion and protection of the rights of the minority and vulnerable groups will be ensured in all aspects of the preparation and implementation of this action. Long term

positive consequences of achieved project results will be of benefit to everyone (minorities and vulnerable groups included).

Environment and climate change

Activities envisaged under this project focus strongly on a number of environmental issues. The specific results of the action seek to enhance the alignment of Serbia's legislation, institutional structures, and degree of implementation of the EU acquis and standards, in particular related to water management. The action will have a strong impact on the ability of human capacities of Republic of Serbia to align national regulations with the EU acquis requirements and standards in the environment sector. No specific climate change mitigation or adaptation actions are envisaged. The project will generally have positive effects considering the fact that planning in water management has the aim to upgrade environmental condition and achieve good status for all surface and ground waters.

9. Conditionality and sequencing

There are no specific conditions for the implementation of activities. The Work Plan will further detail and give final shape to activities, results and roles proposed by the twinning fiche.

10. Indicators for performance measurement

The Work Plan will further detail and give final shape to indicators, but main indicators to measure performance of project implementation are:

- Training programme developed;
- At least 2 training manuals developed;
- At least 4 theoretical training session for at least 30 persons (10 employees per Republic Water directorate and two PWMCs);
- At least 2 workshops for at least 70 persons representing wider scope of stakeholders, aimed at presenting done work;
- At least 300 leaflets for stakeholders containing general information on project activities and focusing on later on implementation of River Basin Management Plan.

11. Facilities available

The Republic Water Directorate will provide the twinning partner with adequate office space for RTA and experts, meeting rooms and equipment necessary for relevant everyday activities and trainings foreseen within this twinning fiche.

ANNEXES TO PROJECT FICHE

1. ANNEX 1: Logical framework matrix in standard format
2. ANNEX 2: List of relevant Laws and Regulations
3. ANNEX 3: Summary of the Strategy for Water Management in the Republic of Serbia up to 2034

1. ANNEX I: Logical framework matrix in standard format

OVERALL OBJECTIVE	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (*)	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	
To support Serbian administration to effectively conduct accession negotiations and successfully manage overall EU integration and pre-accession assistance geared towards EU membership.	Progress made towards meeting accession criteria in Chapter 27	EC Progress Reports	
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
To strengthen capacities of Republic Water Directorate and Public Water Management Companies <i>Srbijavode</i> and <i>Vode Vojvodine</i> to implement the principles of the EU WFD in integrated water management, through the development of elements of the River Basin Management Plan.	Draft elements of the River Basin Management Plan related to project activities developed.	Project reports; RDW website; Draft element of the RBMP itself.	BC institutions staff actively participate in project activities; Availability of all necessary data (databases); Dedication of high-ranking officials to support the project implementation; Good cooperation between all participants in the project.
RESULT 1) Existing RBMP development process assessed.	Analyses of RBMP development process developed; Gaps document related to the WFD in RBMP development process identified; At least 3 information session related to the <i>gaps identified</i> and <i>analyses document of RBMP</i> presented to the RWD and Technical Bodies representatives.	Project reports; List of participants; Analyses document.	

2) Knowledge and practices of RWD and Technical Bodies on pressure and impact analysis, cost recovery and cost effectiveness analysis improved.	TNA performed and training programme developed; At least 2 training manuals developed; At least 4 theoretical training session for at least 30 persons; Study visit for at least 30 persons from RWD and Technical Bodies (2 study visits x 15 persons) in EU authorities competent for water management carried out. Elements of RBMP prepared.	Project reports; List of participants; Training material.	
3) Public and stakeholder involvement related to development of elements of RBMPs increased.	Communication strategy related to RBMP development prepared; At least 2 information sessions/workshops/consultations for at least 70 persons representing stakeholders (according to the Communication Strategy) carried out; At least 2 campaigns to at least 70 stakeholders/targeted groups (according to the Communication Strategy) aimed at presenting the performed work carried out; At least 300 leaflets for relevant stakeholders prepressed and printed.	Leaflets' invoice; List of participants.	

2. ANNEX 2: List of relevant Laws and Regulations

EU regulation:

- Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy, as amended by Decision 2455/2001/EC, and Directives 2008/32/EC, 2008/105/EC, 2009/31/EC, 2013/39/EU and 2014/101/EU);
- Directive 2008/105/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on environmental quality standards in the field of water policy, amending and subsequently repealing Council Directives 82/176/EEC, 83/513/EEC, 84/156/EEC, 84/491/EEC, 86/280/EEC and amending Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council;
- Directive 2009/90/EC of 31 July 2009, laying down, pursuant to Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, technical specifications for chemical analysis and monitoring of water status;
- Council Directive 2006/118/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration;
- Council Directive 91/676/EEC of 12 December 1991 concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources as amended by Regulations 1882/2003/EC and 1137/2008/EC;
- Council Directive 91/271/EEC of 21 May 1991 concerning urban waste water treatment, as amended by Commission Directive 98/15/EC, Regulation 1882/2003 and Regulation 1137/2008 Commission Implementing Decision concerning formats for reporting on the national programmes for the implementation of Council Directive 91/271/EEC (notified under document C (2014) 4208, (2014/431/EU);
- Council Directive 98/83/EC of 3 November 1998 on the quality of water intended for human consumption;
- Directive 2006/7/EC of European Parliament and of the Council of 15th February 2006 concerning the management of bathing water quality and repealing Directive 76/160/EEC and Commission Implementing Decision of 27 May 2011 establishing a symbol for information to the public on bathing water classification and any bathing prohibition or advice against bathing;
- Directive 2007/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2007 on the assessment and management of flood risks;
- Directive 2008/56/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 June 2008 establishing a framework for community action in the field of marine environmental policy (Marine Strategy Framework Directive).

National regulation:

- Water Law (Official Gazette RS, no. 30/10, 93/12 and 101/16);
- Decision on the Establishment of a Register of 1st Order Waters (Official Gazette RS, no. 83/10);
- Decision on the Designation of Water District Boundaries (Official Gazette RS, no. 75/10);
- Rulebook on the Designation of Surface Water and Groundwater Bodies (Official Gazette RS, no. 96/10);
- Rulebook on Reference Conditions for the Types of Surface Water and Groundwater Bodies (Official Gazette RS, no. 67/11);
- Rulebook on the Content and Format of Applications for Water Enactments (Official Gazette RS, no. 74/10 and 116/12);

- Regulation on the Establishment of Emission Limit Values and Deadlines for their Achievement (Official Gazette RS, no. 67/11, 48/12 and 01/16);
- Regulation on Limit Values for Pollutants in Surface Waters, Groundwaters and Sediments and Deadlines for their Achievement (Official Gazette RS, no. 50/12);
- Regulation on Limit Values for Priority Substances and Priority Hazardous Substances in Surface Waters, and Deadlines for their Achievement (Official Gazette RS, no. 24/14)
- Decision on the Establishment of the National Water Conference and the Appointment of its Members (Official Gazette RS, no. 55/11);
- Rulebook on Conditions in terms of Technical equipment and Organizational and Human Resources Capacity to perform work in the field of Water Management, as well as keeping records of issued and revoked licenses (Official Gazette RS, no. 23/12);
- Rulebook on the Content, Method of Keeping, and Format of the Water Journal (Official Gazette RS, no. 86/10);
- Rulebook on the Content and Management of the Water Information System, the Data Collection Methodology, Structure, Categories and Levels, and the Content of Information Made Available to the Public (Official Gazette RS, no. 54/11);
- Rulebook on the Format and Content of the Service Identity Card, the Design and Content of Insignia, the Type of Equipment, and the Design of the Uniform of the Water Inspector (Official Gazette RS, no. 04/12);
- Rulebook on the Designation of Sub-Basin Boundaries (Official Gazette RS, no. 54/11)
- Rulebook on the Designation of Reclamation Areas and Their Boundaries (Official Gazette RS, no. 38/11);
- Rulebook on Surface Water Ecological and Chemical Parameters, and Groundwater parameters of Quantitative and Chemical Status (Official Gazette RS, no. 74/11);
- Rulebook on the Content and Method of Keeping of Water Facilities Registers (Official Gazette RS, no. 34/11);
- Regulation on the Establishment of the General Flood Defense Plan (Official Gazette RS, no. 23/12);
- Decision on Opening the Water Budget Fund (Official Gazette RS, no. 09/11);
- Annual Regulation on the Determination of the Amounts of Water Fees;
- Annual Regulation on the Establishment of the Water Management Programme;
- Annual Regulation on the Establishment of the Water Status Monitoring Programme;
- Annual Order on the Establishment of the Flood Defence Action Plan;

3. ANNEX 3: Summary of the Strategy for Water Management in the Republic of Serbia up to 2034

The government of the Republic of Serbia adopted on its 27 Session, held on December 23, 2016, the Strategy for Water Management in the Republic of Serbia up to 2034 (hereinafter: Strategy). The Strategy was prepared in accordance with the Water Law (Official Gazette RS, no. 30/10, 93/12 and 101/16), and it was published in the Official Gazette RS, no. 3/2017 of January 18, 2017. It is a comprehensive planning document determining a long-term water management policy to be pursued on the national territory, that is, the directions of sustainable action in the areas of water use, water protection, the regulation of water flow and protection against the harmful effects of water. In the planning period, a significant improvement in the water sector in relation to the existing ones is expected. This upgrade will be carried out in accordance with the social and economic capabilities of the state, and with respect to the introduction of standards, technologies and regulations of the European Union in the field of water. Given that the Strategy is rather voluminous, this document summary contains a list of strategic and operational goals for each water management sector.

WATER USE

Strategic goal: Provision of sufficient quantities of water of proper quality for different categories of users, primarily for supplying water to the public, while respecting the environment.

Supplying water to the public

Operational goal 1: Increase in the level of coverage by public water supply systems from the current 81% to 93% at the end of the planning period;

Operational goal 2: Improvement of the public water supply system - ensuring a stable supply of water of required quality, while reducing the risk of water supply disruption under accidental and extraordinary conditions;

Operational goal 3: Reducing the amounts of non-invoiced sections of water within public water supply systems to approx. a 25% level by the end of the planning period;

Operational goal 4: Rational use of water;

Operational goal 5: Protection of water sources, exploration, protection and preservation of water resources being used or intended for human consumption in future.

Supplying water to industry

Operational goal 1: Provision of water for industrial production;

Operational goal 2: Rationalisation of water consumption in industrial production and environmental protection;

Operational goal 3: Planned locations for industrial facilities.

Irrigation

Operational goal 1: Provision of sufficient amounts of water to irrigate 250,000 to 350,000 ha of agricultural land from development groups I and II by the end of the planning period (about 100,000 hectares covered by existing systems and between 150,000 and 250,000 ha covered by new systems);

Operational goal 2: Rational use of water and provision of quality and quantity of irrigation.

Hydropower

Operational goal 1: Rational use of hydropower potential;

Operational goal 2: Provided passage for aquatic organisms within the zone of facilities on waterways whose construction has disrupted the natural flow regime.

Navigation

Operational goal 1: Preservation of hydromorphological characteristics and aquatic and riparian ecosystems on navigable rivers;

Fish farming

Operational goal 1: Preservation of the quality of water and survival of aquatic ecosystems under conditions of fish farming development.

Sport, recreation and tourism

Operational goal 1: Provision of water for tourist, and sports and recreation centres and locations suitable for the development of water sports and recreation.

REGIONAL AND MULTI-PURPOSE HYDROSYSTEMS

Strategic goal: Improvement of the water regime and elimination of temporal and spatial discrepancies between available water resources and water needs, protection of water and protection from water, development of regional and multi-purpose hydrosystems

Reservoirs

Operational goal 1: Improved use of existing reservoirs;

Operational goal 2: Control of status and maintenance of existing reservoirs;

Operational goal 3: Monitoring water storage capacity;

Operational goal 4: Appropriate use and control of the state of surrounding area.

Regional systems for the drinking water supply

Given the complexity of this issue and primarily bearing in mind the uncertainty of implementing these systems in terms of time, this issue is not treated in the same regard as in other areas (through defined operational goals and measures for their implementation). However, it can be pointed out two basic goals:

1) Reviewing and redefining the solutions proposed in earlier strategic and planning documents, including facilities that are operational or whose construction has begun;

2) Orientation towards the field research of potential sources designated in the Strategy as possible alternative solutions for the long-term water supply of certain vulnerable areas and preparation of necessary technical documentation.

WATER PROTECTION

Strategic goal: Achieving and maintaining the “good” status and good ecological potential of surface water and groundwater bodies, with a view to protect public health, preserve aquatic and riparian ecosystems and meet the needs of water users.

Operational goal 1: Prevention of surface water and groundwater pollution;

Operational goal 2: Improvement the field of water protection.

Point sources of pollution

Operational goal 1: Reduction of pollution from point sources, as follows:

1) urban wastewater: by constructing sewage systems with adequate capacity (sewage network covers 85% of populations living in settlements with over 2,000 inhabitants) and the degree of treatment established in the Water Pollution Protection Plan;

2) industrial wastewater: by reducing pollution from industrial plants, fully implementing the Law on Integrated Environmental Pollution Prevention and Control („Official Gazette of the RS” 135/04 and 25/15), as well as using best available technology (BAT) or best available techniques not entailing excessive costs (BATNEC);

3) landfills of urban and industrial waste: by regulating landfills and managing waste at all levels - national, regional and local, in accordance with the Law on Waste Management („Official Gazette of the RS” 36/09, 88/10 and 14/16).

Non-point sources of pollution

Operational goal 1: Reduction of pollution from non-point sources, as follows:

- 1) from agricultural land: by applying the provisions of the Nitrates Directive, the Directive concerning discharge of dangerous substances and the principles of good agricultural practice;
- 2) from forest land: by appropriate method of using forest resources in the areas of common interest of water and forest users;
- 3) from roads: by administrative measures that, within the framework of water conditions, determine the method used to solve issues of collection, transport and treatment of waste waters from the roads, and then by the implementation of technical measures;
- 4) from the settlements of less than 2,000 inhabitants: by reducing pollution through the construction of special devices for the treatment of wastewater from small settlements.

Protected areas

Operational goal 1: Establishment and use of protected areas in accordance with the Law on Water, as follows:

- 1) protection of water sources used for the drinking water supply: by establishing sanitary protection zones;
- 2) protection of areas intended for the abstraction of water for human consumption providing more than 10 m³/day: by applying administrative and technical safeguards;
- 3) water bodies designated as recreational water, including areas designated for bathing: by applying administrative and technical safeguards, in cooperation with local government;
- 4) nutrient-sensitive areas, including areas subject to eutrophication and areas sensitive to nitrates from agricultural sources: by applying administrative and technical safeguards and implementing the Nitrates Directive;
- 5) protection of habitats or species where the maintenance or improvement of water status is an essential element of their protection: by applying administrative and technical safeguards and inclusion in the ecological network of the Republic of Serbia;
- 6) protection of economically important aquatic species: by applying administrative and technical measures.

Groundwater - protection of quality and quantity

Operational goal 1: Reduction of pressures on the quality of groundwater;

Operational goal 2: Preservation and achievement of good quantitative status of groundwater, in order to provide sufficient quantities of water of satisfactory quality for current and future needs of all legitimate users, taking care of available groundwater resources;

Operational goal 3: Development of national and regional projects that will consider and determine the following:

- 1) Conditions for sustainable use of groundwater, conditions for survival of aquatic systems dependent on groundwater and effects of irrigation and drainage, as well as measures necessary for the coordination of their mutual effects;
- 2) Impacts of climate change, especially on very sensitive groundwater resources in karst and fractured-rock environments;
- 3) Impacts of large surface coal mines on water resources (Kolubara and Drmno).

Hydromorphological pressures

Operational goal 1: Limitation of hydromorphological pressure on natural water bodies;

Operational goal 2: Achievement and maintenance of good ecological potential of heavily modified water bodies.

REGULATION OF WATER FLOW AND PROTECTION AGAINST THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF WATER

Strategic goal: Reduced risk of the harmful effects of water;

Operational goal 1: Regulation of water flows in accordance with environmental conditions;

Operational goal 2: Regular maintenance and control of the condition of waterways and water control facilities;

Operational goal 3: Preservation and improvement of the water regime through designated exploitation of river sediment;

Protection against fluvial flooding

Operational goal 1: Development of the defense against fluvial flooding system;

Operational goal 2: Efficient and coordinated operational flood protection;

Operational goal 3: Efficient and coordinated protection against ice and ice flooding;

Operational goal 4: Regular maintenance and control of the condition of facilities used for fluvial flood protection;

Operational goal 5: Efficient and continuous monitoring and forecasting of hydrometeorological events;

Operational goal 6: Adequate use of wetland areas and potential flooding zones;

Operational goal 7: Improvement of water retention in basins.

Protection against erosion and torrents

Operational goal 1: Establishment of legal framework for the improvement of protection against erosion and torrents;

Operational goal 2: Improvement of the conditions of protection against erosion and torrents;

Operational goal 3: Monitoring the situation and maintenance of facilities and works.

Protection against pluvial flooding (drainage)

Operational goal 1: Improvement of protection against pluvial flooding;

Operational goal 2: Efficient and coordinated operational protection against pluvial flooding;

Operational goal 3: Regular maintenance and control of the condition of water control facilities;

Drought and water scarcity

Operational goal 1: **Water management under conditions of drought and water scarcity;**

Legal and institutional framework**Strategic goal:** Completion of legal reform of the water sector in accordance with the need of adapting to social conditions and EU requirements, and efficient organisation of the water sector;

Operational goal 1: Adoption of all relative legislation and its harmonisation with international law;

Operational goal 2: Institutional strengthening of the water sector and more intensive cooperation with other sectors related to the water sector;

Operational goal 3: Introduction of the regulatory function in the water sector;

Operational goal 4: Visibility of water sector activities;

Operational goal 5: Strengthening of scientific and expert capacities to support the water sector

Economic policy

Strategic goal: Establishment of a system for sustainable, long-term financing of the water sector based on the principle of self-financing, which involves stable sources of funding, continuous influx of funds and established mechanisms for their collection;

Operational goal 1: Establishment of economic valuation of water and services of water supply and sewerage;

Operational goal 2: Implementation of regulations and collection of water fees;

Operational goal 3: Provision of funds for financing water sector development.