



IUCN SEE  
Dr Ivana Ribara 91  
11070 Belgrade  
Serbia

Tel. +381 11 2272 411  
Fax +381 11 2272 531  
see@iucn.org  
www.iucn.org/southeasterneurope

9 September 2009

**Invitation to the international conference 'Towards a Shared Vision for the Integrated Management of the Sava River', 4-5 November 2009, Zagreb, Croatia**

Dear Madam/Sir,

We are pleased to invite you to the international conference '*Towards a Shared Vision for the Integrated Management of the Sava River*', to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> November 2009 in Zagreb, Croatia. The conference is being organized by IUCN, in cooperation with a broad network of partners - Wageningen International, Orbicon, State Institute for Nature Protection of Croatia, Center for Ecology and Natural Resources of the University of Sarajevo, Agricultural Institute of the Republic of Srpska, Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia, and Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation. It is duly funded by the European Commission in the frame of the LIFE III project *Protection of Biodiversity of the Sava River Basin Floodplains*.

The international conference will bring together key national and international audience, including Ministries responsible for nature protection from Sava countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, and Slovenia), EU delegations from the region, project partners, international organizations, research institutions, NGOs, and practitioners, who share their interest in management and future of the Sava River and its floodplains.

The participants will have an opportunity to discuss the status and protection of biodiversity, including the ways to achieve sound and integrated management of resources, hopefully leading to the elaboration of the future Sava River Basin Management Plan. The conference will also present achievements of the Sava LIFE III project, which focused on identification of key habitats and species along the Sava River, in compliance with the EU Birds and Habitats Directives, and as a condition for Natura 2000 implementation and the design of a future ecological network along the river. The Sava LIFE III project confirmed the importance of the Sava River floodplains for biodiversity and the significance to maintain extensive forms of land use to support the protection of this biodiversity. Following the outcomes of the project, the conference participants will discuss and debate the requirements for protecting the biodiversity along the Sava River with claims of other sectors, including navigation, agriculture, and flood protection, assess conflicts and synergies, and fortunately come to a shared vision for the future of the Sava River.

The conference will be held in English, and translation to Croatian will be provided. Please note the conference will take place in Four Points by Sheraton Panorama Hotel, Trg Kresimira Cosica 9, Zagreb. Should you need accommodation, you are welcome to reserve a room directly with the hotel via attached Hotel Reservation Form, which provides you with special room price for attending this conference (please send filled form to the hotel by email: [fourpointsres.zagreb@fourpoints.com](mailto:fourpointsres.zagreb@fourpoints.com), or by fax: +385 1 4892 040). Additionally, please delete

the credit card details from the registration form and send a copy to Ms. Maja Vasiljevic, IUCN Sava Conference Coordinator (email: [maja.vasiljevic1@gmail.com](mailto:maja.vasiljevic1@gmail.com)), preferably by 1 October 2009.

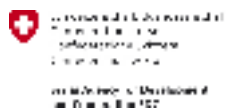
It will be our pleasure to welcome you at this important event and we invite you to please contact Ms. Maja Vasiljevic by email (as above) or phone: +385 91 950 9970 for any further information.

Thank you in advance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Erg', written in a cursive style.

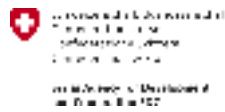
**Boris Erg**  
Director, IUCN SEE



## Towards a shared vision for the integrated management of the Sava River

**International Conference**  
November 4-5, 2009 Zagreb, Croatia

<b>Day 1: Introduction to the key management aspects of the Sava River and interaction with other sectors</b>		
09:00-09:10	Opening of the conference	IUCN
09:10-09:20	Welcome speech	Ministry of Culture, Republic of Croatia
09:20-09:30	Introductory note	State Institute for Nature Protection, Republic of Croatia
09:30-09:40	Introductory note from the EU	The European Commission
09:40-09:55	The Sava River - a transboundary river of national and international importance	Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, Bosnia and Herzegovina
09:55-10:10	The Sava River - a transboundary river of national and international importance	Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, Republic of Serbia
10:10-10:25	The Sava River - a transboundary river of national and international importance	Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Republic of Slovenia
10:25-11:00	Summarized outcomes of the project 'Protection of Biodiversity of the Sava River Basin Floodplains'	Representative of the Sava River LIFE III project
11:00-11:30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:30-12:30	<i>Key Notes (4x10 minutes + Q&amp;A):</i>	
	The key aspects of the management of the Danube River Basin	International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
	The Sava River as a backbone in the Pan-European Ecological Network	Representative of an international organization
	The Sava River Basin Analysis – toward the Sava River Basin Management Plan	TBD
	Climate change and its potential impact on the Sava River Basin	State Hydrometeorological Institute, Republic of Croatia
12:30-13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>	
13:30-15:30	<i>Work Group Sessions:</i>	
	Harmonising nature protection and river basin management	WG chair and selected key expert as facilitator/rapporteur
	Dealing with climate change in the management of the Sava River and its floodplains	WG chair and selected key expert as facilitator/rapporteur
	Planning the future of land use in the Sava River	WG chair and selected key expert as



	Floodplains	facilitator/rapporteur
	Sectoral planning and integrated management of the Sava River	WG chair and selected key expert as facilitator/rapporteur
15:30-16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
16:00-16:45	Report back from the WGs	WG Rapporteurs
16:45-17:15	Wrap-up of Day 1	Facilitator of the day
17:15-18:00	Sava Exhibition	
19:30	<i>Joint Dinner</i>	
<b>Day 2: Towards an Action Plan for a shared vision for the Sava River and its floodplains</b>		
09:00-09:15	Opening of Day 2	Facilitator of the day
09:15-09:30	Wise use of wetlands	Ramsar Convention Secretariat
09:30-09:45	A vision for the Sava River seen from an NGO perspective	Green Action, Croatia & Young Researchers of Serbia
09:45-10:00	The future of land use along the Sava River	Euronatur
10:00-10:15	Central Posavina Management Plan	Lonjsko Polje Nature Park
10:15-10:30	Q&A	Facilitator of the day
10:30-11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:00- 11:15	Introduction to workgroups on outlining actions	WG Chairs
11:15-12:30	<i>Work Group Sessions:</i>	
	Improving transboundary cooperation in Sava River countries	WG chair and selected key expert as facilitator/rapporteur
	The main management issues in Sava River and its floodplains	WG chair and selected key expert as facilitator/rapporteur
	The main constraints for a shared vision for the Sava River	WG chair and selected key expert as facilitator/rapporteur
	Exploring common grounds for sharing a vision for the Sava River	WG chair and selected key expert as facilitator/rapporteur
12:30-13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>	
13:30-14:15	Report back from the WGs	WG Rapporteurs
14:15-14:45	Plenary discussion of actions towards a shared vision	Facilitator of the day
14:45-15:30	Final remarks & Conclusions	IUCN
15:30	<i>Closing of the Conference</i>	