

Water management

Croatia

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Republic of Croatia



- Territory: 88 166 km²
 - ➡ 56 552 km² land
 - ➡ 31 614 km² sea
- Land border: 2028 km
- Water sources:
 - ➡ 5th place in Europe
 - ➡ 42nd in the World

EU Accession Process



2001 -signed 2005 - ratified	<i>Stabilisation and Association Agreement</i>
21 February 2003	<i>Application for full membership</i>
18 June 2004	<i>Official “candidate” status for EU membership</i>
3 October 2005	<i>Accession negotiations - officially opened</i> •accepted obligation for cooperation with the EC and MS with regard to water management issues •Republic Croatia is also committed to complete the harmonization of water legislation with the <i>acquis communautaire</i>
2005 - 2006	<i>Screening – analysis of legislative alignment</i>
2009 - 2010	<i>Technical consultation</i>
19 February 2010	Chapter 27–Environment - <i>Negotiations, formally opened</i>
22 December 2010	Chapter 27–Environment - <i>temporarily closed</i>
10 June 2011	<i>Accession negotiations - officially closed</i>
6 December 2011	<i>Signing of Treaty of Accession</i>

Water Management Strategy

- establishment of an integrated and coordinated water regime
- national territory and on river basin districts
- ensuring sufficient quantities of water of adequate quality for water supply to the population and private needs

Water Management Strategy

- protection of people and assets from floods and other adverse effects of water
- achieving and maintaining the good status of water for the protection of human life and health, protection of assets and of aquatic and water-dependent ecosystems

Water Management Strategy

Shortcomings

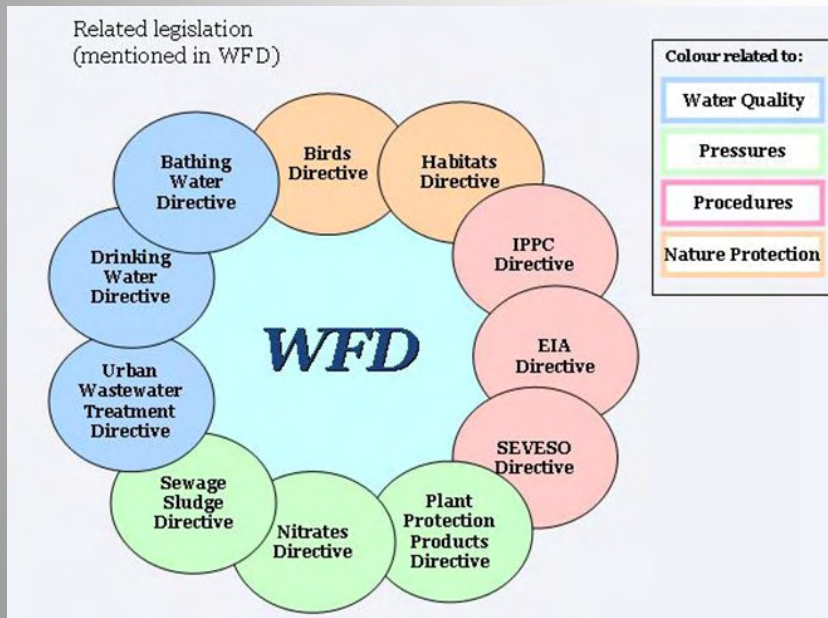
- Not all interested stakeholders were involved in preparation process
- The quality of the document is not satisfactory
- Not harmonised with modern water management practices → lack integrated approach

	Project	Funding	Finalization Year
1	Monitoring Transposition and Implementation of the EU Environmental Acquis	EC - DG ENV project	on going
2	Twinning project - Capacity building and development of guidelines for implementing the WFD	EC - CARDS 2004, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Dutch Government	2009
3	Development of RBMP- Pilot project-Mirna	Netherlands –MATRA, Pre-Accession Project Program (MPAP)	2009
4	Approximation of Croatian water management legislation with the EU water acquis	EC - CARDS 2003	2008
5	RBMP for the Sava River (Pilot project -Kupa)	EC - CARDS Regional Programme 2003	2007
6	Implementation of the WFD (Pilot project RBMP - Baranja Karašica)	EC- INTERREG IIIA, Slo - Hung –Cro Neighbourhood Programme 2004 - 2006	2007
7	Development of a framework for the formulation of WMP- coastal zone (Pilot RBMP - Adriatic catchment area)	EC – Program for Cooperation with Countries in Central and Eastern Europe (PSO)	2006

National water legislation

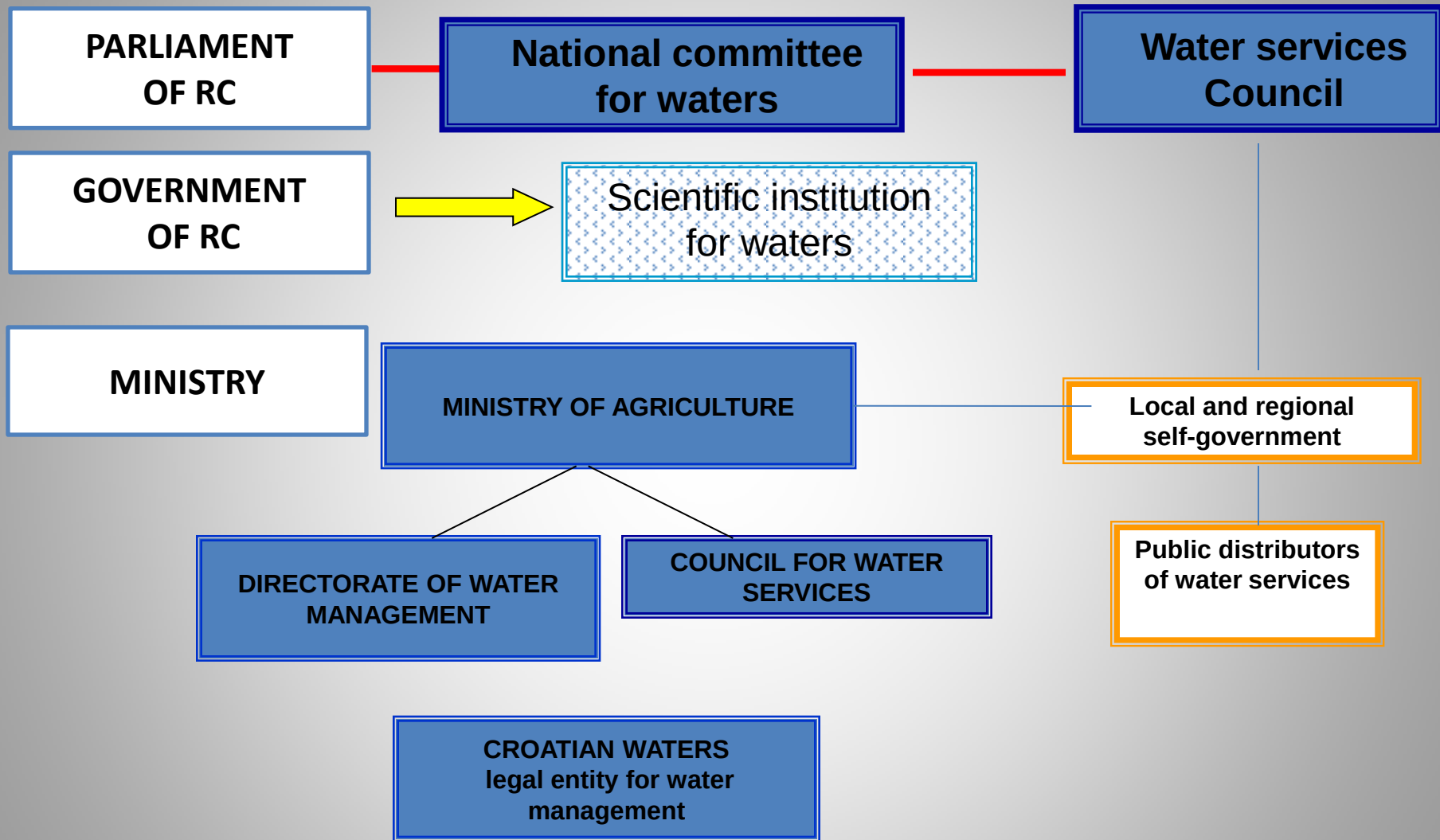
Water Act (OG 130/2011)

- Water Management Financing Act (OG 153/09)



- Partial harmonization of national water legislation with WFD
- New Water Act in public hearing process → main issue is sediment extraction from the river bed
- Nitrates Directive- not implemented

Institutional framework of water management



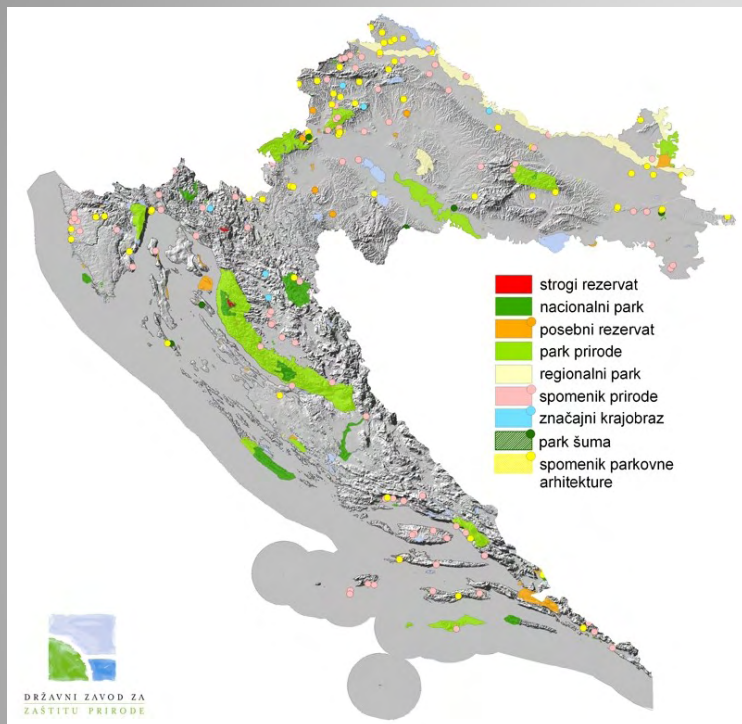
Subordinate Regulations

- Decision on the boundaries of river basin districts (OG 79/10)
- Regulation on water quality standards (OG 89/10)
- Regulation on bathing water quality, referring to inland surface waters (OG 51/10)
- Ordinance on wastewater emission limit values (OG 87/10)
- Decision on the designation of sensitive areas (OG 81/10)
- Ordinance on the contents, procedure, and methodology of adoption of the Water Management Strategy and the RBMP, on the manner of public information and consultation, and on the composition of the RBD Council (OG 3/11)

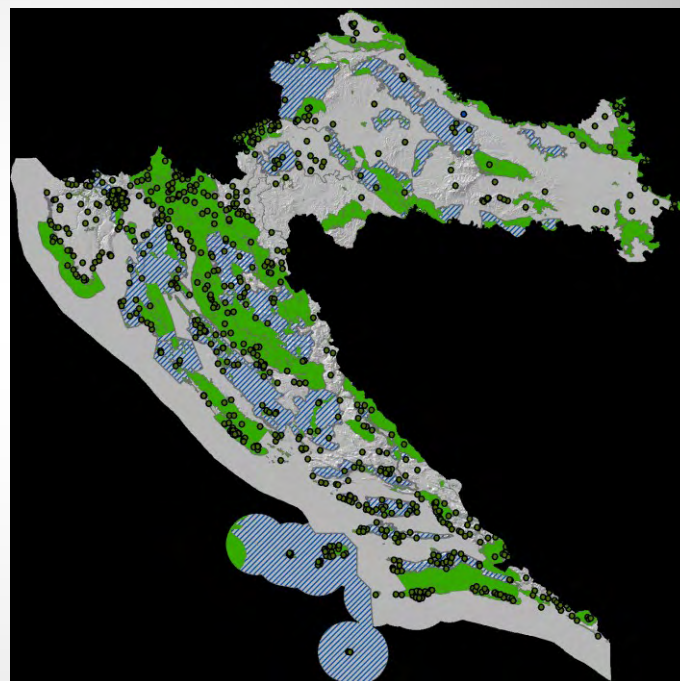
Protected areas

- zones of sanitary protection of drinking water
- areas designated for the protection of commercially significant aquatic organisms
- bathing and recreation areas
- areas prone to eutrophication and areas vulnerable to nitrates → not yet harmonised with the Nitrate Directive
- areas designated for the protection of habitats or species where maintenance or improvement of the status of water is an important factor in their protection
- areas with poor water exchange with coastal waters, of which the sensitivity is assessed in relation to urban wastewater discharge

Protected areas in Croatia



Croatian ecological network



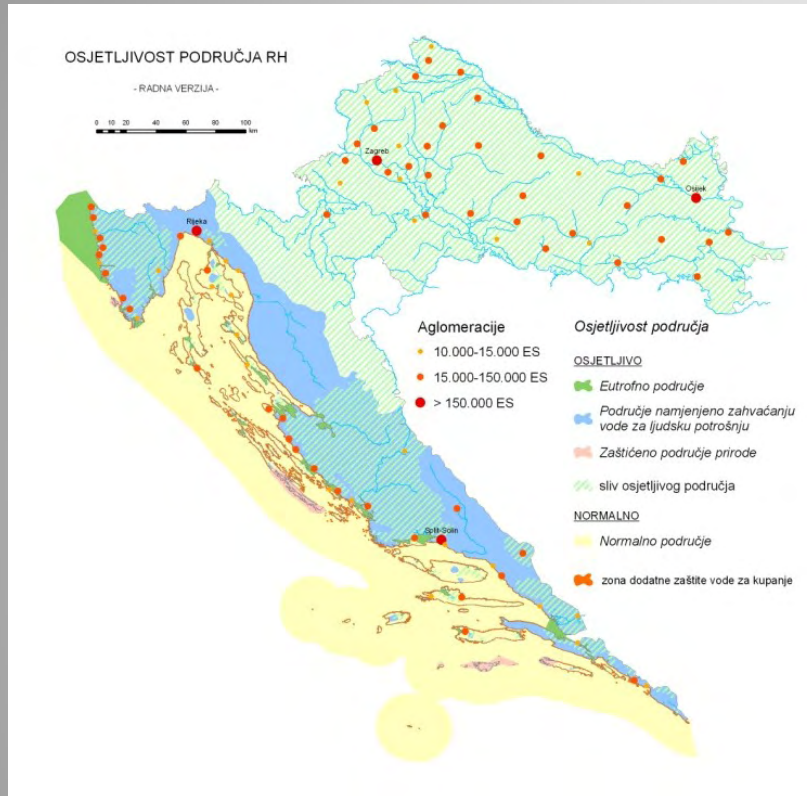
SPA areas – for birds

(blue lines)

SCI areas – habitats and species

(green polygons and dots)

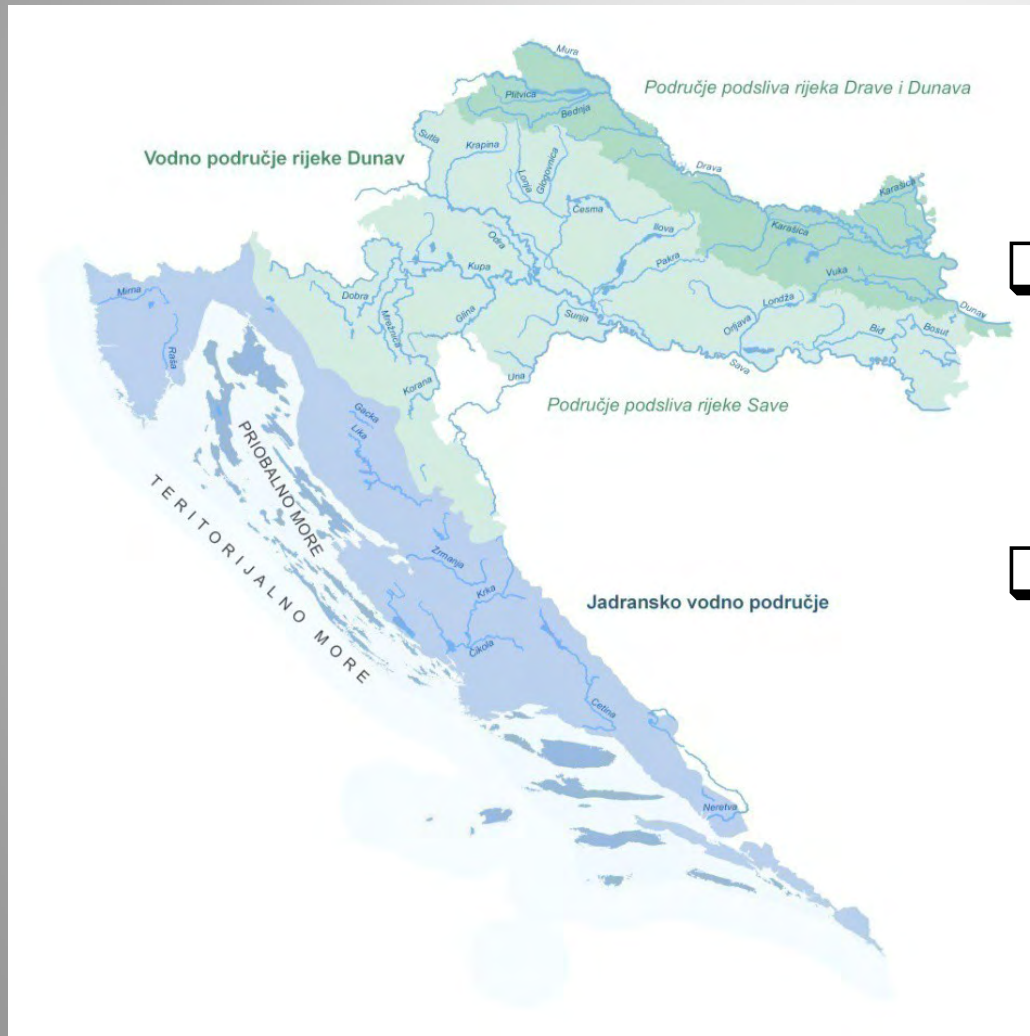
Sensitive areas



- ❑ **sensitive areas** - for the purpose of achievement of water quality objectives, it is necessary to apply a higher level or higher degree of UWWT
- ❑ **less sensitive areas** are areas in which the natural characteristics of water allow for application of a lower level or lower degree of UWWT

- ❑ The adoption of the Decision on the designation of **vulnerable zones** has **been deferred for the moment**, in order to provide further analyses and assessments of impacts on agricultural production.

River basin management districts



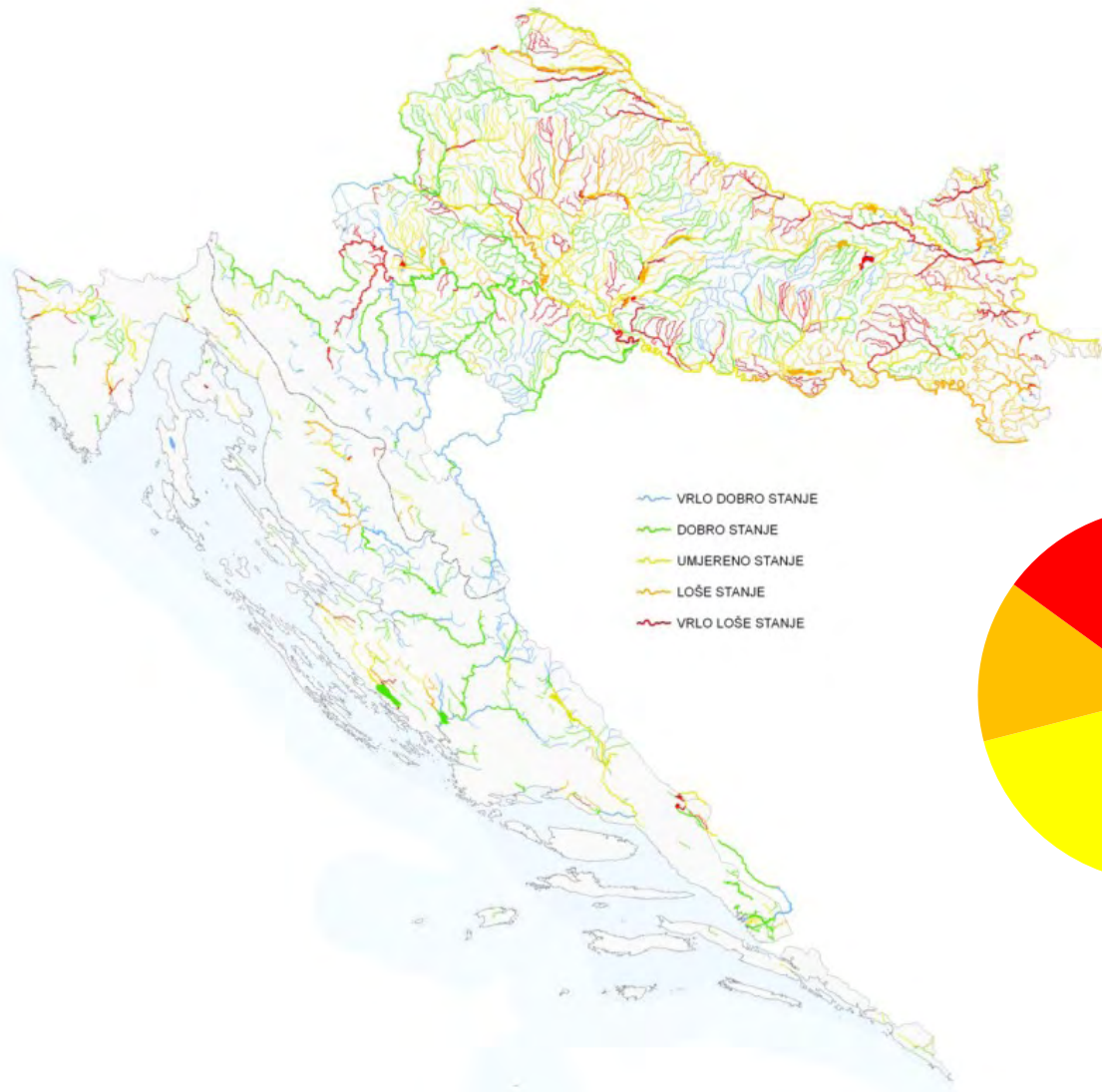
□ Danube River Basin District

□ Adriatic River Basin District

River Basin Management Plan

- ACTION PLAN FOR RIVER BASINS MANAGEMENT PLAN ADOPTION
- November 2010 Croatian Government adopted the draft RBMP, which was made by Croatian waters
- Strategic assessment and Public consultation process ended
- final RBMP adopted at the end of 2011
- The specific situation for Croatia is that first cycle will not last for six years, because we need to fit in a second one with all other member states

Water status



high
good
moderate
bad
poor

Regional cooperation



- The most part of Croatian WB have border or cross border character with international significance
- International conventions and agreements on the water management → important in order to achieve integrated water management in Croatia
- The main tasks is adoption and implementiton of long-term strategies, management plans and action plans for joint measures for water protection and flood prevention/protection in international basins

Conclusion

- Implementation of the existing bilateral and multilateral agreements needs to be improved
- Establishment of monitoring network on the regional level is needed
- Implementation of water directives is required for achieving the main objective, good status of all waters

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!