

# INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET CONCEPT STAGE

**Report No.:** ISDSC3259

**Date ISDS Prepared/Updated:** 05-Sep-2013

**Date ISDS Approved/Disclosed:** 13-Sep-2013

## I. BASIC INFORMATION

### A. Basic Project Data

<b>Country:</b>	South Eastern Europe and Balkans	<b>Project ID:</b>	P145048
<b>Project Name:</b>	West Balkans Drina River Basin Management (P145048)		
<b>Task Team Leader:</b>	Guy J. Alaerts		
<b>Estimated Appraisal Date:</b>		<b>Estimated Board Date:</b>	10-Nov-2014
<b>Managing Unit:</b>	ECSAR	<b>Lending Instrument:</b>	Investment Project Financing
<b>GEF Focal Area:</b>	International waters		
<b>Sector(s):</b>	General water, sanitation and flood protection sector (100%)		
<b>Theme(s):</b>	Other environment and natural resources management (100%)		
<b>Financing (In USD Million)</b>			
<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	7.00	<b>Total Bank Financing:</b>	0.00
<b>Financing Gap:</b>	0.00		
<b>Financing Source</b>		<b>Amount</b>	
BORROWER/RECIPIENT		2.00	
Global Environment Facility (GEF)		5.00	
Total		7.00	
<b>Environmental Category:</b>	B - Partial Assessment		
<b>Is this a Repeater project?</b>	No		

### B. Project Objectives

30. The objective of the Project is to assist the countries of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro to achieve improved planning and implementation for integrated, cooperative management of the trans-boundary Drina River basin.

### C. Project Description

The following activities are envisaged under the project:

#### Component 1: Multi-state Cooperation on International Drina Management

Sub-component 1A: Development of an agreed Strategic Action Program (SAP) mainstreaming transboundary IWRM and climate change adaptation in national planning. This component would provide more effective planning tools to the riparian countries for enhanced decision making in integrated DRB management, to identify trade-offs, and to put in place appropriate policies and reforms, applying IWRM principles and developing climate-change adaptation. Towards this, the project will support:

- (i) Preparation of a Drina Basin Strategic Action Program (SAP)—comprising three “national” chapters and a “roof” report—as part of, and complement to a Drina River Basin Management Plan, that would identify a prioritized list of short-, medium- and long-term measures and a pipeline of investments for integrated, sustainable management of DRB which would also help leverage additional donor support for the implementation of the investments. This SAP will build on the output from the WBIF-funded Priority Investment Study (2014-2015). The SAP will be compatible with the Sava and Danube River Basin Management Plans. (BiH, Serbia, Montenegro, Regional)
- (ii) Establishment and operation of a suitable, jointly endorsed hydrological simulation model combined with a climate change impact module. The model would notably support capacity for modeling various hydropower development, flood and drought, and land use scenarios. The hydraulic model would include reservoir operation optimization, environmental flow, and sediment transport control. The hydraulic model would provide knowledge about the present as well as future water uses, considering not only the nexus between hydropower generation and environmental protection but also the potential for flood mitigation measures along the Drina and its main tributaries. The model would require purchase of incremental equipment (automated flow /level gauges) for low- and high-flow conditions, flow rate – level rating curve determination, and calibration. The model would be a commercially available and updatable one-dimensional package which would be compatible with similar models applied in the region and by the International Sava River Commission. The three countries and the International Sava River Commission would receive facilities and training to operate the model; protocols for standardization, and for regular updating and maintenance will be agreed. (BiH, Serbia, Montenegro, Regional)
- (iii) Support for a water resources and basin study to define the basin and water resources parameters to inform regional strategies for energy and hydropower development and rationalization. The study will propose measures and constraints that will allow to determine the levels of sustainability and realism of various hydropower proposals, including compensatory measures and design adaptations to address trade-offs and negative externalities. The study will specifically take into account the need for IWRM-based decision-making, and the need to define operational guidance for climate change adaptation. (BiH, Serbia, Montenegro, Regional)
- (iv) Analysis of the water resources and basin system, to allow specification of parameters and protocols to inform the design and concession arrangements for reservoirs and hydropower facilities across the basin. (BiH, Serbia, Montenegro, Regional)
- (v) Develop protocols to improve data compatibility among the three countries, within the seat of the Hydrometeorological Standing Committee of the International Sava River Commission.

Sub-component 1B: Institutional Development and Capacity Building. This component will support the establishment of regional- and national-level institutions for joint management of the DRB and for enhanced capacity for action on transboundary concerns and to develop climate change adaptive management frameworks, at bilateral, trilateral and International Sava River Commission levels.

- (i) Establishment of a Project-based Drina Task Force responsible for daily management of regional activities leading towards the preparation of an integrated Drina River Basin Management Plan and prioritization of investment projects under the SAP (see Sub-Component 1A) in close cooperation with the International Sava River Commission. (BiH, Serbia, Montenegro, Regional)
- (ii) Establish a Project-based Drina Steering Committee, comprised of higher-level officials from all three riparian countries to maintain the ongoing dialogue for cooperation and commitment among the three countries at the political level. The Steering Committee would also oversee the work of the Task Force and project. The International Sava River Commission would be Observer. Over time, the Steering Committee would become associated closer with the International Sava River Commission. The Government of Montenegro would be encouraged to become a full member of the International Sava River Commission. (Regional)
- (iii) At national level, inter-ministerial committees would be set up, and capacity developed, to facilitate the development of better integrated sectoral plans to balance conflicting water uses and that would feed into the regional-level strategy. (BiH, Serbia, Montenegro)
- (iv) Help prepare appropriate national and local policy and regulatory reforms to conform with the international Drina water management. (BiH, Serbia, Montenegro)

Component 2: Support for Flood and Drought Management and Community Participation. This component would support the following:

- (i) Enhanced Flood Forecasting and Early Warning System at regional scale to complement the existing ones in the riparian countries; this would include (a) preparation of a Flood and Drought Preparedness Strategy; and (b) capacity building for implementation of flood and drought resilience measures. (BiH, Serbia, Montenegro, Regional)
- (ii) Small Grants and Awareness Program. Replicating the excellent experience in the GEF Neretva-Trebinjica Management Project, the Project will set up a Small Grants Program to (co-) finance small, local initiatives by community organizations, schools, academics, private companies and other entities that have meritorious proposals to support the objective of the project. Grants will range between US\$10,000-20,000, will be completed within 1 year, and will be called three times over the life of the Project. The Manual of the Neretva-Trebinjica Management Project will be adapted for this work. (BiH, Serbia, Montenegro). The project will also fund a broad public awareness program to inform the population in the basin of the objectives and activities under the proposed project and its rationale and potential benefits, and to engage the basin communities into more active partnership. The Sub-component will finance (i) information activities by the respective governments as well as under the leadership of the International Sava River Commission; (ii) a sixth-monthly publication "Our Drina"; and (iii) provide incremental funds for school and community initiatives.

Component 3: Project Management and Monitoring and Evaluation. A Regional Project Management Team (PMT) would be established for overall coordination of the project at the regional level. The PMT will be accountable to a high-level Inter-state Steering Committee, in which the International Sava River Commission will be Observer. The project will support Project Implementation Teams (PIT) in each of the three countries who will be responsible for the day-to-day implementation of project activities at the national level. The PITs will develop and maintain a project website and participate in relevant GEF IW:Learn events.

#### **D. Project location and salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis (if known)**

The project will be implemented at the national level in all three riparian countries as it aims to strengthen the capacity of the governments (including both entities of BiH) for sustainable

cooperative management of the transboundary Drina basin. On-the-ground small investments by local communities will be undertaken in each country under the Small Grants Program but only within the Drina basin territory.

### **E. Borrowers Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies**

All three countries have sufficient capacity to address project safeguards resulting from the application of the safeguard policies. There are several Bank-financed operations ongoing in the three countries and implementation of the safeguard measures under those projects has familiarized the governments with these safeguard requirements as well as built capacity for implementation of the relevant safeguard measures. During project preparation, the Bank team's safeguard specialists will review and assess the implementation capacity of all three countries and make recommendations for improvement as necessary.

### **F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team**

Jorge E. Villegas (ECSSO)

Esma Kreso (ECSEN)

## **II. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY**

<b>Safeguard Policies</b>	<b>Triggered?</b>	<b>Explanation (Optional)</b>
Environmental Assessment OP/ BP 4.01	Yes	No major adverse environmental impacts are anticipated under the project. For Component 1, a Strategic and Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) will be prepared during project implementation, as part of, or in preparation for, the SAP. Among other things, the SESA would include an initial assessment of the long list of proposed investments which will be included in the SAP, with the objective of highlighting any with potential negative environmental and/or social impacts, so severe and unavoidable that the proposed investment should be dropped from consideration, as well as those which could continue to be considered (shortlisted) but with substantial mitigation requirements. The Terms of Reference for the SESA will be developed and disclosed prior to Appraisal of the Project. Some limited environmental impacts may be associated with the small investments under the grant program under Component 2. These grant-funded activities will be screened to ensure that they will not cause adverse environmental impacts. The screening procedures will be outlined in the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) which will be prepared through public consultations, and subsequently disclosed, following OP/BP 4.01

		on Environmental Assessment for a Category B project. The screening procedures will take into account the environmental requirements of legislation in force at the necessary national level and the World Bank. As such, the procedures will ensure that no activities requiring a full Environmental Impact Assessment (corresponding to a World Bank Category A) or entailing the acquisition of land or land-affixed assets are financed under this project. In addition, the procedures will identify sample projects with moderate environmental impacts, for which an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) will be prepared, disclosed, implemented and monitored.
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	Yes	The policy is triggered primarily to highlight the existence of important natural habitats within the project area and therefore need for the SESA and ESMF to focus adequate attention on this aspect. Triggering of this policy does not imply the need for preparation of any separate SG instruments
Forests OP/BP 4.36	Yes	The policy is triggered primarily to highlight the existence of forests within the project area and therefore need for the SESA and ESMF to focus adequate attention on this aspect. Triggering of this policy does not imply the need for preparation of any separate SG instruments
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	
Physical Cultural Resources OP/ BP 4.11	TBD	
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	The project will not fund any activities that may result in displacement of indigenous people or affect their livelihood.
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	No	The project will not fund any activities that may result in land acquisition, involuntary resettlement, or affect the livelihoods of the population. Under component 2, sub-projects financed through the provision of grants will be screened to ensure they will not result in the involuntary resettlement or livelihood displacement of any third parties.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	

Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	TBD	Project Team will seek views of LEGEN
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	No interventions will be undertaken in disputed areas.

### III. SAFEGUARD PREPARATION PLAN

**A. Tentative target date for preparing the PAD Stage ISDS:** 01-Sep-2014

**B. Time frame for launching and completing the safeguard-related studies that may be needed.**  
**The specific studies and their timing<sup>1</sup> should be specified in the PAD-stage ISDS:**

April – June 2014

### IV. APPROVALS

Task Team Leader:	Name: Guy J. Alaerts	
<b><i>Approved By:</i></b>		
Regional Safeguards Coordinator:	Name:	Date:
Sector Manager:	Name: Dina Umali-Deiningner (SM)	Date: 13-Sep-2013

<sup>1</sup> Reminder: The Bank's Disclosure Policy requires that safeguard-related documents be disclosed before appraisal (i) at the InfoShop and (ii) in country, at publicly accessible locations and in a form and language that are accessible to potentially affected persons.