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Republic of Serbia
Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure

*Supervision and Environmental Monitoring of River Training and
Dredging Works on Critical Sectors on the Danube River*
Contract n° 48-00-00093/2014-28



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EuropeAid	135642/IH/SER/RS
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Programme	IPA 2013
Country	Republic of Serbia
Contracting Authority	Ministry of Finance – Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes
Final Beneficiary	Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure
End Recipient	Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure – Directorate for Inland Waterways
Type of document	Meeting Minutes
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Prepared by	MG
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MINUTES OF THE FORUM MEETING

Date	19.07.2019
Duration	10:00-15:00
Meeting venue	MCTI - Directorate for Inland Waterways, Francuska 9, 11000 Belgrade, Republic of Serbia
Type of meeting	Stakeholders' Forum Meeting
Meeting No.	SHFM06

Duration	Topic	Responsible
10:00	Welcome note, introduction of participants, organizational issues	ER, all
10:05	General rules on organization and work of the Stakeholders' Forum	ER, all
10:10	Update of the list of members and observers	ER, all
10:15	Brief review of previous activities of the Stakeholders' Forum	ER, all
10:25	River training and dredging Works Programme	S&EMSC
10:45	New results of Environmental Monitoring during Works - Hydromorphology - Sediment and water quality - Biology	S&EMSC



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Duration	Topic	Responsible
11:30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
12:00	New results of Environmental Monitoring during Works - Hydromorphology - Sediment and water quality - Biology	S&EMSC
12:15	Q&A	All
13:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00	Status of proposals for the application of compensation measures and catalogue of compensation measures	ER
14:25	Visibility and external communication	ER, all
14:40	Next steps, action points list, next meeting	ER, all
14:45	AOB	All
14:50	Evaluation	All
15:00	Until the next meeting	

List of participants

No.	Name and Family Name	Organization
1.	Natalia Garcia Estévez	ACCIONA Ingeniería (S&EMSC)
2.	Tanja Radović	ACCIONA Ingeniería (S&EMSC)
3.	Slobodan Zlatković	ACCIONA Ingeniería (S&EMSC)
4.	Karim Kam	ACCIONA Ingeniería (S&EMSC)
5.	Zoran Rašić	ACCIONA Ingeniería (S&EMSC)
6.	Tanja Ničić	ACCIONA Ingeniería (S&EMSC)
7.	Georg Rast	WWF
8.	Dejan Trifunović	Danube Commission
9.	Đorđe Višić	Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure
10.	Lidija Andrijašević Jovanović	Ministry of Finance - CFCU



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No.	Name and Family Name	Organization
11.	Ana Ognjanović	Ministry of Finance - CFCU
12.	Laslo Galamboš	Institute for Nature Conservation of Vojvodina Province
13.	Tanja Bošnjak	Institute for Nature Conservation of Vojvodina Province
14.	Mirjana Lendhardt	Institute for Multidisciplinary Research
15.	Milica Gačić	MCTI – Directorate for Inland Waterways – Plovput (ER)
16.	Milivoj Vasiljević	MCTI – Directorate for Inland Waterways – Plovput (ER)
17.	Magdalena Popović	MCTI – Directorate for Inland Waterways – Plovput (ER)
18.	Ivan Mitrović	MCTI – Directorate for Inland Waterways – Plovput (ER)
19.	Luka Krivokuća	MCTI – Directorate for Inland Waterways – Plovput (ER)

Welcome and organizational issues

Mr. Mitrović opened the sixth meeting of the Forum and welcomed the members and observers. There was just one new participant from the Ministry of Finance – CFCU.

The organizational issues were tackled at the beginning, when Mr. Mitrović announced that this meeting will not include a presentation of a Forum member or observer.

General rules on organization and work of the Stakeholders' Forum

No new comments were received from the last meeting, so the general rules remain the same.

Update of the list of members and observers

Mr. Mitrović said that a contact list of all Forum members and observers is published on the Forum website and it is going to be updated after each meeting. This list is still opened, having in mind participants of this meeting and the potential new ones. The aim is to make all Forum members and observers' activities as much transparent as possible.

Brief review of previous activities of the Stakeholders' Forum

Ms. Gačić made a brief overview of the previous activities of the Stakeholders' Forum. She reminded the members and observers about the previous five Forum meetings. She explained that the sixth meeting was planned to be held in Novi Sad, as the previous one, but that due to unfavourable hydrological conditions was organized in the premises of the Directorate for Inland Waterways. During last months the participants of the Stakeholders' Forum meetings had the opportunity to get familiar with the actual results of environmental monitoring performed by the Supervision &



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Environmental monitoring Service Contractor at the critical sector Futog, which will remain as practice for the upcoming meetings.

River training and dredging Works Programme

Mr. Kam briefly presented the Programme and Project Implementation Schedule. This was elaborated as the general status of the Project, considered through three periods: before the SHFM05, between the SHFM05 and this SHFM06 and planned activities.

River training structures will be executed on three sectors and dredging works on five. According to the adopted PPIS firstly the river structures will be constructed and those works were started at the critical sector Futog.

Mr. Kam presented the scope of the works on the detached groyne and chevron at the critical sector Futog from July 2018 to July 2019 with the list of all relevant activities. The construction of both structures was finished in April up to the item of body profiling, which should wait appropriate hydrological conditions in order to be properly conducted. The construction works on the designed sills at the critical sector Čortanovci were also presented. Some photos from all construction sites were shown.

Regarding the upcoming activities, the completion of works on Futog and Čortanovci structures was itemed, including the use permits and taking over activities, which mark the commencement of the Defect Notification Period of the structures. Construction phase and preparatory activities for another chevron – on the Preliv sector, as well as the environmental monitoring during and after works, are also within the next months plan. The start of preparation for the following dredging activities after the completion of the river training works was announced.

Q&A

Mr. Trifunović, as the representative of the Danube Commission, stressed that the project is now within approximately one year timeframe before the official end of the project implementation. He suggested the S&EMSC to present the works dynamic plan for all critical sectors at the upcoming SHF meetings, as well as the potential risks for the effective finalization of the Works Contract, including the implementation of compensation measures.

Getting up to the Čortanovci structures, Mr. Mitrović clarified that there will be three sills at the Čortanovci sectors even though in construction terms the sill with the opening might be seen as two separate hydrotechnical structures.

New results of Environmental Monitoring Report during Works

– Hydromorphology

Mr. Rašić, the Hydraulic Expert on behalf of the S&EMSC, presented the latest results of hydromorphological surveys at the critical sector Futog which were conducted during works execution and after the completion of the body of the structures. Thus, the S&EMSC results from April 2019 were compared with the results of the bathymetric surveys performed by Plovput in July 2018, presented on the respective layout. The hydrotechnical structures are still not fully completed, but they are finished in terms of shape and volume, so their influence has started. Major changes were noticed around the detached groyne construction site, confirming the impact of this structure on the Danube flow



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conditions. The latest surveys done by Plovput in May 2019 show even more changes. Some island erosion was recorded by the S&EMSC.

The hydromorphological status of the Čortanovci sector and ongoing works on the sills was also presented.

Regarding the planned dredging activities Mr. Rašić introduced the present state of the designed dredging and disposal areas to the participants and stated that the designed locations are not feasible at this point of the project implementation and should be again elaborated.

The monitoring data of the RHMS gauging stations Bačka Palanka and Novi Sad was displayed for the past months. This data was and will be used later on for the hydromorphological analysis, as well as the data from the additional gauging stations implemented under this project, which data is available at the link: <http://www.meteos.rs/user/agromah/dunav.php> (existing at the official Forum web page too).

Q&A

Mr. Rast wanted to confirm whether there was no erosion neither upstream nor downstream of the chevron and Mr. Rašić said that the chevron is not in its full capacity yet but that the influence, if any, could be detected. Still, no erosion was recorded in the vicinity of the chevron, as groyne is more essential for the river morphodynamics at this location.

Mr. Rast suggested to the S&EMSC to prepare a map overview of the hydromorphological changes along the stretches included in the project so the past and present states could be visualized in an easier way.

Mr. Rašić also explained to all the present Forum members and observers the general purpose and theoretical construction overview of the hydrotechnical structures – groyne and chevron.

Additionally, Mr. Mitrović asked if the latest layout of the sector Futog published by Plovput was analyzed by the S&EMSC. Mr. Rašić responded that he has just seen that layout a day before the meeting and that it has not been analyzed. Mr. Mitrović said that clear changes can be observed on the layout with hydrographic data from May 2019, and that those changes are favourable from the navigation point of view, including the fact that after a long period of time the fairway width is increased from 80 m to 120 m.

– Sediment and water quality

The progress of environmental monitoring of sediment and water quality was conveyed by the Chemical Expert Ms. Radović. She repeated that there are 3 phases of monitoring - the baseline monitoring has been finished as the precondition for the start of works and all obtained results were compared to the existing official data for the 10-years period (the EIA study, SEPA data etc.).

The same approach is maintained for the monitoring during works, for which four regular analyses were performed until now (in September and November 2018 and February 2019 and May 2019). The latest results from May have classified the water quality as class I for the majority of the monitored parameters. Ms. Radović repeated the results of the short water quality analysis on temperature, suspended matters and mineral oils for 4 sampling points on the construction sites of the detached groyne and chevron, at the critical sector Futog (performed in October 2018, February and March 2019). As could be seen, all the results correspond to the 1st class of water quality. The additional surveys were planned only for dredging works, but since the S&EM team wants to have a continuous monitoring, additional surveys were done for the construction works too.



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Ms. Radović also the general plan for monitoring for the sector Čortanovci. The sampling on downstream point of the sills was performed on July 16th and the results are being processed.

Q&A

Mr. Trifunović asked if the new surveys did not show higher concentrations of mercury in the sediment samples as on previous occasions, which was negated by Ms. Radović.

– Biology

The Biological Expert Mr. Zlatković presented the new results of the biological monitoring during works. He stated that the biological monitoring aspects covered were: phytoplankton, mussels, birds, fishes, macrovegetation, plants, development of vegetation, riparian areas and protected areas and the ecological network. The main conclusion was that all the recorded species are resident for this critical sector and common species of the Danube, which is usual having in mind the period of the year we are dealing with.

Mr. Zlatković claimed that the existing populations and habitats are not affected by the works because of the enough distance of the construction site which was respected by the WKSC.

Regarding the species defined in the Terms of Reference of the Project, one individual of the Unio species was found during the monitoring campaign in February 2019 (and one before, in December 2018) at the critical sector Futog and at Čortanovci one individual per campaign – in May and June 2019. Also, up to ten individuals of *Riparia riparia* bird were recorded at the sector Čortanovci.

Q&A

Mr. Galamboš asked why the net type for fish monitoring had varied among the sectors and why only the locations upstream of the structures at the sector Futog were monitored. Mr. Zlatković said that, having in mind the specific local conditions, the recommendations of local fishermen were to apply a specific net size compliant to the actual state of the river bed and water levels. Regarding the other question, Mr. Zlatković responded that the locations between the groyne and the chevron and downstream of both will be monitored as soon as adequate physical conditions for net laying are achieved. Ms. Garcia-Estevéz said that the monitoring campaigns will not neglect the importance of surveying the other points around both of the structures, but that the recommendations of the experienced fishermen are also among the relevant start points of the monitoring as until now as in the future.

Mr. Mitrović wondered if secondary sources are being used by the S&EMSC team during the birds monitoring and stated that the data of the Institute for Nature Conservation of Vojvodina Province shall be queried.

Ms. Garcia-Estevéz gave a conclusion of environmental monitoring results and summarized the main recommendations for the WKSC and the S&EM team.

Q&A

Mr. Galamboš remarked that the S&EMSC presentations should be clear and focused in order to avoid any misunderstandings and that the monitoring methodology should be clearly defined. Mr. Mitrović suggested that the methodology could be explained in a form of a technical note in the course of the next monitoring period.



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Status of proposals for the application of compensation measures and catalogue of compensation measures

Ms. Gačić said that the first proposal of the compensation measures was presented during the SHFM05 by the Institute for Nature Conservation of Vojvodina Province (PZZP). Mr. Galamboš framed several areas at the sectors of Futog and Beška that can be elaborated as technical compensation measures proposal by the S&EMSC team, following the compensation measures proposal procedure defined within the project Terms of Reference. She underlined that the request for compensation measures proposal is open and that Forum members and observers are enabled to make a proposal.

Q&A

Mr. Mitrović commented that all officially submitted proposals by the Stakeholders' Forum participants should have a formal response by the S&EMSC team. Ms. Garcia-Estevez replied that the works had been conducted regularly and with no negative effects on the environment, so the S&EMSC doesn't consider the existing proposal as realistic, but that they will prepare a technically and environmentally elaborated response to the proposal for the next SHFM.

Visibility and external communication

Regarding the visibility effects of the Project, Ms. Gačić emphasized the role of the data available at the Forum web page, which will be updated after every new activity completion, and, of course, after each Forum meeting. She directed the participants to the official Plovput website, where the Forum web page is hosted (<http://www.plovput.rs/forum-zainteresovanih-strana>).

Representative of the Danube Commission thanked to representatives of the project for their participation at the workshop held on 11th of April 2019, which was dedicated to the Water Framework Directive (WFD) with special focus on the application of the Article 4.7 in the Danube basin. Furthermore, he announced that the 10th meeting of stakeholders of the process under the Joint Statement of three commissions will be held on 11-12th of September 2019, and that presentation of the project from Serbia is planned.

Next steps

The date for the next meeting was proposed at the end of the SHFM06. In order to enable an effective site visit, better weather and water level conditions should be waited. For that reason, the seventh Forum meeting is planned to be organized on the 25th of October 2019 in Novi Sad.

Evaluation

Concluding the meeting, all participants filled in the evaluation sheets in order to record performance indicators of the sixth Forum meeting.

Until the next meeting

Mr. Mitrović thanked all participants for their active involvement during the meeting and reminded that all ideas for the next Forum activities are welcomed.



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Action List

Action point	Action	Deadline	Responsible
SHFM05-01	Commenting the SHFM06 Meeting Minutes	29.07.2019	All
SHFM05-02	Organize the Stakeholders' Meeting No. 7	25.10.2019	ER, S&EMSC
SHFM05-03	Provide the updated contact list on the official Forum web page, if needed	26.07.2019	ER
SHFM05-04	Distribution of new Intermediate Report summaries	After the submission by the S&EMSC	ER
SHFM05-05	Sending comments and requests regarding the Intermediate Report summary	Two weeks upon the distribution (to be announced)	Forum members and observers
SHFM05-06	Send proposals for the related presentations by the Forum participants	18.10.2019	All
SHFM05-07	Send proposals for compensation measures to be included in the Catalog	No deadline defined	All
SHFM05-08	Submit proposals for the new members of the Forum	No deadline defined	All
SHFM05-09	Invite relevant NGOs and other organizations to be part of the Forum	Upon the agreement on the list of organizations	ER



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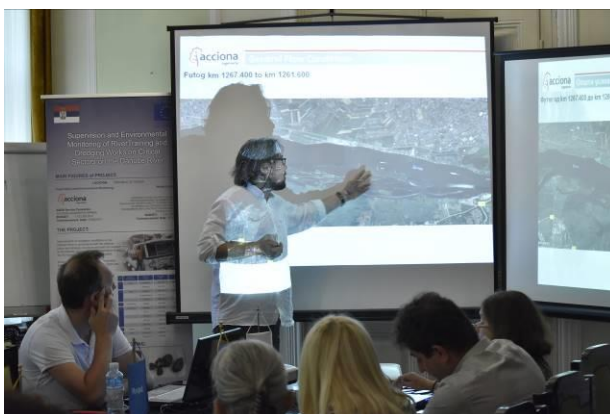
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Photos





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List of Abbreviations

Abbr.	Description
CFCU	MFIN - Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes
EMRbW	Environmental Monitoring Report before Works
ER	End Recipient (MCTI – Directorate for Inland Waterways)
MAFWM	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management
MCTI	Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure
MFIN	Ministry of Finance
MMs	Meeting Minutes
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
PC	Public Company
PPIS	Programme and Project Implementation Schedule
PWMC	Public Water Management Company
RHMZ	Republic Hydrometeorological Service of Serbia
SEPA	Serbian Environmental Protection Agency
S&EM	Supervision and Environmental Monitoring
S&EMSC	Supervision and Environmental Monitoring Service Contractor
SHF	Stakeholders' Forum
SHFM	Stakeholders' Forum meeting
ToR	Terms of Reference
WKSC	Works Contractor