



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
Secretariat**

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### **Conference Services**

Please find attached the contribution by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Croatia with regard to the Second Preparatory Conference to the 15<sup>th</sup> OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum, Zaragoza, Spain, 12 - 13 March 2007.



Key Challenges To Ensure Environmental Security  
and Sustainable Development in the OSCE Area:

WATER MANAGEMENT – Regional cooperation

**WATER MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE**

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management



**IMPORTANCE**

Water cycle knows no boundaries; it is equally important to preserve water quality and protect people, buildings and environment from the adverse effects of water. All water is potentially threatened due to its interconnectedness



## THE NECESSITY

Speaking and reacting to existing issues is not enough: what is needed is a proactive approach to the subject – only in synergy with others may we achieve wanted results

At the OSCE Conference we see evidence of countries taking care of safe and sustainable water management.

Hopefully, this will lead to thinking on a higher level:

Global!



## CROATIA

Rivers and river basins that were an internal matter become an international one since Croatia gained independence, thus increasing the need for dialogue and cooperation



## REGIONAL COOPERATION

Framework Agreement in Sava River Basin – Sava River Initiative; Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia

Agreement of Integral Water Management: signed with Slovenia and Bosnia & Herzegovina – agreement soon to be signed with Montenegro

Agreement on Integral Water Management with Hungary – Drava River Basin and Danube



## NERETVA RIVER DELTA

Agriculture – crucial to the entire region





## WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE

Croatia, as a EU candidate country, adopted the WFD from 2000 and the obligation to minimize the adverse effects of infrastructure to water and water-dependent eco-systems

