



Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean  
Secrétariat de l'Union pour la Méditerranée  
الإمانة العامة للإتحاد من أجل المتوسط



LEARN

# INTERNATIONAL ROUNDTABLE TRANSBOUNDARY WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN THE SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN

*26 - 27 November 2012, Chamber of Deputies, Rome, Italy*

## Creating Knowledge and Instruments for the Management of Transboundary Karst Aquifers

by

**Neno Kukurić**

**DIKTAS Project Coordinator**

Within the framework of  
**UNECE Water Convention**  
**Union for the Mediterranean**  
**GEF IW:LEARN, Activity D2**



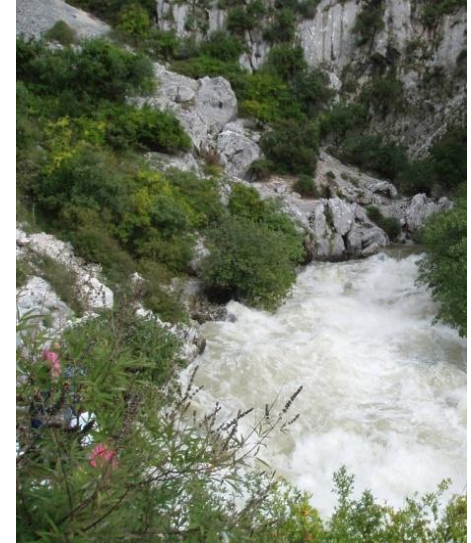
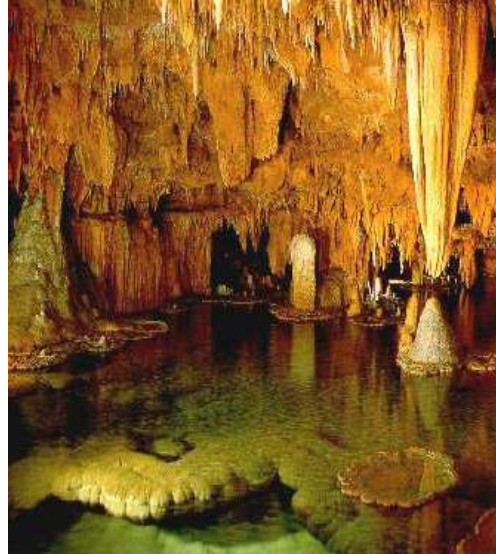
**Ministry for the Environment,  
Land and Sea**



**United Nations Economic  
Commission for Europe**

# What is Karst?

**Karst** is a special type of **geologic environment** that is formed by dissolution and corrosion of **soluble rocks**, such as limestone and dolomite. Karst hydrogeology is characterized by high **fracture controlled permeability**, almost total absence of surface water, **high infiltration rates** and **rapid underground flows** of groundwater.



# DITAS

Protection and Sustainable Use of the Dinaric Karst Transboundary Aquifer System



# What is DIKTAS?

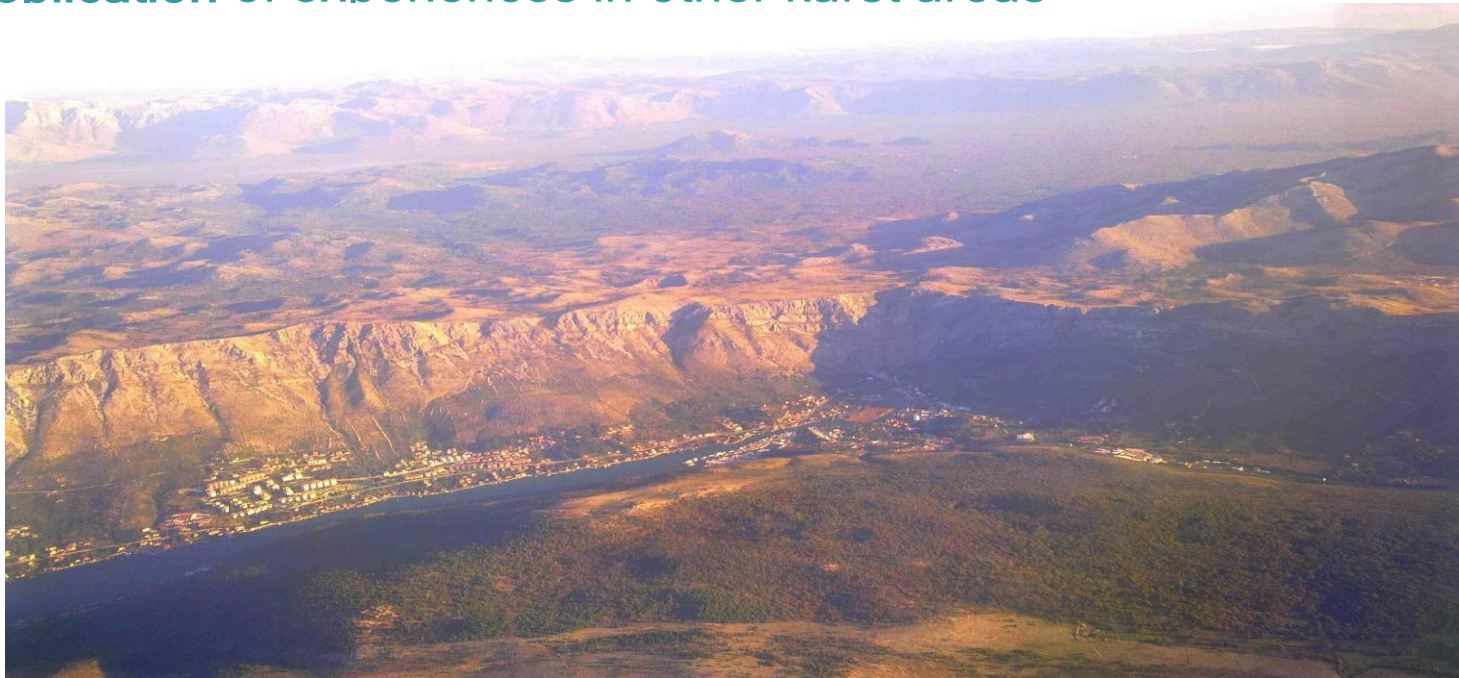
DIKTAS is a **project** initiated by the aquifer-sharing states and supported by **GEF** - Global Environment Facility. It is implemented by **UNDP** and executed by **UNESCO**.

- **facilitate** the equitable and sustainable **utilization** of the transboundary water resources of the Dinaric Karst Aquifer System, and
- **protect** the unique groundwater dependent **ecosystems** that characterize the Dinaric Karst region of the Balkan peninsula.



# Global Objective

- At the **global level**: to focus **attention** of the international community on the huge but vulnerable water resources contained in karst aquifers
- **Replication** of experiences in other karst areas



# DIKTAS Elaborated

- Core partners: Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Montenegro
- Regional partners: Slovenia, Greece and Italy
- International partners :GWP-MED, IGRAC, IAH, ....

- Full size GEF regional project
- 2010-2014
- Budget ca M\$5.2
- PCU hosted by the Water Agency in Trebinje, BiH



# Project Components

**Int. Consultation and Information Exchange Body (CIE)  
National Interministerial Committees (NICs)**

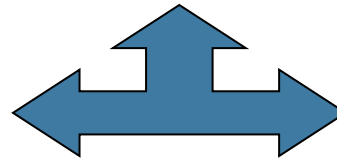
**Transboundary  
Diagnostic Analysis (TDA)**

**I - Improving the  
understanding of the  
resource and of its  
environmental status**

**II - Establishing  
cooperation  
mechanisms among  
countries sharing the  
aquifer**

**Strategic Action Program  
(SAP)**

**III - Facilitating  
harmonization of  
policies and  
priority reforms**



**IV - Stakeholder Participation, Consultation and Communication**

# Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA)

## Identification of:

- priority issues of **transboundary concern**
- environmental and socio-economic **impacts**
- underlying/**root causes**
- analysis of **governance** (policy, legal and organisational aspects)

## TDA is a:

- scientific and technical **fact-finding analysis**
- objective assessment and **not a negotiated document**
- **Agreed by the countries**



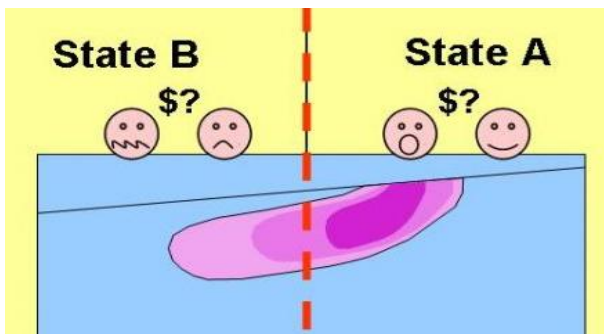


# Strategic Action Program (SAP)

SAP for the DIKTAS will be discussed and adopted by the NICs and CIE

SAP is:

- Based on the TDA
- **Negotiated policy document**
- Establishes clear **priorities** for action to **resolve** the priority transboundary waters problems
- Identifies policy, legal and institutional **reforms** and investments needed to address the priority transboundary waters problems
- The preparation of a SAP is a **cooperative process** among key stakeholders in the countries of the region.

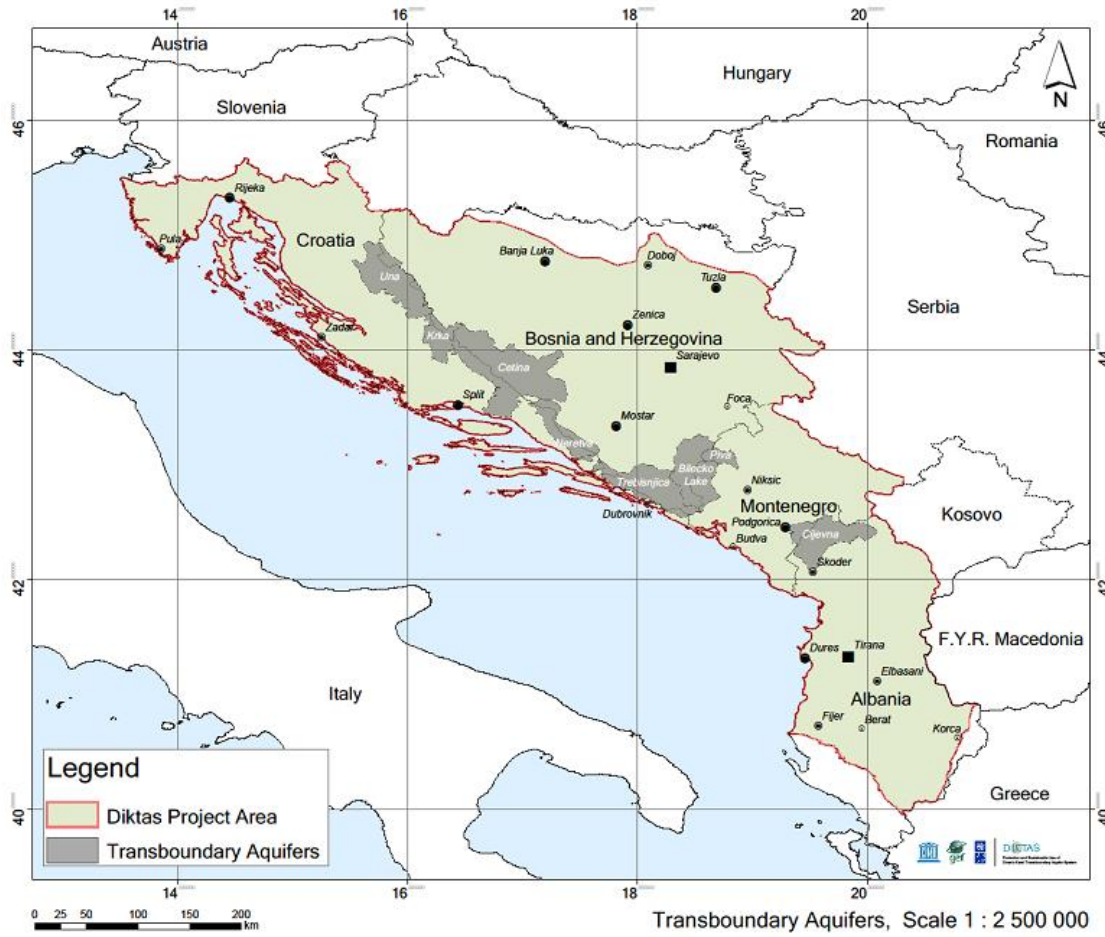


# DIKTAS Cooperation Mechanisms

- **Interministerial Committees** at national level:
  - Relevant governmental institutions
- **Consultation and Information Exchange Body**
  - Establishing cooperation mechanism among countries sharing the aquifer
- Consultation mechanism among the GEF and other relevant **projects and activities in the region** (carried out by NGOs, Water Agencies, UN, international development org., ..)



# Progress to-date



# bridging the people



<http://diktas.iwlearn.org>