



Towards a water secure world

# Global Water Partnership Central and Eastern Europe

Fourth meeting of the Carpathian Convention Work  
Group on Adaptation to Climate Change  
*Szolnok, 1 October 2015*

*Sabina Bokal, GWP CEE*

## The Global Water Partnership's vision is for a water secure world



**Its mission is to support the sustainable development and management of water resources at all levels**

# Facts and figures

- Population of 152 million people, a quarter of all Europeans
- Total area of over 2.03 million km<sup>2</sup>
- 12 countries in **Baltic** and **Danube** regions
- Founded in 1998
- **Baltic region:** Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland
- **Danube region:** Bulgaria, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine

The GWP CEE region







Transboundary  
Drought  
Sustainable  
IWRM management  
Danube

Communications #watergoal  
Knowledge Strategy  
Sanitation



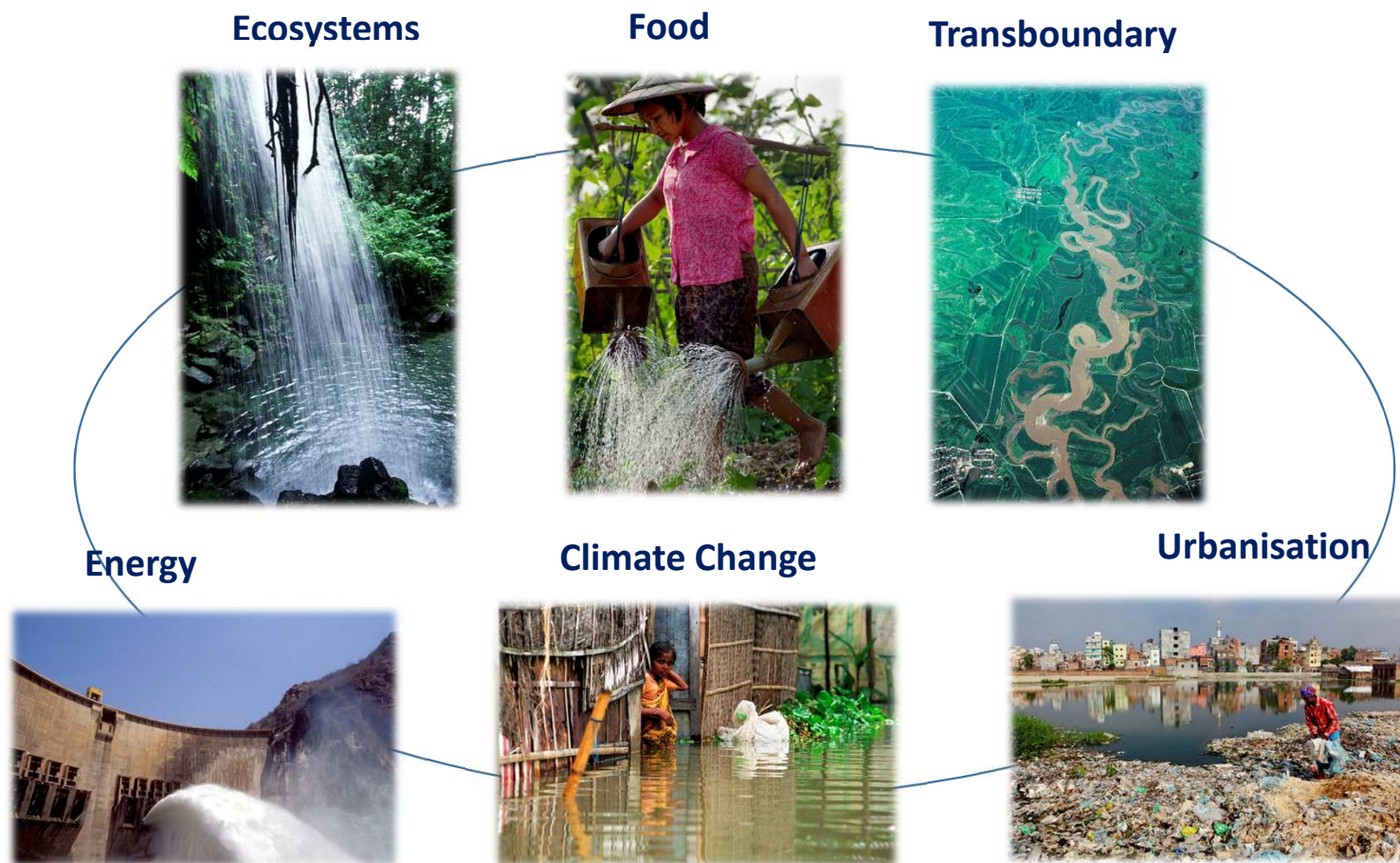
# GWP Strategy Towards 2020

- 1) Catalyse change in policies and practice
- 2) Generate and communicate knowledge
- 3) Strengthen partnerships



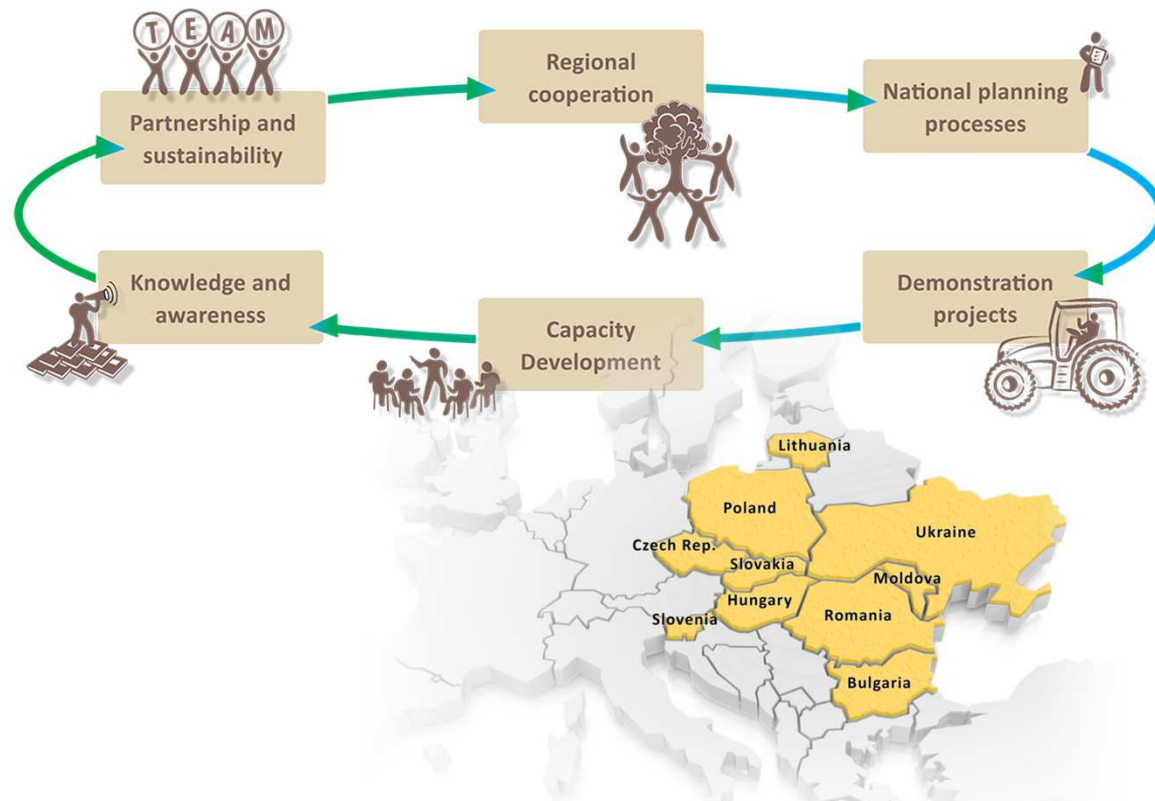


# GWP Thematic Approach



# Integrated Drought Management Programme in CEE

Increase the capacity of the CEE region to adapt to climatic variability by enhancing resilience to drought.



- ✓ variability and change in precipitation
- ✓ increased frequency of extreme weather events in the future
- ✓ well developed meteorological and hydrological monitoring but not as a support for decision makers
- ✓ limited sharing of information among countries
- ✓ lack of political will to solve the problem – drought was not considered as a relevant issue

## More info:

Web page: <http://www.gwp.org/GWP-CEE/IDMPCEE/>

Video: [Link](#)

# Outputs / processes started



## 1. Cooperation with national governments on drought management planning

- Guidelines for preparation of the Drought Management Plans as part of River Basin Management Plans
- 20 National Consultation Dialogues in 10 countries

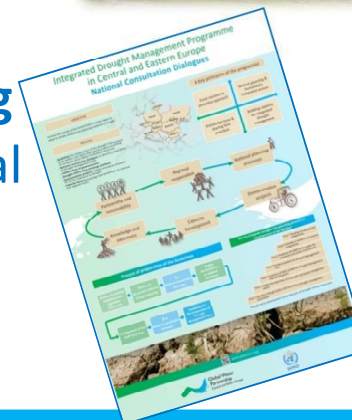


## 2. Testing and describing new approaches towards proactive drought management

focusing on agricultural sector as one of the most vulnerable ones in the region (demo projects)



## 3. Raising awareness activities & communicating knowledge gathered to politicians, governmental authorities and to the general public

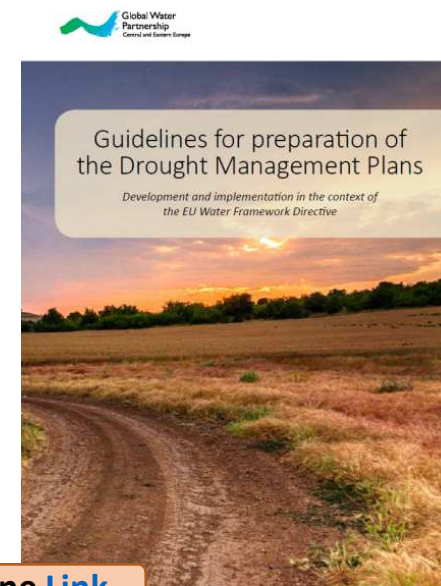
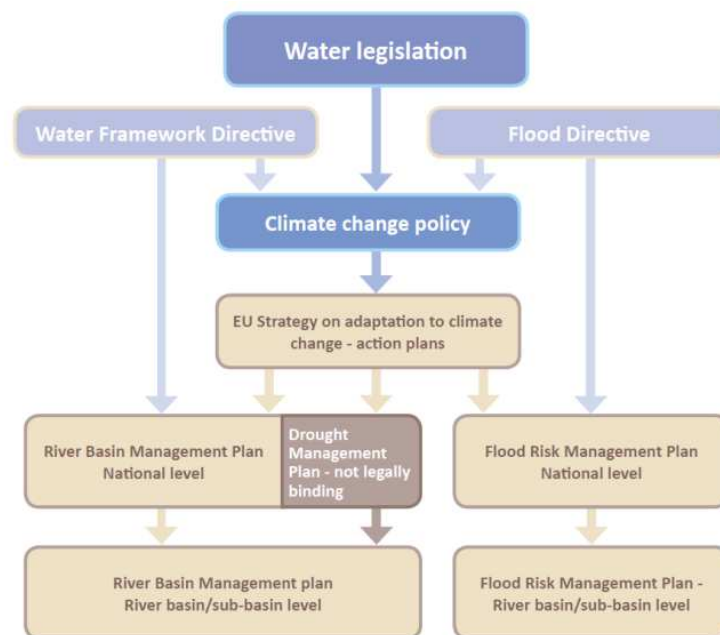




# Cooperation with national governments

- ➔ Guidelines for preparation of the Drought Management Plans within RBMP
- ➔ Organization of the National Consultation Dialogues (20 in 2 years in 10 countries)

- ✓ EU legislation + GWP/WMO Guidelines
- ✓ cooperation with national governments to help them to incorporate drought management issues into their national programs, policies and plans
- ✓ current gaps in the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD)



Online [Link](#)

# Testing new approaches

## measures to reduce drought impacts, vulnerabilities and risks

### Natural small water retention measures

Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia

Guidelines - Natural Small Water Retention Measures combining drought mitigation, flood protection and biodiversity conservation

Video released during Europe-INBO conference in Bucharest, Romania (November 2014)



NATURAL SMALL WATER RETENTION MEASURES  
combining drought mitigation, flood protection,  
and biodiversity conservation  
- GUIDELINES -



NATURAL SMALL WATER RETENTION MEASURES  
- CASE STUDIES -



### Increasing soil water holding capacity

Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia

Methods for improving water infiltration into the soil profile – practical recommendations for farmers, decision makers



## Drought impacts on forest ecosystems

Bulgaria, Lithuania, Slovenia and Ukraine

Adaptation measures for the forests to mitigate negative effects of the drought



## Remote sensing agricultural drought monitoring methods

Hungary, Slovakia and Romania

A user-friendly drought monitoring and yield loss mapping process script - toolbox

agricultural drought monitoring and yield loss forecasting through the application of remote sensing data



## Agricultural drought monitoring and forecasting

Moldova and Ukraine

Upgraded climate-zoning & forecasting models

Drought risk maps for agro sector of Ukraine and Dniester river basin

MD: Guide on best practices on soil conservation





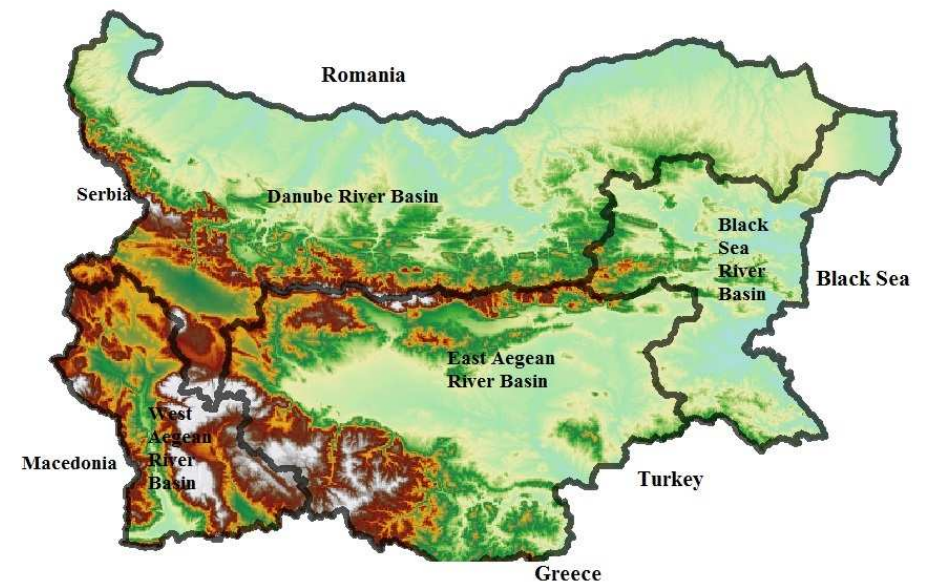
# Other projects & activities

- Danube **Stakeholder Workshop** organized in cooperation with the ICPDR on 2-3 July 2015 in Zagreb. Public consultations of Danube River Basin Management Plan and Danube Flood Risk Management Plan and social media campaign
- National Water Dialogues on **Sustainable Development Goals** in Bulgaria, Poland, Romania and Slovenia (2014)



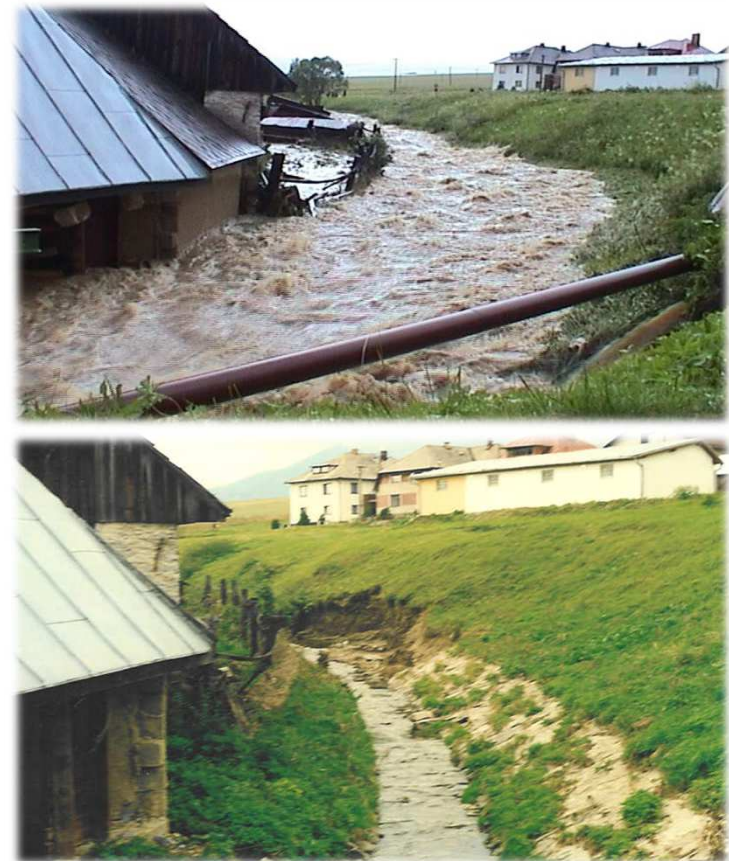
# Other projects & activities

- **WaterInnEU (H2020):**  
Applying European market leadership to river basin networks and spreading of innovation on water ICT models, tools and data. GWP CEE leads WP8 on case study in Maritsa River Basin in Bulgaria (2015-2017)



# Other projects & activities

- **Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM)** is a joint initiative of the WMO and GWP
- In Central and Eastern Europe, it facilitated the dialogue with governmental agencies and provided a platform for guidance on flood management policy, strategy and institutional development (2003-2007)
- Flash floods were analyzed in Slanic, Visen and Crisul Alb River (Romania) and Svinka and Strbsky Creeks (Slovakia)



Source: Selected flash floods in the Slovak republic. GWP Slovakia



# Regional cooperation

- Observer status at the **ICDPR**, **HELCOM** and **Sava Commission**
- Cooperation with the **Drought Management Center for South Eastern Europe**
- Founding member of the **European Centre for River Restoration**
- 160 Partner organizations in 12 countries of Central and Eastern Europe



Important Bird and Biodiversity Area / Special Protection Area / Nature Reserve Zitavsky luh. Credit: Richard Muller



# Thank you for your attention

<http://www.gwp.org/en/GWP-CEE/>