

DIKTAS II

2nd In-person Expert Meeting

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC ACTION PROGRAMME (SAP) OF THE DINARIC KARST AQUIFER SYSTEM: IMPROVING GROUNDWATER GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY OF RELATED ECOSYSTEMS

Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 10-11 November 2025

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Objectives

- Present project activities
- Analyse project achievements after 1st in-person meeting held in July 2025
- Allow experts to share updates and inputs, based on their knowledge on the Dinaric karst aquifer system, multilateral agreement, bilateral agreements, groundwater governance, groundwater monitoring, gender analysis, stakeholder involvement, GIS, and action plans
- Identification of the next steps

Background documentation for the meeting

- Approved GEF Project Document
- TDA
- Country reports
- Inception Report
- Minutes of 1st expert meeting held in July 2025



Meeting Participants

Mr Siniša Šešum	Head of Antenna Office in Sarajevo, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe	
Ms Francesca Bampa (online)	Project officer, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe	
Mr Boban Jolović	DIKTAS II Project Manager, UNESCO Antenna in Sarajevo, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe	
Mr Želimir Pekaš	DIKTAS II International expert for Hydrogeology	
Ms Raya Marina Stephan	DIKTAS II International expert for Legal Policy	
Romano Zoga	DIKTAS II International expert for Stakeholder Involvement	
Umme-Kulsoom (online)	DIKTAS II International expert for Gender analysis	
Mr Pambuku Arben	National expert - Hydrogeology	Albania
Ms Erjola Keci	National expert - Biodiversity	Albania
Mr Halit Kamberi	National expert - Legal policy	Albania
Ms Nevila Koçollari Furxhiu	National expert - Sociology	Albania
Ms Irena Topalli	National expert - Gender	Albania
Mr Uroš Jurošević	National expert - Hydrogeology	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Ms Anita Dedić	National expert - Biodiversity	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Ms Selma Čengić	National expert - Legal policy	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mr Marinko Vranić	National expert - Sociology	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mr Nino Serdarušić	National expert - Gender	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Ms Maja Oštrić	National expert - Hydrogeology	Croatia
Mr Ivan Vučković	National expert - Biodiversity	Croatia
Mr Zoran Nakić	National expert - Legal policy	Croatia
Ms Marina Funduk	National expert – Communication + Gender	Croatia
Mr Dragan Radojević	National expert - Hydrogeology	Montenegro
Ms Neda Dević	National expert - Legal policy	Montenegro
Ms Lidija Brnović	National expert - Gender	Montenegro
Mr Vedran Furtula	DIKTAS II GIS expert	

The 2st in-person DIKZAS II Project expert meeting was held in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina in November 10-11th 2025 in the UN building, Zmaja od Bosne b.b.

The meeting was officially opened by Mr Siniša Šešum, Head of Antenna in Sarajevo, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe.

After opening, project manager Mr Boban Jolović introduced two new members of Working Groups (WG).

WG 1 – Anita Dedić, as Biodiversity national expert from B&H

WG 3 – Irena Topalli, as Gender national expert from Albania.

In addition, Mr Jolovic presented the project progress per components/outcomes/outputs, mostly achieved in the period late August - mid November 2025. The review of the current status of the achievements per outputs is given as Annex 2 of the Minutes.

The achievements per outputs are presented in the table below.

OUTPUT NUMBER	OUTPUT DESCRIPTION	ACHIEVEMENT
Output 1.1.	EG establishing	Two new national experts contracted; International GIS and International Communication expert calls announced
Output 1.2.	Multilateral agreement	Draft version of the agreement presented, next draft based on the received comments from national authorities by November 20 th ; then sending to national authorities
Output 1.3.	Bilateral agreements	Available bilateral agreements in DIKTAS II are analysed
Output 1.4.	Stakeholder involvement plan	Draft prepared and presented
Output 2.1.	Groundwater Governance Diagnostic Analyses	GGDA prepared in each country, based on the finding bilateral GGDA preparation triggered
Output 2.2.	National policy with focus on sanitary protection zones	Analyses of actual national regulation on sanitary protection zones done
Output 3.1.	Design of DIKTAS groundwater multi-purpose monitoring	Designing for Cijevna/Cemi TBA in progress; waiting for CRO-BA approval for second monitoring site
Output 4.1.	Joint data sharing mechanism	Actual regulation regarding mandatory groundwater monitoring parameters analysed; new parameters introduction, including biological under consideration
Output 5.1.	Joint Action Programmes	
Output 6.1.	Dissemination activities	Participation in World Water Week, Stockholm

Output 6.2.	Gender analysis of water sector	National reports prepared
Output 6.3	Participation in IW LEARN and other activities	Testing of the possibilities in the IW Learn platform done; WEB site hosted will be activated by mid of December

During second day of the meeting next steps and deadlines were identified as in the following table.

OUTPUT NUMBER	OUTPUT DESCRIPTION	NEXT STEP AND DEADLINE
Output 1.1.	EG establishing	Finalisation of the calls for vacancy of international GIS and International communication experts will be completed by mid of December 2025
Output 1.2.	Multilateral agreement	Second draft version of the agreement by November 20 th ; then send out to national authorities for comments and suggestions; Third draft prepared by February 2026; Ministerial level meeting planned for mid of the February 2026
Output 1.3.	Bilateral agreements	Recommendation for the improvement of the available agreements will be prepared by mid of the March 2026
Output 1.4.	Stakeholder involvement plan	Validation of the SIP until March 2026
Output 2.1.	Groundwater Governance Diagnostic Analyses	Bilateral GGDA for UNA and Cijevna/Cemi TBA prepared by mid of January 2026; for Cetina by mid March 2026
Output 2.2.	National policy with focus on sanitary protection zones	Analyses of actual bilateral proposals done by February 2026; recommendation for the improvement by April 2026.
Output 3.1.	Design of DIKTAS groundwater multi-purpose monitoring	Design for Cijevna/Cemi TBA completed by early March 2026; same for CRO-BA selected monitoring site.
Output 4.1.	Joint data sharing mechanism	Set of parameters identified by February 2026; proposal of sharing mechanism until May 2026
Output 5.1.	Joint Action Programmes	JAP for Cijevna/Cemi and Una TBA prepared by March 2026, for Neretva by May 2026
Output 6.1.	Dissemination activities	Conference "Water resources management and evaluation of water heritage" Project AQUATIK, Mostar,

		Bosnia and Herzegovina, 12 December 2025, and UNESCO International Symposium on “Coastal Aquifers, Sustainable Futures”, Paris, France, 10-11 February 2026
Output 6.2.	Gender analysis of water sector	Regional analyses based on national reports prepared by February 2026; field activities: interviews with authorities, local community etc
Output 6.3	Participation in IW LEARN and other activities	WEB site hosted by IW Learn activated by mid of December

The term of the next expert meeting will be confirmed by the end of 2025.

Meeting was officially closed about 1 pm.