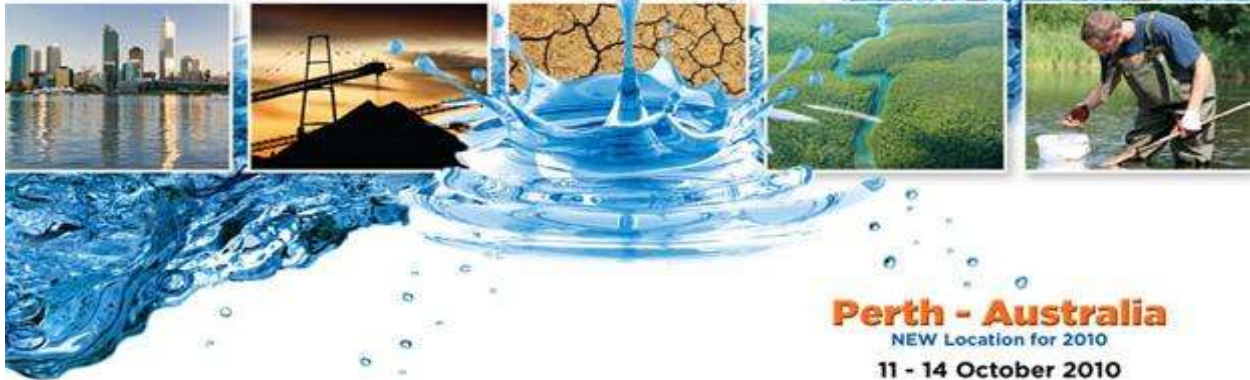


13th International Riversymposium



Case Study

Drim River - Dejan Panovski



Dejan Panovski is currently Secretary of the Lake Ohrid Bilateral Committee within the Ministry of Environment in Macedonia and is involved in all processes regarding management of the River Drim Basin. Dejan is specifically involved in the field of public participation in the decision making process. Dejan is the author of a number of papers and presentations regarding the lessons learned and experience gained through the process of management of the Lake Ohrid watershed and is co-author of the Joint Action plan for the watershed and management plan for the water issues. Dejan is also a member of the Core Group for the Drim Dialog project and Extended River Drim management project.

Transferring From Lakes To River Basin Management: Drim Dialog

The Drin River watershed has its origin in the Lake Ohrid – Lake Prespa ecosystem in Albania, Macedonia, and Greece. The average annual flow near the mouth of the Drin at the Adriatic Sea is about 340 m³/s; but there are strong seasonal variations, with highest flows in the fall and spring, and lowest flows in summer. The total catchment area of the Drin is 15,540 km². The Prespa-Ohrid-Shkoder lakes region of the Balkan Peninsula has been widely acknowledged as an ecological area of global significance, and the Drin River links the lakes, wetlands and other aquatic habitats throughout this region together into a single ecosystem. In the Drin River watershed, water quality problems are linked directly to water quantity. Water levels are managed throughout much of the system and decisions about hydropower production, irrigation water withdrawal, use of the channel bed for gravel mining, and domestic water use and sanitation have a direct bearing on both pollution export and biodiversity conservation. The total population within the catchment of the river is 1.6 million, major economic activities include agriculture and forestry, hydropower generation, mining and gravel extraction.

MEDIA SHOULD REPORT TO THE REGISTRATION DESK ON ARRIVAL AT BURSWOOD CONVENTION CENTRE FOR INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

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