



**CS number:** 6 – Peatlands of Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Case study cluster:** peatlands and wetlands

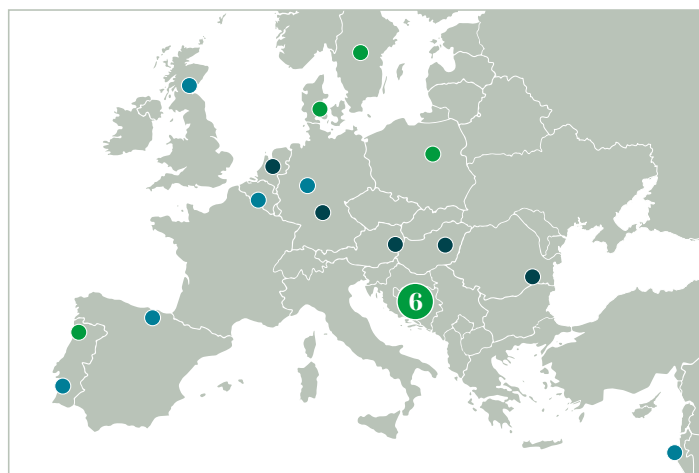
**Country:** Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Scientific partner:** WWF Adria

**Implementation partner:** WWF Adria

**Twinning case study:** planned: max.moor (Switzerland); protecting the climate through peatland conservation

**Website:** [www.wwfadria.org](http://www.wwfadria.org)



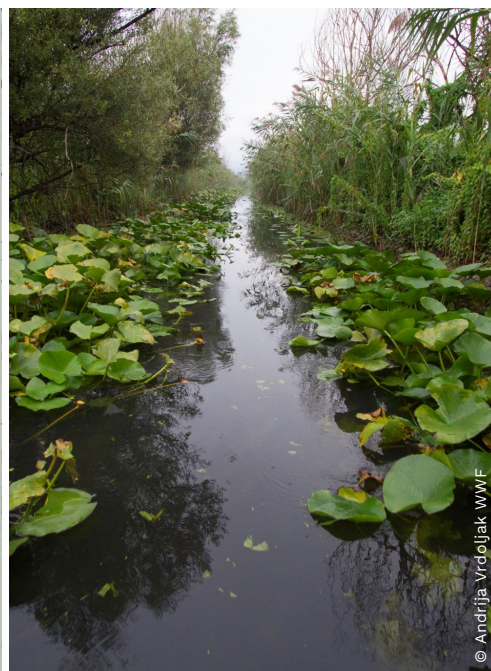
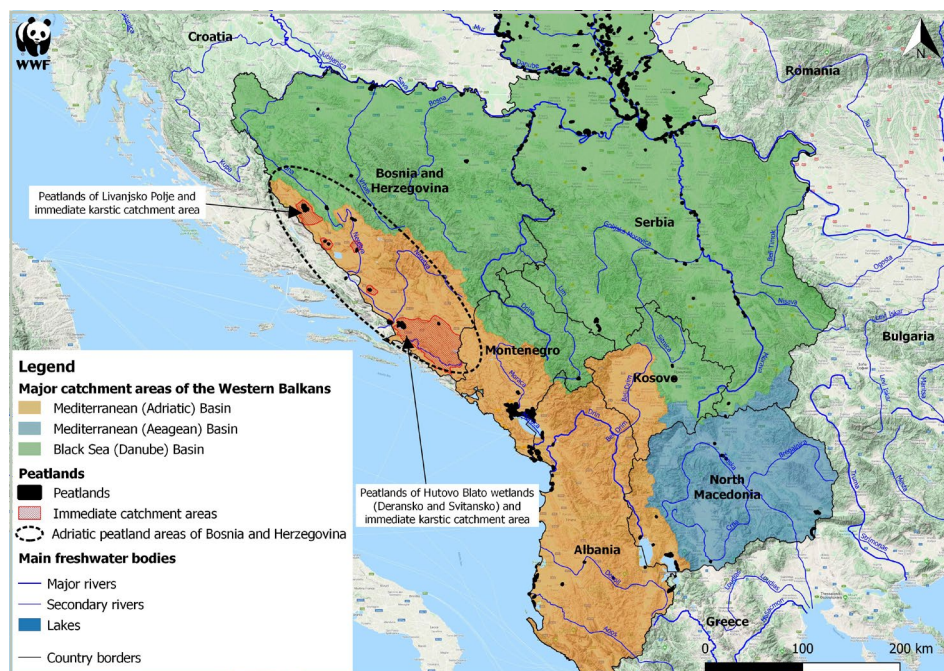
## Demonstration

- **Type of restoration:** restoration of peatlands
- **Size:** immediate catchment area of Hutovo Blato: 2,128 km<sup>2</sup>
- **Location(s):** Hutovo Blato peatlands
- **Value of the case:** channel restoration, restoration of habitats and biodiversity, enhancement, rewetting
- **Stakeholders involved:** Nature Park (cat. IV of IUCN, Ramsar site), governmental and local authorities (Ministry of Environment, Canton, Municipality), local communities
- **Sectors involved:** hydropower, tourism
- **Innovations being applied:** (expected) implementation of carbon-crediting project(s) for sustainable restoration and conservation (rewetting)

## Implementation plans

- **Type of restoration:** transition in land use, channel and habitats restoration, rewetting
- **Size:** approximately 1,490 ha
- **Scope:** regional
- **Vicinity:** rural/peri-urban
- **Stakeholders to involve:** **federal, public institutions, sub-national public institutions, municipal level:** Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina – F BiH, F BiH Ministry of Tourism and Environment, F BiH Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, F BiH Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Hutovo Blato Nature Park, Government of the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton, Cantonal Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Environmental protection, Cantonal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Adriatic Sea Watershed Agency, Municipality of Stolac, Municipality of Capljina





- **Sectors to involve: energy sector, farmers and private landowners:** Hydropower Plant of the Electric Power Industry of the Croatian Community of Herceg Bosna (Elektroprivreda Hrvatske zajednice Herceg Bosne) operating in the area of restoration, Hydropower plants of the Electric Power Industry of Republika Srpska (Elektroprivreda Republike Srpske) operating in the upstream part of the immediate catchment area of Hutovo Blato wetlands, the Electric Power Industry of Croatia (Hrvatska Elektroprivreda - HEP) – Local environmental NGOs (eg. birdwatchers)
- **Scientific community to involve:** Universities of Sarajevo (BiH), Mostar (BiH) and Dubrovnik (Croatia)
- **Innovations to be applied:** (expected) implementation of carbon-crediting project(s) for sustainable restoration and conservation (rewetting), in collaboration with hydropower companies

## Additional information

Due to the complex hydrological system (karst) and the type of pressure (series of large hydropower infrastructures), the catchment size can be determined by the (a) the River Basin size limited to the peatland area – not including the downstream area – and (b) immediate catchment areas of the peatlands, as follows:

- **Neretva-Trebišnjica:** 406,087 ha (includes Montenegro)
- **Hutovo Blato:** 212,817 ha

It is important to note that the hydropower complex system integrates 3 public energy companies in 3 different administrative entities in Republika Srpska and Federation of BiH, in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and in Croatia (HPP Dubrovnik). Moreover, this complex hydropower system is currently being extended, with additional hydrological impact, which is expecting to drain directly wetlands/peatlands upstream but also further affect Hutovo Blato wetlands.

The biggest challenge of our case study is therefore to involve the energy companies, through legal/policy levers and potentially by finding additional incentives (financial mechanisms).

