

Institute for Biological Research “Sinisa Stankovic”

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The Institute for Biological Research “Siniša Stanković” (“IBISS”) is the largest (14 Departments and five supporting Units) and most complete research institution for biological sciences in Serbia. IBISS is an independent research Institute founded 1947 (former names Institute for Ecology and The Institute for Developmental Physiology, Genetics and Selection).

Of the 240 employed, 113 members have PhD (44 are Senior Scientist, 25 are Senior Scientific Associates, 44 are Scientific Associates) and 78 are PhD students.

Investigations in the IBISS are primarily focused on fundamental studies in biology including complex inter- and multidisciplinary investigations in molecular biology, biochemistry, cytology, physiology, plant physiology, neurobiology, immunology, genetics, ecology, evolutionary biology, taxonomy, biogeography and the environmental protection. The majority of current research projects are funded by Ministry of Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia receiving significant support from other Serbian Ministries (e.g. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning). In period from 2000 up to know, IBISS took a part in 47 fundamental, five projects of the program “Technological development” (funded by Ministry of Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia), four projects of European Commission Framework Programs, and more than 25 applied national and international projects financed by other sources.

IBISS has established a successful co-operation with institutions in Serbia and all over Europe. Collaboration is realized with foreign academies of sciences, scientific institutions and universities. Participation in international projects supported by The Commission of the European Community, The International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River, The International Sava River Basin Commission, U.S. Ministry for Agriculture, National Institute for Health (U.S.), International Atomic Agency (Vienna) and others, have contributed to a particularly fruitful scientific communication. Between others, we underline excellent collaboration with Institute for Water Management “Jaroslav Cerni”, Belgrade, Republic

Hydrometereological Institute of Serbia, VITUKI - Water Resources Research Center (VITUKI Rt.), Budapest, Hungary, Biological Faculty, University of Belgrade, Environmental Institute, Kos, Slovak Republic, Saint-Petersburg State University, Russia, Institute of Biology of the Southern Seas, Odessa Branch, Ukraine, Institute of Zoology National Academy of Sciences, Minsk, Belarus, Centre for Environmental Research Leipzig-Halle, UFZ, Germany, GOBIO GmbH - Institut für Gewässerökologie und angewandte Biologie (Institute for Ecology of Waters and Applied Biology), Hessen, Germany, European Foundation for studies of Diabetes (Sweden), FP7 Project (cooperation with Holland, Spain, France, Greece) and Academic Exchange Programs of Belgrade University (Greece, USA).

Beside national projects important part of the IBISS activity is connected with investigation of freshwater ecosystems within the Danube River Basin. Research covers biodiversity, endangered aquatic species and introduction, distribution and acclimation of invasive species, which involves investigation on phytoplankton, phytobenthos, aquatic macrophytes, macroinvertebrates, fish and fish parasites. Experience gathered through fundamental research enables involvement in applied limnology. Applied research is focused on use of biota in environmental status evaluation, aquatic ecosystem monitoring methodology and conception of biological indexes for water monitoring.

Since 2004, IBISS contributes to activities for Water Framework Directive implementation in Serbia. Out of 22 projects relevant to the EnviroGrids, and beside eight studies connected with Water Framework Directive Implementation in Serbia and Region (Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Danube and the Sava Basin Area) we selected the following projects:

1. (2008-2009) Study of the Biological Monitoring of the Rivers and Lakes/Reservoirs in Bosnia and Herzegovina, RFP no: BA-PMT-QCBS/02/CS/08-BQS Water Quality Protection Project, Loan: GEF Trust Fund Grant No.055265.
2. (2007-2009) ALARM - Assessing LARge-scale environmental Risks with tested Methods. European Commission 6th Framework Program - Integrated Project contract GOCE-CT-2003-506675
3. (2006-2010) Running Waters of Serbia – Study on Biodiversity and Use of the Data in Typology, Design of Ecological Index and Ecological Status Monitoring“, (Project No. 143023).

4. (2007) Joint Danube Survey 2 (JDS 2) a survey organized by the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) aimed at producing comparable, accredited water quality information for the whole length of the Danube River.
5. (2004-2008) AQUATERRA - Study on river-sediment-soil-groundwater pollution interaction, modeling, monitoring tools (EU 6th Framework Programme, No. N°505428);
6. (2002-2003) National Water Quality Monitoring Strategy coordinated by Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe Country Office Serbia and Montenegro and supported by Japan Special Fond. (12/2002-04/2003)
7. (2001) Investigation of the Tisza River (JDS ITR), a survey organized by the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR);
8. (2001) Joint Danube Survey (JDS), a survey organized by the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) aimed at producing comparable, accredited water quality information for the whole length of the Danube River.

Project team

- Momir Paunovic, PhD, Scientific Associates, IBISS.
- Miroslava Mitrović, PhD, Senior Scientist, IBISS, University of Belgrade.
- Pavle Pavlović, PhD, Senior Scientist, IBISS, University of Belgrade.
- Snežana Jarić, PhD, Scientific Associates, IBISS.
- Predrag Simonovic, PhD, Professor, Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade.
- Vladica Simic, PhD, Assistant professor, Faculty of Science, University of Kragujevac.
- Bojana Stojanovic, BSc, Researcher trainee, IBISS.
- Jelena S. Vranković, MsC, PhD student, Research Associates,, IBISS.
- Jelena Tomović, Research Assistant, IBISS, PhD student.
- Katarina Zorić, Research Assistant, IBISS, PhD student.
- Božica Vasiljević, Research Assistant, IBISS.
- Mirjana Mihailović, PhD, Senior Scientific Associates, IBISS.

Role in the project

Within the enviroGRIDS project, IBISS will focus, in collaboration with SPSU and other teams, on development of the regional Early Warning System on invasive species, contributing with relevant monitoring data on Danube River basin and with risk assessments (WP5 of the project, task 5.1 Biodiversity and task 5.6 Disaster Early Warning System).