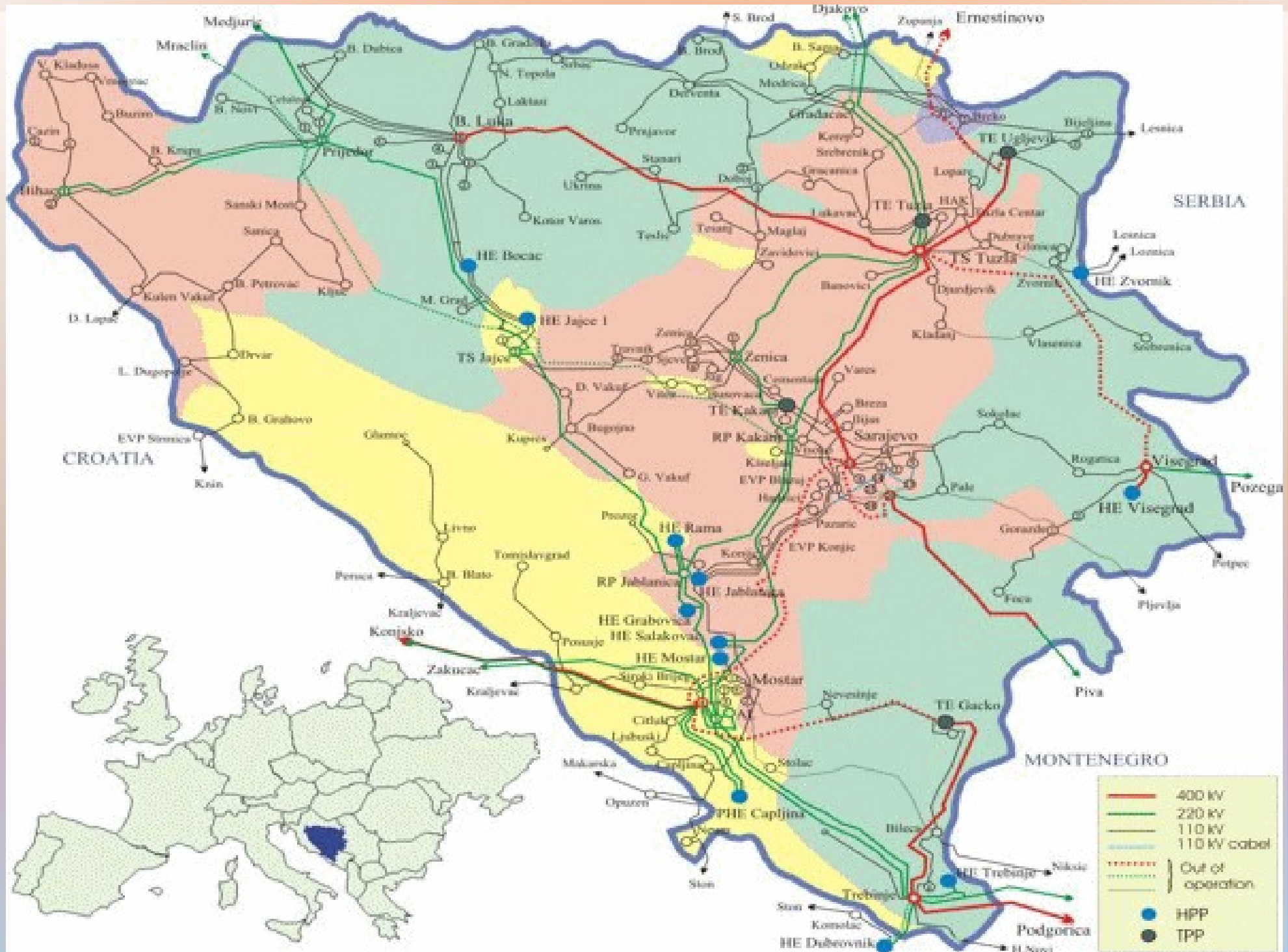


RES in Western Balkan

NGO position on future developments

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RES cooperation between the EU and its neighbours
Vienna, 25 February 2014



General issues in BiH (and region)

- Economic drivers – begging for foreign investments
- Very high rate of corruption
- Most of new PPs are long-term concessions
- Externalized costs (social and environmental)
- Poor strategic energy planning – exclusive and short-term
- Poor implementation of legislation
- Introduction of inadequate technology (lignite)
- EU standards – Energy Community

Consequences (existing and potential)?

- Endangering local development plans
- Increase vulnerability (environmental and social)
- Unsustainable use of RES (esp. hydro and biomass)
- Large Chinese investments in coal and hydro – inefficient technology and poor standards
- Breaching EU and international obligations – present and future (EIA, LCP, IED, Aarhus, Espoo...)
- 0 (zero) projects rejected based on EIA (BiH)

Case 1 – SHPPs in National Park Sutjeska

- NP Sutjeska – oldest NP in BiH, 2nd largest prime forest in Europe, one of most important biodiversity site in BiH
- Planned 5 small HPPs on rivers Sutjeska and Hračavka
- Large coalition of NGOs and experts involved in the campaign against SHPPs
- Legal cases against MoE of RS

Case 2 – SHPP Medna

- Located 500 m from springs of Sana River
- Local communities and municipalities excluded from planning process
- Poor EIA procedure and study
- Upper Sana River should be nature park, and springs should have special status within the park
- Municipality of Ribnik and coalition of NGOs fight legally against SHPP for 5 years
- Breaching of laws and concession agreement – Austrian company involved

Case 3 – Upper Horizons project

- Large hydrological interventions in limestone region
- Decrease of water flow to Neretva River
 - Lack of water in Bregava River – water supply
 - Threat for Hutovo Blato, Ramsar and IBA site
 - Foster salinization of Neretva delta – agriculture
 - Unforeseen impacts on underground biodiversity
- Potential political dispute with FBiH
- Croatia's 'trade' – delta for HPP (Dubrovnik 2)
- No EIA/SEA for whole project – salami principle

Case 4 – HPPs in Middle Drina

- Political dispute – entity vs state
- Energy grab – who gets RES quota?
- Backed by Berlusconi government – corruption?
- Local authorities excluded from planning process
 - not against, but lacking more benefits
- Lacking SEA for Drina River Basin
- Environmental NGOs against the project



LEGENDA :

- Izgradjene HE
- Projektovane HE
- Varijanta

0 10 20 40 60km

Vision - which energy mix?

- Energy efficiency
- Energy efficiency
- Energy efficiency
- Energy efficiency
- Sustainable RES

More important question – how?

- Stakeholder participation in all stages – planning to evaluation
- Internalizing all costs before making decision
- What are acceptable negative impacts and sufficient mitigation measures? EIA/SEA
- Decarbonisation of energy systems
- EU standards even before becoming MS
- Solving problems of our energy systems before start of energy export to EU

Questions for BETTER project team

- Core objective – stakeholders involvement?
- 3rd countries?
- Import of energy that don't meet EU standards?
- NIMBY – double standards
- Demand side or supply side?
- Business as usual vs green growth vs degrowth
- Long-term and wide picture?

For more information:

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