

Europe's Natural Treasure – The Vjosa



Prof. Aleko Miho

Department of Biology, Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Tirana.

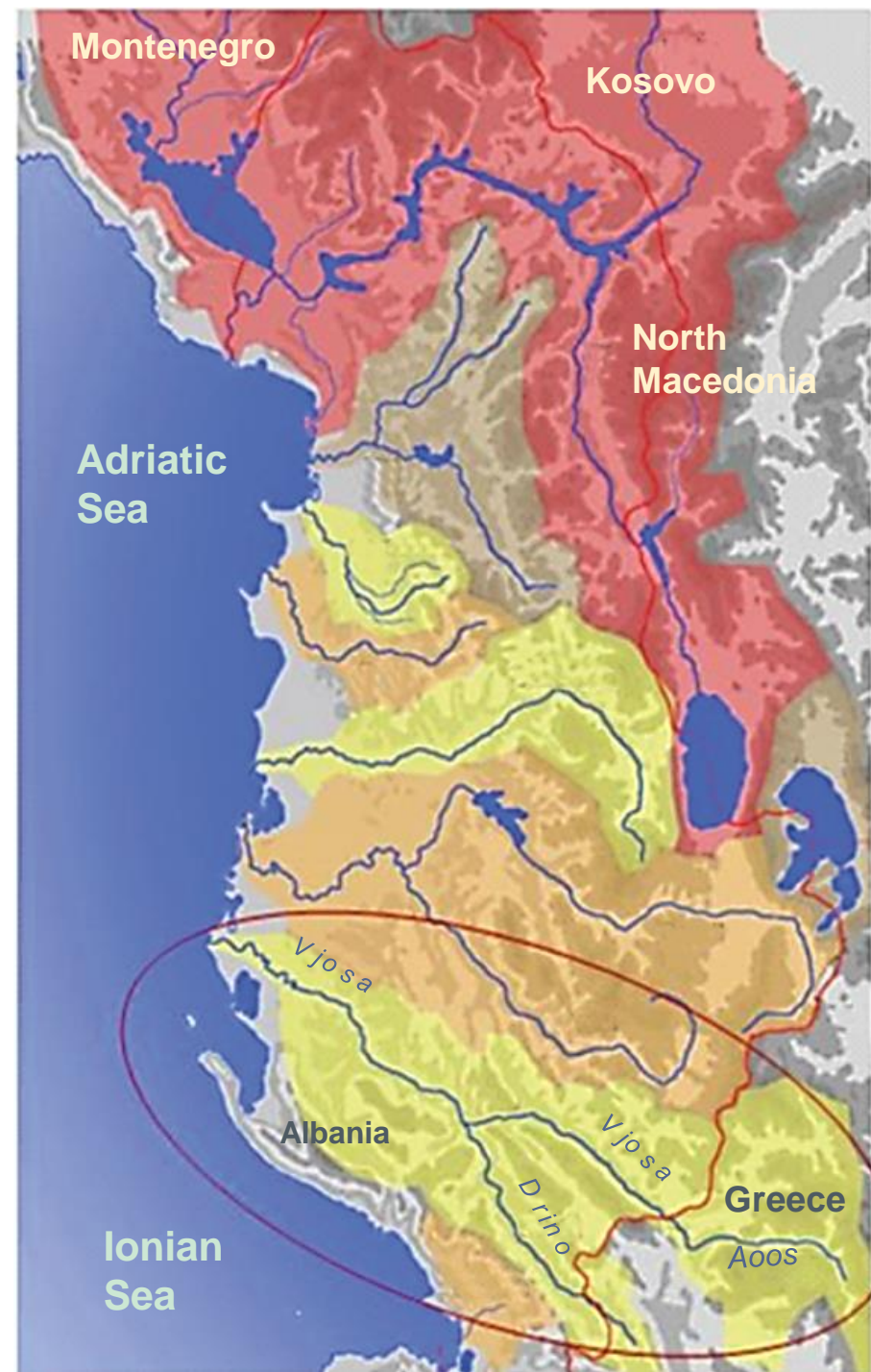
aleko.miho@fshn.edu.al

Albanian rivers

- mostly untouched or near natural

- ❑ Most part of Albanian rivers (total 3,118 km) - inherited untouched;
- ❑ Mostly near natural state (2,090 km, or 67%), or slightly to moderately modified (636 km, or 21%);
- ❑ Hence, their conservation value within Natura 2000 was considered very high (2209 km, or 71%), or high (518 km, or 17%) (Schwarz, 2012).





Why Vjosa/Aoos River?

- ❑ Vjosa/Aoos is the biggest river of Albania after Drini;
- ❑ Vjosa is the last free flowing river in Europe, outside Russia;
- ❑ Considered a riverine ecosystem of European significance.











































In 1 week: 40 species new to Albania, 2 species new to science



About 150 species belong to the
Appendices of the Bern Convention





SCIENTISTS FOR VJOSA







Matja e transportit të sedimenteve dhe morfodinamika e Lumit Vjosë



155/1

Acta ZooBot Austria

2018



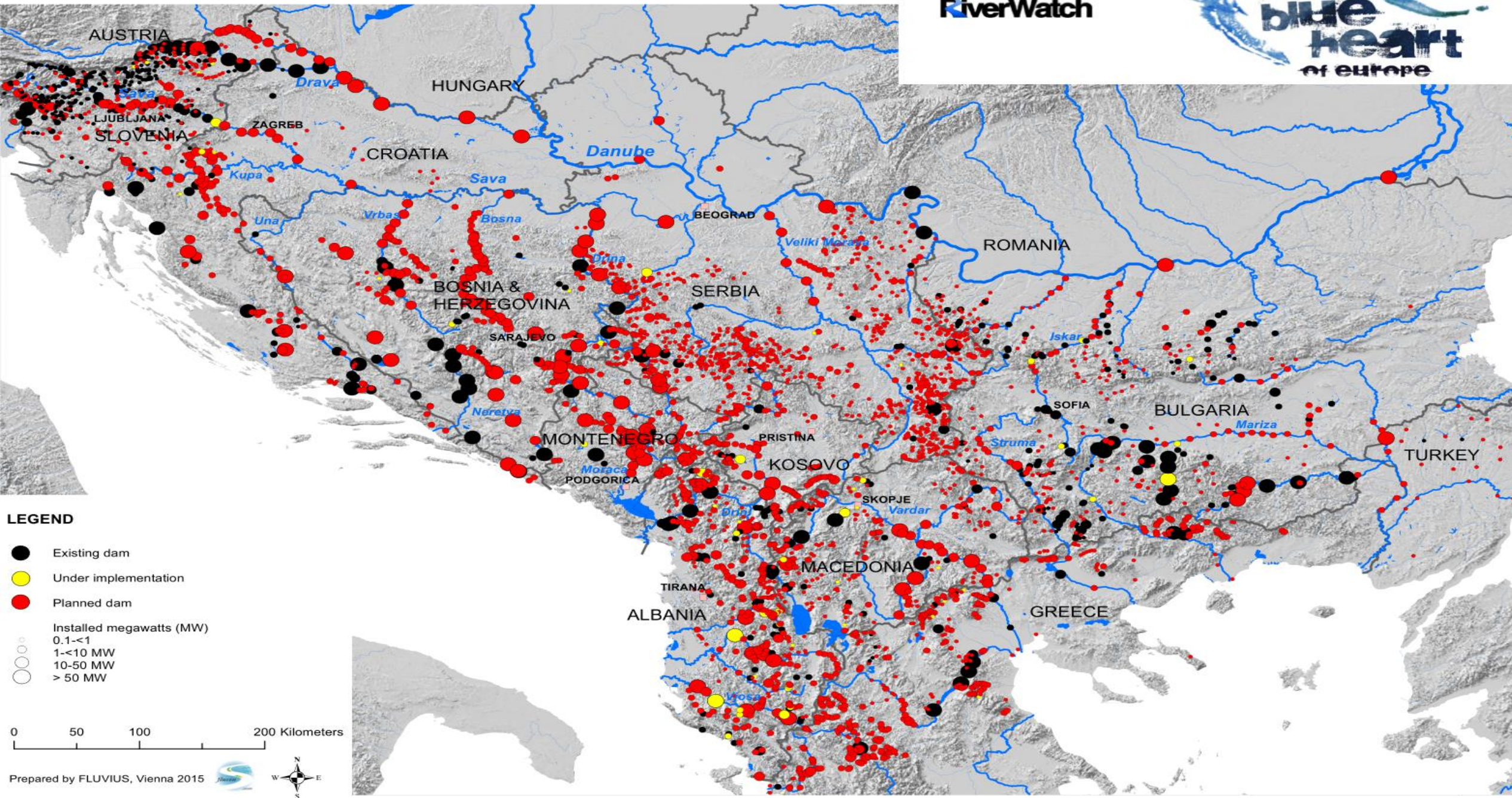
The Vjosa
in Albania –
a riverine
ecosystem
of European
significance



Hydropower plants in Balkan rivers

euRONATUR FOUNDATION

RiverWatch



LEGEND

- Existing dam
- Under implementation
- Planned dam
- Installed megawatts (MW)
 - 0.1-1
 - 1-10
 - 10-50
 - > 50

0 50 100 200 Kilometers

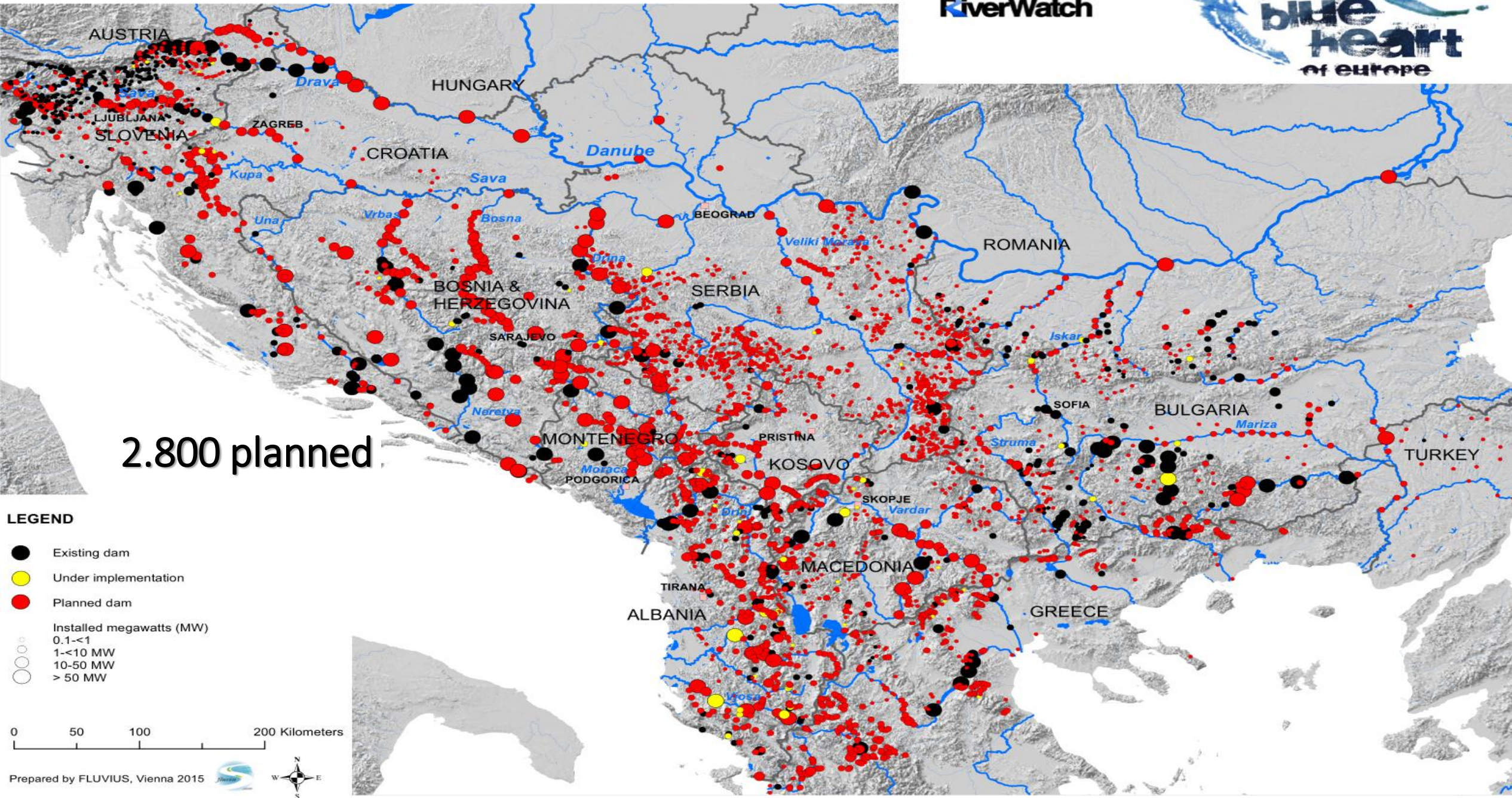
Prepared by FLUVIUS, Vienna 2015



Hydropower plants in Balkan rivers

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2.800 planned

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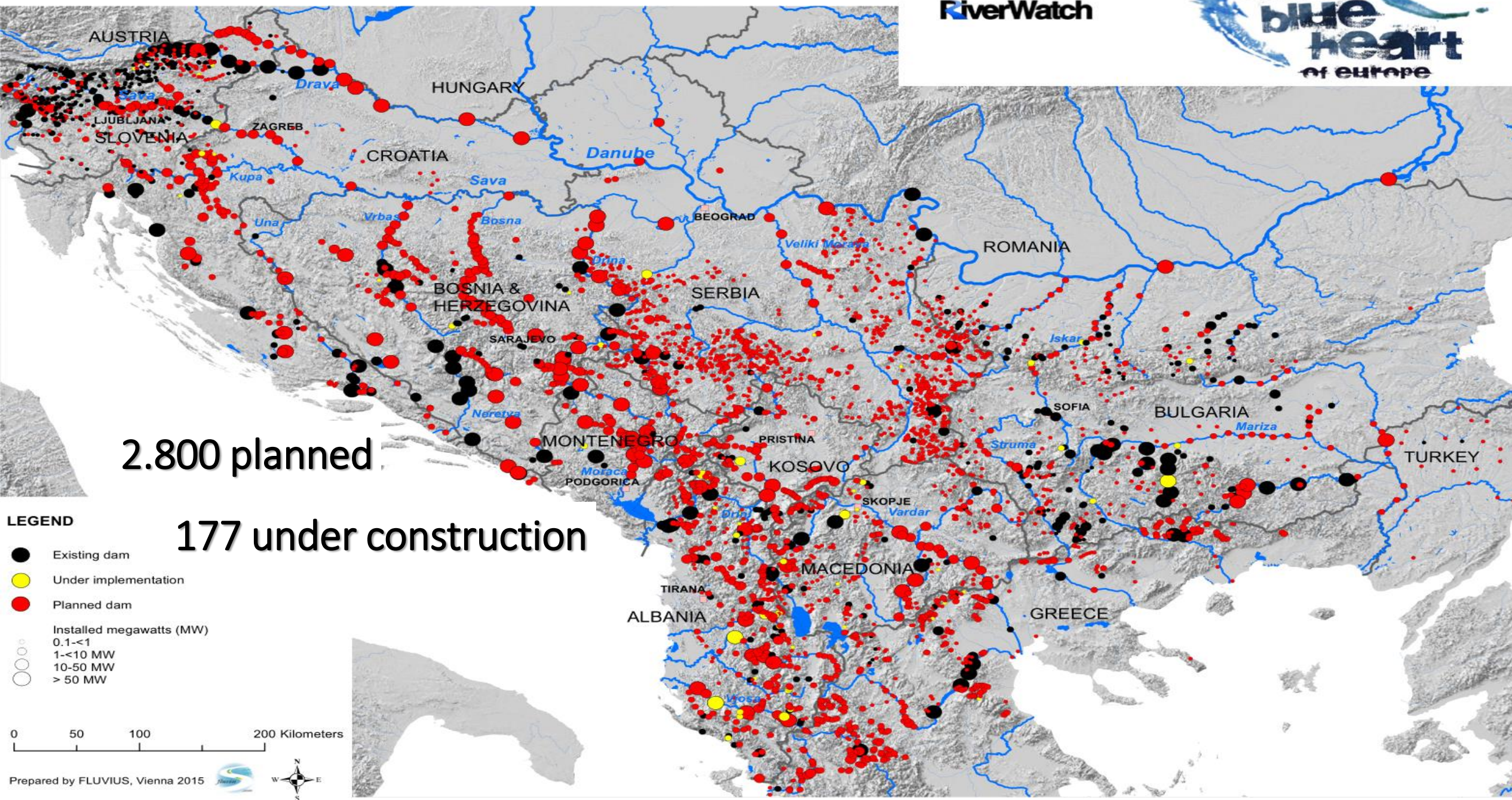
0 50 100 200 Kilometers



Hydropower plants in Balkan rivers

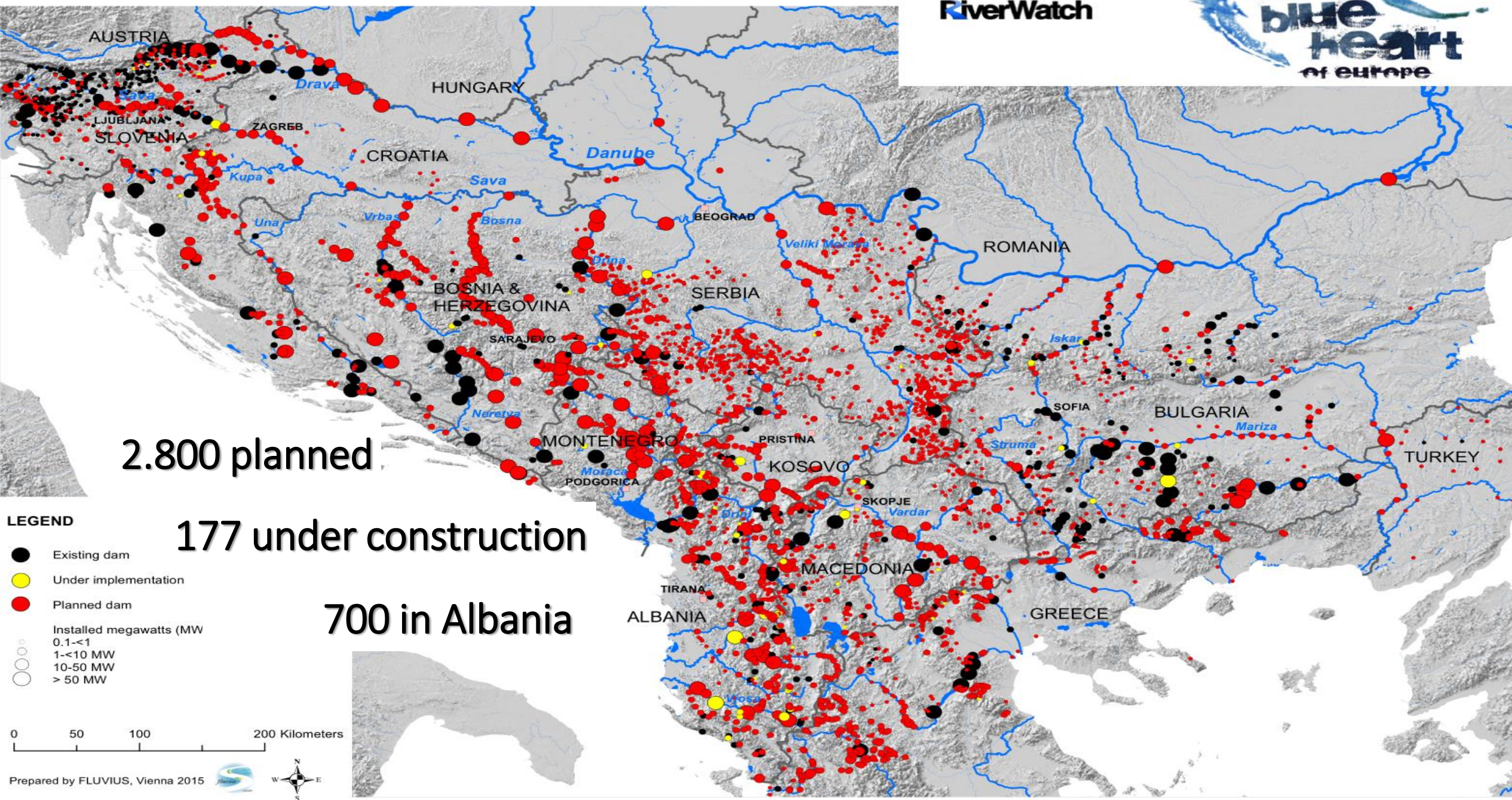
euRONATUR FOUNDATION

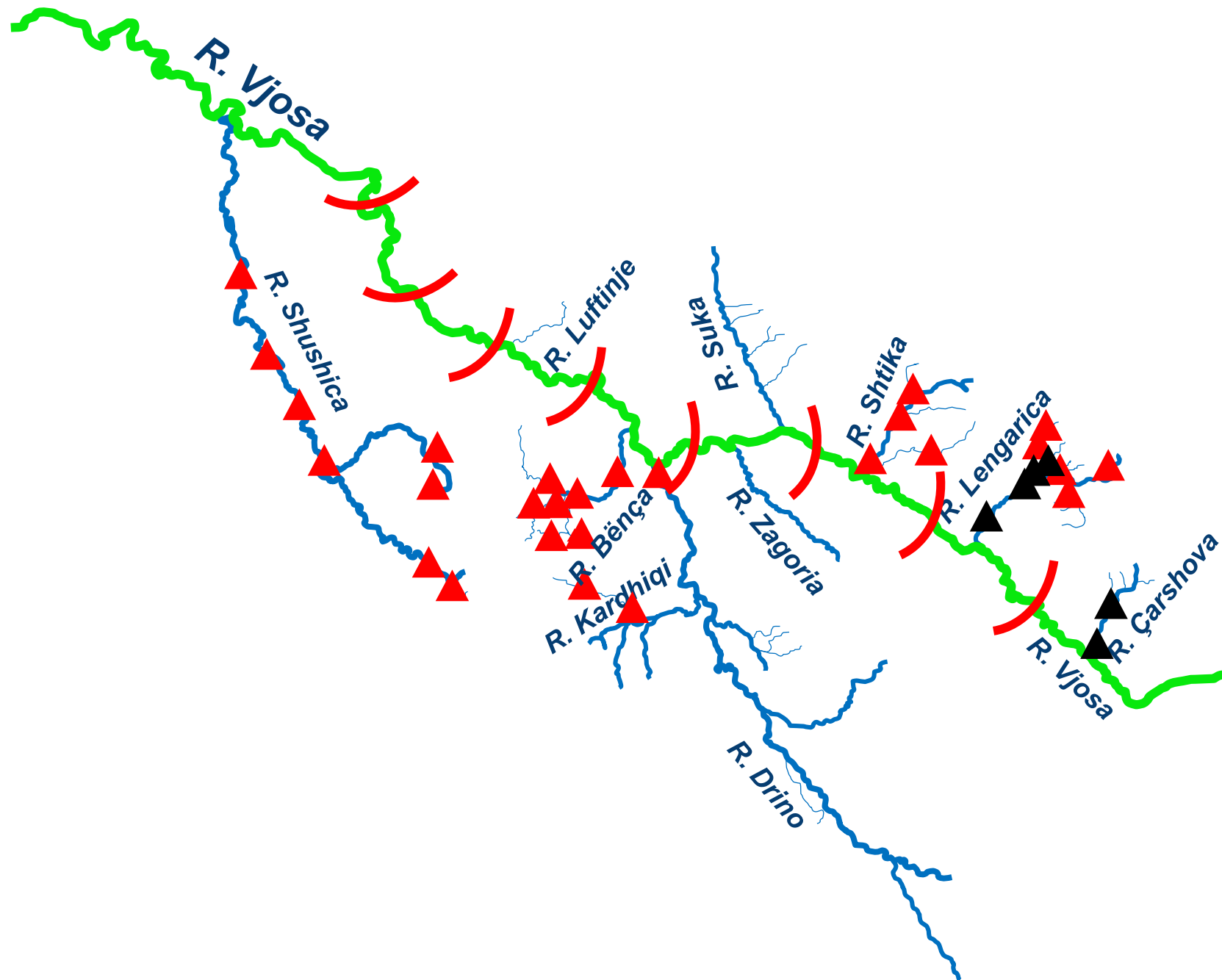
RiverWatch



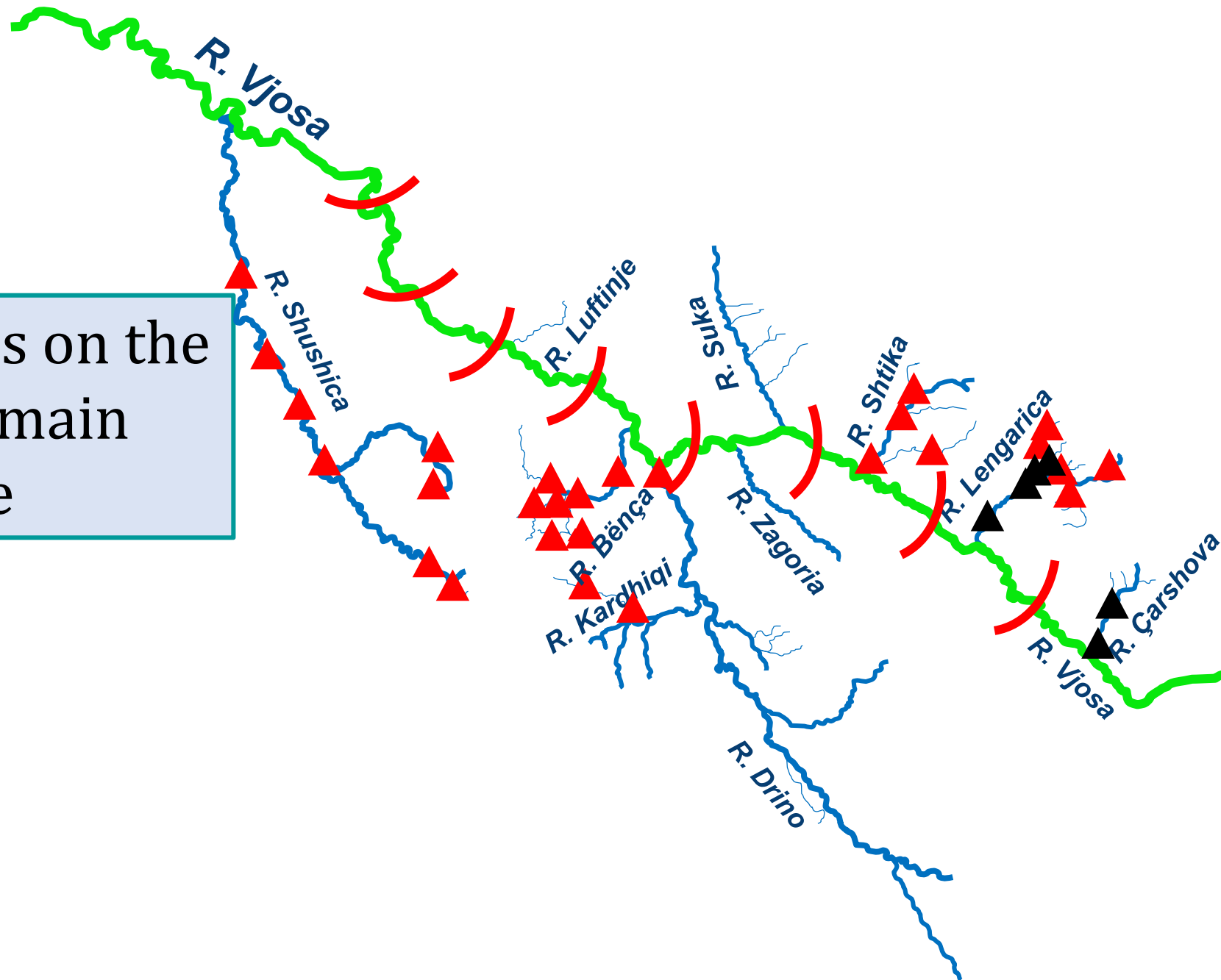
Hydropower plants in Balkan rivers

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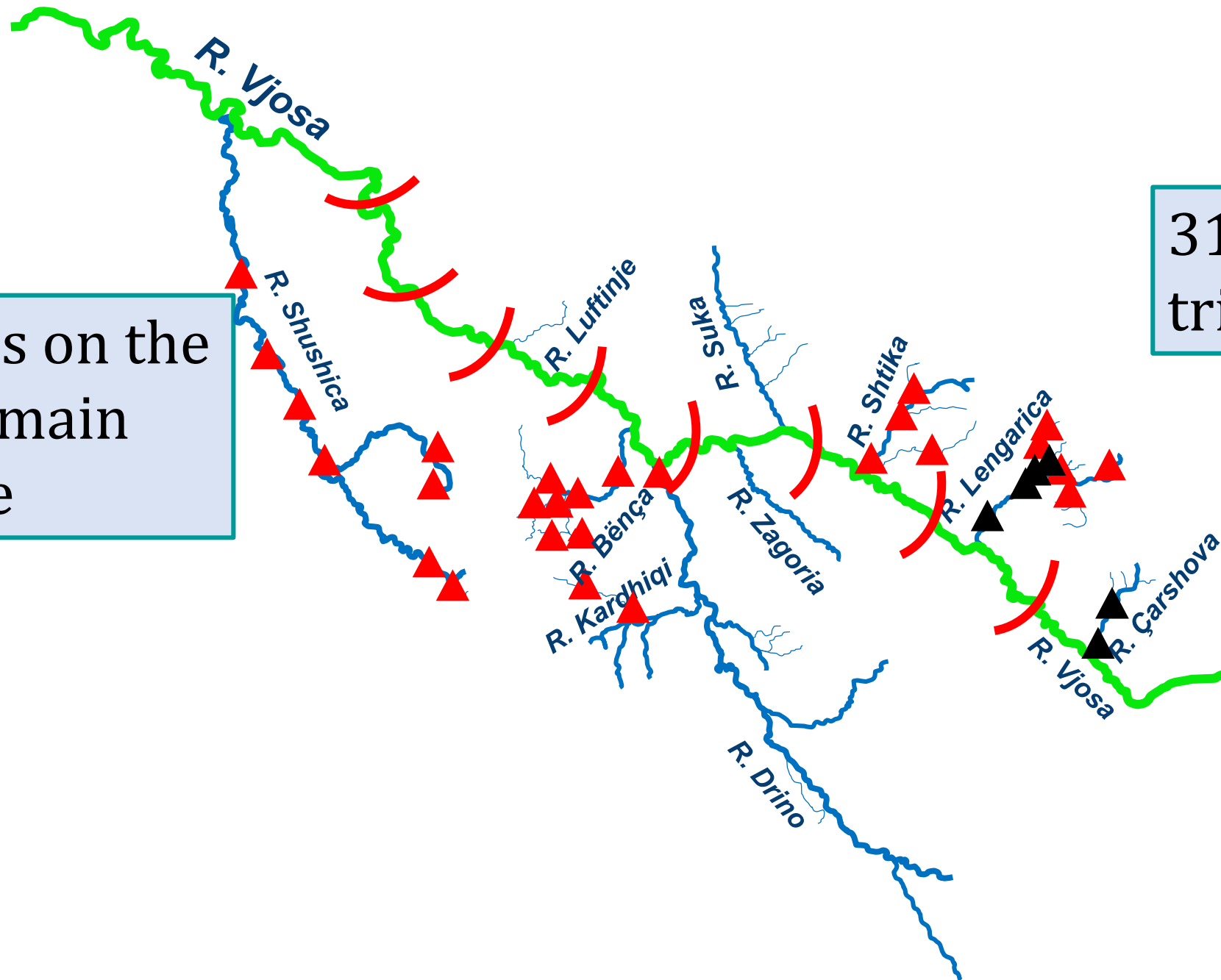


8 dams on the
Vjosa main
course



8 dams on the
Vjosa main
course

31 on its
tributaries



Species threatened by damming the Vjosa



Spe

Vjosa



Burhinus oedicephalus





Isoperla vjosae



Poecilus striatupunctatus



Typha minima

Sp

josa



Species th

ning the Vjosa



Liocranoeca vjosensis





Aguilla aguilla



Lutra lutra

Species threatened by damming the Vjosa



Species threatened by damming the Vjosa





Vjosa

Europe's 1st Wild River National Park

Save the Vjosa