

This report is based on a Situation Report issued by the Office of the Resident Coordinator in Tirana. It covers the period from 12 until 17 January 2010. Barring a deterioration in the situation, this will be the last SitRep on the Albania Floods issued by OCHA New York.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- The situation in the areas affected by the floods is stable, and water levels are decreasing.
- Albanian rescue workers continue to provide assistance to the affected population.
- The EU-MIC team, as well as Greek and Italian response teams, have left the country.

II. Situation Overview

1. The situation in the areas affected by the recent floods is stable. Due to the absence of heavy rains and the reduction in water discharges from the dams in the Drini River, water levels are decreasing. The number of persons evacuated has gone down from 5,352 to 4,443. The number of houses flooded has also decreased, from 2,489 to 2,126. Total farmland flooded is down from more than 10,000 to 8,300 ha.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

2. Armed forces, state police, fire fighters and health workers continue to provide assistance, as does the Albanian Red Cross and more than 10 non-governmental organizations. According to the Government of Albania, four high-capacity water pumps are still needed, as is food and medicine for livestock.

3. The Government of Albania plans to conduct a damage assessment next week. The World Bank has offered to support the reconstruction and infrastructure needs assessment.

4. The EU-MIC team carried out an assessment on 14 January 2010, visiting a warehouse for relief supplies in Gjader, a distribution centre in Velipolje, and two reception centers for evacuees. Distribution was proceeding effectively and conditions for the evacuees were found to be satisfactory.

5. The EU-MIC team finished its coordination mission and departed Albania on 16 January 2010. The Greek emergency team departed Albania on 14 January 2010. The helicopters provided by the Government of Italy left 15 January 2010. The MapAction team left on 16 January 2010, a day after producing final maps.

IV. Coordination

6. An UNDAC member will remain in-country to support the Albanian Civil Emergency Department to coordinate assistance for another two weeks.

V. Contact

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