Bosnia and Herzegovina – Flood Disaster Situation Report No.3
20th May 2014

• HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES:
  
  o **Affected locations/regions**: Tuzla Canton, Sarajevo Canton, Zenica-Doboj Canton, Bosnia-Podrinje Canton, Una-Sana Canton, Brcko District, and Banja Luka, Doboj, Bijeljina, Odzak, Samac, Srebrenica regions;
  
  o Most affected are: **Samac, Odzak, Orasje, Doboj, Bijeljina, Brcko, Maglaj**;
  
  o Sava River is mostly receding to its pre-flood level;
  
  o **Brčko**: Floods are still affecting the areas of Vučilovci- Gorica, Vučilovci and Krepšić with **water levels rising at a rate of 3cm/hr**. Domaljevac, Bosanski Šamac and Odžak are now safe areas and are not expected to experience any further flooding;
  
  o Residents have been advised to leave the affected areas; those who remain will receive food and shelter:
    - **One quarter of the country’s population** has been directly affected by the floods [EPA];
  
  o The most pressing concerns are **landslides, animal carcasses and debris**:
    - **Landslides and debris** pose the greatest challenge, along with contamination of the water supply system that pose a potential health threat:
      - Roughly **2000 landslides** have been reported [EPA];
      - **Municipalities Tuzla, Kalesija and Banovići** are reported to be under severe threat of landslides.
    - **Proper strategies to dispose of debris are needed**;

• Casualties (deaths):
  
  o Federation: **7 casualties** (FENA, May 20, 2014)
  o RS: **17 casualties** (FENA, May 20, 2014)
  o Number of injured not yet confirmed

• Access to water and sanitation are a priority; most flooded areas do not have access to safe drinking water. Epidemiological situation in the affected areas is concerning.

• The Meteorological institutes of the Federation and RS have reported that:
  
  o **Water levels are going down** (checkpoints Gradiška, Srbac, Novi Grad, Prijedor, Doboj, Radalj, Bihać, Sanski Most, Sarajevo, Reljevo, Zenica, Tuzla),
Weather is improving and no heavy rainfall is expected;

UN staff are safe and accounted for.

I. SITUATION OVERVIEW:

- 300 liters of rain per square meter over three-four days fell on Eastern and central parts of BiH. This is the highest amount measured in the last 120 years.

- The weather has improved over the last two days with no heavy rainfall expected.

- Water levels are receding in rivers Bosna, Drina, Una, Sava, Sana, Vrbas and their tributaries are receding to pre-flood levels.

- Landslides and debris remain a danger in areas that were first hit by the floods (Tuzla Canton, Sarajevo Canton, Zenica-Doboj Canton), water is receding.

- Approximately 950 thousand people have been affected by the flood disaster, and 40,000 displaced. However, no reliable data is currently available because estimates by government and international authorities vary widely.

- Day of Mourning for the flood victims declared in the FBiH, Brcko District, and RS

- Reported Casualties: Federation 7; RS 17 casualties (FENA, May 20, 2014)\(^1\). Number of injured not yet confirmed.

- BIH Armed Forces, EUFOR, NATO and US engaged in rescue efforts by helicopter. EUFOR forces have transported power units, food, water, medicine and medicinal support to Brcko, Bijeljina, Orašje and surrounding remote areas in the past two days.

- Landslides pose the greatest challenge, e.g. in Banovići Municipality, the Tuzla civilian protection reported 32 landslides that in the past 24 hours while the Kalesija Municipality reported 31 new landslide areas\(^2\).

- Pollution of the water supply system poses a potential health threat. The Federal Institution of Public Health warned of a high risk of infectious diseases epidemics in affected areas (19 May, 2014).

- Electrical Power Grid was severely affected in some areas and is slowly being restored. However, many areas remain without electricity and recovery may take a long time due to the absence of replacement equipment and transformers.

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\(^1\) The information is unofficial and we are waiting for the MoIA's to publish official information

\(^2\) May 20, 2014
- **Areas experiencing power outages are:** Una Sana Canton, Zenica- Doboj Canton, areas surrounding Banja Luka, municipalities Bijeljina, Donji Žabari, Šamac, Modriča.

- **Households in the FBiH without electricity (est. 4,500)**
  - 3,480 Zenica-Doboj canton
  - 600 Tuzla canton
  - 258 Una-Sana Canton.

- **Households in the RS without electricity (est. 34,000):** around 34,000 households are left without electricity, many areas are still under water\(^3\). For the moment the most urgent ones are:
  - Doboj (20,000),
  - Šamac (4,400) and
  - Bijeljina (6,850)

- **Mine Affected Areas:**
  - **70% of the flood-affected area** (Doboj, Maglaj, Olovo, Una-Sana Canton and Brcko) is **suspected to contain mines and UXOs**; 800 sq/km of areas suspected to contain mines has been affected by the flood disaster;
  - **Landmines and mine awareness signs have either moved** or been washed away because of landslides and flooding; therefore, there is a high risk that current mine maps will be inaccurate;
  - **Mine Action Centre BiH (BHMAC) has sent out warnings to the population in flooded areas on this threat;** awareness raising should be increased. BHMAC and UNDP are updating maps on mine locations affecting the flooding.
  - **Mines and UXOs have reportedly been identified** in the following:
    - Brcko (confirmed mine explosion, no casualties reported)
    - Bosanska Krupa
    - Visoko
    - Semizovac
    - Olovo (in particular the road between Olovo and Tuzla)

- **Impact on agricultural lands:** many crops have been completely destroyed and as a result livestock has been severely affected. Federal Minister of Agriculture reported that the most affected agricultural areas are located in the Tuzla Canton. The entire Posavina region has been affected.

\(^3\) RS Elektroprivreda May 20, 2014
• **Roads and Transport**: Main roads are becoming increasingly functional. However, side roads and over 20 bridges have been destroyed and damaged, preventing humanitarian assistance from reaching remote areas.

**III. HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND RESPONSE**

• **List of needs** (equipment and supplies) have been issued by Brcko District, RS and FBIH authorities. Latest lists contain WASH related equipment and supplies, disinfection materials, food, debris disposal tools, pumps, dryers, raincoats, boats. Hygiene, food and health kits are emerging priority needs.

• **Humanitarian aid** is being provided by: i) voluntary contributions by Bosnian citizens and private companies; ii) humanitarian organizations; and iii) international donors; in the form of food, water treatment tablets, pumps, generators, trucks, WASH equipment, etc; via helicopters, rescue teams, boats, and land transport.

**IV. COORDINATION**

• Ongoing coordination with the Ministries of Security and Defense, the Ops Center, as well as entity, cantonal and local civil defense.

• Two sessions of the **International Community Coordination Meeting** have been hosted by UN Regional Coordinator. A third session will take place on **21 May at 0900** at UN House. Sessions will continue every other day until further notice.

• Monitoring of needs and available international assistance is ongoing. **Integrated Rapid Assessment teams** are being formed and will be deployed end of this week on 23 May.

**V. FUNDING**

• International assistance is being provided by the Government of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, EU, France, FYROM, Germany, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Norway, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Turkey, UK, USA, World Vision as well as international NGOs and organizations: ADRA, EUFORUK, OSCE, OXFAM, Red Cross, Save the Children, UN (IOM, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, OCHA, WFP, WHO), World Bank and others.

• Attached is detailed overview of IC humanitarian assistance
Interactive maps of flooded areas:

**UG Zašto Ne!**

Google Maps floods report.

Aljazeera interactive map.

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Google Maps floods report, May 20 2014
Floods in the region, May 20, 2014