

INFORMATION BULLETIN



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

MONTENEGRO: FLOODS

Information bulletin
no. 01/2007
30 November 2007

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in 186 countries.

In Brief

This Bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the situation and the information available at this time. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to achieve the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

For further information specifically related to this disaster please contact:

- *In Montenegro: Montenegro Red Cross: Slobodan Kalezić, Secretary General, phone: +382 81 241 819, fax: +382 81 241 613, GSM: +382 69 040 452 or Momčilo Martinović, Disaster Management Coordinator, +382 81 241 819, +382 81 241 613, GSM: +382 69 334 262, email: djelovanje.unesrecama@ckcg.cg.yu*
- *In Central European Regional Representation: Slobodanka Ćurić, Regional Disaster Management Coordinator, Budapest, phone: +36 1 248 3300, fax: +36 1 248 33 22, email: slobodanka.curic@ifrc.org*
- *In Europe Zone Office: Leon Prop, Deputy Head of Zone, Budapest, phone: + 36 1 248 3300, fax: +36 1 248 3322, email: leon.prop@ifrc.org*
- *In Geneva: Linda A. Stops, Operations Coordinator, phone: +41 22 730 4300, fax: +41 22 733 0395, email: linda.stops@ifrc.org*

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

The Situation

Severe flooding affected the area of Kolašin on 26 November, mostly in the upper stretches of the river Tara. There were no human casualties, but there is a lot of damage to property. The situation was the gravest in Bare Kraljske. This village, under the Kom mountain lost all connections with the surrounding areas. The bridge on the river Drcka was swept away by the water, so the link between Mataševo and Bare Kraljske was severed.



The main street in Rozaje.

At the same time, on the other side of the road to Trešnjevik the road was cut, so this village ended up being inaccessible, as well as the farther areas of Andrijevica. In Mataševo, the river Drcka flooded houses and agricultural lands, and the water has reached Pešića Luka.

In the area of Kolasin municipality, the river Tara broke one part of the dam at Bećova bara. Rescue teams were trying to prevent further water overflow near the urban settlement of Lug all day. The gravest situation was in the villages under the Kom mountain in Mataševo and Skrbuša, but also in one part of Kolašin, Trebaljevo, and Sjerogošt.

In the area of Andrijevica municipality, the bridge on the river Krstica was blocked, which cut the communication between the two parts of the collective settlement Prljanija

for Roma internally displaced persons (IDPs) in which 15 families are accommodated. The floods destroyed 15 houses in Prljanija.

A snow storm completely paralyzed the traffic in Pljevlja. The farthest villages of Bobovo and Bukovica were left without electricity and road links.

After the rains stopped, on 26 November, the situation in the affected area has to certain extent improved. The flooding has stopped since the water level receded, but the material damage is estimated to be high. However, the rain has started again in the past 48 hours, so it can be expected that the situation will worsen again.

The following table provides some information about the situation in Berane:

Village/Settlement	Affected families	Flooded houses	Affected people
Donji Talum	12	12	86
Riverside collective centre	14	13	108
Total	26	25	194

Down the river, from Berane, the following settlements are endangered: Štitari, Bujanje, Crljevina, Skakavac, Donje Zastro, as well as the main road bridge to Bijelo Polje. Beside the river Lim, great damage was made by the rivers Bistrica, Šekularska, Kaludarska and Budimljanska.

In Rozaje, a state of emergency was declared on 26 November. All available services were activated in the rescue operations, mostly on the banks of the rivers Ibar, Lovnicka, Garovacka, Zupanica and Crnja. The majority of the households in these areas still do not have electricity.

Affected families	Flooded houses	Affected people
120	120	600

The population was evacuated to stay with relatives or neighbours.

In Andrijevica, the floods damaged three bridges on the river Krastica in the following villages: Prljanija, Oblo brdo and Obzovik. Local roads between Djulice-Kuti, Andrijevica-Kuti, Djulice-Josanica, and the main road between Andrijevica - Berane were severely damaged. In the basin of the Sekularska river the waterworks were damaged (more than 100m long), leaving the local population with no access to drinking water. So far, 50 households are recorded as having been damaged.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

All the local Red Cross branches participated, together with the crisis headquarters, in the rescue and evacuation operations, and they have conducted an initial needs and situation assessment.

The results are as follows:

Municipality	Affected houses	Affected families	Affected people
Berane	25	26	194
Andrijevica	15	15	75
Rozaje	120	120	600
Total	160	161	869

The results for the municipalities of Kolasin, Podgorica, Mojkovac and Plav are still not finalized, but it is estimated that around 70 more households are severely affected by the floods.

The local Red Cross branch of Berane has distributed some basic items:

Hygiene items	156
Baby sets	26
Clothes and shoes	For 104 people

The needs of the population in the affected areas for the time being are:

- Blankets
- Mattresses
- Jerry cans
- Rubber boots
- Plastic sheets
- Canned food
- Hygiene parcels
- Disinfectants
- Clothes and shoes

The exact needs will be quantified in more detail, and if necessary a request will be made to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) within the next 48 hours.

Communication and Coordination

All the actions are coordinated by the municipality crisis headquarters, and the Red Cross local branches have their representatives in these bodies. They participate at joint meetings to exchange information, and the Montenegro Red Cross was asked to help local authorities in the basic needs assessment.