



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA: FLOODS

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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 over 181 countries.

In Brief

CHF 25,093 (USD 19,379 OR EUR 16,215) HAS BEEN ALLOCATED FROM THE FEDERATION'S DISASTER RELIEF EMERGENCY FUND (DREF) TO ASSIST SOME 950 HOUSEHOLDS (3,100 BENEFICIARIES) FOR 1 MONTH.

UN earmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organisations \(NGO's\) 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

Heavy rainfall and strong winds affected areas of Bosnia and Herzegovina from 6 to 9 December, 2005. The most affected areas were in Una Sana Canton (municipalities of Bihac, Bosanska Krupa, Sanski Most and Velika Kladusa), as well as Prijedor Region (municipalities of Prijedor and Novi Grad). A total of 950 households (3,100 individuals) have been affected, and were temporarily evacuated from their homes. Most of the municipalities affected by this natural disaster are generally undeveloped, with a great number of displaced persons and returnees.

Coordination and Cooperation

In all the municipalities a state of disaster was declared, and as a result local Red Cross of Bosnia and Herzegovina (RCSBiH) organizations were directly involved through the civil protection headquarters. On 10 and 11 December 2005 Red Cross emergency response teams carried out damage assessments and established the number of families affected, and needs. On 12 December Entity Disaster Management Coordinators contacted RCSBiH headquarters and proposed measures for further action.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action taken so far

Immediately after the disaster the Red Cross, in cooperation with civil protection authorities, assessed the rate of vulnerability in these areas. Assistance in the form of second hand clothes and blankets (available at Red Cross warehouses) was delivered to the affected areas for approximately 350 families. Drinking water and food (cans) was also provided.

On the basis of the first assessments, and estimates and decisions on the natural disaster, the most urgent needs are 950 food parcels, 950 parcels with hygiene items, and 950 jerry cans (10 litre) for the following locations:

I Una Sana Canton

Municipality:

- 250 for Bihac
- 250 for Sanski Most
- 50 for Velika Kladusa
- 50 for Bosanska Krupa

II Prijedor Region

Municipality:

- 300 for Prijedor.
- 50 for Novi Grad.

Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina action/proposed operation

The main objective of this operation is to provide basic food and hygiene items for 950 households for one month. The intended beneficiaries include the most vulnerable categories of population as follows: persons over 60 (elderly households) with monthly income less than EUR 40, self-supporting mothers, returnees and displaced persons affected by floods.

Objective 1: Distribution of family food parcels to 950 families.

Food parcels will be purchased locally, the suppliers will distribute items to the local Red Cross branches. Local Red Cross branches will distribute relief items to the final beneficiaries.

Objective 2: Distribution of hygiene parcels to 950 families.

Standard family hygiene parcels will be purchased locally and distributed in the same way like food parcels.

The following activities will be undertaken to fulfill this objective:

- identification of beneficiaries according to the defined criteria.
- purchasing of humanitarian goods.
- distribution to final beneficiaries (suppliers will distribute items to: Bihac, Sanski Most, Velika Kladusa, Bosanska Krupa, Prijedor and Novi Grad. Local Red Cross branches will distribute items to the final beneficiaries).
- submitting the reports.

Capacity of the Red Cross Society

The RCSBiH has an established and trained structure for disaster response: the team for DP/DR at the RCSBiH level was formed, DP coordinators at the RCRS and RCFBiH were trained, 20 cantonal/regional emergency response teams were formed (with 14 members each) and 20 DP coordinators were trained, preparedness plans and legal procedures for acting in disaster were made, the agreements were signed with civil protection on: the Red Cross place, role, and way of acting in cooperation with other actors. The RCSBiH has previous experience in effectively implementing action to provide assistance in disasters (floods in 2001 and 2004, drought in 2003 – assistance in providing drinking water). The RCSBiH has equipped warehouses for receiving assistance and has developed effective distribution methods to the final beneficiaries.

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