

MINOR EMERGENCY



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

BULGARIA: 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 92,666 (USD 73,046 OR EUR 60,050) HAS BEEN ALLOCATED FROM THE FEDERATION'S DISASTER RELIEF EMERGENCY FUND (DREF) TO RESPOND TO THIS OPERATION.

UNEARMARKED FUNDS TO REPAY DREF ARE ENCOURAGED.

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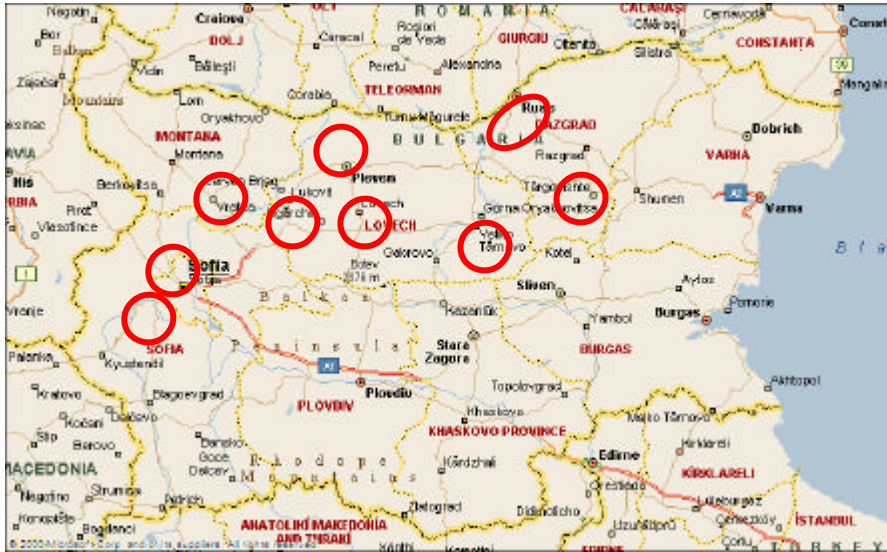
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The Situation

As a result of heavy rains and storms at the end of May and beginning of June (25 May to 10 June), nine regions in the north of Bulgaria – with a population of some two million people - have been affected. Three persons have been reported dead. A state of emergency was declared in the municipalities of Rousse, Dve Mogili, Lukovit, Pravec, Mezdra, Roman, Svoge and in Sofia. As the water levels of the Iskar, Vit, Osam, and Struma rivers rose rapidly and dam capacity in the region reached a critical point, authorities initiated controlled draining of the Studena, Jovkovci, Aleksandar Stamboliiski dams, resulting in infrastructure damage to roads, railways, electro and water supply systems and telecommunications, as well as to personal property (flooded basements, houses and farms).

By 13 June, a number of houses in the municipalities of Mezdra, Iskar, Pernik and Svoge in Sofia region were still flooded. Although water levels were slowly decreasing, the critical level of water in the Iskar Dam may result in further controlled draining and damage in the surrounding area. Additional reinforcement of dikes is needed. The flooding of septic tanks has contaminated agricultural land and normal toilet systems were not working for some time.

The regions affected by the flooding



Local authority and state initiatives

The State Agency Civil Protection, Fire Brigade, Police and other disaster partners have been coordinating actions in response to the crisis, and from the beginning of the alert, the Bulgarian Red Cross has been in daily contact with the Crisis Management Centre of the agency. The regional branches of the Bulgarian Red Cross have also been critical in monitoring developments in the communities where they work. On 9 June, a meeting of the Standing Commission for Protecting the Population authorized support in an amount of six million leva (approximately 3 million EURO) for the emergency and rehabilitation phase and immediate needs. In coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the state agency for civil protection has requested assistance from the Euro-Atlantic Coordination Centre and the European Union for technical assistance and financial support.

The Standing Governmental Commission asked the Bulgarian Red Cross for assistance and the Civil Protection agency is continuing to provide updated figures to the Bulgarian Red Cross.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action



Flood waters in the region of Novi Iskar

Coordination and Cooperation

CHF 99,666 has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to respond to the immediate needs for hygiene parcels, blankets, bed linen and kitchen sets. Regional branches of the Bulgarian Red Cross have been in daily contact with the relevant authorities and the civil protection agency, to monitor the situation and to develop their response initiatives. The Sofia regional branch is a member of the Local Standing Commission for protection of the population and has taken part in all coordination meetings relating to the floods.

Immediate Response

The Rousse regional branch of the Bulgarian Red Cross has been distributing relief items: bedlinen, mattresses, shoes, clothes, blankets in the most affected villages in Rousse region: Baniska, Karanvarbovka and others, from the newly established inter-regional warehouse of the Bulgarian Red Cross covering the north-central regions.



Affected community in Novi Iskar

Assessment

A Federation-run Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) training is currently being held in Bulgaria in the region affected by the flooding. The President and Director General of the Bulgarian Red Cross requested the assistance of the RDRT team to assess the situation. Experienced RDRT members from neighbouring national societies, who are facilitating the course, conducted an assessment mission to the affected area on 11 June, together with the Disaster Management colleague from the Bulgarian Red Cross. A water and sanitation expert from Geneva – also a course facilitator – joined the assessment team. The team visited the villages of Jiten, Mirovjane, Izgrev, Slavovci and Kumarica in the affected area in the municipality of Novi Iskar. In Jiten village the assessment team met with the mayor and deputy mayor of Novi Iskar region as well as the head of the Civil Protection in Sofia region. On 15 June the assessment continued and was conducted by the participants of the course, who as part of the practical section of the course were asked to conduct follow up assessment missions in four groups to affected villages (Jiten, Mirovjane, Izgrev, Slavoski and Kumaritsa). Information from these assessments confirmed previous information (see previous section), updated on the latest initiatives by the fire brigade and civil protection concentrating on infrastructure protection and repair (continuing pumping

of basement flood water, further protection of houses by placing sand bags and provision of earth by trucks, damage assessment by engineers and technicians) and indicated that the following needs remain:

Needs

The objective of the operation is to distribute relief items to 5,000 beneficiaries during a one-month period.

Village	Emergency Phase	Post emergency phase
Jiten	Water pumps Rubber boots Blankets	Disinfectants, cleaning materials, hygiene items, family food parcels, mosquito repellents, electrical devices, furniture
Mirovjane	Water pumps for flooded fields	Family food parcels Longer term solution to drainage problem
Izgrev	Water pumps	Disinfectant Cleaning materials
Slavoski		Disinfection of water sources and areas; Household equipment: stoves, refrigerators, washing machines; Household items: beds, wardrobes, closets; Potable water rehabilitation and provision; Cleaning of river beds; Vaccination against water transmitted diseases

Immediate needs

In order to organize a proper response, Bulgarian Red Cross through its local branches identified the most vulnerable of the affected population. The relief operation should cover the basic needs of 5000 people based on the following criteria:

- elderly people over 60 (living alone).
- single women with young children.
- disabled and handicapped.
- low-income families under social minimum.

According to the assessment the most urgently-needed items are hygiene parcels, disinfectants, kitchen sets, blankets, bed linens. As the blankets have been distributed from the BRC's DP stock, there is a need for replenishment. All relief items will be purchased locally market through standard tendering procedures.

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The following activities will be undertaken to fulfill the operational objective:

- prepare guidelines for relief operation in Bulgarian Red Cross branches.
- prepare list of beneficiaries.
- procure relief items in Bulgaria .
- deliver non-food relief items to the Bulgarian Red Cross local branches.
- organize distribution to the beneficiaries.
- prepare system of data reporting and monitoring of distribution.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The monitoring will be undertaken by Disaster preparedness and logistics in conjunction with branch secretaries. Weekly field visits will be undertaken to verify the receipt of items by families listed as beneficiaries. Should additional need be identified during visits, this will be recorded and reported to the Bulgarian Red Cross headquarter. Written reports will be produced by the Bulgarian Red Cross staff with information collected during these field visits. Throughout the distribution of packages to beneficiaries, ongoing evaluation of activities will be undertaken and reported at regular Bulgarian Red Cross meetings.

Budget

Descriptions			CHF	BGN	EUR
Relief Items	Qty	Unit Value (CHF)			
Kitchen sets – type A	1250	30,00	37 500,00	47 625,00	24 423,08
Hygiene parcels (family, 1 month)	1250	16,00	20 000,00	25 000,00	12 820,51
Disinfectant 2 l	2500	0,50	1250,00	1 562,50	801,28
Blankets	700	12,00	8 400,00	10 500,00	5 384,62
Bed Linen	700	4,50	3 150,00	3 937,50	2 019,23
			<i>70 300,00</i>	<i>88 625,00</i>	<i>45 448,72</i>
Operation costs					
Transport and Warehousing			5 500,00	6 875,00	3 525,64
Monitoring			2 500,00	3 125,00	1 602,56
Staff (Logistics, DM, branch level)			3 000,00	3 750,00	1 923,08
Communication and Coordination			700,00	875,00	448,72
			<i>11 700,00</i>	<i>14 625,00</i>	<i>7 500,00</i>
Administrative costs			5 248,75	6 609,69	3 389,58
TOTAL			<u>87 010,50</u>	<u>109 561,88</u>	<u>56 185,58</u>

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