

# 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

## ROMANIA: FLOODS

No. 05ME039  
26 August 2005  
Update no. 1

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 240,938 (USD 186,000 or EUR 156,000) HAS BEEN ALLOCATED FROM THE FEDERATION'S DISASTER RELIEF EMERGENCY FUND (DREF) TO RESPOND TO THIS OPERATION.**

**UN earmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.**

To view all the reports on the Romania Floods, please go to the Federation's special website for Romania at <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/cn6.asp?countryid=141>

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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 \(NGOs\) 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

With only a month after the end of the third major wave of floods in Romania, on August 9, new floods started throughout the country. Between 15 and 23 August, the floods caused by the continuous heavy rains affected 567 localities in 31 counties. During the floods, 11 people were killed, 2 are missing; more than 1,000 people have been evacuated, while 21 villages and a further 584 families continue to be isolated.

The waters affected 8,727 houses, 20,277 households, 162 institutions, 56,171 hectares of agricultural land and 8,635 wells. The infrastructure was also heavily damaged, 1,688 bridges and small bridges, 2,106 km of roads, 29 hydro-technical constructions being affected. The electrical and phone networks were also damaged, including 566 power converting stations.

The information regarding the floods was provided by the Emergency Operations Center of the Ministry of the Environment.

Over the last 24 hours, new floods severely affected 6 counties: Bihor, Bistrita Nasaud, Harghita, Hunedoara, Mures, Prahova. Only in Harghita, where the waters reached 4 meters, 7 people died and 8 are missing and in Mures, 2 people have been reported dead. In addition, over 1900 houses and 2658 households have been damaged and there are isolated communities due to the damaged bridges.

## **Red Cross and Red Crescent action**

For the second time, **Olt County** suffered from the effect of the floods, which affected 39 localities, isolating 5 villages and damaging 624 houses and 2,018 households. Since the county was already heavily affected between 2-6 July, when the local branch managed to cover most of the needs mainly with local resources, this time it had to ask for the support of the National Headquarters, requesting assistance to provide relief items for 500 people from 3 out of the most affected 5 villages. Until now, the value of relief items provided by the branch to the flood victims exceeds RON 50,000 (EUR 14,135).

In **Vrancea County**, since 9 July, a total of 73 localities were affected by the floods. According to the assessment made by the local branch, from a total of 4,795 checked houses 1,140 are totally destroyed, while another 2,084 are heavily damaged. Furthermore, at least one village has to be completely relocated as its present location is prone to floods. The branch intervened in the impact area since the first day of the floods, mobilizing its disaster response teams (more than 40 volunteers) to support the evacuation efforts of the authorities.

Between 11 and 15 July, the vehicles of the branch were committed to the evacuation. Soon afterwards, two mobile kitchens were installed in the affected area, providing hot meals to around 1,000 people every day. The branch maintained a permanent contact and a very good cooperation with the local authorities. Three Red Cross tents were installed in the affected villages, where Red Cross volunteers and medical personnel from the Bucharest university hospital provide first aid to the people in need.

In Focsani, the county's capital, two Red Cross tents were placed in the most populated area for fundraising and to raise goods from the population. Using its own resources, the branch repaired and equipped the culture hall from Vulturu village in order to make it appropriate for hosting Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). In Vadu Rosca – the most affected village, which is proposed for relocation – the branch plans to maintain one of its mobile kitchens until the beginning of November. Meanwhile, the branch finalized the lists of beneficiaries – 3,893 families from the county are in need of humanitarian assistance.

In the other heavily affected counties - Arges, Bacau, Botosani, Dambovita, Dolj, Iasi and Mehedinti - the local branches are completely involved in the relief efforts and situation reports are expected in the following days. The relief effort is supported by the National Headquarters with relief shipments directed to the branches which are requesting assistance.

On 20 and 21 August, a team from the National Headquarters assessed the situation in two counties – Valcea and Brasov. In **Valcea County**, where a total of 54 localities were affected, the floods damaged 846 houses, 2,713 households, 2,508.2 hectares of agricultural land and infected 693 wells, 15 families from Babeni had to be evacuated due to the overflow of a dam. The basements of several houses are still flooded, most of them not for the first time this year.

The situation in **Brasov County** is similar. Nobody was evacuated yet, but many houses are flooded and the wells are polluted in 9 localities, and the lack of clean water for cooking and washing already started to create health problems. The outstanding needs identified by the assessment team are: tents, hygiene and food parcels, clothes and footwear for the evacuated families and water pumps and disinfectants for the entire affected area in order to clean the wells and remove the water from the basements. The needed relief items will be distributed in the area by Red Cross teams in the following days.

[\*Please click here to return to the title page or contact information\*](#)