



Regional and International Cooperation in Flood Response

2014 Flood Emergency in Serbia



**Republic of Serbia
Ministry of Interior
Sector for Emergency Management**



Republic of Serbia
Ministry of Interior
Sector for Emergency Management



Republic of Serbia has been affected by the catastrophic floods,
unprecedented in its history.

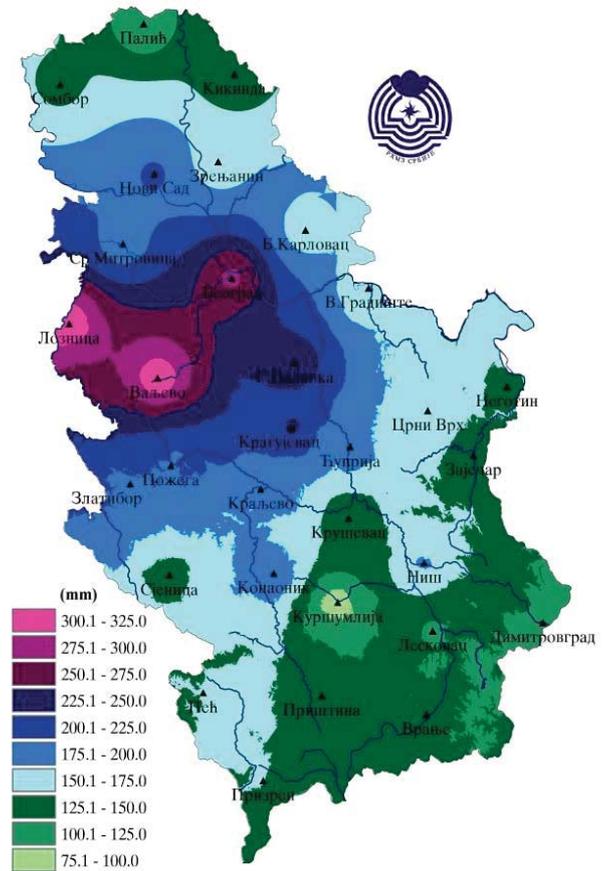


Following the session of National Emergency Management
HQ (NEMH)

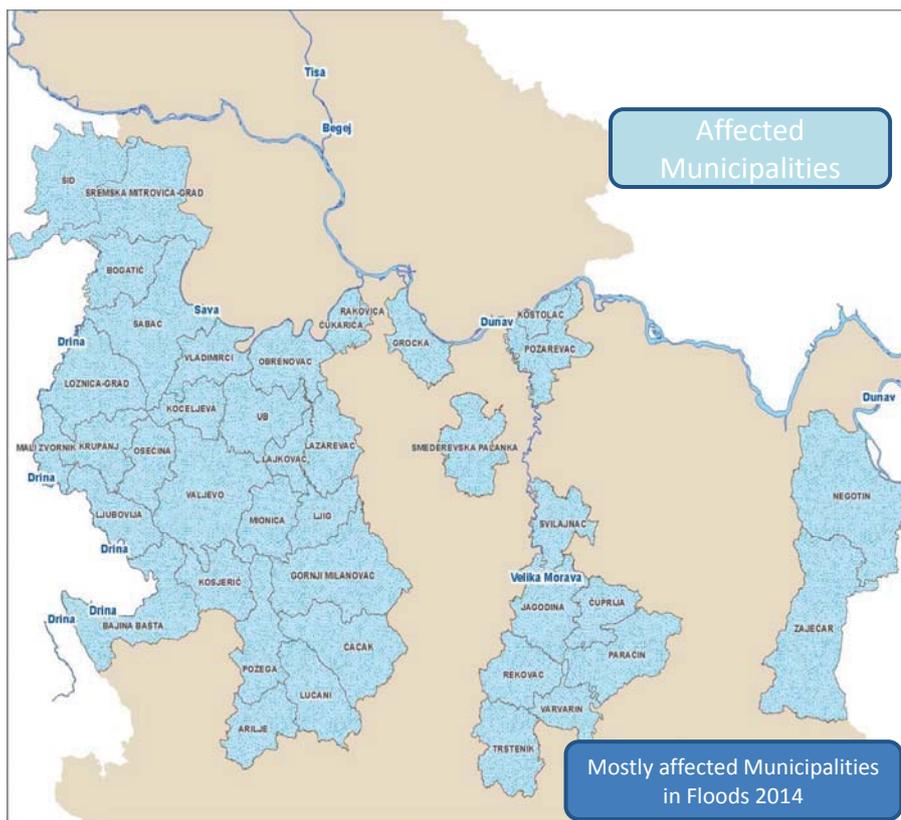
Emergency Situation was declared for the whole territory of
the Serbia, on 15 May and lasted until 23 May 2014

The historical monthly precipitation during the May was exceeded since the beginning of the measurements on the main 9 meteorological stations, in the period between the 1st and 31st of May 2014

MMS	Precipitation amount 1 - 31.5. 2014	The highest precipitation amount for May before 2014	Year of highest amount for May
NOVI SAD	201.9	175.7	1987
LOZNICA	314.6	218.6	1938
S.MITROVICA	189.0	184.9	1939
VALJEVO	317.6	213.2	1957
BELGRADE	278.5	191.7	1900
KRAGUJEVAC	227.0	169.7	1970
S.PALANKA	238.2	164.7	1929
ZLATIBOR	195.6	172.5	1956
POZEGA	199.4	177.9	1980



Republic of Serbia
Ministry of Interior
Sector for Emergency Management



40 Municipalities
– 9 cities, and
– 31 municipalities

1,6 million people
were affected

Municipality of
Obrenovac, near
Belgrade, was
mostly affected (90%
flooded)



Consequences

- 31,879 people were rescued and evacuated with 180.000 in need of assistance
- 485 housing units are completely destroyed by the floods and landslides, 16.200 housing damaged
- Environment
- Economy – mostly affected economic sectors were energy, mining, and agriculture,
- Road infrastructure – roads, bridges and railways
- Health Sector – 74 health facilities, including health posts and clinics, were affected
- Education – total of 35 buildings of educational institutions was severely damaged
- **Losses mount to 1,5 billion Euros**



Republic of Serbia has engaged all available national resources in protection and rescue activities

National Emergency Management HQ, coordinated the work of all government ministries and agencies that were involved in the national response to the disaster.

Emergency activities - Engaged Forces

- **Sector for Emergency Management, Mol**
Fire Rescue Units, Specialized Flood Response and USAR Teams, Specialized Civil protection Units
- **General Police Directorate, Mol**
Police, Gendarmerie, Special Units, Helicopter Units, Border Police, Traffic Police, and all other services of the Ministry of Interior
- **Serbian Army**
- **Red Cross of Serbia**
- **Mountain Rescue Service of Serbia**
- **Associations, organizations and companies**
- **Volunteers**



Evacuation



Republic of Serbia
Ministry of Interior
Sector for Emergency Management



According to the Law on emergency situation, activities of planning, organization and implementation of evacuation is under the responsibility of local self-governments.

Evacuation is ordered by Local emergency management HQs.

In case of need for mass evacuation from several municipalities, National emergency management HQ and Sector for Emergency Management MoI, coordinate, manage and provide the necessary technical and logistical assistance.

Activities are carried out by Emergency services and Red Cross that is in charge of providing shelter and care for the evacuated.



International Assistance



Republic of Serbia
Ministry of Interior
Sector for Emergency Management



On 15 of May Government of Serbia has requested international assistance on bilateral level and through the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism

- Flood Rescue Teams
- Helicopters
- High Capacity Water Pumping
- Water Purification Teams

Sector for Emergency Management, MoI, was responsible for the coordination and engagement of the international teams in the affected areas

Assistance was provided by 14 countries – 22 teams – with 563 members



International Assistance



Republic of Serbia
Ministry of Interior
Sector for Emergency Management



EU Civil Protection Mechanism

- Austria
- Bulgaria
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- France
- Germany
- Romania
- Slovenia

Bilateral Relations

- Belarus
- Croatia
- Hungary
- Macedonia
- Montenegro
- Russian Federation



Serbia has also received humanitarian aid and financial support from many countries and international organization and private donors



Republic of Serbia
Ministry of Interior
Sector for Emergency Management



International Assistance

Assistance in facilitating and coordination the engagement and stay of international teams in Serbia as well as assistance in field assessments was provided by EU and UN teams

- EUCP Team
- UNDAC Team





Lessons learned

These types of disasters are to be expected in the future. For this reason, we believe that it is necessary to invest more to

- Improve prevention
- Improve early warning
- Strengthen capacities of Protection and Rescue Services
- Further activities on education and raising public awareness
- Strengthen international cooperation



Lessons learned

Further develop international and regional cooperation in order to be as efficient as possible in response to all types of disasters, through

- Bilateral and multilateral agreements
- Regional initiatives
- Joint programmes and projects





EU Civil Protection Mechanism

- On the **16 April 2015** Serbia and the EU signed an agreement clearing the way for the official membership of Serbia in the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. Once national ratification is completed, Serbia will become **the 33rd participating state in the Mechanism**.
- The EU Civil Protection Mechanism offers a wide range of cooperation opportunities to Serbia such as European monitoring tools and early warning systems, joint trainings and exercises, exchange of experts, disaster prevention and preparedness projects, direct communication among the civil protection authorities of the members during emergency response, information exchange and best practices, coordinated EU relief operations and transport co-funding.



Cooperation between the Sector for Emergency Management and the OSCE Mission to Serbia

- Donation during the May 2014 Flood emergency (3 medium + 1 high-capacity water pump).
- Training for the local government - training for commanders, heads and members of emergency management headquarters (the National Platform) in accordance with the Law on Emergency Situations.
- 7 Table-top emergency management exercises for members of the municipal and district emergency management Headquarters (the National Platform).
- 5 Workshops “Media and Emergencies” for the staff managers and commanders of SEM (27 departments), public relations officers as well as representatives of the media.



Family Guide for Emergency Preparedness and Response

The purpose of this handbook is to increase public awareness of disaster risks and disaster reduction and to help citizens to understand their civil protection role and to perform it to the best of their ability.

It include information on the main risks in the country and provide explanations on proper actions in case of a disaster.

This Guide is translated to languages of national minorities so it could be accessible to the largest ethnic groups in Serbia.



OSCE Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Ministry of Interior



Fire protection for skyscrapers

- A poster with advice for behavior for citizens in case of fire, showing course of action in case of fire in skyscrapers.

ПРОТИВПОЖАРНА ЗАШТИТА ЗА ВИСОКЕ ОБЈЕКТЕ

Превентивне мере

У случају пожара



1. Стеновања, ходнице и коридори припадних простора у зградима високих зграда бити пролазни и без заштитних преграда.



2. Простор око објекта мора бити слободан за пролазак и повлачење ватрогасних возила.



3. Ако несте у могућности да сами угасите пожар, позивајте се на помоћ и наместа позивајте се на телефон 193 и дајте потребне информације.



4. Позивајте ватрогасце на телефон 193 и дајте потребне информације.



5. Уградите ватрогасне уређаје у просторима где се налазе потенцијално опасни предмети и обезбедите их од оштеćenja.



6. Проверите електричне ознаке ради искључивања струје преко битних делова.



7. Ако није дозвољено задржавање стеновања са, или преко, зграда, пролази и евакуација се из објекта извршавајућим путем.



8. За евакуацију не користите лифт.



9. Придржавajte се могућности општег правца на највишем спрату за евакуацију у случају пожара.



10. Направите план евакуације, укључујући све стубове и врата у вези са планом на месту у згради.



11. Ако остане у стани, затворите врата и отворе за вентилацију и ставите жару кроз некако врата.



12. Сачекајте ватрогасце и дајте им све потребне информације.



13. Не шаљите поруке и остале поруке у случају пожара.

**Republic of Serbia
Ministry of Interior
Sector for Emergency Management**



Thank you for your attention

Predrag Maric
Assistant minister Head of Sector
Sector for Emergency Management
Ministry of Interior
Republic of Serbia