PROTECTION AND RESCUE SYSTEM IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA AND CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION

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Contribution to Session IV
Samir Agic Ph.D. - Ministry of Security of BiH

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the State of BiH (Dayton, 1995):
- Federation of BiH (51%) - Constit (10 cantons - also Constitutions)
- Republic Srpska (49%) - Constit.
- Brcko District (2% of both entities)

Geography & Demography:
P= 51 129 km² (19 km of sea)
Cca. 3.6 mil people (2013)
Av. altitude = 526 m

Hydrology:
Black sea basin (Sava, tributaries)
Adriatic sea basin (Neretva and Trebisnjica river with tributaries)

Climate:
Continental and Mediterranean

According to classification and categorization of disaster risks BiH is prone to following natural and other types of disasters:

a) **Disasters of natural origin** (mainly due to climate change):
   - Hydrometeorological hazards (top 3: 1-floods, 2- snow, 3- fires);
   - Geological hazards (1- landslides, 2- EQ, 3- soil sinking,), **Biological hazards** - (1- zoonosis, 2- environm. infections, 3- human transmitting diseases), **Environmental hazards** (1- land degradation, 2-deforestation,..)

b) **Disasters of technological (man-made) origin:**
   - Transportation hazards (1-transp.of people, accid.of HazMAT),
   - Industrial hazards (chemical, mining, energy),
   - War products (landmines and UxOs, DU; suspected mined area 1,239 km² and cca. 120.000 pcs, earliest expected total de-mining-2025)

BiH shares with neighbors H of: floods, fires, diseases (zoonoses), industrial accidents (transboundary)
Legislation

The State of BiH level legislation- laws:
- Law on ministries and other administration authorities of BiH (2003)
- Law on Defense of BiH (2005)
- Framework Law on protection and rescue (2008)

By-laws:
- Instruction on Interagency coordination in HNS (2009, 2013)
- Ci-MiC Agreement of MoD BiH and MOS BiH (2009)
- SOP on AF BiH assistance to civil authorities in a disaster (2010)
- International mechanisms and guidelines (NATO MoU and EU HNS, INSARAG, CBRN, CiMiC,...)

Legislation of Entities and Brcko District of BiH:
- Law on P&R/ P&R in emergency situations
- Other relevant laws and by- laws

Also:
- MoU DPPI (2007)
- MoU National Red Cross Society BiH (2008)
- NATO MoU on facilitation of vital cross border civil transport (2008)
- MoU with Faculty of Political Sciences in Sarajevo (2008)
- MoU with Centre for Security Studies (2009)
- CiMiC Agreement with MoD BiH (2009)
- MoU with DEMA (2010)
- MoU with IO “Save the Children” (2012)
- MoU with Private Company “Institute for protection against fires and explosion” (2013)
Ci - Mi Coord/ AF BiH asst. - in a disaster

Request/offer of int’l assistance (HNS): SOP forms – N, R, O, A, Coord, SitREP

MoS BiH/ CBPR BiH
OCC BiH-112 (LO AF)

Ent CP Direct./ CP HQ
OpC 121

Cant. CP Direct./ CP HQ
OpC 121

AF BiH Command

Mun. CP Service/ CP HQ
OpC 121

Field Coordination (CiMiCoord)

Unit.A

Unit.B

OSC-1

IC

IC

OSC-2

IC

IC

MoD BiH/ JS AF BiH
Centre C2 IoD BiH

SOP forms: N, R, A, SitREP

Instructions on HNS (2013) distinguishes jurisdictions of

- the State - int’l./ interagency communication and coord. on border with request and reception, HNS coord., flight regime, radio frequencies,...),

- Entities and Brcko District BiH (safety and security, Base of Operations/ BoO, Area of Operations/AoO, logist.support, response structure, on-site response and field coord,...),

In reception, sending of int’l asst., or when in transit to 3rd countries. CoM BIH approves int’l asst, Point of Entry is Point of Exit , Paperwork should not delay relief delivery

Int’l docs: NATO MoU and SOFA, EU HNS,...
Building Capabilities for Disasters (1)

In establishment of structures and building their capabilities:

- **The State level:**
  - Coordination Body for P&R = DisPrepPrev, AF BiH asst, HNS
  - Combined Unit for P&R = for int’l asst - still unestablished
  - Organization of trainings = DRR, Planning, CiMiCoord, HNS, int’l standards...
  - Participation in Int’l. exercises = 7x NATO, 4x EU/ IPA
  - Organization of int’l exercises = 2x full scale in BiH (supported by OSCE, NATO)
  - DRR Platform,

- **Level of Entities and Brcko District of BiH**
  - Training of Civil Protection Headquarters at all levels
  - Establishment and training of Operation Centres and 112 (call centres)
  - Capac.building-Disaster prevention, preparedness, response and recovery
  - Planning and conduct of operations
  - Training of DM and response structures (no suitable training centres by standards)

Building Capabilities for Disasters (2)

In building of capabilities for disasters:

- **Building of further effective local and cross-border capabilities for transboundary disasters:**
  - establishment of Centres of Excellence in specific expertises (DPPI meeting, the Belgrade Declaration of CP directors, 2010)- lack of funds,
  - Initiative of NATO, UNICRI, EU on building local and regional capacities for CBRN protection and rescue (initial phase, needs support) – regionally deployable capabilities in training and response,
  - Building of capabilities by use of IPA and other funds:
    - EU IPA Cross-border: BiH-SLO and BiH-MNE (2013),
    - DPPI SEE: JERU (9 water rescue teams) - ongoing
    - JPN Grant for BiH: Flood mitigation and water rescue - ongoing
Steps ahead,...

- To continue working on stronger cross-border cooperation in DRR (particularly with first neighbors for transboundary hazards and disasters),
- Protection and rescue is still not in the document of Security policy of BiH – needs to find place (ongoing),
- Needs to work on effectiveness of Coord.Body of BiH for Protect. and Rescue (strong political influence - free from daily politics),
- Needs to finish establishing BH Combined Unit for protect. and rescue and keep strengthening national and joint regional response capacities,
- To finalize, adopt and make implementable strategic level documents (Protection and Rescue Plan and Programme of development of protection and rescue)

Recent disasters (2010 – 2013)

Specific disasters in the past
Disasters in 2010

**Floods in two periods** (March, November-December) = damage > 60 mil. Eur.
Most severe impact on households and returnees settlements near rivers Drina, Sava and Neretva (Capljina, Bijeljina, Gorazde,…)

Disasters in 2012

Extremely low temperatures with high snow and avalanches

Mostar and Sarajevo in February 2012; entire BiH was covered with high snow
Totally, 11 fatalities (none due to lack of rescue)
Disasters in 2013

Severe forest fires in BiH, in period of 31/07 – 27/08, 2013. in municipalities of: Jablanica, Gacko, Olovo, Tomislavgad, Petrovo and Ravno.

Due to lack of assets and FF forces AF BiH assisted in fire fighting from air; int’l assistance requested and received (CRO canadairs; Turkish Ka-32 prepared for FF, not used)

THANK YOU CROATIA AND TURKEY!

Disasters in 2013

Transport accident – fire & oil spill into Neretva river, Jablanica near Mostar, July 2013
Jablanica, HE plant “Grabovica”, February 2006, spill of >15 t transformer’s oil into Neretva river (Neretva flows through CRO and runs into Adriatic sea)

Disasters in the past (potential transboundary effects)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Samir Agic, PhD
Assistant Minister
BiH Ministry of Security
samir.agic@msb.gov.ba