



Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection

FLOODS IN SERBIA and BiH

ECHO FACTSHEET

Facts & Figures

23 Member States offered assistance through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism

€3 million in humanitarian aid to help the most vulnerable population in both countries affected

2 EU Civil Protection teams deployed to assess needs and support national authorities

Over 800 relief workers from the Member States deployed through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism to Serbia and Bosnia & Herzegovina

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* For all latest ECHO factsheets: bit.ly/echo-fs



Key messages

- The region was hit by the worst floods in over a century. The European Union provided coordinated assistance through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism which was activated upon the request of Serbia and Bosnia & Herzegovina.
- A total of 23 EU Member States offered assistance such as motor boats, helicopters, pumps, humanitarian kits and deployed over 800 relief workers to the two countries. Two EU Civil Protection teams were sent to Serbia and Bosnia & Herzegovina to help with the coordination of relief efforts and assist rescue operations.
- The EU also released € 3 million in humanitarian aid to help the most vulnerable population in the two affected countries. Among others, the funding will help address food aid, provision of clean water, health and sanitation.
- The European Commission provided satellite imagery of the flooded areas to the relevant authorities in the two countries and co-financed the transportation costs of aid.
- The European Commission's Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) is in constant contact with the two affected countries and with the participating states in the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, matching the incoming offers for assistance with needs on the ground.
- EU Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva visited Serbia and Bosnia & Herzegovina in the immediate aftermath of the flooding to assess the situation and met with the authorities and rescue workers.
- Extensive recovery and reconstruction needs remain in both countries.

Situation and needs

Situation

Due to continuous rainfall that started on 13 May 2014, extreme floods hit Serbia and Bosnia & Herzegovina, affecting and displacing thousands of people. It is estimated that over 3 million people in both BiH and Serbia were directly or indirectly affected by the floods, mudslides and landslides.

Hundreds of thousands of people lost their livelihoods and were evacuated from their homes. Provision of clean water, health and sanitation was one of the main concerns.

Across the region, key infrastructure, including bridges and roads as well as health and educational facilities, were damaged in many affected areas.

Major needs

In the emergency phase, Serbia requested assistance in terms of high-capacity water pumps and teams operating them, boats and rescue helicopters, while Bosnia & Herzegovina requested helicopters and motor boats to evacuate people and to transport water, medicines and food. In addition, Bosnia & Herzegovina requested pumps, generators, tents, humidity dryers, water purification sets, gas heaters for tents and sanitation items. Recovery and reconstruction are estimated to attain billions of Euros.

The European Union's response

EU civil protection assistance

On Friday, 15 May, in the evening, the EU Civil Protection Mechanism was activated due to severe flooding that affected Serbia and Bosnia & Herzegovina. 23 Member States offered assistance through the Mechanism. The teams deployed through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism directly rescued over 1700 people in BiH alone.

The European Commission co-financed the transportation of relief material and personnel. In addition, more than 80 satellite maps were produced by the Commission to support both the affected countries and those providing assistance.

EU Civil Protection Teams were deployed to Serbia and Bosnia & Herzegovina in order to assist the national authorities in their response to the wide scale flooding and to support the coordination of the incoming EU assistance.

EU humanitarian assistance

On top of the in-kind assistance provided by the EU Member States via the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, the EU also released \in 3 million in humanitarian aid to help the most vulnerable population in the two affected countries.

The funding, channelled through the Red Cross/Red Crescent and other partner organisations on the ground, fills some of the most critical gaps and immediate needs in the two countries. Based on the findings of the needs assessments, the \in 3 million funding is used mainly for the provision of clean drinking water including water purification tablets and repair of wells, provision of food, hygiene and household kits, blankets and mattresses. It also ensures access to assistance for all vulnerable groups and minorities.

It is estimated that the funding will provide humanitarian assistance to some half a million people.

Assistance offered through the EU Civil Protection

Mechanism to Serbia (source: ERCC)

Country	Assistance offered
АТ	1 high capacity pumping module 4 aluminium boats
BG	2 Fire Engines 1 Draining water Fire Engine 26 pumps (100 l/sec volume and 200 l/sec volume) 2 motor rescue boats
CZ	1 High capacity pump 2 trucks, 1 trailer, 1 fuel trailer, 2 4WDs, 1 trailer with boat 1 Water Search and Rescue Team-FRB module* 13 boats (7 inflatable, 3 aluminium, 3 rafts) 1 High capacity water pumping module
DE	2 High capacity water pumping modules 1 helicopter AS 332 L1 - "Super Puma" * 16 Helicopters * 1 water purification module
DK	2 high capacity pumping units
ES	1 high capacity pumping module*
EU	EUCP Team: 8 experts (ERCC Liaison officer, UK, AT, SE, CZ, DE, DE)
FR	1 water rescue detachment consists of 10 aluminium boats 1 water purification module 2 high capacity pumping modules + 4 vehicles 1 helicopter in support of water rescue with boats
NL	1 high capacity pumping module*
PL	1 high capacity pumping module *
RO	1 high capacity pumping module Canned meat, sugar, mineral water, sleeping bags
SI	3 high capacity pumps modules 2 rescue boats

EU co-financing of transport (amount requested): € 424,536.06 (Serbia and BiH combined)

The tables include in-kind and expertise assistance offered through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. Financial assistance by Member States is therefore not included. For further information and instant updates on the situation, please contact the ERCC at: ECHO-ERCC@ec.europa.eu

Assistance offered through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism to Bosnia & Herzegovina (source: ERCC)

Country	Assistance offered
AT	Water rescue team
	3 High capacity pumping teams
	Water purification unit
	10 heating devices, 15 drying devices, pumps,
	blankets, generators, canisters, dust masks
BE	1 Water purification system + team
BG	1 High capacity Module 200 blankets, 50 tents (8 pax)
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CZ	1 120 Humanitarian aid kit
	High capacity pumping module with 2 pumps
	4 High capacity pumping modules
DE	1 water purification module
	1 Helicopter AS 332
	L1 - "Super Puma"*
	16 helicopters*
	80 water pumps, 21 aqua combos
DK	2 High capacity pumping modules
EI I	8 water purification modules
EU	EUCP Teams: 12 experts + 3 ERCC LO + 2 HA experts
	100,000
HU	100 000 sandbags, water purification module
IT	120 person team with water pumping assets
LU	1 Floods rescue module (5 boats)
LV LT EE	1 high capacity pumping module "Balt Floods
	Combat"
PL	1 high capacity pumping module
	High volume pump
RO	1 000 blankets, 2 000 sheets, 1 000 pillow cases, 20
	000 kg sugar, canned food, 18 468 l of mineral water
SE	Water purification units and tablets
	1 000 family tents, 12 700 blankets
	Satellite Phone Thuraya/Iridium/Bgan
	HF transceiver Codan NGT, VHF Motorola 7 Water barriers
	WP units, 100 x VHF/UHF handheld radios, 11 000
	WP tablets
SI	1 military helicopter transport & rescue
	1 police helicopter AB-212 transport & rescue
	equipped for night activity
	1 Flood rescue module (4 boats), Flood recovery
	team
SK	33 Power generators 5,5KW
	11 Sludge pumps, 2 400 raincoats, 260 rubber boots,
	10 000 sandbags 28 pallets, 10 tents, 100 blankets, 10 heaters, cloth,
	towels, pallets, 200 canisters, hygiene material
UK	4 boats, 30 personnel
MT	978 blankets, 620 bottles mineral water, 380 mixed
	canned food, 5 700 weather hats, 1 488 toiletry, 460
	jeans, 3 720 towels, children's clothing and socks
	(729 pieces), 1 470 shirts, 2 912 track suits, 1 563
	sheets

^{*}Offer not accepted due to changing needs