



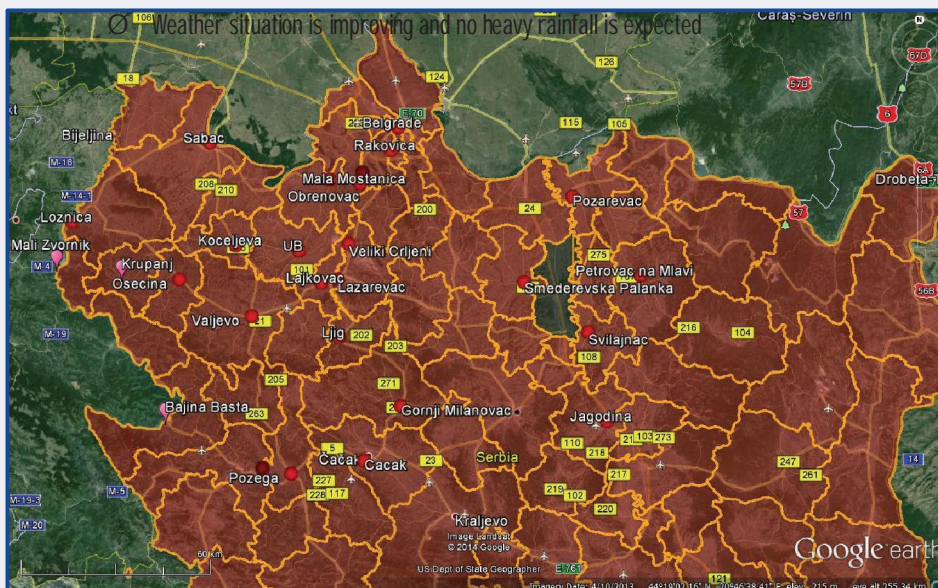
HUMANITARIAN SITUATION REPORT IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Highlights

- Ø Immediate flood danger concentrated in the north-eastern part of BiH (Samac, Odzak, Orasje, Brcko, Bijeljina).
- Ø Landslides and remaining debris represent the principal issues, alongside damage to water supply systems, which have caused potential health threats. Hygiene, food and health kits are emerging priority needs.
- Ø Doboj, Bijeljina, Samac and Maglaj are immediate priority areas.
- Ø Casualties: 32
- Ø Locations/regions: Tuzla Canton, Sarajevo Canton, Zenica-Doboj Canton, Bosnia-Podrinje Canton, Una-Sana Canton, Brcko District, and Banja Luka, Doboj, Bijeljina, Odzak, Samac, Srebrenica regions

1,000,000

of people affected
(estimate from
BiH authorities)



Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

- Authorities and media are stating that this is the largest natural disaster ever to hit BiH, with over one million people estimated to be affected. The UN believes this to be an inflated figure and subject to reduction once the needs assessments are complete.
- In the last three days, northern, eastern, and central parts of BiH received more than 250 (and up to 300 in some areas) liters of rain per square meter, which is the highest amount ever measured. Extreme water levels were recorded on the Bosna, Drina, Una, Sava, Sana, Vrbas rivers, and their tributaries. Today is the first day without rainfall in most of the country and rivers are slowly returning to riverbeds, except for the Sava. The weather situation is improving and no heavy rainfall is expected.
- The FBiH, RS, and Brcko District have declared a state of emergency. The FBiH have requested that a National State of Emergency be declared. The Coordination body (which recommends such decisions to the Council of Ministers) was in session but a National State of emergency was not declared.
- The Number of casualties confirmed to date is 32; the number of missing people is unknown at this moment (authorities opened phone lines for reporting missing people).
- More than 800 people have been evacuated by helicopter and in total more than 40,000 thousand people have been evacuated, with numbers still rising as evacuation efforts continue. The BiH Armed Forces, EUFOR, NATO and the US are still engaged in rescuing people with helicopters.
- In northern parts of the country (Orasje, Doboj, Modrica, Brcko District, Bijeljina) evacuation is still ongoing. Many areas are still reachable only by helicopters, and the river Sava embankment broke in several places, causing further threats to the Bijeljina and Samac region. Rescue efforts still continue in this area.
- In areas that were first hit by the floods (Tuzla Canton, Sarajevo Canton, Zenica-Doboj Canton) water is receding but landslides and remaining debris represent an enduring issue.
- More than 500 landslides have been registered throughout the country.
- The water supply system is not functional and polluted, causing potential health threat. The first cases of dysentery have been reported by health clinics.
- The electrical power grid is slowly being restored in some places (Maglaj, Celinac, Kotor Varos, Prijedor) but there are many areas without electricity and recovery may take a prolonged period due to the absence of replacement equipment and transformers
- The areas affected by floods, mainly Doboj, Maglaj, Olovo, Una-Sana Canton and Brcko area (not excluding other areas) are mine suspected areas, and there is a high risk of changed mine maps due to the displacement of mines and mine signs, caused by the floods. Some mine fields are now suspected to be unmarked.
- Agricultural lands and residential buildings in all these areas of northern, eastern and central parts of BiH are flooded; it is difficult to provide concrete estimates at this points. Crops are completely destroyed in some areas and livestock severely affected
- Main roads are becoming functional; however side roads and over 20 bridges have been destroyed and many more damaged, causing poor access to remote areas, preventing humanitarian access.

Estimated Affected Population
(Over 1,000,000 declared by the government, with 40,000 evacuated – evacuation efforts still on going)

Start of humanitarian response: 16th May 2014

	Total	Male	Female
Total Affected Population	1,000,000 +		
Children Affected (Under 18)	Estimate of 250,000 (no official data yet)	N/A	N/A

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

- The country requested the EU to provide immediate support, and the UN RC Office to take the lead in coordinating international donors' efforts
- There is continued coordination with Ministry of Security, Ministry of Defense, Ops Center as well as entity, cantonal and local civil defense
- The 2nd International Community Coordination Meeting led and hosted by the UN RC took place on 19 May and will continue every other day until further notice
- 4 teams will conduct a rapid assessment of the affected areas, to be deployed on May 22nd. The assessment will last 10 days and will provide a report which will be informing a donors' conference planned by the country authorities on the first week of June.

Summary Analysis of Programme response

- To ensure the provision of clear information and data for all stakeholders, IOM will actively participate in the integrated rapid assessment mission, consisting of four teams, with the aim of preparing an integrated rapid needs assessment.
- This Rapid Assessment team will focus on the most pertinent needs and appropriate assistance
- Alongside the expert network of partners, IOM is gathering and prioritizing information on the immediate and mid-term needs of flood-affected populations, and developing humanitarian appeals.
- IOM will provide a social inclusion expert in the fields of collective centers, and displaced and vulnerable categories.
- As a very important part in the recovery of victims of flooded areas is the provision of psychological support, IOM is preparing a plan of activities in cooperation with the Centers for Mental Health, as well as engaging and training additional psychologists to work in emergency situations, in order to provide critical support to people in collective centers, as well as those who have remained in damaged houses.

Communications for Development (C4D)

All programmatic activities in the pipelines have a strong C4D angle

Supply and Logistics

- IOM is in the process of preparing the necessary emergency humanitarian aid that will consist of shelter equipment, gas stoves, hygiene packages, and tool packs, which will be dispersed to the most vulnerable people in the areas affected by floods. IOM will undertake a rapid assessment aimed at identifying and analyzing flood-affected settlements and local communities to evaluate their proximity and secure access to emergency shelter kits, also bearing in mind known vulnerabilities of these communities prior to the floods.

Media and External Communication

All media and external communication has been coordinated with the UN RC.

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