



FLOODS BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Humanitarian
Situation Report

12 June 2014

unicef 

1. CRITICAL ISSUES FOR CHILDREN

Bosnia and Herzegovina is facing its most challenging flood recovery due to the heaviest rains seen in the region for more than a century.

Based on the available assessments, 74 municipalities have been affected by the floods (42 in FBiH, 31 in RS, and BD). Amongst these, 9 have been 'severely affected' (Samac, Odzak, Orasje, Brcko, Bijeljina, Doboj, Maglaj, Zepce, Domaljevac-Samac), where more than 50% of the affected population and children lives. In these 74 municipalities, more than 320,000 people have been affected including:

- 60,000 children aged 0-18
- 16,000 children aged 0-5.¹

According to information from Roma NGOs, more than 800 Roma families have been affected by floods. They were identified as one of the most vulnerable groups even before the floods. UNICEF team visited: Samac, Odzak, Brcko, Bjeljina, Doboj, Maglaj, Domaljevac-Samac, Olovo, Tuzla, Sapna, Prijedor, Gradiska, Zivinice and Vogosca.

According to the latest IOM information, 1,560 persons are placed in 39 collective centres (963 in FBiH in 22 centers and 532 in RS in 14 centers) including 276 children (56 aged 0-4 and 220 aged 5-17) but this number is decreasing every day..

Preliminary UN estimation shows that it will cost about USD 210 million to cover immediate priority needs for the next six months in BiH, alone, after devastating floods hit the region.²

2. UNICEF'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE

UNICEF immediately coordinated with the Ministry of Security, the Red Cross and other partners to provide essential humanitarian assistance to those most affected by the disaster.³ UNICEF is supporting **emergency coordination for WASH, education and child protection**. UNICEF teams continue to systematically visit affected areas to collect information, assess the level of the disaster impact on families and children and prepare for recovery support.

The country office reprogrammed and mobilised around USD 920,000 Regular and Other Resources (including through EPF and CERF mechanisms),

UNICEF BiH is supporting the **EU/World Bank/UN 'Recovery Needs Assessment (RNA)'** in the areas of water and sanitation, education, and health, and the results are expected on June 18, 2014.

UNICEF is implementing its response in close collaboration with the relevant BiH government partners at different levels of governance, NGOs and UN agencies.

¹ Data based on 74 affected municipalities; calculated by UNICEF M&E section

² Preliminary information published by the online media: http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/usd-210-million-needed-now-for-bosnia-floods-un-114061000204_1.html

³ Please see emergency response under each sector

A. EDUCATION: To ensure a normal start of school year as of early September

Educational institutions ranging from pre-primary to higher education were identified as affected in 35 municipalities (22 in FBiH and 12 in RS). There are 122 institutions affected, out of which 14 are preschools, 81 primary schools, 22 secondary schools, 1 boarding school, and 4 higher education institutions, affecting 44,000 students. Initial estimates of the total cost for the reparation of all 122 institutions is around 10.3 million BAM (5,2 million Euros), with 1.6 million for preschool institutions, 4.8 million for primary schools, 2.9 million for secondary schools and 930,000 for higher education institutions.

USAID is planning to invest 2 million USD for recovery of preschool and schools institutions and child-friendly spaces (out of a total USAID planned support of 10 million USD).

UNICEF remains concerned with the lack of donor commitments to education as there is an urgency to refurbish schools to ensure a normal start of the school year on September 1st.

UNICEF Response to Date:

- Provided assistance to Celinac municipality for the **refurbishment of one preschool** facility
- Mobilised resources to provide support for the **refurbishment of two additional preschool** in the affected areas (Samac and Sanski Most, TBC)
- Continues to lead the **assessment of the education** sector as part of the RNA

Priorities

1. Continue to lead sector coordination
2. Support refurbishing of pre-schools and schools
3. Supply school kits and didactic materials to the affected preschools and schools to ensure timely resumption of education activities
4. Incorporate activities in pre-school, primary and secondary schools aiming at: 1) promoting healthy behaviours; 2) raising awareness on hygiene, prevention of injuries, poisoning and disease; 3) mine risk education; 4) prevention of use of small arms and light weapons; and 5) prevention of violence and abuse; 5) promoting Disaster Risk Reduction
5. Train school and preschool teachers on how to provide adequate support and referral to children affected by the flooding, once they come back to school.

B. CHILD PROTECTION: Safe and protective child-friendly environments with psychosocial support

UNICEF has been active in the areas of the psycho-social support, prevention of violence against children during emergency and opening of the child-friendly spaces (CFS) in affected communities providing age-appropriate activities for children. Together with partners, UNICEF is working on opening child-friendly spaces for children in 8 municipalities (Maglaj, Brcko, Samac, Zepce, Domaljevac-Samac, Orasje, Odzak and Dobo).

UNICEF Response to Date:

- Coordinated with all involved NGOs the establishment of **minimum standards** of quality for child friendly spaces to be followed by all partners
- Finished all preparatory activities for the immediate opening of the **child-friendly spaces** in Dobo (Paklenica community) and Maglaj (Begov Han community)
- Supported **creative workshops in collective centres** in order to provide play and education programmes for children, in collaboration with group of actors and entertainers
- In collaboration with FBiH Association of Psychologists supported IOM **psychosocial teams** with professionals that have specialized skills and experience to provide support to children

Priorities

1. Continue to lead sector coordination
2. Open child friendly spaces in the remaining municipalities
3. Continue to provide psycho social care and effective referral mechanisms for children and youth affected by the flooding
4. Develop and distribute C4D materials and campaign activities in particular on mine awareness, and prevention of violence
5. Monitor any violation of girls, boys and women's rights

6. Equip child friendly rooms
7. Strengthen the capacities of professionals for identification of children in need of psychosocial support

C. HEALTH AND NUTRITION: Immunization and nutrition for young affected children

According to the International Medical Corps 'Rapid Assessment' of the flood affected areas, 18 health care facilities (both rural and urban) have been damaged. This will impact health services for about 170,000 people. The needs for each health facilities vary greatly from minor damage to total destruction of supplies and equipment.

UNICEF Response to Date:

- Procurement of **40,000 doses of OPV vaccines** to prevent against Polio (for both Entities)
- Promotion of **breastfeeding** and optimal infant and young child feeding.

Priorities

1. Procurement of more vaccines, the procurement of cold chain equipment and the organization of catch up immunization campaigns with a focus on the most vulnerable
2. Support community nursing and outreach through integrated early childhood development services established within the health centres for parents and young children including Roma
3. Support breastfeeding and adequate nutrition for young children
4. Supply furniture and didactic materials for damaged early childhood development services

D. WATER AND SANITATION: Drinking water and hygiene for affected children

The main needs in the north affected areas focus on water storage capacity, water treatment, dryers and disinfectant material (both the agent and sprayers). WASH coordination will remain under Austrian forces in the northern parts of the country until mid-July. While most of the water networks are operational, testing, purification capacity, and distribution remain a concern for NGOs and WASH teams in the field.

UNICEF Response to Date:

- **59 wash kits composed of a water pump, a generator, a sprayer** have been procured will be delivered in the nine most affected municipalities through health authorities
- **500 C4D emergency kits for children** have been delivered in four municipalities as part of a children show, together with 15,000 emergency leaflets on how to behave in crisis
- Distribution of **2,802 kg of chlorine** for water purification and disinfection
- Development and distribution of **educational messages** and materials on hygiene, breastfeeding, optimal nutrition of infants and young children
- UNICEF delivered **45 hygienic kits to Roma communities** in Tuzla municipality (Mosnik community) and **60 hygienic kits** to Vukosavlje municipality (Modricki lug community)
- Distribution of **1,300 hygienic kits to Red Cross** facilities in the most affected areas with an additional 1,368 in the pipeline

Priorities

1. 1 high capacity water treatment unit (240l/min) will be delivered to Maglaj Health Centre
2. Continue to lead sector coordination during emergency response
3. Continue with immediate response activities as appropriate: water treatment units, disinfectants, dryers, chlorine, water storage units
4. Coordinate with partners to ensure safe water supply and appropriate sanitation facilities are restored in schools and health facilities.

E. SOCIAL PROTECTION AND INCLUSION

Refurbishing and providing necessary equipment to the affected **Centres for Social Welfare (CSW)** is vital, so that the most vulnerable population can be properly identified in order to receive assistance. For example, in the RS, UNICEF has started working with the entity and local level partners in the area of social protection in order to conduct a proper needs-based assessment (it is expected that the same will be done in the FBiH). Additional needs include training of the social workers in conducting of the

assessments during the emergency and ensuring that cash benefits are not stopped toward the most vulnerable families with children.

UNICEF Response to Date:

- Assessed the immediate needs of the **Centres for Social Welfare** from the SPIS partner municipalities
- Reallocating resources for supporting the **refurbishment of CSW**
- Reallocating resources for supporting the **refurbishment of day care centers**

Priorities

1. Support the social protection and inclusion local systems (established through UNICEF and EU supported programme) to identify and support the most vulnerable families
2. Supply furniture and equipment to most affected centres for social welfare (estimated 6 centres in both entities: Maglaj, Celinac, Domaljevac-Samac, Samac, Bijeljina and Doboј)
3. Procurement of equipment necessary for performing outreach work in the most affected areas
4. Supply furniture, equipment, medical and rehabilitation equipment, didactic materials to day-care centres and other affected local services
5. Provide technical assistance to reconstruction engineers in developing and projecting new centres in line with international standards
6. Support additional human resources to be placed at the affected CSW
7. Provide training and educational workshops on the topics of 'prevention of burn out' and 'how to work in the crisis situation'

4. ESTIMATED FUNDING REQUIREMENTS FOR UNICEF PLANNED ACTION FOR THE FIRST 3 MONTHS

UNICEF BiH estimates that around 3.6 million USD will be required to meet the immediate and medium-term needs of children and women throughout the affected areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Although some funds have already been raised, the funding gap is around 2.7 million USD.

Sector	Estimated Budget	Funds available	In the pipeline	Gaps
Health and Nutrition	600,000	46,100		553,900
Education	1,200,000	64,000	110,000	1,136,000
WASH	400,000	232,900		167,100
Child Protection	1,000,000	388,900		611,100
Social Protection	200,000	147,000		53,000
Communication and Coordination	200,000	40,500		159,500
Total	3,600,000	919,400	110,000	2,680,600

Further information on the UNICEF emergency programme in Bosnia and Herzegovina can be obtained from:

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