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# Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) Kosovo: Flash Floods

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

**DREF operation n° MDRKV006**  
**GLIDE n° FF-2013-000029-SRB**  
**18<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent emergency response. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

**CHF 147,193 has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Red Cross organisations in Kosovo in delivering immediate assistance to some 600 families (3,000 beneficiaries). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.**



**In March 2013, Flood affected population and households in Klina Municipality. (IFRC)**

**Summary:** Due to heavy rainfall in Kosovo that started on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2013 and lasted for more than 24 hours many villages in several municipalities have been flooded. Majority of these affected areas are situated in the rural and poorer part of Kosovo. Some villages were isolated as well due to the damaged and/or not accessible bridges. Rivers that flooded were Drini I Bardhe, Klina, Bistrice, and Lushta. The sudden cold wave with low temperatures and strong winds all over Kosovo has worsened the situation of the affected population. According to the information received from the Red Cross branches and emergency departments in the affected municipalities, an estimated 890 households have been affected by the flooding.

The most affected municipalities are Klina/ Klina, Skenderaj/Srbica, Peja/Pec, Istog/ Istok, Kamenice/Kamenica, Gjakova/Djakovica, and Mitrovice/Mitrovica. There are shortages of food and other essential goods, as the population was not prepared for such a heavy rain especially since there was not such a harsh winter. The situation is complicated also by the fact that many families have also been evacuated and can not return to their homes as those are still under water. The flooding has caused damage to houses and personal belongings, casualties in livestock, damages in agricultural land and equipment.

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 18<sup>th</sup> June 2013 a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 18<sup>th</sup> September 2013).

[<click here for the DREF budget; here for contact details; here to view the map of the affected area>](#)

## The situation

Due to the heavy rainfall in Kosovo that started on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2013 and lasted for more than 24 hours, many villages in several municipalities have been flooded. Majority of these affected areas are situated in the rural and poorer part as well. The most affected municipalities are Klina/ Klina, Skenderaj/Srbica, Peja/Pec, Istog/ Istok, Kamenice/Kamenica, Gjakova/Djakovica, and Mitrovica/Mitrovica. There are shortages of food and other essential goods, as the population was not prepared for such a heavy rain especially since there was not really a harsh winter. The situation is complicated also by the fact that many families have also been evacuated and cannot return to their homes as those are still under water. The flooding has caused damage to houses and personal belongings, casualties in livestock, damages in agricultural land and equipment. Some villages were isolated as well due to the damaged and/or not accessible bridges. Rivers that flooded were Drini I Bardhe, Klina, Bistrica, and Lushta. The sudden cold wave with low temperatures and strong winds all over Kosovo has worsened the situation of the affected population.

In Skenderaj municipality, in village Izbice, flooding resulted in a causality of a ten years old girl that on her way back from school slipped in the river. Beside damages in the households and agricultural equipment, the flooding caused also difficulty having access to clean drinking water as the majority of the affected areas are not connected with water system but use open wells. Due to the floods, the water in the wells has been contaminated. Therefore Red Cross started distributing drinking bottled water to the most affected within their capacity. A particular problem in the flooded areas has also been an overflowing of the sewage system with raw sewage water running in the streets.

Klina and Skenderaj municipality is reported to be the most affected by the inundated water of Drini I Bardhe River. Some houses in those areas have been blocked by the overflowing water. According to the head of municipality, emergency team was called to assist inhabitants. With the support of private boat owner many families have been evacuated. Kosovo Security Forces assisted in the evacuation of some people completely blocked in one house. 35 families have been evacuated from Zajm village in Klina municipality as the water level reached more than 1.5 meters.

Affected municipality	Number of affected families	Number of evacuated families
Klina	210	35
Istog	135	
Skendraj	145	26
Peja	90	
Mitrovica	65	
Gjakova	140	20
Kamenica	105	
<b>Total</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>81</b>

There is a concern that the flooding will have a further deteriorating effect on the socio-economic situation of the people as the majority of affected people already belong to the poorest of the country that are not in a position to cope with situation on their own.

## Coordination and partnerships

The Red Cross of Kosova is part of the state disaster response mechanisms and therefore they are participating in all emergency meetings for planning the response to the current emergency. The Red Cross of Kosova is also participating in the local level meetings organized by the municipal disaster management department, and all activities will be carried out in coordination with them. The International Federation Office was also in the field together with Red Cross of Kosova in order to assess the situation as well as to meet with the respective disaster response mechanisms.

The Federation Office in Kosovo has been in constant contact with the RC organizations and local authorities. The International Federation and Red Cross of Kosova (RCK) will closely cooperate and coordinate in the implementation of this emergency assistance. Also close coordination will be maintained with the local authorities at both local and national level. The operation will be coordinated by the RCK branch secretaries in their areas of responsibility. Red Cross volunteers will be responsible for delivering the emergency assistance to the population affected by the floods. RCK is participating in the meetings organized by the Agency of Emergency Management and all activities will be carried out in coordination with

them. International Federation is also in close contact with UNKT and is sharing the information based on the field visit and assessment.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

In response to the prevailing situation in Kosovo, Red Cross of Kosova has requested a DREF allocation of CHF 147,193 to support the most affected families. An estimated 890 households have been affected out of which the Red Cross of Kosova initially identified the most affected 600 families that needs to be assisted immediately (approx.3,000 people). Many of the affected families had to be evacuated from their houses and are sheltered in neighboring villages (with relatives, neighbors or friends) even though disaster management department offered them temporarily shelter in some school.

Red Cross of Kosova (RCK) has immediately started doing the assessment of the flooded areas. The assessment has been hampered by difficulties to access all of the affected areas due to impassable roads and landslides. However, all efforts are made to gather the necessary information in order to initiate an appropriate response.

During the assessment RCK observed that 890 families are affected by the flood, but the immediate assistance shall be provided to 600 families. Priority will be given initially to the affected families with old people with poor living conditions or without family support; single headed female household including widows with poor living conditions; families with young children; families with little or no means of support or income with poor living conditions

Unfortunately, the most affected families are also the most vulnerable ones even in normal situation. The flash floods made their living to be destructed in a way that is difficult for them to cope with.

Due to limited emergency contingency stocks RCK were only able to assist a limited number of affected people with some ready meal, drinking water, mattresses, and blankets. A detailed assessment is being conducted by the Red Cross volunteers and branch secretaries. As reported by them from the field, many villages in the affected municipalities are under water due to sudden onslaught of water due to continuing rains. The majority of the affected villages are situated in the rural and poorer areas of Kosovo, and the emergency situation represents an additional factor in deteriorating their already difficult situation. So far 25 volunteers and eight staff members have been engaged in the disaster response operation of the Red Cross of Kosova.

## The needs

According to the assessments from the branches, blankets, mattresses, food parcels hygiene parcels, and drinking water are pinpointed as immediate needs. The total number of the affected families is 890. However, the Red Cross will immediately assist 600 of the most vulnerable families through this operation.

Due to the limited capacity of the Red Cross organisations and considering that they are one of the main actors in emergency response, an additional 150 food parcels, 150 hygiene parcels, 150 mattresses and 300 blankets will be purchased from the DREF to ensure response capacity in case the situation deteriorates. This is based on the information that there are still a number of families expected to be reported as affected. Therefore, a number of additional relief items will be used to assist these families and also to replenish some of the already distributed items by the local Red Cross Organizations in their initial response to the situation.

Based on assessment done, RCK has started to prepare the list of most vulnerable families out of all affected families who are identified during the assessment for support.

The Red Cross organizations are planning to assist the most affected people in the following branches: Peje (60 families); Skenderaj (100 families); Istog (90 families), Klina (140 families), Gjakova (90 families), Kamenica (70 families); and Mitrovica (50 families).

The table below lists the needs of the 600 most vulnerable affected families and the number of items to be purchased for the possible deterioration of the situation:

Item	No. of units to be distributed for the 600 families	No. of units to be purchased for possible use
Blankets	1,200	300
Mattresses	600	150
Hygiene Kits (standard family hygiene parcel)	600	150
Drinking water (bottled, pack of 9 litres)	1,200	0
Food (family food parcel containing Wheat Flour, Rice, Sugar, Vegetable Oil, White Beans and Relish)	600	150

Each family will receive the following items:

- Blankets 2 pieces
- Mattresses 1 piece
- Hygiene parcels 1 parcel
- Drinking water 2 packs
- Food parcels 1 parcel

Even though the families will be returning into their homes once the water will recede, they will have many of their belongings like blankets, mattresses, food and non food destroyed or washed away. The planned assistance will only be providing them with basic items needed to get through the coming weeks.

## The proposed operation

### Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

**Objective: Provide emergency assistance (basic food and non-food items) for 600 families (approximately 3,000 persons) affected by flash floods during a three months period (distribution will be done once for basic food and once for non-food items)**

**Output: The nutritional emergency health and hygiene needs of 600 families/3,000 people are met over this period for the most vulnerable affected by flash floods**

#### Activities planned:

- Preparation of final beneficiary lists.
- Procurement of emergency items in Kosovo.
- Distribution of emergency items by RC branches and their volunteers according to the prepared beneficiary lists.
- Coordination with local emergency departments and social welfare authorities.
- Monitoring and reporting.
- Lesson learned workshop
- Beneficiary satisfaction survey

Content of family food parcel	Units	Quantity
White flour	kg	25
Cooking oil	litre	3
Sugar	kg	3
Pasta	kg	1
Rice	kg	3
Beans	kg	3
Potato	kg	5
Onion	kg	3
Salt	kg	1

Content of family hygiene parcel	Units	Quantity
Washing powder	kg	6
Sanitary napkins	package	1
Toilet soap	pcs	4
Shampoo	litre	1
Toothpaste	pcs	2
Toothbrush	pcs	2
Toilet detergent	litre	1
Dishwashing detergent	litre	1

RCK Branch Secretaries together with RC Volunteers will prepare the final beneficiary list and will organize storage and distribution of relief goods in respective branches. RCK DM Coordinator will lead the DREF operation for the affected families with close support and coordination from the Federation Office in Kosovo. All the procurements of the above relief items will be done following the International Federation standard procurement procedures.

Visibility of the Red Cross volunteers will be ensured during the operation through the local media.

At the end of operation, one workshop will be organized for the RC branch disaster response teams of the Red Cross of Kosova for lessons learned and experience shared during the operation. Also a beneficiary satisfaction survey will be conducted in order to hear the beneficiaries' voice regarding their opinion about this assistance received.

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## Contact information

**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**

- **IFRC Office in Kosovo:** Shafiquzzaman Rabbani, Head of Office, phone: +381 38 244 878; email: [shafiquzzaman.rabbani@ifrc.org](mailto:shafiquzzaman.rabbani@ifrc.org)
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**Click here**

- 1. To see the DREF operation Budget below**
- 2. To see the Map of the affected area below**

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## How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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**Saving lives, changing minds.**



The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

- 1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.**
- 2. Enable healthy and safe living.**
- 3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.**

# DREF OPERATION

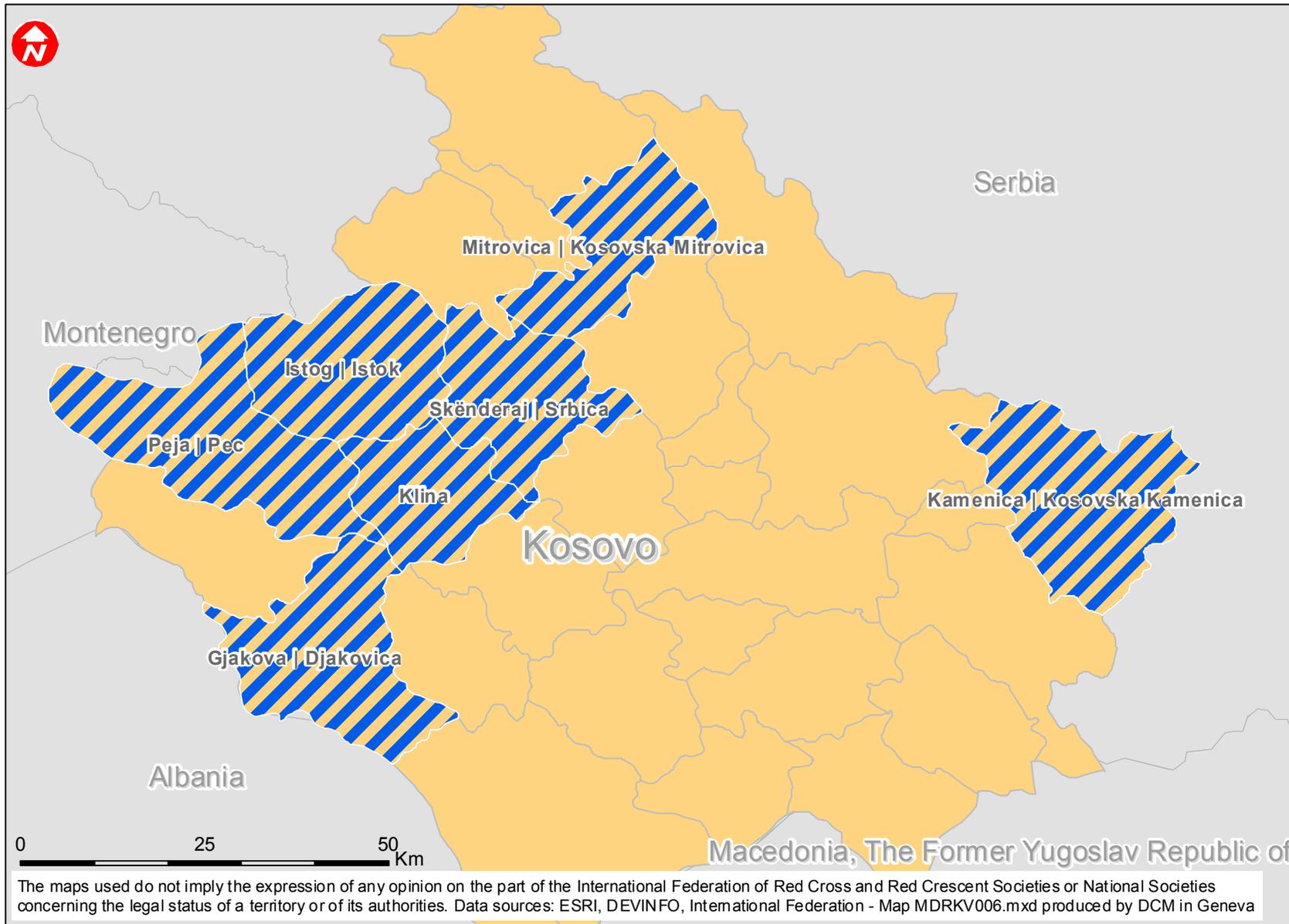
16.03.2013

MDRKV006 Kosovo: Flash Floods

<b>Budget Group</b>	<b>DREF Grant Budget CHF</b>
Shelter - Relief	
Shelter - Transitional	
Construction - Housing	
Construction - Facilities	
Construction - Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	36,562
Food	39,375
Seeds & Plants	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	21,375
Medical & First Aid	
Teaching Materials	
Ustensils & Tools	
Other Supplies & Services	
Emergency Response Units	
Cash Disbursements	
<b>Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES</b>	<b>97,312</b>
Land & Buildings	0
Vehicles Purchase	0
Computer & Telecom Equipment	0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	0
Medical Equipment	0
Other Machinery & Equipment	0
<b>Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>0</b>
Storage, Warehousing	1,200
Distribution & Monitoring	3,750
Transport & Vehicle Costs	6,330
Logistics Services	0
<b>Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE</b>	<b>11,280</b>
International Staff	1,100
National Staff	6,660
National Society Staff	3,500
Volunteers	3,588
<b>Total PERSONNEL</b>	<b>14,848</b>
Consultants	
Professional Fees	
<b>Total CONSULTANTS &amp; PROFESSIONAL FEES</b>	<b>0</b>
Workshops & Training	3,750
<b>Total WORKSHOP &amp; TRAINING</b>	<b>3,750</b>
Travel	
Information & Public Relations	1,000
Office Costs	4,550
Communications	1,250
Financial Charges	0
Other General Expenses	0
Shared Support Services	4,219
<b>Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>11,019</b>
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	8,984
<b>Total INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>8,984</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>147,193</b>



# Kosovo: Flash floods



 Affected municipalities

The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities. Data sources: ESRI, DEVINFO, International Federation - Map MDRKV006.mxd produced by DCM in Geneva