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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: Flash Floods and Mud Slides

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF Operation n° MDRMK006	Glide n° FF-2015-000115-MK
Date of issue: 20 August 2015	Date of disaster: 4 August 2015
Operation manager (responsible for this EPoA): Alberto Monguzzi, Disaster Management Coordinator phone: +36 1 888 4500 email: alberto.monguzzi@ifrc.org IFRC Secretariat Europe Zone Office	Point of contact (name and title): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sait Saiti, Secretary General email: saiti@redcross.org.mk• Sasho Taleski, Head of Programme Sector email: taleski@redcross.org.mk Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Operation start date: 4 August 2015	Expected timeframe: 2 months
Overall operation budget: CHF 55,976	
Number of people affected: 5,000	Number of people to be assisted: 350 families (1,400 people)
Host National Society presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): 15 staff and 40 volunteers from RC of FYROM HQ plus the City Red Cross of Skopje plus the Red Cross Branch of Tetovo are involved in the implementation of the operation.	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Ministry of Ecology, Protection and Rescue Directorate, Centre for Crisis Management, Municipality of Tetovo.	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

The heavy rainfall affected the western part of Macedonia in the late evening hours on 3 August 2015. The heavy rain resulted in the overflow of the water from the river Pena in the city of Tetovo. The heavy rains were disastrous for the mountain villages of Shipkovic (2,826 residents), Dzepciste (4,051 residents), Mala Rechica (8,353 residents), Golema Rechica (1,659 residents) and Poroj (2,677 residents) and the city of Tetovo (65,000 residents).

The mountain villages were affected also by landslides caused by the heavy rain. On the basis of the data obtained from the assessment, approximately 5,000 people in the region were somehow affected by the impact of the flash flood and mud slides. The affected population was evacuated from the flooded villages until the houses are rehabilitated and become suitable for living again.

The heavy floods unfortunately resulted in the death of six persons, and this disaster is probably the second biggest for the region after the disastrous earthquake that struck Macedonia in 1963. Thirty persons have been provided with medical care as a result of the injuries that they suffered during the storm. One person is declared missing. In some places the mud layer in the affected mountain villages is up to 3 meters thick. The whole city of Tetovo was under water and debris.



Distribution of relief items in an affected village.
Photo: Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

The heavy floods unfortunately resulted in the death of six persons, and this disaster is probably the second biggest for the region after the disastrous earthquake that struck Macedonia in 1963. Thirty persons have been provided with medical care as a result of the injuries that they suffered during the storm. One person is declared missing. In some places the mud layer in the affected mountain villages is up to 3 meters thick. The whole city of Tetovo was under water and debris.

The Red Cross teams immediately responded and visited the affected villages and the city of Tetovo. The village of Shipkovica still has power cuts, and the water in the affected region is not potable. The Red Cross immediately provided food support for the affected population in Shipkovica.

The region was also visited by the Prime Minister of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Nikola Gruevski, and other high ranking state officials. The personnel from the protection and Rescue Directorate is working actively to clean the affected terrain from debris and mud. The initial results indicate that there are a lot of carcasses of dead cattle and totally ruined fields in the villages. The cleaning of the villages from the debris is difficult since these are mountainous villages where the access for heavy vehicles is impossible.

As a result of the impact of the disaster on the region, the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia declared a local emergency situation in the region of Tetovo and established a Crisis Management HQ which meets every day for the purpose of coordination of the emergency response efforts and for assessing the accomplished results. The Crisis Management HQ is comprised of different state agencies and institutions (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Ministry of Ecology, Ministry of Health, Protection and Rescue Directorate, Centre for Crisis Management, Municipality of Tetovo and the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. As of 18 August, the National Crisis Management HQ still meets every day in Tetovo to discuss the undertaken daily activities. The Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has scheduled a session of the Government for 19 August to evaluate the response progress in the affected region.

Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society

For the past few years, the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has been actively engaged in strengthening the capacities on national and especially on local levels in cooperation with the local and national stakeholders, with special priority to community resilience. During the years, the National Society has conducted various theoretical and practical simulation exercises in the country, and as a result of that there are trained teams for disaster response on the local level.

With its experience, the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia once again positioned itself as a crucial partner in the National System for Crisis Management, and the National Society regularly participates in all trainings, exercises, emergency operations or similar events organized in the country by different state institutions and agencies.

Activities of the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Immediately after the disaster the Red Cross teams visited the region to make an assessment and to provide immediate assistance. In the initial phase the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia delivered 10 tons of potable water, 194 hygiene parcels, 194 food parcels, 792 blankets, 60 mattresses, 194 disinfection sets and 50 sleeping bags. The Red Cross teams continue to monitor the situation on the ground.

The assessment of the expert institutions shows that some time will be required until the houses of the affected population in the villages are repaired and life can continue normally in these flooded villages. The carcasses of the dead cattle and the high temperatures in Macedonia in the last three weeks represent a potential danger for appearance of infective diseases in the affected region which might also spill over onto the neighboring populated communities around the city of Tetovo.

The Red Cross actively contributed to the alleviation of the consequences of the disaster in the affected region. The Red Cross Branch of Tetovo and the City Red Cross of Skopje contributed with 40 volunteers and 15 staff working on the ground and in coordination of the operation. The initial findings from the assessment indicate that additional assistance will be required for the affected population in the weeks to come. The Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is actively following on the situation.



Preparing for distribution at a warehouse of the National Society.
Photo: Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

As a member of the National Crisis Management HQ, the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia regularly attends the meetings of the Crisis Management HQ held every night in Tetovo.

In cooperation with its partners including the corporate sector, the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia immediately responded with the involvement of volunteers and members of the emergency response unit, and provided assistance and support to the affected population with food and hygiene items. As part of the National Coordination Body, the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia was assigned by

the Crisis Management Body to launch an appeal in the FYROM in order to raise money for assistance and certain damage compensation for the affected population.

There are possibilities to donate funds for the affected population in two ways: all interested legal entities and citizens may donate their financial contributions to the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Solidarity Fund, or people can also donate 100 denars by dialing the donation mobile telephone numbers.

As of 17 August, the campaign resulted in about EUR 43,000 raised which are earmarked for the compensation of the damage to the most affected families by the flash floods and mud slides.

Movement Coordination

During this period the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is regularly sharing information with the International Federation's Europe Zone Office in Budapest.

The Albanian Red Cross made a contribution in an amount of EUR 15,000 which will be distributed in the form of cash contributions to the affected local population within the funding raised with the national campaign for compensation of damages to the affected population.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

A National Crisis Management HQ has been established which meets twice a day in Tetovo in order to coordinate the overall efforts for cleaning the debris and mud from the affected villages and the city of Tetovo.

The meetings are held on the premises of the municipality of Tetovo and are chaired by the Mayor of Tetovo and the Minister of Environment of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The meetings are attended by all local mayors of the affected municipalities in which the villages are located, the Protection and Rescue Directorate, Ministry of Health – Institute for Public Health, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Ministry of Defense. Two representatives of the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia attend the meetings of the Crisis Management Body in Tetovo every day. So far 13 meetings have been held on the premises of the Municipality of Tetovo. The main reason for holding these meetings is sharing of information about conducted activities on a daily basis.

Like in the past, the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is fully engaged in the operation on the national level and the local level and provides support for the state institutions within its mandate and capacities.

Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

The Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has deployed its national disaster response team in the region affected by floods and mud slides to assist the local staff and volunteers of the Red Cross Branch of Tetovo. During this period, the local RC Branch of Tetovo was constantly and closely working with the local self-governments as well as communities to better understand the needs of the affected population.

The rapid field assessment identified the following needs:

- Emergency distribution of potable bottled water for the affected communities, until the public water supply systems are restored¹;
- Emergency distribution of food and hygiene parcels to those affected by the disasters;
- Distribution of non-food items such as blankets, disinfectants, etc.;
- Providing additional assistance in terms of cleaning after the floods recede.



Damage assessment by Red Cross teams.

Photo: Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

In cooperation with its local partners and the corporate sector, the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia responded to the needs with the deployment of volunteers and members of the emergency response unit, and provided assistance and support to the affected population using all available stocks (food and hygiene materials) and requested the local industrial and commercial companies to donate food, water and medicaments.

¹ The water in the pipes is still only for industrial use. Potable water is provided by the state authorities and donors.

After the conducted assessment, the main identified challenge was the fact that longer assistance will be needed for about 20 families that are staying with host families because their houses were destroyed completely by the disaster. However, the Government undertook a commitment to compensate the damage of these approximately 20 families and will provide them with shelter and other support in this period. The Red Cross will contribute to the overall efforts with its available resources secured from national and international donations.

Table 1 – The most vulnerable population in the affected area, according to the assessment of the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

No.	Region	Affected villages	Nr. of affected families	Nr. of affected people
1	Tetovo	Shipkovica	195	780
		Mala Recica	70	280
		Golema Recica	51	204
		Dobroshte	5	20
		Gajre	5	20
		Tetovo	24	96
		Total:	350	1,400

A total of 350 families have been affected by the disaster, and the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has provided assistance for 194 families from its own emergency stock reserves. Additional assistance in food, hygiene material, blankets, mattresses, sleeping bags and disinfection kits is required for 156 families, as well as the replenishment of the items already distributed to 194 families.

Table 2 – Distributed humanitarian aid from the emergency stocks of the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (for replenishment)

No	Affected areas	Food parcels	Hygiene parcels	Blankets	Mattresses	Sleeping bags	Disinfection kits
1	Shipkovica	93	93	520	40	30	93
2	Mala Recica	40	40	80	10	10	40
3	Golema Recica	27	27	40	10	10	27
4	Dobroshte	5	5	10	/	/	5
5	Gajre	5	5	10	/	/	5
6	Tetovo	24	24	132	/	/	24
	Total:	194	194	792	60	50	194

Table 3 – Humanitarian aid required through this DREF allocation for additional distribution

No	Affected areas	Food parcels	Hygiene parcels	Blankets	Mattresses	Sleeping bags	Disinfection kits
1	Shipkovica	102	102	392	132	100	102
2	Mala Rechica	30	30	120	60	/	30
3	Golema Rechica	24	24	96	48	/	24
	Total:	156	156	608	240	100	156

Selection of beneficiaries

The main focus of the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia support was on the most vulnerable people such as older people that live alone, families with low income, families with small children, families that have members with disabilities, as well as families with sick members in need of medical care.

In cooperation with the local self-government, the Red Cross Branch of Tetovo prepared a detailed list of the beneficiaries and organized the distribution to the final users.

All of the gathered information was cross-checked and referenced with the assessments of the other institutions to avoid possible error.

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall objective

The immediate needs of up to 350 families (1,400 people) in the affected areas by the flash floods and mud slides are met with the assistance of the Red Cross through relief emergency distribution of food, hygiene and non-food items.

Proposed strategy

To accomplish the overall objective, the Red Cross staff and volunteers have been focusing on the provision of emergency food and non-food items and water and sanitation related services. The food and hygiene parcels, disinfectants and other relief items will be mostly distributed directly to the users.

Additionally, the National Society is planning to replenish its stocks for 194 families within the frame of this operation in order to maintain their ability for timely and effective response in case of an eventual disaster in the future.

The key activities for the operation are as follows:

- Conducting needs assessment;
- Distribution of immediate assistance comprised of food and non-food items for 156 families including blankets, sleeping bags, mattresses, hygiene items and food parcels;
- Replenishment of national emergency stocks which have been used in the initial phase of the operation;
- Monitoring and evaluation of the operation.

Taking into account the fact that the beneficiaries were affected not in the same level, only 150 sleeping bags and 300 mattresses are required as a support in the framework of this operation. Those households, where the sleeping facilities were not affected, but other types of damages have been caused by the floods, will not be provided with sleeping bags and mattresses.

Table 4 – Content of food parcels

Item	Quantity
Wheat flour type 400	6 kg.
Sugar	2 kg.
Cooking oil	4 l.
Salt	2 kg.
Rice	2 kg.
Canned fish	8 pieces
Pasta	4 packs

Table 5 – Content of disinfection kits

Item	Quantity
Plastic Bucket 12l	1 piece
Rubber gloves	1 pair
Brush	1 piece
Rubber boots	1 pair
Protective mask	5 pieces
Protective glasses	1 piece

Table 6 – Content of hygiene parcels

Item	Quantity
Detergent for machine laundering	3 packs of 0,5 kg (1.5 kg.)
Detergent for hand laundering	2 packs of 0,5 kg (1 kg.)
Soap	2 pieces
Shampoo	0.5 l
Toothpaste	2
Toothbrush	2
Detergent for dishwashing	0.5 l
Sponge for dishwashing	1 piece
Toilet paper	4 pieces

Operational support services

Human resources

The Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia HQ staff, members of the national emergency response unit and human resources from the Red Cross Branch of Tetovo will be involved in the activities, (a total of 40 volunteers) who will implement the activities. The DREF operation is expected to cover per diems and insurance for volunteers who will be exclusively engaged in implementation of the DREF operation for a period of 2 months.

Logistics and supply chain

The procurement of the required products for making the parcels will be done locally within this operation in compliance with the procedure for procurements of the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The stock will be placed in the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia's warehouses (2 locations). There are two employees in these warehouses and they will be supported by 10 volunteers who will make the parcels. The distribution of the parcels will be done with Red Cross vehicles by the mobile teams and the local RC volunteers.

Information technologies (IT)

The expenses for communication (telephone and internet) will be included in the final budget. All relevant information and photos will be shared with the public and relevant partners through the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia e-newsletter in addition to the Red Cross's website and the national and local printed and electronic media.

Communications

The visibility of the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia will be ensured with a proper media coverage on both national and local media and press conferences on different milestones. The transparency will be ensured by regular published information to the traditional and social media about the current activities and the progress of the operation, including the amount of donations and aid received and distributed.

Security

In every step of the operation, the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia HQ will closely work with the authorities in order to have timely information and proper risk assessment of the field activities. The health and well-being of the staff and volunteers involved in the operation are per se a highest priority. Additionally, the team members are properly trained in first aid and possess proper equipment to intervene on their own until the arrival of an ambulance.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

An Information Bulletin was published on 7 August 2015 on flash floods and mudslides on behalf of the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Monitoring will be conducted by the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia staff, and each conducted activity will be evaluated and recorded in the form of written reports. Six monitoring visits are planned by the NS during the process of implementation of the activities.

This operation is expected to be implemented over two months, and will therefore be completed by 20 October 2015; a final report will be made available three months after the end of the operation, by 20 January 2016.

Administration and finance

The administrative and financial procedures will be implemented by the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia's responsible staff in compliance with the Red Cross procedures. A financial report will be developed at the end of the implementation of the foreseen activities.

Budget

Click [here](#) to see the budget of the DREF operation.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

Outcome 1: The risk of water and sanitation related diseases has been reduced through the provision of appropriate sanitation and hygiene items and disinfection kits																
Output 1.1 Hygiene needs and disinfection kits provided for 156 families																
Output 1.2 Replenishment of stock for distributed items to 194 families from the National Society`s reserves.																
Activities planned	Weeks	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9						
Initiating process for replenishment of goods		■	■	■	■											
Procurement and packing of relief items		■	■	■	■											
Development of distribution plan				■	■											
Distribution of relief items						■	■	■								
Monitoring		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■							

Food security, nutrition and livelihoods

Outcome 1: Emergency food needs of the affected population are meet																
Output 1.1 Nutrition needs met for 156 affected families through the distribution of food parcels																
Output 1.2 Replenishment of distributed items for 194 families from the National Society`s reserves.																
Activities planned	Weeks	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9						
Initiating process for replenishment of goods		■	■	■	■											
Procurement and packing of relief items		■	■	■	■											
Developed distribution plan				■	■											
Distribution of relief items						■	■	■								
Monitoring		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■							

Shelter and settlements

Outcome 1: Emergency non-food items and household needs of the affected population are met																
Output 1.1 Blankets, sleeping bags and mattresses for affected families are distributed for affected families, and the stocks of the Red Cross Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are replenished.																
Activities planned	Weeks	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9						
Initiating process for replenishment of goods		■	■	■	■											
Procurement and packing of relief items		■	■	■	■											
Developed distribution plan				■	■											
Distribution of relief items						■	■	■								
Monitoring		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■							

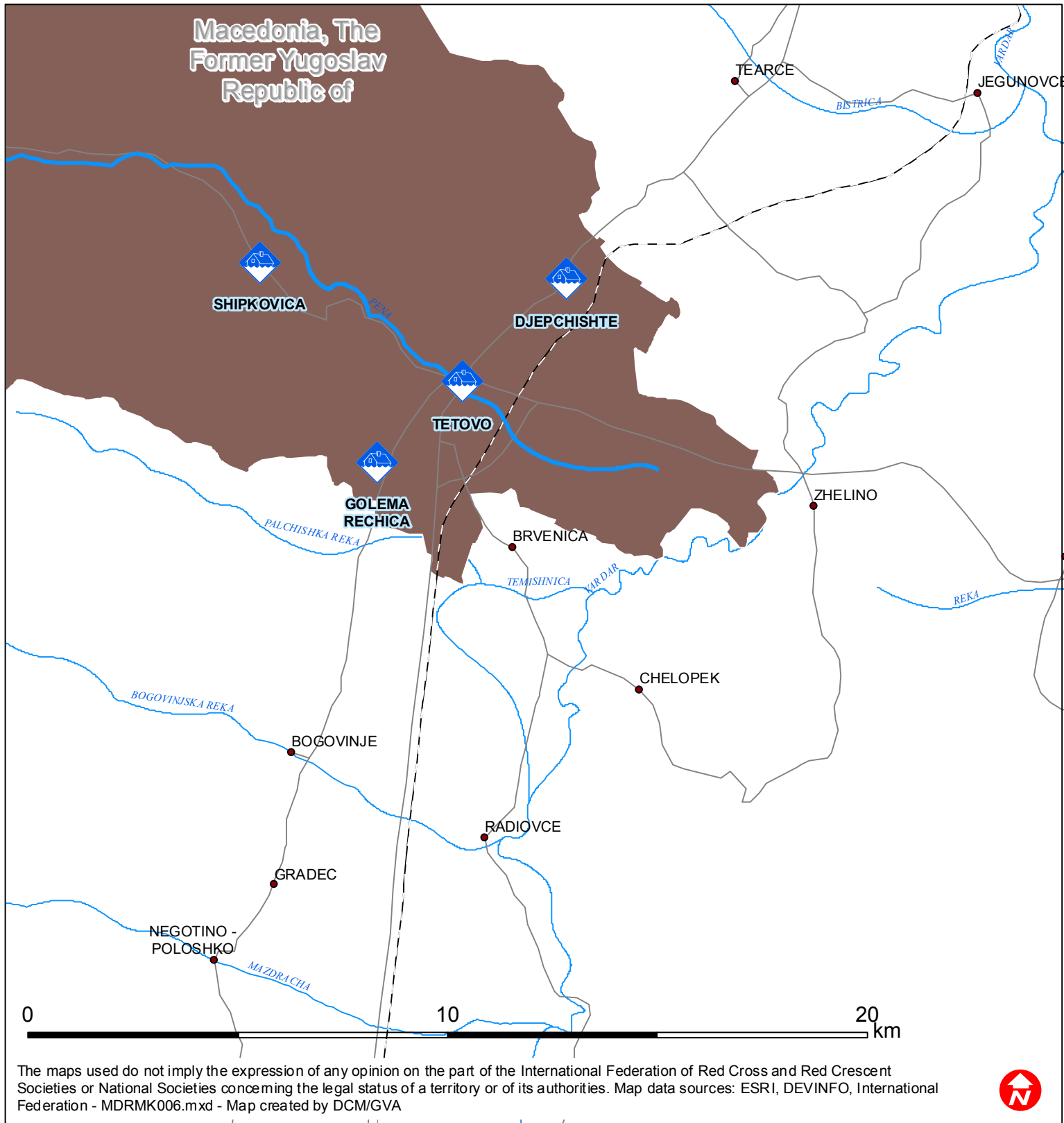
DREF OPERATION






Macedonia - Flood in Tetovo 2015

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	
Shelter - Transitional	
Construction - Housing	
Construction - Facilities	
Construction - Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	27,504
Food	8,750
Seeds & Plants	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	10,325
Medical & First Aid	
Teaching Materials	
Ustensils & Tools	
Other Supplies & Services	
Emergency Response Units	1,056
Cash Disbursements	
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	47,635
Land & Buildings	
Vehicles Purchase	
Computer & Telecom Equipment	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	
Medical Equipment	
Other Machinery & Equipment	
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	
Distribution & Monitoring	990
Transport & Vehicle Costs	750
Logistics Services	550
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	2,290
International Staff	
National Staff	
National Society Staff	
Volunteers	60
Total PERSONNEL	60
Consultants	
Professional Fees	
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	2,275
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	2,275
Travel	
Information & Public Relations	
Office Costs	
Communications	300
Financial Charges	
Other General Expenses	
Shared Support Services	
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	300
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	3,416
Total INDIRECT COSTS	3,416
TOTAL BUDGET	55,976



Macedonia: Flash floods



-  Affected villages
-  Pena river
-  Main roads
-  Railways
-  Tetovo_district