



Western Balkans Resilient Growth Roundtable

From Science to Action

Vienna, March 11 2015



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Unprecedented Floods in Serbia

May 2014





Serbia
May 2014



Serbia
May 2014

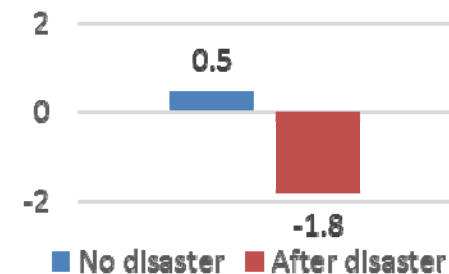




Facts About the Consequences

- Floods affected **119 municipalities** (out of 165)
- **22% of total population** affected by floods
- **More than 30 municipalities** sustained extensive damage
- **57 lives** were lost
- **32,000 families** were forced out of their homes
- Production of electricity decreased by 25%, due to a flooded open-pit coal mine, a key source of lignite used for power production
- The disaster caused a **recession** in the Serbian economy
- Serbian **economy contracted by 1.8%** in 2014, instead of growing by 0.5% as was previously projected

Impact of disaster on Serbia GDP growth rate in 2014





Financial Aspect of Recovery

- Total estimated damages exceed **\$1.2 billion**
- Total disaster effects (including losses) **4,8% of GDP (\$2 billion)**
- Total needs for recovery and reconstruction are estimated at **\$1.614 billion**
- Estimates are based on the **Post Disaster Needs Assessment** implemented by the Government of Serbia with the assistance of WB, UN and EU

Total funds available (and affordable) **\$560 million**

- **\$260 million** in **grants** and
- **\$300 million** in new and re-allocated **loans** (largest being IBRD's Emergency Recovery Loan)



United Nations in Serbia



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Government Reaction

No adequate system was in place to respond to overwhelming needs in a coordinated fashion

Office for Reconstruction and Flood Relief was established in the midst of floods as an **operative (not political) national authority** for relief and recovery



Drafting a new set of rules
law and bylaws

Key principles of the process:

- **Responsiveness** → Population affected by floods
 - **Transparency**
 - **Accountability**
- } General population and donors

Among other changes, the new Law envisages the application of a new procurement model, adapted to post disaster needs and key principles of the process listed above



Lessons Learned

Republic of Serbia needs to:

- **Develop a systemic approach** towards risk management and reduction
- Undertake activities and measures on **strengthening prevention**
- Plan and implement **investments based on** understanding risk
- Ensure the highest possible level of **protection of lives and assets** from new floods and other natural disasters
- **Reduce risk and damages** of natural disasters



National Disaster Risk Management Program

Adopted by Government in December 2014

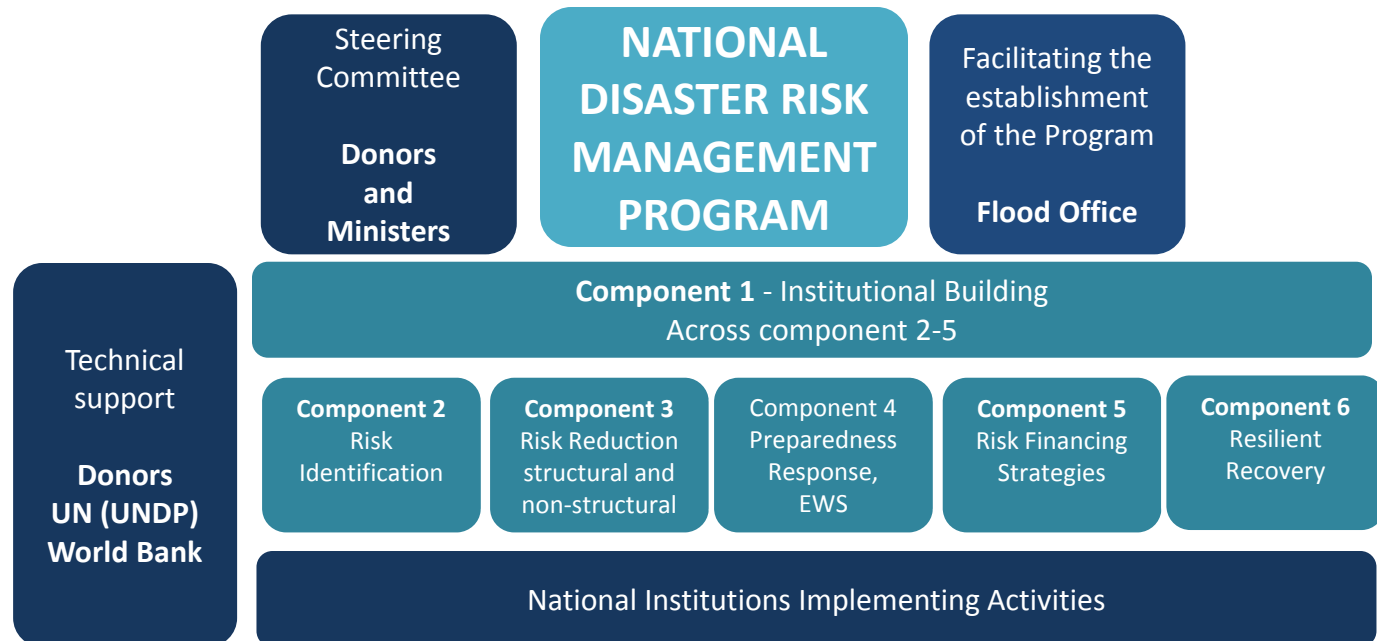


National Disaster Risk Management Program

- The objective is to support the Government of Serbia to build a **comprehensive program for disaster resilience**.
- Program will be used as an **umbrella framework** to **coordinate, channel funds**, and **implement activities** related to reducing and managing risks in Serbia.
- Program will rely on **improving coordination of activities between existing structures** within the Government
- Program will be coordinated by **the Government Office for Reconstruction and Flood Relief** in collaboration with:
 - Ministry of Interior**
 - Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection**
 - Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-government**
 - Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure**
 - Ministry of Finance**
 - Serbian European Integration Office**



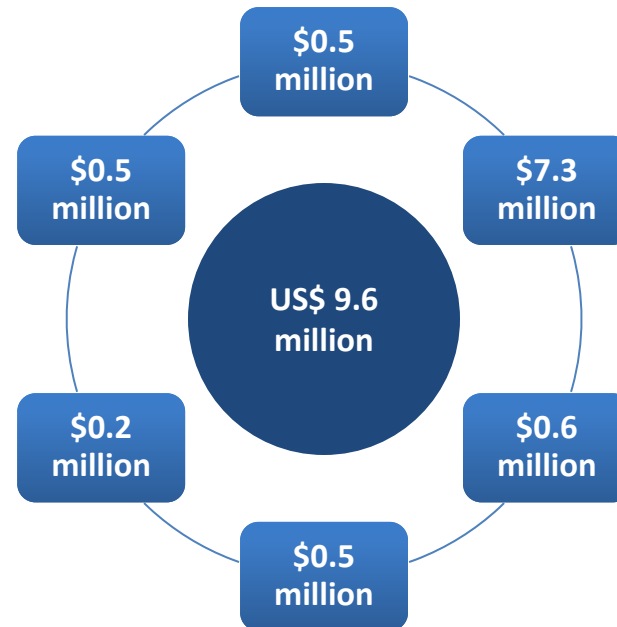
Program Structure





Funding Mechanisms

The Program will be **funded through different grant sources**. At the moment, the main sources identified are:



- Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery under the World Bank: **\$0.5 million**
- European Union (EU) Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) 2014: **\$7.3 million**
- Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) Disaster Risk and Insurance: **\$0.6 million**
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC): **\$0.5 million**
- World Bank - Austria Urban Partnership Program: **\$0.2 million**
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): **\$0.5 million**

Total amount already identified is around
US\$ 9.6 million





CHALLENGES AHEAD

- Adaptation as well as risk management is a crosscutting issue
- The most of Adaptation measures and activities are overlapping with DRR measures and activities

Gaps and needs/future priorities:

- Collaboration between experts and policy makers
 - Collaboration between sectors
 - Regional networking – for a common understanding of key features relevant to adaptation and DRR process,
 - sharing knowledge and experience
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<http://www.obnova.gov.rs/english>



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