



Serbia

National progress report on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (2013-2015)

Name of focal point: Mrs Katarina Jovanovic
Organization: Ministry of Interior
Title/Position: Head of International Relations
E-mail address: katarina.jovanovic@mup.gov.rs
Telephone: +381 11 2282 911

Reporting period: 2013-2015
Report Status: Final
Last updated on: 12 February 2015
Print date: 23 April 2015
Reporting language: English

A National HFA Monitor update published by PreventionWeb
<http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/progress/reports/>

Outcomes

Strategic Outcome For Goal 1

Outcomes Statement

In accordance with the Law on Emergency Situations, and the Regulation on the formation of Emergency Management Headquarters, the Serbian Government directly manages major emergency situations or those that have affected several local self-governments through the National Emergency Management Headquarters and the Sector for Emergency Management (SEM) of the Ministry of Interior. The Commander of the National HQ is the Minister of Interior, whilst the Chief Officer is the Head of SEM. This system was implemented for the first time and proved to be efficient in the response to Kraljevo earthquake in 2010, as well as in latter emergencies, especially during May 2014 floods. In 2013 the National Emergency Response HQ has been proclaimed into a National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Strategic Outcome For Goal 2

Outcomes Statement

The Law on Emergency Situations decentralizes protection and rescue activities so that local government units are responsible for the planning and organization of civil protection and for the first response in emergency situations. In order to improve capabilities and capacities of the management of the Municipal HQ, there have been organized trainings, seminars and exercises.

Strategic Outcome For Goal 3

Outcomes Statement

The strongest progress in the field of disaster management Serbia has been achieved by adoption of the Law on Emergency Management in 2009 that

consolidated all protection and rescue activities and lead to the adoption of the National Strategy for protection and rescue in emergency situations. The purpose of the strategy is to protect the life, health and property of citizens, environment and cultural heritage. This document defines the mechanisms for prevention, preparedness, coordination and guidance program to reduce disasters caused by natural disasters and technological accidents, technical, and protection, response and remediation consequences. Also, in accordance with the priorities of the Hyogo Framework for Action, in December 2010, Regulation on the establishment of emergency management headquarters was adopted.

Bearing in mind that the National Emergency Management HQ (NEMH) is a permanent body, with the extension of jurisdiction, in January 2013, NEMH has been declared into national platform for disaster risk reduction in accordance with the UN recommendations.

Republic of Serbia has adopted Regulation on the methodology for the development of Risk assessment and Protection and rescue plans in emergency situations (Official Gazette of RS, 96/2012), which provides guidelines for development of these documents. Development of the National Risk Assessment has started (including risk maps for earthquakes, floods, storm winds, hail).

The Serbian government has recognized the need to improve the system of prevention, protection and response in the event of a disaster or emergency situation, through the establishment of an integrated system of protection and rescue.

After recent emergency events Serbia's preparedness and capability for disaster response has proved to be successful but needs to be improved and better equipped.

Strategic goals

Strategic Goal Area 1

The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.

Strategic Goal Statement 2013-2015

At the session of the National emergency management headquarters held on 10/15/2012 The National emergency management headquarters has been declared in the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the United Nations system. This started the work on defining the tasks of the stakeholders. A national strategy of protection and rescue was adopted with defined mechanisms for coordination and programming guidelines for risk reduction, protection and recovery elimination from natural and other disasters. Five strategic areas were defined with clearly defined goals within each of them.

Environmental and disaster risk management policy are integrated into development plans at the national, sub-national and local level (through existing public policies, mechanisms for coordination of activities in terms of disaster risk reduction at different levels, budgetary allocations, etc.). Each local self-government unit within its budget is planning funds for emergency situations and this is done in accordance with local possibilities for financing the defined tasks.

Emergency management headquarters at all levels of the organization monitor the activities of local self-government units and participate in the development of the budget, but also in preventative measures of protection and rescue in order to reduce the consequences of disasters. The development of risk assessment that has started is followed by the development of protection and rescue plans where all activities, measures and procedures should be defined.

The changes and amendments of the Law on Mining and Geological Researches are currently being implemented. These changes and amendments should define the obligation of conducting engineering-geological researches for spatial and urban planning and for construction of infrastructural objects. This should lead to more rational and higher quality planning and building on stable terrains with mitigation of disaster risks from geological hazards (landslides, rock falls, erosions, floods etc.)

According to its third mission concerning assistance to civilian authorities in case of natural disasters and catastrophes Serbian Armed Forces shall be deployed when the available forces and resources are not sufficient for protection and rescue activities

In events when all other forces and resources of the protection and rescue system are not sufficient for efficient protection and rescue of people, material and cultural goods and the environment from catastrophes caused by hazards natural and other disasters, the Ministry of Defence shall at the request of the Ministry – organizational unit in charge of emergency situations (hereinafter: the competent department) ensure participation of organizational parts of the Ministry of Defence, commands, units and institutions of the Serbian Armed Forces to assist in protection and rescue, in accordance with the Law.

When the units of the Serbian Armed Forces take part in protection and rescue, they shall be under the command of their senior personnel, in line with the decisions of the emergency management headquarters managing and coordinating protection and rescue activities.

Law on Commodity Reserves stipulates that the Government at the proposal of the Ministry adopts the program of measures in the event of threatened security of energy supply and energy to enable quick, efficient and transparent placing on the market of the Republic of Serbia oil and oil products. The Law the Energy also stipulates that the Government adopts contingency plan, in order to ensure the security of natural gas supply, which sets out measures, energy operators who will be responsible for ensuring the safety of operation of the transmission system and the security of supply of certain groups of end customers, the quantity and capacities of natural gas, in the event of a general shortages of natural gas.

Related to these bylaws it must be said that their adoption is planned in 2015.

Strategic Goal Area 2

The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.

Strategic Goal Statement 2013-2015

Every year an Annual Action Plan is made for the National Emergency Management Headquarters – National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and it defines themes that are discussed in these sessions. Developing of this Action plan involves all ministries, special organizations and associations, with defined preventive and operational mitigation and recovery measures and recognized problems and proposals for a more efficient implementation of protection and rescue measures and disaster risk reduction policy. These sessions end with conclusions that define the responsibilities of all entities in the system of protection and rescue. In previous years there were a number of conclusions, i.e. in 2012 there were 11 conclusions, in 2013 there were 14 conclusions and in 2014 their number increased to 41.

The changes and amendments of Law on Mining and Geological Researches should define the institution of Geological Survey of Serbia which is established as an institution which will conduct the Projects that are of major interest for the State, which will conduct researches related to geological hazards and which will conduct

data collection that can be basis for risk assessment from geological hazards.

Ministry of Defense and Serbian Armed Forces have conducted more joint activities together with all national subjects and capacities regarding protection and rescue.

Strategic Goal Area 3

The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.

Strategic Goal Statement 2013-2015

Trainings of emergency management headquarters are planned and performed at the national and local level in order to increase the local coping capacities. Emergency management headquarters are expert-operational authorities for management of protection and rescue operations and also act as an authority that monitors the situation and is responsible for planning recovery and mitigation measures and activities. For this purpose protection and rescue structures are established alongside with undergoing planned trainings (for commissioners and civil protection units) and qualified entities in the territories of local governments that have tasks within a single system of protection and rescue. So far all the commanders of emergency management headquarters have passed through a one-day training where they were introduced to their responsibilities regarding tasks of protection and rescue and disaster risk reduction.

By practicing three-day training for the commanders of emergency management headquarters at local level, the competence and emergency management standards were increased. There is also a regular practicing of the command-simulation exercises where real situation scenario strengthens teamwork and improves mutual coordination between emergency management headquarters at all levels. There are professional courses on various topics in the field of protection and rescue and disaster risk reduction from planning to response to disasters. In all the activities of capacity building in disaster risk reduction all structures of the system of protection and rescue from the municipal to the national level are included.

Education of citizens in the area of disaster risk reduction is implemented through the printing of manuals, posters, flyers, youth camps, exercises in facilities and schools, etc.). The "Family guide for emergency preparedness and response " is completed and it is intended for all citizens on the territory of the Republic of Serbia, with goal to improve identifying all possible disaster risks and behavior of citizens during and after disasters.

Ministry of Mining and Energy in coordination with Ministry of Interior, Sector for Emergency Management, has formed the methodology for risk assessment from geological hazards. There is currently no monitoring network of landslides and no monitoring that is being conducted on national level.

Priority for Action 1

Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation.

Core indicator 1

National policy and legal framework for disaster risk reduction exists with decentralised responsibilities and capacities at all levels.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is disaster risk taken into account in public investment and planning decisions? No

National development plan	No
Sector strategies and plans	No
Climate change policy and strategy	No
Poverty reduction strategy papers	Yes
CCA/ UNDAF (Common Country Assessment/ UN Development Assistance Framework)	No
Civil defence policy, strategy and contingency planning	Yes

Have legislative and/or regulatory provisions been made for managing disaster risk?
No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

National platform has been developed and all activities of entities on reducing the consequences of disasters are regularly monitored as part of regular reports that are considered at the sessions of the National Emergency Management Headquarters where tasks are defined for even harder and firmer taking measures that lead to security and resilience to potential risks. The legal framework has been adopted and is currently under amendments to the Law on emergency situations where certain issues and tasks for reducing the consequences of risks at both the national and local level will be closely defined.

in accordance with the financial possibilities at all levels there is planning, training and equipping of forces for action in case of certain risks occur, National Emergency Management Headquarters monitors and coordinates all activities in the territory of the Republic. All resources are available from authorized and trained legal entities within the jurisdiction of the Republic to trained legal entities at the level of local governments. Each level of government from the Republic to the municipality is responsible for its territory and is planning measures and activities to reduce consequences of risks. There is a limiting factor in financial terms, which is present at all levels, as well as in the capacities of companies that are present because of a change of ownership and restructuring. In the Republic of Serbia the Law on emergency situations and different to by-laws have been adopted with aim to decrease the consequences of risk.

Existing regulations in the field of education define competences at national and local level in achieving high quality education, as well as the level of competence of institutions which are part of educational system.

Corresponding provisions of the Law on Primary Education stipulate the responsibility of institutions for the safety of children and students, non-discrimination and prohibition of violence, abuse and neglect. Article 90 of the Law defines the suspension of educational process in the event of force majeure, epidemics and other cases which threatened the safety and health of children, students and employees.

Pursuant to the provisions referred to in articles of the Law on Primary Education the content of the curriculum is stipulated, and it includes a program of environmental protection and a program of cooperation with local authorities aiming to raise awareness for the implementation and promotion of health and safety at work. In addition, it stipulates that schools can have their own organizations for children and students, and can be associated with organizations outside the school (Friends of Children of Serbia, the Red Cross of Serbia, environmental movements, hikers, scouts, etc.).

– Some progress, but without systematic policy and/or institutional commitment
Problems that are affecting the process of reduction of risk from geological hazards are:

Incompatibility of legislations - it is necessary to enact the changes and amendments of Law on Planning and Construction which would include the obligation of provision of engineering-geological researches documentation and geo-technical researches

on all levels of planning, designing and construction.

Specification of duties and competencies regarding jurisdiction, from national to local levels, that are related to geological researches, risk assessment, land stabilization and prevention of geological hazards;

There is no fund for researches and stabilization of landslides, rock falls, erosions etc.

Lack of resources for realization of projects: 1. Cadastre of landslides and unstable slopes of Republic of Serbia which is a basis for making of Map of Landslide Risk; 2. Making of a Map of Seismic Zoning with researches of geological conditions for determination of national parameters according to Euro Code 8 (EC8-1), which should serve as basis for making of a Map of Earthquake Risk.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

In accordance with the Law on Emergency Situations a number of bylaws and strategic documents and plans in the field of disaster and emergency management were adopted. National Strategy for disaster risk reduction and rescue and protection in emergencies defines objectives and modalities for creating conditions for the first response and rescue of people and property.

In addition, emergency action plans will be adopted. They should provide an organized approach to implementing measures of prevention, alert, measures applied during and after emergency situations. These plans have already been developed in most local governments. Preparations for adoption of regulations are in progress. These regulations will govern methodology of preparation of the Vulnerability Assessment and the Emergency Protection and Rescue Plan.

There are the ongoing activities for stronger engagement of the public, scientific and academic circles, media and local authorities.

Core indicator 2

Dedicated and adequate resources are available to implement disaster risk reduction plans and activities at all administrative levels

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

What is the ratio of the budget allocation to risk reduction versus disaster relief and reconstruction?

	Risk reduction / prevention (%)	Relief and reconstruction (%)
National budget		
Decentralised / sub-national budget		
USD allocated to hazard proofing sectoral development investments (e.g transport, agriculture, infrastructure)		

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Resources of the local self-government units - cities and municipalities are available at any time in accordance with their possibilities where part of the fundings is planned to come from the budget reserves but in case that these funds are insufficient they are requested from the national level.

This was the case during the floods in may 2014 when the capacities of cities and municipalities affected by the floods were not sufficient for risk reduction and recovery so the Government established the Office for assistance and rehabilitation of flooded areas which coordinated all activities related to collecting aid in the country and abroad including EU funds for this matter. At the session of National Emergency Management Headquarters there was a discussion concerning flood risk and conducting preventative measures of flood defence through the strengthening of embankments, cleaning and maintenance of embankments and strengthening of critical areas in order to reduce the consequences of disasters.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Monitoring the implementation of the Law and raising the awareness of the importance of implementation of disaster risk reduction policy into the development plans.

Core indicator 3

Community Participation and decentralisation is ensured through the delegation of authority and resources to local levels

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do local governments have legal responsibility and regular / systematic budget allocations for DRR? No

Legislation (Is there a specific legislation for local governments with a mandate for DRR?)	Yes
Regular budget allocations for DRR to local government	No
Estimated % of local budget allocation assigned to DRR	

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

According to the Law on emergency situations, units of local government are financing: preparation, equipping and training of the emergency management headquarters, civil protection units, commissioners and deputy commissioners and the costs of implementing the measures of protection and rescue; the costs of engagement of trained legal entities, of building a warning system on its territory, training the population and recovery of damage caused by natural and other hazards in accordance with existing resources. The limiting factor is the lack of financial resources in budgets of local governments.

Regulations in the field of education that regulate the field of primary and secondary education do not explicitly mention source of funds that would be provided for the implementation of measures to reduce disaster risk.

The funds for carrying out activities in pre-schools in part that could be related to measures of disaster risk reduction are not calculated within the budget of the Republic of Serbia.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

There is a need of more efficient implementation of the Legal Acts which are adopted. It is also necessary to build capacities in the human resources and material sectors, and to update the plans for disaster management.

The progress is substantial but still not on the expected level.

Core indicator 4

A national multi sectoral platform for disaster risk reduction is functioning.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are civil society organizations, national finance and planning institutions, key economic and development sector organizations represented in the national platform? Yes

civil society members (specify absolute number)	Red Cross of Serbia, Mountain Rescue Service
national finance and planning institutions (specify absolute number)	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of economy
sectoral organisations (specify absolute number)	RHMS, Seismological survey of Serbia,

	Serbian radiation protection and nuclear safety agency
private sector (specify absolute number)	Telekom Srbija...
science and academic institutions (specify absolute number)	The Jaroslav Cerni Institute for the development of water resources
women's organisations participating in national platform (specify absolute number)	
other (please specify)	RTS (Serbian broadcasting corporation)

Where is the coordinating lead institution for disaster risk reduction located?

In the Prime Minister's/President's Office	No
In a central planning and/or coordinating unit	No
In a civil protection department	No
In an environmental planning ministry	No
In the Ministry of Finance	No
Other (Please specify)	National Platform - National Emergency Management Headquarters

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

National Strategy for protection and rescue in emergency situations, defined five strategic areas:

- 1.To secure that disaster risk reduction becomes the national and local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation of the defined objectives.

2. To identify, assess and monitor risks and enhance early warning .
3. To Use knowledge, innovation and education in order to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels .
- 4.To reduce risk factors.
- 5.To be prepared for disasters with efficient urgent response at all levels

In accordance with the National Strategy all the participants in disaster risk reduction (Red Cross, associations, private sector). are defined

Coordination of all activities of entities for disaster risk reduction is the responsibility of the National Emergency Management Headquarters as the national platform for disaster risk reduction. NEMH is a governmental body that is managed by the Minister of interior and within the Ministry of Interior there is a civil protection service which is operational body of NEMH.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Monitoring of the adoption of the relevant strategic documents and their implementation on the state and local level.

Priority for Action 2

Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning

Core indicator 1

National and local risk assessments based on hazard data and vulnerability information are available and include risk assessments for key sectors.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a national multi-hazard risk assessment with a common methodology available to inform planning and development decisions? No

Multi-hazard risk assessment	No
% of schools and hospitals assessed	
schools not safe from disasters (specify absolute number)	
Gender disaggregated vulnerability and capacity assessments	No
Agreed national standards for multi hazard risk assessments	No
Risk assessment held by a central repository (lead institution)	No
Common format for risk assessment	No
Risk assessment format customised by user	No
Is future/probable risk assessed?	No

Please list the sectors that have already used disaster risk assessment as a precondition for sectoral development planning and programming.

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Based on the adopted Guidelines on the methodology for the development of risk assessment and plans for protection and rescue in emergencies, there is an ongoing development of assessment both on local and national level with support of government ministries, specific organizations, companies and other legal entities, and in accordance with the Guidelines the hazard identification and risk assessment of natural and other disasters are determined.

In accordance with the Law on Emergency Situations and the Law on Meteorological and Hydrological Activity, the Republic Hydrometeorological Service of Serbia (RHMSS) and other bodies in charge of the operational activities within the integrated protection and rescue system of the Republic of Serbia are required to perform risk assessment from within their framework of competency, to produce risk maps for the corresponding disasters and to submit them to the Ministry of Interior, which is the coordinator of the protection and rescue plans production.

According to the Law on Meteorological and Hydrological Activity, RHMSS is responsible for hazard, vulnerability and risk assessment for all meteorological and climate related hazards, and participates in floods risk assessment. Ongoing activities in RHMSS aim to develop risk maps for drought, hail, strong winds and snowy blizzards in accordance with the "Methodology for risk assessment and plan for rescue and protection in emergency situations" ("Official gazette of RS", No 96/12), which was adopted in 2012.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

In order to implement the Law on Emergency Situations in the part related to risk assessment and planning the protection and rescuing from natural disasters and other hazards at all levels in Serbia, there is a need to further increase the capacities of the competent bodies for the application of the available methodologies for vulnerability and risk assessment of citizens and different economy sectors' vulnerability from particular natural disasters, as well as for risk assessment and multi-hazard risk assessment, including climate change risk.

In addition to that, further development of by-laws and technical regulations, as well as assessing the effectiveness of methods and plans for reducing the adverse impact of disasters and work on their improvement is needed.

Core indicator 2

Systems are in place to monitor, archive and disseminate data on key hazards and vulnerabilities

Level of Progress achieved? 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are disaster losses and hazards systematically reported, monitored and analyzed?
Yes

Disaster loss databases exist and are regularly updated	Yes
Reports generated and used in planning by finance, planning and sectoral line ministries (from the disaster databases/ information systems)	Yes
Hazards are consistently monitored across localities and territorial boundaries	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

All recognized stakeholders engaged in monitoring of specific risks are obliged to exchange information relevant to development of risk assessment both on local and national level. For example the flood data is provided by the Ministry of agriculture and environmental protection – Directorate for Water; earthquake data is provided by the Seismological Survey of Serbia Bureau, and data concerning drought, storm winds, hail, snow blizzards, rainfall, snow drifts and glaze ice is provided by the Republic Hydrometeorological Service, etc.

The fraction of disasters of hydrometeorological origin in Serbia from the total number of catastrophes is high and similar to that on a regional and global scale (around 80-90%). The role of the Republic Hydrometeorological Service of Serbia (RHMSS) in systematic monitoring of hazards becomes all the more important considering the

fact that a trend of increasing the frequency and intensity of meteorological, hydrological and climate related disasters has been registered in Serbia due to climate change.

Recently RHMSS improved its basic technical capacities to support DRR activities. These include the expert knowledge, in situ and remote sensing observation systems, telecommunications and data management tools, historical data records digitalization, and numerical weather and climate prediction models and tools development and applications. Meteorological and hydrological observation systems, data collection and archiving as the main components of the Hydrometeorological Early Warning System are essential for the monitoring of all weather, water and climate related hazards, supplying essential data for hazard, vulnerability and risk assessments.

In order to ensure long-term sustainable operation of the national meteorological and hydrological observation system, at the proposal of RHMSS, the Government adopted a regulation on the program of work of the meteorological stations and regulation on the locations of the meteorological and hydrological stations. The national meteorological and hydrological observation systems as integral parts of the European and global hydrometeorological observation network are included in the international data exchange and transboundary hazard monitoring under WMO programmes.

Within the EU Meteoalarm program, the criteria for meteorological hazard warnings were harmonized with neighboring National Meteorological and Hydrological Services.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

As most of the hazardous events are of transnational size (e.g. cross-border nature of floods and forest-fires), improved data exchange between the bordering countries in the sub-region is required for a successful national hazard risk assessment. This has been proved during several emergencies in the region (e.g. the Drina river flooding in 2010, cold spell in 2012, and the Sava river flooding in 2014), during which intensive data exchange existed and contributed to a better preparation of the background material, warnings, vulnerability and risk assessment and, hence forward improved decision making under DRM.

Climate change begins to manifest itself in the form of the increased frequency and intensity of hazards such as floods, storms, heat waves, droughts, and forest fires. Therefore, one of the most important RHMSS priorities is related to the improvement of meteorological and hydrological hazards databases through collecting relevant data from the existing regional and global data centers.

Data rescue, digitalization and quality control of historical climate data, along with the homogenization, cross-border harmonization and interpolation, is a priority defined by the Regulation on the Program of Meteorological and Hydrological Research and Development Activities for the 2013-2017 Period ("Official Gazette of RS" No. 106/2013).

Core indicator 3

Early warning systems are in place for all major hazards, with outreach to communities.

Level of Progress achieved? 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do risk prone communities receive timely and understandable warnings of impending hazard events? Yes

Early warnings acted on effectively	Yes
Local level preparedness	Yes
Communication systems and protocols used and applied	Yes
Active involvement of media in early warning dissemination	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

There is an Early warning system for all the main hazards that represent threat to the population such as snow drifts, glaze ice, flood waves, earthquake. Early warnings are sent to all local self-government units and to the national level. Early warning proved to be quite effective because with timely early warning all stakeholders can undertake disaster risk reduction activities on their territory. Early warnings are transmitted through the National Center 112 and by all media.

The main hazards that threaten the territory of Serbia and could cause a potential

emergency or abnormal conditions are river flooding, droughts, flash floods, strong winds, hailstorms, thunderstorms or lightning, heavy rain and snow, freezing rain, dense fog, heat and cold waves, earthquakes, forest fires, landslides, technical and technological accidents, and epidemiological hazards.

The damages caused by the natural hazards of meteorological and hydrological origin account for almost 80-90% of total damages caused by all natural disasters and catastrophes. The Law on Meteorological and Hydrological Activity regulates the competencies of the Republic Hydrometeorological Service of Serbia (RHMS) in the establishment and 24/7 functioning of the National Multi-hazard Hydro-Meteorological Early Warning System (HMEWS), in issuing warnings on the occurrence of disasters of meteorological, climate and hydrological origin, as well as in the development of risk maps and maps of vulnerability to meteorological hazards.

By virtue of his function, RHMS Director is a permanent member of the National Emergency Situations Headquarters. HMEWS/RHMS addresses all hydrometeorological hazards that can potentially lead to disasters and for which the criteria and level of warnings are defined by the Rulebook on the method of preparation, issuance and delivery of emergency meteorological and hydrological information and warnings. The significant contribution of HMEWS/RHMS to DRM has already become visible, particularly through timely issued warnings on the extreme precipitation quantity which caused the catastrophic floods that hit Serbia in May 2014.

One of the recent developments is the RHMS Climate Watch System, which has become integrated into HMEWS in 2013.

As a member of EUMETNET, RHMS developed the Meteoalarm as a part of the EU Meteoalarm. The RHMS Hydroalarm is developed as a part of the HMEWS and European Flood Awareness System (EFAS).

RHMS has a Quality Management System in place, and has been ISO 9001:2008 certified since 2012.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Further development and operation of the HMEWS of Serbia should be based on the further modernization of its basic components (meteorological and hydrological observing system; telecommunication system; weather, climate and water forecasting and warning system, including meteorological hazard risk analysis and mapping; and dissemination systems), as well as on partnerships, cooperation and exchange of information within the community and on the international and regional levels. A joint working group between RHMS and the Sector for Emergency Management of the

Ministry of Interior has been formed recently, and tasked with the development of SOPs and the procedures for a secure access to the RHMSS databases. The SOPs will be compatible with the CAP protocol.

Furthermore, citizens should be familiar with the key elements, rules and procedures of protection, alert and warning. In this sense, the education of population is of key importance and should be continued.

Core indicator 4

National and local risk assessments take account of regional / trans boundary risks, with a view to regional cooperation on risk reduction.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Does your country participate in regional or sub-regional actions to reduce disaster risk? Yes

Establishing and maintaining regional hazard monitoring	Yes
Regional or sub-regional risk assessment	No
Regional or sub-regional early warning	Yes
Establishing and implementing protocols for transboundary information sharing	No
Establishing and resourcing regional and sub-regional strategies and frameworks	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The Republic of Serbia participates in regional and transboundary activities of disaster risk reduction, monitoring of hazards, information exchange, and early

warning in accordance with the signed protocols on cooperation with regional countries.

Cooperation and information and experience sharing with other countries in the region, neighbouring countries and international organizations (DPPI, CMEP, UN ISDR, CIMA Fondation, UNDP, UN OCHA etc.) are on high level. SEM considers international cooperation extremely important for disaster management (prevention, preparedness, efficient response and relief).

The Republic of Serbia has agreements on cooperation in the field of emergency and disaster management signed with: Croatia – 2014, Hungary – 2013, Slovakia – 2011, Azerbaijan – 2011, Bosnia and Herzegovina – 2010, Montenegro – 2010, Russian Federation – 2009, Ukraine – 2004.

The Agreements with Bulgaria, Macedonia, Romania and Slovenia are in the process of negotiating and signing. The Letter of Intention for Cooperation in Field of Emergency Situations was signed with Slovenia in 2014 and with France in 2011; The MoU for Cooperation in Field of Emergency Situations with Italy was signed in 2012; and with Danish Emergency Management Agency was signed on 2007.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

It is important to make an assessment of all risk on national and regional level and to further strengthen and develop close cooperation with other countries in the region and international organizations.

Priority for Action 3

Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels

Core indicator 1

Relevant information on disasters is available and accessible at all levels, to all stakeholders (through networks, development of information sharing systems etc)

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a national disaster information system publicly available? Yes

Information is proactively disseminated	Yes
Established mechanisms for access / dissemination (internet, public information broadcasts - radio, TV,)	Yes
Information is provided with proactive guidance to manage disaster risk	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

National Center 112 delivers notifications of early warning to all local self-government units (cities and municipalities) by SMS messages as well as by giving written notices to commanders of emergency management headquarters at all levels of their organization. All information on early warning are disseminated through the mass media (radio and TV stations with national frequency and local radio and TV stations).

Red Cross of Serbia, as member of Sector for Emergency, all information given by Sector for emergency regarding disasters and their possibilities spreads through the

structure of the Red Cross of Serbia (186 local and regional Red Cross branches). Most of the branches have 24 hours internet access and they are spreading needed information to beneficiaries of the Red Cross and its volunteers.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The coordination should be on higher level as well as the system for early warning. It is necessary to form and constantly update data bases.

Core indicator 2

School curricula , education material and relevant trainings include disaster risk reduction and recovery concepts and practices.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is DRR included in the national educational curriculum? No

primary school curriculum	No
secondary school curriculum	No
university curriculum	No
professional DRR education programmes	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

On October 2014 session of National Emergency Management Headquarters the decision was made that the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological

Development should implement DRR in existing curricula of primary and secondary schools.

Red Cross of Serbia as member of National and local Sector for Emergency , realize public authorities given by government of Serbia. Every year 10000 pupils learn first aid skills in Red Cross. Red Cross of Serbia is organising competition in first aid on all levels. Every year Red Cross of Serbia educates about 3000 children in water safety on beaches. Red Cross of Serbia plans in 2015 to realize DRR program in primary schools through peer education and learning possibilities.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

It is important to define school curricula on disaster risk reduction and recovery concepts for all levels of educational system and implement them as soon as possible.

Core indicator 3

Research methods and tools for multi-risk assessments and cost benefit analysis are developed and strengthened.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is DRR included in the national scientific applied-research agenda/budget? Yes

Research programmes and projects	Yes
Research outputs, products or studies are applied / used by public and private institutions	No
Studies on the economic costs and benefits of DRR	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

In accordance with the Law on Emergency Situations a set of bylaws have been adopted in order to establish the system and increase the capacity of emergency management personnel in developing the risk and vulnerability assessments on a local level. The Regulation on the content and method of making Plans for the protection and rescue in emergency situations and the INSTRUCTION on the Methodology for the development of the risk assessment and plans for protection and rescue in emergency situations have been adopted during 2011 and 2012.

Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development through national programs for the encouragement of innovation including financing of innovation projects funded by grant budgetary resources and those innovative projects aiming to develop products, methods or services that can prevent, predict or reduce the effects of natural and other disasters such as earthquakes, floods, fires, etc.

In addition to the above mentioned the Ministry is financing scientific research projects through national programs of general interest for the Republic of Serbia, namely: the basic research program, the program of research in the field of technological development, as well as scientific research projects within a co-financing program of integrated interdisciplinary research in which the Strategy of scientific and technological development of the Republic of Serbia in the period from 2010 to 2014 identified certain areas as national priorities.

Red Cross of Serbia has adopted the Vulnerability and Capacity assessment methodology of International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent. It was created the manual for VCA and ToT training.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The cooperation and collaboration with the representatives of the Civil society (NGOs and Universities) is improved through joint work on different programmes and projects.

The problem that the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development recognizes as dominant in this topic is the fact that there aren't any well established and elaborated mechanisms and ways that could be immediately implemented and used in disaster prevention at the national level. Innovative companies that develop such products and services are dealing with challenges of the open market without state support.

There aren't any elaborated mechanisms implying that state would immediately

recognize and test such products and services, and if they prove to be good and useful to implement them as one of its mechanisms of protection against disasters.

Core indicator 4

Countrywide public awareness strategy exists to stimulate a culture of disaster resilience, with outreach to urban and rural communities.

Level of Progress achieved? 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do public education campaigns for risk-prone communities and local authorities include disaster risk? Yes

Public education campaigns for enhanced awareness of risk.	Yes
Training of local government	Yes
Disaster management (preparedness and emergency response)	Yes
Preventative risk management (risk and vulnerability)	Yes
Guidance for risk reduction	No
Availability of information on DRR practices at the community level	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

There is no National Strategy for Public Awareness, but there are single (thematic) instructions on how the public should behave and respond in case of emergency situation (disaster). SEM is active in conducting the awareness raising campaigns. Most of the campaigns are realised in cooperation with the USAID PPES program in Serbia and the UNDP Office in Serbia, and other partners.

The Family Guide for Emergency Preparedness and Response was published in cooperation with OSCE Mission in Serbia. This publication is also translated into Hungarian, Albanian and Romani language, as well as English.

Also, many trainings, courses and exercises have been organized with the representatives of the local self-governments on emergency preparedness and response.

Within the education of local government members of emergency management headquarters are being trained for the execution of specific tasks of protection and rescue, risk recognition and acting in order to reduce disaster risks. The training is organized by the National Training Center for Emergency Situations and the Red Cross of Serbia.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Sector for emergency management is active in conducting the public awareness raising campaigns through conducting trainings and education, exercises, publishing educational posters and guides for emergency preparedness and response.

Red Cross of Serbia implements TTX on local level with members of local Sector for emergency. From 2005. Red Cross of Serbia has done 55 TTX in 52 local municipalities. 55 exercises are done with a special focus to public awareness of disasters and risks. Every year Red Cross of Serbia is organising promotional activities for public education in first aid and disaster response skills. Red Cross of Serbia appearances in media regarding promotional activities. Red Cross of Serbia developed android application for first aid (steps how to provide first aid) that is one of the most used in the country.

Priority for Action 4

Reduce the underlying risk factors

Core indicator 1

Disaster risk reduction is an integral objective of environment related policies and plans, including for land use natural resource management and adaptation to climate change.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc) No

Protected areas legislation	No
Payment for ecosystem services (PES)	No
Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)	No
Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)	Yes
Climate change adaptation projects and programmes	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The Law on Environment Protection, the Law on Emergency Situations, the Law on Fire Protection, the Law on Chemicals partly regulate this field.

RHMSS took part in the project „Joint Disaster Management risk assessment and preparedness in the Danube macro-region“ (SEERISK) within the SEE Transnational

Cooperation Programme. The main goal of the Project was to overcome the methodological, institutional and legal differences in the field of disaster risk assessment and management among the respective legislations of the countries from the Region. The project implementation period was July 2012 – December 2014. The European Integration Office of the Government of the Republic of Serbia listed the project among the current projects that employ the best practices, and awarded RHMSS with an official scroll on September 26.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Domestic laws and standards are harmonized. However, reconciliation and standardization of legal acts with the ones of the EU is still in process.

One of RHMSS priorities in the field of climate change adaptation is to enhance participation in the regional projects in respect of capacity development, application of different methodologies, international standards and EU legislation.

When certain projects that can lead to degradation are being conducted (for example exploitation of mineral resources), there is an obligation to conduct a Study on Environmental Impact Assessment which is approved by Ministry competent for Environmental Protection.

Core indicator 2

Social development policies and plans are being implemented to reduce the vulnerability of populations most at risk.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do social safety nets exist to increase the resilience of risk prone households and communities? No

Crop and property insurance	Yes
------------------------------------	-----

Temporary employment guarantee schemes	No
--	----

Conditional and unconditional cash transfers	No
--	----

Micro finance (savings, loans, etc.)	Yes
--------------------------------------	-----

Micro insurance	Yes
-----------------	-----

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

There is no National Strategy for Public Awareness, but there are single instructions on how the public should behave and respond in case of emergency situations. Cooperation with Civil society is improving through collaborating in projects and programmes as well as participation in National Association for Fire Protection, etc.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Sector for Emergency management is active in conducting the awareness raising campaigns. Most of the campaigns are realized in cooperation with the USAID PPES program in Serbia, UNDP Office in Serbia and OSCE Mission in Serbia.

Core indicator 3

Economic and productive sectorial policies and plans have been implemented to reduce the vulnerability of economic activities

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are the costs and benefits of DRR incorporated into the planning of public investment? No

National and sectoral public investment systems incorporating DRR.	No
Please provide specific examples: e.g. public infrastructure, transport and communication, economic and productive assets	
Investments in retrofitting infrastructures including schools and hospitals	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Sector for Emergency Management of the Ministry of Interior conducts inspection controls and surveillance in accordance with the regulations of the Law on Fire Protection and Explosives. This surveillance identifies gaps, violation of obligations imposed by the law.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Insurance companies should be more active in this field. The fines for the violations of the law should be more severe.

Core indicator 4

Planning and management of human settlements incorporate disaster risk reduction elements, including enforcement of building codes.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there investment to reduce the risk of vulnerable urban settlements? No

Investment in drainage infrastructure in flood prone areas	No
Slope stabilisation in landslide prone areas	No
Training of masons on safe construction technology	No
Provision of safe land and housing for low income households and communities	No
Risk sensitive regulation in land zoning and private real estate development	No
Regulated provision of land titling	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The Law on Planning and Infrastructure Construction, and the Law on Investment Maintenance of Residential Building regulate this issues. The Law on Emergency Situations and the Law on Fire Protection regulate this area in the perspective of fire and explosion protection.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Inspection is also being conducted in other fields.

Core indicator 5

Disaster risk reduction measures are integrated into post disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do post-disaster programmes explicitly incorporate and budget for DRR for resilient recovery? No

% of recovery and reconstruction funds assigned to DRR	
DRR capacities of local authorities for response and recovery strengthened	Yes
Risk assessment undertaken in pre- and post-disaster recovery and reconstruction planning	Yes
Measures taken to address gender based issues in recovery	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

In accordance with the Law on Emergency Situations, authorized and trained legal persons shall submit analyses, prognoses and responses related to protection and rescue issues at the request of the Ministry.

The National Emergency Protection and Rescue Plan shall regulate preventive and operational measures for prevention and reduction of consequences of natural and manmade disasters.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

According to the national regulations, the State Budget has designated reserve funds in case of a major emergency or a disaster.

Core indicator 6

Procedures are in place to assess the disaster risk impacts of major development projects, especially infrastructure.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are the impacts of disaster risk that are created by major development projects assessed? No

Are cost/benefits of disaster risk taken into account in the design and operation of major development projects? No

Impacts of disaster risk taken account in Environment Impact Assessment (EIA)	No
By national and sub-national authorities and institutions	No
By international development actors	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

According to the National regulations and Law on Fire Protection all buildings have to meet fire protection standards in order to get technical permits.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Within the proces of EU integrations, Republic of Serbia has been harmonizing its

legal framework with the European aquis, standards and codes.

Priority for Action 5

Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels

Core indicator 1

Strong policy, technical and institutional capacities and mechanisms for disaster risk management, with a disaster risk reduction perspective are in place.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are there national programmes or policies for disaster preparedness, contingency planning and response? Yes

DRR incorporated in these programmes and policies

No

The institutional mechanisms exist for the rapid mobilisation of resources in a disaster, utilising civil society and the private sector; in addition to public sector support.

Yes

Are there national programmes or policies to make schools and health facilities safe in emergencies? No

Policies and programmes for school and hospital safety

No

Training and mock drills in school and hospitals for emergency preparedness

No

Are future disaster risks anticipated through scenario development and aligned preparedness planning? Yes

Potential risk scenarios are developed taking into account climate change projections

Yes

Preparedness plans are regularly updated

Yes

based on future risk scenarios

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

In accordance with the Law on Emergency Situations, and the Regulation on the formation of Emergency Response Headquarters, the Serbian Government will, through the National Emergency Response Headquarters and SEM, directly manage major emergency situations or those that have affected several local self-governments. The Commander of the National Headquarters will be a member of the Government (Minister of Interior), whilst the Chief Officer will be the Head of SEM. On the local level, the Commander of the Municipal Emergency Response HQ is the Mayor and the Chief Officer is the Head of the territorial Dept. for Emergency Management of SEM.

The Law on Emergency Situations decentralises protection and rescue activities so that local government units are responsible for the planning and organisation of civil protection and for the first response in emergency situations.

In accordance with the prescribed and adopted Methodology the risk assessment is developed to determine potential hazards and after that protection and rescue plans are developed with measures and tasks for disaster risk reduction at all levels from local to the national level. The plans will include defined tasks of all stakeholders with an overview of coping capacities.

Red Cross of Serbia is developing tool for improving disaster preparedness capacities and mechanisms regarding education of volunteers and disaster response team members.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Reconciliation and standardisation of legal acts with the ones of the EU is in the process.

It is important to develop the plan which contains all data and available capacities. It is necessary to equip the operational units with modern technology and equipment, to further develop specialised trainings, and to build human resources and capacities.

Core indicator 2

Disaster preparedness plans and contingency plans are in place at all administrative levels, and regular training drills and rehearsals are held to test and develop disaster response programmes.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are the contingency plans, procedures and resources in place to deal with a major disaster? Yes

Plans and programmes are developed with gender sensitivities	Yes
Risk management/contingency plans for continued basic service delivery	Yes
Operations and communications centre	Yes
Search and rescue teams	Yes
Stockpiles of relief supplies	Yes
Shelters	Yes
Secure medical facilities	Yes
Dedicated provision for disabled and elderly in relief, shelter and emergency medical facilities	Yes
Businesses are a proactive partner in planning and delivery of response	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Currently operational is the procedure activated in case of snowdrifts on the Corridor ten, which analyze the possible causes of the suspension of traffic in case of high snowdrifts, defines forces and resources to be engaged and coping capacities. Action plan has been prepared in compliance with all entities that have determined tasks of protection and rescue. Each participant has delegated tasks. All information about emergency are monitored, exchanged and provided through National Center 112 and 27 Operations centers on the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

Red Cross of Serbia organise lessons learned workshops for all local Red Cross branches that were engaged in response operation or training drills and rehearsals. On this workshops Red Cross of Serbia usually calls members of Sector for emergency.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The Law on Emergency Situations decentralises protection and rescue activities so that local government units are responsible for the planning and organisation of civil protection and for the first response in emergency situations.

Consistency in carrying out the obligations imposed by the law and keeping regular update of the plans is needed.

Core indicator 3

Financial reserves and contingency mechanisms are in place to support effective response and recovery when required.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are financial arrangements in place to deal with major disaster? Yes

National contingency and calamity funds	Yes
The reduction of future risk is considered in the use of calamity funds	No

Insurance and reinsurance facilities	No
Catastrophe bonds and other capital market mechanisms	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

In accordance with the Law on Emergency Situations the budget fund for emergencies is established in order to provide financing for the preparation, implementation and development of programs, projects and other activities in the area of risk reduction and emergency management and response.

State institutions within their competence have their own resources for this purpose (State Enterprise for Forest Management "Srbijašume", State Enterprise for Water Management "Srbijjavode") but they are insufficient so these situations are mainly financed from the budget reserve.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

According to the national regulations, the State Budget has designated reserve funds in case of a major emergency or a disaster. Similarly to this, Municipal Budgets also have designated reserve funds in case of emergencies. Allocation of the financial means in the budget is the obligation of each local self-government.

Core indicator 4

Procedures are in place to exchange relevant information during hazard events and disasters, and to undertake post-event reviews.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification



Has an agreed method and procedure been adopted to assess damage, loss and needs when disasters occur? Yes

Damage and loss assessment methodologies and capacities available	No
Post-disaster need assessment methodologies	Yes
Post-disaster needs assessment methodologies include guidance on gender aspects	Yes
Identified and trained human resources	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

There is an Instruction on unified methodology for the evaluation of damages from natural disasters from 1987, as well as the Standard Operational Procedures for the operational units. The bylaw act (the Regulation on formation of Emergency Response HQ) was adopted and it regulates the area of response to disaster, early recovery, elimination of the consequences and information sharing.

Red Cross of Serbia has developed procedures for post disaster needs assesment of affected population, and has specialy trained team for assessment and coordination. Red Cross of Serbia use tools for needs assessment and vulnerability and capacity assessment methodology of Internation Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

Ministry of Defense and Serbian Armed Forces have developed procedures for damage assessment on military infrastructure.

Ministry of Mining and Energy in coordination with Ministry of Interior/ Sector for Emergency Situations, has formed the methodology for risk assessment from geological hazards.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be

overcome in the future.

Continuous education and training of the Mayors as the Commanders and of the members of the Municipal Emergency Response HQ is needed.

Drivers of Progress

a) Multi-hazard integrated approach to disaster risk reduction and development

Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Do studies/ reports/ atlases on multi-hazard analyses exist in the country/ for the sub region?: Yes

If yes, are these being applied to development planning/ informing policy?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

All level authorities from the local to the national level are directed to disaster risk reduction and their activity also include all structures of the private sector, partnerships with non-governmental organizations, civil societies, etc.

According to the Law on Emergency situations and the adopted Instruction on Methodology for making risk assessment and plans for protection and rescue in emergency situations, the development of the Risk and vulnerability assessments and Emergency Rescue and Protection plans on a Municipal level will follow. Many Municipalities have already developed these plans.

b) Gender perspectives on risk reduction and recovery adopted and institutionalized

Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Is gender disaggregated data available and being applied to decision-making for risk reduction and recovery activities?: Yes

Do gender concerns inform policy and programme conceptualisation and implementation in a meaningful and appropriate way?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

Red Cross of Serbia activities regarding DRR are gender equal.

c) Capacities for risk reduction and recovery identified and strengthened

Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Do responsible designated agencies, institutions and offices at the local level have capacities for the enforcement of risk reduction regulations?: Yes

Are local institutions, village committees, communities, volunteers or urban resident welfare associations properly trained for response?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

The regulation on the establishment of the Emergency Management Headquarters was adopted in December 2010. In accordance with this regulation, the commander of the Municipal Headquarters is the Mayor, and the members are from relevant stakeholders on local level, and representatives of other governmental and nongovernmental organizations and institutions. Sector for emergency management has conducted training and seminars for Commanders and members of the Municipal EM HQs.

In accordance to this civil protection units of general purpose are formed at the local level (from rural settlements to the municipality/ city level with the involvement of volunteers) to specialized civil protection units at the national level. The training of these structures for the execution of specific tasks is planned, as well as their engagement in risk reduction actions at all levels. There is also a training of the commissioners with determined tasks.

Red Cross of Serbia has capacities for enforcement of risk reduction regulations related to the structure of the Red Cross. At every local Red Cross branch there are trained volunteers for providing first aid or to respond in case of disaster (in the mandate of the Red Cross). Red Cross of Serbia is developing eLearning platform for disaster response education for volunteers of the Red Cross and disasters response units of the Red Cross.

d) Human security and social equity approaches integrated into disaster risk reduction and recovery activities

Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Do programmes take account of socio-environmental risks to the most vulnerable and marginalised groups?: Yes

Are appropriate social protection measures / safety nets that safeguard against their specific socioeconomic and political vulnerabilities being adequately implemented?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

The elderly, the sick, persons with disabilities, and poor people are being taken care of.

Disaster preparedness and response program of the Red Cross of Serbia takes into account the most vulnerable and marginalized groups (older people, people with disabilities, beneficiaries of soup kitchens, homeless people...). Regarding to the mission of the Red Cross of Serbia, Law of the Red Cross and Law for Emergency it is priority in providing special attention to vulnerable and marginalized groups (most prone once)

e) Engagement and partnerships with non-governmental actors; civil society, private sector, amongst others, have been fostered at all levels

Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Are there identified means and sources to convey local and community experience or traditional knowledge in disaster risk reduction?: Yes

If so, are they being integrated within local, sub-national and national disaster risk reduction plans and activities in a meaningful way?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

The regulation on the establishment of the Emergency Management Headquarters was adopted in December 2010. In accordance with this regulation, the commander of the Municipal Headquarters is the Mayor, and the members are from relevant stakeholders on local level, and representatives of other governmental and nongovernmental organizations and institutions, such as Red Cross societies, Volunteer Fire Departments, Mountain rescue service, ant etc.

In all assessments and plans all the structures of society who are involved in disaster risk reduction are identified, as well as the structures that are in a need for assistance in case of emergencies. At the trainings for members of emergency management headquarters we consider positive experiences about disaster risk reduction, vulnerability assessment of individual categories and positive examples of practices that are implemented in the plans.

In the following period main risk reduction activities will be development of vulnerability assessment which will include all aspects of community exposure to risks from national to local levels and this will be followed by creation of protection and rescue plans with defined activities on reducing consequences of disasters, with defined forces and resources of all participants engaged in eliminating the consequences of disasters.

Contextual Drivers of Progress

Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

no comments

Future Outlook

Future Outlook Area 1

The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.

Overall Challenges

There are 9 natural and 3 technical-technological hazard risks identified on the territory of the Republic of Serbia. In accordance with identified hazards the vulnerability assessment is being made to determine areas, population and assets at exposure. It also perceives what natural and other disaster risks are mostly present both on the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia and on the territories of local authorities (municipalities and cities), with aim to review existing strengths and resources of state authorities, agencies and other entities and operational forces involved in protection and rescue, forces and resources of civil protection, private persons and other available resources that can be engaged in preventing and eliminating the consequences of natural disasters and other accidents.

Some cities and municipalities have developed their risk assessment with clearly defined risks, but also have determined the strengths and resources that are necessary for disaster risk reduction. To this end there are a number of regulations in this area such as Decision on forming of civil protection units, Decision on the appointment of the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of Civil Protection, as well as decisions that define the role of public enterprises and legal persons trained in order to prevent the risk occurrence and to reduce consequences of disasters.

The main limiting factor in planning and undertaking preventive operational measures is the lack of financial resources on the territories of local authorities (cities and municipalities) which reduces the effects of mitigating the consequences of disasters.

With the completion of the assessment the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia will be covered with prospected potential risks that may threaten the territory of cities and municipalities, and at the same time the establishment of civil protection structures at the local level (the level of cities and municipalities) will be completed. In order to prevent possible disasters prevention measures are taken in accordance with the determined capacities of local governments through the development of operational protection plans of floodings at the streams of the second order with defined activities to be undertaken. There is also a review of the affected areas in case of high snow drifts, as well as reconsideration of certain categories of population who need assistance in food and basic needs, medicines, etc. in the case of snow drifts.

For commanders of emergency management headquarters at the level of cities and municipalities, there is a regular training for the planning and execution of defined tasks as well as for reconsideration of coping capacities that can be used on the territories of local governments and for defining tasks of protection and rescue and removal of consequences of emergencies. By this training the members of headquarters at local level are trained to execute protection and rescue tasks, from planning to management of protection and rescue activities, observation of capacities on the territory and taking preventive and operational measures that are planned in order to reduce consequences of disaster.

According to strategic area one: securing that disaster risk reduction is becoming national and local priority with strong institutional basis for implementation, following goals are defined:

- disaster risk reduction policy is generally accepted by all stakeholders (the adopting of the Guidelines on the methodology for development of vulnerability assessment and plans of protection and rescue in emergency situations, led to single method of developing assessments and plans for all stakeholders on the territory of the Republic of Serbia);
- establishment of sustainable funding of the integrated system of protection and rescue (budgets of local governments include fundings for reducing consequences of natural disasters and for planning and equipping of responders in case of disasters; while at the national level there is a Budgetary Fund for Emergencies with strictly defined use of financial resources);
- the goals of the National Strategy are included in development programs and other programme-planning documents of autonomous provinces and local self-governments; Guidelines on the methodology for the development of risk assessment and plans for protection and rescue in emergency situations is in line with international standards of emergency management and disaster risk reduction;
- National emergency management headquarters as the National platform for disaster risk reduction regularly monitors the state of vulnerability of the territory of the Republic of Serbia and takes preventive and operational measures to minimize the risks and coordinates the activities of all stakeholders in protection and rescue operations;
- There is a constant improvement of cooperation between the stakeholders of protection and rescue system at the national and local level through monitoring reports and plans regarding stakeholders activities in protection and rescue operations, and this is discussed at the sessions of the National emergency management headquarters;

According to strategic area two: Identification, assessment and monitoring of risks and enhancement of early warning system, following goals are defined:

- adopted standards and assessment methodology and identifying risks from natural

and other disasters are in accordance with the recommendations of the European Union. Guidelines on the methodology for the development of risk assessment and plans for protection and rescue in emergency situations have been adjusted to EU regulations;

- preparations for the Project for the introduction of a single 112 number are in progress, and there is an ongoing project "Upgrading the public alerting system for the city of Belgrade"

- Republic Hydrometeorological Service of Serbia (RHMS) is enhancing the hydro-meteorological early warning and alert system by sending warnings to National Center 112, which are then forwarded to all local self-government units (cities and municipalities) as well to commanders of emergency management headquarters at all levels.

According to strategic area three: Use of knowledge, innovations and education towards building culture of safety and resilience at all levels, following goals are defined:

- Information about the risks of disasters, and the possibility of protection available to everyone, especially to citizens in high-risk areas and population groups that are particularly exposed to risk - children, the elderly and persons with disabilities;

- development of the National training center for emergencies which is organizing trainings by itself or in coordination with all relevant stakeholders (Red Cross of Serbia, trained legal entities, associations of citizens etc.) at all levels including training of protection and rescue personnel, training of members of emergency management headquarters, training of commissioners, deputy commissioners and members of civil protection units;

- constant work on improvement of functioning of protection and rescue system stakeholders at national and local level by connecting with scientific and research organizations, and good cooperation with the media with goal to promote a policy of disaster risk reduction with timely reporting before, during and after emergency situations; as well as the availability of information to citizens in order to strengthen the public awareness and culture of safety in the field of protection, rescue and disaster risk reduction.

According to strategic area four: Reducing risk factors, following goals are defined:

- The adoption of the Guidelines on the methodology for development of risk assessment and plans for protection and rescue in emergencies enabled recognizing and identifying possible risks that could affect the territory of the Republic of Serbia and local self-government units (cities and municipalities) in order to have clear and timely decision-making at all levels.

According to strategic area five: Disaster preparedness for efficient emergency response at all levels, following goals are defined:

- established and improved efficient coordination and operational cooperation of all stakeholders (Red cross of Serbia, associations - mountain rescue service, diving and kayaking clubs, etc., private sector);

- In order to improve regional coordination and operational cooperation through joint monitoring information exchange and joint trainings a number of protocols with neighbouring and other countries were signed.

Future Outlook Statement

Future outlook statement of RHMSS as a partner institution in DRM is as follows:

1. Continuation of the activities related to the establishment of a Regional Hydrometeorological Multi-Hazard Early Warning System, such as: optimization and further automation of the national meteorological and hydrological observation systems; enhancement of telecommunication and computer resources; formation of regional coordination and technical support mechanisms and procedures for trans-boundary exchange of emergency hydrometeorological information and warnings; production of sub-regional risk maps for meteorological and hydrological hazards; continued training of staff; and constant enhancement of QMS;
 2. Further capacity building of SEEVCCC/RHMSS, as a regional infrastructure within the WMO RA VI RCC Network and WMO GFCS, through its inclusion, as partner institution, in the implementation of regional initiatives, programmes and projects;
 3. Enhancement of cross-border cooperation through joint activities related to the management of floods, droughts, wild fires and other meteorological, climate and hydrological hazards;
- Further strengthening of regional and international cooperation and partnerships with a view to improving research activities and mobilization of financial resources necessary for supporting the growth of national and regional institutions dealing with DRR and climate change adaptation.

Future Outlook Area 2

The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.

Overall Challenges

na

Future Outlook Statement

Future outlook statement of RHMSS as a partner institution in DRM is as follows:

1. Continuation of the activities related to the establishment of a Regional Hydrometeorological Multi-Hazard Early Warning System, such as: optimization and further automation of the national meteorological and hydrological observation systems; enhancement of telecommunication and computer resources; formation of regional coordination and technical support mechanisms and procedures for trans-boundary exchange of emergency hydrometeorological information and warnings; production of sub-regional risk maps for meteorological and hydrological hazards; continued training of staff; and constant enhancement of QMS;
 2. Further capacity building of SEEVCCC/RHMSS, as a regional infrastructure within the WMO RA VI RCC Network and WMO GFCS, through its inclusion, as partner institution, in the implementation of regional initiatives, programmes and projects;
 3. Enhancement of cross-border cooperation through joint activities related to the management of floods, droughts, wild fires and other meteorological, climate and hydrological hazards;
- Further strengthening of regional and international cooperation and partnerships with a view to improving research activities and mobilization of financial resources necessary for supporting the growth of national and regional institutions dealing with DRR and climate change adaptation.

Future Outlook Area 3

The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.

Overall Challenges

na

Future Outlook Statement

na

Stakeholders

Organizations, departments, and institutions that have contributed to the report

Organization	Organization type	Focal Point
Ministry of Interior/ Sector for Emergency Management	Governments	Ivan Baras, assistant head of Sector for Emergency Management
Ministry of Defense	Governments	focal point in this Ministry
Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection	Governments	focal point in this Ministry
Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development	Governments	focal point in this Ministry
Ministry of Mining and Energetics	Governments	focal point in this Ministry
Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications	Governments	focal point in this Ministry
Ministry of Culture and the Media	Governments	focal point in this Ministry
Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-government	Governments	focal point in this Ministry
Republic Hydrometeorological Service of Serbia	Academic & Research Institutions	focal point
Red Cross of Serbia	Non-Governmental Organizations	focal point