



2020/415-529

6 April 2020 – 25 February 2021

INTERIM NARRATIVE REPORT

**EU FOR CIVIL PROTECTION AND DISASTER RESILIENCE
STRENGTHENING IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA**

6 April 2020 – 25 February 2021



Implemented by

UNDP

EU for Civil Protection and Disaster Resilience Strengthening in the Republic of Serbia – Interim Narrative Report

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List of acronyms used in the report

AO	Administrative Order
BMS	UNDP Bureau for Management Services
CA	Contracting Authority
CoA	Contribution Agreement
CPTC	Civil protection training centre
CPU	Civil Protection Unit
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DoA	Description of Action
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DRIS	Disaster Risk Information System
DRP	Detailed Regulation Plan
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
EU	European Union
EUD	Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia
EU MS	European Union Member States
GRP	General Regulation Plan
GoS	Government of Serbia
GIS	Geographic Information System
HQ	Headquarters
IOM	International Organization for Migration
LSG	Local Self-government
MCTI	Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure
MEI	Ministry of European Integration
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoI	Ministry of Interior
MPALSG	Ministry of Public Administration, Local Self-government
MRSS	Mountain Rescue Service of Serbia
MSMEs	Micro, small and medium enterprises
NAPA	National Academy for Public Administration
PIMO	Public Investment Management Office
PPE	Personal protective equipment
RACP	Regional Advisory Committee on Procurement
RGA	Republic Geodetic Authority
SC	Steering Committee
SEM	Sector of Emergency Management, Ministry of Interior
SCTM	Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities
TD	Technical documentation
TOR	Terms of Reference
ToT	Training of Trainers
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UHPS	Ultra-high-pressure system
SCTM	Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities
SCBA	Self-contained breathing apparatus
SCW	National Discovery Service
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations Refugee Agency
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services

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UNRC	United Nation Resident Coordinator
UN Woman	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Woman
WB	World Bank
WHO	World Health Organization
WMBC	West Morava Basin Cooperation

1. Description

1.1. Name of Coordinator of the grant contract:

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

1.2. Name and title of the contact person:

Francine Pickup, Resident Representative

1.3. Name of beneficiary(ies) and affiliated entity(ies) in the Action:

United Nations Development Programme

1.4. Title of the Action:

EU for Civil Protection and Disaster Resilience Strengthening in the Republic of Serbia

1.5. Contract number:

CRIS 2020/415-529/1

1.6. Start date and end date of the reporting period:

6 April 2020 – 25 February 2021

1.7. Target country(ies) or region(s):

Republic of Serbia

1.8. Final beneficiaries &/or target groups¹ (if different) (including numbers of women and men):

Final beneficiaries of the Action are men and woman in Serbia affected by natural and man-made disasters. Target groups are civil protection units of general purposes, local self-governments of the Republic of Serbia, City of Kraljevo and West Morava River Basin Cooperation municipalities and cities, four Institutes for Emergency Medicine (Belgrade, Kragujevac, Nis and Novi Sad), two Institutes of Public Health (Belgrade and Nis), four Clinics for Infectious Diseases (Belgrade, Kragujevac, Nis and Novi Sad), Republic Geodetic Authority, 27 Fire and rescue units of the Ministry of Interior, Sector for Emergency Management, Mountain Rescue Service, civil society organisations.

1.9. Country(ies) in which the activities take place (if different from 1.7):

Republic of Serbia

¹ “Target groups” are the groups/entities who will be directly positively affected by the project at the Project Purpose level, and “final beneficiaries” are those who will benefit from the project in the long term at the level of the society or sector at large.

2. Assessment of implementation of Action activities

2.1. Executive summary of the Action

Disasters affect Serbia's economic and environmental standing, diminish the country's development potential, pose a risk to social stability, and jeopardize EU investments. The effectiveness of the disaster risk management system relies on the adequate human, physical and financial capacities for planning, preparation, responding, and post-disaster recovery, as well as on proper vertical and horizontal coordination between all the relevant institutions. Over the past two decades, droughts, floods, exceptionally harsh winters, and other weather-related extreme events have caused major physical damage, financial losses, and even deaths, and at the same time, had significant impacts on the economy.

2019 Global Crisis Severity Index with an average score of 3.5 places Serbia in the group of medium-risk and rather stable countries. Although the applied INFORM methodology assesses Serbian vulnerability as moderately low, it still recognizes institutional and governance shortcomings (scored with 5.2) and DRR (5.7) as having undermining impact on the overall coping capacity. The critical problem of the Serbian Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management System is the fragmentation of the institutional framework, procedures, and insufficient capacities at the central and local level for adequate prevention, preparation, and response to disaster risk needs of the communities and population. **The Action** is designed to overcome the administrative hierarchy of institutions and to improve coordinated response and coherence of national and local policies and approaches. The holistic approach brings together continuous efforts of beneficiary institutions in establishing an all-encompassing and effective disaster risk management system and synergetic effect of well-coordinated and sequenced donor-funded initiatives. The Action shall contribute to effective management in emergencies by aligning civil protection, and disaster risk resilience approaches with the EU standards, thus enabling the realization and implementation of the **Sendai DRR Framework**. Improved disaster risk management system in Serbia will also bolster the national contribution to the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. In designing the Action, both UNDP and beneficiary institutions applied a 360° whole-government and whole-society approach through community engagement and inclusion of the vulnerable groups. Implementation of the Action will have a significant impact on the improvement of capacities at the central and local level for preparedness and response in case of incidents and disasters through upgrading physical, social, and human capacities. It will improve institutional coordination at the horizontal and vertical levels, improve technical and operational capacities for prevention and reaction. Each of the activities, outcomes, and outputs responds directly to the specific needs and contributes to advanced cooperation across sectors and enables a faster, better coordinated, and more effective response to natural and man-made disasters.

Description of the specific activities and interventions proposed (purchase of equipment, construction of infrastructure, provision of services, and trainings) are developed based on the IPA 2019//Serbia/EU for Civil Protection Action Document.

The overall objective of the Action is to contribute to the reduction of vulnerability to disasters and increase the country's resilience to climate change. The overall objective is based on the identified gaps in the DRR sector, namely the limited technical capacities and weak cooperation between different stakeholders.

The specific objective of the Action is to put in place the capacities for emergency management and disaster risk resilience at the national and local level.

Following the outbreak of the COVID-19 and WHO declaration of Public Health Emergency of International Concern on 30 January 2020, and subsequent recognition of the global pandemic on 11 March 2020, with the first signs of infestation in the Republic of Serbia, on 15 March 2020, responsible authorities declared the State of Emergency. To support governmental efforts in combating COVID-19 outbreak and increase capacities of the health system, Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia (EUD) accelerated contracting of the Project “EU for Civil Protection and Disaster Resilience Strengthening in the Republic of Serbia” for immediate response to medical supplies impediments. The Contribution Agreement (CoA) no. 202/415-529 was signed on 20 March 2020. In line with Article 7.1.3 of the CoA (an Emergency

Clause²), the CA and UNDP agreed to prioritize responses to emergencies whilst all the programmatic and budgetary implications to the implementation of the other activities will be jointly assessed and mitigated. Upon a written request of the Government of Serbia (GoS) – Ministry of European Integration (MEI) dated 19 March 2020, on 21 March 2020, UNDP submitted a request for activation of the Emergency Clause to accommodate governmental request for urgent airlifts of medical supplies. The same day, the EU Delegation issued an Administrative Order (AO) endorsing arrangements up to four (4) aerial transport operations. The CA extended the scope of the operation to up to fifteen (15) airlifts by issuing AO no. 2 dated 1 April 2020, based on the MEI written appeal and corresponding administrative request of UNDP. In March, April and May 2020, UNDP arranged, contracted, and successfully realized a total of fifteen (15) airlift operations and delivered 721 tons of critical medical equipment and supplies to Serbia thus contributing to a good initial response by the Government to the pandemic.

The Amendment to the Financing Decision came into effect in June 2020, and subsequently the Delegation of the European Union in the Republic of Serbia and UNDP signed the Addendum no. 1 to Contribution Agreement on 6 July 2020. With this, additional funds in the amount of EUR 6.6 million partially replenished the airlift costs incurred in the COVID-19 emergency response. Even though the total project budget was increased from EUR 7,499,996 to a total of EUR 14,099,996.

The COVID-19 induced emergency led to the exposure of the capacity gaps in the national disaster risk management system and its dependence on international assistance, proving once again the necessity of further enhancement of the disaster management system and institutional response, which are the primary objectives of this Action. UNDP managed to continue the implementation of envisaged activities in a defined timeframe and compensate emergency caused budgetary shortfalls due to timely amendment of the EU Financing Decision and allocation of the supplementary funding.

In the reporting period, the Action achieved significant improvements of technical capacities of the Serbian disaster management system at national and local level, finalized preparatory activities for human capacity building, and is managing the technical documentation preparation phase for infrastructural upgrades.

The Serbian disaster management system is established and functional in 23 municipalities compared to the baseline 5 in 2019, and reveals strong likelihood of reaching the milestone of 40 in 2022, and reaching and exceeding the final target of 60 municipalities planned for the end of the Project, year 2024.

The Government remains committed to the implementation of the Sendai Framework and establishing a functional disaster management system at national and local level.

The intervention logic remains valid and there are no modifications to the logframe matrix neither at the level of outcome, outputs or activities.

2.2. Results and Activities

Referring to the updated Log frame matrix, during the reporting period there has been a substantial level of achievement and positive impact of the results on the basis of corresponding current value of indicators. UNDP has procured the high priority medical equipment awaiting a contract signature the moment funds are available to the project. Despite the deterioration of the epidemic situation in Serbia in the autumn 2020

² This Action, by invoking this clause, also allows the necessary flexibility to respond to any emergency measures that demand urgent Action in the field of emergency management. In the form of an example, such measures can be aerial transport operations for delivering equipment/supplies or purchase of equipment in the context of national emergencies of any kind (e.g. natural disasters, pandemics, man-made and technological disasters). Upon agreement of the two contracting parties, the measures to be supported shall be prioritised with regard to other activities and any budgetary implications and funding shortfalls for the implementation of other planned activities shall be jointly assessed and mitigated. For this clause to be in effect, the prior agreement of the two contracting parties is absolutely necessary.

which is slowly improving early 2021, UNDP managed to finalise all planned procurements of vehicles, equipment and uniforms, as well as to render the necessary services for the preparation of capacity building activities as soon as the epidemic measures ease up.

Key project results in the reporting period are:

- 27 forest fire vehicles with UHPS pumps procured;
- Delivered 12 ambulance vehicles, 2 decontamination vehicles and 75 protective suits with SCBA;
- Realised 15 air freights and delivered 721 tons of medical equipment and supplies;
- Prepared Cadastre topographic survey plan and contracted Designer for preparation of spatial and technical documentation for the reconstruction of Civil Protection Training Centre Rudno;
- 29 trainers successfully finished NAPA Training of Trainers – Advanced level, prepared training material and e-learning modules content, and Handbook for LSGs on Emergency Management;
- 900 sets of uniforms delivered to civil protection commissioners;
- Prepared Mapping Report for West Morava Basin critical locations and delivered 600 metres of mobile flood protection system (dams);
- Delivered 2 off-road vehicles, a Minivan 8+1, a snowmobile and telecommunication equipment, and procured various type of stretchers and highly durable uniforms for MRSS operational units;

The current value of the indicators corresponds to the planned indicators from the updated logframe matrix (see 2.3 below). The procurements of vehicles and equipment, and targets envisaged for the end of the projects have already been achieved within this reporting period or will be achieved in the next few months when the delivery of contracted goods is complete. There is a moderately decreased level of achievements related to infrastructure due to the delays in development of technical documentation for the Sector for Emergency Management building, while Disaster Risk Register software development activities progress with slight alteration, due to the dependency to other projects but still according to the plan.

As a general remark, all the results are on a good path to meet the target value of indicators or have already achieved them.

Outcome: Serbian capacity for disaster management is improved sufficiently to establish a functioning system at national and local level

Activity A0: Establishment and coordination of the Decision-Making Process

Planned:	Deliverables reached in the reporting period:
SC established. Minutes from the SC meetings.	SC established. Minutes from the 1 st SC meeting prepared and adopted by the SC members. UNDP Project Team established.

Upon commencement of the implementation of the Action, the EUD and UNDP designated managers informed the beneficiary institutions of the Project, namely: Ministry of Interior, Sector for Emergency Management, Ministry of Health, Ministry of the European Integration and Public Investment Management Office on the contractual arrangements, the prevalence of activities under the emergency clause. Being key actors in the National Disaster Risk Management Mechanism and coordination of the emergency assistance, beneficiary institutions extended support to presented arrangements and readiness to the active participation in the decision-making process upon termination of the State of Emergency. UNDP maintains daily communication with the beneficiary institutions securing that all the capacities and implementation arrangements are in place for the prompt reaction in the case of the emerging requests.

To effectively facilitate the decision-making process, UNDP established a Project Team. UNDP had finalised the recruitment of Project Coordinator, Procurement Assistant and Project Assistant, engaged as of June, and Finance Associate as of September 2020. After completion of the Project Inception Quality Assurance and Social and Environmental Screening in March 2020 all the preconditions for Project operability have been fulfilled. Until the Project Team became fully operational as of June 2020, the established Interim Implementation Taskforce continued with realization of the emergency-related activities and preparation of envisaged Project activities.

UNDP organised the First Steering Committee Meeting on 8 June 2020, and the Steering Committee Members have unanimously agreed and adopted Rules of Procedures for the Steering Committee, agreed on the plan of implementation of Project activities for the following period, and discussed issues of importance to the implementation of specific outputs (in relation to the Section A of this Report).

Quality, scope and time perspective of the results and activities were continually observed and conveyed to relevant national partners and the EUD through written and verbal reporting mechanism and on-spot monitoring and evaluation requirements. Specific attention was given to the estimation of impact on the target groups.

The convening of the Second Steering Committee Meeting has been shifted several times due to COVID-19 induced circumstances, i.e. the unavailability of SC member, and it will be held in April 2021 the latest. The 2nd SC will be dedicated to the follow up on the plan established in the 1st SC, providing overview of the current status and progress of each of the activity, discussing issues of importance to smooth implementation and resolving potential bottlenecks related primarily to infrastructural components of the Action, and agreeing on the way forward in the coming period.

Result/output1: The Central building of the Sector for Emergency Management (SEM) is rehabilitated and equipped, firefighting equipment and vehicles procured, Central Platform for real-time data established and put into operation, protective uniforms, equipment and vehicles delivered to medical institutions

Op. 1.1 SEM central building including the Republic Information Centre equipped

Related Activity: A1.1: Reconstruction and equipping of the Sector for Emergency Management of the Ministry of Interior (SEM) building

Planned:

SEM central building reconstructed.
SEM central building including the Republic Information Centre equipped.

Deliverables reached in the reporting period:

Ongoing preparation of technical documentation.

SEM has the overall responsibility for the development of technical documentation for reconstruction of the facility in the scope and quality as defined by the applicable Law on Planning and Construction. This activity experienced delays due to slow process of MoI/SEM contracting a company for development of technical documentation (Concept Design, Design for Building Permit, Design for Execution of Works) for reconstruction of the facility. This issue had been raised during the 1st Steering Committee (SC) discussion held 8 June 2020 and MoI/SEM had declared the Concept Design for the facility shall be finalized by the beginning of September 2020, which has not been done even by the end of this reporting period. At the 1st SC all parties agreed that all requirements for future installation of the equipment related to System 112 shall be taken into account. Starting from June 2020, the UNDP Engineering Tech Cell Unit rendered technical support in development and verification of technical documentation for reconstruction of the Sector for

Emergency Management Headquarters Building. Despite UNDP insistence, the consultations with the Secretariat for Urban Planning and Construction of the City of Belgrade still haven't been conducted and there are uncertainties about the property ownership and legal elements concerning the use of the building and the forming of a unified lot.

To enable swift rollout of tasks ahead, UNDP has established a cooperation and coordination mechanism in a form of regular meeting between the EUD, SEM, and technical support engaged by UNDP. Following the MoI/SEM signing a contract with the company (Institute of Transport CIP doo) for development of technical documentation (TD) in October 2020, thus adding a contracted designer to the regular technical meetings and signalling the actual start of TD development. Through this mechanism UNDP brought together all decision making and implementing parties in a form of a task force with the aim of discussing issues, sharing implementation related information, and monitoring the progress of this activity. To mitigate the risk of inadequate quality of technical documentation the contracted designer is preparing, UNDP provided comments and advised on the improvement in each stage of technical design development (concept design, preliminary design, etc.), and prepared reports for each stage of the design with details of the foreseen scope of works in terms of applicable laws, regulations and standard, identified potential risks and proposed mitigation measures. Experienced delays pose a potential risk for timely completion of the activity. In addition, the conducted cost estimate of the necessary works goes well above the one done based on the draft Concept Design available the moment of submitting the Description of Action (DoA). Nevertheless, this can be mitigated through achieved savings and the reduction in scope of equipping the facility.

In the reporting period UNDP has undertaken/completed the following tasks:

- Defined the type of necessary works, as well as the scope and content of technical documentation necessary for the planned works on the reconstruction of the facility. In this way, UNDP provided guidelines for development of the Terms of Reference.
- Defined the user needs by directing the planning of the reconstruction of the building towards a balanced and quality solution, in terms of architectural design, economy and environmental properties, all in accordance with the future purpose of the building. The cost-effectiveness of the solution will be reached if the optimal costs are achieved during the life cycle of the facility (reconstruction costs, maintenance costs and operating costs calculated according to the planned time of operation of the facility), and in relation to the usability of the facility and space. The existing condition, purpose and organization of areas by floors are defined. The type of construction is stated and described, as well as the detailed materialization of external and partition walls, floors, ceilings, hydro insulation, thermal insulation, hardware and joinery.
- Prepared the time schedule for the execution of the planned works. First version, made in July, was changed in October, in accordance with agreed scope of the necessary works.
- Provided technical inputs and recommendations for installation of energy efficient and cost-effective cooling and heating system;
- Prepared a cost estimate of the necessary works through analysis considering the necessary groups and types of works, all in the aim of obtaining an approximate value of the investment, before making a complete project, and came to a total value of estimated works EUR 1,337,028, based on the 2,950 m² of surface which will be subject to reconstruction as assessed by CIP.
- Organised regular meetings between the EUD, SEM, and technical support engaged by UNDP, as well as the contracted designer with the aim on agreeing and reflecting the UNDP recommendations in the process of TD design.

Although all the inputs for finalisation of the Concept Design are in place, it remains pending to the date, showcasing lack of institutional commitment to the Project timeline.

Op. 1.2 Firefighting equipment and vehicles procured, delivered and used by the beneficiary

Related Activity: A1.2: Purchase of equipment and vehicles for fire protection and rescue teams and establishment of the Central Platform for real-time acquisition, processing, distribution of data from microcontroller stations

Planned:	Deliverables reached in the reporting period:
Specialised vehicles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 20 PICK-UPs 4x4 single cab with UHPS pump - 10 ATV 6x6 vehicles Firefighting equipment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10 ATV trailers - 5 Rubber tanks (200 l) - 5 Rubber tanks (500 l) - 200 fire hoses - 200 fire rakes - 300 delivery hoses - 80 nozzles - 60 dividing branches sets Uniforms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 15 ATV suits - 15 firefighting uniforms sets 	27 forest fire vehicles with UHPS pumps procured.

The logic of the action initially entailed procurement of 30 ATV and firefighting vehicles, different types of firefighting equipment and uniforms. In preparation for initiation of this activity, and in accordance with the written endorsement of the Contracting Authority of the SEM request for prioritising procurement of the 27 vehicles for counteracting forest fires, UNDP accommodated SEM request. To enable procurement of high performance and durable vehicles and a wide participation of potential suppliers, UNDP performed local and international market research and identified potential suppliers, and engaged additional technical support in the preparation of tenderable specification (excluding any possible limitations) and during the tendering process, as well as to confirm the technical compliance of the delivered vehicles on handover. The tender for procurement of 27 firefighting vehicles with ultra-high-pressure system (UHPS) pumps was advertised on 4 August 2020, with the closing date 1 September 2020.

Following the process of tender evaluation, and an approval of the Regional Advisory Committee on Procurement (RACP), UNDP signed a contract with the most successful bidder. The first fleet of 8 vehicles was delivered to SEM timely, on 17 February 2021. Since the international transport is heavily hampered by the pandemic causing slightly delays as per initial plan the second fleet of 10 vehicles will be delivered by 15 April, and third and final of 9 vehicles is due by 15 May 2021.

As a **mitigation measure to ensure successful contract implementation**, besides the option of imposing penalties if additional non-objective delays occur, for the contracts of high-value such as this, UNDP has the mechanism of performance security through a bank guarantee in the amount of 10% of contract value that the Supplier submitted to UNDP following the contract signing.

Successful implementation of UNDP quality assurance mechanism and the engagement of an independent expert Specialised Vehicles Consultant being a Forensic Expert in the Field of Mechanical Engineering, lead to a competitive and transparent process, thus achieving best value for money and resulted in the procurement of vehicles below the estimated value.

Each vehicle has an upgraded superstructure to hold included water and foam tanks, and a high-pressure pump with high pressure reel. Vehicles are also equipped with appropriate firefighting light signalisation and audible signal.



Picture 1 – Delivery of firefighting vehicles with UHPS pumps – exterior of vehicles



Picture 2 - Delivery of firefighting vehicles with UHPS pumps – cabin and UHPS compartment

Emergency medical vehicles (Op. 1.3), and decontamination vehicles (Op 1.4) procured, delivered and used by the final beneficiary, protective uniforms sets delivered to medical teams (Op. 1.5)

Related Activity: A1.3: Purchase of equipment and specialized vehicles for Institutes of Emergency Medicine

Planned:	Deliverables reached in the reporting period:
12 ambulance vehicles, 2 decontamination vehicles and 100 protective suits.	12 ambulance vehicles, 2 decontamination vehicles and 75 protective suits with SCBA delivered

Financial resources allocated for this activity have been exhausted. If additional funding or saving occur additional purchases for the health system might be put into consideration. The issue of significant increase of medical equipment and devices due to pandemic was mitigated in cooperation between UNDP and MoH either by raising budget limitations, and through application of the best value for money principle, as well as by reduction in quantities.

Due to the urgency of the procurement which would significantly boost the capacities of the national health system in combatting pandemic, UNDP started consultation with the Ministry of Health (MoH) regarding the preparation of technical specification already in April 2020 to be able to initiate corresponding procurement procedure as soon as possible. In order to properly meet the needs expressed by the MoH, the UNDP hired an independent Medical Equipment Consultant for assistance in the preparation of tenderable specification for vehicles and medical equipment in consultations with MoH, perform local and international market research and identify a list of suppliers, define the scope of the equipment operation training, including maintenance and storage instructions and related safety protocols, provide technical support during the tendering process, as well as to confirm the technical compliance of the delivered vehicles, equipment and protective suits on handover.

The tender for procurement of 12 ambulance and 2 decontamination vehicles, divided into two lots – Lot1: Ambulance Vehicle for Emergency Medical Services, and Lot2: Vehicle for decontamination, was published on 6 May 2020, with the closing date 2 June 2020.

Following the process of tender evaluation UNDP signed a contract with the most successful bidder for both lots on 31 July 2020³.

This procurement has further enabled and facilitated European Union support to the Health sector since UNOPS, from the funds of the IPA 2018 Roma Housing Project reallocated to COVID-19 response directly contracted additional 20 ambulance vehicles using the same contract.

The tender for procurement of 100 sets of highly protective suits was published on 6 May 2020, with the closing date 2 June 2020, resulting in contracting premium quality equipment.

Due to the significant increase of cost of medical equipment caused by the pandemic, and the budget restrictions for the latter procurement, following the approval from the Ministry of Health, UNDP exercised its right to vary the quantity of goods up to a maximum of 25% of the total offer at the time of awarding in order to finalise the procurement within the available budget, thus leading to procuring 75 sets instead of the envisaged 100. UNDP reserves the right to place the order for additional 25 pieces at the contracted price at a later stage, subject to the availability of funds and mutual agreement of UNDP and the Contractor to amend the contract in such way.

Due to the COVID-19 market deficit and in order not to slow down and cause additional delays to other procurements of medical equipment, the procurement of 12 portable ventilators which are an integral part of ambulance vehicles was tendered separately. Despite the tremendous increase in prices of mobile ventilators in the global market, UNDP succeeded to procure high quality equipment and at the best price at a given time. UNDP signed a contract with the most successful bidder on 25 September 2020 for 12 mobile ventilators in the total amount of EUR 115,199.04 due to be delivered by 26 November 2020. In close cooperation with UNDP the contractor succeeded in delivering the total quantity of mobile ventilators by the end of October so they could be placed in ambulance vehicles and handed over to the beneficiaries all together.

³ The contracting of medical equipment had been finalized upon the availability of funds on the basis of Addendum no. 1 to Contribution Agreement signed between the EUD and UNDP on 6 July 2020. Even though UNDP implemented tendering process and evaluation of offers in the shortest time possible, it could not take upon the contractual obligations prior to availability of funding.

All the medical equipment is registered for use in the Republic of Serbia, such as respirators, portable ventilators or medical stretchers, have Certificates issued by the Agency for Medicines and Medical Devices of the Republic of Serbia, which was a pre-requisite of this procurement.

Even though the MoH submitted to UNDP preliminary distribution list of procured assets during the initiation of this activity, the pandemic induced developments required modified distribution priorities. Prior to the launching of abovementioned tenders UNDP has agreed with the MoH the final list of beneficiary institutions and quantities to be received by each of them, which was confirmed the moment of contract signing with selected bidders. In line with this, the contractors timely delivered the vehicles and equipment, and protective suits, as follows:

- Institute of Public Health of Serbia 'Dr Milan Jovanovic Batut' in Belgrade – 1 vehicle for decontamination and 4 protective suits;
- Institute for Emergency Medicine Belgrade – 4 ambulance vehicles and 12 protective suits;
- Clinical Centre of Serbia – Clinic for Infectious and Tropical Diseases in Belgrade – 11 protective suits;
- Institute for Emergency Medicine Kragujevac – 2 ambulance vehicles and 8 protective suits;
- Clinic for Infectious Diseases – Clinical Centre Kragujevac – 4 protective suits;
- Institute for Emergency Medicine Nis – 3 ambulance vehicles, 1 vehicle for decontamination and 8 protective suits;
- Clinic for Infectious Diseases – Clinical Centre Nis – 8 protective suits;
- Institute of Public Health Nis – 4 protective suits;
- Clinic for Infectious Diseases – Clinical Centre of Vojvodina in Novi Sad – 8 protective suits; and
- Institute for Emergency Medicine Novi Sad – 3 ambulance vehicles and 8 protective suits.



Picture 3 - Delivered ambulances and protective suits with SCBA

Each ambulance vehicle contains separated driver's and patient's compartment and advanced ventilation and heating system, medical equipment and supplies for emergency medical services (EMS) which include fixed oxygen set, defibrillator, portable aspirator with catheter, portable ventilator, head and spinal immobilization sets, multifunctional stretchers, and a cardiology chair.

Especially important is the installed innovative disinfection system that enables protection of staff and patients in case of exposure to infection and contamination. The system can work while the vehicle is moving, has an automated timer for disinfection, with no damaging residues and liquids within the disinfected air and surface. This gives autonomy to the ambulance vehicles enabling their disinfection without returning to base, thus increasing medical team efficiency, and reducing response time.

Each decontamination vehicle, with separate compartments for driver, for the crew and for the cargo, is equipped with fixed and mobile devices for disinfection of interior and exterior surfaces, storage and fuel tanks, along with a generator, and a portable Decontamination System for quick decontamination of personnel and equipment.

Encapsulated suits are of Level A meaning they represent a form of personal protective equipment (PPE), which is often used by firefighters, emergency medical crews, paramedics, personnel responding to chemical accidents, decontamination specialists, an overall garment worn to protect people from hazardous materials or substances, including chemicals, biological agents, or radioactive materials. These suits shall provide adequate level of protection even in highly contagious environment (so called 'red zone'), are reusable, and have expected lifespan, if properly maintained, of over 10 years. Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) with aluminium cylinder, full face mask, back plate with pneumatics and hands-free communication may also be used separately or in combination with common protective suits already in use within the public health system.

On the delivery day the contractors held training sessions for the staff of the institutes of public health and institutes for emergency medicine, separately for the use of vehicles with accompanying equipment, and for the use of Encapsulated suits with SCBA.



Picture 4 - Delivered mobile respirators and medical equipment

On the 20 November 2020, UNDP organised an official visibility event for the vehicles and equipment donated to the health institution located in the City of Belgrade. Over the course of the event H.E. Sem Fabrizi, Head of Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia, ceremonially handed over EU donated vehicles and equipment to the Minister of Health Dr. Zlatibor Lončar, MD. On the occasion EU Ambassador jointly with UNDP Resident Representative, and directors of the National Institute of Public Health and Institute of Emergency Medicine of the City of Belgrade sent together a strong message of the EU solidarity and support to Serbia and acknowledging the handover is a part of a donation of EUR 900,000 worth car fleet and equipment to the health care institution across Serbia.



Picture 5 - Ceremonial handover of EU donated medical vehicles and equipment

Procured vehicles, equipment and protective suits will represent a key part of the health-sector support and pertinent assistance in counteracting COVID-19 and similar outbreaks. Rendered assistance will have a catalytic effect on strengthening inter-institutional cooperation in the DRR sector by enabling effective emergency responses and full application of the safety protocol.

Ambulances will ensure better regional coverage and timely medical transports in the case of the accidents, decontamination vehicles will enable front-line emergency medical teams to timely implement decontamination protocols could thus mitigating severe personal and public health threats and decreasing adverse environmental impact, and protective suits will cover the minimal needs of all the major responders to the biohazard and chemical incidents in the health sector.

Op. 1.6 Central platform for real-time acquisition, processing, distribution of data from microcontroller stations developed, delivered and in use by the beneficiary

Related Activity: A1.2: Purchase of equipment and vehicles for fire protection and rescue teams and establishment of the Central Platform for real-time acquisition, processing, distribution of data from microcontroller stations

Planned:

Software and hardware for Central platform for real-time acquisition, processing, distribution of data from microcontroller stations installed and put into operation and Central platform is established.

Deliverables reached in the reporting period:

Activity frozen until further notice due to lack of funds, and in agreement between UNDP and EUD.

All the activities regarding the establishment of the Central Platform for real-time acquisition, processing, distribution of data from microcontroller stations have been frozen until further notice due to lack of funds, and in agreement between UNDP and EUD.

Op. 1.7 Transport operations supported	
<i>Related Activity: A1.4: Activation of the emergency clause and delivery of assistance</i>	
Planned:	Deliverables reached in the reporting period:
15 air freights and transport of 721 tons of medical equipment and supplies	Realised 15 air freights and delivered 721 tons of medical equipment and supplies.
Financial resources allocated for this activity have been exhausted and emergency clause has been revoked. This activity is deemed completed.	

EU assistance enable support to the national government in controlling the outbreak of the COVID-19 epidemic and adverse impact on public health and socio-economic development of the country. Following the national response priorities, using flexible and effective emergency procurement approach, UNDP ensured timely shipping of medical supplies, protective equipment including medical masks, gloves, protective goggles, bio-hazard protective suits, respirators, thermometers and machines for masks' production.

Within the reporting period, UNDP realized 3 freights contracted in the previous reporting period, and continued applying the best value for money procurement approach and arranged, contracted, and successfully realized remaining 6 out of a total of 15 freights of government procured or donated medical supplies from India and China, thus making a total of 721 tons of medical equipment and supplies delivered to Serbia by 3 May 2020.

The overview of cargo volume, content and schedule of realised deliveries in the reporting period is presented in the following table:

AIRLIFTS REALISED IN THE PREVIOUS REPORTING PERIOD 20 MARCH – 5 APRIL 2020					
Flight No.	Date of Arrival	Load/Departure	Tons of supplies	Volume (cmb)	Cargo content
1	26.3.2020	China, Beijing/Tinanjin	41.02	449.65	Tests, Respirators, Gloves, Thermometers, Monitors, Masks, Protective Gear
2	29.3.2020	India, Cochin	90.09	425.46	Gloves
3	1.4.2020	China, Shanghai	54.40	451.52	Masks and Gloves
4	2.4.2020	China, Guangzhou	41.74	536.74	Masks, Protective glasses
5	1.4.2020	China, Beijing/Tinanjin	9.20	89.66	Respirators and PPE
6	5.4.2020	China, Shanghai	48.22	323.3	Respirators, PPE
TOTAL PREVIOUS REPORTING PERIOD			284.66	2,276.33	
AIRLIFTS REALISED IN THE CURRENT REPORTING PERIOD 6 APRIL – 15 JULY 2020					
Flight No.	Date of Arrival	Load/Departure	Tons of supplies	Volume (cmb)	Cargo content
7	9.4.2020	China, Shenzhen	17.86	113.91	Machines for masks' production
8	12.4.2020	India, Cochin	25.22	130.36	Gloves
9	13.4.2020	India, Cochin	95.35	432.50	Gloves

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10	18.4.2020	China, Shenzhen	10.07	86.93	Laboratory equipment, PCR kits, parts for masks' producing machines
11	18.4.2020	China, Shanghai	56.34	506.39	Protective suits + UNOPS procured items (masks and thermometers)
12	20.4.2020	China, Shanghai	64.3	571.34	Protective suits
13	1.5.2020	China, Guangzhou	37.15	301.74	Masks, tests and related equipment, masks' production equipment and supplies
14	1.5.2020	China, Beijing/Tianjin	64.23	579.77	Protective suits
15	3.5.2020	China, Beijing/Tianjin	66.1	530.38	Protective suits
TOTAL CURRENT REPORTING PERIOD			436.62	3,253.32	
TOTAL AIRLIFTS REALISED 20 MARCH – 15 JULY 2020			721.28	5,529.65	

For more information please consult **Annex 1 – Cargo Handover Protocols**.



Picture 6 – Arrival of medical equipment and supplies

Each arrival of the freights had considerable media presence and raised significant interest of a wider public either through national media outlets or social networks with a total of 325 positive or neutrally intonated media reports. Highest officials of the EU, the Government of Serbia, and UNDP have made their presence to greet the freights and issue media statements on arrival of vital cargo.



Picture 7 - Ceremonial greeting of the freights

Op 1.8 Supplies purchase as emergency management measure

Related Activity: A1.4: Activation of the emergency clause and delivery of assistance

Planned:

Emergency delivery of missing medical supplies.

Deliverables reached in the reporting period:

No requests for this type of assistance.

This output was envisaged as an additional way of support to health sector in mitigating adverse impact of the pandemic on the health system. In the case of deficiency of medical supplies, pending the request of the Government of Serbia and the EU Delegation prior approval, UNDP was prepared to apply appropriate procurement procedures for the efficient delivery of missing supplies in close cooperation with the MoH and competent health institutions and with a support of an independent medical procurement expert tasked to ensure the wide competition and full compliance of procured items with quality standards. However, no additional requests for this type of assistance were issued by the Government, and all the available project funding was focused on airlifts.

Result/output2: Capacities for civil protection are improved, Education Centre in Kraljevo is reconstructed, furnished and equipped, local stakeholders and MRSS staff members are trained and equipped, the most relevant awareness raising thematic areas are identified and supported, Disaster Risk Register is established and functional

Education Centre (Rudno) reconstructed (Op. 2.1) and (Op. 2.1.1) supplied with furniture and equipment

Related Activity: A2.1: Reconstruction and equipping of the Education Centre with a training ground in Rudno

Planned:

Education Centre with training ground reconstructed.
Sets of furniture and equipment purchased.

Deliverables reached in the reporting period:

Prepared Cadastre topographic survey plan and contracted Designer for preparation of spatial and technical documentation.

Development of the technical documentation for reconstruction has started upon the termination of the State of Emergency. Additional delays were experienced due to slow process of issuing permits and the complexity of procedures related to natural heritage of special importance, having the facility is in such an area. UNDP should develop all necessary technical documentation, but also the missing urban and spatial documentation latest by 30 December 2021.

Following the termination of the State of Emergency, UNDP in June and July 2020 performed an assessment of the existing available spatial and technical documentation for the reconstruction of Civil Protection Training Centre (CPTC) in Rudno. UNDP hired a competent geodetic company to prepare **Cadastre topographic survey plan**. The findings of the cadastre surveying have established the facility is stretching on several associated plots so there is a need to form a unified plot. Given the location is within the special purpose area of the Golija nature park and is categorised as natural heritage of extraordinary importance (III degree of protection) the institution in charge for issuing all permits is the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure (MCTI). Following preliminary consultations with MCTI, and in the absence of General Regulation Plan (GRP) and Detailed Regulation Plan (DRP) which the City of Kraljevo has not adopted even by the end of this reporting period, UNDP decided to expand the scope of technical documentation to be developed and also included the Urban Development Design to enable further preparation of spatial and technical documentation and issuing the necessary permits.

For the initial assessment, preparation of the technical specification for the procurement of a company tasked to develop documentation for reconstruction and expansion of the CPTC in Rudno, as well as monitoring of the implementation of the contract, UNDP has been and shall be relying on its internal resources and engaged highly experienced in-house engineering staff (UNDP Engineering Cell).

Following the tender evaluation process UNDP signed a contract with the selected bidder on 22 January 2021 tasked to develop the following spatial and technical documentation:

- I. Geotechnical Study, Present State Design, Structural Analysis Report, Concept Design, and Urban Development Design;
- II. Pre-parcellation design, Preliminary Design, Feasibility Study, and Tender documentation;
- III. Design for Building Permit, Environmental impact assessment study, Fire Protection Study, and Energy Efficiency Study;
- IV. Design for Execution of Works, Preventive Measures Plan, and Main Fire Protection Design; and
- V. As built design.

Design introduces innovative and modern, environmentally friendly and energy efficient technologies such as solar power and heating, bio-disc filter sewage treatment, and use of natural and eco-friendly building materials.

The latest completion date specified by UNDP for the completion of the urbanistic and technical documentation is 30 December 2021.

On 4 February 2021 UNDP organised a field visit to the Rudno facility with the aim of establishing cooperation between stakeholders and for the Designer to assess the location as a kick-off of their field work. During the reporting period the Present State Design and Structural Analysis Report were finalized, and the Concept Design and Urban Development Design are in a steady pace of development.



Picture 8 – CPTC Rudno – As it is vs. Design - front



Picture 9 – CPTC Rudno - As it is vs. Design - extension

To mitigate independent risks with high impact and moderate likelihood the UNDP shall closely monitor the implementation of the contract with the designer of urbanistic and technical documentation, but also impose additional mitigation measures in cooperation with other stakeholders.

Risk	Mitigation Measure
Delayed start of services and timeframe impact due to insufficient level of input data received.	UNDP established close cooperation and liaison with the City of Kraljevo, to ensure receipt of all required technical input data in due time.
Delay caused by late response from the stakeholders and authorities during obtaining design approvals.	UNDP established close cooperation with all authorities having jurisdiction, to ensure receipt of all required approvals, permits and location conditions in due time. PIMO resumed the responsibility to liaise with the responsible Ministry ensuring no further delays in the issuance of the necessary documentation.

Project delay due to inadequate approach of the Designer.	Regular meetings and monitoring of agreed timelines. Close cooperation and coordination of activities with Designer. UNDP engaged in-house engineering capacities for monitoring of the implementation of the contract. Penalties shall be imposed if delay in the realization of the project occur.
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UNDP shall perform regular on-the-spot checks and monitoring field visits to ensure the project is on track and all abovementioned risks are properly mitigated.

Op. 2.2 Municipal servants and civil protection commissioners trained

Related Activity: A2.2: Trainings for LSGs, civil protection units, NGOs and other stakeholders involved in civil protection

Planned:	Deliverables reached in the reporting period:
900 local stakeholders trained;	29 trainers successfully finished NAPA Training of Trainers – Advanced level, prepared training material and e-learning modules content, and Handbook for LSGs on Emergency Management.

The preponderance of the epidemic combating activities along with the social distancing, the curfew restrictions, and the scope of engagement of the civil protection units of general purposes in epidemic management at a local level has disabled realization of the Training Methodology, detailly described in the DoA.

As a first landmark in the implementation of training for local self-governments (LSGs), civil protection units, NGOs and other stakeholders involved in civil protection 1st planning workshop was held in Vrdnik in the period 4-6 August 2020. The aim of the workshop was developing a training curriculum and online training content in the areas of Civil Protection, Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Recovery, and defining further steps necessary for the implementation of local level training, training and e-learning modules development dynamics, criteria for selection of trainers, sharing good practices regarding online learning and considering ways of incorporating climate change related topics. UNDP organized a workshop in close cooperation with Public Investment Management Office (PIMO), with the participation of representatives from the SEM, National Academy for Public Administration (NAPA), and the civil protection sector. The workshop identified trainings of trainers (ToT), general and thematic, as the first milestones which will enhance the national pool of trainers in the areas of civil protection and DRR, thus contributing to better education of the local representatives on civil protection, DRR, emergency management, and disaster recovery, and extending the network of competent actors in these areas, while raising awareness on the importance of prevention and the appropriate response. It was agreed that UNDP, PIMO, SEM, and local governments will supplement existing modules on civil protection and DRR with climate change adaptation, reconstruction, recovery, and the EU civil protection content. Each training module will be accompanied with the carefully developed training material and user-friendly e-learning content. Preparatory activities included identification of trainers, conducting general ToT, encompassing topics of civil protection, disaster risk reduction and disaster recovery in the NAPA 2021 sectorial training programme, developing e-learning modules, developing rulebook for trainers and conduction thematic ToT, in order to enable smooth rollout of live training sessions as soon as the pandemic situation in Serbia allows.



Picture 10 - 1st planning workshop in Vrdnik, August 2020

Description of specific activities and achievements is provided below:

1. **Identified trainers.** UNDP developed list of trainers based on assessing the interest among the entities at relevant national level institutions – PIMO and SEM, and at local level with the assistance of Kraljevo Civil Protection. The list was finalised and submitted to NAPA in the second half of September 2020.
2. **Conducted ToTs (Advanced Level) in NAPA.** Due to pandemic it was decided to organise 3 three-day advance level ToTs of approx. 10 participants. After the finalisation of the list of trainers and a registration within the NAPA system was completed for each of the ToT in October. UNDP, in cooperation with NAPA, organised ToTs in the period 5-7, 7-9, and 13-15 October 2020 targeting representatives of relevant public administration bodies which encompassed representatives of SEM, PIMO and LSGs responsible for DRR and civil protection tasks. These trainings were conducted under the auspices of NAPA and in line with their methodology. The outcomes of the ToT were improved competencies of trainers and lecturers for quality training performance, fulfilled pre-condition for obtaining the status of NAPA accredited trainer, and established pool of 29 trainers with appropriate skill to deliver further training on specific topics. Signed list of participants is available in **Annex 7 – List of participants of the ToT - Advanced Level in NAPA, October 2020.**
3. **Updated relevant programmes in NAPA.** During September 2020 the PIMO drafted a proposal on the change of existing curricula on civil protection and DRR in cooperation with SEM, and also provide a proposal of a new curricula related to disaster recovery. PIMO submitted these three curricula to the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government (MPALSG), latter being the national institution responsible for implementation of sectorial programmes, consequently included in the 2021 NAPA sectorial professional training programme. The Action shall support the realisation of this training programme by developing training content and implementing the envisaged training plan. Also, as a result of this activity the created training programmes and a pool of certified trainers established within the Action shall have a sustainable institutional framework for a continuous capacity building activities in civil protection, DRR and disaster recovery, at national and local level, under the auspices of NAPA.



Picture 11 - Training of Trainers (Advanced Level) at National Academy for Public Administration, October 2020

4. **Development of e-learning modules.** Due to effects and uncertainty of the ongoing pandemic it is of the utmost importance to have option of online training which will go hand-in-hand with live training. Therefore UNDP has engaged consultants to develop content on Civil Protection System and DRR, and Post Disaster Reconstruction and Recovery, adapt it to e-learning standards and methods and set it up in Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities (SCTM) as well as the NAPA learning management systems (LMS) software environment. E-learning material shall include video, audio, subtitles, practical examples, periodical knowledge test and final test. Development of e-learning content started already in September and draft content for all three areas in the form of an E-learning Programme Paper was developed and submitted to UNDP for approval beginning of October. In parallel, as of October 2020, this content is being customized and formatted to be suitable for e-learning platforms, followed by production of e-learning modules, setting up, testing and installation of final versions on SCTM and NAPA software platforms by mid-March 2021. Alpha and beta version for 3 online training modules have been developed and the postproduction of these e-learning modules is ongoing and will be subject to EU visibility as soon as it is in finalization phase. E-learning modules should be operational and available to users on both platforms as of June 2021. Although e-learning training shall be compatible with live training, the latter will have larger scope and interactivity between trainers and participants. Online training will be regularly updated to include additional content either stemming from the needs arisen in the course of local level training or from the finalisation of additional modules to be accompanied with (i.e. EU Civil Protection Mechanism) or through established synergies with UNDP Climate Change Adaptation project. The content developed for e-learning shall also be used as a basis for designing live training sessions.

Development of E-learning modules represent an added value of the training component making it an introduction to the civil servants, potential trainers (via NAPA LMS) and a wider public (via SCTM LMS) on the areas of civil protection, DRR and disaster recovery. Also, it will serve as a specific refreshment and a useful tool in the work of established trainers in these areas as it will be updated regularly in both platforms in line with their internal procedures.

5. **Developed Handbook for LSGs on DRR and Emergency Management.** This Handbook in a unique way compiles, processes and presents all obligations of local self-governments, and with the support of SEM will assist all LSGs to regulate the normative part of disaster risk reduction system in their territory. The process of the development of the Handbook started in the second part of October with an analysis of the related existing legislative framework, followed by a consultative process with representatives of selected LSGs, SCTM and SEM throughout the course of development, from the outline to the finalisation of the content of the Handbook. The content of the Handbook was finalised and agreed by all stakeholders end of November 2020.
6. **UNDP jointly with PIMO, SEM and SCTM is working on** preparation for rollout of local level training, and will include:
 - a. Defining the structure and composition of participants groups
 - b. Defining the dynamics of implementing local level training
 - c. Discussing and agreeing on the training content
 - d. Preparing thematic ToT for each of the area (civil protection, DRR, disaster recovery)
 - e. Facilitating the development of e-learning content

As a complementary process of the training component, the Action will support development of a new methodology for assessing damage and needs after disaster to be implemented in the Republic of Serbia, i.e. Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) Methodology. PDNA will be composed of general methodological approach and damage assessment sector/thematic specific annexes/guidelines. Activity will build upon on the draft thematic/sector specific annexes/guidelines on citizen homes and apartments, public facilities and hard infrastructure (roads, bridges, water objects, etc.) for each hazard – flood, earthquake, hail, and storm, and Ecological Damage and Climate Change Impact Assessment developed by UNDP, and Guideline for Agricultural Post Disaster Needs Assessment at Municipal level in Serbia developed in cooperation with FAO, as well as the sector/thematic specific damage assessments annexes/guidelines which will be developed in parallel. More specifically the Action will support the development of the general methodological approach to PDNA and incorporate sector/thematic specificities for damage and needs assessment in the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

UNDP has prepared the Local Level Training Action Plan for implementation of the activity 2.2. Trainings for LSGs, civil protection units, NGOs and other stakeholders involved in civil protection, which is regularly updated, and is available in **Annex 2 – Local Level Training Action Plan (Activity 2.2)**.

There is a high risk for implementation of live local level training in the course of 2021. It was initially agreed in workshop in August 2020 to conduct training of civil protection entities at local level as of January 2021 with the duration of 1.5-2 years in total, with the aim of training approx. 900 participants coming from 170 LSGs (public employees, CSOs, responsible MSMEs) in groups of 15 through two to three-day sessions at the level of counties or groups of LSGs. Due to protracted Covid-19 pandemic and restriction measures, and the deterioration of the situation from the autumn 2020 it is likely the start of this activity would have to be postponed till the epidemiological situation improves.

Additional risks identified with related mitigation measures are presented in the table below:

Risk	Mitigation Measure
Implementation of live local level training delayed due to epidemiological measures	A pool of 29 trainers has been created to be able to deliver the local level training effectively and in high quality and this pool shall be enhanced in the course of 2021 in order to be able to swiftly and simultaneously rollout training the moment epidemic situation allows.

	E-learning modules are under development which will enable local level participants access to online training in NAPA and SCTM learning management systems as of June 2021, thus enabling at least training in the form of an information seminar, creating upgraded knowledge basis for acquiring specific expertise through live level training interaction and exchange of experience. UNDP will also work closely with PIMO on accelerating the pace of implementation of the training components upon normalization of the public health situation, since the risk addressed has gained a rather systematic nature.
Low awareness and engagement of participants at local level	Raising awareness and interest for enrolment as participants for local level training will be done through associations of LSGs and using SCTM civil protection network .
Low sustainability of capacity building activities. Capacity building has not developed capability.	As NAPA is mandated for providing services to representatives of national and local public administration, cooperation with the SCTM shall enable availability of the training content to the wider audience of concern for effective disaster risk management at a local level. Thematic ToT shall equip newly established pool of trainers with specific knowledge and skills and enable them to deliver local level training through interactive approach and active exercises. To ensure the achievement and sustainability of project results, and assess the existence of sufficient capacity and capability at municipal level for protection and rescue planning and response, UNDP and PIMO will periodically perform capacity assessments and revise the local level training plan, include additional training opportunities, evaluate and improve the trainer performance.

Op. 2.3 Civil protection units equipped

Related Activity: A2.5: Procurement of equipment for civil protection units

Planned:	Deliverables reached in the reporting period:
900 sets of civil protection units uniforms.	900 sets of uniforms delivered to civil protection commissioners
All procurements related to this activity have been completed. If additional funding or saving occur additional purchases for the civil protection units might be put into consideration.	

As the first step in enhancing the operational capacities of civil protection units (CPU), their recognisability and accessibility during emergencies, the UNDP delivered 900 sets of visibly branded kits of protective uniforms to civil protection departments, of which 94 sets of female uniforms to accelerate the participation of woman in civil protection affairs.

Items and quantities of procured uniforms for CPU are presented in the following table:

No.	Item name	Quantity
	Cap	900
	Winter cap	900
	Thermo caps	900
	Jacket with removable under jacket (thermal insert)	900
	Long-sleeved shirt	900
	Pants	900
	Polo neck	900
	Short sleeved t-shirt	900

	Round neck	900
	Short sleeved t-shirt	900
	Synthetic belt	900
	Fluorescent vest	900
	Two-piece rain suit with purse	900
	Transport bag – backpack	900
	Semi-deep shoes	900
	Gumboots	900
	Protective masks	1,800

For providing quality control expertise of offered materials within the process of procurement of uniform sets, as well as to confirm the technical compliance of the delivered clothing and footwear on handover, the UNDP hired Textile Quality Assurance Expert.

On 26 October 2020, UNDP signed a contract with the most successful bidder for production of 900 uniform sets. Immediately upon the signing of the contract UNDP initiated a consulting process with PIMO and representatives of selected LSGs within the WMBC (Kraljevo, Čačak and Kruševac) and agree guidelines on the final design for production and obtained inputs on the total number of clothing items and footwear per size and quantities per LSG. In this regard UNDP organised a consultative meeting on 2 November 2020 between PIMO, WMBC and the Contractor with the aim of discussing these guidelines and agreeing on the final design and colour nuance so the Contractor could launch the production of all specified items.

The entire quantity was successfully delivered to the designated location in Kraljevo. After the delivery of second and third tranche, the Kraljevo Civil Protection started with the distribution of uniforms in accordance with the distribution lists previously agreed between PIMO and WMBC and approved by UNDP. For each distribution the Kraljevo Civil Protection prepared a delivery note which has information on the LSG, and type, size and quantity of items delivered. After finalisation of the disbursement a separate transfer of assets note was signed between UNDP and each of the LSGs.

Pursuant to the Law on Natural and other Hazard Risk Reduction and Emergency Management of the Republic of Serbia, the civil protection units of general purposes provide support to Emergency Management Headquarters both on the national and the local level – on the territory of the respective local self-government unit. Upon declaration of the COVID-19 State of Emergency, capacities of the civil protection units are utilized by the national and local governments in the realization of daily activities including supervision of the public areas disinfection, provision of the basic supplies and humanitarian assistance to the people in a need and overhauls of designated facilities into makeshift hospitals, and massive vaccination as of January 2021.

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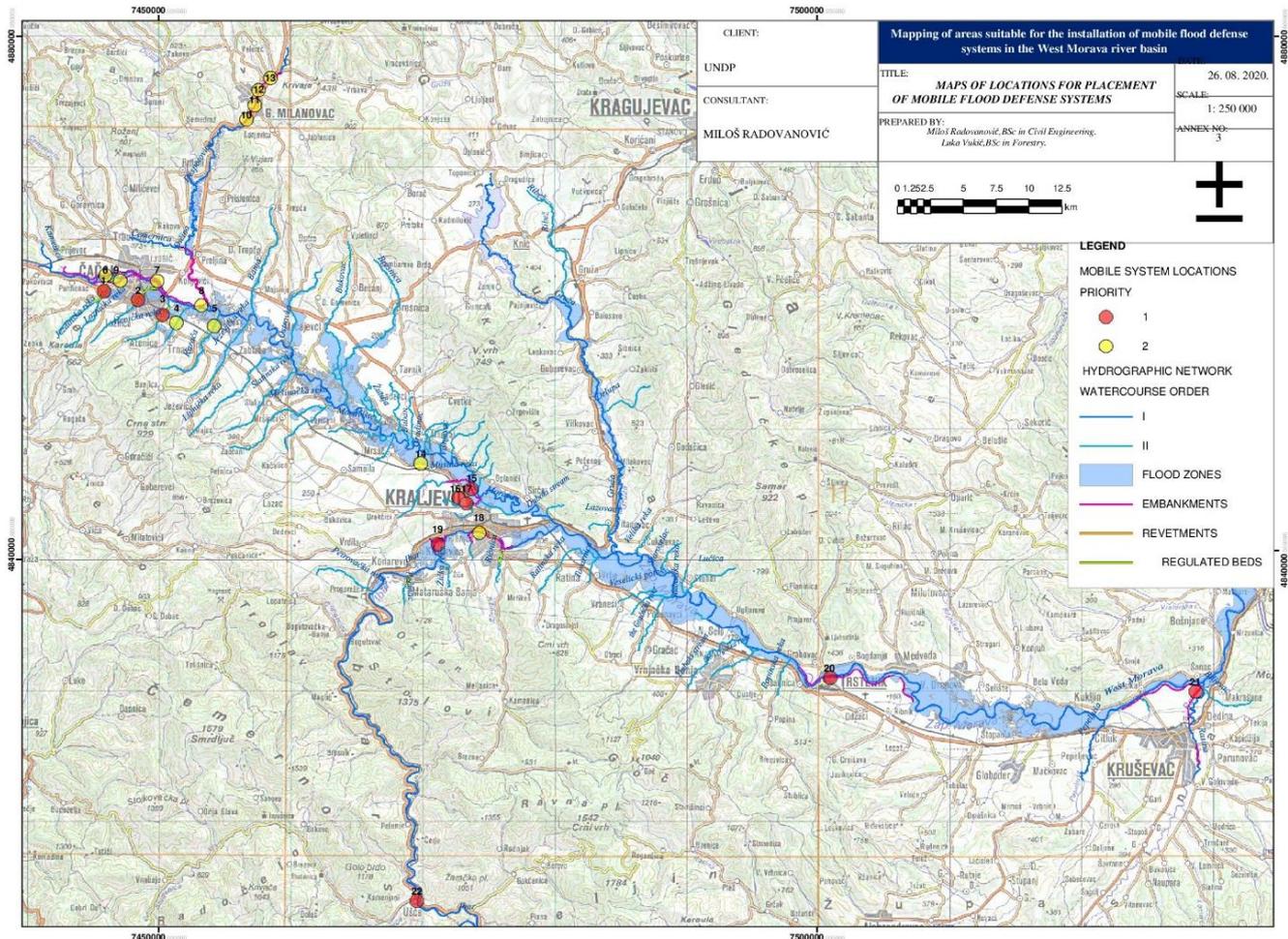
Picture 12 - CPU uniforms delivery and use

EU robust support to civil protection units especially in this volume, has incentivised other LSGs and basins for intensive activities regarding the improvement of civil protection systems and disaster risk reduction and an integrated response to hazards. Amongst others, the Drina and Kolubara River Basin Cooperation expressed interest for elevating inter-municipal cooperation framework building upon the modalities and lessons learned from the forming and operationalisation of the WMBC.

Highly experienced MRSS staff trained (Op. 2.4) and (Op. 2.5) number of trained floods' rescuers	
<i>Related Activity: A2.3: Training of trainers for selected highly experienced MRSS staff</i>	
Planned:	Deliverables reached in the reporting period:
11 highly experienced MRSS staff members trained to the level of instructor for the areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Helicopter rescue trainings – 5 persons, - Flood rescue trainings – 4 persons, - High rope rescue trainings – 2 persons. 30 persons from MRSS for Rescue 3 Swift water and flood rescue technician trained.	Rescheduled for second half of 2021.
Due to changing conditions for travellers entering EU member states and the uncertainty of the forecasts related to the pandemic, UNDP will implement the activity in the manner described in the DoA upon the normalisation or at least predictability of the travel regime to the EU MS training countries, assuring safe stay and return. UNDP envisages execution of the activity in the second half of 2021.	

Op. 2.6 Delivered mobile dams	
<i>Related Activity: A2.5: Procurement of equipment for civil protection units</i>	
Planned:	Deliverables reached in the reporting period:
600 meters of mobile dams.	Prepared Mapping Report for West Morava Basin critical locations. Delivered 600 metres of mobile flood protection system (dams).
All procurements related to this activity have been completed. If additional funding or saving occur additional purchases of mobile dams might be put into consideration.	

As the basis for the procurement of mobile dams UNDP hired West Morava River Basin Mapping Consultant in July 2020 to conduct an analysis of the West Morava River Basin flood prone sequences and map micro locations suitable for installation of portable dams and develop a Mapping Report which containing list and description of the identified sequences with locations presented in an order of priority based on the social, economic and environmental impact on the affected area coupled with cartographic / georeferenced data on identified locations as well as all the technical inputs of concern for the selection of the most appropriate type of portable dams (number of layers, recommended height, length etc.). Mapping Report, prepared in cooperation with PIMO, with the professional support of Public Water Management Company 'Srbijavode', was finalised and approved by UNDP in August 2020. The Mapping Report has identified 10 critical locations of the 1st priority (over 20,000 citizens with very large and significant industrial and economic facilities) in the total length of 21 338.66, and 12 critical locations of the 2nd priority (5,000-20,000 citizens with medium industrial and economic facilities, and irrigation and water supply systems of 15 398.99 along the West Morava River Basin. Complete Mapping Report is available in **Annex 5 – West Morava River Basin Mapping Report**.



Picture 13 - Map of Locations for Mobile Flood Protection Systems Installation

A hard-copy of the West Morava River Basin Mapping Report has been provided for each of the LSG of the WMBC and will represent an important tool in combatting floods and enabling an efficient response in critical moment on the basis of the SEM announcements.

In parallel, to transpose quality requirements into technical specifications, UNDP hired an independent Mobile Dams Procurement Consultant to provide assistance in the preparation of tenderable specification and technical support during the tendering process, as well as to confirm the technical compliance of the delivered mobile dams on handover. The Contract for delivery of 600 metres of mobile flood protection system was signed on 1 October 2020.

The Supplier delivered the first tranche of 400 metres of mobile flood protection system on 30 December 2020 in Kraljevo, with the attendance of representatives of PIMO, WMBC and UNDP. Delivered mobile dams were successfully tested in Kraljevo fairgrounds, followed by a short info session on the use of dams for the end recipient. On 8 February 2021 the remaining 200 metres of mobile dams were delivered in Čačak. On the delivery, the dams were tested and a training on the use of dams was provided by the Supplier. The final testing implied filling the mobile dams with air, placing them at the chosen location and position, filling them with water and binding them into a 3-tube wall. Training comprising of theoretical and practical part was given to 55 people coming from the WMBC and are responsible for civil protection tasks in their respective LSGs, and took place on the riverbank in front of the Sport Centre Mladost in Čačak, a selected location where mobile dams may be expected to be installed in the flood event.

Complete list of training participants is available in **Annex 6 – Mobile flood protection training - participant list**.

Civil Protection Departments of Kraljevo and Čačak shall continuously provide training to all representative of the WMBC in handling delivered mobile flood protection system, transferring knowledge and best practices, and organising exercises capacitating civil protection units to quickly and with a small number of operative staff install the dams, even in cases of short notice warning of extreme weather and hydrological conditions. Preparedness level for emergency response is significantly increased through this donation, and resource and time-consuming setting up of sandbags should only become a remnant from the past.



Picture 14 - Delivery of mobile flood protection system (dams) and training on the use of dams

The delivered mobile flood protection system (dams) consists of 90 high-endurable water fillable tubes of 20 metres, which assembled with included connecting elements make a 3-tube wall system of a total 600 metres, along with 5 water pumps and 5 air blowers.

Op. 2.7 Equipment and vehicles for Mountain Rescue Service of Serbia purchased, delivered and used by beneficiaries

Related Activities: A1.2: Purchase of equipment and vehicles for fire protection and rescue teams and establishment of the Central Platform for real-time acquisition, processing, distribution of data from microcontroller stations; and

A2.6: Procurement of equipment for MRSS

Planned:

Vehicles:

- 2 of the road vehicles,
- 1 passenger van, and
- 1 snowmobile

Rescue equipment:

- 9 cowtails, whistles and transport bags kits,
- 2 rubber boats,
- 6 stretcher kits,
- 3 vehicle first aid bags,
- 100 thermal blankets,
- 25 extraction collars, and
- 4 oropharyngeal Airway kits.

Uniforms:

- 5 sets of helicopter rescue uniforms,

Deliverables reached in the reporting period:

Delivered 2 off-road vehicles, a Minivan 8+1, a snowmobile and telecommunication equipment, Procured 15 various type of stretchers and highly endurable uniforms for MRSS operational units.

- 9 sets of water rescue uniforms,
- 30 MRSS rescuers' standard uniform sets,
- 120 waterproof jackets,
- 40 reflective vests, and
- 50 Wind stop jackets.

The tender for procurement of three different types of vehicles for the Mountain rescue service of Serbia (MRSS) was advertised on 21 July 2020, with the closing date 4 August 2020.

In order to properly communicate the needs expressed by MRSS into tenderable technical specification, the UNDP hired an experienced Specialised Vehicles Consultant for the preparation of these specification and technical support during the tendering process, as well as to confirm technical compliance of the delivered vehicles on handover. Seven bids were received for Lot 1 and nine bids for Lot 2.

Following the evaluation process, UNDP on 4 September 2020 signed a contract with the most successful bidders.

In accordance with the delivery schedule contractors delivered the vehicles in the second and third week of October 2020. All vehicles were delivered to the MRSS HQ in Belgrade, from where they will be deployed on a need or seasonal basis to other operational units across Serbia.

Furthermore, MRSS received communication equipment, as follows, which shall further improve rescuers operability:

- Tetra radio stations with supporting equipment (7 sets), and
- DMR Radio stations (18 pieces) and vehicle radio stations with accompanied equipment (3 sets).

Abovementioned goods were handed over on 19 January 2021 and placed in immediate use of the MRSS.



Picture 15 – Delivered MRSS vehicles and a snowmobile in use

The tender for procurement of different types of rescue equipment for the Mountain Rescue Service of the Republic of Serbia, including stretchers, safety equipment and clothing (Uniforms and Backpacks) was advertised on 27 November 2020, with the closing date on 11 December 2020. The specifications for Lot1 and Lot2 were prepared in close cooperation with the MRSS and for Lot3 the UNDP hired Textile Quality Assurance Expert who worked closely with the designated focal points of the MRSS in development of technical specification and will render its expert support during the procurement process, as well as to confirm the technical compliance of the delivered clothing on handover.

This procurement will experience some delays due to the pandemic induced difficulties imposed on the manufacturing companies, but only for two items (Waterproof jackets with reflective elements and Windproof Jackets). UNDP is in constant communication with the Supplier to enable delivery of these items

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with the least delay possible (up to 45 days). The remaining items shall be delivered within the deadlines, by end March 2021.

As a mitigation measure the UNDP has the contractual right of imposing penalties if additional non-objective delays occur or request for contract non-cost extension is not properly justified.

Through the procurements of diverse and high-quality equipment the MRSS will be able to respond efficiently to the requirements of specificities and geographical diversification of rescue operations within their mandate. MRSS support shall send a strong message in encouraging voluntarism in Serbia, as well as engagement of civic society in areas of civil protection and disaster risk reduction.

Following the evaluation process, the UNDP on 29 December 2020 contracted the most successful offers. List of procured rescue stretchers:

No.	Item description	Quantity
1.	Divisible stretcher for transport in all kind of terrain	5
2.	Cave rescue stretcher	2
3.	Rollable stretcher for rescue operations in confined spaces	2
4.	Scoop stretcher with head immobilizers	4
5.	Divisible Basket stretcher	1
6.	Helicopter rescue stretcher with carbon spine board and anti-rotation kit	1



Picture 16 – Rescue stretchers

List of uniform sets:

No.	Item description	Quantity
1.	Waterproof jacket with reflective elements	100
2.	Technical reflective vest	40
3.	Cover jacket for helicopter rescuers	5
4.	Windproof Jacket	55
5.	High visible first layer T-Shirt	55
6.	Hi Viz Pants	5
7.	Fleece jacket	5
8.	Backpacks for Search and Rescue (SAR)	24
9.	Technical Backpacks for SAR	16



Picture 17 - Uniforms for MRSS delivery (1st tranche)

Clothing is made of highly durable material, water resistant/repellent with high breathability and in line with the visibility prescribed for search and rescue operations and standards for protective clothing. All clothing shall be delivered to MRSS premises in Belgrade, from where it will be further distributed to MRSS operational units in Novi Sad, Niš, Boljevac, Kruševac and Belgrade to address territorial equipment gaps.

Op. 2.8 Disaster Risk Register established and functional

Related Activity: A2.7: Establishment of the Disaster Risk Register

Planned:

Disaster Risk Register established and functional

Deliverables reached in the reporting period:

Prepared Needs Assessment Report of SEM's capacities to manage the Register;
Prepared draft TOR for the development of the Register.

Having in mind the architecture was completed and submitted to UNDP in September 2020, the realisation of this activity was initiated in October 2020. To mitigate the risk of slow preparation the UNDP has engaged in-house capacity as well as technical consultancy. UNDP expects to finalise all preparatory activities and launch the tender for the Register development mid-March 2021.

Commencement of the activity correlates with the development of system architecture. With the support of the World Bank (WB), PIMO commissioned a qualified expert team and assigned Technical Advisor and UNDP IT tech Cell engineers to support development system configuration, including technical specifications of hardware components.

UNDP received business and technical architecture of the Disaster Risk Register and a draft Terms of Reference (TOR) for the development of the National Disaster Risk Register (the Register) developed within World Bank funded project the PIMO sent to UNDP in September 2020.

In agreement between UNDP, EUD, PIMO and RGA it was decided the scope of activities related to the development of the Register within this Action will include:

- Developing detailed System Architecture of future Disaster Risk Register System;
- Developing inventory of initial input data sets from beneficiary institutions, quality control, standardization and optimization;
- Incorporating initial datasets and services into National Discovery Service (SCW) by creating metadata for datasets and services in a close cooperation with all beneficiary institutions;

- Developing applicative and distribution database/databases with mechanism for data preparation/adjustment for best performance for search, data querying, and distribution. This approach should take into account the possibilities for future inclusion of new datasets into the system;
- Developing the core Disaster Risk Register System;
- Integrating the Register with Disaster Risk Information System;
- Integrating with Authentication and Rights management solution in RGA (SSO);
- Monitoring module;
- Development of different OGC service (specially focused on OGC Rest API);
- Integration with RGA cybersecurity system; and
- Integration of sensory platforms in support of Disaster Risk Management.

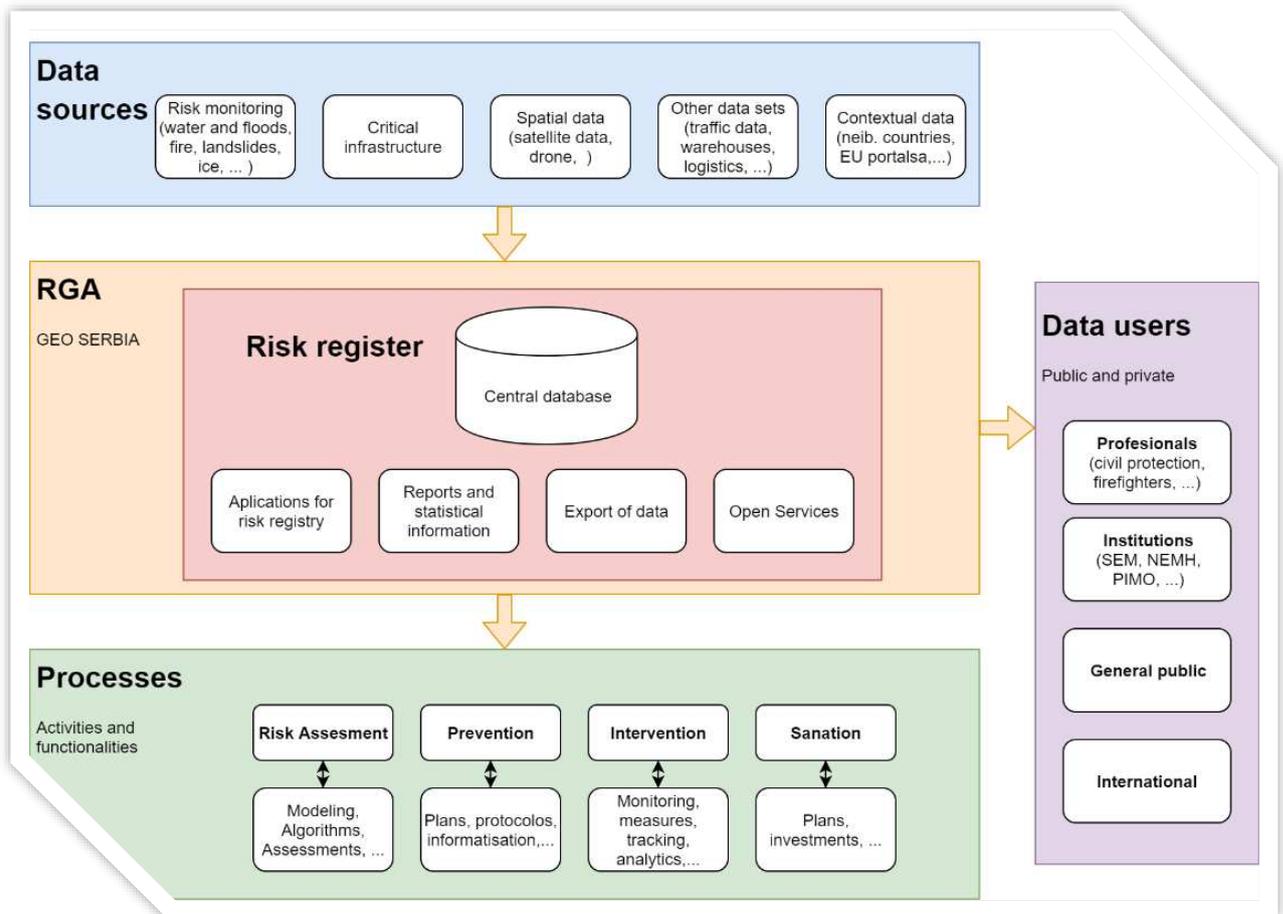


Figure 1 - Concept of the Register

Availability of the WB funding enabled hardware procurement which was initially subject of the intervention and creating opportunities for increasing the scope for data acquisition.

In order to ensure proper acquisition, processing, distribution and input of data for the needs of the Register related to monitoring, identification and risk analysis validation within the mandate of SEM, UNDP engaged an expert which conducted analysis of technical, material and human capacities of SEM in this regard and prepared 'Needs Assessment Report on Improvement of Technical, Material and Human Capacities of Sector for Emergency Management related to monitoring, identification and disaster risk analysis' providing recommendation for improvement of SEM technical, material and human capacities, as well as the entire civil protection system in reaching optimal response in emergencies.

In October 2020, after obtaining additional inputs from the PIMO and the RGA, the UNDP has hired two Risk Register Procurement consultants, tasked to provide technical expertise in the field of software design

and implementation for procurement of contractor for the development of the National Disaster Risk Register. The UNDP project team has engaged additional internal resources – digital and technical advisory – to assist in the preparation of TOR and tender dossier. Having the Register will be a custom-made information system the TOR demanded several iterations of fine tuning. Before the launch of the tender consultations shall be conducted with the 112 Project to ensure complementarity of planned technical solutions. UNDP expects to finalise all preparatory activities and launch the tender for the Register development mid-March 2021.

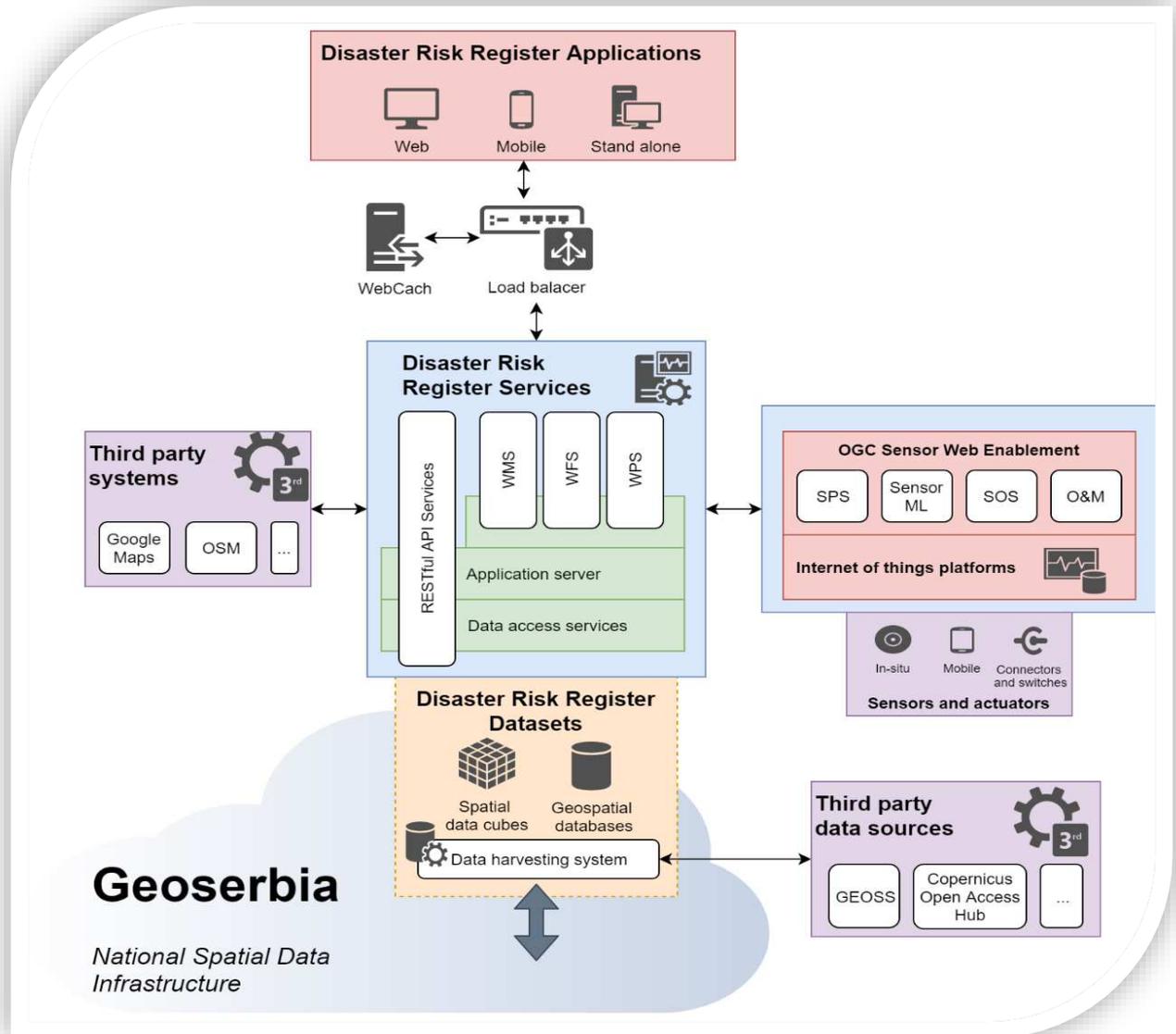


Figure 2 - High-level functional system architecture of the Register

Besides the regular contract monitoring, the UNDP shall hire two consultants to perform technical supervision of the contract execution and support the Beneficiary in monitoring the project implementation, prepare monthly progress reports, perform acceptance testing prior to final software product handover and check compliance of delivered training, documentation and other non-functional requirements. The UNDP shall also continue the consultative mechanism with UNDP Digital Advisor and UNDP Tech Cell to ensure a smooth and timely rollout of all contract defined deliverables in the requested quality.

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Op. 2.9 The most relevant awareness raising thematic areas identified and supported	
<i>Related Activity: A2.4: Grant scheme Civil Society Organizations involved in DRR</i>	
Planned:	Deliverables reached in the reporting period:
The most relevant awareness raising thematic areas identified and supported.	Planned for fourth year of implementation of the Action.
UNDP envisages realization of the activity in the fourth year of the implementation of the Action as presented in the corresponding plan in Annex 3.	

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2.3. Logframe matrix updated

IF	THEN	BECAUSE
<p>The Central building of the Sector for Emergency Management (SEM) is rehabilitated and equipped, firefighting equipment and vehicles procured, Central Platform for real-time data established and into operation, protective uniforms, equipment and vehicles delivered to medical institutions</p>	<p>Serbia' capacity for disaster management will be improved sufficiently to establish responsive system at national and local level.</p>	<p>More efficient data collection and processing, information-based decision-making, effective emergency responses and full application of the safety protocols are enabled</p>
<p>Capacities for civil protection are improved, Education Centre in Kraljevo is reconstructed, furnished and equipped, local stakeholders and MRSS staff members are trained and equipped, the most relevant awareness raising thematic areas are identified and supported, Disaster Risk Register is established and functional</p>		<p>Operational, technical and human capacities of the front-line emergency responders are enhanced, disaster risk governance strengthened, and risk-informed decision-making process enabled</p>

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	<i>Results chain</i>	<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Baseline (2020)</i>	<i>Current value</i>	<i>Target (2024)</i>	<i>Source and mean of verification</i>	<i>Assumptions</i>
<i>Impact (Overall objective)</i>	To contribute to the reduction of vulnerability to disasters and ⁴ increase the country's resilience to climate change.	Degree of compliance with EU requirements and practices in the area of prevention, preparedness and response to disasters (<i>Civil Protection Mechanism, Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction</i>)	Legislation aligned; Serbia is a member of the Civil Protection Mechanism	Serbia is able to provide assistance to other countries through the Civil Protection Mechanism	SEM Headquarters functional, training centre operational	SEM report on response in emergencies EU evidences on Serbia contribution to the Civil Protection Mechanism	<i>Not applicable</i>
<i>Outcome (s) (Specific objective(s))</i>	Serbian capacity for disaster management is improved sufficiently to establish a functioning system at national and local level	Serbian disaster management system is established and functional in municipalities	5 municipalities	23	60	SEM reports on implementation of the Law on Natural and other Hazard Risk Reduction and Emergency Management at the local level	The Government remains committed to the implementation of the Sendai Framework
<i>Outputs</i>	Result / output 1: Op. 1.1 SEM central building including the Republic Information Centre equipped Op. 1.2 Firefighting equipment and vehicles procured, delivered and used by the beneficiary	Rehabilitation progress and operability status Number of delivered equipment sets and vehicles	0 0	0% 27 firefighting vehicles ⁶	Rehabilitated and operational 100% 10 sets of equipment 30 vehicles	Implementation progress report SEM and PIMO reports Using permit Project progress report SEM reports Implementation progress report MoH report	Adequate and appropriate human, technical and financial resources ensured Stability of local self-government administration and leadership No frequent staff turnover;

⁴ In contributing to the achievement of the overall objective and following the logic of the Action Document, outputs of UNDP implemented action shall work in synergy and build upon results of FAO realised activities focused on the improvement of capacities for disaster risk resilience and climate smart agriculture on the national and local level.

⁶ The logic of the action initially entailed procurement of 30 ATV and firefighting vehicles, different types of firefighting equipment and uniforms. In preparation for initiation of this activity, and in accordance with the written endorsement of the Contracting Authority of the SEM request for prioritising procurement of the 27 vehicles for counteracting forest fires, UNDP accommodated SEM request. [25 February 2021 \(EU for Serbia Resilient to Disasters – Interim Narrative Report\)](#) Page 39 of 54

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	<i>Results chain</i>	<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Baseline (2020)</i>	<i>Current value</i>	<i>Target (2024)</i>	<i>Source and mean of verification</i>	<i>Assumptions</i>
	Op. 1.3 Emergency medical vehicles procured, delivered and used by the final beneficiary	Number of vehicles	0	12 ambulance vehicles	12	SEM reports	Established local administration units for DRR Engaged local civil protection units of general purpose
	Op. 1.4 Decontamination vehicles procured, delivered and used by the final beneficiary	Number of vehicles	0	2 vehicles for decontamination	2		
	Op. 1.5 Protective uniforms sets delivered to medical teams	Number of sets	0	75 protective uniform sets ⁷	100	SEM and/or Government reports	<i>Emergency that required transport operations as emergency measure</i> <i>Emergency that required purchase of supplies (e.g. medical) as emergency measure</i>
	Op. 1.6 Central platform for real-time acquisition, processing, distribution of data from microcontroller stations developed, delivered and in use by the beneficiary ⁵ .	Platform development progress and functionality status	0	N/A	100% functional and operable	SEM and/or Government reports Cargo Handover Protocols	
	Op 1.7 Transport operations supported	Number of flights	0	15 (721 tons)	15 (721 tons)		
	Op 1.8 Supplies purchase as emergency management measure	Tons of supplies	0	N/A	0		

⁵ This Activity has been frozen until further notice due to lack of funds, and in agreement between UNDP and EUD.

⁷ Due to the significant increase of cost of medical equipment caused by the pandemic, and the budget restrictions for the latter procurement, following the approval from the Ministry of Health, the UNDP exercised its right to vary the quantity of goods up to a maximum of 25% of the total offer at the time of a warding in order to finalise the procurement within the available budget thus leading to procuring 75 sets instead of the envisaged 100. UNDP reserves the right to place the order for additional 25 pieces at the contracted price at a later stage, subject to the availability of funds and mutual agreement of UNDP and the Contractor to amend the contract in such way.

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	<i>Results chain</i>	<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Baseline (2020)</i>	<i>Current value</i>	<i>Target (2024)</i>	<i>Source and mean of verification</i>	<i>Assumptions</i>
Outputs	Result/output 2:						
	Op. 2.1 Education Centre reconstructed	Rehabilitation progress and operability status	0	10%	Rehabilitated and operational 100%	Project progress report SEM and PIMO reports usage permit	
	Op. 2.1.1 Education Centre supplied with furniture and equipment	Number of delivered sets	0	0	5	Supervising Organ Reports	
	Op. 2.2 Municipal servants and civil protection commissioners trained	Number of trained local servants	500* (*PIMO evidences)	529	1400	UNDP Construction sites monitoring reports	
	Op. 2.3 Civil protection units equipped	Number of delivered items	0	900 sets	900 sets	Implementation progress report SEM and PIMO reports	
	Op. 2.4 Highly experienced MRSS staff trained;	Number of staff trained to instructor level	0	0	11	Implementation progress report SEM and PIMO reports	
	Op. 2.5 Trained floods' rescuers;	No of trained flood rescuers (women/men)	0	0	30 (22/8)	Implementation progress report SEM and PIMO reports	
	Op. 2.6 Delivered mobile dams;	Number of delivered sets	0	1	1	Implementation progress report SEM and PIMO reports	
	Op. 2.7 Equipment and vehicles for Mountain rescue service of Serbia purchased, delivered and used by beneficiaries;	Number of vehicles and sets of equipment delivered	0	3 vehicles 10 equipment sets	3 vehicles 10 equipment sets	Implementation progress report SEM and PIMO reports	
Op. 2.8 Disaster Risk Register established and functional	% of coverage of the territory of the Republic of Serbia	0%	0%	50%	Implementation progress report SEM and PIMO reports		

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	<i>Results chain</i>	<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Baseline (2020)</i>	<i>Current value</i>	<i>Target (2024)</i>	<i>Source and mean of verification</i>	<i>Assumptions</i>
	Op. 2.9 The most relevant awareness raising thematic areas identified and supported;	Number of the most relevant awareness raising thematic areas identified and supported	0	0	3		

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Activity Matrix

ACTIVITY A0: <i>Establishment and coordination of Decision-Making Process</i>	Means:	Assumptions
ACTIVITY A1.1: <i>Reconstruction and equipping of the Sector for Emergency Management of the Ministry of Interior SEM building (Op. 2.1 and Op. 2.1.1)</i>	Project team, per diems, travel costs, equipment purchase, rent of office, vehicle costs, office consumables, external services, constructions/works	<i>Political and economic stability and government commitment to improvement of disaster risk resilience</i>
ACTIVITY A1.2: <i>Purchase of equipment and vehicles for fire protection and rescue teams and establishment of the Central platform for real-time acquisition, processing, distribution of data from microcontroller stations (Op. 1.2 and Op. 1.6)</i>	Costs	
ACTIVITY A1.3: <i>Purchase of equipment and specialised vehicles for Institutes of Emergency Medicine (Op. 1.3, Op. 1.4 and Op. 1.5)</i>	1. Human resources: EUR 738,947	
ACTIVITY A1.4: <i>Activation of the emergency clause and delivery of assistance (Op. 1.7 and Op. 1.8)</i>	2. Travel costs: EUR 24,000	
ACTIVITY A2.1: <i>Reconstruction and equipping of the Education Centre with a training ground in Rudno (Op. 2.1 and Op. 2.1.1)</i>	3. Equipment: EUR 3,759,730	
ACTIVITY A2.2: <i>Trainings for LSGs, civil protection units, NGOs and other stakeholders involved in civil protection (Op. 2.2)</i>	4. Local office: EUR 21,600	
ACTIVITY 2.3: <i>Training of trainers for selected highly experienced MRSS staff (Op. 2.4 and Op. 2.5)</i>	5. Other, services: EUR 261,594	
ACTIVITY A2.4: <i>Grant scheme Civil Society Organizations involved in DRR (Op. 2.9)</i>	6. Other: EUR 8,371,696	
ACTIVITY A2.5: <i>Procurement of equipment for civil protection units (Op. 2.3 and Op. 2.6)</i>	Indirect costs: EUR 922,430	
ACTIVITY A2.6: <i>Procurement of equipment for MRSS (Op. 2.7)</i>	TOTAL ELIGIBLE COSTS: EUR 14,099,996	
ACTIVITY A2.7: <i>Establishment of the Disaster Risk Register (Op. 2.8)</i>		

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List of the contracts (works, supplies, services) above € 60 000 awarded for the implementation of the action during the reporting period

No.	Contract Value	Contract Award	Contract Type	Contractor's Name	Description of Activity
1	EUR 299,676.00	In accordance with UNDP policies and procedures in emergencies	Contract for Goods and/or Services	Chapman Freeborn Airchartering	Aerial transportation of the in-demand COVID-19 medical supplies
2	EUR 544,098.00	In accordance with UNDP policies and procedures in emergencies	Contract for Goods and/or Services	Chapman Freeborn Airchartering	Aerial transportation of the in-demand COVID-19 medical supplies
3	EUR 556,012.00	In accordance with UNDP policies and procedures in emergencies	Contract for Goods and/or Services	Chapman Freeborn Airchartering	Aerial transportation of the in-demand COVID-19 medical supplies
4	EUR 742,418.00	In accordance with UNDP policies and procedures in emergencies	Contract for Goods and/or Services	Chapman Freeborn Airchartering	Aerial transportation of the in-demand COVID-19 medical supplies
5	EUR 735,777.00	In accordance with UNDP policies and procedures in emergencies	Contract for Goods and/or Services	Chapman Freeborn Airchartering	Aerial transportation of the in-demand COVID-19 medical supplies
6	EUR 648,711.20	In accordance with UNDP policies and procedures in emergencies	Contract for Goods and/or Services	Chapman Freeborn Airchartering	Aerial transportation of the in-demand COVID-19 medical supplies
7	EUR 563,492.16	Open international competition. Invitations to Bid (ITB)	Contract for Goods and/or Services	MARKONIS	Procurement of Vehicles for Medical Services: LOT 1: Ambulance Vehicle for Emergency Medical Services, LOT 2: Vehicle for decontamination
8	EUR 115,199.04	Open international competition. Request for Quotation (RFQ)	Contract for Goods and/or Services	DEM doo	Procurement of 12 portable ventilators
9	EUR 217,761.71	Open international competition. Invitations to Bid (ITB)	Contract for Goods and/or Services	Trivax VV	Procurement of Encapsulated Suits with Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus
10	EUR 61,472.40	Open international competition. Request for Quotation (RFQ)	Contract for Goods and/or Services	AK Kompresor	Procurement of three different types of vehicles for The Mountain Rescue Service of the Republic of Serbia LOT 1: Two specialized transport all-terrain 4x4 vehicles

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					LOT 2: Minivan for 8+1 persons
11	EUR 1,116,720.00	Open international competition. Invitations to Bid (ITB)	Contract for Goods and/or Services	Trio Motors doo	Procurement of 27 vehicles for Sector of Emergency Management of the Republic of Serbia
12	EUR 332,244.00	Open international competition. Invitations to Bid (ITB)	Contract for Goods and/or Services	Beteco doo	Procurement of Uniform Sets for Civil Protection Units: LOT 1: Clothing, LOT2: Footwear
13	EUR 208,119.34	Open international competition. Invitations to Bid (ITB)	Contract for Goods and/or Services	Advertout doo	Procurement of Mobile Flood Protection System (Dams)

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2.4. Updated action plan for the future activities of the project⁸

Activity	Year 1												Implementing body
	Half-year 1						Half-year 2						
	Month 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Execution Activity 0 (Establishment and coordination of Decision-Making Process)													UNDP
Execution Activity 1.1 (Reconstruction and equipping of the SEM building)													UNDP
Preparation Activity 1.2 (Purchase of equipment and vehicles for the fire protection and rescue team and Central platform for real-time acquisition, processing, distribution of data from microcontroller stations)													UNDP
Execution Activity 1.3 (Purchase of equipment and specialised vehicles for Institutes for urgent medical care)													UNDP
Execution Activity 1.4 (Activation of the emergency clause and delivery of assistance)													UNDP
Execution Activity 2.1 (Reconstruction and equipping of the Education Centre with a training ground in Rudno)													UNDP
Execution Activity 2.2 (Trainings for LSGs, civil protection units, NGOs and other stakeholders involved in civil protection)													UNDP
Preparation Activity 2.3 (Training of trainers for selected highly experienced MRSS staff)													UNDP
Execution Activity 2.3 (Training of trainers for selected highly experienced MRSS staff)													UNDP

⁸ This update action plan is developed in line with the guidelines in the reporting template and covers the financial period between the interim report and the next report, reflecting only the activities planned for this financial period.

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Preparation Activity 2.4 (Grant scheme for Civil Society Organizations involved in DRR)														UNDP
Execution Activity 2.5 (Procurement of equipment for civil protection units)														UNDP
Execution Activity 2.6 (Procurement of equipment for MRSS)														UNDP
Execution Activity 2.7 (Establishment of the Disaster Risk Register)														UNDP

3. Beneficiaries/affiliated entities and other Cooperation

Cooperation and Partnership

The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on 30 January 2020 recognizing it as a pandemic on 11 March 2020. Apart from endangering human lives, the epidemic has proven to have a deteriorating long-term impact on the socio-economic situation both globally and in the Republic of Serbia. The International Monetary Fund has reassessed the global prospect for growth for 2020 and 2021, declaring the global recession, possibly the more intensive one than in 2009.

On March 13, the European Commission presented the European Coordinated Response to mitigate the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 outbreak using all available instruments. To support immediate response and socio-economic recovery of the countries of Western Balkan, the EU allocated EUR 410 million, including the EUR 93 million for the urgent medical needs and economic recovery of the Republic of Serbia. As part of the EU integrated response, the Action provided immediate response to the most pressing needs of the Serbian public health system by decreasing the pressure on government operational capacities and overstretched public finances.

In order to respond to global crisis UNDP has put in action an **UNDP COVID-19 Integrated Response** which is framed around helping countries to prepare for and protect people from the pandemic and its impacts, responding during the outbreak, and recovering from the economic and social impacts. All the emergency-based activities of the Action worked in complementarity with UNDP COVID-19 Integrated Response and were focused on UNDP immediate global priorities: 1. Support to the health systems, 2. Inclusive and Integrated Crisis Management and Response, and 3. Social and economic needs impact assessment and response. UNDP Serbia pledged for the UNDP COVID-19 Rapid Response Facility Resources in the overall amount of USD 20 million. Upon addressing the immediate public health and vulnerable groups' needs, UNDP continued supporting the GoS in the economic recovery, through the implementation of already defined sets of fiscal and monetary measures, development, and execution of the Recovery Strategy.

In the period April-August 2020, the UN family in Serbia conducted a comprehensive assessment of the impact of the pandemic on people, institutions, business, and the environment in Serbia and prepared a **Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA)**, document which features findings and analysis of the impact of COVID-19 based on data collected through a series of thematic assessments and surveys conducted by UN agencies, civil society organizations, and official government statistics and assessments. The assessment provided the data and insights required to formulate recommendations for action by the UN, its government counterparts and its partners in country.

The **Socio-Economic Response Plan (SERP)**, finalised in October 2020, is set within the overall UN COVID-19 "recovery pathway" framework and follows the key gaps identified in the SEIA. The response plan provides a series of recommendations for the country to address the short and long term challenges created by the pandemic, in 6 areas of focus: Health, Social Protection, Jobs, Employment and Small Medium Size Enterprises, Macro economy and international cooperation, Resilience, Environment and Climate Change. This response plan constitutes "Phase 3" of the UN team in Serbia's response to COVID-19 and its recommendations target crisis adaptation to the changed global functioning paradigm as well as mitigation of future crisis situations by embedding sustainability and resilience in the national development planning and reform process.

Over the course of the years, UNDP has had an important role in the establishment and upscaling of the **national disaster risk management system**, and thereof has established a trustworthy working relationship with the Government of Serbia and responsible line ministries. Building on the results of previous cooperation and proven operational efficiency, UNDP managed to organize EU funded airlift operations and ensure attainability of the lifesaving medical supplies. Being a part of the team of the GoS transport operation, UNDP was able to synchronize dynamic of shipments based on the actual needs and arrival of the bilateral donors' freights provided by the governments of Norway, China, Hungary, the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). Furthermore, the Action created a platform for cooperation and logistical support to the other EU funded emergency procurement-based initiatives. UNDP extended operational support to the transport load and shipment and monitoring of the EU funded and UNOPS procured medical supplies.

At the moment, the UNDP is successfully implementing a **COVID-19 vaccination campaign** in partnership with UNICEF, National Institute of Public Health (NIPH) ‘Dr Milan Jovanovic Batut’ and the Ministry of Health where especially important is the establishment of innovative e-service for online expression of interest for vaccination in the <https://euprava.gov.rs/>. Within the project ‘**Support to the Republic of Serbia for Implementing an Effective and Efficient COVID-19 Immunization Plan**’ funded by Great Britain, UNDP, in cooperation with UNHCR, Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit of the Government of Serbia (SIPRU), and the Ministry of Public Administration, Local Self-government (MPALSG), is implementing vaccination campaign in Roma settlements related to informing and raising awareness on the importance of vaccination, but also providing necessary infrastructure and equipment for applications in the field in cooperation with Office for E-government and Electronic Service.

UNDP in partnership with UNICEF is implementing a project ‘Preventing and Responding to COVID-19 in At-risk areas’ funded by USAID and Germany focused on creating a more resilient socio-economic communities through sourcing and deploying new and innovative solutions for supplying healthcare service providers and caregivers with personal protection equipment against COVID-19 and minimizing the risk of virus transmission among the general population, as well as to building local markets in Serbia by supporting local capacities for producing supplies needed for COVID-19 prevention and response over the medium-term, and to respond to the future outbreaks.

There is an excellent relationship and strong cooperation established with the State Authorities, at national and local level, and this is crucial in mitigating implementation risks, and facilitating addressing the needs of the beneficiaries in the changing circumstances throughout the implementation of the Action.

Partnership with the **Ministry of Health (MoH)** significantly sped up the procurement of needed vehicles and equipment following the closure of emergency related activities. This was also visible in strong national ownership of the delivered assets, ensuring their operational and maintenance costs. Public Emergency Management and Public Health Institutes accepted all medical vehicles and equipment and put in immediate use in combatting as of the autumn pandemic wave. UNDP conducted all procurements in accordance with its procedure, and in full respect of the needs of the beneficiary institutions via MoH focal point. It was estimated that by the timeliness of procurement, and high-quality accompanied with usability of procured assets the capacity of the Serbian health system dealing with infectious and communicable diseases have doubled.

Partnership with the **Ministry of Interior, Sector for Emergency Management (MoI/SEM)** is based on technical guidance related to procurement of vehicles and equipment and involves direct contact between UNDP designated staff and engaged specialised consultants with the departments of the SEM whose subsidiaries shall be end recipient of the procured assets. Related to the reconstruction of SEM facility the coordination is operationalised through an established cooperation and mechanism of regular meetings between the EUD, SEM, UNDP and contracted designer. In addition, SEM is a crucial partner in designing and implementation of training activities and developing accompanying guidelines and handbooks, and therefore is playing important role in all consultations, preparatory workshops and design of the training component.

Public Investment Management Office of the Government of Serbia (PIMO) acts as the main facilitator of the Action components targeting local level capacities but also in gaining political support at national level, being the Office of the Government for public investment in local and national infrastructure, as well as by its expertise and lead role in support related to DRR and recovery processes. A strong partnership between UNDP and PIMO is established through frequent and continuous direct consultations by exploiting synergetic effects and avoiding overlaps with other ongoing assistance.

As of 2014 devastating floods, UNDP has supported, based on different modalities, the forming of 4 basin cooperation of local self-governments which share same or similar group of hazards in order to jointly plan their preventive and disaster risk reduction (DRR) measures and emergency response in a holistic and a synergetic manner, thus enabling resource sharing and an integrated reaction to disasters. The largest support has been focused on the **West Morava Basin Cooperation (WMBC)** which serves as an example of best practice in Serbia, and in the region. In these endeavours UNDP has established strong partnership with **Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities (SCTM)** through their functional networks in the areas of civil protection and DRR, and the PIMO as the lead governmental counterpart in these areas but also in disaster recovery and harmonisation with the Sendai framework and UN/EU standards. Through this continuous support more legal possibilities have sprung to establish a more coherent and formalised inter-municipal cooperation leading to establishing a WMBC agreement envisaging the establishment of a joint service for the whole West Morava basin. The partnership with the municipalities of the WMBC at national level is coordinated in cooperation between UNDP and PIMO, and at local level UNDP has established cooperation twofold. One is in direct contact with the focal point from the municipality being responsible for the tasks of civil protection (political level appointees or civil servants). The other is through the Civil Protection Department of Kraljevo, being the coordinator of the WMBC joint actions. This partnership mechanism is functioning well and has greatly contributed to adequate acceptance, storing and maintenance of procured assets at local level, preparation of infrastructure related activities and participative development of quality training material and handbooks. In the initial phase increased engagement of local actors was achieved also through the SCTM civil protection network coordination mechanism.

The cooperation and partnerships UNDP has established through this Action, as well as through previous and other linked endeavours have created a incentive for future similar cooperation, primarily related to civil protection and disaster risk reduction, such as the Drina River Basin Cooperation.

Links and synergies with other actions

In the implementation of the Action, UNDP ensured synergies with the **UN Secretary-General Global Humanitarian Response Plan**. The United Nations COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund is a UN inter-agency fund mechanism established by the UN Secretary-General to help support low and middle-income program countries overcome the health and development crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and support those most vulnerable to economic hardship and social disruption. The Fund contributes to financing the three objectives of the UN Secretary General's Call for Solidarity: (1) Tackle the health emergency; (2) Focus on the social impact and the economic response and recovery; and (3) Help countries recover better.

The Action is supporting the establishment of Disaster Risk Register as an interactive and interoperable system aligned with the EU INSPIRE Directive and the EU Initiative to Enhance Data Interoperability, in whose development the UNDP shall build upon the results of the World Bank funded project '**Scaling Up Resilient Infrastructure**' and proposed business and technical architecture. The technical specifications of hardware components were also developed with the WB project and due to availability of funding the hardware components were already procured, thus leaving the flexibility for the Action to focus on software development. Also, complementarity of the Action with the project '**Designed efficient emergency support system 112 for the Republic of Serbia**' is being ensured by establishing communications with the project team implementing the 112 Project from defining the Risk Register outline and all phases of its development. Upon development, the Risk Register will be connected to the existing DRIS (Disaster Risk Information System) which already contains data on potential risks at the local level, including the existing Municipal Disaster Risk Assessments and SEM endorsed Rescue and Protection Plans. PIMO and SEM update DRIS on a regular basis with newly adopted protection plans produced within the Government of Japan funded training programme. The Register will contain Damage Assessment data interlinked with DESINVENTAR Geoportail. Development of Damage Assessment Reports requires a rather complex methodological approach aligned with PDNA (EU, UNDP and the World Bank Post Disaster Needs Assessment Guidelines) and an effective horizontal and vertical coordination. Therefore, the Government of Serbia has established the inter-ministerial Working Group tasked to develop the Damage Assessment Methodology. Development of the Methodology is funded by UNDP Crisis Bureau and DRR Unit and implemented by UNDP Serbia.

In order to achieve synergy with the ongoing project ‘**Advancing medium and long-term adaptation planning in the Republic of Serbia – NAP**’ project funded by Green Climate Fund (GCF) and implemented by UNDP, in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management the Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) curricula under development within this project shall be coupled with the local level training curricula (Activity 2.2) in order to enhance the training scope with related topics. The two projects are cooperating on their progress in order to interlink and streamline training related outputs. Additionally, while preparing PDNA methodology for Serbia the Action will take into account the Ecological Damage and Climate Change Impact Assessment which will be developed within the CCA project; the results of the **PDNA rollout II project** “Strengthening Capacities for Post Disaster Needs Assessment And Recovery Preparedness” funded by UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub shall be taken into account during the implementation of the Action related to developing PDNA methodology for the Republic of Serbia and specific guidelines/annexes concerning critical infrastructure damage assessment – citizen homes and apartments, public facilities and hard infrastructure (roads, bridges, water objects, etc.) for each hazard – flood, earthquake, hail, and storm; and the Guideline for Agricultural Post Disaster Needs Assessment at Municipal level in Serbia developed in cooperation with FAO.

The UNDP’s procurement of 12 ambulance vehicles for the MoH came at the right time to maximise the efficient and impact of the overall EU support to the Health sector. Namely, UNOPS exercised the right to piggyback on the contract, and without the need of going through an entire procurement process purchased additional 20 ambulance vehicles from re-allocated from the project ‘**EU for Social Housing and Active Inclusion**’ funded from the funds of the EU IPA 2018, as immediate support to COVID-19 response. This synergy made quickly available much needed additional equipment for quick response to pandemic.

4. Visibility

UNDP has no objection to this Report being published on the EuropeAid web page.

For the emergency related activities, an integrated communication approach of the EU Delegation in the Republic of Serbia, UNDP Communication Department and Ministry of the European Integration resulted in excellent outreach and promotion of the EU solidarity in the time of crisis and its consistency in supporting Serbia on the European pathway.

As elaborated in the Communication and Visibility Action Plan, all the communication activities are intended toward the external and internal audience, including the international community as the target group of the highest interest in the Action and the most power to influence the achievement of Action goals

Visibility of the European Union, as a donor, was also ensured through due mention, verbal acknowledgment and aircraft visible branding, with media coverage.

Following the end of State of Emergency and the closure of emergency related activities, the UNDP has finalised the visual identity of the project to be used and communicated throughout the implementation of the envisaged activities. Through graphics and visuals, UNDP illustrated the most important issues of the project – an umbrella that protects nature, infrastructure, humans, and industry. Design of the visual identity corresponds to the EU Delegation in Serbia Visibility and Communication Plan



The Action is as of July 2020 represented in the visibility platform #EUzatebe (<https://www.euzatebe.rs/en/projects/eu-for-serbia-resilient-to-disasters->) where information on the design of the project, expected results and project partners are available. The same platform is used for publishing of the project news and sharing info and material from visibility events. In this manner the Action is embedded in overall portfolio of the EU assistance to Serbia. Information about the project are available on the [UNDP website](#), too.

Furthermore, the visibility of the donor is achieved by branding purchased vehicles and equipment as well as in visual representation at workshops, training and meetings and the use and distribution of visibility material in these events. During the reporting period we have produced #EUzaTEBE designed promotion materials: notebooks, pens, folders, banners, eco bags, USB sticks and folders.

On 20 November 2021 UNDP, in cooperation with the EU Delegation press service, organised a visibility event in Belgrade on the occasion of handover of ambulance and decontamination vehicles, mobile ventilators and protective clothing to the Institute for Emergency Medicine of the City of Belgrade and Public Health Institute of Serbia' Dr. Milan Jovanovic Batut'. The event had good media reach with a coverage of 25 most prominent media outlets .

Visibility events and deliveries of the medical equipment and supplies raised considerable interest and attention of the national and local media outlets, resulting in the more than 375 positive or neutrally intonated media reports in total. More details on the media coverage for the visibility events, is available in **Annex 4 – Media Report**.

For the upcoming period UNDP planned two more visibility events:

- Demonstration exercise of the Mountain Rescue Service of Serbia combined with the rally of the civil protection units of the West Morava Basin Cooperation with presentation of the new uniforms and the demonstration of the use of procured mobile flood protection system; and
- Delivery of firefighting vehicles with UHPS pumps to the Ministry of Interior, Sector for Emergency Management.

List of Annexes

Annex 1 – Cargo handover protocols

Annex 2 – Local Level Training Action Plan (Activity 2.2)

Annex 3 – Updated action plan for implementing the Action

Annex 4 – Media Report

Annex 5 – West Morava River Basin Mapping Report

Annex 6 – Mobile flood protection training - participant list

Annex 7 – List of participants of the ToT - Advanced Level in NAPA, October 2020