



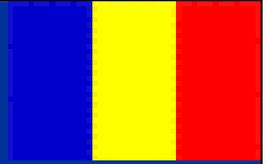
Romania

United Nations Development Programme

Newsletter

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Emergency Relief Funds of \$230,000 for Catastrophic Floods in Romania

Romania has been hit with record-breaking floods in its western, southern and eastern region considered to be the most devastating in the past 50 years. Over the last week, 31 out of 41 counties of Romania have been affected by floods. In five of these counties, the central and local Government have declared the state of alert: Braila, Bacau, Tulcea, Vrancea and Galati. Thousands of people have been left homeless. 581 localities have been severely affected, 229 are without electricity, 13,856 houses have been flooded, 696 houses wrecked, over 2000 houses damaged, 16,561 outbuildings affected by the floods. 10 persons died, 4 are missing and 12,166 have been evacuated. Over 94,000 hectares of agricultural land, over 1,100 bridges of various sizes and hundreds of kilometers of roads have been most severely stricken with floods. Warnings have been issued that heavy rains are still expected.



Picture of the motorboat procured by UNDP for Romania

In response to the disastrous floods that has brought the country to alert, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through its Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR) and Office of Coordination for Humanitarian Assistance (OCHA) has allocated USD 130,000 for emergency evacuation and approved another \$100,000 for further support to the Romanian Government. The additional amount will be used to procure mobile cooking equipment and tents for the homeless victims of the floods. On 18 July, Press Conference was held in Victoria Palace, Bucharest at 1.00 pm to officially announce the hand over of the boats to the Romanian Government in the presence of Mr. Kalman Mizsei, UNDP Regional Director of Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (RBEC), Minister Delegate Voicu, Secretary General of the Romanian Government, Ms Soknan Han Jung, UN Resident Coordinator/UNDP Resident Representative.



Florin Banateanu, Head of Socio-Economic, UNDP; Kalman Mizsei, UNDP Regional Director for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States; Minister Delegate Voicu, Secretary General of the Romanian Government

"I express deepest condolences on behalf of UN and UNDP for the victims of the disastrous floods. In addition to \$130,000 that has been allocated for the procurement of boats an additional \$100,000 has also been approved to support Romanian government in order to coordinate emergency interventions of all the donors to immediately relieve the situation of most affected areas", said Mr. Kalman Mizsei, UNDP RBEC. Minister Delegate Voicu, Secretary General of the Government of Romania said, "I thank UNDP for providing boats to the General Inspectorate and for their rapid response in mobilizing an additional \$100,000 so quickly."

Floods disaster is a burning issue currently in Romania. There was a huge participation from the media for the event. TV stations had a live broadcast of the press conference and during news hours throughout the day. Other participants were officials from UNDP and General Secretariat of the Government. For more information please contact UNDP Romania manu.goel@undp.org