Monitoring Report RS-1-1
Warning

Date: May 19th, 2014 **Country**: Serbia, Bosnia & Herzegovina

Event type: Flood/Landslide

Start date - 16052014

End date – The water levels are temporary receding at the time of this report, but more flooding is expected in the next few days with river Sava forecasted to swell again.
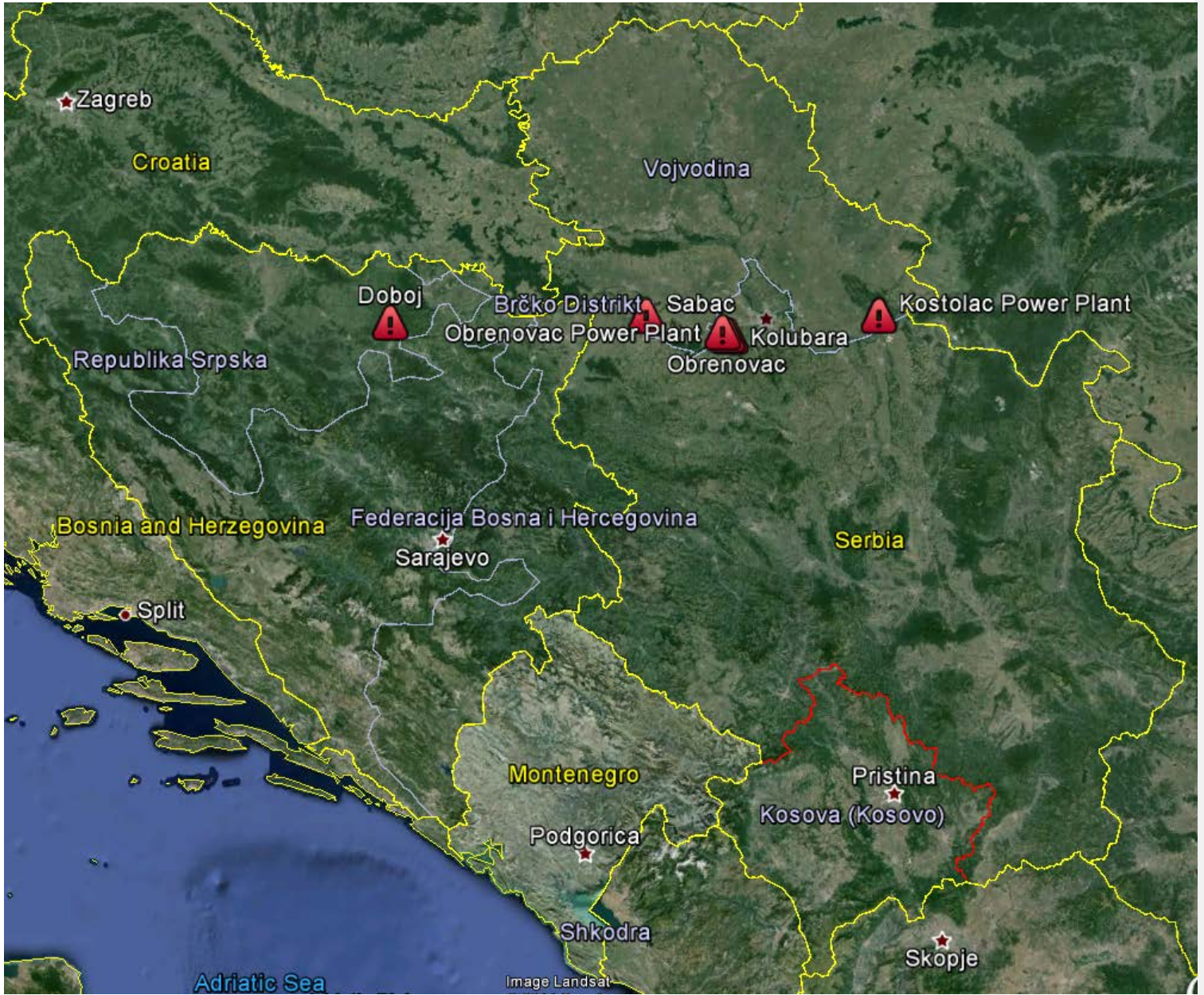
Description

Three months worth of rain fell on the Balkans region in a three-day burst, creating the worst floods since rainfall measurements began 120 years ago, affecting Serbia, Bosnia & Herzegovina and Croatia. The main drivers of the flooding are the rivers Sava, Mlava, Miljacka and Danube.

Authorities reported that more than 20,000 people in Serbia have been forced to evacuate their homes and at least 37 victims have already been accounted for. Bosnian Security Ministry reported that about one million people (a quarter of the population) live in the affected area.

In Serbia, the flood waters are threatening the two biggest power plants in the country, Kostolac (20% of the country generation capacity) and Nikola Tesla, with power generation already cut by 40%. The economic impact is likely to be huge, devastating the agricultural sector in both Bosnia and Serbia, and affecting the coal surface mines at Kolubara (a damage of at least $137 million).

The torrential rain triggered widespread landslides in Bosnia and Serbia, causing alert for the landmines left in the ground after the 1990s. These are laid in signaled minefields, but the landslide and floods can wash away the signs or the mines themselves, adding to the danger faced by the first responders.

Overview Map

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Damage and/or Disruption reported

- Serbian power generation capacity was reduced by more than 40%, with coal-fired power plants affected in Kostolac, Obrenovac and Kolubara

- In Serbia, 12 bodies were recovered after waters in Obrenovac dropped from a peak of more than 3m; at least five more were reported in other parts of the country

- A dam 7.3 tall was erected on the Sava river near Belgrade, RS but authorities reported that is difficult to predict what would happen if the water rose more than 6.3m

- In Sabac, RS water levels rose by 6.2m

- Nearly 90% of the city of Obrenovac, RS was reported flooded

- Many cities and villages in western Serbia were reported completely underwater

- In Bosnia, 19 people were confirmed dead, with nine bodies recovered from the town of Doboj, after a "tsunami" like wave of water up to 3-4m high submerged the town

- In Bosnia, about 300 landslides have buried houses and disturbed landmines laid during the war in the 1990s

- The military organized the evacuation of 100,000 homes left without power

- Road and rail links have been broken due to flooding, with the rail traffic from Serbia to Montenegro completely halted

Possible developments

- River Sava water levels are expected to rise over the next few hours.

ImageCat Contact Information

For more information on data available to purchase for this event, please contact us at info@imagecatinc.com or

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Legend – Alert stages and Codes

Alert Colour	Alert Stage	Definition	Action
White	NO WATCH	All clear – no flood or	Ongoing monitoring
Green	WATCH	Potential event requiring intensified watch	Monitoring team identify potential event and send WATCH e-mail notification with preliminary map showing Area of Interest
Yellow	WARNING	The event under watch is worsening	Monitoring team sends WARNING email. The email contains link to the monitoring report. Monitoring continues until event becomes orange/red or subsided to white.
Orange	CALL for ACTION	The event reaches the client defined threshold	Monitoring team sends CALL for ACTION email. The monitoring report is updated.
Red	ACTIVATION	Activated emergency	Client receives confirmation of activation and follow up emails for data acquisition and data processing and downloading.

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