



Government of  
Serbia Office for  
Reconstruction and  
Flood Relief

# DISASTER RISK AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT



# LESSONS LEARNED – POLICY INNOVATION



In 7 MONTHS



## REPUBLIC OF SERBIA NEEDS TO:

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

**National Disaster Risk Management Program**  
Adopted by the Government in December 2014

# POLICY INNOVATION – 1<sup>st</sup> STEP



## NATIONAL DRM PROGRAM:

- The objective is to support the Government of Serbia to build a **comprehensive program for disaster resilience.**
- Program used as an **umbrella framework** to **coordinate, channel funds, and implement activities** related to reducing and managing risks in Serbia.
- Program relies on **improving coordination of activities between existing structures** within the Government.

**National Disaster Risk Management Program**  
Adopted by the Government in December 2014

# NDRM PROGRAM STRUCTURE



Steering  
Committee

Donors  
and  
Ministers

**NATIONAL  
DISASTER RISK  
MANAGEMENT  
PROGRAM**

Facilitating the  
establishment  
of the  
Program  
Flood Office

Technical  
support

Donors  
UN (UNDP)  
World Bank

**Component 1 - Institutional Building**  
Across component 2-5

**Component 2**  
Risk  
Identification

**Component 3**  
Risk Reduction  
structural and  
non-structural

**Component 4**  
Preparedness  
Response,  
EWS

**Component 5**  
Risk Financing  
Strategies

**Component 6**  
Resilient  
Recovery

National Institutions Implementing Activities

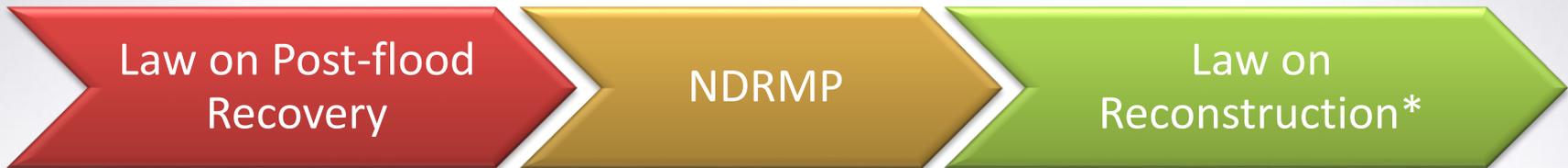
# POLICY INNOVATIONS - DRCM



- **New legislative framework developed with support of EU, UN and WB**
- **Systemic approach to the DRCM and recovery process: prevention-response-reconstruction**
- **Key innovations based on global best practices and lessons learned:**
  - Establishment of a new national authority for DRCM
  - Prevention based on: Risk Assessments - Risk Reduction and Management Plans
  - Identification of: Areas of increased risk (National authority has the right to restrict/forbid certain activities) and Areas of immediate risk (any activity must be specifically allowed by the Authority, given the very high level of risk)
  - Establishment of a Risk Registry: electronic database for sharing of all information relevant to prevention, risk reduction and response
  - Response based on Rescue and Protection Plans

**\*Serbia aims to be the first country in the world with legislation fully aligned with Sendai Framework**

# POLICY INNOVATIONS - RECONSTRUCTION



- Permanent legislation based on the 2014 post-flood recovery *lex specialis* and lessons learned
- Law regulates eligibility criteria for assistance and prescribes procedures for claims
- Additionally: Changes introduced in Public Procurement Law to allow for prompt reaction and timely procurement in periods of emergencies

**\*Serbia aims to be the first country in the world with legislation fully aligned with Sendai Framework**



## FINANCIAL PROTECTION MECHANISMS initiated by the Government of Serbia:

- Preparation of a catastrophe deferred drawdown option (**Cat DDO**) with support of World Bank
- Promotion of catastrophe insurance for individuals and activities for boosting private insurance sales under way
- Analysis of various **budget protection mechanisms** with Europa RE ongoing



So far **70 million EUR** raised  
for capacity building of the  
disaster risk and crisis  
management system

# NEW STRUCTURE - EMBAKMENTS



## SMEDEREVSKA PALANKA

EUR 1.48 million

## SOMBOR I BAČKA PALANKA

EUR 1.6 million

## ŠABAC I BOGATIC

EUR 10 million

## VALJEVO

EUR 2.8 million

## RAŠKA

EUR 1.3 million

## NOVI PAZAR

EUR 1.8 million

## SVILAJNAC

EUR 3 million

## PARAĆIN

EUR 2.7 million

## NEGOTIN

EUR 1.13 million

## Niš

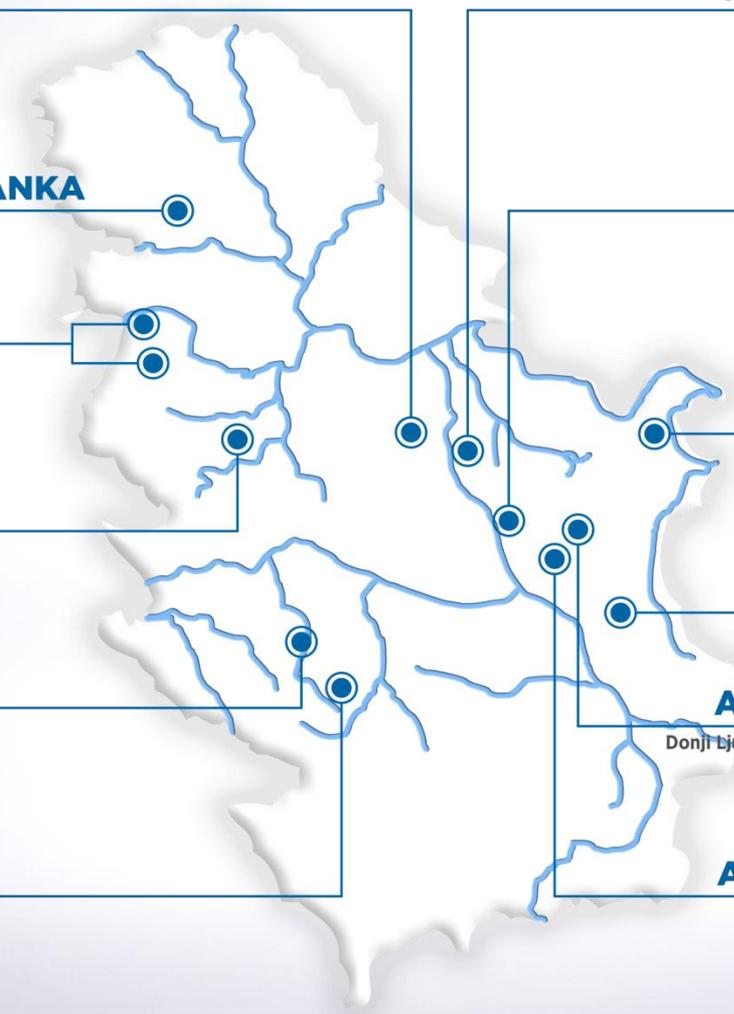
EUR 2.8 million

## ALEKSINAC

Donji ljubeš - EUR 2.3 million

## ALEKSINAC

EUR 1.4 million



# PROJECT ALSO INCLUDES



## EUR 4.18 million

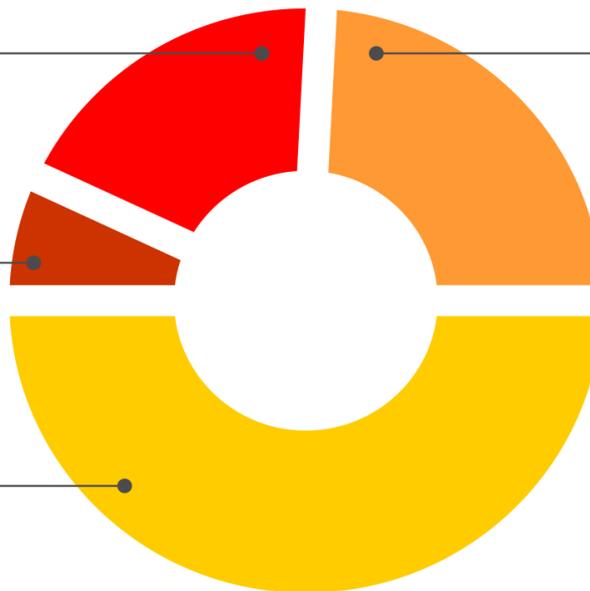
- Purchase of mobile flood protection equipment

## EUR 740,000

- Purchase of equipment for response in emergency situations

## EUR 9.27 million

- Cleaning of drainage systems



## EUR 6 million

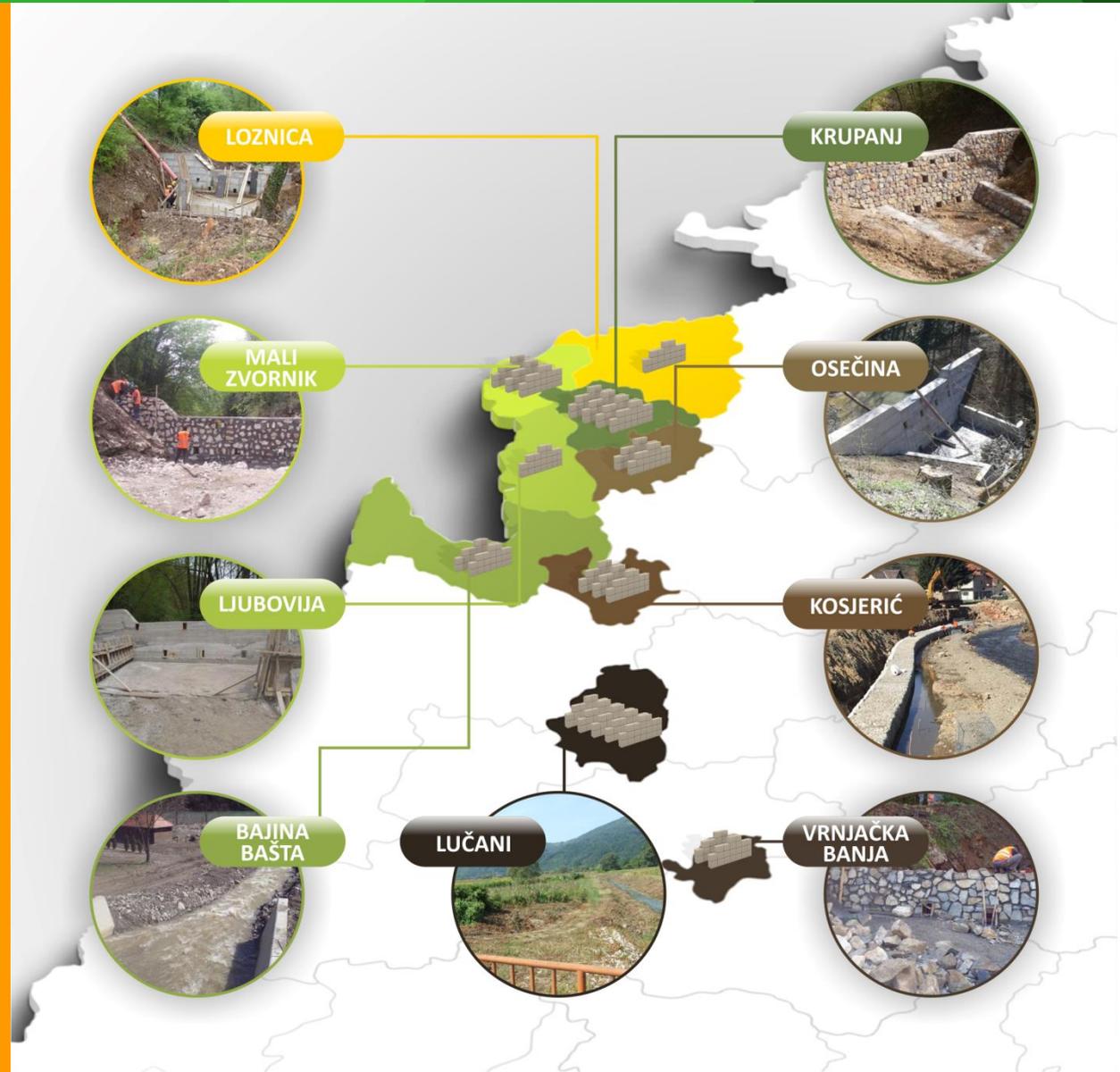
- Development of **FLOOD RISK MAPS** for areas not yet covered
- Improvement of water information system
- Improvement of **EARLY WARNING** system

# CONSTRUCTION OF TORRENTIAL DAMS



**29**  
NEW  
TORRENTIAL  
DAMS

constructed in  
2015



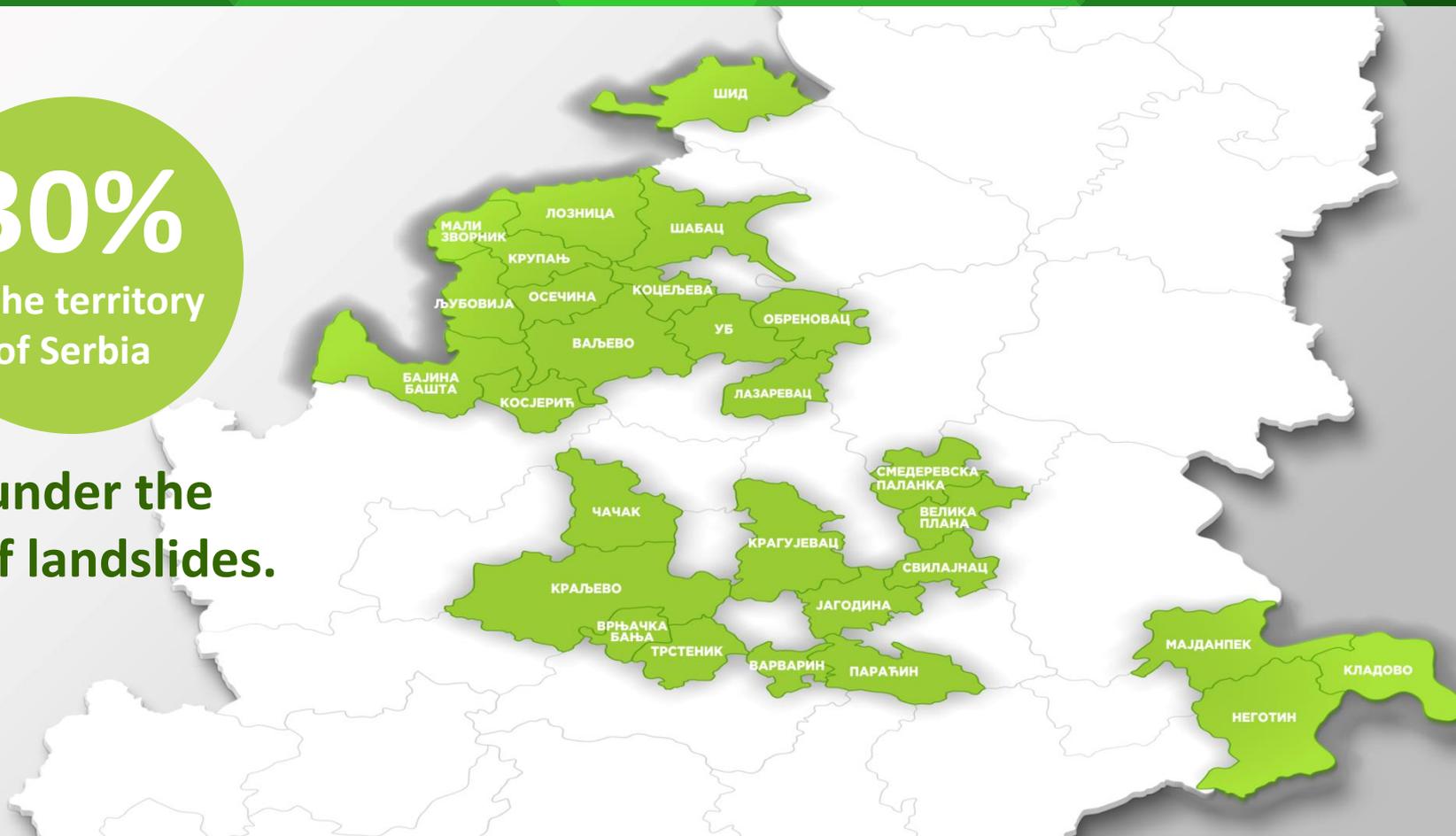
# LANDSLIDE CADASTRE



**30%**

of the territory  
of Serbia

is under the  
risk of landslides.

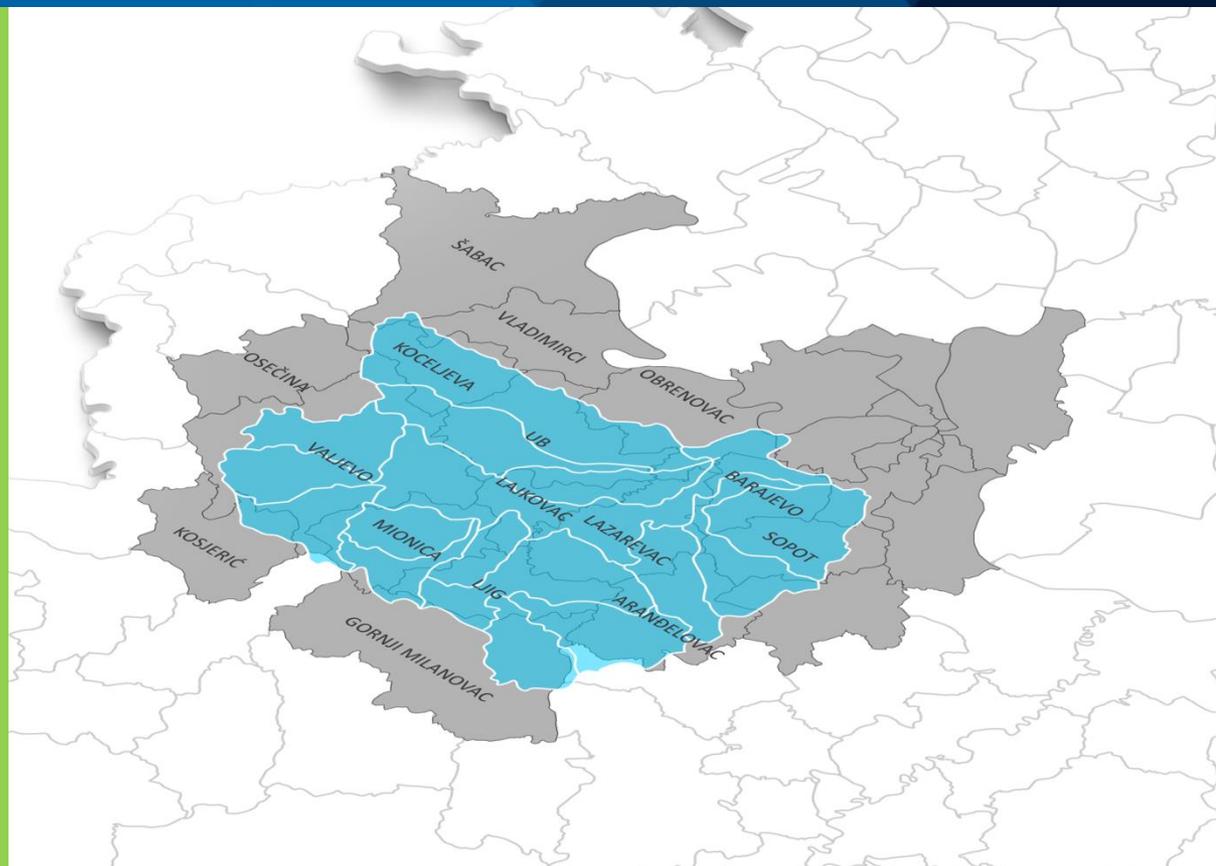


# STUDY OF FLOOD PROTECTION IN KOLUBARA RIVER BASIN



KOLUBARA RIVER BASIN IN  
MAY 2014 SUSTAINED  
DAMAGE OF OVER

**900**  
Million  
EUR



The study will be used to improve safety of citizens and property in this part of Serbia.

# RECOGNITION



- The EU support to floods in Serbia has been highlighted as **one of the best EU funded projects** for results.
- It is one of the 518 selected projects funded by the EU Budget. The project results focus on improving the lives of people in Europe and everywhere in the world.
- *“We recognise the great job done in response to the floods in Serbia, the excellent collective work and the great results that you achieved on the ground”*



EU ASSISTANCE  
FOR FLOOD RELIEF  
IN SERBIA

# NEXT STEP - REGIONAL DISASTER CENTER?



- All efforts by individual nations and development partners are good, but prove to be insufficient
- Setting up the **Regional Disaster Center** with the role to promote:
  - Trans boundary (cross border) and regional cooperation on risk mitigation and prevention, early warning procedures,
  - Disaster response,
  - Damage remediation and rehabilitation through harmonization of the risk policies, consolidation of the risk response procedures,
  - Education and sharing of know-how and skills,
  - Raising public awareness on the potential risks of disasters, including slow onset disasters, community-based DRR and
  - Use and development of new technologies, contributing such to a wide scale of social and economic issues by promoting international cooperation and providing long term sustainability.
  - RDC would cooperate and coordinate its activities with regional governments, institutions and organizations, as well as with other respective national and international initiatives, international organizations and financial institutions (Sava Commission, Danube Commission, ICPDR, Cross-border cooperation programs, Regional initiatives and national Programs, UN agencies, OSCE, EBRD, EIB, WB...)

A wide-angle photograph of a construction site for a riverbank reinforcement project. In the foreground, a river flows through a channel lined with large, light-colored rocks. The banks are made of dark, compacted earth. In the middle ground, a white excavator is parked on a flat, sandy area. A person is standing nearby. The background shows a line of trees and a field under a clear sky. The entire image has a blue color cast.

**THANK YOU**