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Echo Flash

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ECHO DAILY FLASH

European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations

24 March 2020

I. International

Yemen - Conflict (DG ECHO, IOM)

- At the beginning of 2020, conflict escalated in Marib and Al Jawf governorates leading to large displacements. The International Organisation for Migration, IOM estimates that approximately 1,750 households have been displaced (total number of households displaced since the beginning of the crisis: 5,699).
- Most displaced households moved towards Marib city and other bordering districts. There are in need of safe shelters, essential aid items, emergency health care, clean water, safe sanitation and food. Since 21 January, 27,391 internally displaced persons (IDPs) received such assistance from IOM, with DG ECHO's support.
- Supported by DG ECHO, UNFPA's coordinated Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) partners are assisting 200 households per day. As of today, 6,415 households received essential items -food, hygiene kits, non-food items. UNFPA mobile teams provided 6, 29 6 displaced people with essential reproductive health services.

Mozambique - Armed violence - Cabo Delgado (DG ECHO, UN, media)

- On 23 March, armed group attacked and seized control of Mocimbo de Praia, a town in Cabo Delgado province, at north Mozambique. The army and police have reportedly launched a counter offensive and DG ECHO partners cannot yet assess the situation due to the security conditions.
- For almost three years, armed groups have been attacking villages and farms around Cabo Delgado, causing up to 350 deaths and a total estimated of 156,000 displaced. There has been a dramatic increase in attacks since the beginning of this year. Most displaced live with host population, who are already deprived of food security, in a region previously affected by a tropical cyclone.

USA-Floods (NOAA, FloodList, media)

- Flooding was reported across Ohio and Indiana States on 20-21 March, killing at least 8 people and causing widespread damage.
- Media report that 6 people died in Franklin County (Indiana), after a bridge was destroyed by flood waters. In Ohio, 2 people died (one in Harrison County, another in Tuscarawas County), as a consequence of flood related accidents. Many residents were evacuated in central and south Ohio. Flood water affected the infrastructure, leaving many communities isolated.
- Flood warnings have been issued for parts of Indiana and Ohio States on 23 March, rainfall is forecast over most of Indiana and Ohio on 24-25 March.

Mexico - Severe weather (SMN, media)

- Over the last few days, heavy rainfall affected north-west Mexico causing casualties.
- According to media, as of 24 March, one person died in Tijuana, due to a weather-related car accident, the same source reports 21 more car accidents due to heavy rainfall.
- Heavy rainfall is also making the living conditions rough for thousands of Central America's migrants, stranded at the border. Ho used at makeshift shelters – while waiting for their asylum request to be processed in the USA- they lack adequate sanitary conditions and medical equipment. In addition to heavy rain, the spread of the COVID-19 virus in these areas is likely to exacerbate migrants' vulnerabilities. The partial border shutdown declared by the USA on 20 March may lead to mass refoulement.
- For the next 24 hours, no more rain is forecast over the affected area.

Iran - Flood (DG ECHO, IRIMO, NOAA-CPC, FloodList, media)

- Flash floods triggered by heavy rainfall, started on 21 March, have caused fatalities and damage in seven provinces of Iran.
- According to official news, at least 11 people died, and 17 other were injured across Hormozgan, Fars, Bushehr, Qom, Gilan, Kerman, Sistan and Baluchestan provinces.
- Flood water caused extensive damage to local infrastructure, buildings and livestock. Reports from Bushehr province confirmed power outages across several villages and mudslides between Rahak and Dir cities.
- Since 2019, this is the third flood affecting different provinces all around the country. Some provinces, like Sistan-Baluchistan and Hormozgan, were also affected by the recent floods in January 2020.
- IRCS is already on the ground to assess the situation of each province. As the crisis is ongoing, assessments and information will be updated continuously.
- No heavy rainfall is forecast over south Iran in the next 24 hours.

II. Europe

Croatia - Earthquake (Croatian Civil Protection Authority)

- An earthquake of 5.4 M at a depth of 10 km occurred in north Croatia on 22 March at 5.24 UTC (6.24 local time). The epicentre was in the Zagreb area, approximately 10 km north of downtown. The earthquake was followed by aftershocks, the largest of 4.6 M.
- As of 23 March, 27 injured people and one deaths - due to severe injuries caused by the earthquake - had been reported.
- Authorities have received more than 7,000 reports from citizens about damages. There are over 600 damaged buildings estimated so far, some of which are no longer usable.
- Croatia activated the [EU Civil Protection Mechanism](#) for mainly medical items, a field hospital and protective equipment. The [Emergency Response Coordination Centre](#) (ERCC) remains in close contact with the Croatian civil protection authorities.

Meteoalarm, as of 24 March at 8.00 UTC (EUMETNET)

- On 24-25 March: Red alert for strong wind in central-northern Croatia.

Floods and flood warnings during the last 24 hours reported by national services (EFAS)

- Finland:** Warning level 2/3 for 1 station in southern Finland.
- Georgia:** Threshold level 2/2 exceeded for Tskheniskali - Ludji station.
- Sweden:** Warning level 2/3 for 2 regions in southern Sweden.
- United Kingdom:** Warning level 2/3 for 4 locations in southern England.

Forest fire events (European Forest Fire Information System - EFFIS)

- Various forest fire events in Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo under UNSCR 1244, Serbia, Republic of Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Minor fire events in the Danube river delta (Romania).

III. Factsheets

N/A

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