

EADRCC Consequence Management Exercise

« SRBIJA 2018 »

Lead-in scenario

On 2 October at 10:23 AM local time, a powerful 6,7 Richter scale (10km deep) earthquake struck the wider area of the city of Belgrade in the municipality of Mladenovac. The epicenter is located in Međulužje (44° 24' 54"N, 020° 41' 33"E), a few kilometers south of Mladenovac. Devastating effects were felt in the whole city of Belgrade, as well as neighboring areas south west from Mladenovac.

Initial reports indicate that a large number of older residential buildings are heavily damaged or completely collapsed. Many were injured and the number of casualties is still unknown. The population in the affected area refuses to return to their homes in fear of aftershocks.

News reports indicate that the earthquake generated a series of accidents in a large ceramic factory in Mladenovac. Since the disaster occurred during working hours, a large number of workers is missing or unaccounted for. Also, there are reports of chemical leakages with strange smells spreading in the vicinity of the factory.

As a consequence of the earthquake, dikes on Rabrovac Lake and Markovac Lake started to leak. At least one settlement is flooded and one lake is full of debris. Therefore, there is a risk of contamination.

Electricity and water infrastructure were severely damaged, but road and telecommunication infrastructure suffered only minor damages.

Also, heavy damage is reported in the wider area of the city of Arandjelovac, located 15 km south-west of the epicenter. Unofficial reports indicate that the industrial zone in Aranđelovac suffered the most severe damages, possibly with a high number of casualties.

Additionally, official representatives of hydro power plant at Garaši Accumulation Lake, reported structural damage of a bridge and possible casualties in a fisherman's settlement. Since the lake is the city's main water supply and there are rumors of possible contamination, water quality control activities are necessary.

Domestic assets are mainly focused on the rescue activities in the Mladenovac residential area and the affected southern outskirts of Belgrade.

Due to the severity of the consequences and the situation in the field, authorities of the Republic of Serbia will probably issue an official request for international assistance.