

Report of the activity of ADRA Hungary on the EQ hit area in Croatia between 18th and 22nd of January 2021

Strong earthquake hit Sisak-Moslavina County in central Croatia on December 28th (5,2 magnitude) and December 29th (6,4 magnitude), 2020. The epicenter of the earthquake is close to town of Petrinja which is 46 km from Zagreb, but the quake was felt throughout Croatia and in most neighbouring European countries. The epicenter of the earthquake was in 10km depth underneath the surface. 7 deaths and minimum 26 people injured and around 63954 people affected.



The material damage is huge and many people have been evacuated, including patients from local hospitals. All this made a complex situation with Corona-19 virus, even worse since many people were forced out on a street even though everybody is advised to stay at home due to the pandemic situation.



In the beginning there was no utility service and the ruins on the streets, the potential collapse of the buildings during afterquakes meant further danger for the residents of the settlements.



Some people were able to find alternative shelter outside the affected area among friends and family, whereas others still live within the proximity of their homes, mostly motivated by maintaining their livestock. The population is generally older, where ADRA Croatia statistic for the rural area points to 43% being older than 60 years old. Many schools are still not open.

The biggest problem of the area is that people live very scaterly from each other, and the access to their houses is, even during good weather conditions, hard. Existing winter and snow has made some places hardly accessible.

On 31st of December 2020, ADRA Croatia has initially received 9 villages in Glina county with jurisdiction to coordinate humanitarian aid. On 1st of January 2021, we have deployed volunteers with detailed needs assessment questionnaires to these 9 villages. From 12th January 2021, ADRA has taken 5 more villages for the same needs assessment and is planning to take 7 more.

The result from the initial 9 and additional 5 for now villages are as follows:

- 1. Roof damages: 30%** of the houses had **complete roof damage**, **33%** experienced **partly damaged roomfs**, and **37%** of our houses had **small or no roof damages**.
- 2. Walls and structure damages: 35%** of houses got **severe walls damages**, **27%** of houses got **partly damaged** and **38%** got **small or no damage**.

Shelter statistics:

At the time of assessment, **46% of them still lived in their house**, many under the risk of further collapse, **23% lived either in additional structure** (garage, mager or neighbor), **6,6% lived in a car**, and **10% got immediate alternative housing** (camp trailer, container).

Considering the statistics above and the experience in emergency situations including search and rescue and remediation, ADRA Hungary offered help for ADRA Croatia on 2nd of January 2021 sending a squad of experts for partly or fully reconstruct of roofs. The offer was accepted by ADRA Croatia after communication with ADRA Europe.

After studying the expertise needed, ADRA Hungary deployed the following members of ADRA S.T.A.R. (Special Tools And Rescue) squad:

Győző József Dudás – volunteer, carpenter;
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József Kis - volunteer, carpenter;
Béla Barabás – volunteer, iron structure constructor;
Tibor Vincellér – Volunteer, Eastern Hungarian Special Rescue Team, alpine technician;
Zoltan Sitkei – staff of ADRA Hungary, alpine technician.



The squad arrived to the affected area on 18th of January 2021 with 4WD vehicles and equipment needed and applied for service at the field office of ADRA Croatia in Martinovići.

After briefing 2 members of the squad took the staff of Croatian National TV to a remote place was hard to reach without 4wd vehicle for making an interview with an old lady, who lived with her daughter in a dangeourously damaged building. 4 other members went to check the status of 2 buildings and the reconstruction work/materials needed.

The TV staff had made a short interview with the squad, which could be seen in the News on the following day.

The local ADRA office collected information about reconstruction and material needs in Majski Trnik, Glinski Trtnik, Ravno Rašče, Roviška, Drenovac Banski, Martinovići, Bijeje Vode, Vlahovići settlements. The ADRA field office stored the materials on a courtyard, which was checked by the ADRA S.T.A.R. team on the first day.

In the following days the S.T.A.R. team helped in reconstruction of 7 buildings and checked the status of 17 buildings in 6 settlements according to the information given by the residents about material and construction needs through the Call Center of ADRA Croatia.

During the works the squad has repaired roofs – recovering tiles (permanently) or covering plastic foil (temporarily) - and chimneys and in one case the ground of a ceiling.



It was challenging to find the locations of the buildings, because the structure of the villages are quite open, the houses could be in long distances from each other, and the numbering is very hectic, even the satellite navigation system could not help to find. Finding of certain buildings the squad needed help from local ADRA volunteer, who could ask the residents about the addresses.

The accommodation for the S.T.A.R. team was provided by ADRA Croatia, which located 66 Km far from the affected area. In choosing the place the safety was the first criteria, because it was out of the EQ hit area.

Costs:

Cost	Amount
Uniform	40.3 EUR
Visibility	32.1 EUR
Food	103 EUR
Insurance	51.5 EUR
Fuel	217 EUR
Motorway toll	28.8 EUR
Total	472.7 EUR

Medialinks:

<https://vijesti.hrt.hr/hrvatska/volonteri-nikoga-ne-zaboravljaju-85382>

<https://www.femcafe.hu/cikkek/utazas/horvatorszag-foldrenges-segitseg-magyar-mentocsoport?fbclid=IwAR10joKDygpwoYp8b5jM-yBz7QIkSVq8ss8J-pbXnWawNOwZPdHoX652BUM>

https://mediaklikk.hu/radio-lejatszo-kossuth/?date=2021-01-22_06-00-00&enddate=2021-01-22_09-10-00&ch=mr1&fbclid=IwAR2bG2kv1d0i9K9FKDM5nd8fSm0UII534Mn8xXBytqIOFwZOOLuGbeFM6-s

<https://www.facebook.com/adra.alapitvany>

<https://www.instagram.com/adra.alapitvany/>



Lessons learnt:

For more effectivity of the ADRA S.T.A.R. squad would have been needed checked information about the needs and status of the buildings. In the work instructions would have been found the description of the reconstruction work, the materials needed, logistics needed and the GPS coordinates of the buildings. ADRA Croatia could not provided the information above because of lack of capacity. If it is possible, the accomodation would be nearer tot he affected area to spare time and fuel.

25th of January 2021



Zoltan Sitkei
project coordinator