



Rapid Response Fund

Approval

Project Code RRF 23/2026
Project Name Serbia drought

The ACT Secretariat has approved the use of **USD 37,698** from its Global Rapid Response Fund (GRRF2026).

Reporting Deadlines	
SitRep (<i>one month after approval</i>)	20 Sept 2026
Final Reports (narrative and financial)	20 Jan 2027
Audit Report (<i>for projects >USD50,000</i>)	N/A

Approved By the RRF review Panel
on **20 August 2026**

actalliance

Rapid Response Fund

Project Proposal

Do you have an EPRP	Yes
When was the last update?	August 2026
Assessment for this response?	Yes

Please submit this form to the Humanitarian Coordinators in your region

Date submitted to ACT Secretariat
20 Aug 2026

Section 1 Project Data

Project Information	
Project Name	Seriba Droughts Response
Project Code	RRF 23/2026
Country Forum	
ACT Requesting Member <i>(if there are more than one member, please use ALT+<Enter> to add another member)</i>	Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation Philanthropy, Charitable Foundation of the Serbian Orthodox Church
Name of person leading the project	Ilija Radovanovic
Job Title	Project Coordinator
Email	ilija.radovanovic@covekoljublje.org
Location(s) of project (city / province)	Kraljevo: Gledic, Drlupa, Zakuta, Petropolje, Cukojevac and informal Roma settlement (Raska District - Western Serbia) Novi Sad: Informal settlements Banglades and Veliki Rit and Municipality Plandiste (South Backa and South Banat District - Northern Serbia)
Project start date (dd/mm/yyyy)	20 Aug 2026
Project end date (dd/mm/yyyy)	20 Nov 2026

Which sectors your response activities most relate to
(please indicate number of planned beneficiaries per organisation in each sector where you plan to give assistance)

Sectors	Member 1 Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation		Member 2 Philanthropy, Charitable Foundation of the Serbian Orthodox Church		Member 3 <i>(please write the name of your organisation)</i>	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Cash/ Vouchers						
Food						
Health						
Household items						
Livelihood						
Psychosocial						
Shelter						
WASH	300	400	300	400		

Section 2 Project Description

2.1 Context

1. CHS Commitment 1. Summarize the crisis event and how it is likely to develop over the duration of the project *(extend rows 43, 44 and 45 if more space is needed)*

Serbia is experiencing an exceptionally dry summer and severe hydrological stress, with prolonged high temperatures and reduced availability of water affecting a number of communities. In the territory of the City of Kraljevo, the situation is particularly concerning in rural areas where public water supply is not systematically available and many communities depend on small local village water systems and individual wells. These systems have historically experienced significant difficulties during prolonged summer droughts and periods of increased water demand. The most acute situation identified to date is affecting a vulnerable Roma settlement in Kraljevo, where more than 60 families, approximately 300 people, are currently reported to be without access to drinking water. At the same time, local civil protection data identify additional rural settlements with a combined population of 3,829 people as particularly vulnerable to drinking water shortages. The emergency is therefore considered a slow-onset drought-related water crisis requiring immediate relief for households already without drinking water, combined with preventive action in other high-risk communities.

These prolonged extreme heat are associated with very low Danube water levels creating increased risks for vulnerable communities. In Novi Sad, reduced water availability is particularly concerning for households in substandard Roma settlements, where access to safe drinking water and basic services may already be limited. Prolonged high temperatures further increase the risks of dehydration, heat exhaustion and other heat-related health problems.

In the Municipality of Plandište, extreme temperatures are creating heightened risks for vulnerable people, particularly older persons and children with developmental disabilities who are already reached through home-help services. Their age, health status, disabilities and/or reduced mobility may limit their ability to cope with prolonged heat and increase their dependence on external assistance. An additional emerging concern is the ongoing wildfire in the Deliblatska Peščara area in South Banat. While no direct impact on Plandište has been confirmed, the municipality's relative proximity to the affected area creates a potential risk of smoke and deteriorating air quality, as well as possible disruption to local mobility and services. The combination of wildfire-related risks and extreme heat could further aggravate the vulnerability of older people, children with developmental disabilities and other persons with reduced mobility or chronic health conditions.

2. CHS Commitment 1,2,3,4. Explain the impact of the crisis specific to the people you want to help. Why did you choose to give aid to them and what makes them vulnerable?

According to the reports from the City of Kraljevo and Emergency Management Sector, the most vulnerable locations are rural remote areas around Kraljevo. Out of the 10 affected villages, Philanthropy selected 5 (Gledic, Drlupa, Zakuta, Petropolje and Cukojevac) due to the highest number of single elderly households and the lowest income. In total, there are 1483 persons in these 5 villages, and among them 425 persons above 65. The situation has a particularly severe impact on older and economically vulnerable households. Many older residents live on very low incomes, including agricultural pensions, and do not have younger household members who can regularly collect and transport water. Public transport in many rural areas is limited, unreliable or unavailable, meaning that some households must pay for line-taxi or other private transport simply to obtain drinking water. In addition, older people with chronic illnesses or reduced mobility may be physically unable to carry water into their homes even when transportation can be arranged.

An informal Roma settlement in the urban area of Kraljevo is also particularly affected. Approximately 60 families, representing around 300 people, are reported to lack reliable access to drinking water. The community faces additional vulnerabilities related to poverty, discrimination, social isolation and the absence of alternative safe water sources. Although the settlement is located within the urban area, it is not connected to the municipal water supply network and residents do not have access to alternative village wells.

In Novi Sad, the priority is approximately 120 vulnerable Roma households, around 630 people, living in substandard settlements where access to safe drinking water and basic services may already be limited. Prolonged extreme temperatures and very low Danube water levels increase the risk for households with children, older people, persons with disabilities and limited financial resources.

In Plandište, approximately 70 EHO beneficiaries are prioritized, particularly older people and children with developmental disabilities who receive home-help services. These groups have increased risk of dehydration and heat exhaustion and may have limited capacity to independently secure water, food and other essential items.

3. CHS Commitment 9. Explain the availability of funding each of your organisation can access for this crisis.

Philanthropy is in constant communication with its traditional partners: other ACT members and Catholic Relief Service.

EHO is in the process of consultation with international donors about possibilities for additional funds for this specific crisis.

2.2 Activity Summary

1. CHS Commitment 1, 2, 4. Explain your proposed project and why you have selected this particular response to the crisis and the length of time needed to respond. If multiple members are responding, please explain the role of each member in the coordinated response as indicated in your EPRP Contingency Plan.

Both partners plan to address unmet needs through emergency drinking-water distribution to the most vulnerable households. In addition, water-quality testing of selected village wells will address the major information gap concerning the safety of remaining water sources.

The situation has a particularly severe impact on older and economically vulnerable households. Many older residents live on very low incomes, including agricultural pensions, and do not have younger household members who can regularly collect and transport water. Public transport in many rural areas is limited, unreliable or unavailable, meaning that some households must pay for line-taxi or other private transport simply to obtain drinking water. In addition, older people with chronic illnesses or reduced mobility may be physically unable to carry water into their homes even when transportation can be arranged. This is the reason for selecting distribution of water rather than MPCA.

In parallel with distribution of water Philanthropy will conduct water quality testing in all 5 selected villages and study with

recommendations in order to ensure sustainable flow of safe water in future. Testing will be conducted by qualified company, and Philanthropy will use findings to advocate with local authorities to follow up on recommendations from the study.

Philanthropy is able to respond through its long-standing operational presence in Kraljevo, established community relationships, local staff, volunteers and network of grassroots organizations and local stakeholders.

EHO and Philanthropy will provide safe drinking water for approx. 400 most vulnerable households (1.300 people). Each person will receive 50l of safe drinking water which is sufficient for 10 days according to the Sphere standards.

Both ACT members have long-term presence in the affected areas, and work collaboratively for more than 20 years. EHO's HQ office is based in Novi Sad, providing support to the local communities and people in needs in Vojvodina, while Philanthropy has several offices and local presence in Central and Western part of the Serbia.

2. CHS Commitment 2. Explain how you will start your activities promptly. *Project implementation should start within two weeks. The project should be a maximum of 6 months.*

Immediately after the situation on the ground escalated, Philanthropy staff conducted a needs assessment. In cooperation with stakeholders, criteria for the distribution of safe water were formed. Preparations for the distribution have already started by creating an initial contacts with local community leaders in selected locations as well as potential suppliers. EHO already have great cooperation with all mentioned municipalities, due to realized projects in same.

3. CHS Commitment 6. How are you co-ordinating and with whom? *Coordination ensures complementarity of interventions within forum members and other humanitarian actors to maximise the use of our resources and will address all unmet needs*

EHO and Philanthropy are closely monitoring activities of the other actors in Serbia and coordinating with them in order to avoid overlapping. Philanthropy and EHO are in ongoing communication and coordination from the beginning of crisis. Coordination among these two members is long-term one and responses will be divided geographically, according to the capacities and presence of each member. Coordination has been established as well with the government and local networks in order to facilitate the implementation. Philanthropy and EHO are in constant contact with representatives of the local authorities, the local center for social welfare, the crisis headquarters as well as other faith-based organizations, which ensures that all needs are met, as well as that there are no assistance overlapping.

4. CHS Commitment 3, 9. Where are you planning to procure your goods or services? Please tick boxes that apply. *Goods and services procured locally supports and revitalises economic activity either as livelihood for people or income for small businesses.*

Locally or within the affected areas	☒	Nationally	☐	Regionally or neighbouring countries	☐	Internationally	☐
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Do you have a procurement policy? What factors did you consider when you made this decision?

EHO and Philanthropy have procurement policies. Decision on distribution of water is made on the basis of existing needs as well as functional market in affected areas.

2.3 Description of Target Population

1. CHS Commitment 1, 9. How do you calculate the participants of this project? *For example, food and hygiene kits given to 2500 families, and 1 family = x beneficiaries.*

Based on the RNA, Philanthropy and EHO will roughly support 1400 people. During the distribution, Philanthropy and EHO staff will count the exact number of members of supported families, divided by sex, age and ability.

3. CHS Commitment 4. Explain how the target population is involved in the planning of your proposed intervention? How will they be involved in the implementation and the rest of the project cycle?

The project has been developed after a consultation with the people living in the affected area to incorporate their needs. The project consistently aims to respect and reflect the urgent needs and views of the vulnerable people serves. Targeted population will be invovled in finalizing criteria for the selection of beneficiaries and distribution timeline planning through consultations.

2.4 Expected Results

1. What will this project's success look like based on your time frame? *Please write your activities milestones including dates.*

The success of this project will be empowering the most vulnerable groups of affected populations in meeting their most urgent needs. Activities are as follows:

- Needs assessment (done)
- Definition of criteria for assistance distribution (done)
- Annunciation of criteria for assistance distribution (24 August)
- Acquisition of bottles water (27 August)
- Annunciation of dates of distribution of water (27 August)
- Distribution of water (1 - 5 September)
- Monitoring visits and Post Distribution Monitoring (5 October)
- Water quality testing and study with recommendations (30 October)

2. What are the factors that may stop you from achieving the targets of this project? How will you manage them?

Heavy rains and/or floods that might follow heavy droughts. EHO and Philanthropy will revise needs assessment.

There is also a risk for environment regarding disposal of plastic bottles. Both partners will organise info-sessions in affected communities on proper waste management and importance of recycling.

2.5 Monitoring, Accountability & Learning

1. CHS Commitment 7. Describe how you will monitor the project. What monitoring tools and process will you use? How will you gather lessons from the project?

ACT PME guidelines, principles and standard will be followed along with respective organizational policy for project planning, monitoring and evaluation plan design. Monitoring and evaluation will include field visits to follow up on the achievement of results and preparation of the reports.

Both member will conduct Post Distribution Monitoring that will track level of satisfaction of beneficiaries with provided assistance, quantity of assistance, distribution efficiency and distribution staff work.

Project Coordinators will be responsible for project management and implementation, coordination and facilitation of the activities, monitoring, reporting and evaluation as well as for the promotion of the project on local and regional level and networking with different stakeholders.

2. CHS Commitment 8. Does your organisation have a Code of Conduct? Have all staff and volunteers signed the Code of Conduct? *We may ask you to submit copies of the signed Code of Conduct. You can use ACT Alliance's Code of Conduct if your organisation does not have one.*

All Philanthropy and EHO staff and volunteers have signed the Code of Conduct.

EHO and Philanthropy are certified as a Hosting Organisations for volunteers from EU within European Commission Solidarity Corps. In order to acquire certificate, both organisations developed robust Safeguarding mechanisms with policies and procedures. All staff is trained and oriented in Code of Conduct, Data Protection Policy, Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy, Health and Safety Policy, while Humanitarian department in both organisations are trained on Core Humanitarian Standards and SPHERE standards.

3. How will you ensure you and all stakeholders will be accountable to the affected population? How will you share information? How will you collect and use feedback and complaints? CHS 4 and 5

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Complaints and feedback mechanisms in EHO will be handled via boxes available in crisis headquarters. EHO will improve the accessibility of its complaints mechanism by providing additional options for affected people who cannot easily reach EHO headquarter. Complaints and feedback will be collected during home visits, through selected community representatives and through mobile feedback channels, ensuring that all affected rights holders have a safe and confidential way to raise concerns. Engagement with the project participants will be organized to ensure meaningful and equal participation of women and men, boys and girls.

Philanthropy has open and closed channels for FCRM (phone number, email address, KoBo questionnaire and face to face with staff). Philanthropy's staff is trained on Safeguarding principles and following SoP on handling sensitive and non-sensitive feedback.



Rapid Response Fund

Consolidated Budget and Financial Report

Project Code RRF 23/2026

Project Name Serbia drought

Budget Exchange rate (local currency to 1 USD) 0.009872000

Exchange rate for revised budget (local currency to 1 USD)

Please use exchange rate from this site: <http://www.floatrates.com/historical-exchange->

Approved Budget						Reported Expenses				Unspent Amount	Burn Rate
	Ecumenical	Humanitarian	Foundation of the	Member 3	Total Budget	Humanitarian	Foundation of the	Member 3	Total Expenditure		
1	Total Project Staff Costs		2'702	2'702	-	5'405	-	-	-	5'405	0%
2	Project Activities		12'419	13'929	-	26'348	-	-	-	26'348	0%
2.1	Cash/Vouchers		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2.2	Food/Nutrition		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2.3	Household items		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2.4	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)		12'419	13'929	-	26'348	-	-	-	26'348	0%
2.5	Shelter		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2.6	Disaster Risk Reduction (Max 10% of the budget)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2.7	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2.8			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2.9			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2.10			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
3	Project Implementation		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
4	Quality and Accountability		420	420	-	839	-	-	-	839	0%
5	Logistics		790	888	-	1'678	-	-	-	1'678	0%
6	Assets and Equipment		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Direct Costs			16'331	17'940	-	34'271	-	-	-	34'271	0%
Overhead Costs			1'633	1'794	-	3'427	-	-	-	3'427	0%
Total Budget			17'964	19'734	-	37'698	-	-	-	37'698	0%

Requesting Member Bank Details

ACT member organisation name	Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation
Office Address*	Ćirila i Metodija 21. 21000 Novi Sad, Serbia
Finance Contact 1 - name and email	Annamaria Sebestyen Farago, anamaria@ehons.org
Finance Contact 2 - name and email	Anna Vrbovska, anna.v@ehons.org
Primary contact name and email	Anna Brtka Valent, annabrtka@ehons.org
Bank details	
Registered name of the organisation (as registered in the bank account)	Ekumenska humanitarna organizacija
Office Address (as registered in the bank account)	Ćirila i Metodija 21. 21000 Novi Sad, Serbia
Bank Name	Erste Bank a.d. Novi Sad
Bank address*	Bulevar oslobođenja br. 5, 21000 Novi Sad
Account number or IBAN	RS35340000030006888917
Account name	Ekumenska humanitarna organizacija
Account currency	USD
Bank BIC/Swift Code	GIBARS22
Intermediary bank (if you have it)	
Correspondent Bank (if you have it)	Erste Group Bank Ag Wien, Austria
Please explain if the organisation name registered in the bank is not the same as the name of your organisation	
Please note : Office Address* and Bank address*, including: Street, Name Building, Number District/Area, City, State/Province (if applicable), Postal Code/ZIP Code and Country	

Requesting Member Bank Details

ACT member organisation name	Philanthropy, Charitable Foundation of the Serbian Orthodox Church
Office Address*	25, Cara Iraklija Street 11.000 Belgrade Serbia
Finance Contact 1 - name and email	beograd.f@covekoljublje.org
Finance Contact 2 - name and email	knin@covekoljublje.org
Primary contact name and email	Dragana Levicanin ssu@covekoljublje.org
Bank details	
Registered name of the organisation (as registered in the bank account)	"Čovekoljublje"
Office Address (as registered in the bank account)	Kralja Petra Prvog 5
Bank Name	OTP BANKA SRBIJA A.D.
Bank address*	Novi Sad
Account number or IBAN	RS35325960250000608749
Account name	"Čovekoljublje"
Account currency	USD
Bank BIC/Swift Code	OTPVRS22
Intermediary bank (if you have it)	DEUTSCHE BANK TRUST COMPANY AMERICAS, NEW YORK
Correspondent Bank (if you have it)	
Please explain if the organisation name registered in the bank is not the same as the name of your organisation	<i>Organisation name registered in the bank is on Serbian.</i>
Please note : Office Address* and Bank address*, including: Street, Name Building, Number District/Area, City, State/Province (if applicable), Postal Code/ZIP Code and Country	