

Southeast Europe Distribution System Operator Working Group Addresses Emergency Response and Preparedness in Response to Balkan Flooding ^[1]



SUCCESS STORY

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Recognizing the impact of the recent flooding in Serbia, Montenegro, Croatia and Serbia, USAID awarded the Southeast Europe Security of Supply Distribution System Operator (DSO) Working Group to assist climate emergency in the region improve their capability to manage severe weather events in millions of electricity consumers. In coordination with United States Energy Association and utility regulators in Southeast Europe, the working group focuses on improving the capacity of regional distribution system operators to reduce weather, mitigate climate-related renewable energy, and mitigate the effects of climate-related changes by building their resilience, developing business continuity plans, and implementing all-in weather resiliency services.

Members of the Working Group reported that damage to distribution systems from the recent flooding will require hundreds of millions of dollars for reconstruction. The economic value resulting from the ability to deliver electricity to consumers would be substantially higher. DSOs reported widespread use of costly emergency mobile diesel generators, while restoration continues, it is delayed by a lack of spare parts, maintenance, workmanship and expertise. In the meantime the Working Group members will commence examining the legal, regulatory and financial requirements of rebuilding, issued an interim program to facilitate recovery.

With assistance from members from American Electric Power (AEP) of Columbus, Ohio, the Working Group recently completed benchmarking study comparing outage management metrics between countries in the region and with AEP. Among other benefits, the benchmarking study provides participating entities with a set of metrics on the frequency and duration of weather and non-weather related unplanned outages to identify best practices. The benchmarking process will progress as the data collection and dissemination happens and best practices continue to be refined.

American Electric Power (AEP) volunteered to assist the DSO Working Group to develop business continuity plans, emergency management, emergency procedures, financial and utility strategies used by utilizing strong emergency resources to quickly restore business operations.

The Working Group's Benchmarking Study provides a set of metrics to assist member utilities identify best practices and identify opportunities to improve their own practices. This may be replicated regionally.

The report is available in the region's local languages and is available in the region's local languages. The report is available in the region's local languages.

Attachment

Size

 DSO Emergency and Disaster Response Success Story.pdf^[2]	141.26 KB
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Report Group:

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Energy Category:

[Distribution](#) ^[4]

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[Southeast Europe Distribution System Operator Security of Supply Working Group \(DSO\)](#) ^[5]

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