



Brussels, 6.10.2023
C(2023) 6621 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 6.10.2023

**on the financing of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and adopting a multiannual
work programme for 2021-2026 repealing and replacing Implementing Decision
C(2022) 9290 final**

(Text with EEA relevance)

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

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on the financing of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and adopting a multiannual work programme for 2021-2026 repealing and replacing Implementing Decision C(2022) 9290 final

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012¹, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism², and in particular Article 25(5) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Union Civil Protection Mechanism ('UCPM'), established by Decision No 1313/2013/EU, aims to strengthen cooperation between the Union and Member States and facilitate coordination in the field of civil protection in order to improve the effectiveness of systems for preventing, preparing for and responding to natural and man-made disasters.
- (2) The multiannual work programme for years 2021-2025 and the financing thereof was adopted by Commission Implementing Decision C(2022) 9290 final³. In Decision C(2022) 9290 final, the Commission set the maximum Union contribution for the UCPM at EUR 2 873 508 890 for years 2021-2025.
- (3) The extended grant allocation until 2026 concerns only action entitled 'rescEU capacities', which is essential to allow for the planned financing of aerial forest firefighting capacities as part of 'rescEU' to address an alarming acceleration of wildfires across Europe. The additional funds for the planned financing of 'rescEU capacities' under action 2.2 of the Annex to this Decision give rise to the increase of budgetary allocation to the maximum Union contribution to EUR 3 019 992 356.
- (4) In order to ensure the implementation of the UCPM, and in particular due to the nature of the actions entitled 'rescEU capacities', which require additional budgetary

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1.

² OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 924.

³ C(2022) 9290 final, Commission Implementing Decision of 15.12.2022 amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2022) 961 final on the financing of Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

resources from the Multiannual Financial Framework beyond its annual allocation, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing decision which constitutes the multiannual work programme for the years 2021-2026. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.

- (5) The multiannual work programme 2021-2026, as set out in the Annex to this Decision, identifies the actions that should be eligible for financial assistance under the UCPM in the field of prevention, preparedness and horizontal actions.
- (6) The Commission should acknowledge and accept contributions from other donors in accordance with Article 21(2), point (e), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreement. Where such contributions are not denominated in euro, a reasonable estimate of conversion should be made.
- (7) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures⁴ adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU and with any conditionality measures adopted pursuant to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2092 of 16 December 2020 on a general regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union budget⁵.
- (8) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
- (9) Pursuant to Article 62(1), point (c), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 and Article 25(2) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU, indirect management can be used for the implementation of the programme.
- (10) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046. To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046⁶ and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of the mentioned Regulation before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (11) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment based on Article 116(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (12) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the multiannual work programme, it is appropriate to allow changes, which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (13) Implementing Decision C(2022) 9220 final should therefore be repealed and replaced.
- (14) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Civil Protection Committee established by Article 33 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU,

⁴ www.sanctionsmap.eu. Note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy the OJ prevails.

⁵ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2092 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2020 on a general regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union budget, OJ L 433, 22.12.2020, p. 1.

⁶ The Commission may decide not to require an ex-ante assessment as referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 in accordance with Article 154(6) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The work programme

The multiannual financing decision, constituting the multiannual work programme for the implementation of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism ('UCPM') for the years 2021-2026, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

Article 2

Union contribution

- (1) The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the work programme for 2021-2026 is set at **EUR 3 019 992 356⁷**. It shall be financed from contributions from other donors to the general budget of the Union and from the appropriations entered in the following lines of the general budget of the Union:
 - (a) budget line 06.0501 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) under the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2021: **EUR 127 740 471**;
 - (b) budget line 06.0501 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) under the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2022: **EUR 231 596 882**;
 - (c) budget line 06.0501 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) under the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2023: **EUR 187 946 273**;
 - (d) budget line 06.0501 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) under the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2024: **EUR 222 078 403**;
 - (e) budget line 06.0501 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) under the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2025: **EUR 125 200 000**.
 - (f) budget line 06.0501 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) under the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2026: **EUR 90 400 000**
- (2) The appropriations provided for in paragraph 1 may also cover interest due for late payment.
- (3) The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the general draft budget of the Union for 2024, 2025 and 2026 following the adoption of that budget by the budgetary authority.

Article 3

Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons

The implementation of the actions carried out by indirect management, as set out in the Annex, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 5.3 of that Annex.

⁷ The total financial allocation for 2021-2026 is composed of EUR 2 035 030 326 from the European Union Recovery Instrument and EUR 984 962 030 from the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF). This amount includes an estimated amount of EUR 78 712 544 as UCPM Participating States and EFTA contributions that are subject to further changes.

Article 4

Flexibility clause

Cumulated changes⁸ to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20 % of the maximum Union contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial within the meaning of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and the objective of the work programme. The increase of the maximum Union contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this Decision shall not exceed 20 %.

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Article 5

Grants

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annex. Grants may be awarded to the bodies selected in accordance with points 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.3, and 2.3.3 of the Annex.

Article 6

Repeal

Implementing Decision C(2022) 9290 final is repealed and replaced.

References to Implementing Decision C(2022) 9290 final shall be construed as references to this Decision.

Done at Brussels, 6.10.2023

For the Commission

Janez LENARČIČ

Member of the Commission

⁸ These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.