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ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

on the financing of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and adopting a multi-annual work programme for 2021-2024 and repealing Implementing Decision C(2021)935 final

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ANNEX

**Multi-annual Work Programme for 2021 - 2024 for the Union Civil Protection
Mechanism (rescEU)**

1. INTRODUCTION

On the basis of the objectives given in Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism¹, this multi-annual work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for years 2021-2024, as follows:

- a) for grants (implemented under direct management) (section 2),
- b) for procurement (implemented under direct management) (section 3),
- c) for other actions or expenditure (section 4),
- d) for actions implemented under indirect management (point 5).

This multi-annual work programme covers prevention and preparedness actions funded under both the Multiannual Financial Framework and the European Union Recovery Instrument.

Climate and environment mainstreaming

Reflecting the importance of tackling climate change and environmental degradation in line with the European Green Deal, the Union's commitments to implement the Paris Agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity and other multilateral environmental agreements, and the commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, the UCPM aims, *inter alia*, to ensure that the actions implemented under this work programme should contribute to the achievement of a 30% target of all MFF expenditure spent on mainstreaming climate objectives and the ambition of 7.5% of the budget reflecting biodiversity expenditures in 2024 and 10% in 2026 and 2027. The Union target of contributing to overall climate objectives and to the ambition of mainstreaming biodiversity action shall be duly taken into account to the extent that the unpredictability and specific circumstances of disaster prevention and preparedness so allow.

¹ The Decision has been recently amended by Regulation (EU) 2021/836 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism, OJ L 185, 26.5.2021, p. 1.

1.1. Legal basis

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 966/2012², and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism³ (hereafter referred as ‘Decision No 1313/2013/EU’, and in particular Article 25(5) thereof.

In accordance with Article 26 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU, actions receiving financial assistance under this Decision will be carried out in coherence with other financed actions supported from Union funds.

1.2. Budget line

06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)
06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) from funds made available under the European Union Recovery Instrument

Implementation arrangements	Budget line 06 05 01- Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) Budget line 06.0501 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) from funds made available under the European Union Recovery Instrument
Grants	EUR 1 094 248 277
Procurement	EUR 42 738 095
Other actions and expenditures	EUR 14 802 520
Indirect management	EUR 3 440 000
TOTAL	EUR 1 155 228 892⁴

² OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1.

³ OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 924.

⁴ The total financial allocation for 2021-2024 is composed of EUR 739 988 330 from the European Union Recovery Instrument and EUR 415 240 561,75 from the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF). The latter includes an estimated amount of EUR 45 747 545,75 as Participating States estimated contributions that are subject to further changes.

1.3. Objectives pursued

The **general objective** of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism ('Mechanism' or 'UCPM') is to strengthen the cooperation between the Union and the Member States and to 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. By doing so, the Mechanism aims to protect primarily people, but also the environment and property, including cultural heritage, from all kinds of natural and man-made disasters, including the consequences of acts of terrorism, technological, radiological, environmental or maritime disasters and acute health emergencies, occurring inside or outside the Union (Article 1(2) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU). This work programme covers actions that are eligible for financial assistance under the Mechanism in the field of prevention and preparedness over the period 2021 - 2024, funded under both the Multiannual Financial Framework and the European Union Recovery Instrument.

Specific objectives covered by the Multiannual Financial Framework:

- a) To achieve a high level of protection against all kind of emergencies, by preventing or reducing their potential effects, by fostering a culture of prevention and by improving cooperation between the civil protection and other relevant services;
- b) To enhance preparedness at Member State and Union level to respond to disasters and to strengthen international cooperation with third countries, including with EU neighbours in Western Balkans, Eastern and Southern neighbourhood;
- c) To facilitate rapid and efficient response in the event of disasters or imminent disasters, including in countries and territories in the neighbourhood of the EU outermost regions;
- d) To increase public awareness, prevention and preparedness for disasters and other emergencies falling under the remit of the UCPM;
- e) To strengthen resilience to future disasters and emergencies at Member States and Union level by facilitating cross-sharing of experiences, good practices and lessons learnt and by promoting close collaboration and communication between various actors and stakeholders across the entire disaster management cycle (prevention, preparedness and response).

Specific objectives covered by the European Union Recovery Instrument:

- f) To put in place mitigation measures against the risk of further waves of COVID 19 and, or major crises of a similar nature and reduce its impact;
- g) To increase capacity building at Union level to enhance preparedness for future major crisis of a similar nature;
- h) To increase public awareness, prevention and preparedness related to COVID 19;
- i) To strengthen resilience to future waves of Covid-19 crisis at Member States/Union level and in third countries, if those activities increase the crisis preparedness of the Union.

1.4. Expected results

- 1) Progress in implementing the disaster prevention framework: measured by the number of Member States that have made available to the Commission a summary of their risk assessments and a summary of the assessment of their risk management capability as referred to in Article 6 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU, in line with the guidelines developed by the Commission and by the number/outcome of Member States participating in voluntary peer reviews on the

assessment of risk management capabilities.

- 2) Progress in increasing the level of preparedness for disasters: measured by the quantity of response capacities included in the European Civil Protection Pool and additional capacities developed as rescEU capacities, in relation to the capacity goals referred to in Article 11 and the number of modules registered in the CECIS.
- 3) Progress in improving the response to disasters, measured by the speed of interventions under the Mechanism and the extent to which the assistance contributes to the needs on the ground.
- 4) Progress in increasing public awareness and preparedness for disasters: measured by the level of awareness of Union citizens of the risks in their region.
- 5) Progress in improving the protection of citizens and critical infrastructure against chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives incidents (CBRN-E) and emerging threats.
- 6) Support to the implementation of the Commission's Action Plan to enhance preparedness against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) security risks (COM(2017) 610).
- 7) Support in achieving the objectives of Council Regulation 2020/2094 of 14 December 2020 establishing a European Union Recovery Instrument to support the recovery in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis by increasing the level of the Union's crisis preparedness and avoiding a re-emergence of the crisis.
- 8) Progress in the EU neighbourhood in implementing the EU's disaster prevention framework, their progress in readiness for and response to disasters.

The indicated budget amounts, as earmarked for the period 2021 - 2024, are for Member States⁵ and/or for partners (countries) eligible for funding under the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance ('IPA beneficiaries')⁶ and the European Neighbourhood Policy countries⁷ and may, as indicated in Article 2 of the Financing Decision, be supplemented by contributions from the EEA countries and future acceding, candidate countries or potential candidates (countries) which have signed the appropriate agreement with the EU⁸. Funding of activities under the European Union Recovery Instrument in third countries or benefitting

⁵ In light of Article 28(1a) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU, where reference is made to Member States, it shall be understood as including Participating States as defined in Article 4(12) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU.

⁶ Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Republic of Turkey and Kosovo*. Serbia, Montenegro, Turkey and North Macedonia are participating in the Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

⁷ Eastern Neighbourhood countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine; Southern Neighbourhood countries: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine**, Syria*** and Tunisia.

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

** This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

*** EU cooperation with Syria is currently suspended due to the political situation; however, since in principle Syria is eligible for cooperation under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument, activities may be taken up again once the situation improves.

⁸ The States taking part in the UCPM include all EU Member States, as well as Iceland, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia and Turkey as Participating States. The terms and conditions applicable to the submission, assessment and selection of applications under the multi-annual work programme by eligible institutions, organisations and individuals of third countries participating in the Union Mechanism in accordance with Article 28(1) shall be the same as those applicable to eligible institutions, organisations and individuals of the Member States of the European Union.

third countries is only possible where those activities increase the crisis preparedness of the Union.

2. GRANTS

The global budgetary envelope reserved for grants under this work programme is **EUR 1 094 248 277**.

2.1. Disaster Risk Management

2.1.1. Multi-country prevention and preparedness projects

Objectives

- To achieve a high level of protection against disasters with cross-border⁹ impacts by preventing or reducing their potential effects, by fostering a culture of prevention and by improving cooperation between the civil protection, maritime and other relevant services/stakeholders.
- To enhance cooperation and coordination in the area of disaster risk management between authorities and stakeholders in Member States and Participating States, IPA beneficiaries not participating in the Mechanism, and/or European Neighbourhood Policy countries, based on existing cross-border or macro-regional agreements or strategies, including regional sea conventions.
- To promote the use of various Union funds which may support sustainable cross-border disaster risk management and encourage relevant actors in the Member States and cross-border regions to exploit these funding opportunities.
- To support cross-border exchange of knowledge, including on risk assessment, economic analyses, prevention and preparedness measures, in view of preventing a possible re-emergence of Covid-19 crisis or related risks.

Type of applicants targeted by call for proposals

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

Budget line 06 05 01 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) – fund source: European Union Recovery Instrument

Public and/or private entities from Member States, Participating States and third countries (IPA beneficiaries not participating in the Mechanism and/or European Neighbourhood Policy country), including European groupings of territorial cooperation (EGTC) and international organisations.

Proof of consultation with national civil protection or maritime authorities of countries benefitting from the projects is required.

Description of the activities to be funded by the call for proposals

Developing tools, frameworks and promoting knowledge exchange on disaster risk management including, among others: data collection/analysis, support to decision-making tools, studies, risk maps, methodologies and science-based communication tools to improve understanding and management of risks.

⁹“Cross-border” as meaning “regions sharing a common border” versus “transnational” as meaning “covering larger areas” or “not contiguous regions”.

Implementation

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through a call for proposals (planned co-financed rate of up to 95% of eligible costs).

Expected results

- Enhanced cooperation, coordination and capability in the area of disaster risk management in Member States and Participating States, IPA beneficiaries not participating in the Mechanism, and/or European Neighbourhood Policy countries.
- Enhanced exchange of good practices, expertise and planning among all the actors involved in disaster risk management.
- Enhanced understanding of key shared risk(s) in Member States and Participating States, IPA beneficiaries not participating in the Mechanism, and/or European Neighbourhood Policy countries.

Expected outputs

Examples include, but are not limited to, the following outputs:

- Recommendations based on a cross-border or maritime risk assessments developed.
- Studies required for investments in prevention or preparedness measure(s) .
- IT tools and systems, including open-source IT platforms, for data/information-sharing, decision-making or early warning are developed.
- Training technology or methodology is developed.
- Regional manuals/guidelines are developed or upgraded.
- Campaigns, e-learning modules and other digital measures to raise awareness of disaster risks and disaster prevention are developed.

Consultation with relevant EU services and international organisations should be ensured throughout the planning and implementation of all of the above activities in order to pursue, where possible, synergies and efficiencies. Coherence and coordination with EU regional and national initiatives and programmes should be ensured (e.g. Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance, Prevention Preparedness and Response to Disasters South and East Programmes).

2.1.2. Single country grants for disaster risk management**Objectives**

- To support Member States' efforts in enhancing their institutional, technical and financial capacity for preparing, implementing and monitoring disaster prevention and preparedness activities, including in relation to the Covid-19 crisis.
- To sustain Member States efforts to anticipate future systemic shocks, related to pandemics and/or other hazards, by providing grants and technical assistance to prepare investments and/or plans.
- To support and complement prevention activity in order to achieve a high level of protection against disasters by preventing or reducing their potential effects, by fostering a culture of prevention and by improving cooperation between the civil protection and other relevant services.
- To improve the knowledge base on disaster risks and facilitate the sharing of good practices in prevention and preparedness planning.

- To support the exchange of knowledge, including on risk assessment, risk awareness, economic analyses and prevention and preparedness measures, in view of preventing a possible re-emergence of Covid-19 crisis or related risks.

To improve the knowledge base and facilitate sharing of good practices on the link between restoration of ecosystem and nature-based solutions and disaster risk prevention and preparedness. To promote the use of various Union funds for the purpose of strengthening disaster risk management.

Type of applicants targeted by the grants to be awarded without a call for proposals (hereinafter: ‘direct grants’)

Budget line 06.0501 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

Budget line 06 05 01 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) – fund source: European Union Recovery Instrument

National authorities of Member States, i.e. bodies having a *de jure* or *de facto* monopoly on the type of activities or bodies designated by the Member States, under their responsibility, where those Member States are in a *de jure* or *de facto* monopoly situation.

According to Article 195 point (a) and (c) of the Financial Regulation, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals for the purposes of emergency support operations, civil protection operations or for crisis management aid or to bodies with a *de jure* or *de facto* monopoly or to bodies designated by the Member States, under their responsibility, where those Member States are in a *de jure* or *de facto* monopoly situation.

Description of the activities to be funded by direct grants

Supporting Member States with activities aiming to improve disaster risk management at national/sub-national level, while promoting coherence between national and European programmes, with due consideration of climate change and Covid-19 impacts. This may include, *inter alia*: multi-risk or risk-specific disaster risk management plans, investment plans, databases, feasibility studies, measures to enhance business continuity and assessments preliminary to financing of structural and non-structural prevention and preparedness measures (including from European Union Recovery Instrument), EU Cohesion Policy Funds, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, the EU LIFE Programme, the European Investment Bank, the World Bank and other International Financing Institutions).

Implementation

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through direct grants without a call for proposals (planned co-financed rate of up to 95% of eligible costs).

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through direct grants without call for proposals to be awarded to Member States or bodies designated by the Member States, in accordance with Article 195 points (a) and (c) of the Financial Regulation.

Expected results

- Contribution to the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.
- Cooperation, exchange of good practices and support for capacity building in risk management planning are improved.
- Improved capabilities for collection and processing of and access to disaster loss data.
- Stronger links between relevant stakeholders and EU policy objectives (cohesion policy, climate change adaptation policy, biodiversity strategy, sustainable finance, private sector etc.) throughout the disaster management cycle (prevention, preparedness, response, recovery).

- Improved disaster management capabilities in Member States and Participating States, including based on lessons and good practices identified during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Expected outputs

- At least one risk management plan is developed.
- At least one feasibility study for a disaster risk management investment is developed.
- At least one national multi-hazard disaster loss database is developed.

2.2. Capacities

2.2.1. The European Civil Protection Pool

Objectives

Develop a European Civil Protection Pool (ECP) consisting of a voluntary pool of pre-committed response capacities of the Member States and including modules, other response capacities and categories of experts.

Type of applicants targeted by the grants awarded without a call for proposals

Budget line 06.0501 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

Budget line 06 05 01 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) – fund source: European Union Recovery Instrument

- Member States' competent authorities or other entities authorised by the Member State to register the response capacity to the European Civil Protection Pool and to request and receive financial support from the Commission on behalf of that Member State, on the basis of Article 17 of Implementing Decision 2014/762/EU.
- According to Article 195 points (a) and (c) of the Financial Regulation, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals for the purposes of emergency support operations, civil protection operations or for crisis management aid or to bodies with a *de jure* or *de facto* monopoly or to bodies designated by the Member States, under their responsibility, where those Member States are in a *de jure* or *de facto* monopoly situation.

Description of the activities to be funded under direct grants

- Financing the upgrade costs of response capacities, including those with a health-related focus, so as to make them deployable as part of the European Civil Protection Pool, through direct grants with Member States' authorities. Up to 75% of eligible costs will be covered, provided this does not exceed 50% of the average cost of developing the capacity.
- Financing the repair costs of response capacities, including those with a health-related focus, so as to make them deployable as part of the European Civil Protection Pool, through direct grants. Up to 75% of eligible costs will be covered.
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Implementation

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through direct grants without call for proposals to be awarded to Member States or bodies designated by the Member States, in accordance with Article 195 (a) and (c) of the Financial Regulation.

The grant will be awarded against criteria that assess the relevance, quality and impact of the committed capacities.

Expected results

- Increased number of response capacities, particularly those that are health-related, that meet the requirements for certification and registration in the European Civil Protection Pool, including the European Medical Corps.
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Expected outputs

- At least 20 adaptation grants¹⁰ to be signed.
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2.2.2. rescEU Transition

Objectives

To establish and manage grant agreements to ensure a smooth transition towards the full implementation of rescEU and to address temporary shortcomings in response capacities, notably in the area of aerial forest firefighting (Article 35 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

Type of applicants targeted by the grant without call for proposals

Budget line 06.0501 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

Member States' competent authorities or other entities authorised by the Member State to request and receive financial support from the Commission on behalf of that Member State for standby costs of national capacities registered for a transitional period of time as “*rescEU*”.

Description of the activities to be funded by direct grants

Activities necessary to ensure rapid access to national aerial forest firefighting means (modules using planes and helicopters) will be considered as eligible for the grant. The related costs shall include stand-by costs (costs related to maintenance, to staff and training, to warehousing, to insurance and other costs necessary to ensure the effective availability of such capacities).

Implementation

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through direct grants awarded to Member States or bodies designated by Member States, without a call for proposals, in accordance with Article 195 points (c) and (d) of the Financial Regulation (co-finance rate of 75% of stand-by costs).

The grant will be awarded against criteria that assess the relevance, adaptability, cost-efficiency, and effectiveness of the resources that the Member States intend to commit as rescEU capacities.

¹⁰Adaptation grants are defined in Article 21(2), point (c) of Decision No 2013/1313 and they cover up to 75% of the eligible “*costs necessary to upgrade or repair responses capacities to a state of readiness and availability that makes them deployable as part of the European Civil Protection Pool [...]*”.

Expected results

- The availability of aerial firefighting capacities to respond to forest fires is increased in the short-term.

Expected outputs

- At least ten forest fire fighting aircraft (airplanes and helicopters) from national fleets are made available as rescEU capacities.

2.2.3. *rescEU Capacities*

Objectives

- Develop additional reserve capacities defined as rescEU by means of Implementing Decision(s) in order to support Member States in overwhelming situations, notably as provided in Article 12(2) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU in the areas of forest fires, chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN), medical emergencies, including a wide range of medical stockpiling encompassing equipment, therapeutics and vaccines, and in relation to high impact low probability events.
- Enable an effective response to major emergencies within the EU, including a possible re-emergence of Covid-19 pandemic.
- Enable an effective response to disasters outside the Union, when these can affect significantly one or several Member States or their citizens.
- Enable cross-sectoral cooperation in responding to CBRN threats (such as cooperation between the law enforcement, health and civil protection authorities).

Type of applicants targeted by the grant without call for proposals

Budget line 06.0501 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

Budget line 06 05 01 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) – fund source: European Union Recovery Instrument

Member States' competent authorities or other entities authorised by the Member State to develop rescEU capacities and to request and receive financial support from the Commission on behalf of that Member State.

Description of the activities to be funded by direct grants

- Activities necessary to develop additional reserve capacities defined as rescEU, including equipment, therapeutics and vaccines to contain the spread of Covid-19 or prevent its re-emergence.
- Activities necessary to ensure the effective availability of and ability to deploy the rescEU capacities, including cargo/transport capacities to allow transport activities during emergencies, and in addition shelter and medical evacuation.
- Activities necessary to develop or update existing standard operational procedures and exercises to ensure the effective use of these capacities.

Implementation

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through direct grants to Member States or bodies designated by

Member States, with no call for proposals, in accordance with Article 195 points (c) and (d) of the Financial Regulation.

Categories of costs that may be eligible for funding are listed in Annex Ia to Decision No 1313/2013/EU.

Expected results

- Response capacities addressing specific risks are made available to Member States for interventions within and outside the EU.
- Establishment of medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) capacities, including Highly Infectious Disease and Disaster Victim MEDEVAC.
- Establishment of cargo/transport capacities to allow transport activities during any emergencies (subject to the adoption of a specific Implementing Act).
- Establishment of shelter capacities that can be used for various types of disasters.
- Establishment of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and/or Nuclear (CBRN)-related capacities that could be made available and deployable to Member States in the event of large-scale emergencies of a CBRN nature.
- Cross-sectoral cooperation in responding to CBRN threats (such as cooperation between the law enforcement, health and civil protection authorities) is reinforced, and synergies with activities that already contribute to CBRN action plan are ensured.

Expected outputs

- Further development of response capacities in the areas of aerial forest fires fighting (AFF) capacities, medical evacuation capacities, CBRN capacities and medical stockpiling capacities.
- Establishment of at least one additional AFF capacity.
- At least one capacity is created such as medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) and EMT-2 capacities.
- Establishment of at least one Chemical, Biological, Radiological and/or Nuclear (CBRN)-related capacity.
- Establishment of cargo/transport capacities to allow transport activities during any emergencies.
- At least one new type of rescEU response capacity is developed at Union level in order to address at least one specific risk category.

2.3. Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network

2.3.1. Union Civil Protection Mechanism Exercises

Objectives

- To improve civil protection preparedness and response to all kinds of disasters inside or outside the EU under the Union Mechanism.
- To provide an additional platform for the certification of response capacities registered to the European Civil Protection Pool and of rescEU capacities.
- To test and improve existing and/or new operational concepts and procedures.
- To establish a common approach for the coordination of assistance interventions under the Union Mechanism and reduce the response time in major disasters.
- To enhance cooperation between the civil protection, humanitarian aid and/or maritime services of Member States and the Commission.

- To identify and share lessons learnt from exercises as part of the UCPM Lessons Learnt Programme.
- To test the implementation of lessons identified under the UCPM Lessons Learnt Programme, including those concerning Covid-19 crisis.

Type of applicants targeted by the calls for proposals

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

- ✓ Public and/or private entities, including European groupings of territorial cooperation (EGTC), and international organisations. Proof of support from national civil protection authorities will be required.
- ✓ With the exception of international organisations, entities established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:
 - Member States;
 - States participating in the Mechanism;
 - Eligible non-EU countries, i.e.:
 - IPA beneficiaries not participating in the Mechanism: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*.
 - European Neighbourhood Policy countries:
 - Eastern Neighbourhood: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.
 - Southern Neighbourhood: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.

Description of the activities to be funded under the calls for proposals

- Full-scale exercises: design, plan, conduct and evaluate exercises with scenarios simulating the situation and conditions of all types of disasters and emergencies calling for the activation of the Mechanism. These include, but are not limited to epidemic/health risks, forest fires, floods, earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes, maritime emergencies, industrial risk, critical infrastructure, CBRN and multi-sectorial emergencies, inside or outside the EU. The exercise project could consist of a combination of different exercise types ranging from table top exercises (TTX) to command post exercises (CPX) with a full-scale exercise (FSX) in a multi-national scenario as main event of the project.
- Other table top or command-post exercises: design, plan, conduct and evaluate table top or command post exercises simulating the situation and conditions of all types of emergencies calling for the activation of the Mechanism. The topics covered can be the following:
 - Cross-border: exercises involving two countries sharing a border plus a third one (as minimum), with a scenario depicting a cross-border situation to test cross-border procedures in place, host nation support and the UCPM.
 - rescEU: exercises with a scenario calling for the activation of the Mechanism and testing the activation, deployment and coordination of rescEU capacities.
 - Host nation support: exercises enhancing host nation support and implementing the EU Host Nation Support Guidelines.

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

Coordination with or active participation of national civil protection or maritime authorities and organisations within emergency preparedness should be ensured for every activity. Activities should also address the cooperation with non-civil protection actors.

Countries will participate, through the ERCC, following established procedures (e.g. use of CECIS or CECIS Marine and activation of the Mechanism). Participants will include, among others: intervention teams (including modules), teams of assessment and/or coordination experts (EUCPT), technical experts, national key contact point staff, other intervention support resources and officials of the EU Institutions, including humanitarian aid experts (as required by the exercise scenario).

Consultation with relevant EU services and international organisations will be ensured throughout planning and implementation of all of the above activities in order to pursue, where possible, synergies and efficiencies.

For project taking place in eligible non-European countries, coherence and coordination with EU regional and national initiatives and programmes should be ensured (e.g. IPA, PPRD South and East Programmes, the EU CBRN Centres of Excellence), as well as linkages with the international response coordination system, where appropriate.

Implementation

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through a call for proposals (planned co-financing rate of up to 85% of eligible costs).

Expected results

- Response capacity of Member States and the Mechanism is improved, in particular with regard to teams and other assets provided in civil protection and maritime assistance interventions, through the preparation of an improvement plan at the end of the exercise.
- Response capacity of IPA beneficiary not participating in the Mechanism and/or European Neighbourhood Policy countries is improved, in particular with regard to teams and other assets provided in civil protection and maritime assistance interventions, through the preparation of an improvement plan at the end of the exercise.
- Cooperation in disaster response among civil protection, maritime, humanitarian actors and international organisations is improved.
- Procedures are improved and verified, the common approach for the coordination of civil protection assistance interventions is further improved and the response time in major disasters is reduced.
- Cooperation at international level between the civil protection and maritime services of Member States, the Commission and other relevant actors is improved.
- Lessons are identified through the evaluations during the exercise and shared and disseminated through the Knowledge Network, as part of the UCPM Lessons Learnt Programme.

Expected outputs

- 4 UCPM Exercises funded.
- A number of exercises project financed proportionally to the available budget.

2.3.2. Network Partnership

Objectives

- To enable the establishment of new communities and networks of civil protection and other relevant disaster management actors and to support and promote existing ones.
- To support the design, development, implementation and evaluation of skills and capacity-development activities and to ensure their alignment with the priorities of the Knowledge Network and the work of the Knowledge Network Pillars.
- To facilitate scientific research and innovation activities and exchanges in the sectors covered by rescEU and to support uptake of scientific outcomes by operational stakeholders.
- To support the development and dissemination of knowledge, good practices, lessons learnt, recommendations and technical expertise in civil protection and disaster management, including in climate change adaptation and resilience sectors, including in relations to nature-based solutions.
- To contribute to building new and developing further existing competencies, skills, knowledge and expertise in civil protection and disaster management at individual, organisational and institutional levels.
- To enhance international and cross-border cooperation and interoperability in the preparedness phase among civil protection and disaster management stakeholders, including through scenario-building, testing and validation of concepts.
- To enhance cooperation and synergies with humanitarian stakeholders involved in disaster preparedness and response activities.

Type of applicants targeted by the call for proposals

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

- Public, private entities, including European groupings of territorial cooperation (EGTC), and international organisations. Proof of support with civil protection or disaster management national authorities will be required for applicants.
- Entities and organisations that train, educate experts or carry out research or develop new technologies in specific civil protection areas.
- With the exception of international organisations, entities established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:
 - Member States
 - States participating in the Mechanism
 - Eligible third countries, i.e.:
 - IPA beneficiaries not participating in the Mechanism: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo.
 - European Neighbourhood Policy countries:
 - Eastern Neighbourhood: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.
 - Southern Neighbourhood: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.

Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals

Examples include, but are not limited to the following activities:

- Meetings and networking events, studies, surveys, analyses, assessments and research, workshops

<p>and seminars, development and testing of new technologies and IT tools, scenario-building, public and expert awareness-raising and communication (modular, Training of Trainers, ad hoc, etc.) design and application of training methodologies and activities, exposure and exchange visits, coaching and mentorship, simulations, exercises to test methods/solutions etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed training content and activities should not be covered by the UCPM Training Programme and other ad hoc training activities organised under the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network.
<p>Implementation</p> <p>Direct implementation by DG ECHO through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Call for proposals (planned co-financing rate of up to 85% of eligible costs).
<p>Expected results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disaster preparedness capabilities of UCPM Member States, Participating States and other UCPM stakeholders is improved at individual and organisational levels. Cooperation in disaster prevention, preparedness and response among civil protection, disaster management, maritime and humanitarian actors at national and international levels are improved. New networking and partnership opportunities among relevant civil protection, disaster management actors, maritime and humanitarian actors are established and strengthened, involving also climate change adaptation and resilience experts, as appropriate. Knowledge, skills, expertise, and similar competencies are further developed in civil protection and disaster management in order to improve the UCPM as a whole, as well as benefiting experts, practitioners, analysts and researchers.
<p>Expected outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 projects financed. A number of projects financed proportionally to the available budget.

2.3.3. Workshops with the Presidency of the Council of the European Union

<p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To exchange knowledge and experience on specific strategic/operational civil protection issues and to discuss further civil protection activities organised in cooperation with the Czech Republic and Sweden's Presidencies of the Council of the European Union.
<p>Type of applicants targeted by the grant awarded without a call for proposals</p> <p>Budget line 06.0501 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public entities from Member States having a <i>de jure</i> or <i>de facto</i> monopoly on the type of activity, due to its nature.
<p>Description of the activities to be funded under the grant awarded without a call for proposals</p> <p>Workshops (one per each Presidency of the Council).</p>
<p>Implementation</p>

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through a direct grant without a call for proposals, in accordance with Article 195 point (c) of the Financial Regulation (maximum co-finance rate of 75% of eligible costs).

Expected results

- Increased awareness and better understanding of strategic and operational civil protection challenges, including those concerning Covid-19 crisis.
- Increased awareness and knowledge on rescEU capacities established with support from the European Union Recovery Instrument such as cargo/transport, shelter, medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) and/or Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear (CBRN)-related capacities.
- Improved collaboration and consensus among the main stakeholders from the Member States on strategic and operational civil protection issues.
- Increased complementarity, synergies and linkages with other relevant policies, instruments and tools (humanitarian aid, regional development, climate change adaptation, security, development cooperation etc.).
- Increased awareness and better understanding of Standard Operational Procedures in the area of civil protection and/or civil protection cross sectorial guidelines/procedures.

Expected outputs

- Summary of key policy messages agreed upon by Member States during the Presidency (one per each Presidency of the Council of the EU).
- Meetings and/or workshops focused on particular civil protection policy areas.
- Workshops on prevention, preparedness and response measures adopted by the Union to prevent a potential re-emergence of Covid-19 crisis or other large scale emergencies.

3. PROCUREMENT

The budgetary envelope reserved for procurement contracts amounts to **EUR 42 738 095**.

3.1. Evidence-base and situational awareness

3.1.1. Strengthening the evidence base for disaster risk management

Objectives

- To improve the knowledge base on and management of disaster risks, including the implications of climate change on such risks, economic analysis of prevention and preparedness, and facilitate the sharing of knowledge, best practices and information, including among Member States that share common risks, including in the field of education and awareness raising.
- To support and promote Member States risk assessment and mapping activities.
- Contribute to and support better understanding of threats, disaster risks, vulnerabilities, risk management capabilities, socio-economic benefits of resilience at Union and national levels.
- To strengthen disaster risk management knowledge and seek possible prevention opportunities in light of future policy developments.
- To promote prevention and preparedness measures in the Member States and third countries, referred to in Article 28, through the sharing of good practices and lessons learnt (including on

Covid-19 crisis) and facilitate access to specific knowledge and expertise on issues of common interest.

General description of the contracts envisaged

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

Budget line 06 05 01 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) – fund source: European Union Recovery Instrument

Studies, reports, guidelines, evaluations.

Consultation with relevant Union services and international organisations will be ensured throughout planning and implementation of all of the above activities in order to pursue, where possible, synergies and efficiencies.

Expected results

- Improved knowledge base on disaster risks, including loss data, use of climate change projections for disaster risk management planning, implications of climate change on disaster risks, economic aspects of prevention and preparedness and financial resilience.
- Improved knowledge of vulnerabilities, potential large-scale disaster/emergencies scenarios with high impact on several Member States (e.g. Covid-19 crisis), and disaster resilience building needs and directions. Evaluation and subsequent development of guidelines for and practices of risk assessment and mapping for disaster risk management¹¹, with a view of improving the support and promotion of Member States risk assessment and mapping activities and support to the development and implementation of Union disaster resilience goals.
- Better use of scientific evidence, prevention and preparedness project results, Horizon 2020 security research project results and other and relevant data, including innovation in disaster risk prevention and management and synergies with climate change adaptation.
- Better exchange of applied innovative knowledge, risk assessment tools, risk awareness raising, prevention measures, economic analysis and cross-border cooperation on disaster risk management.
- Improved knowledge on the impact of the past UCPM projects and regional programmes (IPA, PPRD South and PPRD East), identifying gaps and needs for future activities in the regions.
- Increased knowledge and understanding of civil protection prevention and preparedness measures to avoid a possible re-emergence of Covid-19 pandemics or similar emergencies.
- Recommendations for initial steps needed to green EU Civil Protection.

Expected outputs

- Support to the EU Overview of risk and Union disaster resilience goals.
- Support to the exchange of applied innovative knowledge, including on risk assessment tools, risk awareness raising, prevention measures, economic analysis and cross-border cooperation on disaster risk management taking also into account COVID-19 pandemic.
- Dissemination of the key messages of the flagship study “*Economics of Disaster Prevention and Preparedness*” to make them accessible to large audiences.
- A report with recommendations on how to initiate the greening of EU Civil Protection.

¹¹ EFFAS, EFIS, EDO, GDO, GWIS and GLOFAS are part of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service.

3.1.2. *Situational Awareness, early warning systems, scientific and analytical support to operations*

Objectives

Enhance operational preparedness at Member States and Union level to respond to disasters, emergencies and crises including scientific and analytical support for situational awareness covering natural and man-made disasters (Specific Objective 2, Article 3 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU) and CBRN risks (Specific Objective 2, Article 3 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

In particular, the activity will aim to:

1. Develop and better integrate transnational detection and early warning, information and alert systems of European dimension in order to enable a rapid response (Article 8(c) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU) for natural and man-made disasters.
2. Promote the linkage between national early warning and information systems, the ERCC and CECIS, taking into account and building upon existing and future information, monitoring and detection sources and systems (Article 8 point (c) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).
3. Support the ERCC with making recommendations, in consultation with the requesting Member State, for the provision of assistance through the Union Mechanism, based on the needs on the ground and any relevant pre-developed plans, as well as satellite imagery and information from remote sensing tools (Article 15(3) point (c) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).
4. Make recommendations, when possible in cooperation with the affected country, based on the needs on the ground and any relevant pre-developed plans, as well as satellite imagery and information from remote sensing tools, inviting Member States to deploy specific capacities and facilitating the coordination of the requested assistance (Article 16(3) point (b) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).
5. Address the UCPM needs related to scientific and technical expertise and increase the availability and use of applied scientific and technical knowledge on natural and man-made disasters (Article 3 point (e) Decision No 1313/2013/EU), including Climate Change and Adaptation/Mitigation, Applied Science for Disaster Risk Management, Comprehensive Security, Health^[1], or Chemical, Biological, Radiological or Nuclear (CBRN) risks.
6. Develop and maintain partnerships for the application of science and technology for operational preparedness, anticipative analysis and disaster risk management (Article 3 point (e) Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

General description of the contracts envisaged

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

Budget line 06 05 01 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) – fund source: European Union Recovery Instrument

- Maintaining, updating and further developing real-time hazard modelling systems, alerting systems, impact assessment systems, databases, decisions support systems databases, hardware infrastructure and software; further strengthening of the ERCC's scientific, technical mapping and analytical capacity, including lessons learnt tools.
- Supporting and complementing EU Member States' efforts to establish national public warning system in light of the obligation under Article 110(1) of Directive (EU) 2018/1972.

^[1] Taking into account HERA needs.

- Maintaining and further developing the enhanced European Natural Hazard Scientific Partnership, as well as other relevant natural hazard scientific partnership, such as EUMETNET.
- Developing scientific partnerships related to man-made disasters, including health and biological, chemical or radiological and nuclear hazards.
- Supporting the setting-up of a scientific and technical facility to address the UCPM needs related to anticipation and operational preparedness.

Expected results

Regarding objectives 1 and 2, expected results include:

- European Detection and Alert System such as the Global Disaster Alert Coordination System (GDACS) provide fast, accurate and reliable information to enable rapid responses. The European Flood Awareness System (EFAS), the European Forest Fire System (EFFIS), the European Drought Observatory (EDO), the Global Flood Awareness System (GLOFAS), the Global Wildfire System (GWIS) and the Global Drought Observatory (GDO)¹² and Meteoalarm, which provide fast, accurate and reliable information to enable rapid responses, are strengthened through improvements e.g. filling existing gaps such as flash flooding and integrating systems such as GLOFAS, GWIS and GDO into GDACS. European Detection and Alert Systems such as GDACS are further strengthened through improvements, including integrating innovative technologies, satellite related technologies to provide 24/7 continuous scientific and analytical support and databases.
- Promoting the integration between the various platforms and systems developing a multi-hazard global situational awareness system.
- Enhancing synergies with existing global systems including satellite based systems such as the future Galileo Emergency Warning Service (GEWS).

Regarding objectives 3 and 4, expected results include:

- ERCC and Member States are able to establish comprehensive situational awareness of a given situation in the immediate aftermath of an emergency.
- ERCC support to anticipate, scenario building, forecast, estimate scale and severity of a disaster, identify priorities, and ensure synergies and complementarity between Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid and post-emergency support such as the EU Solidarity Fund, as well as an improved situational awareness in regard to the security situation at places of deployment.
- The European Natural Hazard Scientific Partnership continues to provide 24/7 emergency reporting services to the ERCC consisting of multi-hazard scientific expert judgement in forecasting events or in the immediate aftermath of a natural disaster, as well as a monitoring service three times a week.
- The European Anthropogenic Hazard Scientific Partnership provides 24/7 reporting services to the ERCC for the identified hazards..

Regarding objectives 5 and 6, expected results include:

- Establish connections between scientific institutes covering Chemical, Radiological/Nuclear, Biological and Health, as well as natural hazards to encourage cooperation on current and future disaster risk management.
- Setting-up a scientific and technical advisory facility to address the UCPM needs to better anticipate and prepare for emergencies.
- Encourage cooperation amongst scientific experts to support Member States in developing and

¹² EFFAS, EFIS, EDO, GDO, GWIS and GLOFAS are part of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service.

further enhancing national early warning systems, including public warning system, promoting amongst others available space-related services such as Galileo Emergency Warning System Service.

Expected outputs

Regarding objectives 1 and 2:

- European detection and alert systems such as the Global Disaster Alert Coordination System (GDACS) are maintained and further improved through *inter alia* the inclusion of new hazards in GDACS or the improvement of early-warning modelling for already included hazards.
- The integration between existing national and Union-wide platforms on early warning systems is supported and promoted through annual expert meetings.
- Synergies with global early warning systems are enhanced and promoted through thematic early warning system working group meetings.
- The interlinkages between the ERCC portal, the field reporting tool and the relevant European Union Emergency Information and Communication System e.g. ARGUS, IPCR and CECIS, are established, maintained and further strengthened ensuring adequate security level.

Regarding objective 3:

- Delivery of at least 200 information products (including, but not limited to analytical briefs and maps) to enable the ERCC to establish comprehensive situational awareness of a given situation, including the security situation at potential places of deployment, in the immediate aftermath of an emergency or to assist ERCC in forecasting events, estimating scale and severity of the impact of a disaster, identifying priorities or ensuring complementarity between Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid, and post-emergency support such as the EU Solidarity Fund.
- Elaboration, provision and dissemination of analytical briefs and deployment plans to UCPM Member States in the case of activations of the UCPM.

Regarding objectives 4:

- Scientific expert advice and/or reports are available as of 3 hours from a request for the hazards defined in the European Natural Hazard Scientific Partnership or the European Anthropogenic Hazard Scientific Partnership.
- Scientific Monitoring reports are available 3 time a week and followed by a teleconference with scientific experts.

Regarding objective 5 and 6:

- Sharing experiences and best practices to support Member States fulfilling their legal obligation established by Article 110(1) of Directive (EU) 2018/1972.
- Developing a multi-hazard global situational awareness system (the Dashboard).
- Calibrating the Galileo Emergency Warning Service to the need of the Member States.
- Availability of scientific expert advice upon request to States participating in the UCPM available through the established network of scientific experts to better use scientific knowledge in relation to early warning, disaster management technologies, as well as anticipatory analysis, risk assessments, prevention and planning, resilience and reconstruction¹³.

¹³ In the event that scientific experts are deployed, the deployment shall follow the regular procedure for expert deployments following an activation of the UCPM.

3.2. Peer reviews, prevention and preparedness missions and multi-country mapping exercises

These activities are mutually reinforcing each other and have the purpose to support in particular third countries throughout the entire Disaster Risk Management and Disaster Risk Reduction cycle. The multi-country mapping exercise aims to identify gaps and make available detailed country profiles and analysis, whereas peer reviews and prevention and preparedness missions will complement this work by providing direct support and assistance in specific areas where countries lack expertise.

Objectives

A. Multi-country mapping exercises

- To support in-depth, country-specific risk management analysis (risk, response capacities mapping and institutions such as for example in the form of country risk profiles covering all phases of Disaster Risk Management and Disaster Risk Reduction) in the area of civil protection with a cross sectoral cooperation component, including detailed analysis of parallel initiatives and the development of cross-regional Vademecum-like platform that would support Host Nation Support processes during international deployments;
- To support the development of a strong capacity building component with of view of ensuring sustainability of the knowledge transfer;
- To support coherent and risk-informed development of policies and disaster response capacities/risk management capabilities in the EU Neighbourhood and Enlargement countries.

B. Peer reviews and prevention and preparedness missions

- To provide advice on prevention and preparedness measures, (Article 5(2), and Article 13(3) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).
- To provide advice on prevention and preparedness measures, (Article 6(4) point (b) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU)

General description of the contracts envisaged

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

Budget line 06 05 01 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) – fund source: European Union Recovery Instrument

Deployment of expert teams tailored to respond to specific punctual needs and problems identified by the requesting country on a variety of prevention and preparedness topics, including Covid-19 crisis. The main deliverable consists of a written report with recommendations and advice to the requesting country.

Given possible travelling restrictions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, prevention and preparedness missions can be exceptionally carried out remotely subject to recommendations and advice on whether expert contributions can be provided via a remote setting.

Multi-country mapping exercises will establish country profiles covering risk management and civil protection capability gaps. They will support the strategy on civil protection capacity support to third countries under the UCPM and complement in particular recent and ongoing UCPM and international activities and programmes in the Neighbourhood and Enlargement countries. They will promote the

development of regional civil protection cooperation structures similar to the UCPM model

Expected results

- Recommendations to inform requesting countries prevention, preparedness, recovery and reconstructions strategies in non-emergency contexts and post-emergency situations, including on how to build resilience to future disasters and pandemics such as Covid-19.
- Cooperation between the Union, national civil protection authorities from the requesting countries and other disaster management actors, humanitarian actors among them, promoting a common understanding of prevention and preparedness subjects, including implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. Improvement of the knowledge base on and state of disaster preparedness and prevention and facilitation of the sharing of knowledge, best practices and information.
- Enhanced support for a coherent and risk-informed programming and development of policies and disaster response capacities/risk management capabilities in the EU Neighbourhood and Enlargement countries.
- Available capacities will be matched with the needs identified, through national risk assessments, lessons from exercises and deployments, and an identification of emerging risks.
- Enhanced support to policy-making and decision-making processes in potential future Participating States and closest neighbours boosting their resilience at national and regional level.
- Regional civil protection cooperation structures similar to the UCPM and the Knowledge network development are promoted.

Expected outputs

- Expert missions, within and outside the Union, providing prevention and preparedness recommendations.
- Cross-regional study including country profiles based on a comprehensive analysis of the disaster risk landscape in the targeted regions and their capabilities/capacities to respond to disasters.
- Capacity development activities.
- Tools to support the Host Nation Support processes in case of international deployments.

3.3. The Emergency Response Coordination Centre

Objectives

- Ensure 24/7 operational capacity, and serve the Member States and the Commission in pursuit of the objectives of the Union Mechanism, (Article 7 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).
- Manage the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC), (Article 8 point (a) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

General description of the contracts envisaged

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

- Service contracts to support purchase and development of specialised IT and communication equipment.
- Maintenance and/or arrangements to ensure the ERCC's security, resilience and business continuity on a 24/7 basis.

- Service contract for technical support of the ERCC.
- Purchase and maintenance of specialised equipment to maintain a fully operational 24/7 centre and ensure the ERCC's security, resilience and business continuity.
- Upgrade and maintenance of equipment procured for the initial setup of the ERCC (2013) and that has completed its lifespan.
- Implementation of the recommendations of the study on the ERCC development.

Expected results

- The ERCC has the capacity to timely and adequately plan, prepare for and respond to disasters on a 24/7 basis.

Expected outputs

- 24/7 monitoring and information-sharing capacity is provided by ERCC duty officers.
- 100% emergency management requests are addressed by ERCC operational and management staff.
- ERCC functions and information services downtime is less than 48 hours/year.

3.4. Capacities

3.4.1. The European Civil Protection Pool

Objectives

- Establish a European Civil Protection Pool consisting of a pool of voluntarily pre-committed response capacities of the Member States, including modules, other response capacities and categories of experts (Article 11 of Decision No 2013/1313/EU).

General description of the contracts envisaged

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

- **Certification:** Training courses, workshops, seminars, expert group meetings will be organised to complement core certification activities and further improve the quality assurance of the European Civil Protection Pool. The Commission covers most of the costs incurred for these events, such as travel costs of external participants, the cost of renting meeting rooms, the catering and other related costs, and outsources the service of handling the logistical arrangements. Additionally, where necessary, a daily allowance will also be provided to peer certifiers in relation to their involvement in exercises. To enhance the visibility of the ECPP and the certification, visibility material will be procured and distributed to ECPP capacities and certifiers.
- **Studies:** One or more studies to support the optimal functioning of the European Civil Protection Pool will be carried out through call for tender and/or framework contracts.

Expected results

- Peer certifiers are informed of new UCPM developments, and in particular for what concerns certification of Pool capacities.
- New peer certifiers trained.
- Lessons and feedback from certification activities are collected and analysed.
- Main priorities for the coming year regarding the technical aspects of the development and management of the European Civil Protection Pool are identified.
- Enhanced visibility of the ECPP certification.

Expected outputs

- At least 4 events organised.
- At least one new study launched.
- Tailored visibility material procured and distributed.

3.5. Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network

3.5.1. Training & Exchange of Experts

Objectives

- To enhance coordination, compatibility, interoperability and complementarity between capacities and to improve the competence of experts.
- To improve the effectiveness of transnational cooperation through the Mechanism by improving and increasing the competence of the response capacities and experts involved and enabling them to attend specific courses not available in their home country.

General description of the contracts envisaged

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

Budget line 06 05 01 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) – fund source: European Union Recovery Instrument

- To implement the UCPM Training Programme.
- To implement a series of ad-hoc trainings and thematic seminars and workshops, as part of the UCPM Training Programme, to respond to emerging risks and needs on a more continuous basis.
- To implement specialised training courses organised by the UN.
- To organise exchanges and short-term placements of experts.
- To organise meetings (e.g. the Training Policy Group, National Training Coordinators, trainers' workshops, ad hoc expert and stakeholder meetings).

The training courses, the workshops, seminars will be accessible to experts from Member States and UCPM Participating States (civil protection, maritime and other entities/authorities active in the UCPM), the European Commission, other EU services and the UN, who may participate in civil protection interventions. Participation of national and EU diplomatic personnel, as well as specific sector experts may be considered, in particular, in the targeted thematic seminars and workshops. Participation of experts from IPA beneficiaries not participating in the Mechanism and European Neighbourhood Policy countries, where possible and in coordination with existing EU regional programmes.

Expected results

- Enhanced competence of experts, response capacities and stakeholders involved in UCPM prevention, preparedness and response missions.
- Enhanced competence of experts, response capacities and relevant stakeholders on topics linked to the emerging needs and risks and other thematic areas and subject matters of relevance for the UCPM.
- Reinforced use of different e-learning modules and blended options in the UCPM Training Programme.

Expected outputs

- Implementation of training cycles 18 and 19.
- Renewal of exchange of experts' contract.
- Implementation of EC - UN Joint Training programme.
- At least 4 meetings/ad-hoc courses/workshops/seminars are organised under the UCPM Training Programme (Training Policy Group and National Training Coordinators meetings).
- The revised UCPM training programme is contracted and the courses design phase has started.
- Number of ad-hoc courses proportionate to the available budget.
- At least four meetings are organised.

3.5.2. Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network

Objectives

- To establish a network of relevant civil protection and other disaster management actors and institutions, universities and researchers, forming together with the Commission a Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network. The Commission shall take due account of existing structures, notably the Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre, and the expertise available in the Member States and the organisations active on the ground, (Article 13 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

General description of the contracts envisaged

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

Budget line 06 05 01 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) – fund source: European Union Recovery Instrument

- Development and day-to-day management of the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network ('Knowledge Network'), including:
 - Coordination and meetings of the governance bodies of the Knowledge Network.
 - Secretariat, technical, administrative and logistic support activities.
- Knowledge management, communication, dissemination, and collaborative activities.
- Workshops and networking opportunities of relevant civil protection and other disaster management actors and institutions, universities and researchers, as well as beneficiaries of relevant EU-funded projects.
- Expertise that enables the Knowledge Network to call upon and produce guidance and recommendations on topical (e.g. pandemics) and emerging challenges and identified knowledge gaps.

Expected results

- The Knowledge Network and its governance structure is formally established as the structure bringing consistency across the various preparedness activities, including platform moderation and secretariat functions.
- Scientific knowledge linked to civil protection and disaster management needs is made available, notably through the Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre. Under the Knowledge Network, training activities and exercises are more closely linked and strategically contribute to better knowledge, lessons and expertise sharing, skills and capacity development, as well as coordination and collaboration.

- Linked to existing platforms and initiatives, and with the aim to streamline information and knowledge sharing, an online collaborative platform begins to support knowledge management, sharing and dissemination and collaboration.
- Communication and awareness raising activities provide relevant, easily accessible and regularly updated information to civil protection and other disaster management actors: news, events notices, lessons learned, good practices and innovative approaches from across Europe and beyond.
- The Knowledge Network's convening function is enhanced, and workshops and networking opportunities are developed and organised for civil protection and other disaster management actors (face to face and online).
- Collaboration and partnership is strengthened among beneficiaries of the Network Partnership call, as well as between project beneficiaries and the wider civil protection and disaster management community.
- The Knowledge Network flexibly generates expertise and knowledge on issues of particular interest to the civil protection community, with a particular focus on knowledge gaps and the implementation and practical use of findings.

Expected outputs

- The operating rules and the strategic orientation of the Knowledge Network and its bodies are defined.
- Workshops are organised, to support networking, the sharing of lessons, best practices, and innovative approaches.
- Communication and awareness raising activities targeting civil protection and other disaster management actors are developed.
- Lessons and best practices from the Network Partnership projects are disseminated to the wider civil protection and disaster management community.

3.5.3. Exercises on Civil Protection Modules, Technical Assistance and Support Teams and EU Civil Protection Teams (EUCPT)

Objectives

- To enhance the coordination of civil protection assistance interventions under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism by ensuring improved compatibility and interoperability (Article 9(2)) point (c) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU) between the intervention teams and other intervention support, as well as by developing the competence of the experts involved.
- To provide an opportunity to test the capacity, capability and competence of Union civil protection response capacities and experts.
- To provide a suitable platform for the certification process of modules, technical assistance and support teams, other response capacities and civil protection experts for the European Civil Protection Pool.
- To provide a suitable platform for the INSARAG International External Reclassification (IER).
- To provide a suitable platform for the field exercise part of the WHO certification.

General description of the contracts envisaged

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

- Design, plan, conduct and evaluate field and table top exercises for civil protection modules, other

response capacities, technical assistance and support teams (TAST) registered in CECIS and/or in the European Civil Protection Pool and/or rescEU, as well as the experts of the European Union Civil Protection Teams (EUCPT). The design of the exercises shall focus on seven main objectives: coordination, interoperability, self-sufficiency, standard operating procedures (SOP), communication and reporting, safety and security, and the specific learning objectives of participants. It also takes into account the results of evaluations of previous exercises and lessons learned from other civil protection activities.

- Development of a specific modules field and table top exercise for maritime capacities to better align and integrate them into the UCPM disaster response architecture.
- Development and implementation of a training of trainers programme for MODEX.
- Development and implementation of virtual reality simulation to enhance the learning opportunity and to improve the exercise experience for participants.

Expected results

- Implementation of the cycle 10 of the MODEX exercises, one contract signed for a marine pollution exercise and one contract signed for the training of trainers workshop.
- Implementation of the cycle 11 of the MODEX exercises, implementation of the marine pollution exercises, implementation of the training of trainers workshop.
- At least five contracts signed for cycle 12 of the MODEX exercises.

Expected outputs

- A total of 29 exercises are designed, planned and a number of them conducted (8 table top exercises, 3 water related exercises, 1 CBRN exercise, 6 USAR exercises, 2 EUCPT Team Leaders exercises, 2 forest fire exercises, 1 maritime exercise).
- At least 80 certification slots are provided.
- Training of Trainers programme is developed and implemented.
- Virtual reality products are developed for modules exercises.

3.5.4. Union Civil Protection Mechanism Exercises

Objectives

- To improve the response capacity of Member States, in particular with regard to response teams, modules and other capacities provided in assistance missions under the Union Mechanism, based on major risks in the Union, Neighbourhood and Enlargement, as well as outside Union, based on high risk prone countries and UCPM activations.
- To improve coordination platforms and verify the procedures and establish a common approach for the coordination of assistance interventions under the Union Mechanism and reducing the response time in major disasters, including all stakeholders in the field.
- To enhance cooperation between the civil protection services and other relevant stakeholder in Member States and target countries outside Union.
- To enhance awareness raising of Union emergency response tools and the UCPM.
- To improve procedures on the functioning of the UCPM and other related tools, including Host Nation Support.
- To identify and share lessons learnt from exercises and real emergencies.
- To test the implementation of lessons learnt.

General description of the contracts envisaged

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

- To design, plan, conduct and self-evaluate exercises that "*plug-in*" into other already proposed and scheduled full-scale exercise projects in order to test, improve and/or establish the procedures, SOPs and agreements necessary to incorporate UCPM response (in terms of capacity and in-kind assistance) into an activation outside of Europe.
- To design, plan, conduct and self-evaluate exercises (TTX) with the host nation support (HNS) as main topic (hereafter HNS TTX) in countries outside of Europe for key actors of the UCPM response and its main interlocutors at European, national and international levels. The exercises will address all relevant stakeholders, including EU Delegations, ECHO field offices, EU MS embassies, national disaster management authorities and coordination platforms (including Ministries of Foreign Affairs).

Expected results

- Response capacity of Member States is improved, in particular with regard to teams and other assets provided in civil protection and maritime emergency assistance interventions, through the preparation of an improvement plan at the end of the exercise.
- Proposal for a revised HNS concept, which include enlarged target groups and covers also other emergency response tools.
- Cooperation in disaster response among civil protection and other national disaster management stakeholders, EU institutions, humanitarian actors and international organisations is improved in selected regions and countries.
- Operational recommendations for other regions are elaborated based on lessons learned from emergencies and exercises.
- Increased awareness of UCPM and other emergency response tools within EUD, EU MS embassies and stakeholders at both national and regional levels.
- Procedures are improved and verified, the common approach for the coordination of civil protection assistance interventions is established and the response time in major disasters is reduced.
- Cooperation at international level between the civil protection services of Member States, the Commission and other relevant actors is improved.
- Lessons are identified and shared through direct observation during the exercise and dissemination of exercise reports among the Member States.

Expected outputs

- No contract foreseen in 2022.

3.6. Communication

Objectives

- To raise awareness and endorsement among the general public on the Union's civil protection activities and to make tangible results of those activities taken more visible.
- To involve the civil protection community actively as multipliers towards their national or local constituencies.
- To give appropriate visibility to the Union and to contribute to the Commission's corporate communication narrative, in particular its multi-annual Next Generation EU campaign.
- To inform the EU citizens about the support provided in the framework of the UCPM to contain the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and prepare for future emergencies.

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

Budget line 06 05 01 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) – fund source: European Union Recovery Instrument

- General communication activities on civil protection and disaster risk management (e.g. awareness campaigns on EU disaster prevention, preparedness and response towards general public; social media activities; dissemination of videos, publications, etc.).
- Specific communication activities around concrete UCPM/rescEU operations and activations (media communication, social media), in close cooperation with the contributing and receiving countries and multipliers in the civil protection community.
- Promoting a consistent use of the Union emblem on those capacities committed to the European Civil Protection Pool and rescEU, and on all related communication tools developed by the Member States and Participating States.

Expected results

- Greater awareness of the Union’s civil protection operations among the general public, in particular in the contributing and receiving countries.
- Increased awareness on Union support to contain the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and prepare for future crises.
- Greater awareness and active engagement/endorsement among the civil protection community.
- Positive impact on the overall perception of the Union and its new Recovery plan / Next Generation EU narrative.

Expected outputs

- Communication products finalised and disseminated on social and traditional media channels both at the corporate Union level and in the Member States:
 - Active dissemination of online publications and social media material, through the Commission’s own channels as well as through media of the civil protection community.
 - Regular press communication on the performance of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, incl. rescEU, and other EU-led civil protection activities.
 - Audio-visual productions.
 - Targeted advertising and content placement, addressing the general public in specific countries and regions in the Union.
 - Topical media communication by the Commissioner and/or by the partners in the Member States and Participating States, linked to concrete operations.
 - Visual Union branding of the Union funded assets and operations managed by the Member States and Participating States.

3.7. Lessons learnt, policy support & meetings, technical workshops

Objectives

- Preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities, which are required for the management of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and the achievement of its objectives. Such expenditures may, in particular, cover: studies, meetings of experts (including task team meetings or expert meetings for rescEU), expenses linked to IT networks focusing on information processing and exchange, including their interconnection with existing or future systems designed to promote cross-sectoral data exchange and related equipment, together with all other technical and administrative assistance expenses incurred by the Commission for the management of the programme (Article 19 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

- Set up and manage a programme of lessons learnt from civil protection activities conducted within the framework of the Union Mechanism (the UCPM Lessons Learnt Programme) including aspects from the entire disaster management cycle (prevention, preparedness and response), as well as horizontal elements linked to disaster risk management, in order to provide a broad basis for learning processes and knowledge development, (Article 13(1), point (d) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU). This programme is to coordinate all activities related to the identification, dissemination and implementation of lessons and good practices conducted in the framework of the UCPM.
- Create an enabling environment to facilitate cross-sharing of experiences, best practices and lessons learnt between EU Institutions, Member States, Participating States, international organisations or other relevant stakeholders concerning the fight against Covid-19 pandemic.
- Support increased understanding and the implementation of the disaster resilience goals at Union level, as well as in Participating States and third countries.
- Support the organisation of meetings on project management.

General description of the contracts envisaged

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

Budget line 06 05 01 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) – fund source: European Union Recovery Instrument

- Technical meetings on disaster management, including: Covid-19 crisis, disaster resilience goals, forest fire season preparedness, European Burns Plan, development of rescEU capacities, lessons learnt, CECIS and CECIS Marine trainings, research and forest fire support teams during summer months and the special consultation mechanism established to enhance appropriate prevention and preparedness planning and coordination.
- Policy meetings on disaster management, including expert groups or task team meetings (e.g. disaster prevention and risk management, capacities and certification, training policy, Host Nation Support guidelines, maritime emergency preparedness).
- Inter-sectoral meetings with Member States' experts to develop a common framework for hybrid resilience to mass casualty incidents.
- Meetings of UCPM Directors-General.
- Experts groups involving EU Neighbourhood Policy countries and/or IPA partners (beneficiaries) covered by the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance.
- Policy meetings concerning the Union for Mediterranean initiative.
- Technical meetings of prevention and preparedness projects (single/multi-country beneficiaries).
- Meeting of Civil Protection Directors-General or experts groups involving EU Neighbourhood Policy countries and/or countries covered by the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance.
- Studies or evaluations covering regional activities in the Neighbourhood/IPA partners (beneficiaries).
- Implementation of the virtual reality ERCC visit project linked with an e-learning module.

Expected results

- Increased level of prevention and preparedness for the forest fire season by using risk maps and early warning systems.

- Enhanced prevention and preparedness planning and coordination.
- Cooperation between Member States and EU Neighbourhood Policy countries and/or IPA beneficiaries is enhanced.
- Promote inter-linkage and ensure sustainability of web page regional programs IPA programme and European Neighbourhood partners (countries).
- Establish a framework for structured planning on preparedness and prevention of mass casualty incidents, caused by natural or man-made events such as hybrid incidents or mass burns.
- Uptake of security research projects for operations is improved.
- Increased knowledge, awareness and understanding of the impact of Covid-19 crisis, as well as on prevention, preparedness and response capacities and capabilities available under the UCPM to stop/fight the spread of the virus or prevent re-emergence.
- Capacity of countries requesting UCPM advice on prevention and preparedness is improved.
- Identification of lessons and good practices from UCPM activations (including on Covid-19 crisis), as well as horizontal activities derived from disaster risk management actions (prevention and preparedness activities).
- Dissemination of identified lessons and good practices amongst civil protection authorities and other relevant stakeholders.
- Awareness raising on the UCPM activities, particularly those concerning the fight against Covid-19 crisis.

Expected outputs

- Joint Member States' plan for renewal and acquisition of new aerial forest fire fighting means.
- Guidelines for reporting under Article 6(1) point (d) are developed.
- EU-Member States joint plan for establishment of rescEU capacities in areas other than firefighting, in particular, shelter, cargo/transport, Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) and medical evacuation (MEDEVAC).
- European Burn Plan is developed and then agreed in its final version by the Civil Protection Committee.
- The quality assurance of the emergency response capacities is reinforced.
- Increased knowledge and level of understanding concerning UCPM capacities and capabilities to prevent, prepare for and respond to Covid-19 crisis, its impact and potential similar emergencies.
- Minimum quality requirements of CBRN capacities are developed.
- Reinforcement of the ERCC with forest fire support team during summer.
- Update and sharing of information on level of preparedness for forest fire season of Member States and the ERCC.
- An annual lessons learned report compiling the possible lessons and good practices is developed.
- Lessons learned identification and analysis are carried out throughout the entire emergency management cycle, including for training and exercises.
- Lessons learned and good practices discussed with experts from Member States at operational and technical level are identified, including on fighting Covid-19 or similar emergencies.
- Lessons learned and good practices disseminated on the ERCC portal.
- A report encompassing lessons learnt and good practices in response to Covid-19 crisis.
- Orientation workshops (webinars).
- Virtual reality linked directly with e-learning module (special hardware -equipment in the ERCC and software with subscription).

3.8. IT support systems

Objectives

- Manage and upgrade as necessary a Common Emergency Communication and Information System (CECIS and CECIS Marine) to enable communication and sharing of information between the ERCC and the Member States' contact points (Article 8 point (b) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).
- Ensure, in the event of emergencies within the Union, immediate notification of disasters to Member States, including on Covid-19.
- Establish and maintain tools enabling communication and sharing of information between the ERCC, the contact points of the Member States and other participants in the context of the Union Mechanism (Article 21(1) point (e) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).
- Promote inter-linkage between national early warning and alert systems, the ERCC and the CECIS (Article 21(1) points (e) and (f) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).
- Ensure compliance with implementing acts on components of CECIS, as well as the organisation of information sharing through CECIS (Article 1 point (b) of Implementing Decision 2014/762/EU).
- Promote inter-linkage and ensure sustainability of web page regional programs IPA and European Neighbourhood countries.

General description of the contracts envisaged

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

- Service contracts to support administration and evolving maintenance of CECIS, CECIS Marine and other IT platform (e.g. e-Grant), online helpdesk and support services.
- Management/further development of CECIS and CECIS Marine software platforms, hardware and specialised equipment; CECIS hosting and related assistance.
- Management of web platforms relevant to Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) and PPRD South and East platform.
- Service contracts to support the development and maintenance of a Civil Protection Data Repository.
- Service contracts to support the development and maintenance of a platform allowing the management of transport grants.

Expected results

- Enable the ERCC, Member States' operational contact points and other participants in the Mechanism and regional sea conventions to coordinate and share information effectively at any moment.
- Faster and more efficient process, based on CECIS, for addressing requests of assistance, including for transport of assets and teams.
- A better link between CECIS Marine and other maritime support systems managed by the European Maritime Safety Agency
- Establish a protocol to automatically close a request for assistance in CECIS after 90 days unless additional justification is provided.
- The ERCC and CECIS work 24/7, securely and at full capacity, during disasters and on normal duty.
- The Civil Protection Data Repository, an intuitive database to extract data from various sources,

making information easily available. This tool will link all the different platforms and systems (in particular CECIS and the ERCC Portal).

Expected outputs

- CECIS downtime and recovery time is less than 48 hours without data loss.
- An IT application to interface CECIS information with other information tools (e.g. ERCC portal, Member States contact details for capacities and in different working groups, Vademecum, etc.) is developed (set of data to be shared will be defined in collaboration with users).
- The optimization the information management process by consolidating data and by making it easily available and more user-friendly.
- A project management system (e.g. e-Grant) is available 24/7 to manage UCPM-related grants through the project cycle inside and outside of the UCPM.

4. OTHER ACTIONS AND EXPENDITURES

The budgetary envelope reserved for other actions and expenditures amounts to **EUR 14 802 520**.

4.1. Situational Awareness, early warning systems, scientific and analytical support to operations

Objectives

Enhance operational preparedness at Member States and Union level to respond to disasters, emergencies and crises including scientific and analytical support for situational awareness covering natural and man-made disasters (Specific Objective 2, Article 3 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU) and CBRN risks (Specific Objective 2, Article 3 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

In particular, the activity will aim to:

1. Develop and better integrate transnational detection and early warning, information and alert systems of European dimension in order to enable a rapid response (Article 8 point (c) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU) for natural and man-made disasters.
2. Promote the linkage between national early warning and information systems, the ERCC and CECIS, taking into account and building upon existing and future information, monitoring and detection sources and systems (Article 8 point (c) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).
3. Support the ERCC with making recommendations, in consultation with the requesting Member State, for the provision of assistance through the Union Mechanism, based on the needs on the ground and any relevant pre-developed plans, as well as satellite imagery and information from remote sensing tools (Article 15(3) point (c) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).
4. Make recommendations, when possible in cooperation with the affected country, based on the needs on the ground and any relevant pre-developed plans, as well as satellite imagery and information from remote sensing tools, inviting Member States to deploy specific capacities and facilitating the coordination of the requested assistance (Article 16(3) point (b) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).
5. Increase the availability and use of applied scientific and technical knowledge on natural and man-made disasters (Article 3 point (e) Decision No 1313/2013/EU), including Climate Change and Adaptation/Mitigation, Applied Science for Disaster Risk Management,

Comprehensive Security, Health, or Chemical, Biological, Radiological or Nuclear (CBRN) risks.

6. Develop and maintain partnerships for the application of science and technology for operational preparedness, anticipatory analysis and disaster risk management (Article 3 point (e) Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

General description of the contracts envisaged

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

Budget line 06 05 01 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) – fund source: European Union Recovery Instrument

- Maintaining, updating and further developing real-time hazard modelling systems, alerting systems, impact assessment systems, databases, decisions support systems databases, hardware infrastructure and software; further strengthening of the ERCC's scientific, technical mapping and analytical capacity, including lessons learnt tools in order to ensure that the ERCC fulfils its tasks.
- Supporting and complementing EU Member States' efforts to establish national public warning system in light of the obligation under Article 110(1) of Directive (EU) 2018/1972.
- Developing scientific partnerships related to natural and man-made disasters, including health and biological, chemical or radiological and nuclear hazards.
- Supporting the setting-up of a scientific pillar based on existing initiatives and structures within the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network.

Implementation

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through:

- Administrative Arrangement or similar cooperation modalities¹⁴ with the European Commission Services such as the Joint Research Centre (JRC).
- Co-delegation with the Joint Research Centre (JRC) under the tri-partite agreement between DEFIS, ECHO and JRC in the context of Copernicus' Emergency Management Service.

Expected results

Regarding objectives 1 and 2, expected results include:

- European Detection and Alert System such as the Global Disaster Alert Coordination System (GDACS) provide fast, accurate and reliable information to enable rapid responses. The European Flood Awareness System (EFAS), the European Forest Fire System (EFFIS), the European Drought Observatory (EDO), the Global Flood Awareness System (GLOFAS), the Global Wildfire System (GWIS) and the Global Drought Observatory (GDO)¹⁵ and Meteoalarm, which provide fast, accurate and reliable information to enable rapid responses, are strengthened through improvements e.g. filling existing gaps such as flash flooding and integrating systems such as GLOFAS, GWIS and GDO into GDACS. European Detection and Alert Systems such as GDACS are further strengthened through improvements including integrating innovative technologies including satellite related technologies to provide 24/7 continuous scientific and analytical support and databases.

¹⁴ As an example, the tri-partite Agreement between DGs DEFIS, ECHO and JRC to cover the implementation and financial support to the Copernicus Emergency Management Service under the MFF 2021-2027.

¹⁵ EFFAS, EFIS, EDO, GDO, GWIS and GLOFAS are part of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service.

- Promoting the integration between the various platforms and systems and enhancing synergies with existing global systems including satellite based systems such as the future Galileo Emergency Warning Service (GEWS).
- Decision Support Systems (DSS) such as the Forest Fire DSS support the emergency decision-making process when deploying UCPM capacities.

Regarding objectives 3 and 4, expected results include:

- ERCC and Member States are able to establish comprehensive situational awareness of a given situation in the immediate aftermath of an emergency.
- ERCC support to forecast, estimate scale and severity of a disaster, identify priorities, and ensure synergies and complementarity between Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid and post-emergency support such as the EU Solidarity Fund, as well as an improved situational awareness in regard to the security situation at places of deployment.

Regarding objectives 5 and 6, expected results include:

- Establish connections between scientific institutes covering Chemical, Radiological/Nuclear, Biological and Health hazards to encourage cooperation on current and future disaster risk management.
- Ensure a fast and reliable Emergency Management Service under Copernicus.
- Encourage cooperation amongst scientific experts to support EU Member States in developing and further enhancing national early warning systems including public warning system, promoting amongst others available space-related services such as Galileo Emergency Warning System Service.

Expected outputs

Regarding objectives 1 and 2:

- European detection and alert systems such as the Global Disaster Alert Coordination System (GDACS) are maintained and further improved through *inter alia* the inclusion of new hazards in GDACS or the improvement of early-warning modelling for already included hazards.
- The integration between existing national and Union-wide platforms on early warning systems is supported and promoted through annual expert meetings.
- Synergies with global early warning systems are enhanced and promoted through thematic early warning system working group meetings.
- The ERCC portal is maintained and further developed.
- The interlinkages between the ERCC portal, the field reporting tool and the relevant European Union Emergency Information and Communication System e.g. ARGUS, IPCR and CECIS, are established, maintained and further strengthened ensuring adequate security level.

Regarding objective 3:

- Delivery of at least 200 information products (including, but not limited to analytical briefs and maps) to enable the ERCC to establish comprehensive situational awareness of a given situation including the security situation at potential places of deployment, in the immediate aftermath of an emergency or to assist ERCC in forecasting events, estimating scale and severity of the impact of a disaster, identifying priorities or ensuring complementarity between Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid, and post-emergency support such as the EU Solidarity Fund.
- Elaboration, provision and dissemination of analytical briefs and deployment plans to UCPM Member States in the case of activations of the UCPM.

Regarding objectives 4:

- Decision support systems facilitating rapid analysis and information exchange (ERCC Portal) are further developed and enhanced.

Regarding objective 5 and 6:

- Sharing experiences and best practices to support EU Member States fulfilling their legal obligation established by Article 110(1) of Directive (EU) 2018/1972.
- Support to the Copernicus Emergency Management System for the production of on-demand maps.
- Availability of scientific expert advice upon request to States participating in the UCPM available through the established network of scientific experts to better use scientific knowledge in relation to early warning, disaster management technologies, as well as risk assessments, anticipatory analysis, prevention and planning, resilience and reconstruction^{16...}

4.2. Pour mémoire (action 4.2 - Training & Exchange of Experts was merged with action 4.3- Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network)

4.3. Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network

Objectives

- To establish a network of relevant civil protection and other disaster management actors and institutions, universities and researchers, forming together with the Commission a Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network. The Commission shall take due account of existing structures, notably the Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre, and the expertise available in the Member States and the organisations active on the ground.
- To enhance coordination, compatibility, interoperability and complementarity between capacities and to improve the competence of experts.
- To improve the effectiveness of transnational cooperation through the Mechanism by improving and increasing the knowledge and experience of the experts involved and enabling them to attend specific courses not available in their home country or to organise such courses in a host country.

General description of the contracts envisaged

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

- To maintain and further develop the online UCPM Training and Exercises Programme registration tool and the expert database in the framework of the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network.
- To adapt and maintain the EU Academy, the Learning Management System (LMS) for the whole UCPM Training and Exercises Programme.
- To develop, host and manage an IT platform for Knowledge management, communication, dissemination and collaborative activities.

Implementation

¹⁶ In the event that scientific experts are deployed, the deployment shall follow the regular procedure for expert deployments following an activation of the UCPM.

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through:

- Service level agreement with DIGIT.
- Administrative Arrangement with the Joint Research Centre (JRC).

Expected results

- Building on existing platforms and initiatives, and with an aim to streamline information and knowledge sharing, an online collaborative platform begins to support knowledge management, sharing and dissemination, as well as collaboration, and stimulates research and innovation.
- Strengthened Training and Exercises registration system (used by the national authorities, European Commission, national training centres, etc.) for experts' database and registration to the UCPM Training and Exercises Programme and improved monitoring and support mechanism for experts' learning and development across the UCPM training path.
- Increased and easier access to UCPM training

Expected outputs

- The Knowledge Network's online collaborative platform is developed to support knowledge management, sharing and dissemination, as well as dissemination and collaboration.
- The Training and Exercises Programme online registration tool and expert database are operational for use by the Training and Exercises Programme
- The EU Academy Learning Management System is operational for the UCPM training Programme.

4.4. Civil Protection Forum and/or mini-series

Objectives:

- To gather civil protection practitioners in a safe format throughout the year, and work together on topical issues related to the four policy axes foreseen in the agenda of the European Civil Protection Forum.
- Ensure synergies and cross-fertilisation with the European Humanitarian Forum 2022.

General description of the communication activities envisaged

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

Budget line 06 05 01 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) – fund source: European Union Recovery Instrument

- Work with in-house experts on communication and undertake virtual outreach activities.
- Support the organisation of the seventh edition of the European Civil Protection Forum.

Implementation

- Service level agreement available with the SCIC for the organisation of events/seminars.

Expected results

- Civil Protection practitioners will exchange information and have the possibility to share lessons learnt from their latest activities, including prevention and preparedness measures to contain the spread of Covid-19 and avoid its re-emergence.

Expected outputs

- Feedback from each session will feed into the content of the European Civil Protection Forum workshops.
- Network of civil protection practitioners is informed about latest developments in civil protection area, including the fight against Covid-19.

4.5. Strengthening the evidence base for disaster risk management

Objectives

- To improve the knowledge base on and management of disaster risks, including the implications of climate change on such risks, economic analysis of prevention and preparedness, and facilitate the sharing of knowledge, best practices and information, including among Member States that share common risks, including in the field of education and awareness raising.
- To support and promote Member States risk assessment and mapping activities.
- Contribute to and support better understanding of disaster risks, vulnerabilities, risk management capabilities, socio-economic benefits of resilience at Union/national levels, taking also into account impacts of COVID-19 pandemic.
- To strengthen disaster risk management knowledge and seek possible prevention opportunities in light of future policy developments.
- To promote prevention measures in the Member States and third countries, referred to in Article 28 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU, through the sharing of good practices, and facilitate access to specific knowledge and expertise on issues of common interest.

General description of the contracts envisaged

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

Budget line 06 05 01 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) – fund source: European Union Recovery Instrument

Studies, reports, evaluations.

Consultation with relevant Union services and international organisations will be ensured throughout planning and implementation of all of the above activities in order to pursue, where possible, synergies and efficiencies.

Implementation

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through:

- Administrative Arrangement with the Joint Research Centre (JRC).
- Service level agreement with European Environment Agency (EEA).

Expected results

- Improved knowledge base on disaster risks, including loss data, use of climate change projections for disaster risk management planning, implications of climate change on disaster risks, economic aspects of prevention and preparedness and financial resilience taking also into account Covid-19 pandemic.
- Improved knowledge of vulnerabilities, potential large-scale disaster scenarios, including pandemics such as Covid-19, with high impact on several Member States, and disaster resilience building needs and directions.

- Evaluation of guidelines for and practices of risk assessment and mapping for disaster risk management¹⁷, with a view of improving the support and promotion of Member States risk assessment and mapping activities.
- Better use of scientific evidence, prevention and preparedness project results, Horizon 2020 security research project results and other relevant data, including Earth observations data innovation in disaster risk prevention and management and synergies with climate change adaptation.

Expected outputs

- Technical report presenting the overview of national submissions under the Article 6((1) point (d) of the UCPM Decision No 1313/2013.
- Support to an evaluation and subsequent revision of guidelines for and practices of risk assessment and mapping for disaster risk management¹⁸, including review of risk assessment methodologies and other guidance available.
- Improvement of data collection and analysis, including as part of the existing Risk Data Hub (RDH) with possibility to request, on the basis of existing data, *ad hoc* analytical reports.
- Support the preparation of next edition of the SWD on Disaster Risks in the Union.
- Support the development, implementation and monitoring of the Union disaster resilience goals concept.

5. ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED IN INDIRECT MANAGEMENT

The budgetary envelope reserved for actions implemented in indirect management amounts to **EUR 3 440 000**.

5.1. Economics for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness - Description of the Action

Objectives

- To improve the knowledge base on disaster and climate risks in the Member States and facilitate the sharing of knowledge, good practices and information.
- To support the Member States' national civil protection systems to address the impact of disasters and climate change.
- To promote prevention measures in the Member States through the sharing of good practices, and facilitate access to specific knowledge and expertise on issues of common interest.

Description of the activities

Budget line 06.0501 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

Phase 2 of the study released in 2021: Modelling the socio-economic impact of risks on Europe (in addition to floods and earthquakes, which were included in Phase 1) and providing Member States with cost-benefit analyses and return on investment rates for different investments disaster prevention and preparedness. These analyses would build on existing studies and data already available (including from private sector, e.g. insurance companies, international organisations with specialised competences in this area, e.g. World Bank and OECD, etc.). The analyses would be Europe-specific and have an operational focus. Operational conclusions would highlight types of disaster risk management investments where the return for UCPM and its Member States is the highest, and would

¹⁷ SEC(2010) 1626 final.

¹⁸ SEC(2010) 1626 final.

also consider the contribution to climate change adaptation as appropriate.

Expected results

- Operational recommendations to decision makers in the UCPM and the Member States on the economic and financial impact of disasters in Europe and options to invest in the management of those risks.
- Operational recommendations to Member States for leveraging investments for disaster risk management in Europe including for managing risks associated with climate change.

Expected outputs

- One analysis (e.g. cost-benefit analysis of prevention and preparedness measures, options for sustainable financing instruments, capacity building needs) is developed and presented to the Member States.

5.2. Situational awareness, early warning systems, scientific and analytical support to operations

Objectives

Enhance operational preparedness at Member States and Union level to respond to disasters, emergencies and crises including scientific and analytical support for situational awareness covering natural and man-made disasters (Specific Objective 2, Article 3 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU) and CBRN risks (Specific Objective 2, Article 3 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

In particular, the activity will:

1. Develop and better integrate transnational¹⁹ detection and early warning, information and alert systems of European dimension in order to enable a rapid response in line with Article 8 point (c) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU) for natural and man-made disasters.
2. Address the UCPM needs related to scientific and technical capacity and expertise and increase the availability and use of applied scientific and technical knowledge on natural and man-made disasters (Article 3 point (e) Decision No 1313/2013/EU), including Climate Change and Adaptation/Mitigation, Applied Science for Disaster Risk Management, Comprehensive Security, Health, or Chemical, Biological, Radiological or Nuclear (CBRN) risks.
3. Develop and maintain partnerships for the application of science and technology for operational preparedness and disaster risk management (Article 3 point (e) Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

General description of the activities

Budget line 06 05 01 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)

- Maintaining, updating and further developing real-time hazard modelling systems, alerting systems, impact assessment systems, databases, decisions support systems databases, hardware infrastructure and software; further strengthening of the ERCC's scientific, technical

¹⁹ “Transnational” as meaning “covering larger areas” or “not contiguous regions” versus “cross-border” as limited to regions sharing a common border.

<p>mapping and analytical capacity, including lessons learnt tools in order to ensure that the ERCC fulfils its tasks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the UCPM needs related to scientific and technical expertise.
<p>Expected results</p> <p>Regarding objectives 1 and 2, expected results include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Member States and Participating States in improving and updating analysis, early warning and information infrastructure. • Support the operational transfer of the results of the “<i>Tsunami Last Mile pilot project</i>” within the framework of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group (ICG) for Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System in the North-Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and connected seas (NEAMTWS). <p>Regarding objective 3, expected results include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish connections between scientific institutes to encourage cooperation on current and future disaster risk management.
<p>Expected outputs</p> <p>Regarding objectives 1 and 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforced national early warning, information and analysis systems, and enhanced connections with the ERCC. • An expanded and reinforced Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System in the North-Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and connected seas (NEAMTWS). <p>Regarding objectives 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific expert advice upon request to States participating in the UCPM available to better use scientific knowledge in relation to early warning, disaster management technologies as well as risk assessments, prevention and planning, resilience and reconstruction.

5.3. The European Civil Protection Pool

<p>Objectives</p> <p>Develop a European Civil Protection Pool (ECP) consisting of a voluntary pool of pre-committed response capacities of the Member States and including modules, other response capacities and categories of experts.</p>
<p>Description of the activities to be funded under direct grants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the Emergency Medical Team (EMT) initiative (mentorship and classification process, standard setting and training support) and the rapid response mobile laboratories classification initiative of the World Health Organisation.
<p>Expected results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classification of 10 European Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs) under the WHO EMT

initiative.

- At least one rapid response mobile laboratory classified by WHO and available to the ECPP.

Expected outputs

- 25 additional trained mentors under the WHO EMT initiative.
- At least 10 European EMTs mentored and trained by WHO.
- At least 3 rapid response mobile laboratories mentored and trained by WHO

5.4. Implementation Arrangements

Indirect management with an international organisation

The action described under 5.1 may be implemented in indirect management with the World Bank Group in accordance with the 2020 Financial Framework Partnership Agreement between the European Commission and the World Bank Group.

The action described under 5.2 may be implemented in indirect management with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The action described under 5.3 may be implemented in indirect management with the World Health Organisation (WHO).

This implementation entails the full implementation including through direct implementation of activities and conducting budget implementation tasks (procurement procedures as relevant) of both actions, as above described. The envisaged entities for indirect management have been selected using the following criteria:

- Core mandate;
- Presence in the country/countries where the action will be implemented;
- Financial and operational capacity;
- Proven track record and technical expertise and worldwide experience in devising and applying methodologies for carrying out economic analyses in the area of disaster and climate resilience;

In addition, as regards the action entitled 'Economics for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness' the World Bank has been implementing a similar action which this action will build upon. This prior experience will constitute a strong asset in implementing this action.

In case the envisaged entities would need to be replaced, the Commission's services may select a replacement entity using the same criteria given above.

6. IMPLEMENTATION MODALITIES WITH RESPECT TO EU RESTRICTIVE MEASURES

The Commission ensures that the EU appropriate rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with European Union restrictive measures²⁰.

²⁰ www.sanctionsmap.eu. Please 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 between the published legal acts and the updates on the website, it is the OJ version that prevails.