

Consultation Strategy

Consultation strategy	
Title	Interim Evaluation of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM)
Background	<p>Article 34 of Decision 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism (herein UCPM) requires the Commission to submit an interim evaluation report (henceforth: "the Evaluation") to the European Parliament and the Council no later than 30 June 2017. The Evaluation should highlight "results obtained and the qualitative and quantitative aspects of the implementation of this Decision". The Evaluation shall be accompanied, if appropriate, by proposals for amendments to the Decision. The Commission launched the Evaluation in August 2016. A Steering Group has been set up to take into account the input of relevant Directorates-General of the European Commission throughout the process.</p>

Objective of the consultation	
Objective	<p>General objective: The objective of the consultation is to give all concerned stakeholders an opportunity to express their views on the performance of the UCPM during the first three years of implementation.</p> <p>Insights received from stakeholders through the consultation will complement the desk review and the analysis of activity completion reports, datasets, and other factual information. Stakeholders will be encouraged to submit as much as possible references to specific examples, figures and facts, with a view to ensuring an evidence-based evaluation.</p> <p>Specific objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collect views of the European citizens on the results achieved by the UCPM to date - Assess the importance of different priorities for disaster risk management as they are perceived across the EU - Obtain targeted feedback and technical advice from the primary stakeholders of the UCPM - Gather evidence (i.e. factual information) to support the interim evaluation of the UCPM for each of the main evaluation criteria

<p>Scope</p>	<p>Following the EC Better Regulations Guidelines for conducting evaluations¹, the evaluation framework will inform the design of the consultation. Therefore, the consultation questions will be built around the criteria of the interim evaluation. The five criteria recommended EC-wide by the Better Regulations guidelines are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Effectiveness - Efficiency - Relevance - Coherence - EU added value <p>An additional aspect concerns the forward outlook of the UCPM, namely the specific areas of disaster risk management that should receive additional support from the UCPM during the second part of its implementation (2017-2020).</p> <p>The Evaluation will cover activities carried out under the UCPM in the timeframe of January 2014 – December 2016². In particular, the evaluation will encompass actions carried out under the framework of the UCPM, inside and outside the EU and spanning across the three fields of prevention, preparedness and response to natural and man-made disasters (Para 1, Decision Preamble).</p>
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Identification of stakeholders	
<p>Stakeholders</p>	<p>The stakeholders to be consulted will include the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Entities implementing the UCPM</u>: These include: Civil Protection authorities of Participating States³ of the UCPM. - <u>Entities affected by the UCPM</u>: These include: host countries having received UCPM support (i.e. EU Accession, Neighbours, and Third Countries), EC Directorates-General, European External Action Service, Committee of Regions, European Parliament, local authorities of Participating States, etc. - <u>Entities with a stated interest in the UCPM</u>: These include: non-CP authorities⁴ of Participating States, relevant UN agencies (IOM, UN OCHA, WHO, among others) and international

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/guidelines/toc_guide_en.htm

² The scope of the evaluation report may need to include exceptional events (e.g. natural or man-made disasters and crisis) that might occur in the first months of 2017 and may highlight significant findings on the performance of the UCPM.

³ All 28 EU Member States participate in the Mechanism, as well as Iceland, Norway, Serbia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Turkey.

⁴ This includes other government counterparts whose actions are overlapping with activities carried out by the UCPM. Examples include: Ministries of Social Affairs (e.g. protection of people from the impact of disasters), Ministry of National Security/Interior (e.g. management of civil protection consequences of security threats), Ministry of Public Works (e.g. protection of assets), Ministry of Health (e.g. prevention and management of pandemics).

	<p>organizations (IFRC, OECD and World Bank, among others), NGOs, private sector, foundations, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Entities having expertise relevant to the UCPM</u> (i.e. disaster risk management): These include: universities, centres of excellence, think tanks, mainly the ones located in Participating States.
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Consultation methods and tools

Methods	<p>A balanced and comprehensive coverage of all relevant stakeholders will be achieved through (i) open and (ii) targeted consultations. Both activities will use of a set of different tools (see below), with the goal of targeting different types of stakeholders.</p> <p>The open public consultation will aim at collecting views, opinion and information from the broader constituency of stakeholders. This includes individual citizens as well as public and private organizations who have an interest in the development of the UCPM even if they may have not interacted directly with the UCPM (e.g. European regions, local authorities, civil society organisations, etc.).</p> <p>The targeted stakeholder consultation will reach out to all the entities having been directly involved in the implementation of the UCPM (e.g. CP authorities in Participating States, EC DGs, EEAS, European Parliament, UN Agencies, etc.) with the objective of obtaining specific, technical input through small expert seminars, focus groups and bilateral interviews.</p> <p>A private firm has been contracted by the EC to carry out the consultations, prepare a report and integrate the main findings into the Interim Evaluation Report.</p>
Tools	<p>A combination of consultation activities will be used:</p> <p>Open Public Consultation (European citizens, local and regional authorities, small and medium enterprises, etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Online-based questionnaire (to be published on the "Your Voice in Europe" website) - 12 weeks duration - approximate timeframe (TBC): November - February - summary of findings to be published by: March 31 <p>Targeted Consultation (Participating States, Third countries, UN agencies, etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - expert workshops (exact number TBD): January 9 – February 28 - online surveys: December - January - Bilateral interviews: December -January

Accessibility	<p>The Open Public Consultation will use a questionnaire in English. The questionnaire includes 30 multiple-choice questions and 5 (optional) open questions. Respondents will be able to provide their written input in any of the 24 EU official working languages. A summary of the main issues relevant to the evaluation that will have emerged by the consultation will be published in English.</p> <p>The Targeted Consultation will use English as main language (e.g. for online surveys/questionnaires) although other languages will be used to facilitate participation of stakeholders during workshops and bilateral interviews. The contractor's team hired for carrying out the evaluation provides experts in the following languages: CZ, DE, EN, ES, FR, IT, LV, NL, PT, SI, SK, RUS.</p>
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Consultation website

Background document to the initiative and all consultation documents will be published on [the ECHO webpage](#) for this initiative.