

## EU Disaster Preparedness Programme

Before hurricane Irma battered Cuba in September 2017, the Caribbean island had been struggling through a devastating drought for years, affecting crops, livestock and people's drinking water supply.

The European Union, through its Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations department, supported Cuba to face recurring droughts together with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Food Programme (WFP).

22 meteorological stations were installed in Cuba's eastern provinces to allow for a better monitoring of drought conditions. Thanks to this, Cuba's Institute of Meteorology can communicate on drought conditions early enough for farmers to limit or change the crops they plant to avoid losses.

## Building Partnerships

EU support is being given to stakeholders at all governance levels. They involve potentially affected populations, vulnerable groups, civil society, governments, academia, the private sector, as well as the United Nations and other international organisations.

## Global partner to increase financial resilience to natural disasters

The EU is a member of the Global Partnership for Climate and Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance Solutions (InsuResilience). Together with G20 countries and in partnership with the Vulnerable 20, civil society, international organisations, the private sector and academia, the EU supports Central America, Africa and the Caribbean region.

Concrete outcomes of this support are improved capacities to better assess financial risks related to natural disasters, to develop risk financing and insurance strategies, and to enhance resilience to extreme recurrent natural events.



## European Union support to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030)



Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid

European Union 2017 (photo by Malika Pateanu)

# AT A GLANCE



## What is it?

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction helps countries prevent and reduce disaster risks. The objective is to minimise the destructive impact of natural and man-made disasters on people, the environment and economies, and to make societies more resilient. The Framework calls for action in economic, social, and environmental policy areas. It was adopted by all UN Member States at the third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in 2015 in Sendai, Japan.

Since 2016, the European Commission monitors progress towards the Sendai Framework on the basis of the «Action Plan on the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2016-2020)». This plan recognises actions from various policy areas, such as civil protection, humanitarian aid, climate, development, research, health and many other areas in which the European Union supports its Member States.

## EU Support to 7 Sendai Targets

The EU is active in four main fields to reduce disaster risks inside and outside the EU. In **civil protection**, national disaster risk management systems are being strengthened to prevent, prepare for and respond to disasters. In **humanitarian and development aid**, the EU works with developing countries to help

societies and vulnerable communities develop resilience to crises and shocks. **Research and science** provide a sound basis on which disaster risk management and funding decisions are made. In addition, the Commission is working on policies to **mobilise private and public finance** towards climate and sustainable objectives, including disaster risk reduction through the Sustainable Finance Action Plan.



## EU instruments that save lives and make our world more resilient

### Union Civil Protection Mechanism + rescEU

Support for disaster risk management at home and globally  
 Hazard-specific consultations and advice

### Humanitarian Aid

Disaster Preparedness Programme  
 EU Aid Volunteers

### Knowledge

Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre: DRMKC  
 Index for Risk Management: InfoRM  
 Copernicus Emergency Management Service  
 EU Framework Programmes for Research & Innovation

### International Cooperation and Development

- EU Neighbourhood East and South
- Western Balkans and Turkey
- Global Climate Change Alliance +
- Caribbean Regional Resilience Building Facility
- Africa Disaster Risk Financing (ADRF) Initiative
- EU-South Asia Capacity Building for Disaster Risk Management
- Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific Project
- EUROCLIMA+ : Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change Programme for Latin America

### Risk-Informed Finance and Policies

Critical Infrastructure  
 Climate Change Adaptation Strategies  
 Sustainable Finance Action Plan  
 Seveso Directive - Technological Risk Reduction

## EU prevention & preparedness missions:

Since 2007, prevention and preparedness missions have been carried out worldwide on a vast range of issues such as industrial pollution, communicable diseases, dam assessments or volcanic eruptions. These advisory missions offer expertise on a specific subject or need and are conducted by some of the most experienced and competent European civil protection experts.

Following the devastating effects of the 2015 earthquake 70km west of Kathmandu, Nepal, the Royal Government of Bhutan decided to review its ability to respond should a comparable size earthquake should affect its territory.

An EU Civil Protection Team developed a comprehensive report with recommendations and a road map for the implementation of a more efficient Urban Search and Rescue Scheme.