



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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COMMISSION DECISION

of

on the financing of humanitarian actions in Central Asia from the general budget of the
European Union (Sixth DIPECHO Action Plan)

(ECHO/DIP/BUD/2010/02000)

COMMISSION DECISION

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on the financing of humanitarian actions in Central Asia from the general budget of the European Union (Sixth DIPECHO¹ Action Plan)

(ECHO/DIP/BUD/2010/02000)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ,
Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid², and in particular Article 2(f) and Article 15(3) thereof;

Whereas:

- (1) Central Asia regularly experiences a wide range of natural disasters and in particular landslides, mudslides, floods and earthquakes and the effect of climate change on its environment;
- (2) Local communities are particularly vulnerable to all aforementioned disasters, and the losses these cause are significant both in social and economic terms;
- (3) The capacities of Central Asia countries to cope with disasters are insufficient considering the great impact of disaster events and climate change on the population. International interventions are therefore needed to support preparedness and small-scale mitigation actions;
- (4) While, the community-based experience promoted over the last few years and the coordination mechanisms through DIPECHO have started bearing fruit, there is still a need to ensure that newly Disaster Risk Reduction national plans take over this experience; in countries with the lowest capacities, pilot and communities based activities need to be continued;
- (5) To reach populations in need, humanitarian aid should be channelled through Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and International Organisations including United Nations (UN) agencies. Therefore the European Commission should implement the budget by direct centralized management or by joint management;
- (6) Past experiences from the previous and ongoing DIPECHO Action Plans implemented in the region as well as various evaluations and recent multi-stakeholder consultations carried out lead to the conclusion that Disaster Preparedness projects should be financed by the Union for a period of 18 months;
- (7) For the purposes of this Decision, the Central Asia Countries involved are Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

¹ Disaster Preparedness - ECHO

² OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 1.

- (8) It is estimated that an amount of EUR 7,295,000 from budget article 23 02 03 of the general budget of the European Union is necessary to provide for disaster preparedness activities (including public awareness measures) taking into account the available budget, other donors' contributions and other factors; this amount will allow for community-based activities through consolidated pilot actions and transfer of experience, the development of innovative measures, as well as the development of focused regional or national actions to improve community-based inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) frameworks. Although as a general rule actions funded by this decision should be co-financed, the Authorising Officer, in accordance with Article 253 of the implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation, may agree to the full financing of Actions.
- (9) In order to carry out a proper consultation process at field level and issue detailed guidelines for applicants immediately after the adoption of the Decision, i.e. at the beginning of 2010 year budgetary exercise, the Decision could, exceptionally, be adopted in 2009;
- (10) The present Decision constitutes a financing Decision within the meaning of Article 75 of the Financial Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002³, Article 90 of the detailed rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation determined by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002⁴, and Article 15 of the internal rules on the implementation of the general budget of the European Union⁵;
- (11) In accordance with Article 17(2) of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1257/96, the Humanitarian Aid Committee gave a favourable opinion on 12 November 2009.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. In accordance with the objectives and general principles of humanitarian aid, the Commission hereby approves a total amount of EUR 7,295,000 for the financing of disaster preparedness actions in Central Asia from budget article 23.02.03 of the 2010 general budget of the European Union.
2. In accordance with Article 2(f) of Council Regulation No.1257/96, the principal objective of this Decision is to reduce the vulnerability and increase the coping capacities of Central Asia populations living in areas most affected by recurrent natural disasters. The humanitarian actions shall be implemented in the pursuance of the following specific objective:
 - To increase resilience and reduce vulnerability of local communities and institutions through support to strategies that enable them to better prepare for, mitigate and respond to natural disasters.

The full amount of this Decision is allocated to this specific objective.

³ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1.

⁴ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p.1.

⁵ Commission Decision of 5.3.2008, C/2008/773

Article 2

1. The period for the implementation of the Actions financed under this Decision shall start on 1 April 2010 and shall run for 18 months. Eligible expenditure shall be committed during the implementing period of the Decision.
2. If the implementation of individual actions is suspended owing to force majeure or other exceptional circumstances, the period of suspension shall not be taken into account in the implementing period of the Decision in respect of the Action suspended.
3. In accordance with the contractual provisions ruling the Agreements financed under this Decision, the Commission may consider eligible those costs arising and incurred after the end of the implementing period of the Action which are necessary for its winding-up.

Article 3

1. As a general rule, Actions funded by this Decision should be co-financed. The Authorising Officer, in accordance with Article 253 of the Implementing Rules, may agree to the full financing of Actions when this will be necessary to achieve the objectives of this Decision and with due consideration to the nature of the activities to be undertaken, the availability of other donors and other relevant operational circumstances.
2. Actions supported by this Decision will be implemented either by Non-profit-making organisations which fulfil the eligibility and suitability criteria established in Article 7 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/96 and International organisations.
3. The Commission shall implement the budget:
 - either by direct centralised management, with Non-governmental Organisations,;
 - or by joint management with international organisations that are signatories to the Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA) or the EC/UN Financial Administrative Framework Agreement (FAFA) and which were subject to the four pillar assessment in line with Article 53d of the Financial Regulation

Article 4

1. The amount of EUR 7,295,000 shall be conditional upon the necessary funds being available under the 2010 general budget of the European Union.
2. This Decision will take effect on the date of its adoption or on 1 January 2010 whichever occurs the latest.

Article 5

This Decision is addressed to the delegated authorising officer

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission
Member of the Commission



Humanitarian Aid Decision
23 02 03

Title: Commission decision on the financing of humanitarian actions in Central Asia from the general budget of the European Union (Sixth DIPECHO Action Plan)

Location of Action: Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan

Amount of Decision: EUR 7,295,000

Decision reference number: ECHO/DIP/BUD/2010/02000

Supporting Document

1 - Rationale, needs and target population.

1.1. - Rationale :

According to Article 2(f) of Humanitarian Aid Regulation (EC) of 20 June 1996⁶, DG ECHO's⁷ activities in the field of Disaster Preparedness shall be to "*ensure preparedness for risks of natural disasters or comparable circumstances and use a suitable early-warning and intervention system*". DIPECHO (which stands for **D**isaster **P**reparedness **E**CHO) is a programme set up by DG ECHO in 1996 to improve the capacities of communities at risk to better prepare and protect themselves.

Central Asia became the sixth DIPECHO region to be targeted by the Programme after Central America, Andean Community, Caribbean, South Asia and South East Asia in 2003. Since that time, the DIPECHO Action Plans for Central Asia have channelled EUR 22,000,000 to Disaster Preparedness activities and have thus helped to encourage initiatives at all levels⁸.

⁶ EC Regulation N°1257/96 of 20 June 1996, OL L163 of 02.07.1996

⁷ Directorate-General for humanitarian aid – ECHO

⁸ The programme which initially covered only operations in Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan was extended in 2007 to Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan

The various evaluations⁹ carried out concluded that the DIPECHO programmes have had an appropriate effect in reducing the impact of hazards, ensuring preparedness to respond, and establishing and continuing support of early warning/intervention system and confirmed the relevance of the DIPECHO programme, the necessity to continue it for some more years before starting its phasing down, and to reinforce the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strategic advocacy component of the programme. In addition to that, as recommended by the evaluators, the new DIPECHO programme will continue to strengthen the integration at all levels of gender and climate change adaptation issues, the existing and foreseen coordination mechanisms, the capacity building and advocacy in DRR and the promotion of multi-countries and regional interventions.

Central Asia is particularly exposed to natural disasters such as landslides, avalanches, floods, earthquakes and drought and to the glaciers melting. For instance, in the last half of the 20th century, the surface of the 3 major glaciers in Tajikistan (Tien shan, Gissar Alai and Fedchencko) has been reduced by more than 25% corresponding to a loss of approximately 15% of their total volume. Many small glaciers have already disappeared. During the last 25 years, the largest glacier in the world outside the polar regions (Fedchencko glacier) has lost more than 50 metres of its thickness. Moreover, in Tajikistan, according to the Centre for Research on the Epidemic of Disasters (CRED) database nearly 3 million people were affected by hydro-meteorological disasters in 2008.

The geographical nature of the region (mountain ranges in their infancy combined with the frequent occurrence of earthquakes) and the fact that a large part of its territory is covered by mountains, expose the region to a number of natural hazards. Along with that, climate change has become an important factor in the sharp increase of small and medium sized disasters. According to some estimates¹⁰, the economic loss potential ranged from a high of some 70 percent of GDP in Tajikistan and 20 percent in Kyrgyzstan to a more moderate 3-5 percent in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

For new emerging and developing economies of the region, the losses and destruction that result from these disasters are considerably high from a social and economic point of view¹¹, reducing the development potential of the poorer countries and specific provinces of the region where large proportions of the population live in remote areas. The tendency of the population to settle in the valleys and along riverbanks makes them more vulnerable to disasters such as floods, mudflows and landslides.

In addition, the construction of very large infrastructure (dams), presence of polluting industries and radioactive waste dumped in the region, all increase the level of hazards and vulnerabilities. These factors highlight the need to prepare local authorities and communities to the occurrence of potential industrial and natural disasters. Thus strengthening the intervention instruments, such key public and private institutions specialised in DRR and mainstreaming DRR operations in development programmes are essential to build the resilience of nations and communities to disasters in the region.

⁹ The first three plans were evaluated in 2006 and the two last ones in 2009. Reports are available on http://ec.europa.eu/echo/evaluation/thematic_en.htm

¹⁰ According to some estimates of the World Bank ("Preventable Losses: Saving Lives and Property through Hazard Risk Mitigation." Washington, DC, 2004), the economic loss potential ranged from a high of some 70 percent of GDP in Tajikistan and 20 percent in Kyrgyzstan to a more moderate 3-5 percent in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan

¹¹ According to the ISDR/CRED database (<http://www.unisdr.org/disaster-statistics/top50.htm>), Tajikistan was ranked as the most economically affected country by natural disasters for the period 1991-2005, as in 1992 its economic damages due to floods were estimated at 378% of its 1991 GDP

In all countries in this region, the occurrence of a major earthquake is a constant threat, putting a large proportion of the local economy at risk. In Tajikistan, the effects and frequency of natural disasters aggravate the vulnerability of the population of which 42,8% live with less than 2 USD/day¹². Tajikistan has also been rated as one of the countries most at risk in terms of potential disasters and economic losses.¹³ Certain provinces of Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan face similar risks to those of Tajikistan.

Moreover, high on the present political agenda is the concept of *climate change* and its link with Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) as key part of climate change adaptation. While the direct link between the increase in both natural phenomena and their impact cannot be established, it is time to start raising the level of awareness among local populations about changes in their environment and the need for adaptation.

Following the Hyogo Framework for Action launched at the World Disaster Reduction Conference in Kobe in January 2005, the Central Asian region has drafted a Disaster Reduction Strategic Framework. This has been done with the support of the United Nations' International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR), now present in the region. Whilst Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan have already adopted their National Disaster Reduction plan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan are still in the preparation process.

Through DIPECHO programming, DG ECHO is actively supporting the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action signed by the countries of Central Asia.

Originally, institutions responsible for DRR were heavily centralized and response oriented. The introduction of DIPECHO programme in the region is contributing to positive changes at community and national levels. Within five DIPECHO Action Plans from 2003 to date, more than 1,000 local community rescue teams were trained in Central Asia. Moreover, to enhance the preparedness capacity of the communities about 1,000 disaster zones were mapped and about 250 early warning systems such as radio communication systems, were established in the identified most dangerous locations of the region. In order to reinforce the resilience of the communities living in disaster prone areas, more than 600 mitigation projects were carried out. The achievements at the community level were strengthened by interventions aiming at reinforcing regional and national institutions specialized in DRR. DG ECHO through DIPECHO programmes has supported Tajikistan to design the country strategy on DRR. The draft document is under review by the parliament and will be adopted very soon. While Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan have developed their national strategies in DRR, Turkmenistan has not started the process of developing such a plan.

Although DIPECHO programme is contributing to build the resilience of nations across Central Asian countries, this is happening at different paces in each of the five countries of Central Asia. The economic crisis has certainly delayed DRR awareness and promotion in the situation where disaster preparedness is new and has not been a priority in the region.

In May 2009, DG ECHO organised national conferences in Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan which confirmed the interest of national and local authorities in the DIPECHO

¹² See <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/COUNTRIES/ECAEXT/TAJIKISTANEXTN/>

¹³ Natural Disasters Hotspots: A Global Risk Analysis, The World Bank and Columbia University, March 2005.

programme, the commitment of the partners to the programme and the necessity to continue this work in the region. Advocacy and capacity building operations at central, provincial and district levels should be strengthened as well as the better integration of disaster preparedness activities in more long term development programming and in climate change issues.

The regional conference which will be held in November 2009 will be an opportunity to reinforce the regional cooperation in DRR, to share the know-how acquired during the previous DIPECHO programmes, and to make concrete recommendations for the implementation of this new DIPECHO programme.

The strategic logic of this Sixth DIPECHO Action Plan is based on the continuation of the previous actions plans with a focus on the multi-countries and regional operations in coherence with the priorities for Action identified in the **Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015 (HFA): "Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters' with the aim to support the 5 Central Asia countries in the implementation of their action plan"**.

The European Union (EU), in its recent Communications: "EU Strategy for Supporting Disaster Risk Reduction in Developing Countries" (2009)¹⁴, "A Community Approach on the Prevention of Natural and Man-made Disasters" (2009)¹⁵ and "Towards a European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid" (2007)¹⁶, has clearly expressed its commitment to further promote and implement DRR by:

- promoting international efforts within the HFA to increase coping capacities at local, regional and national levels through strategic planning and action;
- integrating DRR in humanitarian and development operations; ensuring that adequate EU funding is made available for disaster preparedness and risk reduction activities;
- establishing an overall EU policy approach to support action in this area.

1.2. Identified needs:

The main needs identified in the framework of the preparation of this action plan concern:

- 1°) Documentation and dissemination of lessons learnt and good practises. Efforts started under the previous action plans need to be continued and expanded
- 2°) Scaling up and replicating successful pilots or approaches also needs further work, while disaster preparedness initiatives at local level must continue, given the nature and scope of risks
- 3°) Advocacy of the integration of DRR measures into sustainable development and poverty framework and improvement of integrated approaches and linkages between climate change adaptation and DRR
- 4°) Capacity building of local communities and authorities in disaster preparedness and in the setting up of coordination mechanisms and early warning systems.

¹⁴ COM (2009) 84 final, 23/02/009

¹⁵ COM (2009) 82 final, 23/02/2009

¹⁶ Doc. 6891/1/09 REV 1 + 6891/09 ADD 1 + ADD 2 + ADD 3 - COM(2009) 84 final; Doc. 7075/1/09 REV 1 + 7075/09 ADD 1 + ADD 2 - COM(2009) 82 final; COM(2007)317

This DIPECHO programme will continue addressing both the risks of large scale disasters and the expected impact of accumulated recurrent small and medium sized natural events on the most vulnerable populations. DG ECHO will continue to reach national actors and communities at risk through partner NGOs, the Red Cross family and international organisations.

1.3. Target population and regions concerned

It is estimated that the Sixth DIPECHO Action Plan will target the most vulnerable local communities and their institutions, approximately 2 million beneficiaries throughout the region: This high number includes populations targeted through media awareness campaigns.

The following areas, considered to be amongst those with the highest risk levels and the lowest coping capacities, will be targeted on a priority basis for operations aimed at increasing response capacity at a local level. The location of the possible DIPECHO interventions in provinces and regions described below is only indicative and may be subject to change:

- Tajikistan: District of Republican Subordination (RRS) including Dushanbe, Sughd, Gorno Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO), Khatlon.
- Kyrgyzstan: Osh, Jalal-Abad, Batken, Issyk-Kul, Bishkek.
- Uzbekistan: Andijan, Ferghana, Kashkadarya, Khorezm, Karakalpakstan, Namangan, Navoi, Syrdarya, Tashkent, with links maintained to other previously targeted provinces such as Bukhara, Samarkand, Surkhandarya.
- Turkmenistan: Ashgabad and Turkmenbashi cities and provinces, Lebap, Balkan, Dashauz, Ahal, Mary.
- Kazakhstan: Almaty, Southern Kazakhstan .
- Afghanistan (Cross-border pilot actions): Northern Badakhshan, Kunduz province (Imam Sahib district). As Afghanistan has been covered since 2007 by the DIPECHO Action Plan for South Asia, the DIPECHO Central Asia Action Plan will only cover cross-border initiatives being launched from Tajikistan, if relevant.

1.4. Risk assessment and possible constraints:

A major natural disaster, epidemic outbreak of infectious diseases or renewed conflict in the region might necessitate the suspension of some DIPECHO projects.

In addition to this, most of the countries covered by this Action Plan have experienced, since gaining independence, periodic outbreaks of violence, including inter-clan, inter-ethnic and inter-religious conflicts. This situation has been exacerbated among others by the current economic crisis and the tensions concerning the water management in the Ferghana valley. The deterioration of the security situation in the region could make more difficult the implementation of DIPECHO operations.

Moreover, in Uzbekistan, over the past few years, the authorities have been consistently restricting the NGOs activities and international NGOs are facing great difficulties in being

registered and authorised to implement operations in the country. This situation would make the launching of new DIPECHO funded operations in the country difficult.

In Kyrgyzstan, the government is considering a new regulation which would limit NGOs' registration and operations. If adopted, it might substantially limit the DIPECHO funded operations in the country.

2 - Objectives and components of the humanitarian intervention proposed:

2.1. Objectives:

Principal objective: To reduce the vulnerability and increase the coping capacities of Central Asia populations living in areas most affected by recurrent natural disasters.

Specific objective:

To increase resilience and reduce vulnerability of local communities and institutions through support to strategies that enable them to better prepare for, mitigate and respond to natural disasters.

2.2. Components:

Programme strategies which receive DIPECHO support will be developed in the context of existing DRR frameworks and initiatives. They will contribute to existing or planned National DRR Strategies and Policies, including the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015. They will also be implemented in conjunction with the appropriate institutions of national governments at all relevant levels (local, regional, national). Within the actions to be supported, DG ECHO will pay particular attention to the following themes adapted to the Central Asia context:

- ***Facilitation of co-ordination and reinforcement of national and regional platforms*** by supporting initiatives which facilitate co-ordination among national and regional authorities as well as public institutions working on Disaster Risk Reduction and will link them to national and regional level planning activities.
- ***Advocacy of Public-Private partnership:*** which will be composed of support initiatives to facilitate the participation of the private sector in disaster preparedness and risk reduction activities.
- ***Cross-cutting issues:*** involvement of women, children, vulnerable groups such as disabled, ethnic minorities; environmental protection etc.
- ***Integration of climate change adaptation into DRR operations*** by increasing the understanding of climate change issues by beneficiaries and the promotion of climate change adaptation actions.
- ***Mainstreaming DRR in development actions:*** through advocacy and increased cooperation with agencies and NGOs active in the development sector.

Sectors and Sub-Sectors:

- a) **Local disaster management components**, targeting local actors in disaster prone areas: **early warning systems, mapping and data computerisation, local capacity-building, training.**

Examples of possible eligible activities:

- Development and setting up of early warning systems through local structures, adapting or developing user-friendly and locally-appropriate systems; training of the beneficiaries through simulation exercises, mock drills, dry-run rehearsals etc.
- Mapping and data computerisation through local actors, linked with the study of hazards and vulnerabilities and the establishment of emergency plans.
- Capacity-building and training of local disaster management committees (including preparedness and response), with direct involvement of beneficiary communities; development and management of community disaster preparedness action plans; integration of such plans into economic plans at the proper administrative level; simulation and evacuation exercises; training of trainers, community facilitators, fire brigades and other response groups.

- b) **Institutional linkages and advocacy**, targeting institutions involved in disaster management/ disaster risk reduction, in particular at regional, national and sub-national levels: **advocacy, facilitation of coordination, institutional strengthening.**

Examples of possible eligible activities:

- Communication activities aimed at raising awareness on DRR.
- Coordinated and collaborative national programming for DRR.
- Joint strategy formulation and programming, establishment of common indicators, measurement systems, harmonised criteria for good practices, joint events and activities.
- Technical studies, workshops and surveys to increase knowledge about preparedness issues and dissemination of results.
- Facilitating co-ordination; support of existing networks, institutions working on DRR and notably preparedness and response.
- Strengthening institutional DRR capacities; HFA training of decision-makers.
- Promotion of the legal framework aiming to better prepare, protect and assist the populations against the effect of potential disasters

- c) **Information, Education, Communication**, targeting direct and indirect beneficiaries: **awareness raising among the general public, education.**

Examples of possible eligible activities:

- Radio communication actions at various levels; TV broadcasts; media interaction with newspapers, journals, magazines; training of journalists and media students.
- Production of joint innovative Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials; further dissemination of good pre-existing IEC materials.
- Conferences, symposia, seminars, workshops, peer-to-peer awareness initiatives.
- Awareness campaigns among the general public as well as targeted groups, simulation exercises and mock drills.
- Activities aiming to create a “culture of prevention” within the formal education system pursuing a change of attitude and practice; design, production or update of

training materials for pupils; dissemination of good existing materials; training of teachers and pupils; simulations conducted at school level, school competitions.

- d) **Small scale infrastructure and services**, at community level: **infrastructure support and mitigation works, operation and maintenance systems; non-structural mitigation activities**

Examples of possible eligible activities:

- Provision of equipment and reinforcement of infrastructure to support disaster preparedness plans; scientific equipment; rehabilitation of evacuation routes; refurbishment of health posts; temporary shelter for evacuated populations and sign-posting of evacuation routes.
- Small-scale infrastructure works aimed at reducing the physical vulnerability of the beneficiaries, complementing the preparedness component of project strategy; training on operation and maintenance systems; provision of knowledge and tools for replication of measures in neighbouring communities or for integration into local development plans.
- Protection walls along river banks; structural works on existing public buildings to increase their resistance to disasters; identification and reinforcement of safe places; reforestation/plantation; small-scale drainage; and irrigation works.
- Non-structural mitigation measures.

- e) **Stock-building of emergency and relief items**: **targeting the reinforcement of the response capacity of local actors and institutions in disaster-prone areas in view of contributing to ensuring an adequate response to natural disasters by strengthening the response capacity in the early hours and days of a disaster.**

Examples of possible eligible activities:

- Provision of basic equipment such as rescue kits and first aid kits complemented by training activities
- Stockpiling of response items at local level through mandated actors or entities and through well established systems

Although the five countries of the region will be covered by regional and multi-countries operations, interventions at the level of communities will be concentrated on Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan where the populations are the most vulnerable.

3 - Duration expected for Actions in the proposed Decision:

The duration for the implementation of this Decision shall be 18 months. Humanitarian operations funded by this Decision must be implemented within this period. The 18 months duration is requested in view of the nature of the proposed activities, requiring a substantial investment in processes and systems. Moreover, partners are encouraged to develop medium-term strategies for disaster risk reduction to which DIPECHO can contribute through focused or phased actions.

Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from 1 April 2010, allowing a smooth transition between the fifth and the sixth DIPECHO Action Plans for the region.

Start date: 1 April 2010. If the implementation of the Actions envisaged in this Decision is suspended due to *force majeure* or any comparable circumstance, the period of suspension will not be taken into account for the calculation of the duration of the humanitarian aid Actions. Depending on the evolution of the situation in the field, the Commission reserves the right to terminate the Agreements signed with the implementing humanitarian organisations where the suspension of activities is for a period of more than one third of the total planned duration of the Action. In this respect, the procedure established in the general conditions of the specific agreement will be applied.

4 - Previous interventions/Decisions of the Commission within the context of the current crisis

List of previous DG ECHO operations in KAZAKHSTAN/KYRGYSTAN/TAJIKISTAN/TURKMENISTAN/UZBEKISTAN				
Decision Number	Decision Type	2007 EUR	2008 EUR	2009 EUR
ECHO/DIP/BUD/2008/01000 (*)	Non Emergency		7,325,000	
ECHO/TJK/BUD/2008/01000	Emergency		750,000	
ECHO/TJK/BUD/2009/01000	Emergency			300,000
Subtotal		0	8,075,000	300,000
Grand Total		8,375,000		

Dated : 30 September 2009
Source : HOPE

(*) decisions with more than one country

5 - Overview of donors' contributions

Donors in KAZAKHSTAN/KYRGYSTAN/TAJIKISTAN/TURKMENISTAN/UZBEKISTAN the last 12 months

1. EU Members States (*)		2. European Commission		3. Others	
	EUR		EUR		EUR
Austria	100,000	DG ECHO	300,000		
Belgium		Other services			
Bulgaria					
Cyprus					
Czech republic					
Denmark					
Estonia					
Finland					
France					
Germany	1,904,843				
Greece	150,000				
Hungary	8,000				
Ireland					
Italy	570,000				
Latvia					
Lithuania					
Luxemburg	135,000				
Malta					
Netherlands	200,000				
Poland					
Portugal					
Romania					
Slovakia					
Slovenia					
Spain					
Sweden					
United kingdom					
Subtotal	3,067,843	Subtotal	300,000	Subtotal	0
		Grand total	3,367,843		

Dated : 30 September 2009

(*) Source : DG ECHO 14 Points reporting for Members States. <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/hac>

Empty cells means either no information is available or no contribution.

5.1. Coordination with other Commission departments:

Following the adoption by the European Union of a DRR Strategy for Developing Countries, in February 2009 coordination and coherence on DRR has been stepped up, with an active inter-service group including DG RELEX, DG AIDCO, DG DEV, DG ENV and DG ECHO. A 2009-2013 working plan is presently being developed, which includes a mapping of DRR actions, including in Asia, as well as the identification of instruments and programmes in which DRR measures could be enhanced.

On a general level, regular contact is maintained at field level between DG ECHO experts and the EC Delegations in order to maximize linkages between programmes. At headquarters level, the same effort is made in terms of information sharing to better link DIPECHO-interventions with the potential mainstreaming of DRR components in the sustainable development programming of DG RELEX and DG AIDCO.

DG ECHO has systematically been stressing the importance of including DRR as a cross-cutting issue in the Central Asia regional strategy paper covering the period 2007-2013 and will further explore with DG RELEX and DG AIDCO the possibility of incorporating natural disaster risk management components in future programmes supported under the MIPs (Multi-annual Indicative Programme) in the framework of climate change adaptation operations.

Tools and recommendations for DRR integration into programming are being shared on a regular basis with other EC services. This dialogue will continue and expand.

The European Commission contributes with substantial funding to UNISDR and the World Bank DRR facilities and initiatives, as well as to Climate Change Adaptation measures in third countries and at local level.

5.2. - Member States:

The information provided by the Humanitarian Aid Committee (HAC) members in the framework of the preparation of this current action plan indicates that the German government finances DRR projects in Central Asia.

5.3. – Other Donors:

Close coordination is maintained with key donors and agencies involved in DRR both at the national and regional levels such as the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Swiss Development Cooperation Agency and JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency).

6 - Amount of Decision and distribution by specific objectives:

6.1. - Total amount of the Decision: EUR 7,295,000

6.2. - Budget breakdown by specific objectives

Principal objective: <i>To reduce the vulnerability and increase the coping capacities of Central Asia populations living in areas most affected by recurrent natural Disasters.</i>				
Specific objectives	Allocated amount by specific objective (EUR)	Geographical area of operation	Activities	Potential partners¹⁷
Specific objective 1: To increase resilience and reduce vulnerability of local communities and institutions through support to strategies that enable them to better prepare for, mitigate and respond to natural disasters.	7,295,000	<p><u>Tajikistan:</u> RRS including Dushanbe, Sughd, Gorno Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO), Khatlon.</p> <p><u>Kyrgyzstan:</u> Osh, Jalal-Abad, Batken, Issyk-Kul, Bishkek.</p> <p><u>Uzbekistan:</u> Andijan, Ferghana, Kashkadarya, Khorezm, Karakalpakstan, Namangan, Navoi, Syrdarya, Tashkent.</p> <p><u>Turkmenistan:</u> Ashgabad Turkmenbashi cities and provinces, Lebap, Balkan, Dashauz, Ahal, Mary</p> <p><u>Kazakhstan:</u> Southern Kazakhstan</p> <p><u>Afghanistan:</u> Northern Badakhshan, Kunduz province</p>	<p>- Local Disaster management Institutional linkages and advocacy</p> <p>- Information, Education, Communication</p> <p>- Small scale infrastructure and services</p> <p>- Stock-building of emergency and relief items</p>	<p><u>Direct centralised management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACTED - AGA KHAN - CARE NEDERLAND (FORMER DRA) - CARITAS - LUX - CHRISTIAN AID - UK - CROIX-ROUGE - NLD - GERMAN AGRO ACTION - HANDICAP (FR) - HILFSWERK AUSTRIA - MISSION OST - DNK - OXFAM - UK - SAVE THE CHILDREN - NLD <p><u>Joint management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IFRC-FICR - IOM - OCHA - UNDP-PNUD - WHO - UNICEF
TOTAL:	7,295,000			

¹⁷ AGA KHAN FOUNDATION (UK), AGENCE D'AIDE A LA COOPERATION TECHNIQUE ET AU DEVELOPPEMENT (FR), CHRISTIAN AID (GBR), DEUTSCHE WELTHUNGERHILFE e.V., FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SOCIETES DE LA CROIX-ROUGE ET DU CROISSANT ROUGE, FONDATION CARITAS LUXEMBOURG, HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL (FR), HET NEDERLANDSE RODE KRUIS (NLD), HILFSWERK AUSTRIA, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (INT), MISSION OST, OXFAM (GB), SAVE THE CHILDREN (NLD), Stichting CARE Nederland, UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, UNITED NATIONS, OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS, WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION - ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTE

7 - Evaluation

Under article 18 of Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid the Commission is required to "regularly assess humanitarian aid Actions financed by the Union in order to establish whether they have achieved their objectives and to produce guidelines for improving the effectiveness of subsequent Actions." These evaluations are structured and organised in overarching and cross cutting issues forming part of DG ECHO's Annual Strategy such as child-related issues, the security of relief workers, respect for human rights, gender. Each year, an indicative Evaluation Programme is established after a consultative process. This programme is flexible and can be adapted to include evaluations not foreseen in the initial programme, in response to particular events or changing circumstances. More information can be obtained at:

http://ec.europa.eu/echo/policies/evaluation/introduction_en.htm.

8. Management issues

Humanitarian aid Actions funded by the Commission are implemented by NGOs and the Red Cross National Societies on the basis of Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA), by Specialised Agencies of the Member States and by United Nations agencies based on the EC/UN Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement (FAFA) in conformity with Article 163 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation. These Framework Agreements define the criteria for attributing grant Agreements and financing Agreements in accordance with Article 90 of the Implementing Rules and may be found at http://ec.europa.eu/echo/about/actors/partners_en.htm.

For NGOs, Specialised Agencies of the Member States, Red Cross National Societies and International Organisations not complying with the requirements set up in the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Union for joint management, Actions will be managed by direct centralised management.

For International Organisations identified as potential partners for implementing the Decision, Actions will be managed under joint management.

Individual grants are awarded on the basis of the criteria enumerated in Article 7.2 of the Humanitarian Aid Regulation, such as the technical and financial capacity, readiness and experience, and results of previous interventions.