



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels xx.xx.2010
C (2010) XXX final

COMMISSION DECISION

of

on the financing of a small scale humanitarian response to disasters from the general budget of the European Union

(ECHO/DRF/BUD/2010/03000)

COMMISSION DECISION

of

on the financing of a small scale humanitarian response to disasters from the general budget of the European Union

(ECHO/DRF/BUD/2010/03000)

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 aid ¹, and in particular Article 2, Article 4, Article 15(2) and 15(3) thereof;

Whereas:

- (1) The human and economic losses caused by natural and man-made disasters are devastating.
- (2) The impact of these events is exacerbated by socioeconomic factors such as high population density, fast demographic growth, inequality and poverty. This vulnerability stems from the pattern of socioeconomic development as well as inadequate risk management policies;
- (3) Given the recurrent nature and frequency of natural and man-made disasters in the concerned regions, local coping capacity is strained, and particularly the poorest strata of society are becoming more and more vulnerable;
- (4) Because of high social inequality, vulnerability is often concentrated in given geographical areas (i.e. rural, remote) and social groups (i.e. indigenous and ethnic groups) and macroeconomic indicators can mask such local vulnerability;
- (5) Small-scale disaster events affect a relatively limited number of people, but have a serious negative impact on the livelihood of those populations. Small-scale disasters often occur in remote or isolated areas, rarely trigger a declaration of emergency and usually do not figure prominently in the news despite the serious humanitarian needs they create locally;
- (6) In the context of larger disasters, even in countries with relatively developed disaster management capacities, national response to disaster events may leave gaps of uncovered needs, related to social inequality, isolation, under reporting of events, inadequate capacity at local level, where only a limited humanitarian intervention is needed;
- (7) A recurrence of shocks, even small, can push vulnerable populations into a spiral of further vulnerability and destitution;

¹ 1- OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 1.

- (8) Disaster risk reduction efforts are being undertaken at a varying scale in the different targeted countries. However, disaster preparedness is generally still weak at local level, with many local communities subsequently being ill prepared to face the consequences of disasters;
- (9) To reach populations in need, humanitarian aid should be channelled through Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), International Organisations including United Nations (UN) agencies and Member States' specialised agencies. Therefore the European Commission should implement the budget by direct centralized management or by joint management;
- (10) An assessment of the humanitarian situation leads to the conclusion that humanitarian aid actions should be financed by the European Union for a period of 18 months;
- (11) It is estimated that an amount of EUR 8,000,000 from budget article 23 02 01 of the general budget of the European Union is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance to victims of natural or man-made disasters where a small scale response is adequate to cover unmet needs and enhance preparedness, taking into account the available budget, other donors' contributions and other factors. 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;
- (12) Due to the rapidly evolving situation in the field and the nature of the actions to be funded under this Decision, it is necessary to establish a contingency reserve in order to meet unforeseen needs;
- (13) The present Decision constitutes a financing Decision within the meaning of Article 75 of the Financial Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002², Article 90 of the detailed rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation determined by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002³, and Article 15 of the internal rules on the implementation of the general budget of the European Union⁴;
- (14) In accordance with Article 17(2) and 17(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1257/96, the Humanitarian Aid Committee gave a favourable opinion on 10 June 2010.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

1. In accordance with the objectives and general principles of humanitarian aid, the Commission hereby approves a total amount of EUR 8,000,000 for the financing of a small scale humanitarian response to disasters from budget article 23 02 01 of the 2010 general budget of the European Union.

² 2- OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1.

³ 3- OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, , p.1.

⁴ 4- Commission Decision of 5.3.2008, C/2008/773

2. In accordance with Articles 2 and 4 of Council Regulation No.1257/96, the principal objective of this Decision is to provide assistance and protection in the form of a small scale humanitarian response to vulnerable populations affected by disasters. The humanitarian actions shall be implemented in pursuance of the following specific objectives:

- To provide assistance for disaster preparedness and response to populations affected by disasters where a small scale response is adequate in Central Africa, Sudan, Chad

A total of EUR 600,000 is allocated to this specific objective.

- To provide assistance for disaster preparedness and response to populations affected by disasters where a small scale response is adequate in East, West and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean.

A total of EUR 2,500,000 is allocated to this specific objective.

- To provide assistance for disaster preparedness and response to populations affected by disasters where a small scale response is adequate in Central and Eastern Europe, Newly Independent States, Mediterranean countries, Middle East, Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan.

A total of EUR 600,000 is allocated to this specific objective.

- To provide assistance for disaster preparedness and response to populations affected by disasters where a small scale response is adequate in Asia including Mongolia, Latin America, Caribbean and Pacific.

A total of EUR 3,500,000 is allocated to this specific objective.

A total of EUR 800,000 is allocated to the contingency reserve.

3. The Authorising Officer may decide on non-substantial changes in accordance with Article 90.4 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation. Accordingly, without prejudice to the use of the contingency reserve, when required by the changing circumstances, resources may be reallocated between the different specific objectives up to a maximum of 20% of the total amount of the Financing Decision or up to a total of EUR 3,000,000, whichever is reached first.

Article 2

1. The period for the implementation of the actions financed under this Decision shall start on 1 July 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, by international organisations or by Member States' specialised agencies.
3. The Commission shall implement the budget
 - either by direct centralised management, with non-governmental Organisations and with Member States' specialised agencies;
 - or by joint management with international organisations that are signatories to the Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA) or the Financial Administrative Framework Agreement with the UN (FAFA) and which were subject to the four pillar assessment in line with Article 53d of the Financial Regulation

Article 4

This Decision will take effect on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission

[name]

Member of the Commission



Humanitarian Aid Decision
23 02 01

Title: Commission Decision on the financing of a small scale humanitarian response to disasters from the general budget of the European Union:

Description: Small scale response to disasters

Location of Action: Global

Amount of Decision: EUR 8,000,000

Decision reference number: ECHO/DRF/BUD/2010/03000

Supporting Document

1 - Rationale, needs and target population.

1.1. - Rationale:

The human and economic losses caused by natural disasters are devastating. In 2008 alone more than 235 000 people were killed, 214 million people were affected and economic costs were over 190 billion USD, according to the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED). CRED maintains an emergency disaster database called EM-DAT. According to the EM-DAT, the total natural disasters reported each year has been steadily increasing in recent decades, from 78 in 1970 to 348 in 2004. During the past ten years there has been a significant rise in natural disasters; during the 2000 to 2009 period there were 385 disasters - an increase of 233% since 1980 to 1989, and of 67% since 1990 to 1999.

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), there is a greater than 90% chance that there will be more heat waves and "heavy rain events" this century, and a greater than 66% chance that more areas will be hit by drought and that tropical cyclones will be more intense. Hydro-meteorological disasters including droughts, hurricanes, typhoons and floods have been increasing over the past 25 years. In 1980, there were only about 100 such disasters reported per year but that number has risen to over 300 a year since 2000. The number of deaths from natural disasters has declined in the past 20 years - 800,000 people died from

natural disasters in the 1990s, compared with 2 million in the 1970s thanks to better disaster preparedness and prevention. However, the number of people affected - injured, displaced or left homeless – is on the rise.

Natural hazards such as cyclones, earthquakes, floods, droughts and volcanoes do not in themselves necessarily constitute disasters; that depends on the level of human vulnerability and the capacity to resist impacts. The physical risk is combined with socioeconomic factors, such as high population density, fast demographic growth, unplanned urbanisation including displacement of people to marginalised areas, inequality and poverty. The combination of these factors results in very vulnerable communities, with few coping capacities in the event of disaster. Poor people tend to live in dangerous locations, such as flood plains, river banks, steep slopes and reclaimed land. Small scale disasters may affect these populations on a regular basis, yet they may remain unreported, or overshadowed by larger events. Disasters, even small scale ones, undermine development that could provide greater resilience.

In addition to natural disasters, man-made disasters are frequent occurrences in most regions. Political instability, insurgency movements, land and water disputes and other conflicts can result in displacement and distress for millions of civilians. Though these events are often addressed by DG ECHO¹ through other mechanisms due to the significant size of the resulting humanitarian needs, at times man-made disasters can be localized, requiring a relatively small humanitarian response.

Those most affected by disasters are vulnerable populations often suffering from exclusion and extreme poverty. This also holds true for countries which look relatively well off from a macro-economic perspective, where inequity and vulnerability are concentrated in given geographical areas (i.e. rural, remote, urban) and social groups (i.e. indigenous or ethnic groups). Thus, while disaster response capacity may exist at national level, pockets of unmet needs may remain. Furthermore, the current global and economic crisis, as well as the continued effects of the 2008 food price crisis, may hinder countries' ability to take the necessary preparatory or response measures.

According to the World Bank report "Natural Disaster Hotspots: A Global Risk Analysis" in more than 160 countries more than a quarter of their populations live in areas of high mortality risks from one or more natural disasters.

Latin America and the Caribbean suffer from volcanoes, earthquakes, droughts and floods – the last, exacerbated on a regular basis by the El Niño phenomenon - and yearly cycles of major tropical storms widely believed to have been intensified by global warming. Latin America and the Caribbean is the region of the world with the greatest inequality with respect to income, and disparities in access to education, health, water, electricity, land and opportunities. Vulnerability indicators include physical, social, cultural, economic, and environmental factors which increase the susceptibility of a community to the impact of a hazard. While they can be considered at a medium level in most of Latin America and the Caribbean, social inequality within countries means that certain areas suffer from very high levels of vulnerability. Coping capacities in large parts of Latin America are weak, in particular at local level where many communities and local institutions lack the means and preparedness to respond immediately to a disaster.

¹ Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection- DG ECHO

The political situation in some countries of the region is unstable with an increasing risk of insurgency movements and land conflicts leading to displacement of civilians. Indigenous protests, with episodes of violent clashes, are occasionally sparked in some Latin-American countries, particularly in the Andean region. The Colombian conflict impacts the neighbouring countries, not only with refugee movements but also at times provoking movements of internally displaced persons (IDPs). Therefore, there may be the need to provide emergency relief in the context of man-made disasters.

East Asia, South East Asia and the Pacific are particularly exposed to climatological, geophysical, hydrological and meteorological hazards. Each country has its own hazard specificities (e.g the Philippines and Indonesia, located on the “rings of fire”, Dzungur in Mongolia), while disasters range from recurrent small to medium events to a high risk of severe disasters. Over the last decade, it is estimated that in these three regions natural disasters have caused 446,472 deaths, affected 1,245,487,071 people and caused a total of USD 306,173,217,000 in damages (source: CRED EM-DAT). In addition, numerous small scale disasters often go unreported internationally. In addition to natural disasters, the political situation in many of the East Asia, South-East Asia and the Pacific countries is also volatile, with a number of ongoing local conflicts that can rapidly escalate into full scale hostilities.

According to the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) over 50% of the total world disasters take place in the Asia and Pacific regions making it the widest and most disaster prone continent in the world, with a regular and increased frequency of typhoons, tsunamis, floods, droughts, fires and other natural hazards. Despite economic growth in certain countries in the region and the wealth of experience in disaster risk reduction, increasing population growth, unequal distribution of resources, widespread poverty, environmental degradation and rising pollution continue to increase the vulnerabilities of most communities in Asia and the Pacific, allowing the above natural hazards to transform into devastating disasters wiping out human lives and economic lifelines and setting back years of continued development efforts.

South Asia is prone to different types of natural and man made hazards, which, combined with high vulnerability levels and several situations of conflict, increase the risk level of many of its over 1.6 billion people. Floods generated by the South-West monsoon (during the months of June to September) often have devastating effects. On the other hand, less than average monsoons trigger droughts that put at risk the survival of thousands of farmers who depend on rain-fed crops. Tropical cyclones during the pre and post monsoon periods are another recurrent devastating phenomenon in the coastal regions of Bangladesh, India and Pakistan. Earthquakes, landslides, and extreme temperatures are also common to the region. Over the last decade, it is estimated that in South Asia a total number of 461 natural disasters have caused approx 215,253 deaths, affecting over 739 million people, and displacing over 15.3 million people with an estimated loss of assets and properties amounting to about EUR 30.4 million (source: CRED EM-DAT). In some cases populations affected by conflicts, or extreme human rights violations, have become displaced (internally displaced, or across borders, as refugees).

Small-scale disasters, although recurrent, often go under reported and are not attended to. However their impact on highly vulnerable populations often pushes them towards dangerous coping mechanisms, if external assistance is not provided.

Central and Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa experience disruption of the normal climatic cycle in many regions, exacerbated by climate change in the past decade. Heavy localised rainfalls and storms cause floods and landslides in some regions while others face recurrent shortage of rain, resulting in drought. Locust infestations and riverbank subsidence affect some regions. Others are prone to earthquakes and volcano eruptions. These phenomena, plus regular population movements due to localised or more generalised conflicts and man-made disasters are combined with socioeconomic factors such as high commodity prices, inflation, high population density, scarcity of land, extreme poverty, and thus affect populations who are already very vulnerable and whose coping mechanisms have been severely reduced or exhausted. Therefore, their capacity to recover from losses is very limited.

West Africa is affected every year by flash floods caused by erratic rains. These cause considerable suffering, death and damage with the loss of household assets and livelihoods. The humanitarian aid needs are normally localised and specific and require a small scale response. West Africa also experiences a considerable number of small scale civil and community disturbances and conflicts each year which can lead to displacement and the need for limited humanitarian aid for the victims. The main sectors of intervention for small-scale disasters are temporary shelter, food assistance, access to basic health services, water and sanitation and the supply of non food items.

Southern Africa and the south-west Indian Ocean experience multiple types of natural disasters. Tropical storms often take the form of cyclones or hurricanes, and the hurricane season lasts for four months. There is also recurrent and severe flooding associated with heavy rainfall during the five month rainy season, which puts pressure on the river systems, particularly on the Okavango/Zambezi/Shire system which crosses the entire continental part of the region. Earthquakes have occurred in Mozambique and Malawi in recent years, whilst the Comoros islands have experienced volcanic eruptions. Droughts are also frequent occurrences. Forest fires have been repeatedly reported and, together with mass deforestation, account for a significant contribution towards the physical changes in available arable land. The region also experiences other man-made disasters, such as political instabilities, some of which have resulted in the suspension of traditional EU development aid. The physical risk is thus combined with socioeconomic factors, such as high population density, extreme poverty, political instability, and in the 10 continental countries of southern Africa, the 10 highest incidences of HIV and AIDS in the world. The combination of these factors results in very vulnerable communities with few coping capacities in the event of disaster, compounded by the fact that there may be a high number of child and grandparent-headed households. Due to their extreme poverty, these vulnerable population groups have a very low capacity to recover from losses.

Eastern European countries and Newly Independent States are prone to a panoply of natural disasters (flooding, landslides, earthquakes, etc) and do not always have the necessary know-how and financial resources to provide the necessary relief. The European Commission has funded through emergency decisions and the DREF (Disaster Relief Emergency Fund of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies) a dozen operations located in Tajikistan, Montenegro, Albania, Georgia, following small disasters such as floods, landslides, mudflows, cold waves and earthquakes which hit these countries. The political situation in some parts of the Newly Independent States remain instable with a risk of interethnic clashes, particularly in the Caucasus region but also in some Central Asia countries. There are therefore potential needs to provide relief to conflict-affected populations.

Mediterranean countries are prone to localized small scale disasters caused by frequent flooding, earthquakes and droughts. During the winter months, certain high altitude areas such as the Atlas region of Morocco are prone to very cold fronts. In most cases people have had to move to temporary shelters. The European Commission funded assistance, through the DREF, to the affected population by floods in Morocco, Egypt and in Palestine. Support was also provided to the population affected by the 2009 severe drought in Syria.

DG ECHO responds to larger disasters where the national response capacity is exceeded by the scope of the emergency. Furthermore, efforts are made to identify the geographical areas most vulnerable to natural hazards and with the poorest population so as to prioritize the implementation of disaster preparedness actions there. This process has been carried out in a participatory way with key national and international actors, both governmental and non-governmental in the framework of the DIPECHO² programme.

While DG ECHO has responded satisfactorily to major and medium disaster events, experience has shown that small-scale humanitarian needs sometimes remain unmet. This can be due to a variety of factors: smaller scale disasters are unreported and/or are overshadowed by more devastating events; national capacity exists but leaves pockets of unmet needs among isolated marginalized communities; small scale unmet humanitarian needs are "silent disasters" where one shock after another, even if each is relatively small, can push vulnerable populations into a vicious circle of destitution and further vulnerability, from which they struggle to recover; finally, the administrative burden of launching a decision for a small amount may deter response. This holds particularly true for small but recurrent events such as floods and extreme temperatures. It also holds true for a response to droughts, mostly due to the long and silent evolution of drought periods and the related difficulties in assessing affected people and economic damage.

Faced with this situation, as a pilot exercise the European Commission adopted a Small Scale Disasters (SSD) decision³ in November 2008, allocating EUR 1,000,000 to allow response to small scale disasters in South and Central America during the period 1 December 2008 to 31 December 2009, subsequently extended to 30 April 2010. For the purpose of the decision, a small scale disaster was defined as a natural disaster which affects a number of people which is so limited (less than 50,000 people) that taking a primary emergency or emergency decision would constitute a lopsided administrative burden.

The stocktaking exercise following implementation concluded that this facility was highly appropriate to the context, and improved DG ECHO and its partners' capacity to respond to local, isolated and relatively neglected disasters where the impact of the disaster is significant and the local response capacities are overwhelmed, contributing to covering a vacuum in terms of support to small scale disasters. The SSD complements other European Commission instruments such as its DIPECHO programme and disaster risk reduction (DRR) activities, and SSD projects have proved to be appropriate complements of national/local authorities' efforts to respond. It allowed pockets of needs to be identified for future DRR/DIPECHO activities. The SSD meets at least two of the Principles and Good Practice of Humanitarian Donorship, i.e.

² Disaster Preparedness ECHO

³ Humanitarian aid to populations affected by small-scale disasters in Central and South America ECHO/AM/BUD/2008/02000 (http://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/funding/decisions/2008/latin_america_02000.pdf)

principle N°11 "...necessity of dynamic and flexible response to changing needs in humanitarian crises, strive to ensure predictability and flexibility in funding ..." and n°8 "Strengthen the capacity of affected countries and local communities to prevent, prepare for, mitigate and respond to humanitarian crises".

However, the definition of small scale disaster (not more than 50,000 affected by the disaster event) was found to be restrictive in some cases: In the context of larger disasters, even in countries with relatively developed disaster management capacities, national response to disaster events may leave gaps of unmet needs, related to social inequality, isolation, under reporting of events, inadequate capacity at local level, where only a limited humanitarian intervention is needed. It was recommended thus to refer to the dimension of the unmet needs rather than measuring the impact of the disaster in terms of numbers affected and to change the emphasis to Small Scale Response rather than Small Scale Disaster.

1.2. - Identified needs:

The CRED groups natural disasters in five main categories⁴: hydro-meteorological disasters (such as floods, landslides, avalanches); geophysical disasters (for instance earthquakes, volcanic eruptions); climatological disasters (such as drought, extreme temperatures and wildfires); meteorological disasters (e.g. hurricanes, tropical storms) and biological disasters (for instance epidemics, insect infestation).

Any of these natural disasters and conflicts or other man-made disasters can generate humanitarian needs for which authorities do not provide an adequate response and where the affected populations themselves do not have the capacity to respond.

This Decision will facilitate appropriate emergency response funding where local response is insufficient, be it to small-scale disasters or disasters of a somewhat larger scale where there are unmet humanitarian needs, and for which a small scale intervention is adequate. It will be the tool to allow a rapid respond to those disasters where the number of affected people is low, or the unmet needs are not significant enough to launch a specific decision.

At least one of the two following criteria for intervention must be fulfilled:

- extent of damage: the number of affected people is less than 50,000;
- unmet needs (gaps left by ongoing assistance), where an intervention limited to a maximum amount of EUR 200,000 per disaster is sufficient to cover unmet needs.

Humanitarian aid will be coordinated with DG ECHO's Disaster Preparedness programme DIPECHO, with any interventions deployed under the EU Monitoring and Information Centre (MIC) and with longer-term disaster risk reduction activities programmed under development funding. In the design of the intervention due attention will be paid to incorporating links with more structural development interventions.

⁴ CRED Crunch Issue No. 13, July 2008

1.3. - Target population and regions concerned:

The potential target population out of the total population is difficult to estimate. During the last ten years, an average of 243 million people globally were affected by natural disasters annually. Millions of people are similarly affected each year by man-made disasters, many of them in a protracted manner. Humanitarian and humanitarian needs related to more devastating events are generally met by other humanitarian instruments and actors, whether national or international. Smaller scale needs remain unmet, but forecasting the number of people that will need support under this decision is difficult: a range of factors can affect needs, including: the number of disasters which occur, the level of coping capacity of the affected population, the capacity of the authorities to provide effective relief, the response of the international community.

The impact of disasters is highest where vulnerability is highest and response capacity lowest. Based on these considerations and factoring in the existing level of inequality, the target population of this decision is vulnerable people affected by disasters where there are unmet humanitarian needs and a small scale response is adequate.

This Decision covers third countries, and as a priority developing countries.

1.4. - Risk assessment and possible constraints:

Access to affected areas may be hampered by their remoteness, lack of access infrastructure or security constraints, depending on the target country.

Unavailability of experienced staff could hamper implementation.

Inadequate coordination with and among aid agencies and potential donors responding to the humanitarian needs provoked by a disaster could undermine the most efficient and effective response.

External support needs to carefully foster local response capacities. It is important to establish links with ongoing/future DIPECHO operations in the region and with EU Civil Protection interventions as well as with other EU-funded programmes to the greatest extent possible and to those funded by Member States and other donors.

2 - Objectives and components of the humanitarian intervention proposed:

2.1. - Objectives:

Principal objective: To provide assistance and protection in the form of a small scale humanitarian response to vulnerable populations affected by disasters.

Specific objectives:

1. To provide assistance for disaster preparedness and response to populations affected by disasters where a small scale response is adequate in Central Africa, Sudan, Chad.

2. To provide assistance for disaster preparedness and response to populations affected by disasters where a small scale response is adequate in East, West and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean.

3. To provide assistance for disaster preparedness and response to populations affected by disasters where a small scale response is adequate in Central and Eastern Europe, Newly Independent States, Mediterranean countries, Middle East, Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan

4. To provide assistance for disaster preparedness and response to populations affected by disasters where a small scale response is adequate in Asia including Mongolia, Latin America, Caribbean and Pacific.

2. - Components:

Activities financed under the specific objectives might include:

- Water and sanitation: provision of safe drinking water, basic rehabilitation of water and sanitation infrastructure, source and home water treatment, set up of safe excreta disposal, solid waste management, source protection/rehabilitation, basic hygiene awareness campaign such as hand washing campaign with soap distribution.
- Food assistance and nutrition: distribution of food aid/cash/vouchers; food-for-work, cash-for-work, provision of food preparation and food storage materials (e.g. cooking sets, fuel); supplementary or complementary feeding for the treatment of acute malnutrition.
- Basic emergency livelihood support (agricultural and non-agricultural): rehabilitation of livelihoods; provision of basic agricultural inputs (seeds, tools, small-scale irrigation systems etc.); income-generation activities; strengthening resilience to future shocks.
- Health: health education campaigns, basic preventive and curative health care, vaccination, psychosocial support, provision of drugs and medical inputs.
- Non-food items: provision of hygiene and domestic kits, distribution of mosquito nets, etc.
- Emergency rehabilitation of schools and other vital infrastructures: repair of roofs, water and sanitation systems in the affected buildings; cleaning of and basic equipment for schools and other vital infrastructures used as temporary shelters.
- Shelter: assist with repair and provide shelter kits, including basic construction materials such as steel roofing materials, cement, steel, etc. Training on safe housing construction (typhoon/flood/earthquake resistant shelter) and increase people's awareness on hazard related risks and how they can increase their resilience to those risks.
- Disaster preparedness: strengthen local capacities in risk management and disaster preparedness, preparation/revision of contingency plans revision, enhancing the equipment of local preparedness committees for disaster response, mitigation works to protect vital infrastructures etc.
- Protection: provide protection support eg, during temporary displacement, capacity building and awareness programmes on domestic and Gender Based Violence and legal aid programmes.
- Support to emergency communications.
- Logistics and coordination (eg, information sharing, planning, systematization of experience).

3 - Duration expected for Actions in the proposed Decision:

The duration for the implementation of this Decision shall be 18 months to allow response to the different disaster cycles.

Humanitarian Actions funded by this Decision must be implemented within this period.

Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from 1 July 2010.

Start Date: 1 July 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

Decision Number	Decision Type	Year	Amount
ECHO/- AM/BUD/2008/02000	Non Emergency	2008	1,000,000

5. – Amount of Decision and breakdown by specific objectives

5.1. - Total amount of the Decision: EUR 8,000,000

5.2. - Budget breakdown by specific objectives

Principal objective: <i>To provide assistance and protection in the form of a small scale humanitarian response to vulnerable populations affected by disasters</i>				
Specific objectives	Allocated amount by specific objective (EUR)	Geographical area of operation	Activities	Potential partners
Specific objective 1: To provide assistance for disaster preparedness and response to populations affected by disasters where a small scale response is adequate in Central Africa, Sudan, Chad	600,000	Central Africa, Sudan, Chad	Water and sanitation; Food assistance; Emergency livelihood support; Health; Non-food items; Emergency rehabilitation ; Shelter; Disaster preparedness; Protection; Emergency communication; Logistics and coordination.	<u>Direct Centralised management /Joint management.</u> All DG ECHO partners Member States' specialised agencies
Specific objective 2: To provide assistance for disaster preparedness and response to populations affected by disasters where a small scale response is adequate in East, West and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean	2,500,000	East, West and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean	Water and sanitation; Food assistance; Emergency livelihood support; Health; Non-food items; Emergency rehabilitation ; Shelter; Disaster preparedness; Protection; Emergency communication; Logistics and coordination.	<u>Direct Centralised management /Joint management.</u> All DG ECHO partners Member States' specialised agencies
Specific objective 3: To provide assistance for disaster preparedness and response to populations affected by disasters where a small scale response is adequate in Central and Eastern Europe, Newly Independent States, Mediterranean countries, Middle East, Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan	600,000	Central and Eastern Europe, Newly Independent States, Mediterranean countries, Middle East, Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan	Water and sanitation; Food assistance; Emergency livelihood support; Health; Non-food items; Emergency rehabilitation ; Shelter; Disaster preparedness; Protection; Emergency communication; Logistics and coordination.	<u>Direct Centralised management /Joint management.</u> All DG ECHO partners Member States' specialised agencies

Specific objective 4: To provide assistance for disaster preparedness and response to populations affected by disasters where a small scale response is adequate in Asia including Mongolia, Latin America, Caribbean and Pacific	3,500,000	Asia including Mongolia, Latin America, Caribbean and Pacific	Water and sanitation; Food assistance; Emergency livelihood support; Health; Non-food items; Emergency rehabilitation ; Shelter; Disaster preparedness; Protection; Emergency communication; Logistics and coordination.	<u>Direct management</u> <u>Centralised /Joint management.</u> All DG ECHO partners Member States' specialised agencies
Reserve	800,000			
TOTAL:	8,000,000			

6 – Evaluation

Under Article 18 of Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid, the European 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.

7. 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 Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement with the UN (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.