1. **INTRODUCTION**

Based on the objectives given in the Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism, this work programme sets out the following actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for year 2020:

a) for grants (implemented under direct management) (section 2)

b) for prizes (implemented under direct management) (section 3) – Not applicable

c) for procurement (implemented under direct management) (section 4)

d) for actions implemented under indirect management (section 5) – Not applicable

e) for contributions to trust funds (section 6) – Not applicable

f) for financial instruments (section 7) – Not applicable

g) for contributions to blending facilities (section 8) – Not applicable

h) for other actions or expenditure (section 9) – Not applicable

**Legal basis**


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Budget lines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23 03 01 01</td>
<td>Disaster prevention and preparedness within the Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 03 01 02</td>
<td>Disaster prevention and preparedness in third countries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Objectives pursued

The Union Civil Protection Mechanism ('Mechanism' or ‘UCPM’) shall protect primarily people, but also the environment and property, including cultural heritage, from all kinds of natural and man-made disasters, including the consequences of acts of terrorism, technological, radiological or environmental disasters, marine pollution and acute health emergencies, occurring inside or outside the Union (Article 1(2) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU). This work programme covers actions that are eligible for financial assistance under the Mechanism in the field of prevention and preparedness in 2020.

In compliance with Article 26 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU, synergies and complementarity with other instruments of the Union will be sought as these actions are implemented.

Expected results

1. Progress in implementing the disaster prevention framework: measured by the number of Member States that have made available to the Commission a summary of their risk assessments and a summary of the assessment of their risk management capability as referred to in Article 6, in line with the guidelines to be developed by the Commission. And by the number/outcome of Member States participating in voluntary peer reviews on the assessment of risk management capabilities.

2. Progress in increasing the level of readiness for disasters: measured by the quantity of response capacities included in the European Civil Protection Pool and additional capacities developed as rescEU capacities, in relation to the capacity goals referred to in Article 11 and the number of modules registered in the CECIS.

3. Progress in improving the response to disasters: measured by the speed of interventions under the Union Mechanism and the extent to which the assistance contributes to the needs on the ground; and

4. Progress in increasing public awareness and preparedness for disasters: measured by the level of awareness of Union citizens and private sector of the risks in their region.

5. Support to the implementation of the Commission’s Action Plan to enhance preparedness against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) security risks (COM(2017) 610).
The indicated budget amounts, as earmarked for 2020, are for Member States\(^8\) and/or for countries eligible for funding under the Instrument for Pre-Accession (‘IPA countries’)\(^9\) and the European Neighbourhood Policy countries\(^10\) and may, as indicated in Article 2 of the Financing Decision, be supplemented by contributions from the EEA countries and future acceding, candidate or potential candidate countries which have signed the appropriate agreement with the EU\(^11\). Generally, activities towards the Pre-Accession (‘IPA countries’) and the European Neighbourhood Policy countries have to be in complementarity with the regional programs (IPA\(^12\), PPRD South and East\(^13\)).

2. **GRANTS**

The global budgetary envelope reserved for grants under this work programme is EUR 482 381 338.

2.1 **DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT**

**A) SINGLE COUNTRY GRANTS FOR DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT (‘Track I’)***

### Objectives

- To support Member States’ efforts in enhancing their institutional, technical and financial capacity for preparing, implementing and monitoring disaster prevention and preparedness activities.

- To support and complement prevention activity in order to achieve a high level of protection against disasters by preventing or reducing their potential effects, by fostering a culture of prevention and by improving cooperation between the civil protection and other relevant services.

- To improve the knowledge base on disaster risks and facilitate the sharing of good practices.

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\(^8\) In light of Article 28(1a) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU, where reference is made to Member States, it shall be understood as including Participating States as defined in Article 4(12) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU.

\(^9\) Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey and Kosovo\(^*\) (*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence. Serbia, Montenegro, Turkey and the Republic of North Macedonia are participating in the Union Civil Protection Mechanism.*

\(^10\) Eastern Neighbourhood countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine; Southern Neighbourhood countries: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine (This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue), Syria and Tunisia. The participation of Syria is currently suspended.

\(^11\) In 2019 the States taking part in the UCPM include all EU Member States, as well as Iceland, the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia and Turkey as Participating States. The terms and conditions applicable to the submission, assessment and selection of applications under the Annual Work Programme by eligible institutions, organisations and individuals of third countries participating in the Union Mechanism in accordance with Article 28(1) shall be the same as those applicable to eligible institutions, organisations and individuals of the Member States of the European Union.


\(^13\) [www.pprdeast2.eu](http://www.pprdeast2.eu)
practices in prevention and preparedness planning.

- To improve knowledge base on how climate change may affect disaster risks, and facilitating sharing of good practices in linking climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention and preparedness planning.

- To promote the use of various Union funds which may support sustainable disaster prevention and encourage the Member States and regions to exploit these funding opportunities.

(Article 3(1)(a),(b) and Article 5 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of applicants targeted by the grants to be awarded without a call for proposals (hereinafter: ‘direct grants’)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National authorities (or relevant competent authorities) of Member States in charge of disaster risk management, i.e. bodies having a de jure or de facto monopoly on the type of activity, due to its nature or for activities with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative powers(^{14}).</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of the activities to be funded by direct grants</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Budget line 23 03 01 01:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Member States with activities aiming to improve disaster risk management at national/sub-national level while promoting coherence between national and European programmes, with due consideration of climate change impacts. This may include, inter alia: multi-risk or risk-specific disaster risk management plans such as investment plans, feasibility studies and assessments preliminary to financing of structural and non-structural prevention and preparedness measures (including from EU Cohesion Policy Funds, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, the EU LIFE Programme, the European Investment Bank, the World Bank and other International Financing Institutions) as well as implementation of recommendations and other follow-up activities from Peer Reviews and Advisory Missions.</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Implementation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct implementation by DG ECHO through direct grants without a call for proposals (planned co-financed rate of up to 95% of eligible costs)(^{15}).</td>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Expected results</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Contribution to the implementation of the Sendai framework for disaster risk reduction.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Cooperation, exchange of good practices and support for capacity building in risk management planning are improved.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{14}\) Article 195(c) and (f) of Financial Regulation.

\(^{15}\) Direct grants will be awarded in line with Article 195 (c) and (f) of Financial Regulation.
- Stronger links between relevant stakeholders and policies (cohesion policy, climate change adaptation policy, sustainable finance, private sector etc.) throughout the disaster management cycle (prevention, preparedness, response, recovery).

**Expected outputs**

- At least one risk management plan (including a proposed investment plan) is developed.
- At least one feasibility study for scaling up prevention and preparedness activities is developed.

### B) ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF PREVENTION AND PREPAREDNESS

**Objectives**

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

(Article 5(1) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

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

International organisations having a de jure or de facto monopoly on the type of activity, due to its nature or for activities with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative powers.16

**Description of the activities to be funded by direct grants**

Budget line 23 03 01 01:

- Providing Member States with cost-benefit analyses and ranges of return on investment rates for different investments and instruments using national, EU and/or other funds. These analyses would build on existing studies and data already available (including from private sector, e.g. insurance companies, international organisations with specialised competences in this area, e.g. World Bank and OECD, etc.). The analyses would be Europe-specific and have an operational focus. Operational conclusions would highlight types of disaster risk management investments where the return for UCPM and its Member States is the highest, and would also consider the contribution to climate change adaptation as appropriate.

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16 Article 195(f) of Financial Regulation.
• Providing Member States with analyses of the fiscal and economic impacts of disasters in the EU and opportunities to manage disaster risk, including those posed by climate change, such as risk transfer mechanisms and insurance instruments, contingent funding, catastrophe bonds, other relevant Union funding, etc. Consideration should be given to addressing also non-economic costs, as feasible.

• Considering the challenges faced by UCPM civil protection authorities in accessing/using national, EU and other funds for disaster risk management, developing a feasibility study for a technical assistance facility for leveraging investments in disaster risk management, including links to climate change, in the UCPM Member States.

**Implementation**

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through a direct grant without a call for proposals with international organisations (planned co-financed rate of up to 95% of eligible costs)\(^{17}\).

**Expected results**

- Operational recommendations to decision makers in the UCPM and the Member States on the economic and financial impact of disasters in Europe and options to invest in the management of those risks.

- Operational recommendations to Member States for leveraging investments for disaster risk management in Europe including for managing risks associated with climate change.

**Expected outputs**

- At least one analysis (e.g. cost-benefit analysis of prevention measures, development of sustainable financing for prevention and cooperation between public and private sectors, options for a technical assistance facility for leveraging prevention investments) is developed and presented to the Member States.

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**C) DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT ACTION FOR EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY AND ENLARGEMENT COUNTRIES**

**Objectives**

- To enhance prevention of, preparedness for and effective response to disasters in European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement countries.

- To enhance cooperation between European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement countries, Member States and, where relevant, international organisations and other actors in disaster risk management.

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\(^{17}\) Direct grants will be awarded in line with Article 195(f) of Financial Regulation.
To increase risk knowledge at national and regional levels in European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement countries and promote sharing of knowledge, best practice and exchange of information, including on the implication of climate change.

(Article 28 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU)

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

National civil protection authorities (or relevant competent authorities or entities) of Member States, i.e. bodies for activities with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative powers\(^\text{18}\); international organisations and European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement countries\(^\text{19}\).

**Description of the activities to be funded by direct grants**

Budget line 23 03 01 02:

- Disaster risk management action for Enlargement countries and European Neighbourhood Policy countries: Risk analysis, capacity development and technical assistance e.g. follow-up activities of peer reviews or advisory missions conducted in these countries\(^\text{20}\).

**Implementation**

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through direct grants without a call for proposals (planned co-financed rate of up to 95% of eligible costs)\(^\text{21}\).

**Expected results**

- Cross-border and macro-regional cooperation for disaster prevention is enhanced.
- Cooperation between the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) countries and Enlargement countries with the Mechanism and its Member States in the field of disaster prevention is improved.
- Implementation of possible recommendations of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) technical working groups, if already available, could be considered.
- The following results are expected to be reached in at least one Enlargement and/or European Neighbourhood Policy country:
  - National prevention, preparedness and response capacities are reinforced thanks to an exchange of knowledge with UCPM and EU disaster risk management initiatives.
  - Strengthening of disaster risk management, including governance, inter-

\(^{18}\) Article 195 (f) of Financial Regulation.

\(^{19}\) Article 195 (f) of Financial Regulation.

\(^{20}\) Lessons learned from other EU funded disaster risk management initiatives, including those implemented in other regions, and possible synergies should be considered.

\(^{21}\) Direct grants will be awarded in line with Article 195 (f) of Financial Regulation.
ministerial and inter-agency cooperation.

- Increased multi-risk knowledge, assessment and analysis, including on the implications of climate change, at national and regional levels.
- Tools and best practices developed within the Member States are shared, including in awareness raising.

Complementarity and collaboration with existing regional programmes and projects funded as part of the European Neighbourhood Instrument and the Instrument for Pre-Accession, as well as funded by other donors is required.

**Expected outputs**

- Procedures, action plans, guidelines for developing integrated risk management plans (including elements of prevention and preparedness for response, as well as addressing climate change implications) are developed, if appropriate following the recommendations of e.g. advisory missions and/or peer reviews.
- At least one simulation exercise on national inter-agency cooperation and related recommendations.
- At least one multi-risk analysis at national or regional levels, including development of national capacities on risk knowledge and assessment. At least one training course and one study visit with the aim of sharing best practice from both Member States and Partner Countries.

**D) PREVENTION AND PREPAREDNESS FOR CROSS-BORDER RISKS AND FOR MARINE POLLUTION AT-SEA AND ON SHORE (“Track 2”)**

**Objectives**

- To achieve a high level of protection against disasters with cross-border impacts by preventing or reducing their potential effects, by fostering a culture of prevention and by improving cooperation between the civil protection, marine pollution and other relevant services/stakeholders (Art. 3(1)(a) Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

- To enhance cooperation and coordination in the area of preparedness and response between authorities and stakeholders in Member States, IPA II beneficiaries not participating in the Mechanism, and/or European Neighbourhood Policy countries that share a border, based on existing cross-border or macro-regional agreements or strategies, including regional sea conventions.

- To promote the use of various Union funds (e.g. Interreg, ERDF, ENI, IPA) which may support sustainable cross-border disaster risk management and encourage the Member States and cross-border regions to exploit these funding opportunities (Article 1(2) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

**Type of applicants targeted by call for proposals**
Budget line 23 03 01 01:

Public and/or private entities from Member States and international organisations. Proof of consultation with national level civil protection or marine pollution authorities of all countries benefitting from the projects is required.

Budget line 23 03 01 02:

Public and/or private entities from Member and non-Member States (IPA beneficiary not participating in the Mechanism and/or European Neighbourhood Policy country) and international organisations. Proof of consultation with national civil protection or marine pollution authorities of all countries benefitting from the projects is required.

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

- **Prevention**: Developing tools and frameworks for risk assessments to improve understanding of shared risks with cross-border impacts, including from marine pollution. This includes, inter alia: data collection/analysis, support tools for decision-makers, feasibility studies, risk maps and other science-based communication tools.

  **Preparedness**: Foundational works for developing/improving response capacities. This includes, inter alia: technical specifications and feasibility studies for improving multi-country response capacities; small-scale exercises and training courses aimed at testing innovative disaster preparedness approaches/methodologies.

Implementation

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

Expected results

- Enhanced cooperation and coordination in the area of prevention, preparedness and response between civil protection, marine pollution authorities and other disaster risk management stakeholders in Member States, IPA II beneficiaries not participating in the Mechanism, and/or European Neighbourhood Policy countries.

- Enhanced exchange of good practices, expertise and planning among all the actors involved in disaster risk management.

- Enhanced understanding of key shared risk(s) in Member States, IPA II beneficiaries not participating in the Mechanism, and/or European Neighbourhood Policy countries that share a border, through a regional framework for risk assessment.

- Enhanced regional operational cooperation in case of a maritime emergency, including through communication and procedures as well as exchange of knowledge and best practices from different cooperation models.

- Enhanced capability of and training for at-sea and shoreline responders.
- Enhanced cooperation and coordination between at-sea and shoreline response authorities.

**Expected outputs**

- Recommendations based on a cross-border risk assessment for national or appropriate sub-national level are developed.
- Feasibility studies for investments in cross-border prevention or preparedness measure(s) are developed.
- Capacity development activities including trainings and exercises are conducted; advanced training technology or methodology is developed.
- Regional anti-pollution manual/guideline is developed or upgraded.
- System(s) for detection and response of various pollutants are improved or developed.
- Joint at-sea and shoreline response plan(s) or an integrated tool for at-sea and shoreline response is developed.

Consultation with relevant EU services and international organisations will be ensured throughout planning and implementation of all of the above activities in order to pursue, where possible, synergies and efficiencies. Coherence and coordination with EU regional and national initiatives and programmes should be ensured (e.g. IPA PPRD South and East Programmes).

### 2.2 CAPACITIES

#### A) THE EUROPEAN CIVIL PROTECTION POOL

**Objectives**

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

(Article 11 of Implementing Decision 2014/762/EU).

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

- Member States' competent authorities or other entities authorised by the Member State to register the response capacity to the European Civil Protection Pool and to request and receive financial support from the Commission on behalf of that Member State, on the basis of Article 17 of Implementing Decision 2014/762/EU.
- International organisations.

**Description of the activities to be funded under direct grants**
• Financing the upgrade costs of response capacities, so as to make them deployable as part of the European Civil Protection Pool, through direct grants, or framework agreements with Member States' authorities. Up to 75% of eligible costs will be covered, provided this does not exceed 50% of the average cost of developing the capacity.

• Financing the repair costs of response capacities, so as to make them deployable as part of the European Civil Protection Pool, through direct grants, including, where appropriate, within framework agreements with Member States' authorities. Up to 75% of eligible costs will be covered.

• Support the World Health Organization in its response capacity to outbreaks that are of significance to the European Medical Corps.

Implementation
Direct implementation by DG ECHO through direct grants without call for proposals.

Expected results
• The European Civil Protection Pool of disaster response capacities and the European Medical Corps are operational.

• Quality requirements are specified for identified capacities.

• Pre-committed response capacities are certified and registered.

• The European Civil Protection Pool is kept up-to-date in the repository system (CECIS).

Expected outputs
• At least three new adaptation grants signed.

B) rescEU TRANSITION

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

Type of applicants targeted by the grant without call for proposals
Member States' competent authorities or other entities authorised by the Member State to request and receive financial support from the Commission on behalf of that Member State for standby costs of national capacities registered for a transitional period of time as “rescEU”.

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22 Direct grants will be awarded in line with Article 195(f) of the Financial Regulation.
### Description of the activities to be funded by direct grants

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

### Implementation

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through direct grants awarded to Member States without a call for proposals (co-finance rate of 75% of stand-by costs)\(^\text{23}\).

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

### Expected results

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

### Expected outputs

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

### C) rescEU CAPACITIES

#### Objectives

- Develop additional reserve capacities defined as rescEU by means of Implementing Decision(s) in order to support Member States in overwhelming situations, notably as provided in Article 12(2) of the Decision No 1313/2013/EU in the areas of forest fires, CBRN, medical emergencies and in relation to high impact low probability events.

- Enable an effective response to major disasters within the EU.

- Enable an effective response to disasters outside the Union when these can affect significantly one or several Member States, or their citizens.

- Enable cross-sectoral cooperation in responding to CBRN threats (such as cooperation between the law enforcement, health and civil protection authorities).

(Article 12(2) of the Decision No 1313/2013/EU)

#### Type of applicants targeted by direct grants (without call for proposal)/call for proposals

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\(^{23}\) Direct grants will be awarded in line with Article 195 (f) of Financial Regulation.
Member States' competent authorities or other entities authorised by the Member State to develop rescEU capacities and to request and receive financial support from the Commission on behalf of that Member State.

**Description of the activities to be funded by direct grants (without call for proposals) / call for proposals**

- Activities necessary to develop additional reserve capacities defined as rescEU.
- Activities necessary to ensure the effective availability and deployability of the rescEU capacities.
- Activities necessary to develop or update existing standard operational procedures and exercises to ensure the effective use of these capacities.

**Implementation**

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through direct grants with no call for proposals.

Taking into account that acquisition and recurrent costs of the aerial forest fire fighting capacities are very high, the co-financing rate for the development of rescEU capacities in this area is set at 90% of the total estimated costs. The TEC will be established by means of Implementing Decision. Categories of costs that may be eligible in the calculation of the total estimated costs are listed in Annex Ia of Decision No 1313/2013/EU.

For other rescEU capacities, the co-financing rate will be set following their definition by means of the Implementing Decision.

For rescEU capacities which are established to respond to low probability risks with a high impact, Union financial assistance shall cover 100% of the costs necessary to ensure their availability and deployability, in accordance with Article 21(4) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU.

**Expected results**

- Response capacities to respond to specific risks made available to Member States for interventions within and outside the EU are increased.
- Cross-sectoral cooperation in responding to CBRN threats (such as cooperation between the law enforcement, health and civil protection authorities) is reinforced, and synergies with activities that already contribute to CBRN action plan are ensured.

**Expected outputs**

- At least one rescEU response capacity is developed at EU level in order to address at least one specific risk category.

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24 Direct grants will be awarded in line with Article 195(f) of the Financial Regulation.

2.3 Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network

A) Union Civil Protection Mechanism Exercises

Objectives

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

(Article 32 of Implementing Decision 2014/762/EU)

Type of applicants targeted by the call for proposals

- Public and/or private entities and international organisations. Proof of support from national civil protection authorities will be required.
- With the exception of international organisations, entities established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:
  - Budget line 23 03 01 01: Member States
  - Budget line 23 03 01 02: eligible non-EU countries, i.e.:
    - IPA beneficiaries not participating in the Mechanism: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo.
    - European Neighbourhood Policy countries:
      - Eastern neighbourhood: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.
      - Southern neighbourhood: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.

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

- In coordination with national civil protection or marine pollution authorities, design, plan, conduct and evaluate exercises with scenarios simulating the
situation and conditions of all types of disasters calling for the activation of the Mechanism. These include, but are not limited to marine pollution, and CBRN disasters, as well as multi-sectoral emergencies inside or outside the EU, and also cover the health consequences of the disasters. The exercise project could consist of one or a combination of different exercise types ranging from Table-top exercises (TTX), Command Post Exercises (CPX) and/or Full-Scale Exercises (FSX).

- Design, plan, conduct and evaluate exercises enhancing Host Nation Support.
- Design, plan, conduct and evaluate exercises with scenarios addressing the cooperation with non-civil protection actors.
- Countries will participate, through the ERCC, following established procedures (e.g. use of CECIS or CECIS Marine Pollution and activation of the Mechanism). Participants will include, among others: intervention teams (including modules), teams of assessment and/or coordination experts (EUCPT), technical experts, national key contact point staff, other intervention support resources and officials of the EU Institutions, including humanitarian aid experts (as required by the exercise scenario).

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

For projects under the external budget line coherence and coordination with EU regional and national initiatives and programmes should be ensured (e.g. IPA, PPRD South and East Programmes) as well as linkages with the international response coordination system, where appropriate.

**Implementation**

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

**Expected results**

- Response capacity of Member States is improved, in particular with regard to teams and other assets provided in civil protection and marine pollution assistance interventions, through the preparation of an improvement plan at the end of the exercise.
- Response capacity of IPA beneficiary not participating in the Mechanism and/or European Neighbourhood Policy countries is improved, in particular with regard to teams and other assets provided in civil protection and marine pollution assistance interventions, through the preparation of an improvement plan at the end of the exercise.
- Cooperation in disaster response among civil protection, marine pollution,

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humanitarian actors and international organisations is improved.

- Procedures are improved and verified, the common approach for the coordination of civil protection assistance interventions is further improved and the response time in major disasters is reduced.

- Cooperation at international level between the civil protection and marine pollution services of Member States, the Commission and other relevant actors is improved, using CECIS or CECIS Marine Pollution and the involvement of the ERCC in the exercise design and conduct.

- Lessons are identified and shared through direct observation during the exercise and dissemination of exercise reports among the Member States.

**Expected outputs**

- At least two exercises are organised.

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**B) NETWORK PARTNERSHIP**

**Objectives**

- To promote networks of relevant civil protection and other relevant disaster management actors.

- To promote exchange of information, training, research and innovation.

- Develop best practices, technical expertise in the fields of civil protection and disaster management.

- To build and capture new knowledge and practices from relevant civil protection and other relevant disaster management actors in the sectors covered by rescEU.

- To facilitate the exchange of knowledge and best practices in the field of civil protection and disaster management, including climate change adaptation.

- To improve interoperability and capabilities of intervention teams, and test and validate concepts through experimentation.

(Article 13(1) of Decision 1313/2013/EU)

**Type of applicants targeted by the call for proposals**

- Public and/or private entities and international organisations. Proof of support with civil protection or disaster management national authorities will be required.

- Entities and organisations that train, educate experts or carry out research or develop new technologies in specific civil protection areas.

- With the exception of international organisations, entities established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:

Budget line 23 03 01 01: Member States
Budget line 23 03 01 02: eligible non-EU countries, i.e.:

- IPA beneficiaries not participating in the Mechanism: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo.

- European Neighbourhood Policy countries:
  - Eastern Neighbourhood: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.
  - Southern Neighbourhood: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.

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

- Specific courses/workshops for experts from Member States, Enlargement countries and European Neighbourhood Policy countries (civil protection, disaster management, marine pollution and other entities/authorities active in the UCPM), as well as from the Commission, other EU services and the UN who may participate in civil protection interventions on topics of relevance for UCPM.

- Development and organisation of pilot training activities not already covered by UCPM training programme.

- Exchange of best practices, knowledge and experience.

- Research activities, development of concepts, studies and feasibility assessments

**Implementation**

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through:

- Call for proposals (planned co-financing rate of up to 95% of eligible costs.

**Expected results**

- Response capacity of Member States is improved.

- Cooperation in disaster response among civil protection, disaster management, marine pollution, humanitarian actors and international organisations is improved.

- A network of relevant civil protection and other disaster management actors is established, involving also climate change adaptation practitioners as appropriate.

- Expertise is further developed in ad-hoc civil protection and disaster management areas.

- Lessons are identified and shared.

**Expected outputs**

- At least three projects are supported.

- Training activities in emerging needs are organised.
### 2.4 Workshops with the Presidency of the Council of the EU

#### Objectives
- To exchange knowledge and experience on specific strategic civil protection issues and to discuss further civil protection activities organised in cooperation with the German and Portuguese Presidencies of the Council of the European Union.

(Article 5 and 8 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

#### Type of applicants targeted by the grant awarded without a call for proposals
- Public entities from Member States having a de jure or de facto monopoly on the type of activity, due to its nature\(^\text{27}\).

#### Description of the activities to be funded under the grant awarded without a call for proposals
Workshops (one per each Presidency of the Council of the EU).

#### Implementation
Direct implementation by DG ECHO through a direct grant without a call for proposals (maximum co-finance rate of 75% of eligible costs)\(^\text{28}\).

#### Expected results
- Increased awareness and better understanding of strategic civil protection challenges.
- Improved consensus among the main stakeholders from the Member States on strategic civil protection issues.
- Improved awareness of synergies and linkages with other relevant policies (regional development, climate change adaptation, etc.).

#### Expected outputs
- Summary of key policy messages agreed upon by Member States during the Presidency (one per each Presidency of the Council of the EU).

### 3 Prizes

Not applicable

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27 Article 195(f) of Financial Regulation.

28 Direct grants will be awarded in line with Article 195(f) of the Financial Regulation.
4 PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement contracts in 2020 amounts to EUR 20 345 357.

4.1 EVIDENCE-BASE AND SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

A) STRENGTHENING THE EVIDENCE BASE FOR DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• To improve the knowledge base on disaster risks, including the implications of climate change on such risks, and facilitate the sharing of knowledge, best practices and information, including among Member States that share common risks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• To improve the knowledge base on preparedness and available capacities, including components and standards in use, in the Member States.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• To strengthen disaster risk management knowledge and seek possible prevention opportunities in light of future policy developments (such as the next 2021-2027 programming period).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• To promote prevention measures in the Member States and third countries, referred to in Article 28, through the sharing of good practices, and facilitate access to specific knowledge and expertise on issues of common interest.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Article 5(1) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

**General description of the contracts envisaged**

Studies and reports, evaluations.

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

**Implementation**

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through:

• Call for tender and existing/new framework contracts.

• Expert contracts.

**Expected results**

• Improved knowledge base on disaster risks, including loss data, use of climate change projections for disaster risk management planning, and implications of climate change on disaster risks.

• Improved knowledge on available capacities in Member States, including components and standards in use.

• Better use of scientific evidence, prevention and preparedness project results, Horizon 2020 security research project results and other and relevant data, including innovation in disaster risk prevention and management, and synergies with climate change adaptation. Exchange of applied knowledge, risk assessment
tools, and prevention measures; knowledge and policy tools are systematically identified, shared and where relevant adopted by stakeholders.

**Expected outputs**

- A report on possible areas to enhance interoperability based on existing components and standards in use.
- Information on existing innovation models and how successfully innovation, new technologies and models are led into disaster management.
- An evaluation of the outcomes of the calls for proposals on prevention and preparedness projects funded since 2014.

**B) EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS, SCIENTIFIC AND ANALYTICAL SUPPORT TO OPERATIONS**

**Objectives**

Enhance preparedness at Member States and Union level to respond to disasters, including CBRN risks. (Specific Objective 2, Article 3 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

In particular, the activity will aim to:

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

**General description of the contracts envisaged**

- Updating real-time hazard modelling systems, alerting systems, impact assessment systems, databases, hardware infrastructure and software; further strengthening of the ERCC's scientific, mapping and analytical capacity, including lessons learnt tools in order to ensure that the ERCC fulfils its tasks.
- Maintaining and further developing the European Natural Hazard Scientific Partnership.
• Supporting the setting-up of a scientific expert network based on existing initiatives and structures within the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network.

**Implementation**

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through:

• Administrative Arrangement with the JRC.
• Call for tender/existing framework contracts.

**Expected results**

Regarding objectives (1) and (2), expected results include:

• European Detection and Alert System such as the Global Disaster Alert Coordination System (GDACS) provide fast, accurate and reliable information to enable rapid responses.

• European Detection and Alert System such as GDACS are strengthened through improvements including the ERCC's global multi-hazard early warning capacities, integrating amongst others, early warning systems for floods, forest fires and droughts as well as integrating innovative technologies and systems to provide scientific and analytical support and databases.

• Promoting the integration between the various platforms and systems and enhancing synergies with existing global systems.

Regarding objectives (3) and (4), expected results include:

• ERCC and Member States are able to establish comprehensive situational awareness of a given situation in the immediate aftermath of an emergency.

• ERCC support forecast, estimate scale and severity of a disaster, identify priorities, and ensure synergies and complementarity between Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid as well as an improved situational awareness as regards the security situation at places of deployment.

• The European Natural Hazard Scientific Partnership continues to provide 24/7 services to the ERCC consisting of multi-hazard scientific expert judgement in forecasting events or in the immediate aftermath of a natural disaster. Look into possibilities for expanding the European Natural Hazard Scientific Partnership to also provide services related to other hazards, for example CBRN.

Regarding objective (5) expected results include:

• Connection of scientific networks to encourage cooperation on current and future disaster risk management, and establishment of a governance structure for the envisaged scientific expert network within the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network.

**Expected outputs**
Regarding objectives (1) and (2):

- European detection and alert systems such as the Global Disaster Alert Coordination System (GDACS) are maintained and further improved through inter alia the inclusion of new hazards in GDACS or the improvement of early-warning modelling for already included hazards.

- The integration between existing national and EU-wide platforms on early warning systems is supported and promoted through annual expert meetings.

- Synergies with global early warning systems are enhanced and promoted through thematic early warning system working group meetings.

- The ERCC portal, the ERCC Deployment Tool (EDYT), and the field reporting tool are maintained and further developed.

Regarding objective (3):

- Delivery of at least 200 information products (including but not limited to analytical briefs and maps) to enable the ERCC to establish comprehensive situational awareness of a given situation including the security situation at potential places of deployment, in the immediate aftermath of an emergency or to assist ERCC in forecasting events, estimating scale and severity of the impact of a disaster, identifying priorities or ensuring complementarity between Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid.

- Elaboration, provision and dissemination of deployment plans to UCPM Member States in the case of activations of the UCPM.

Regarding objectives (4):

- Scientific expert advice and/or reports are available as of 3 hours from a request for the hazards defined in the European Natural Hazard Scientific Partnership.

- Decision support systems facilitating rapid analysis and information exchange (ERCC Portal, the ERCC Deployment Tool (EDYT) and the Field Reporting Tool) are further developed and enhanced.

Regarding objective (5):

- Availability of scientific expert advice upon request to States participating in the UCPM available through the established network of scientific experts to better use scientific knowledge in relation to early warning, disaster management technologies as well as risk assessments, prevention and planning, resilience and reconstruction.

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29 In the event that scientific experts are deployed, the deployment shall follow the regular procedure for expert deployments following an activation of the UCPM.
4.2 Peer Reviews, Prevention and Preparedness (Advisory) Missions

**Objectives**

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

**General description of the contracts envisaged**

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

**Implementation**

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through:

- Existing framework contracts.

**Expected results**

- Recommendations to inform requesting countries prevention, preparedness, recovery and reconstructions strategies in non-emergency contexts and post-emergency situations, including on how to build resilience to future disasters.
- Cooperation between the Union and national civil protection authorities from the requesting countries, promoting a common understanding of prevention and preparedness subjects including implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.
- Improvement of the knowledge base on and state of disaster preparedness and prevention and facilitation of the sharing of knowledge, best practices and information.

**Expected outputs**

- Four missions within and outside the Union.

4.3 The Emergency Response Coordination Centre

**Objectives**

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

**General description of the contracts envisaged**

- Service contracts to support purchase and development of specialised IT and communication equipment.
- Maintenance and/or arrangements to ensure the ERCC’s security, resilience and business continuity on a 24/7 basis.
- Service contract for contributing to 24/7 capacity for the ERCC duty officer system.
- Purchase and maintenance of specialised equipment to maintain a fully operational 24/7 centre and ensure the ERCC’s security, resilience and business continuity.
- Upgrade and maintenance of equipment procured for the initial setup of the ERCC (2013) and that has completed its lifespan.

**Implementation**

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through:

- For 24/7 duty capacity, existing framework contracts.
- For acquisition and maintenance of ERCC equipment, existing framework contracts and calls for tender, when appropriate.

**Expected results**

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

**Expected outputs**

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

4.4 Capacities

The European Civil Protection Pool

**Objectives**
- Establish a European Civil Protection Pool consisting of a pool of voluntarily pre-committed response capacities of the Member States and include modules, other response capacities and categories of experts, (Article 11 of Implementing Decision 2014/762/EU).

**General description of the contracts envisaged:**

- Certification: Certification activities will be implemented through existing training courses and Mechanism and modules exercises, as well as through specific workshops, (the costs of which are covered under this activity). The Commission following the nomination by Member States appoints certifiers. The costs of peer certifiers from the Member States to observe the exercises as well as costs of experts attending workshops may be financed using existing framework contracts for travel and accommodation. Where necessary, a daily allowance will also be provided.

- Studies: Specific studies to support the optimal functioning of the European Civil Protection Pool will be carried out through call for tender and/or framework contracts.

**Implementation**

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through:

- Call for tender
- Existing framework contracts

**Expected results**

- The European Civil Protection Pool and the European Medical Corps are operational.
- Quality requirements are specified for identified capacities.
- Pre-committed response capacities are certified and registered.
- The European Civil Protection Pool is kept up-to date in the repository system (CECIS).

**Expected outputs**

- 15 capacities certified before registration in the European Civil Protection Pool.
- At least one new study launched.

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4.5 **UNION CIVIL PROTECTION KNOWLEDGE NETWORK**

A) **TRAINING & EXCHANGE OF EXPERTS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
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• Enhance coordination, compatibility and complementarity between capacities and to improve the competence of experts.
• To improve the effectiveness of transnational cooperation through the Mechanism by improving the knowledge and experience of the experts involved and enabling them to attend specific courses not available in their home country, or to give such courses in a host country.

(Article 13 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU and Articles 26 and 29 of Implementing Decision 2014/762/EU).

**General description of the contracts envisaged**

• Courses for experts from Member States (civil protection, marine pollution and other entities/authorities active in the UCPM), the Commission, other EU services and the UN who may participate in civil protection interventions. Participation of national and EU diplomatic personnel as well as specific sector experts may be considered for targeted courses. Participation of experts from IPA countries not participating in the Mechanism and European Neighbourhood Policy countries, where possible and in coordination with existing EU regional programmes.

• Development and organisation of new training activities according to emerging needs.

• Development and implementation of a train-the-trainers scheme for the trainers providing the UCPM courses.

• Translation of the UCPM online courses in other languages.

• Organisation of short-term ad-hoc training courses/workshops.

• Organisation of targeted training courses for EU delegation staff and DG ECHO Field focal points on UCPM activation and requests for assistance.

• Organisation of exchange and short-term placement of experts.

**Implementation**

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through:

• Existing contracts (UCPM training programme).

• Call for tenders.

• Renewal of existing contract (Exchange of Experts programme).

• Specific contracts using existing framework contracts.

• Existing administrative arrangements.

**Expected results**

• Enhanced knowledge and skills of managers, experts and stakeholders involved in
UCPM prevention, preparedness and response missions.

- Enhanced knowledge among experts of internationally recognized standards and methodologies in specific areas (e.g. logistics, environmental emergencies, medical teams, camp management, disaster assessment, climate change adaptation, etc.) to allow for better coordination with other international stakeholders.

- Enhanced knowledge and skills of DG ECHO field focal points regarding civil protection. Geographic target areas will be the Central America, the Middle East, Africa and Asia.

- Enhanced knowledge of EU Delegation staff regarding activation of the Mechanism and request for assistance. Shared common syllabus among experts, agreed with the ERCC and conforming to UN standards.

- Aligned training and exercises programmes with the needs of the Mechanism and Member States.

- Advance coherence and complementarity with existing regional programs IPA and PPRD East and South.

- Experts have experience and direct knowledge of similar responsibilities under different national systems; they are familiar with various techniques and approaches used by other emergency services, with modules and the 112 call centres.

- Enhanced capacity of trainers providing the UCPM courses.

**Expected outputs**

- At least one technical experts’ course addressing emerging needs is organised.

- At least one train-the-trainers session is organised.

- An online registration and evaluation tool for training and exercises is running and used by the training centres.

- The generic online training products are translated into different languages.

- At least two ad-hoc short term training courses/workshops organised.

- Targeted training activities are organised for EU Delegations and DG ECHO field focal points.

- At least 225 exchanges of experts, of which a maximum of 37 from eligible third countries, are organised.

**B) UNION CIVIL PROTECTION KNOWLEDGE NETWORK**

**Objectives**

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

### General description of the contracts envisaged
- Development and day-to-day management of the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network (‘Knowledge Network’), including:
  - Coordination and network meetings with relevant stakeholders, such as Training Centres.
  - Secretariat, administrative and logistic support, document management.
  - Develop, host and manage IT and communication solutions.
- Development of the governance structure of the Knowledge Network.
- Outreach to interested universities/training institutes and other relevant actors in the EU, IPA II beneficiaries and European Neighbourhood Policy countries.

### Implementation
Direct implementation by DG ECHO through:
- Specific contracts using existing Framework contracts.
- Call for tenders.

### Expected results
- A structure bringing consistency across the various preparedness activities is developed and managed, including platform moderation and secretariat functions.
- Scientific knowledge linked to civil protection and disaster management needs is made available, notably through the Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre.
- Partnerships between universities and training institutes to develop new educational initiatives, (e.g. mobility schemes for experts, new study programmes for civil protection students or experts) is promoted.
- An online collaborative platform to support knowledge sharing/dissemination, and to stimulate research and innovation is made available, building on existing platforms.

### Expected outputs
- One strategic framework is set up to link the exercises with the training activities

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30 Currently under discussion with Member States, the establishment and organisation of the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network will be substantiated by means of an Implementing Act, which may provide further details regarding the implementation mode.
to better record and integrate lessons learnt and exchange of knowledge.

- The governance structure and the operating rules of the Knowledge Network are adopted.
- At least two workshops/meetings with relevant stakeholders are organised.
- One online collaborative platform to support knowledge dissemination is developed.
- Educational initiatives, including increased availability of scientific knowledge linked to civil protection and disaster management needs are developed.

C) EXERCISES ON CIVIL PROTECTION MODULES, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT TEAMS AND EU CIVIL PROTECTION TEAMS (EUCPT)

Objectives

- To meet the interoperability requirements between modules, (Article 9(2)(c) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU). In particular, to achieve an interdisciplinary interoperability between modules, other response capacities as listed in the implementing rules, technical assistance and support teams (TASTs) and the (EUCPT) in an international environment.
- The exercises will also be used as part of the certification system for the European Civil Protection Pool.

General description of the contracts envisaged

- Plan and conduct exercises for civil protection modules, technical assistance and support teams registered in CECIS as well as the EUCPTs. Other response capacities registered in the European Civil Protection Pool may also participate in these exercises. The plans for the exercises should take into account the results of evaluations of previous exercises and lessons learned from civil protection activities.
- Development and implementation of a train-the-trainers scheme.
- Development and implementation of a virtual reality projects to improve the simulation of disaster situations.
- Organisation of meetings (i.e. with ad hoc experts and stakeholders).

Implementation

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through:

- Call for tenders.
- Existing contracts.

Expected results
• Increased awareness of Member States and the ERCC of operational procedures in disasters and cooperation agreements.

• Enhanced interoperability of modules, other response capacities (including TAST) and EUCPT, and with other actors involved during an international deployment (including humanitarian organisations).

Expected outputs

• Strengthened opportunities for certification of modules/response capacities.

• Virtual reality products are developed.

D) UNION CIVIL PROTECTION MECHANISM EXERCISES (PLUG-IN / HOST NATION SUPPORT)

Objectives

• To improve the response capacity of Member States, in particular with regard to teams and other capacities provided in assistance missions under the Union Mechanism, based on major risks in Europe, Neighbourhood and Enlargement as well as outside Europe, based on high risk prone countries and UCPM activations.

• To improve regional and national coordination platforms and verify the procedures and establish a common approach for the coordination of assistance interventions under the Union Mechanism and reducing the response time in major disasters, including all stakeholders in the field.

• To enhance cooperation between the civil protection services and other relevant stakeholder in Member States, EU institutions and target countries outside Europe.

• To enhance awareness raising of EU emergency response tools and the UCPM.

• To improve procedures on the functioning of the UCPM and other related tools, including Host Nation Support.

• To identify and share lessons learnt from exercises and real emergencies.

• To test the implementation of lessons learnt.

(Article 32 of Implementing Decision 2014/762/EU)

General description of the contracts envisaged

• To design, plan, conduct and self-evaluate exercises that "plug-in" into other already proposed and scheduled full-scale exercise projects in order to test, improve and/or establish the procedures, SOPs and agreements necessary to incorporate UCPM response (in terms of capacity and in-kind assistance) into an activation outside of Europe.

• To design, plan and further develop the concept for host national support (HNS) which includes UCPM and emergency response tools activation, mobilisation and coordination on site. It should include develop material (toolkit) and pilot test to
address all relevant stakeholders, including EU Delegations, ECHO field offices, EU MS embassies, national disasters management authorities and coordination platforms (including Ministries of Foreign Affairs).

- To design, plan, conduct and self-evaluate table-top exercises (TTX), at both national and regional levels, based on newly developed HNS concept, to practice functioning of coordination platforms with all relevant stakeholder of for UCPM and other EU tools response, including the ERCC, EU Delegations, EU MS Embassies and its mains interlocutors at European, national and international levels. It might include consular aspects. The presence of existing EU initiatives should be considered as criteria for identification of priority geographical areas, to ensure pooling of resources and complementarity among activities.

**Implementation**

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through:

- Call for tenders.

**Expected results**

- Response capacity of Member States is improved, in particular with regard to teams and other assets provided in civil protection and marine pollution assistance interventions, through the preparation of an improvement plan at the end of the exercise.

- Proposal for a revised HNS concept, which include enlarged target groups and covers also other emergency response tools.

- Cooperation in disaster response among civil protection and other national disaster management stakeholders, EU institutions, humanitarian actors and international organisations is improved in selected regions and countries.

- Operational recommendations for other regions are elaborated based on lessons learned from emergencies and exercises.

- Increased awareness of UCPM and other emergency response tools within EUD, EU MS embassies and stakeholders at both national and regional levels.

- Procedures are improved and verified, the common approach for the coordination of civil protection assistance interventions is established and the response time in major disasters is reduced.

- Cooperation at international level between the civil protection and marine pollution services of Member States, the Commission and other relevant actors is improved.

- Lessons are identified and shared through direct observation during the exercise and dissemination of exercise reports among the Member States.

**Expected outputs**

- At least two Plug-In exercises in two different hemispheres.
• At least four TTX organised (combining national and regional dimension), of which two should cover Neighbourhood and Enlargement in complementarity with existing regional programs IPA, PPRD South and East.

E) THE EUROPEAN CIVIL PROTECTION FORUM

Objectives:
• To gather civil protection practitioners and inform them about the latest developments, (Article 3 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

General description of the communication activities envisaged

Implementation
• Service level agreement available with the SCIC for the organisation of events/seminars.
• Call for tender or use of existing framework contracts.

Expected results
• Up to 800 participants at the Forum.

Expected outputs
• Network of civil protection practitioners is informed about latest development in civil protection.

4.6 COMMUNICATION

Objectives
• To raise the awareness and engagement among the civil protection community and the general public on the Union’s civil protection activities, and to make the tangible results of those activities taken more visible.
• To give appropriate visibility to the Union and to contribute to the Commission’s corporate communication narrative, inter alia by using consistently the Union emblem on those capacities committed to the European Civil Protection Pool and for rescEU capacities, and on all related communication tools developed by the participating Member States.
General description of the communication activities envisaged

- General communication activities on civil protection and disaster risk management (e.g. awareness campaigns towards the civil protection community and the general public; social media activities; dissemination of videos, publications, etc.).

- Specific communication activities around concrete UCPM/rescEU operations and activations (media communication, social media), in close cooperation with the contributing and receiving Member States.

- The above communications activities will feed into DG COMM's corporate communication campaign "EU that Protects".

Implementation

- Communication activities will be prepared by DG ECHO’s communication unit in line with the updated UCPM/rescEU communication plan, with the support of external service providers. For the latter, specific contracts will be signed, where possible under relevant Framework contracts of DG Communication (to be confirmed and pending DG Communication agreement).

- For the communication at national and local level, DG ECHO will closely follow up the obligation for participating Member States to give the required visibility to the EU’s funding.

- Co-delegation and cross-sub-delegation to DG COMM.

Expected results

- Greater awareness of the Union’s civil protection operations among the general public, in particular in the contributing and receiving Member States.

- Greater awareness and active engagement/endorsement among the civil protection community.

- Positive impact on the overall perception of the Union and its promise to deliver a “Europe that protects”.

Expected outputs

- Communication products finalised and disseminated on social and traditional media channels as detailed in the 2020 communication plan, both at the corporate EU level and in the Member States:
  - Active dissemination of online publications and social media material.
  - Regular press communication on the performance of the Union Civil Protection and rescEU.
  - Audio-visual productions.
• Targeted advertising and content placement, addressing the civil protection community and/or the general public in specific regions.

• Topical media communication by the Commissioner and/or by the partners in the Member States, linked to concrete operations.

4.7 LESSONS LEARNT, POLICY SUPPORT & MEETINGS, TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS

Objectives

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

• Promote awareness raising, information and communication on the revised Union Civil Protection Mechanism, (Article 3 of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

• Set up and manage a programme of lessons learnt from civil protection activities conducted within the framework of the Union Mechanism including aspects from the entire disaster management cycle, in order to provide a broad basis for learning processes and knowledge development, (Article 13(1)(d) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

General description of the contracts envisaged

• Technical meetings on disaster management, including: forest fire season preparedness, European Burns Plan, development of rescEU capacities, lessons learnt, CECIS trainings, research and forest fire support teams during summer months and the special consultation mechanism established to enhance appropriate prevention and preparedness planning and coordination.

• Policy meetings on disaster management, including expert working groups (e.g. Disaster Risk Prevention, capacities and certification, training policy, Host Nation Support guidelines, marine pollution).

• Intersectoral meetings with Member States' experts to develop a common framework for hybrid resilience to mass casualty incidents.

• Meetings of UCPM Directors-General.

• Meeting of Civil Protection Directors-General of the Member States of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM).
Meetings of experts groups as a follow up of the Meeting of Civil Protection Directors-General of the Member States of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM).

### Implementation

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through:

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

### Expected results

- Level of preparedness for the forest fire season 2020 is increased.
- Enhanced appropriate prevention and preparedness planning and coordination.
- Cooperation with Member States and Mediterranean countries is enhanced.
- Establish a framework for structured planning on preparedness and prevention of mass casualty incidents, caused by natural or man-made events such as hybrid incidents or mass burns.
- Uptake of security research projects for operations is improved.
- Capacity of countries requesting UCPM advice on prevention and preparedness is improved.
- Identification of lessons and good practices from UCPM activations.
- Dissemination of identified lessons and good practices amongst civil protection experts.

### Expected outputs

- Joint Member States’ plan for renewal and acquisition of new aerial forest fire fighting means.
- Guidelines for reporting under Article 6(1)(d) are developed.
- EU-Member States joint plan for establishment of rescEU capacities in areas other than firefighting, in particular CBRN and medical response.
- European Burn Plan is developed and then agreed in its final version by the Civil Protection Committee.
- The quality assurance of the emergency response capacities is reinforced.
- Minimum quality requirements of CBRN capacities are developed.
- Reinforcement of the ERCC with forest fire support team during summer.
- Update and sharing of information on level of preparedness for forest fire season of Member States and the ERCC.
- An annual lessons learned report compiling the possible lessons and good practices is developed.
- Lessons learned identification and analysis are carried out throughout the entire emergency management cycle, including for training and exercises.
- Lessons learned and good practices discussed with experts from Member States at operational and technical level are identified.
- Lessons learned and good practices disseminated on the ERCC portal.

### 4.8 IT SUPPORT SYSTEMS

**Objectives**

- Manage a Common Emergency Communication and Information System (CECIS) to enable communication and sharing of information between the ERCC and the Member States' contact points.

  (Article 8(b) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

- Ensure, in the event of disaster within the Union, notification of disasters to Member States.

- Establish and maintain the CECIS and other tools enabling communication and sharing of information between the ERCC, the contact points of the Member States and other participants in the context of the Union Mechanism,

  (Article 21(1)(e) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

- Promote inter-linkage between national early warning and alert systems, the ERCC and the CECIS

  (Article 21(1)(e) and (f) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU).

- Ensure compliance with implementing acts on components of CECIS as well as the organisation of information sharing through CECIS

  (Article 1(b) of Implementing Decision 2014/762/EU).

- Promote inter-linkage and ensure sustainability of web page regional programs IPA and European Neighbourhood countries.

**General description of the contracts envisaged**

- Service contracts to support administration and evolving maintenance of CECIS, CECIS Marine Pollution and other IT platform (e.g. e-Grant), online helpdesk and support services.

- Management/further development of CECIS and CECIS Marine Pollution software platforms, hardware and specialised equipment; CECIS hosting and related assistance.
- Management of future IPA and PPRD South and East platform.

**Implementation**

Direct implementation by DG ECHO through:

- Call for tenders for a new framework contract (2020-2024).
- Service-level agreements with DG DIGIT (CECIS and e-Grant hosting).

**Expected results**

- Enable the ERCC, Member States' operational contact points and other participants in the Mechanism and regional sea conventions to coordinate and share information effectively at any moment.
- Faster and more efficient process, based on CECIS, for addressing requests of assistance, including for transport of assets and teams.
- Establish a protocol to automatically close a request for assistance in CECIS after 90 days unless additional justification is provided.
- The ERCC and CECIS work 24/7, securely and at full capacity, during disasters and on normal duty.
- Established IPA and PPRD South and East platform anchored to the UCPM.

**Expected outputs**

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

5 **INDIRECT MANAGEMENT**

Not applicable

6 **TRUST FUNDS**

Not applicable
7 **FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

Not applicable

8 **CONTRIBUTIONS FOR BLENDING FACILITIES**

Not applicable

9 **OTHER ACTIONS OR EXPENDITURE**

Not applicable