COMMISSION DECISION

of 19.12.2017

on financing emergency response actions under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism for 2018
COMMISSION DECISION

of 19.12.2017

on financing emergency response actions under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism for 2018

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism, and in particular Article 25 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) In order to ensure the implementation of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and guarantee the continuity of response actions thereunder, it is necessary to adopt a financing decision for the year 2018.

(2) Response actions under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism essentially consist of the dispatching of expert teams and giving financial support to transporting civil protection assistance in the event of disasters inside and outside the Union, in compliance with Commission Implementing Decision 2014/762/EU, in particular Chapters 12 and 13 thereof. In acknowledgment of the emergency nature of disaster response actions under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, it is not possible to adopt annual work programmes, by means of implementing acts. Therefore, disaster response actions are not subject to the Committee procedures prior to the adoption by the Commission, pursuant to Article 25(3) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU.

(3) The authorising officer responsible should be able to award grants without a call for proposal for the purposes of civil protection operations, as set out in Article 190 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, and to competent authorities, or other actors designated by Member States, in accordance with Article 29 of Decision 1313/2013/EU.

(4) The Union financial support for transport resources is also to cover eligible costs such as short-term rental of warehousing capacities, repackaging of Member States' assistance and local transport of pooled assistance, where this is necessary to make the

---

pooling of Member States' assistance operationally effective, in accordance with Article 23(4) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU.

(5) In order to transport the assistance offered under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism immediately after the acceptance of assistance by the affected state, preparatory costs incurred before the submission of the grant application should be accepted as eligible in case of extreme urgency.

(6) It is necessary to adopt a financing decision the detailed rules of which are set out in Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

(7) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late-payment on the basis of Article 92 of the Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and Article 111(4) of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

(8) Appropriations should be carried over from the previous budgetary year pursuant to Article 14 of Commission Regulation (EU) No 966/2012. Moreover, new appropriations resulting from reimbursements to be made by the beneficiaries of transport support may be made available in accordance with Article 14 of Commission Regulation (EU) No 966/2012 and Article 54 of the Commission Implementing Decision 2014/762/EU.

(9) Pursuant to Article 94(4) of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 any substantial change to a financing decision that has already been adopted should follow the same procedure as the initial decision. It is therefore appropriate that the Commission defines the changes to this Decision that are considered 'non-substantial',

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

**Article 1
Emergency response actions**

The decision on the financing of emergency response actions under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

**Article 2
Financial contribution**

The maximum contribution of the European Union for the implementation of the emergency response actions referred to in Article 1 is set at EUR 11 892 000 and shall be financed from the following budget items of the general budget of the Union for 2018:

(a) budget item 23 03 02 01 - Rapid and efficient emergency response interventions in the event of major disasters within the Union: EUR 1 500 000;

(b) budget item 23 03 02 02 - Rapid and efficient emergency response interventions in the event of major disasters in third countries: EUR 10 392 000.

The financial contribution provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

In addition to these amounts, the maximum contribution of the European Union for the financial year 2018 shall also include appropriations carried over from the previous budgetary...
year and new appropriations resulting from reimbursements to be made by the beneficiaries of transport support.

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft general budget of the Union for 2018, following the adoption of the budget by the budgetary authority or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

Article 3
Implementation modalities

The budget shall be implemented through direct management by the Commission.

The elements required by Article 94(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, are set out in the Annex to this Decision.

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals by the authorising officer responsible in accordance with Article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

Article 4
Flexibility clause

Cumulated changes to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum contribution set in Article 2 shall not be considered substantial within the meaning of Article 94(4) of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and objective of the financing decision. The authorising officer responsible may adopt the changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Article 5
Retroactivity

Pursuant to Article 130 of the Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and in view of the specific nature of the response actions financed under this Decision as set out in Articles 15, 16, 17 and 18 of the Decision No 1313/2013/EU, expenditure incurred up to 15 days before the date of the submission of the grant application may be eligible for Union funding.

Done at Brussels, 19.12.2017

For the Commission
Christos STYLIANIDES
Member of the Commission
1. ANNEX

Emergency response actions under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism to be financed in 2018 are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>for grants (implemented under direct management):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Transport and related logistics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>for procurement (implemented under direct management):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Dispatching expertise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Transport and related logistics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**1.1. Grants**

**1.1.1. Transport and related logistics**

**Legal basis**

Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council

**Budget items**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>23 03 02 01(^5): EUR 1 000 000 for disasters within the Union</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23 03 02 02: EUR 9 000 000 for disasters outside the Union</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results**

Complement the transport provided by Participating States by financing additional transport resources and related logistics services necessary for ensuring a rapid response to major emergencies within the scope of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism. The assistance offered through the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and accepted by a requesting country is transported efficiently and in a timely manner in order to cope with the nature of the emergency scenario.

**Description of the activities to be funded by the grant(s) awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 190 of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.**

The activities to be funded by direct grants relate to the transport of civil protection assistance (e.g. relief supplies, experts or intervention teams) provided by Participating States in response to a disaster occurring inside or outside the Union. The direct grants are awarded to competent national authorities of Participating States designated in compliance with Article 12 of Commission Decision 2007/606/EC or Article 56 of the Commission Implementing Decision 2014/762/EU. In compliance with Article 51(3) of the Commission Implementing Decision 2014/762/EU, the Commission may establish framework partnerships with the relevant competent authorities of Participating States.

**Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria**

---

\(^5\) Funding under the internal budget item covers also disasters within Participating States.
Eligibility criteria:

Official request for assistance submitted by a Participating State, third country or a relevant international organisation.
The request is communicated to all Participating States and the Union Civil Protection Mechanism activated.
The assistance corresponds to the needs identified by the ERCC and is delivered in accordance with the recommendations given by the ERCC.
The assistance has been accepted by the requesting country.
The assistance complements any overall Union humanitarian response.

Only competent national authorities designated by Member States under Article 12 of Commission Decision 2007/606/EC or Article 56 of Commission Implementing Decision 2014/762/EU and registered in the CECIS may request a direct grant.

Selection and award criteria:

A decision on Union financing is to be taken on the basis of the criteria set out in Article 23(1)(d) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council and Article 53 of Commission Implementing Decision 2014/762/EU.

Implementation

Direct management by the Commission (DG ECHO)

Indicative timetable and indicative amount of the grant(s) awarded without a call for proposals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transport and related logistics for disasters within the Union</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>EUR 1 000 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport and related logistics for disasters outside the Union</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>EUR 9 000 000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

The Commission will cover a maximum of 55%, 85% or 100% of the total eligible costs.

1.2. Procurement

The overall budgetary allocation reserved for procurement contracts in 2018 amounts to EUR 500 000 for activities inside the EU and EUR 1 392 000 for activities outside the EU.

1.2.1. Dispatching expertise

Legal basis

Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council

Budget items

23 03 02 01⁶: EUR 200 000 for disasters within the Union

---

⁶ Funding under the internal budget item covers also disasters within Participating States.
Subject matter of the contracts envisaged

Mobilisation and dispatch of teams of experts responsible for:
- assessing the needs that can possibly be addressed under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism in a state requesting assistance;
- facilitating, when necessary, the coordination of disaster response assistance on site and liaising with the competent authorities of the state requesting assistance;
- supporting the requesting state with expertise on response actions.

Type of contract and type of procurement

Use of existing framework contract for travel and accommodation costs; reimbursement of such costs to experts whenever the use of the framework contract is not possible;
Use of framework contract or low value contracts for insurance coverage of experts, including risks not covered by the standard Commission contract;
Use of framework contract or low value contracts for the purchase of safety, telecommunication and technical equipment;
Reimbursement of all operational costs of the experts approved and necessary to execute the mission that were paid in advance by the ERCC Liaison Officers (e.g. with official credit cards);
Reimbursement of all other mission-related costs to experts on the basis of written agreements;
Use of ECHO Field Offices to provide logistical support for the deployment of EU Civil Protection (for missions outside the Union). The maximum indicative amount for this purpose is EUR 250 000.

Indicative number of contracts envisaged

N/A

Indicative timeframe for launching the procurement procedure

N/A

Implementation

Direct management by the Commission (DG ECHO)

1.2.2.  Transport and related assistance

Legal basis

Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council
**Budget items**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23 03 02 01</td>
<td>EUR 300 000 for disasters within the Union</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 03 02 02</td>
<td>EUR 800 000 for disasters outside the Union</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subject matter of the contracts envisaged**

Support Participating States in obtaining access to transport resources by:

- Identifying and facilitating their access to transport resources that may be available from other sources, including the commercial market;
- Complementing the transport provided by Participating States by financing additional transport resources necessary for ensuring a rapid response to major emergencies within the scope of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

Where appropriate, the Commission shall obtain reimbursement of at least 15% / 45% of the transport costs, as stipulated in Articles 52(3) and 54 of Commission Implementing Decision 2014/762/EU.

**Type of contract and type of procurement**

Specific contracts based on the existing framework contract

**Indicative number of contracts envisaged**

N/A

**Indicative timeframe for launching the procurement procedure**

N/A

**Implementation**

Direct management by the Commission (DG ECHO)

---

7 Funding under the internal budget item covers also disasters within Participating States.