The New Union Civil Protection Mechanism

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Total estimated disaster impacts in Europe, 2002-2011

- **151 BILLION USD** (* ) damage
  (*) 116 Billion EUR

- **7.3 MILLION people affected**

- **146 THOUSANDS people killed**

Source: EM-DAT, CRED, University of Louvain
The EU Civil Protection Mechanism in a Nutshell

- Framework for cooperation in disaster response, preparedness and prevention
- Natural and manmade disasters, inside and outside EU
- European Commission + 32 Participating States (EU 28 + NO, LI, IS, fYRoM)
**EU Civil Protection Mechanism operations in 2002**

- **Czech Republic**
  - Floods
  - 2002-09-05
  - Request handled
  - Assistance delivered

- **Spain**
  - Marine pollution (Prestige)
  - 2002-11-13
  - EU observers and 1 MIC liaison officer were deployed + other assistance

- **Greece**
  - Flooded cave
  - 2002-11-13
  - Request handled
  - Assistance delivered
EUCPM operations 2012

ITALY
Marine pollution, 20.01-28.02.2012 (monitoring)
AEU obs. team (4 members + 1 MIC LO)
- Expert UNEP/OCHA

BULGARIA
Flooding in winter time, 07.02-21.02.2012
- RFA
- Assistance from BE, DE, IT, PL, RO (sandbags, dryers, winterized tents)

BULGARIA – Forest fires 02-25.07.2012
RO offered a heli i deployment cancelled due to weather

Montenegro-Forest fires 14.07-01.08.2012
Request for assistance aerial FF means
- HR offered 1 FF airplane
- EMERCOM offered 1 helicopter

Early warning, request for assistance GR and SI - helicopters

Albania – forest fires, 06.08-12.09.2012
SI i heli, IT i 2 Canadair

Albania – snowfalls, low temperatures, 16.02-08.03.2012
LX offered helicopter, EC transport co-financing

Request for assistance aerial FF means

RoCongo – ammunition explosion, 05.03-02.04.2012
- EUCPT (BE, FR, MIC LO)
- structural engineers: FR, NL

Comoros islands – Flash floods 27.04-14.05
Request for assistance UNDAC team

Syrian refugees in Jordan
- On 14 Sep JO ask for int’l assistance (financial and in-kind) for extend the Za’atri refugee camp
- Since May THW (DE) are present in JO for HUM mission and in June IT donated a field medical hospital to JO
- in-kind offers were sent by SK, NO, LUX, AT
- an Assessment EUCPT was sent in JO on 24 SEP

Portugal-Forest fires 14.07-01.08.2012
Request for assistance aerial FF means
- ES offered 2 FF airplanes
- FR sent 2 EU funded FF airplanes (ACR5)

Greece - Forest fires 16-20.06.2012
IT and HR: Canadairs

Turkey – Syrian refugees camps
Request for assistance.
- In kind assistance AT, FR, HU, Offer from SEi not implemented
- Financial assistance SK, NO, ECHO

Albania – Forest fires 06.08-12.09.2012
- SI i heli, IT i 2 Canadair

requests for assistance: not followed by delivering assistance or deploying experts through the Mechanism:
- Slovakia - Severe Cold Conditions (04.02-07.02, 2012)
- Slovenia i forest fires (10-13.08.2012)
- Chad i floods (11-23.10.2012)
- Haiti - tropical cyclone Sandy (01-16.11.2012)
- Nigeria i floods (15-29.11.2012)

Monitoring status: S-E Europe - Severe Cold Conditions (06.02-30.03); Italy i severe winter conditions (10-22.02); Italy - Earthquakes Emilia Romagna (20-24.05, 29.05-22.06); Bulgaria - Explosion (05-09.06, 18-20.07); Spain - Forest Fires (29.06-09.07.2012); Syria i civil unrest (on going); Italy i earthquake Calabria (26.10-05.11.2012); US i tropical cyclone Sandy (30.10-09.11.2012); France i tropical cyclone Evan (16-24.12.2012).

Pre-alert (early warning message) status: Mexico i earthquake (20-27.03.2012); Pakistan i Avalanche (07-12.04); Indonesia i Earthquake 8.7M / tsunami (11-12.04); Guatemala i earthquake (12-28.11.2012); Philippines i tropical cyclone Bopha (30.11-18.12.2012).
Country hit by disaster

Request for assistance
Accepts/rejects offers
Situation reports

Match needs with offers
Deploy EU CP Team
Facilitate transport

Activation of the Mechanism
Preparedness

Modules

- Pre defined specific assistance capabilities to be dispatched at very short notice (within 12 hours of a request for assistance);
- self-sufficiency and autonomy;
- Interoperability

Training courses

Exercises

Exchange of experts

Cooperation projects
Preparing for the future

More emphasis on disaster prevention

Improving the planning and predictability of assistance

Helping Member States on capacity development
Disaster prevention: Member States' actions

Develop *risk assessments* and make available to the Commission a summary of the relevant elements thereof within two years and then every three years.

Develop and refine their disaster *risk management planning*.

Make available to the Commission an *assessment of their risk management capability*.

Participate, on a voluntary basis, in *peer reviews*.
New actions in disaster preparedness

- Establishment of **Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC)** with 24/7 operational capacity
- Establish a European Emergency Response Capacity consisting of a **voluntary pool**
- Co-finance **buffer capacities** to address temporary shortcomings
- Seed-funding for **new response capacities** in very specific situations, where a potentially **significant gap** has been identified
Emergency Response Coordination Centre

**ERCC** : a single operational hub in the Commission operating on a 24/7 basis, mandated to facilitate the coordination of Member States' civil protection assistance during major emergencies.

A co-ordination platform within the Commission and with other services.

The single entry point and operational hub for the Solidarity Clause.
The voluntary pool is a system whereby Member States can pre-commit response capacities for EU missions.

In return for this commitment, Member States benefit from financial support for developing and transporting these capacities.

The quality of the assistance is ensured through the establishment of quality criteria and a certification process.

European Emergency Response Capacity
The EU can co-finance up to 40% of the standby costs of framework contracts, framework partnership agreements, and similar arrangements to have additional response capacities available in order to address temporary shortcomings in extraordinary disasters.
Capacity gaps

Member states + European Commission → a process to identify potentially significant response capacity gaps

Where necessary, the Commission may support Member States in addressing these gaps by providing seed-funding for the development of new response capacities up to a maximum of 20% of the eligible costs.
Commission's actions to further support response

**Increased transport funding** for assets from the Voluntary Pool

**Extension of the categories of costs eligible under transport reimbursement**
Possibility for potential candidate countries to join the CP Mechanism

Specific prevention and preparedness activities expanded to the EU Neighbourhood

New international elements

Requests from or through international organisations

Support experts missions deployed to provide advice on prevention
Opportunities

- Increased coherence and closer cooperation between the CP Mechanism and European CI Protection
- Developing a risk management approach – starting from risk assessment
- Linking the expert communities
- Engaging with the private sector
- Promoting the role of science and research
- International outreach
The Union Civil Protection Mechanism

"We need to lift the bar on our capabilities, in our preparedness and prevention agenda. We must know what risks we face."

- Kristalina Georgieva