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Answer given by Ms Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
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Recording post-fire biodiversity disturbance is primarily the responsibility of national authorities. The Commission supports the assessment such as the European Forest Fire Information System¹ and other Copernicus services², which provides harmonised data on fire extent, severity, impacts and recovery³. These assessments complement Member States' obligations under the Regulation on land use, land use change, and forestry⁴ to monitor and report emissions from natural disturbances⁵, as well as for wider EU frameworks under the Nature Restoration Regulation (NRR)⁶, the Habitats Directive⁷ and the 2030 Biodiversity Strategy⁸.

The NRR requires Member States to prepare national restoration plans, including measures, timelines and financing for restoring degraded ecosystems, including those affected by disasters. Funding is available under the EU programme for the environment and climate action⁹, the Common Agricultural Policy¹⁰, Cohesion Funds¹¹, Horizon Europe¹² and the EU Solidarity Fund¹³. Preventive and emergency capacities are reinforced through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism¹⁴ and rescEU¹⁵.

The Commission is committed to supporting Member States in the development of national restoration plans, which, according to NRR Article 15(t)(ii), have to include dedicated sections to consider the potential of restoration measures to prevent or mitigate the effects of natural disasters. The EU Forest Strategy¹⁶ fosters forest resilience while the EU Adaptation Strategy¹⁷ also encourages Member States to integrate nature-based solutions that restore

¹ <https://forest-fire.emergency.copernicus.eu/>.

² Specifically relevant are European Drought Observatory and the vegetation – related products of the Copernicus Land Monitoring Service.

³ Further modules for post-fire soil erosion and recovery are currently under development.

⁴ Regulation (EU) 2018/841 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 on the inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry in the 2030 climate and energy framework, and amending Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 and Decision No 529/2013/EU, OJ L 156, 19.6.2018, p. 1–25.

⁵ Including wildfires.

⁶ Regulation (EU) 2024/1991 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2024 on nature restoration and amending Regulation (EU) 2022/869, OJ L, 2024/1991, 29.7.2024.

⁷ Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora, OJ L 206, 22.7.1992, p. 7–50.

⁸ https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/biodiversity-strategy-2030_en.

⁹ https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life_en.

¹⁰ https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/key-policies/common-agricultural-policy_en.

¹¹ https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/funding/available-budget_en.

¹² https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en.

¹³ For natural disasters: https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/funding/solidarity-fund_en.

¹⁴ https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/what/civil-protection/eu-civil-protection-mechanism_en.

¹⁵ https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/what/civil-protection/resceu_en.

¹⁶ https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/forest-strategy_en.

¹⁷ https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/adaptation-and-resilience-climate-change/eu-adaptation-strategy_en.

ecosystems and strengthen resilience. In addition, the lessons from fires and floods are also incorporated into EU assessments on biodiversity and climate risks.