

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003251/25
to the Commission
Emmanouil Kefalogiannis (PPE)
(18 August 2025)**

Subject: Community support, solidarity and assistance regarding the devastating fires

In the last 24 hours, many areas of Greece have been affected by devastating fires, some of which are still ongoing. This situation, which is due, among other things, to the climate crisis, is causing a huge ecological disaster. In the regions of Attica, North Aegean, Western Greece, Epirus, Crete, Ionian Islands and Central Greece, and specifically in Achaia, a very short distance from the city of Patras, on Zakynthos and Kefalonia, in Aetolia-Acarnania, Preveza, Arta, Keratea in Attica and on Chios, the firestorm has been devastating and leaves behind extensive damage. Despite the superhuman efforts of the fire brigades, volunteers and residents of the areas affected by the fires, many homes, businesses, infrastructure, agricultural crops and livestock farms, as well as a significant proportion of the livestock, have suffered irreparable damage.

In view of this, the Commission is asked:

What Community instruments can be activated to help restore the enormous damage and support those affected by the fires?

Submitted: 18.8.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto on behalf of the European Commission
(16 October 2025)**

The EU Solidarity Fund (EUSF) ⁽¹⁾ can be activated by Greece, within 12 weeks of the first damage, if the total direct damage exceeds the thresholds in Article 2 Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002. It may cover a part of the costs for public authorities' emergency and recovery operations ⁽²⁾.

In 2021-2027, Cohesion Policy funds support Greece with EUR 344.5 million to address fire risk prevention and management actions ⁽³⁾.

Under the RESTORE Regulation ⁽⁴⁾, Greece can also reprogramme part of its Cohesion Policy allocation for reconstruction, repair, and measures mitigating the socioeconomic impact ⁽⁵⁾.

Greece's Recovery and Resilience Plan ⁽⁶⁾ invests in reforestation ⁽⁷⁾ and fire-prevention to restore ecosystems, protect biodiversity and regulate carbon emissions.

The EU Mission on Adaptation supports local and regional authorities ⁽⁸⁾ to achieve climate resilience. The NATALIE ⁽⁹⁾ project co-designs nature-based solutions against wildfire and flood risks.

The LIFE-IP AdaptInGR ⁽¹⁰⁾ initiative and its Greek Climate Adaptation Hub advance national and regional strategies. Horizon 2020 ⁽¹¹⁾ supports forest fire risk management through projects like FIRELOGUE ⁽¹²⁾, FIRE-RES ⁽¹³⁾, SILVANUS ⁽¹⁴⁾, TREEADS ⁽¹⁵⁾, and FirEURisk ⁽¹⁶⁾.

The Commission supports Member States to become more climate resilient. In 2026, it will adopt a new European integrated framework for climate resilience ⁽¹⁷⁾.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2002/2012/oj/eng>; <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:32002R2012>.

⁽²⁾ This means, for example, the recovery of essential infrastructure, provision of temporary accommodation to the population, cleaning-up operations, and protection of the cultural heritage.

⁽³⁾ 'Civil protection' and 'Environment and Climate change' programmes.

⁽⁴⁾ Regulation (EU) 2024/3236 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 December 2024 amending Regulations (EU) 2021/1057 and (EU) 2021/1058 as regards Regional Emergency Support to Reconstruction (RESTORE).

⁽⁵⁾ Member States hit by natural disasters between 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2025 can use this reprogramming option.

⁽⁶⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/business-economy-euro/economic-recovery/recovery-and-resilience-facility/country-pages/greeces-recovery-and-resilience-plan_en (Measure 16849).

⁽⁷⁾ A total area of 98 600 hectares of degraded forest ecosystems should be upgraded by 2026.

⁽⁸⁾ 21 regional and local authorities in Greece committed to building climate resilience on the ground by adhering to the Mission.

⁽⁹⁾ <https://www.natalieproject.eu/case-studies/ds1-lelantine-plain-gr>.

⁽¹⁰⁾ <https://adaptivegreecehub.gr/en/>.

⁽¹¹⁾ Horizon 2020 projects include Greek partners contributing to innovative solutions for fire prevention and response.

⁽¹²⁾ <https://firelogue.eu/>.

⁽¹³⁾ <https://fire-res.eu/>.

⁽¹⁴⁾ <https://silvanus-project.eu/>.

⁽¹⁵⁾ <https://treeads-project.eu/>.

⁽¹⁶⁾ <https://fireurisk.eu/>.

⁽¹⁷⁾ https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/adaptation-and-resilience-climate-change_en.

The Greek Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plan 2023-2027 ⁽¹⁸⁾ can support restoration of damage to forests and agricultural production potential due to forest fires, natural disasters and catastrophic events.

The Greek authorities can request technical assistance through the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) ⁽¹⁹⁾.

⁽¹⁸⁾ <https://www.agrotikianaptixi.gr/metra-paa-pages/ependytika-epicheirimatika/>; <https://www.agrotikianaptixi.gr/category/sskap-2023-2027/sskap-egkrisi-tropopoiiseis/>.

⁽¹⁹⁾ Technical assistance under UCPM can be used for developing plans, studies, local capacity building, or awareness campaigns on preparedness and post-fire restoration.