

EN

E-003387/2025

Answer given by Ms Lahbib
on behalf of the European Commission
(27.11.2025)

In July 2025, the Commission proposed to review the EU Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM)¹ to ensure a further strengthened and comprehensive EU prevention, preparedness and response to crises, and it intends to secure the maintenance and scaling up the EU strategic reserve – rescEU² – in line with the EU Stockpiling Strategy³.

For the next Multiannual Financial Framework⁴, the Commission proposed an allocation of EUR 10.7 billion for civil protection and health emergency and in the 2025 State of the Union address, the President of the Commission proposed a new European hub in Cyprus that could support regional neighbours⁵.

Under the UCPM, there are tools to support Member States⁶ and the Commission is providing financial support for different actions⁷, to boost wildfire prevention and preparedness efforts.

Regarding Natura 2000 sites, the Habitats Directive⁸ requires Member States to take appropriate steps to avoid deterioration of natural habitats, as well as significant disturbance of species for which the sites have been designated. The Nature Restoration Regulation⁹ requires Member States to put in place measures to restore degraded forest habitats and enhance biodiversity in forest ecosystems beyond those habitats.

To support farmers affected by fires, specific measures exist under the Common Agricultural Policy¹⁰, including forest fires prevention, risk management tools and interventions to restore agricultural and forestry potential.

In the event of wildfires, the EU Solidarity Fund¹¹ can be activated¹²¹³ as well as other EU

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2025%3A548%3AFIN&qid=1752821050670>.

² https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/what/civil-protection/resceu_en.

³ https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/document/download/c57d4067-1900-4616-9239-ca4598b55d69_en?filename=COM_2025_528_1_EN_ACT_combined.pdf.

⁴ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/long-term-eu-budget/eu-budget-2028-2034_en#:~:text=On%2016%20July%202025%2C%20the%20Commission%20presented%20its,national%20income%20on%20average%20between%202028%20and%202034%29.

⁵ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/state-union/state-union-2025_en.

⁶ <https://civil-protection-knowledge-network.europa.eu/disaster-prevention-and-risk-management/ucpm-peer-review-programme>.

⁷ <https://civil-protection-knowledge-network.europa.eu/eu-funding-disaster-management>.

⁸ See Article 6(2) of 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.

⁹ See Articles 4 and 12 of 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, 29.7.202. Requires Member States to put in place measures to restore certain degraded forest habitats and to enhance biodiversity also in forest ecosystems beyond those habitats. Member States need to incorporate the restoration of forest ecosystems into their nature restoration plans, which are due by September 2026.

¹⁰ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/2115/2024-05-25>.

¹¹ Council Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002 of 11 November 2002 establishing the European Union Solidarity Fund (OJ L 311, 14.11.2002, p. 3) as amended by Regulation (EU) No 661/2014 of the European Parliament and the Council of 15 May 2014 (OJ L 189, 27.6.2014, p. 143) and by Regulation (EU) 2020/461 of the European

funds, like the Recovery and Resilience Fund¹⁴. Indicatively, the Regional Emergency Support to Reconstruction (RESTORE) allows EU countries to use Cohesion Policy funding more flexibly for disaster recovery efforts¹⁵¹⁶.

Parliament and the Council of 30 March 2020 (OJ L 99, 31.3.2020, p. 9). <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:32002R2012>.

¹² The EU Solidarity Fund (EUSF) can only be activated at the request of Greece which has a deadline of 12 weeks as from when the first damage occurred, demonstrating that the total direct damage exceeds the thresholds specified in Article 2 Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002. The EUSF may cover a part of the costs for emergency and recovery operations incurred by public authorities.

¹³ If the total direct damage exceeds the thresholds in Article 2 Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002. 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.

¹⁴ https://commission.europa.eu/business-economy-euro/economic-recovery/recovery-and-resilience-facility/country-pages/greeces-recovery-and-resilience-plan_en.

¹⁵ Under the RESTORE Regulation, a Member State can reprogramme part of its Cohesion Policy allocation for reconstruction, repair, and measures mitigating the socio-economic impact.

¹⁶ Member States hit by natural disasters that occur between 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2025, can use the flexibilities of the RESTORE (Regional Emergency Support to Reconstruction) Regulation (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) to reprogramme part of their Cohesion Policy allocation resources, under a dedicated priority, to support investments aimed at reconstructing and restoring damaged infrastructure and/or of natural areas, but also at alleviating the negative socio-economic consequences of such disasters.