

EN

E-000301/2026

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto
on behalf of the European Commission
(12.5.2026)

1. On 10 April 2026, Italy requested assistance from the EU Solidarity Fund (EUSF)¹. The Commission is carrying out a thorough assessment of the submitted information. If the assessment confirms the application's eligibility, the Commission will make a mobilisation proposal to the European Parliament and the Council and mobilise the determined funding swiftly.

Beyond financial support, at the request of the Italian Civil Protection, the Copernicus Emergency Management System provided a series of products across several areas of southern Italy to depict the delineation of flooded areas and help in damage assessment.

There is a need to act beyond disaster response since extreme events will intensify until climate change is arrested. The first EU Climate Risk Assessment² identified Southern Europe as a hotspot for climate-related risks. The Commission will propose an integrated framework for climate resilience in the fourth quarter of 2026 to support Member States in preparing for and managing the impacts of climate change.

2. The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)³ programmes for Calabria, Sardinia and Sicily currently include EUR 352 million to prevent and manage the risks caused by natural disasters. As of 31 December 2025, EUR 196 million have been allocated to selected operations, while EUR 156 million are still available to support new interventions. The Commission is available to discuss with regional authorities how this financial envelop could be used to address the consequences of these events.

¹ Council Regulation (EC) 2012/2002 of 11 November 2002 establishing the European Union Solidarity Fund (OJ L 311, 14.11.2002, p. 3: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:32002R2012>).

² 'European Climate Risk Assessment', European Environment Agency, 2024: <https://www.eea.europa.eu/en/analysis/publications/european-climate-risk-assessment>.

³ Regulation (EU) 2021/1058 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 on the European Regional Development Fund and on the Cohesion Fund: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:32021R1058>.