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E-000766/2026

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto
on behalf of the European Commission
(27.4.2026)

Under the Multiannual Financial Framework 2028–2034¹, natural disaster response will be managed via National and Regional Partnership Plans and the EU Facility. A cascade mechanism will allow Member States to progressively mobilise resources depending on the scale of the crisis. Initially, existing Plan measures can be reprogrammed for support. If further assistance is needed, flexibility allocations within the Plans can be used. If still inadequate, additional funds may be obtained from the EU Facility and its budgetary cushion.

Under 2021-2027 framework, the EU Solidarity Fund (EUSF)² is available in the event of a severe natural disaster and may be mobilised at the request of the affected country. The request must be submitted within 12 weeks of the date on which the first damage occurred and must demonstrate that the total direct damage exceeds the thresholds set out in Article 2 of the Regulation. The Union Civil Protection Mechanism may also be activated to support emergency response.

The Commission guides the affected countries and works to assess requests and mobilise funding swiftly and thoroughly.

The EUSF may also cover preparation and implementation costs of the operations financed by the EUSF, including essential technical expertise. The EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change provides technical assistance and funding to local authorities to assess climate hazards and develop innovative solutions.

¹ Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Fund for economic, social and territorial cohesion, agriculture and rural, fisheries and maritime, prosperity and security for the period 2028-2034 and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/955 and Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 {COM(2025) 565 final}; https://commission.europa.eu/publications/european-fund-economic-social-and-territorial-cohesion-agriculture-and-rural-fisheries-and-maritime_en.

² 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 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>.