

EN

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Answer given by Ms Lahbib

on behalf of the European Commission

(14.7.2026)

Under cohesion funds, in the current Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), EUR 3.1 billion are available for prevention and preparedness, notably for forest fires. The proposal for a new Union Civil Protection Mechanism and Health Emergency Response instrument under the new MFF includes a budget of EUR 10.7 billion to enhance the EU's capacity to respond to disasters, including wildfires.

The European Forest Fire Information System¹ addresses wildfire risk. The Union Civil Protection Mechanism² coordinates the deployment of assistance. Activities under the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change³ provide good examples of testing and deployment of solutions. Horizon Europe⁴ supported a cluster of five projects on integrated wildfire risk management with researchers, practitioners and public bodies. In the next MFF, resilience to climate change, prevention, detection and response to wildfires may remain a priority in the programme. Measures to foster an integrated approach to wildfire risk management were published in March 2026⁵.

In cohesion policy, under Regional Emergency Support to Reconstruction (RESTORE)⁶, 22 programmes⁷ mobilised more than EUR 1.8 billion for investments and other actions for reconstruction in response to natural disasters. Out of this, EUR 93 million were allocated for adaptation to climate change, prevention and management of climate risks in case of fires. The EU Solidarity Fund (EUSF)⁸ provided EUR 2.3 million to Cyprus after the wildfires in 2025⁹.

Through the Horizon Europe Work Programme on Cluster 3 'Civil Security for Society', the development of innovative solutions and operational capabilities are supported to strengthen Europe's resilience. These include for example AI-based early warning and risk prediction systems.

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

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

³ https://mission-adaptation-portal.ec.europa.eu/about/eu-mission-adaptation-climate-change_en.

⁴ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en.

⁵ Communication on integrated wildfire risk management COM(2026) 330 of 25 March 2026.

⁶ RESTORE allows Member States affected by climate-related disasters to benefit from a 25% pre-financing and a 95% co-financing rate for measures helping Member States recover from climate-related disasters: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L_202403236.

⁷ Covering six Member States – Spain, Poland, France, Portugal, Italy and Romania.

⁸ 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>.

⁹ In May 2026, the Commission made a mobilisation proposal to the European Parliament and the Council to grant additional funds to Cyprus, Spain regarding the wildfires in 2025 and Romania which experienced severe floods. The EUSF may cover a part of the costs for emergency and recovery operations incurred by public authorities.

