

EN

P-002550/2024

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto
on behalf of the European Commission
(15.1.2025)

On 5 December 2024, Romania submitted an application for the EU Solidarity Fund (EUSF)¹ within the 12-week regulatory deadline. The Commission is assessing the application. If the conditions for mobilising the Fund are met, the Commission will determine the amount of financial assistance, within the limits of the financial resources available, and then propose to the Budgetary Authority to make this amount available to Romania.

EUSF assistance is an expression of European solidarity aimed at covering part of the public expenditure to help the eligible State carry out essential emergency and recovery operations². The EUSF assistance can be used retroactively from day one of the disaster. Under shared management, it is up to the responsible authorities to determine the use of the EUSF funding, in line with the EUSF Regulation. The Commission stands ready to advise the Romanian authorities on the best use of the funds, should they request so.

In addition, Romania may benefit from the flexibilities under the 2021-2027 cohesion policy framework, introduced by the ‘RESTORE’ Regulation, entered into force on 24 December 2024³. This allows Member States to flexibly mobilise cohesion policy funding for reconstruction and repair actions and projects responding to natural disasters, occurred as from 1 January 2024.

Furthermore, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development⁴ may support farmers and rural areas hit by floods through investments in restoration of agricultural potential, advisory services, and cooperation projects.

¹ 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>

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 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), available at the following link: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/3236/oj>

⁴ Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 2 December 2021 establishing rules on support for strategic plans to be drawn up by Member States under the common agricultural policy (CAP Strategic Plans) and financed by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1305/2013 and (EU) No 1307/2013. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/2115/oj/eng#>