

<b>“External technical On-Site Assistance to the IPA III beneficiaries, the Southern and the Eastern Neighbourhood countries”</b>	
<b>Contracting authority</b>	European Union, European Commission, Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), Disaster Preparedness and Prevention, Civil Protection Horizontal Issues <i>Ref: Ares(2022)8979913</i>
<b>Budget</b>	3 239 000 EUR
<b>Duration</b>	1 February 2023 – 31 January 2027 (48 months)
<b>Implementing Partner</b>	GOPA Partners in Action for Change and Engagement (GOPA PACE) [formerly Business and Strategies in Europe SA (B&S Europe)]- <a href="https://www.gopa.eu">https://www.gopa.eu</a>  It is a consulting company based in Brussels. From 2013, GOPA PACE is a member of the GOPA Consulting Group, one of Europe’s largest groups of consulting companies in development cooperation.
<b>Partner Countries</b>	IPA III beneficiaries: Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Türkiye.  Southern Neighbourhood: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine** and Tunisia.  Eastern Neighbourhood: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.  <i>*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence. ** This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.</i>
<b>Target groups</b>	National civil protection authorities are indicative key stakeholders.
<b>Overall objective</b>	The overall objective of this programme is to provide civil protection technical support to DG ECHO and contribute to a smooth implementation of the civil protection cooperation programmes such as the IPA-CARE and the Prevention, Preparedness and Response to natural and man-made disasters in the Southern Neighbourhood (PPRD Mediterranean) and enhance their regional impact in the beneficiary countries. It will provide assistance where the main national authorities, participants and stakeholders meet obstacles and difficulties.
<b>Specific objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To support with a mid and long-term perspective the partner countries' respective civil protection authorities with on-site technical assistance, which will be available in the whole region (meetings, workshops, trainings) and also on short notice.</li> <li>2. Support building sustainable capacities of partner countries' respective civil protection institutions for disaster risk prevention, preparedness and response based on a multi-hazard approach and interactions with the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM).</li> <li>3. Strengthen technical cooperation at sub-regional and regional level between all relevant governmental actors and civil society stakeholders as well as the scientific community, promoting an inclusive approach to prevention, preparedness and response to natural and man-made disasters.</li> <li>4. Enhance technical regional and sub-regional coordination, institutional and operational cooperation in the Southern Neighbourhood countries and IPA III beneficiaries regarding the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM).</li> </ol>

<b>Cross-cutting issues (CCI)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gender and Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA)</li> <li>- Environment and Climate Change (EU Green Deal, Green Agenda for the Western Balkans, Sendai Framework etc.)</li> </ul>
<b>Monitoring &amp; Evaluation</b>	<p>M&amp;E is an integrated part of the Programme management and implementation, essential for continuous learning, adaptability, steering and risk management. It is also used to promote results, accountability and support communication.</p>
<b>Strategic Approach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Inception Period: Analysis of existing situation and work plan for the project in close cooperation with Partner Countries and Stakeholders in the region.</li> <li>➤ Phased flexible approach</li> <li>➤ Active partnership and ownership</li> <li>➤ Continuity – building on existing structures and capabilities</li> <li>➤ Mutual exchange and learning</li> <li>➤ Regional participation</li> <li>➤ Comprehensive approach to capacity development</li> </ul>
<b>Indicative activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Local and on-site technical assistance to the Civil Protection Points of contacts in beneficiary countries and national authorities. The technical assistance will rely on three permanent experts and a network (roster) of additional experts to provide additional required technical expertise upon request and on short notice.</li> <li>- Local and on-site assistance to DG ECHO with the implementation of EU-funded programmes and projects in the Southern and Eastern Neighbourhoods and Western Balkans and Türkiye.</li> <li>- Capacity building component based on the EU guidelines, good practices and EU Member States’ and partner countries’ experience, which can include interactive events, workshops, case studies, exchange of experts, trainings and a train-the-trainers approach. This component should aim at contributing to enhanced communication and cooperation among the different relevant institutions and stakeholders in the beneficiaries and support sustainability of the knowledge transfer.</li> <li>- Smooth technical coordination with DG ECHO, regional stakeholders and local authorities.</li> <li>- Support to increase the quality and the effectiveness of the technical discussions on Civil Protection issues (and other related with Civil Protection domains) amongst the local, national and international actors involved in the definition and/or the implementation of the European Union civil protection programmes and projects.</li> <li>- Facilitation of the cooperation between partner countries and implementing agencies concerning the implementation of civil protection programmes and projects.</li> </ul>
<b>Programme implementation and management structure</b>	<p><u>Programme Management Team</u> The Programme management team plays an active and supportive role in implementation. It is composed of a Programme Director, Project Managers, Administrative officer, Financial officer, HR officer etc.</p> <p><u>Implementing Partner</u> The implementation will be led by a Team Leader and three (3) Component Leaders (Technical experts with coordination responsibilities), to ensure coherence and strategic orientation within each component.</p> <p>They will work together with the Partner countries’ National Programme Coordinators and working groups which will participate in Programme planning, implementation and follow-up.</p> <p><u>Experts on cross-cutting issues</u> All of the abovementioned experts are supported by dedicated experts on cross-cutting issues.</p>

<b>Project management and backstopping</b>	GOPA Partners in Action for Change and Engagement (GOPA PACE) - has the overall project management, backstopping, financial and communication responsibilities, ensuring that contractual commitments are met.
<b>Communication</b>	Strategic communication is used for ownership, sustainability and visibility of the Programme, and for communicating the change vision.
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