

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL EUROPEAN CIVIL PROTECTION AND HUMANITARIAN AID OPERATIONS (ECHO)

The Director-General

Brussels

CORRESPONDENCE SLIP

Addressees: Directors-General for Civil Protection of the Member and Participating

States to the Union Civil Protection Mechanism

Subject: Questionnaire on Investment Priorities for Civil Preparedness and

Publication of the overview of disaster risk management and

preparedness funding tools across the EU on the Union Civil Protection

Knowledge Network platform

Dear Directors-General,

I am pleased to announce the **launch of a questionnaire on civil preparedness investment needs and priorities**, as anticipated in the DGs meeting in Copenhagen on 18-20 November 2025.

Preparedness has been mainstreamed across several Commission proposals for the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2028–2034, with multiple funding instruments offering potential to strengthen national and collective EU preparedness.

To seize this opportunity, it is crucial to clearly define civil preparedness needs, priorities, and investment rationale, particularly where EU investments could have the greatest impact. This questionnaire provides an occasion to communicate your civil preparedness investment needs and priorities at the EU level, and support DG ECHO to better advocate for civil preparedness investments.

I invite you to complete the questionnaire by 30 January 2026 by accessing the following <u>link.</u>

I would also like to inform you that DG ECHO has undertaken work to enhance knowledge dissemination and facilitate access for civil protection authorities to the various EU disaster risk management (DRM) and preparedness funding tools.

This work is closely linked to the 'preparedness by design' principle under the Preparedness Union Strategy and aims to address requests made by Member States and UCPM Participating States regarding challenges in accessing DRM and preparedness funding, including unclear or complex information on eligibility and difficulties in identifying the right tool for specific situations, project implementation, procurement, reporting, etc.

Therefore, as a first step to address these issues, we have developed a consolidated overview of funding tools for DRM and preparedness on the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network platform. This should serve as a one-stop shop covering all the EU tools most relevant to finance DRM and preparedness, both technical assistance and (physical) investments, under the current MFF. The catalogue developed will be kept regularly updated, including the potential incorporation of any new instrument deemed relevant from a DRM perspective.

You can access the consolidated overview through the following <u>link</u>.

In addition, we have created an online <u>DRM and Preparedness Funding Community</u> within the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network platform. This community provides a dedicated, secure space for discussion and exchange of experiences on DRM funding among national civil protection authorities.

Should you have any further questions or request that other experts are invited to join the Community, do not hesitate to contact us at: ECHO-CP-P-P@ec.europa.eu.

Yours faithfully,
Electronically signed
Maciej Popowski