



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EUROPEAN CIVIL PROTECTION AND HUMANITARIAN AID  
OPERATIONS (ECHO)  
Disaster Preparedness and Prevention  
Prevention and Disaster Risk Management

Brussels  
ECHO.B.2/JS

**CORRESPONDENCE SLIP**

**ADDRESSEES:** Directors-General for Civil Protection of the Member States and Participating States to the Union Civil Protection Mechanism

**Subject:** Call for nomination of peers – UCPM Peer Review  
Deadline for submitting nominations: Friday 23 February 2024

| Country | Date of field mission | Type of peer review                         |
|---------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Italy   | 20 May– 24 May 2024   | Thematic review<br>Wildfire risk management |

Dear colleagues,

Italy, represented by the Italian Civil Protection Department, has volunteered to undergo a wildfire specific peer review within the 2020-2024 cycle of the [UCPM Peer Review Programme](#).

DG ECHO hereby publishes a call for nomination of peers for this review, open to staff in civil protection and disaster risk management (DRM) authorities/organisations in UCPM Member and Participating States. Given the wildfire focus, DG ECHO encourages national civil protection authorities to share the call for peers with colleagues working for other relevant organisations that are involved in wildfire risk management.

The key priorities of this review on wildfire risk management have been defined in consultation with the Italian authorities. DG ECHO will, together with the Italian authorities, select peers based on the experience and skills needed for these priorities. Selected peers voluntarily commit their time and expertise, and, in their assessment and conclusions, they should strive to conduct an objective and evidence-based assessment. They should also share good practices in DRM and should recommend improvements in the disaster management policy and operations of the reviewed country. The peers are also encouraged to integrate their gained experience into their respective national systems.

The peers will take part in an on-site mission to Italy in the week of 20 to 24 May 2024 (with arrival the weekend before and departure the weekend after). They will also be invited to attend a one-day preparatory meeting held on 11 April 2024 in Brussels. Costs for attending the on-site mission as well as the preparatory meeting will be covered (for travel,

accommodation and subsistence). During the mission, the peers will be accompanied and supported by DG ECHO representatives as well as representatives of the external consultant assisting the review process throughout (this assistance includes support for drafting the peer review report). Post-mission online meetings will also be held, with a view to finalise the report and discuss findings with the reviewed country. Therefore, it is expected that peers commit to attending all relevant meetings, as needed.

### **Required expertise of peers**

The overall objective of this peer review is to identify areas for improvements and highlight good practices within the Italian wildfire risk management and civil protection system. The review will look into national and regional governance issues, addressing the following key focus areas:

- **Governance of wildfire risk management:** overall governance as well as the legislative and institutional framework
- **Wildfire preparedness:** overall legislative and institutional framework
- **Wildfire response:** overall legislative and institutional framework

Given the objectives and expectations of the Italian peer review, DG ECHO is looking for four peers with the below mentioned experience and expertise.

### **Peer 1 and 2: expert in policy and institutional aspects of wildfire risk management**

*Professional experience:* progressively senior managerial experience within a civil protection - national or sub-national - authority and/or managerial experience in forest management strategies with proved knowledge in civil protection; proved experience in drafting and implementing wildfire risk reduction and management policies, strategies and plans; experience in supporting institutional reforms and/or change of the wildfire risk reduction legal and institutional framework, good knowledge of the global frameworks addressing natural and human-induced risks (i.e. Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-2030, Sustainable Development Agenda, Paris agreement on climate change); good knowledge of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism; good knowledge of sources, methods and tools for risk financing including insurance.

*Will be considered an additional asset:* knowledge of the Italian disaster and wildfire risk management system; knowledge of socio-economic aspects for wildfire risk management, experience in public finance and public investment programmes for wildfire risk management including EU funding (e.g., ERDF, EAFRD, Recovery and Resilience facility), experience in preparing investment projects on wildfire risk management.

### **Peer 3: expert in wildfire risk preparedness**

*Professional experience required:* excellent knowledge of wildfire risk preparedness measures and experience in identifying and implementing wildfire preparedness measures at national and/or sub-national level. Experience in drafting and implementing wildfire risk preparedness strategies and contingency plans at the different territorial levels; experience in implementing training and civil protection exercises (Command Post exercises, Table Top exercises, Full Scale exercises); experience in developing ground and/or aerial response capacities for wildfire risk; knowledge and experience in early warning systems for wildfire risk; experience in designing and implementing risk awareness and communication campaigns focused on wildfire risk at national and/or sub-national level.

*Will be considered an additional asset:* knowledge of the Italian disaster and wildfire risk management system; participation in UCPM missions in Italy; experience in EUCPT (European Civil Protection Team) missions; experience as EUCP module team leader.

#### **Peer 4: expert in wildfire emergency response**

*Professional experience required:* excellent knowledge of wildfire management activities; experience in implementing wildfire response activities at national and/or sub-national level; participation in wildfire management activities in recent international/national emergencies; experience in coordinating ground and/or aerial response operations; experience in needs and impact assessment and business continuity; excellent knowledge of the UCPM functioning.

*Will be considered an additional asset:* knowledge of the Italian disaster and wildfire risk management system; participation in UCPM missions in Italy; knowledge of Host Nations Support guidelines and processes.

#### **How to submit nominations for peers**

You are invited to send nominations to the Peer Review mailbox ([ECHO-CP-PEER-REVIEW@ec.europa.eu](mailto:ECHO-CP-PEER-REVIEW@ec.europa.eu)), **latest by Friday 23 February 2024**.

Candidates should provide a CV, if possible in the Europass format (<https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/documents/curriculum-vitae>), clearly demonstrating the experience in civil protection and disaster risk management covering prevention and preparedness, especially with regards to the areas of expertise listed above and the thematic priorities of the review.

For potential candidates not working for a national civil protection authority, prior to submitting your candidacy, kindly inform your respective civil protection authority and include a proof of this with your application.

Please note that full proficiency in English is required while knowledge of the Italian language will be considered an additional asset.

**Female candidates are encouraged to apply, with a view to form a gender-balanced peer team.**

For information, a one-pager factsheet of the UCPM Peer Review Programme is annexed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my team responsible for the UCPM Peer Review Programme.

We look forward to receiving your nominations. Please be informed that DG ECHO will launch again in June a new call for peers. It will concern the wildfire focused peer review of Land Brandenburg, Germany (with the review mission tentatively in September/October).

Yours sincerely,

[e-signed]  
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Head of Unit

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Enclosure: Fact Sheet - UCPM Peer Review Programme

c.c.: Civil Protection Committee delegates; Disaster Prevention Expert Group members; Expert Group on Forest Fires; experts involved in the development of the Wildfire Peer Review Assessment Framework

