



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EUROPEAN CIVIL PROTECTION AND HUMANITARIAN AID
OPERATIONS (ECHO)
Emergency Management and rescEU
Capacities and Operational Support

Frequently Asked Questions on European Civil Protection Pool adaptation grants

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1. WHAT ARE THE AVAILABLE TYPES OF ADAPTATION GRANTS?

There are two types of adaptation grants:

- Upgrade response capacities to a state of readiness and availability that makes them deployable as part of the ECPP.
- Repair response capacities to a state of readiness and availability that makes them deployable as part of the ECPP.
Definition of repair - to put something that is damaged, broken, or not working correctly, back into good condition or make it work again. Repair activities may involve replacing faulty parts, fixing defects, and conducting testing to ensure that the asset functions correctly.

2. WHICH CAPACITIES ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

In 2026 invitation to apply, all kinds of capacities (modules, TAST and ORCs) can apply.

3. CAN THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW CAPACITIES BE COVERED BY ADAPTATION GRANTS?

No. Costs for the development of the new capacities are not eligible. Only costs for already existing capacities can be requested. The applicant must demonstrate that the capacity to be upgraded or repaired is currently operational. To this effect, the SOPs of the capacity must be attached to the application.

4. WHO CAN APPLY?

Proposals may be submitted by Member States' national civil protection authorities or other entities authorised by them (through a letter of support) to request and receive financial support from the Commission.

In order to be eligible, the applicants (beneficiaries and affiliated entities) must:

be legal entities (public or private bodies)

be established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:

EU Member States (including overseas countries and territories (OCTs))

UCPM Participating States: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Moldova, Montenegro, the Republic of North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Türkiye and Ukraine

5. CAN AN NGO APPLY?

Yes, but a letter of support signed by Member States' national civil protection authority needs to be submitted with the application.

6. CAN A CAPACITY NOT YET COMMITTED TO THE EUROPEAN CIVIL PROTECTION POOL (ECPP) APPLY?

Yes. The application can be submitted either for:

- Already committed capacities to the ECPP
- New capacities to the ECPP. In this case a commitment letter signed by the Member States' national civil protection authority needs to be submitted with the application.

7. IF WE HAVE ALREADY RECEIVED A GRANT FOR A MODULE SEVERAL YEARS AGO, CAN WE RECEIVE IT AGAIN?

Yes, you can apply and receive the grant.

8. IS A CAPACITY (ALREADY COMMITTED TO ECPP) THAT WAS DONATED AFTER A MISSION REGARDED AS A REPAIR AND AS SUCH ELIGIBLE?

Definition of repair - to put something that is damaged, broken, or not working correctly, back into good condition or make it work again. Repair activities may involve replacing faulty parts, fixing defects, and conducting testing to ensure that the asset functions correctly. So, donation of equipment is not covered by the definition of the repair.

9. IS IT POSSIBLE TO COMBINE REPAIR AND UPGRADE GRANTS?

Yes, it is possible to combine. Please make sure that in the description of the activities you clearly indicate which activities are covered under repair and which are to be upgraded.

10. CAN A NON-CLASSIFIED USAR (BY INSARAG) OR EMT (BY WHO) APPLY FOR A GRANT?

Yes, they can apply. But please remember to attach the required annexes to the application for grant.

- For Emergency Medical Teams and Specialised Care Teams, please attach the Expression of Interest to WHO and the completed self-assessment.
- For non-classified Light USAR, MUSAR and HUSAR teams, please send the proof that the INSARAG process was launched (e.g. official letter of application and assignment of mentor)

11. WHAT IS THE DEADLINE TO APPLY?

Applicants have to submit their proposals electronically via the Funding & Tenders Portal Electronic Submission System (accessible via the link in the invitation letter) till 10 March 2026 – 17:00:00 CET (Brussels).

12. IS THERE A MINIMUM OR MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF THE EU REQUESTED CONTRIBUTION?

No there is not. However, please remember that for:

Upgrade: The EU financial contribution will be defined by applying a maximum co-financing rate of **75 %** to the eligible costs actually incurred and declared by the beneficiary and its affiliated entities provided that these do not exceed **50%** of the average cost of developing the capacity (Annex III is used as a reference for the estimated average cost of developing a capacity).

In case the capacity is not listed in Annex III, the applicant has to provide in the application or as a supporting document the total actual cost (equipment, staff and training included) of developing the said capacity.

Repair: The EU financial contribution will be defined by applying a maximum co-financing rate of **75 %** to the eligible costs actually incurred and declared by the beneficiary.

13. IS THERE A MAXIMUM DURATION OF THE GRANT.

Yes, the initial maximum duration is 24 months.

However, for duly substantiated reasons, the duration of the action can be extended during the implementation period.

14. WHAT IS THE EXPECTED OUTCOME OF THE ACTION?

- Increased ability of the EU to respond to disasters, through a strengthened European disaster preparedness.
- ECPP capacities are geographically distributed to allow for quick and effective deployment to different risk prone areas.
- ECPP capacities are able to intervene in more diverse operating conditions during international deployments.

15. IS VAT AN ELIGIBLE COST?

VAT is not an eligible cost under this invitation regardless the legal status of the applicant.

16. ARE THE INDIRECT COSTS ELIGIBLE?

Yes, 7% of indirect costs is eligible.

The indirect costs are commonly known as overheads. These are costs that cannot be identified as specific costs directly linked to the project and so booked to it directly. They cover general indirect costs you incur in implementing the project, typically:

- general rental costs or depreciation of buildings and equipment
- telecommunication and postal fees

- water, gas, electricity, heating, etc.
- office furniture
- supplies and petty office equipment
- insurance
- costs connected with support services, such as administrative and financial management, human resources, training, documentation, IT, etc.

17. HOW TO CALCULATE THE EU CONTRIBUTION?

The EU contribution amount requested is a percentage of the total eligible cost (direct + indirect).

18. CAN AN APPLICANT SEND THE APPLICATION TO THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IN A DRAFT FOR COMMENTS?

No. Please do not send the draft version for comments. Applications should be submitted exclusively via the Funding & Tenders Portal Electronic Submission System before the deadline.

19. CAN SINGLE ENTITIES APPLY?

Yes, either single or multi entities can apply for a grant.

20. CAN THE COSTS OF THE PERSONNEL BE COVERED BY THE GRANT?

Yes, the costs of the personnel can be covered if they fulfil the general eligibility conditions and are linked and assigned to the implementation of the action. Please remember that the costs of the personnel should not be excessive. Moreover, the costs of the administrative personnel are covered by the 7% of indirect costs. Please also notice that project management activities costs exceeding 20% of the total costs of the project are not eligible.

21. WHAT ARE THE DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO REQUEST A GRANT?

Proposals must be complete and contain all the requested information and all required annexes and supporting documents:

- Application Form **Part A** — contains **administrative information** about the participants (future coordinator, beneficiaries and affiliated entities) and the summarised budget for the project

(to be filled in directly online)

- Application Form **Part B** — contains the **technical description** of the project (mandatory word template to be downloaded from the Portal Submission System, completed and then assembled and re-uploaded as PDF)

Mandatory annexes and supporting documents (to be uploaded):

- detailed budget table (mandatory excel template available in the Submission System) to be submitted as Excel file

Detailed project schedule

- Activity reports of last year: not applicable to public authorities, mandatory for private entities
- List of previous projects (key projects for the last 4 years) (template available in Part B)
- Annex I - Rules for use of equipment procured under adaptation grants (applicants shall copy the wording in Annex I to the present call document and attach it at the end of the application form Part B before assembling and uploading as one PDF file).
- letter of support (see template available with Part B) signed by the Director General or any other authorized representative of the competent national civil protection authority of each country that will benefit from the action (except for participants which themselves are the national authority).
- Commitment letter to the ECPP (where relevant) signed by the DG or any other authorized representative of the competent national civil protection authority – please see Annex II (for newly committed capacities, to be adapted as necessary in other cases).
- For capacities new to the ECPP, completed application form (Annex IV), SOPs or equivalent (that demonstrate that the response capacity already exists as a pre-defined arrangement of human and material means that can be described in terms of capacity for intervention and tasks) and factsheet (Annex V).
- For Emergency Medical Teams and Specialised Care Teams, please attach the Expression of Interest to WHO and if available, the completed self-assessment.
- For non-classified Light USAR, MUSAR and HUSAR teams, please send the proof that the INSARAG process was launched (e.g. official letter of application and assignment of mentor).

22. WHAT ARE THE INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES?

The following activities are not considered as eligible for funding under this invitation:

- Activities related to the development of new capacities,
- Activities related to the maintenance of response capacities,
- Activities related to the renting of the spaces/buildings
- Activities covered by other EU-funded grants (e.g. under the WHO contribution agreement - Support to the Emergency Medical Teams (EMT) Initiative (mentorship and classification process, standard setting and training support); MODEX
- Project management activities costs exceeding 20% of the total costs of the project.