

HEADING 4: Global Europe**Union Civil Protection Mechanism – Heading 4**

Lead DG: ECHO

I. Overview***What the programme is about?***

The Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) facilitates the cooperation in disaster response among 34 European States (28 EU Member States, the Republic of North Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia and Turkey). When activated, the Mechanism coordinates, through the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) of the European Commission, the provision of assistance that the UCPM Participating States can make available to disaster-stricken countries all over the world. The support provided through the UCPM can take the form of in-kind assistance, deployment of specially equipped teams, or assessment and coordination experts sent to the field.

Under Heading 3, the UCPM coordinates and supplements the actions of the Member States in the field of civil protection with a view to improving the effectiveness of systems for preventing, preparing for and responding to natural and man-made disasters within the Participating States of the UCPM.

Under Heading 4, the UCPM supports rapid and efficient disaster response interventions in the event of major disaster in third countries. It also supports disaster prevention and preparedness activities in eligible third countries, the primary beneficiaries of which are the European Neighbourhood Policy countries and Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II) beneficiary countries, not yet participating in the UCPM.

Cooperation in civil protection with IPA countries as well as with the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) countries is also carried out through the regional IPA, PPRD East ⁽¹⁾ and PPRD South ⁽²⁾ programmes. The aim is that Western Balkan countries ⁽³⁾, Turkey, Eastern and Southern partner countries become closely involved in European civil protection activities. Three programmes are currently ongoing:

The multi-country IPA Floods, which aimed at improving flood risk management, develop, train and equip three different flood response teams for each country (Boats, High Capacity Pumping and Flood Containment modules) and provide technical assistance to support the implementation/approximation to the European flood directive. The programme finished in March 2018.

The multi-country IPA Disaster Risk Assessment and Mapping programme, (IPA DRAM) aims at improving national systems for disaster loss data collection, risk assessment and mapping and support the development of national risk assessments in line with EU guidelines and good practices and establishment of the Electronic Regional Risk Atlas (ERRA).

PPRD East and PPRD South programmes aim to enhance Partner Countries' civil protection capacities for disaster prevention, preparedness and response and to strengthen regional cooperation and bringing the Partner Countries progressively closer to the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

EU added value of the programme

Disasters know no borders. A well-coordinated response at a European level is necessary to avoid duplication of relief efforts and ensure that assistance meets the real needs of the affected region. Civil protection assistance consists of governmental aid delivered in the immediate aftermath of a disaster aiming to reduce the loss of human life, environmental, economic and material damage caused by disasters. It can take the form of in-kind assistance, deployment of specially-equipped teams or assessment and coordination by experts sent to the field.

For a coherent, predictable and more visible EU response to disasters, the European Response Capacity was set up ready to help everywhere in the EU and in third countries, when needed.

The EU's added value comes in the form of:

- reducing the loss of human life, environmental, economic and material damage caused by disasters through a comprehensive approach covering disaster prevention, preparedness and response;
- an improved understanding disaster risks through cooperation on risk assessment and planning, and the gradual development of a culture of disaster prevention;
- an improved preparedness for disasters through training, exercises, exchange of best practices and similar activities;

⁽¹⁾ Programme for Prevention, Preparedness and Response to natural and man-made disasters in Eastern Partnership countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine).

⁽²⁾ Programme for Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, occupied Palestinian territory, Syria, Tunisia, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Turkey. Mauritania is an observer country)

⁽³⁾ Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia,

- an improved coordination of the response to disasters by bringing together and facilitating Member States' offers of assistance; increased cost-effectiveness through the pooling of assistance, the sharing of transport capacities, the identification of complementarities and the avoidance of duplication; a coherent, predictable and more visible response to disasters through the set-up of a European response capacity ready to help when needed.

Implementation mode

Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management (grants and procurement).

II. Programme Implementation Update

Implementation Status (2017-2019)

Concerning the international dimension of the UCPM, the activities were implemented as planned in the UCPM legislation and the Commission Implementing Decision in all areas: disaster prevention, preparedness and response. Over this period, 12 prevention and preparedness projects were financed to support national efforts to improve their disaster risk management. Moreover, the UCPM was activated on 49 occasions (68 % of total activations) by third countries during this timeframe.

During this period the UCPM legislation (Decision No 1313/2013/EU) was revised, without affecting negatively the implementation of the instrument. Although the bulk of the legislative review focused on the internal dimension, the external component of the UCPM was also reinforced with references to a closer cooperation with neighbours in all areas.

The period witnessed clear positive impact of UCPM and other EU support to preparedness in the EU Neighbourhood with e.g. concrete examples of solidarity of EU Neighbours among themselves and toward EU Member States. One of the best examples is the forest fires in Georgia in 2019, for which countries such as Armenia, Belarus, Ukraine or Turkey provided assistance to Georgia, putting in place procedures acquired through the disaster management programmes covered by the Mechanism (PPRD East).

In addition, as part of the EU's response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Commission proposed to reinforce the UCPM in third countries by EUR 45 million in 2020, so as to support repatriations of EU citizens.

Key achievements

The UCPM intervenes in all phases of the disaster management cycle: prevention, preparedness and response. This section outlines some of the key achievements of 2019 in the three areas:

- The UCPM financed 3 cross-border disaster preparedness projects ⁽⁴⁾.
- Two 'EU Peer Reviews on Disaster Risk Management' were conducted outside of the UCPM (Algeria and Tunisia).
- An advisory mission was deployed through the UCPM to Georgia to provide an assessment of the state of play and to develop a road map for the establishment of the training centre for fire fighters, rescuers and local crisis managers.
- The regional cooperation with Mediterranean countries was revived through a third meeting of Civil Protection Directors General of the Union for Mediterranean (UfM) in February 2019 in Barcelona. The Directors General agreed to continue and deepen operational cooperation in civil protection and to set up three working groups to tackle the following topics: (1) engaging citizens in disaster risk management, (2) civil protection volunteers and (3) preparing for efficient mutual assistance. The latter took place in November 2019.
- A grant was signed to reinforce preparedness in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia. Two regional programmes were successfully completed (IPA Disaster Risk Assessment and Mapping and the programme for Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Disaster East II – PPRD East II).
- The UCPM facilitated the provision of assistance to the following countries: Bolivia, Lebanon, Bahamas, Albania, Djibouti, Samoa, Mauritius, Mozambique, Iran, Guatemala.. A particular emphasis should be put on was the operation in Mozambique following the landfall of tropical cyclone IDAI, which was one of the biggest UCPM operations outside the EU, given the number of EU rescuers/staff deployed (more than 400) and the length of deployment (more than six weeks). It was by far the largest medical component deployed under the UCPM: four Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs), with more than 170 doctors and nurses. There have been 13 European Union Civil Protection (EUCP) missions, with 78 experts and 18 ERCC liaison officers deployed.

Evaluation/studies conducted

⁽⁴⁾ The three projects were: a) BEst Rapid Environmental Assessment Decision sYstem (Be-Ready) – beneficiaries: Italy, Spain, Lebanon, Jordan; b) Commanding and Operations Mechanism for Multisector Analysis of Nexus Disaster data (COMMAND d) – beneficiaries: Croatia, Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, North Macedonia and Montenegro; and c) Strengthening Civil Protection Systems through Volunteer Capacities (StrengthVOL) – beneficiaries: Austria, Ukraine, Georgia, Armenia and Ireland.

The key findings of the *latest interim evaluation* were presented in the Programme Statements of 2018 and 2019 (covering the years 2017 and 2018 respectively).

Under the revised Decision 1313/2013/EU, Article 34(2) states that ‘actions receiving financial assistance shall be monitored regularly in order to follow their implementation’. It also contains more general requirements for the Commission to submit a report every two years to the European Parliament and to the Council on the ‘progress towards the capacity goals and remaining gaps’ regarding the European Civil Protection Pool, taking into account the establishment of rescEU capacities. In order to fulfil this requirement, the Commission has launched a preparatory study in October 2018, the so-called ‘Evaluation Study of Definitions, Gaps and Costs of Response Capacities for the Union Civil Protection Mechanism’ whose final report was published on DG ECHO’s website in December 2019. Based on this study, the so-called ‘[Evaluation Study of Definitions, Gaps and Costs of Response Capacities for the Union Civil Protection Mechanism](#)’ whose final report was published on DG ECHO’s website in December 2019. Based on this study, the so-called ‘Art. 34 (2) Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on operations and progress made towards the capacity goals and remaining gaps of the European Civil Protection Pool, taking into account the establishment of rescEU capacities’ will be prepared in 2020 (Article 34 of Amended Decision 1313/2013/EU).

Moreover, the Commission should also evaluate the application of the Decision by submitting a communication every five years to the European Parliament and Council on the effectiveness, cost efficiency and continued implementation of the Decision (foreseen for December 2023). Such evaluation should be based on the indicators provided for in Article 3 of the Decision No 1313/2013/EU.

Forthcoming implementation

The immediate focus will be put on the implementation of the new provisions of the legislation in force since March 2019, notably on the development of rescEU capacities and establishment of the Civil Protection Knowledge Network. This also has an immediate impact on the external dimension, since rescEU capacities can be deployed outside the Union (with full Union financing) under certain circumstances.

Some of the key areas in the short-term will be:

- The prevention and preparedness actions with eligible third countries will continue. Prevention and preparedness project, exercises, training and the exchange of experts programme will provide opportunities for the involvement of relevant civil protection authorities to improve their capacities.
- The programme of EU Peer Review on Disaster Risk Management will restart in 2020 with a new 2-year cycle (2020-2021). It is expected that 4 countries in total will undergo a Peer Review, with possibly 1 country (internal or external to the UCPM) in 2020. Response actions outside EU will follow any emergencies that might occur. The voluntary pool will be increasingly used in order to decrease the deployment time after the activation of the Mechanism.
- Cooperation with Mediterranean countries will continue unabated, under the umbrella of the Union for the Mediterranean, with two further working groups on (1) engaging citizens in disaster risk management, (2) civil protection volunteers. Based on the results, a Directors General meeting or a Ministerial could be held in 2021.
- In 2020, based on the results of recent programmes (IPA DRAM and PPRD East II), two regional programmes will start in 2020: one in the Western Balkans and Turkey regarding floods and forest fires and a PPRD East phase III in the Eastern Neighbourhood (Programme for the Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Disasters). Both regional programmes are financed by funds that are co-delegated from DG NEAR to DG ECHO. PPRD East III will be based on the recommendations of the final evaluation of PPRD East II, that is taking place until early 2020.
- In 2020, two Modex exercises will be held outside of the EU, in Serbia and Turkey. A UCPM full-scale exercise called EU CHEM REACT II will be held in Ukraine. In 2021, Modex exercises will take place in Israel, Moldova and Georgia.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

Under the Commission proposal for the next multiannual financial framework period (2021-2027) ⁽⁵⁾, funding related to civil protection has been subsumed into one single heading: Heading 5 ‘Security and Defence’. The specific cluster is ‘Crisis Response’, Title 14, Chapter 02. This cluster will encompass both the internal and external dimensions of civil protection. This is seen as a positive development, as it will make possible an even closer interlinkage between the internal and external dimension of the UCPM.

Concerning the international dimension of the UCPM for the next 7-year period, a revision of the agreements with the Participating States might take place to take into account the developments of the UCPM over the last years. The relationship with the United Kingdom on Civil Protection will also be an important issue, depending on the general advancement of negotiations on the UK’s future relationship with the European Union.

It is also expected that a new international strategy for the UCPM is adopted, outlining the main objectives and priority areas. The enlargement countries and the countries under the European Neighbourhood Policy will continue to be a priority area, given the

⁽⁵⁾ COM(2018) 321 final.

proximity and close ties. Cooperation with enlargement partners will remain essential as they are either already Participating States or can aspire to become Participating States in the coming years.

The work undertaken with the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) will be pursued building on the good dynamic achieved over the past year.

With the revised overall architecture of the future Eastern partnership currently under review politically, the Eastern Neighbourhood countries should remain regionally closely linked to each other and anchored to the UCPM in terms of civil protection cooperation. Inspiration could be sought in the technical and political work carried out under the UfM, to reinforce dialogue between UCPM Member States and Participating States on the one hand and the Eastern Neighbourhood countries on the other hand.

III. Programme key facts and performance framework

1. Financial programming

Legal Basis	Period of application	Reference Amount (EUR million)
Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism	2014 – 2020	144,7

	Financial Programming (EUR million)							
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total Programme
Operational appropriations	14,9	19,9	8,1	11,4	6,0	12,6	18,7	91,8
Total	14,9	19,9	8,1	11,4	6,0	12,6	18,7	91,8

2. Implementation rates

	2019				2020			
	CA	Impl. Rate	PA	Impl. Rate	CA	Impl. Rate	PA	Impl. Rate
Voted appropriations	12,641	100,00 %	8,613	100,00 %	79,519	14,27 %	31,496	4,91 %
Authorised appropriations (*)	13,245	98,53 %	7,204	127,76 %	80,188	14,15 %	32,053	5,91 %

(*) Authorised appropriations include voted appropriations, appropriations originating from assigned revenues (internal and external) as well as carried-over and reconstituted appropriations; the execution rate is calculated on 15 April 2020

3. Performance information

Programme performance

The UCPM is not a regular programme funded by the Union, but rather a more complex policy instrument that supports Member States and Participating States in the area of civil protection, intervening in all phases of the disaster risk management cycle (prevention, preparedness, response). By its external dimension, the UCPM also supports the EU as a global actor, projecting EU solidarity in disasters beyond the EU borders.

In general terms, the UCPM has shown a strong performance over recent years. Notably:

- In the area of prevention and preparedness, cooperation with Enlargement and countries under the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) has been strengthened. As described in the ‘Key achievements’ section above, the vast array of tools under the UCPM (Peer Reviews, Advisory missions, disaster management programmes, etc.) are being used to support third countries. Of particular relevance is the relaunched cooperation with the Southern neighbourhood from a regional perspective (in addition to the bilateral cooperation), under the framework of the UfM. In 2018, two administrative arrangements were signed, one with Tunisia, one with Georgia, showcasing the political will to cooperate even more on disaster management.
- Concerning response, most of the activations of the UCPM are requested by third countries (85 % of the total number of activations in 2019). This shows the international relevance that the UCPM has acquired over the years. Nevertheless, efforts to raising awareness of the UCPM in third countries should be continued. In this regard, the role of EU Delegations and the DG ECHO regional offices is essential.

Despite a strong performance over the past years, some of the challenges identified recently are listed below, as well some external factors contributing to them:

- The UCPM was not always in a position to respond to activation in the Neighbourhood and Enlargement countries. However, the reinforced UCPM, and notably the development of the rescEU reserve, can offer further possibilities to respond to disasters in third countries, under specific circumstances.

- Attendance to UCPM Training was not always optimal, in part due to the knowledge of English in the targeted countries. Although English is the main working language in the disaster management area, the Commission has put in place some supporting measures in the intervening time, such as organising training in other languages, such as Arabic and French.
- The rate of application to various activities under the UCPM was sometimes not as high as expected, in part due to the limited knowledge in project management.

General objectives

General Objective 1: The Union Civil Protection Mechanism shall aim at strengthening the cooperation within the EU and facilitating coordination in the field of civil protection in order to improve the effectiveness of systems for preventing, preparing for and responding to natural and man-made disasters in Third countries.

Indicator 1: Economic damage caused by natural disasters

Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
2010-2012	Milestones foreseen							2020
155.0	93.0	93.0	93.0	93.0	93.0	93.0	93.0	93.0
	Actual results							
	91.3	78.9	136.1	332.7	105.5	3.1		

Comment: Estimate based on the average of annual economic damage of the 2004-2014 years. The data reflects economic damage caused by natural disasters worldwide excluding the economic damage caused by natural disasters in the Member States of the European Union. The EM-DAT base is frequently updated and historical data revised.

The annual results and evolution of this indicator depends on external factors (occurrence, frequency, severity and location of disasters) which are totally beyond the control of the Commission. In addition, the proportion of reported economic damages varies strongly by countries, disaster type, and time. The specific contribution of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism to the evolution of this indicator is difficult to assess.

Source: As recorded in the EM-DAT database

Specific objectives

Specific Objective 1: To achieve a high level of protection against disasters by preventing or reducing their effects by fostering a culture of prevention and by improving cooperation between the civil protection and other relevant services.

Performance

Indicator 1 shows a divergence with the milestone since in 2019 none of the proposals received under the external call for prevention was successful in the evaluation process. Moreover, as explained in the Programme Statement for Heading 3, a new approach for Prevention and preparedness projects was put in place in 2018, seeking to finance less projects, but with higher impact. As such, the milestones have also been reviewed (reduced) to mirror the new approach. The fact, then, that no projects were financed in 2019 should be understood as an improvement in the methodology and criteria applied to provide funding. Feedback and additional guidance have been provided to applicants to ensure that successful applications can be put forward in the next calls.

Indicator 1: Number of projects financed for prevention in Third countries covered by the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance and the European Neighbourhood Policy (including exchange of experts)

Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
2013	Milestones foreseen							2020
	4	4	5	7	7	8	8	8
	Actual results							
	4	5	4	3	3			

Comment: In 2019 none of the proposals received under the external call for prevention was successful in the evaluation process.

Expenditure related outputs

Outputs	Budget line	Budget 2021*	
		Number	EUR million
Grant agreements	14 02 01		
Contracts	14 02 01		
Total			

Outputs	Number of outputs foreseen (F) and produced (P)
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		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Grant agreements	F	2	2	2	2	2	4-5	2
	P	3	4	3	3	3	2	
Contracts	F			2	1	2	2	2
	P			2	1	0	2	

*In the next MFF, the UCPM will be placed under one single Heading 5 (there will no longer be a difference between internal/external actions). As such, the figures for the draft budget 2021 have been reported in the Heading 3 document of the UCPM.

Specific Objective 2: To enhance preparedness in Third countries to respond to disasters.

Performance

As explained in the Programme Statement for Heading 3, and above in indicator 1, a new approach for Prevention and preparedness projects was put in place in 2018, seeking to finance less projects, but with higher impact. As such, the milestones have also been reviewed (reduced) to mirror the new approach.

Indicator 1: Number of projects financed for preparedness (including training and exercises, workshops and exchanges of experts) in Third countries covered by the Instrument of Pre-Accession and the European Neighbourhood Policy

Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
2013	Milestones foreseen							2020
	5	5	6	6	6	7	7	7
	Actual results							
	5	6	7	6	3	3		

Expenditure related outputs

Outputs	Budget line	Budget 2021*	
		Number	EUR million
Grant agreements and contracts	14 02 01		

*In the next MFF, the UCPM will be placed under one single Heading 5 (there will no longer be a difference between internal/external actions). As such, the figures for the draft budget 2021 have been reported in the Heading 3 document of the UCPM.

Outputs		Number of outputs foreseen (F) and produced (P)						
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019*	2020*
Grant agreements and contracts	F	4	5	6	8	8	6	6
	P	5	6	7	7	3	9	

*As part of the plan to revamp the prevention and preparedness grant programme, it is envisaged a new system whereby projects have to be more targeted and produce higher impact. As a result, fewer projects will be financed, but with a higher financing.

Specific Objective 3: To facilitate rapid and efficient response in the event of disasters or imminent disasters.

Performance

The improvement witnessed under the indicator measuring Specific Objective 3 needs to be put in context, since this indicator is partly influenced by the number, severity, nature and the specific context of the emergencies for which the UCPM is activated in a given year. As such, an increase or decrease in the reaction time can be explained by the general principle that assistance can only be delivered after the requesting country has accepted the offer. In some situations, the request is made, but the acceptance is not immediate, as the requesting country might consider that it is not needed immediately. In such situations, this creates a distortion in the number of hours, which is not related to the performance of the Mechanism

Indicator 1: Average speed of interventions under the EU Civil Protection Mechanism (from the acceptance of the offer to deployment)

Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
2013	Milestones foreseen							2020
≤ 36	≤ 24			≤ 60			≤ 48	≤ 48
	Actual results							
		22	20	48	75	31		

Comment: The increase in response time in relation to previous years is explained by the general principle that assistance can only be delivered after the requesting country has accepted the offer. In some situations, the request is made, but the acceptance is not immediate, as the requesting country might consider that it is not needed immediately. In such situations, this creates a distortion in the number of hours, which is not related to the performance of the Mechanism. The indicator is measured as a yearly average of the duration between the acceptance of the offer in CECIS

and the time when the assistance is ready for transportation from the port of embarkation in the EU for movement towards the affected country. The indicator covers modules, as well as for technical assistance and support teams and other response capacities corresponding to the categories defined for the European emergency response capacity (EERC – Voluntary pool) as defined by Commission Decision (2014/762/EU) of 16 October 2014 laying down rules for the implementation of Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

Quantitative response indicators will be partly influenced by the number, severity and nature of future disasters for which the UCPM is activated and which are unpredictable.

Source: Annual report for the EP on the implementation of the new union Civil Protection Mechanism Decision.

Unit of measure: Hours

Expenditure related outputs

Outputs	Budget line	Budget 2021	
		Number	EUR million
Number of contracts	14 02 02		
Grant agreement/ service contract	14 02 02		
Number of contracts (deployment of experts)	14 02 02		
Total			

*In the next MFF, the UCPM will be placed under one single Heading 5 (there will no longer be a difference between internal/external actions). As such, the figures for the draft budget 2021 have been reported in the Heading 3 document of the UCPM.

Outputs		Number of outputs foreseen (F) and produced (P)						
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019*	2020*
Number of contracts	F	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	P	1	1	1	1	0	3	
Grant agreement/ service contract	F	60	60	70	75	80	70	70
	P	91	67	32	34	14	47	
Number of contracts (deployment of experts)	F					50	50	50
	P	46	36	78	44	27	65	

*2019-2020 figures reflect amendments to the Decision No 1313/2013.

Specific Objective 4: To increase public awareness and preparedness for disasters.

Expenditure related outputs

The Union Civil Protection Mechanism strengthens cooperation and coordination between Member States in preventing, preparing for and responding to natural and man-made disasters. While response actions are foreseen anywhere in the world, the prevention and preparedness actions are limited to Member States, accession candidates and potential candidates, and European neighbourhood countries. According to Article 20(d) of Decision No 1313/2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism Decision, public information, education and awareness raising and associated dissemination actions are limited to Union citizens. Therefore, the specific objective 4 has been removed (To increase public awareness and preparedness for disasters). The progress in increasing public awareness and preparedness is measured only inside the Union.

4. Contribution to Europe 2020 Strategy and mainstreaming of policies

Contribution to mainstreaming of climate action

Relevant objective/output

Relevant objective/output	Budget 2019	Budget 2020
Climate change linked actions	5,4	7,0
Total	5,4	7,0

Programmation climate action

2014-2018					2019-2020 estimates		Total
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
1,2	2,0	2,1	2,2	2,0	5,4	7,0	21,9

(*)The appropriations for the year 2014 have been reviewed to take account of the transfer to subsequent years of the allocations not used in 2014 (reprogramming exercise carried-out in 2015 in accordance with Article 19 of the Multiannual Financial Framework Regulation).

5. Programme contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals

SDG 6 Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

DG ECHO and Participating States provide water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) support through the UCPM response to those in need during humanitarian crises and ensure that the most vulnerable have access to WASH.

SDG 8 Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

By providing a faster response to natural and man-made disasters, the UCPM helps minimise their impacts on the economical means of the affected areas, and therefore helps preserve the employment of local workers.

SDG 11 Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Through our support for a holistic disaster risk management at all levels and through the promotion of prevention actions aiming to reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected, and decrease the direct economic losses caused by disasters, DG ECHO promotes a more resilient and sustainable urbanisation.

SDG 13 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Through preventing, preparing for and responding to climate-related disasters, the UCPM contributes to combatting climate change and its impacts. Climate change impacts are also consistently factored into UCPM activities, including but not limited to risk assessments, early warning systems, funding calls and response capacities.