

PPRD East 4 represents the fourth phase of the EU's flagship programme supporting the Eastern Partnership countries in strengthening their Disaster Risk Management (DRM) systems and enhancing cooperation with the **Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM)**. It will be implemented over a **48-month period**, from 1 November 2025 to 30 October 2029, with an **EU contribution of EUR 5 million**.

This new phase builds on the substantial results achieved in PPRD East 3 and focuses on **replicability, sustainability and national ownership**, while advancing the approximation of partner countries to the **EU acquis communautaire in civil protection and disaster risk management**, in line with the **EU Disaster Resilience Goals** and the **EU Preparedness Union Strategy**.

In this phase, the programme shifts its focus from capacity building to institutionalisation ensuring that methodologies and capacities are transferred to the national authorities of **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia***, **Moldova** and **Ukraine**.

Implemented by a consortium led by **CIMA Research Foundation** (Italy) with the **Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic** - Mol SR (Slovakia) and the **Italian Relief Corps of the Order of Malta** - CISOM (Italy), the programme acts as a regional facilitation platform, enabling synergies between national reforms, EU-funded actions, and international initiatives. It also helps partner countries access further programmes and financing instruments to address structural and infrastructural gaps relevant to disaster resilience.

PPRD East 4 capitalises on the strong achievements of the previous PPRD East phases. This phase will **refine, expand** and **operationalise** these achievements, extending them to new pilot areas and ensuring long-term institutional uptake through a consistent Training of Trainers approach and frequent testing for operational validation.

The programme follows the effective PPRD East 3 framework. It starts with a **first round of Table-Top Exercises (TTXs)** in each partner country, including in the new pilot areas. These TTXs will provide the initial **benchmark for the Monitoring & Evaluation system** and guide the country-tailored action plans. Subsequently, the programme will operationalise concrete, field-applicable activities such as:

- multihazard risk assessments and hazard mapping;
- updates of emergency plans at country and local level;
- consolidation of preparedness guidelines at country and regional level;
- streamlining of Early Warning to Early Action (EWEA) workflows, including their integration into emergency planning;
- structuring and institutionalisation of volunteer organisations and academia in DRM governance;
- consolidation of myDEWETRA.world and other risk assessment tools already in place;
- inter-agency coordination strengthening;
- communication and inclusive awareness-raising actions;
- UCPM-aligned training cycles and a comprehensive Exchange of Experts programme.

*Cooperation with representatives of the Emergency Management Service of Georgia within the framework of PPRD East 4 has been suspended until further notice

A major milestone will be the **regional Full Scale Exercise (FSX)**. The FSX will test operational readiness, interoperability, SOPs, command-and-control structures, EWEA chains and the entire UCPM activation process - including request, coordination and deployment mechanisms. Findings from the FSX will support the identification of vulnerabilities, guiding corrective measures and policy support during the final year of the programme.

The programme will conclude with a **second round of TTXs**, serving three purposes:

1. **testing** updated national and regional mechanisms;
2. **developing policy documents and strategic guidance** to address remaining gaps;
3. **measuring project impact** through comparison with the initial TTX benchmark.

Throughout its implementation, PPRD East 4 promotes **cross-border collaboration**, knowledge exchange and circulation of practices between partner countries. The collaboration among partners and national authorities is designed to avoid siloed implementation, ensuring coherence, complementarity and joint learning.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (IMPACT & RESULTS)

Based on Grant Agreement Target Values (2025-2029)

Implementation & Main Beneficiaries

- **Involvement** of Civil Protection Authorities of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia*, Moldova and Ukraine as national focal points
- **20+** Technical Assistance Missions (TAMs) supporting legal and institutional reforms
- **4** Integrated Work Packages (Management, DRM, UCPM, FSX)

Capacity Building & UCPM Training

- **50+** National Trainers certified (ToT) to ensure training sustainability
- **4+** UCPM Basic Courses delivered (1 per country)
- **3** Operational Integration Courses (OIC) conducted
- **6** Exchange of Experts (EoE) missions completed
- **4** Participations in European Civil Protection/Humanitarian Forums

Exercises & Testing

- **8+** National Table-Top Exercises (TTX) conducted (2 rounds per country)
- **1** Regional Full-Scale Exercise (FSX) involving 180 participants
- **2** National Host Nation Support (HNS) institutional reviews finalised

Disaster Risk Governance & Operational Preparedness

- **8+** Local Emergency Plans upgraded in pilot areas
- **Preparedness Guidelines** developed and **3 Preparedness plans** outlined
- **3** National MHEWS (Early Warning Systems) operational and linked to early action
- **2** National Disaster Risk Assessment reports submitted via new inter-institutional working groups
- **Standards for Academia and Volunteer Organizations** developed for their engagement in DRM

Awareness & Whole-of-Society engagement

- **50,000** Citizens reached through inclusive risk awareness campaigns
- **Volunteer Organizations** officially integrated into national planning frameworks
- **Formal cooperation agreements** signed between Civil Protection authorities and Academia