

Equipping the EU to respond to disasters

# European Civil Protection Pool



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A woman in Italian Civil Protection gear, including a helmet with goggles and a blue face mask, is engaged in conversation with a local man wearing a camouflage cap and a beard. They are standing in front of a damaged building with a yellow excavator arm visible in the background. Other team members in similar gear are seen in the background.

# Your guide to European Civil Protection Pool capacities



# 01

## Introduction

## Introduction

The European Civil Protection Pool (ECP, or 'the Pool') was created in 2014 to improve the predictability and the quality of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism's (UCPM) response to disasters. Concretely, Member States and UCPM participating states can commit response capacities on a voluntary basis to the ECP, making them available for UCPM response operations for an agreed number of years. In addition, these response capacities must complete a certification process to ascertain whether they are fit for international deployments.

All relevant information on how the ECP is structured and governed can be found in the UCPM legislation, namely [Decision 2013/1313/EU](#) and [Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2025/704](#), complemented by the [certification and registration guidelines](#) and the [recertification guidelines](#). Additional information can be found on the [Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network website](#).

The ECP boasts more than 150 response capacities which are particularly diverse and enable the UCPM to respond to many different types of disasters.

The objective of this booklet is to present the main features of the ECP response capacities to civil protection practitioners. They are grouped by theme, in an easily accessible and reader-friendly manner. For each response capacity, you will find a description with elements from the UCPM legislation and, for the purposes of illustration, some of the main features of existing ECP capacities.





# 02

## ECPP capacities overview

## ECPP capacities overview

The ECPP currently includes 28 different types of modules and the category of technical assistance and support teams. Moreover, 21 categories of other response capacities (ORC) are listed in the relevant legislation. ORC are intervention teams for which no minimum technical requirements are defined (differently from modules for which such requirements are legally defined). For illustration purposes, they are clustered below in eight sections according to their main features and the type of scenario in which they can be deployed.



Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear  
and Environmental (CBRN/ENV)

## Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Environmental (CBRN/ENV)

The EU and its neighbours and partners are exposed to the risk of nuclear, chemical and biological accidents due to the presence of numerous nuclear power reactors in operation, hazardous industries and biological agents on EU territory and in its neighbourhood.

Radiological accidents can also happen in installations handling nuclear material, storage facilities for used nuclear fuel, nuclear powered vessels, and research facilities or could also take place while radioactive material is being transported as well as during other activities involving industrial, research or medical radiation sources.

Disasters that result from chemical accidents are possible in hazardous industries such as oil refineries, chemicals manufacturing/storage, explosive manufacturing/storage, fuel storage and distribution, processing of metals, production of pharmaceuticals, waste treatment, and small and medium-sized businesses and non-chemical-based businesses that use dangerous substances. The transporting of dangerous goods through a country's territory also presents a risk of a chemical accident.

Such emerging risks are also associated with terrorists' access to technologies and substances which can significantly increase their capabilities and the impact of terrorist attacks such as access to biological agents and synthetic biology which could be used to develop destructive biological weapons <sup>(1)</sup>.

To intervene in such a variety of potential emergency scenarios, the UCPM member and participating states have specialised intervention teams able to detect, sample and analyse CBRN substances, but also to intervene to decontaminate and rescue victims in such challenging situations.



© DG ECHO (archive)

<sup>(1)</sup> Overview of natural and man-made risks the European Union may face, 2020 edition.



## Chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear detection and sampling module (CBRNDET)

CBRN/ENV

### What is it?

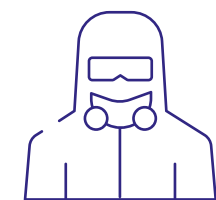
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- It is a team with specialised equipment able to identify and detect chemical and radiological hazards through a combination of handheld, mobile and laboratory-based equipment.
- The team can also gather, handle and prepare biological, chemical and radiological samples for further analyses elsewhere.
- It provides support for immediate risk reduction.

### What does it look like?

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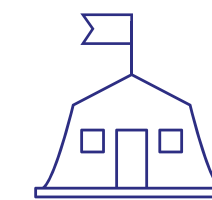
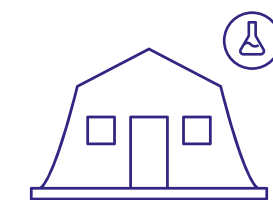
- The teams' composition currently ranges from a minimum of 21 to a maximum of 60 experts and operators.
- Personnel have protective and gas-tight suits, self-contained breathing apparatuses and air-purifying respirators.
- Units are either equipped with a mobile chemical and radiological field laboratory or rely on reach-back laboratories.
- Missions come with a self-sufficient base camp.



21-60 personnel



4-12 vehicles



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## Chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear detection and sampling module (CBRNDET)

CBRN/ENV

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- Identification and detection of chemical and radiological hazards through a combination of handheld, mobile and laboratory-based equipment:
  - > capability to detect alpha, beta and gamma radiation and to identify common isotopes;
  - > ability to identify and, if possible, perform semi-quantitative analyses on common toxic industrial chemicals and recognised warfare agents.
- Competence to gather, handle and prepare biological, chemical and radiological samples for further analyses elsewhere<sup>(2)</sup>
- Proficiency in applying an appropriate scientific model to hazard prediction and to confirm the model through continuous monitoring
- Provision of support for immediate risk reduction, including:
  - > hazard containment
  - > hazard neutralisation
  - > technical support to other teams or modules.

<sup>(2)</sup> This process shall, where possible, take into account the evidential requirements of the requesting state.



## Chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear detection and sampling module (CBRNDET)

CBRN/ENV

### Main components

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- Mobile chemical and radiological field laboratory
- Handheld or mobile detection equipment
- Field sampling equipment
- Dispersion modelling systems
- Mobile meteorological station
- Marking materials
- Reference documentation and access to designated sources of scientific expertise
- Secure and safe containment for samples and waste
- Decontamination facilities for personnel
- Appropriate personnel and protective equipment to sustain an operation in a contaminated and/or oxygen deficient environment, including gas-tight suits where appropriate
- Supply of technical equipment for hazard containment and neutralisation
- Airborne monitoring equipment (optional)

### Deployment

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- Availability for departure within a maximum of 12 hours after accepting the offer



## Search and rescue in CBRN conditions (CBRNUSAR)

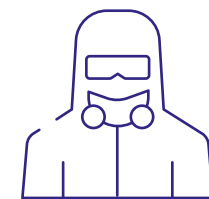
CBRN/ENV

### What is it?

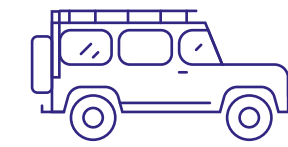
- It is a team that provides search and rescue operations in a contaminated environment using protective suits.

### What does it look like?

- The teams currently in the ECPP range from 85 to 105 personnel.
- They are equipped with chemical protective suits, breathing apparatuses, decontamination facilities for personnel and rescued victims, and a self-sufficient base camp.



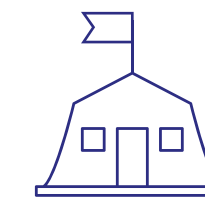
85-105 personnel



Up to 15 4WD trucks



Up to 13 heavy trucks



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## Search and rescue in CBRN conditions (CBRNUSAR)

CBRN/ENV

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- Special search and rescue using protective suits, in accordance with the requirements of the medium and heavy urban search and rescue modules, as appropriate
- Three people working simultaneously in the hot zone (significantly affected area)
- Continuous intervention over 24 hours

#### Main components

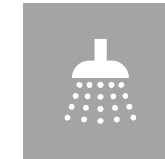
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- Marking materials
- Secure and safe containment for the waste
- Decontamination facilities for personnel and rescued victims
- Appropriate personnel and protective equipment to sustain a search and rescue operation in a contaminated environment in accordance with the requirements of the medium and heavy urban search and rescue modules, as appropriate
- Supply of technical equipment for hazard containment and neutralisation

#### Deployment

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- Availability for departure within a maximum of 12 hours after accepting the offer



## CBRN decontamination teams

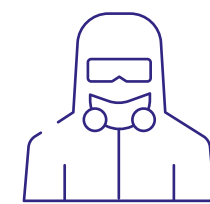
CBRN/ENV

### What is it?

- It is a team with specialised equipment able to provide decontamination from chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear agents for infrastructure, buildings, vehicles, equipment, critical evidence or affected persons.

### What does it look like?

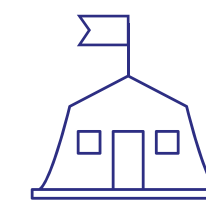
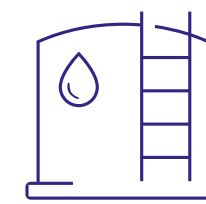
- The teams currently in the ECPP have 74 personnel units.
- Personnel consists of a command and logistics cell, decontamination and water supply, and transportation squads, as well as a medical component.
- Units are equipped with chemical protective suits, breathing apparatuses, decontamination facilities for personnel and rescued victims, and a self-sufficient base camp.
- Operations have secure and safe waste management systems and procedures.
- Capabilities include decontamination of approximately 100 persons per hour and one of the following parameters:
  - > decontamination of terrain/roads: approximately 16 000 m<sup>2</sup> per hour;
  - > decontamination of infrastructure: approximately 1 000 m<sup>2</sup> per hour;
  - > decontamination of vehicles: approximately 8 small vehicles or 4 heavy trucks per hour.



74 personnel

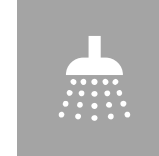


8 vehicles or 4 heavy trucks



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## CBRN decontamination teams

CBRN/ENV

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- Adequate decontamination capability for infrastructure, buildings or vehicles, equipment and critical evidence
- Decontamination of persons where applicable: capacity to process at least 70 ambulant persons per hour or 10 non-ambulant persons per hour and to manage fatalities
- Ability to decontaminate surfaces from common toxic industrial chemicals, recognised warfare agents, biological infectious agents (pathogens), toxins and radionuclides
- Ability to erect temporary decontamination facilities within a safe radius, monitor the decontamination area in order to keep the work environment safe and evaluate the decontamination effectiveness



## CBRN decontamination teams

CBRN/ENV

### Main components

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- Appropriate equipment, technology and solutions to decontaminate from common toxic industrial chemicals, recognised warfare agents, biological infectious agents (pathogens), toxins and radionuclides
- Suitable equipment to monitor progress of decontamination operations, appropriate equipment and personnel to perform decontamination of infrastructure, buildings, vehicles, equipment, critical evidence and capabilities
- Decontamination of persons where applicable: appropriate equipment and personnel to perform decontamination of ambulant and non-ambulant persons
- Appropriate capability and procedures to monitor the decontamination area to keep the work environment safe and to verify the decontamination effectiveness, appropriate personal protective equipment to operate safely in a contaminated environment for the complete period of deployment
- Adequate pumping system and containers to take-up water locally

Secure and safe waste management system and procedures during and after decontamination, including containment solutions to store contaminated waste temporarily and safely, pumps, waste combustion remains, contaminated water and wastewater treatment equipment; with the management of hazardous waste, including contaminated water and other by-products, carried out in accordance with relevant Union or international regulations, or the legislation of the affected country, whichever is more stringent, and with support from the affected country

### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 12 hours after accepting the offer
- Ability to maintain operations for at least 7 continuous days

### Self-sufficiency

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- Ability to decontaminate the capacity's own personnel



## Mobile laboratories for environmental emergencies

Fire

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.

### What is it?

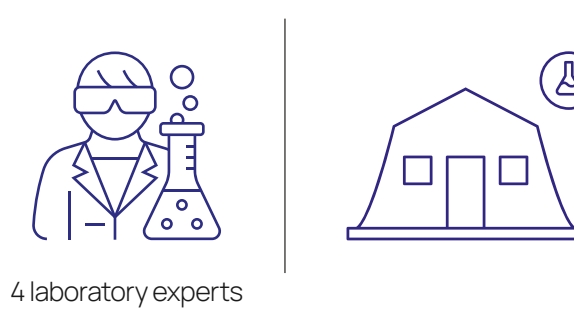
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- It is a team equipped with a mobile deployable laboratory to support local authorities and response organisations during and after an environmental or natural disaster with implications for health and environment.

### What does it look like?

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- The current teams have a lightweight, mobile, autonomous screening system capable of deploying very quickly as close as possible to the geographical area where a health/environmental crisis has emerged.



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## Fire

Wildfires are among the most prominent disaster risks in Europe, and are increasing in intensity and geographic scope, with the last decade having set several sad records. Climate change projections forecast further intensification of the risk across the EU, particularly affecting the Mediterranean region, where the risk is already rated as 'critical' and assessed to become 'catastrophic' in the longer term<sup>(3)</sup>.

Effective response to wildfires requires having sufficient ground and aerial forest firefighting teams, and monitoring and assessment teams.



© Polish State Fire Service

<sup>(3)</sup> European Environment Agency, European climate risk assessment (2024): <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/european-climate-risk-assessment>. Overview of natural and man-made risks the European Union may face, 2020 edition.



## Aerial forest firefighting module using airplanes (FFFP)

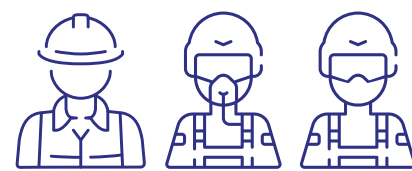
Fire

### What is it?

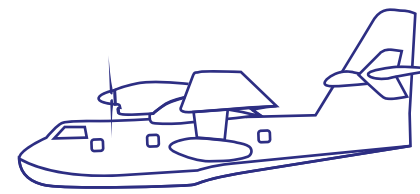
- It is a team with planes that copes with large wildfires by performing aerial firefighting.
- It drops water on wildfires to extinguish and contain them.
- Operations can perform continuous firefighting with 2 airplanes.

### What does it look like?

- The existing teams in the ECPP operate 2 planes and consist of a minimum of 16 and a maximum of 34 staff (pilots / co-pilots / technicians / liaison officers).
- Units come with a maintenance kit for planes and communication (air/air and air/ground) equipment.



16-34 personnel



2 planes



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## Aerial forest firefighting module using airplanes (FFFP)

Fire

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- Two airplanes with a capacity of 3 000 litres each
- Ability to perform continuous operations

#### Main components

---

- Two planes
- Minimum of 4 crew members
- Technical staff
- Field maintenance kit
- Communications equipment

#### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 3 hours after accepting the offer



## Ground forest firefighting (GFFF)

Fire

### What is it?

- It is a team of highly-trained personnel with specialised equipment for extinguishing large wildfires through ground-based firefighting operations.

### What does it look like?

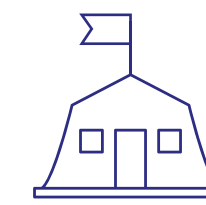
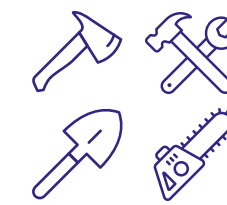
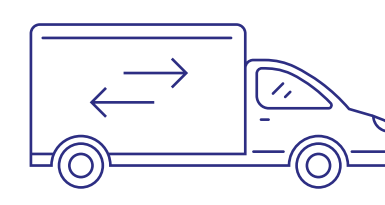
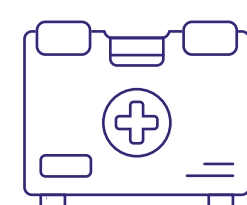
- The teams registered in the ECPP range from 30 to 60 personnel.
- They are equipped with pumps, hoses, portable tanks, water backpacks and other firefighting tools to extinguish flames and establish fire lines.
- Units are able to operate in areas which are not easily accessible and can work in cooperation with helicopters and aircraft.



30-60 personnel



2-4 medical personnel



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?





## Ground forest firefighting (GFFF)

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- Sufficient human resources for continuous operations over 7 days
- Capability to operate in areas with restricted access
- Ability to set long lines of hoses with pumps (minimum 2 kilometres) and/or make defence lines continuously

#### Main components

---

- Firefighters trained to perform wildfire suppression operations and equipped with additional safety and security training, taking into account the different types of fires that the module might be deployed for
- Manual tools for making defence lines
- Hoses, portable tanks and pumps for establishing a line
- Adaptors for hose connection, including the Storz<sup>(4)</sup> standard
- Water backpacks
- Equipment for potentially being roped or winched down by helicopter
- Evacuation procedures for the firefighters to be arranged with the receiving state

#### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 6 hours after accepting the offer
- Ability to work continuously for 7 days

Fire

<sup>(4)</sup> Most common type of hose coupling employed on fire hoses in firefighting applications.



## Ground forest firefighting using vehicles (GFFF-V)

Fire

### What is it?

- It is a team of highly trained personnel equipped with vehicles that extinguish large forest and vegetation fires.

### What does it look like?

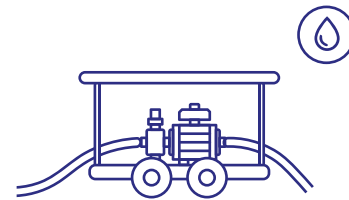
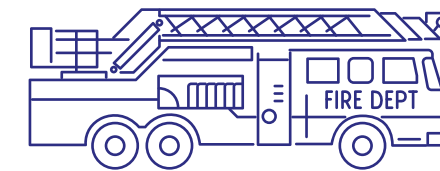
- The teams registered in the ECPP range from 30 to 80 personnel.
- They are equipped with fire trucks, off-road vehicles and a total tank capacity of up to 75 000 litres.



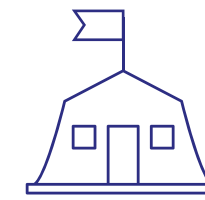
30-80 personnel



10-25 vehicles



4-10 pumps



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## Ground forest firefighting using vehicles (GFFF-V)

Fire

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- Sufficient human resources and vehicles for continuous operations with a minimum of 20 firefighters at any time

#### Main components

---

- Firefighters trained to fulfil the above-mentioned task
- Four vehicles with off-road capability
- Tank capacity of each vehicle of at least 2 000 litres
- Adaptors for hose connection, including the Storz standard

#### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 6 hours after accepting the offer
- Ability to work continuously for 7 days
- Deployment by land or sea – deployment by air is only an option in well-justified cases



## Aerial forest firefighting module using helicopters (FFFH)

Fire

### What is it?

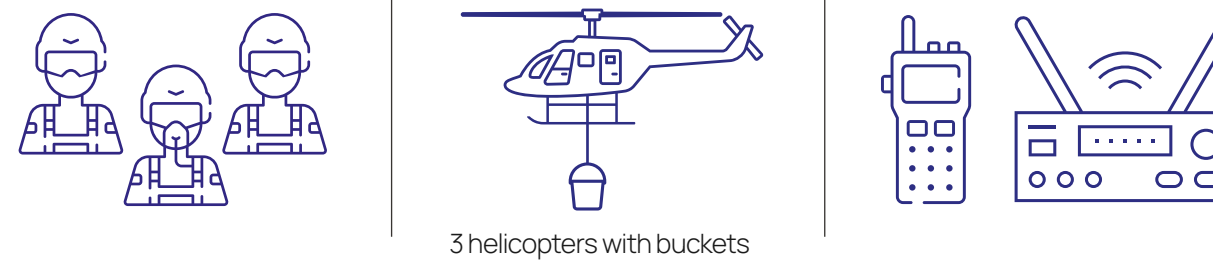
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- It is a team that uses helicopters for aerial firefighting to extinguish large forest and vegetation fires.
- It drops water on wildfires to extinguish and contain them.
- Operations can perform continuous firefighting with at least 2 helicopters.

### What does it look like?

---

- Not yet available in the ECPP



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## Aerial forest firefighting module using helicopters (FFFH)

### Minimum requirements

Fire

#### Capacities

---

- Three helicopters with a capacity of 1 000 litres each
- Ability to perform continuous operations

#### Main components

---

- Three helicopters and crews, to guarantee that at least 2 helicopters are operational at any time
- Technical staff
- Four water buckets or 3 releasing kits
- One maintenance set
- One spare parts set
- Two rescue hoists
- Communications equipment

#### Self-sufficiency

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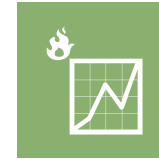
The following elements have to be present:

- storage and maintenance of the module's equipment;
- equipment for communication with the relevant partners, notably those in charge of coordination on-site.

#### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 3 hours after accepting the offer



## Firefighting: advisory/assessment teams

### Fire

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.

#### What is it?

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- The objective of the team is to support the decision-making process and develop strategic and tactical approaches to managing forest fires using data analysis techniques.
- This approach involves gathering data on factors like weather conditions, terrain features, fuel types and vegetation to analyse current and future fire scenarios.

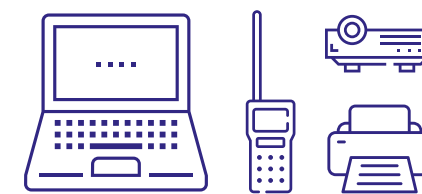
#### What does it look like?

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- The current advisory/assessment teams in the ECPP can be deployed with up to 14 personnel.
- They are ready for departure in 12 to 24 hours, depending on the deployment location (in or outside the EU).
- Examples of possible tasks are risk assessment of the current fire situation, potential threats to life and property, prevention actions and policies, awareness actions, suppression techniques, use of technical fire suppression methods, and recommendations on resource needs and operational priorities.



5-14 personnel



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?





Floods

## Floods

Flooding ranks amongst the most common risks and frequent disasters in the EU. It can take the form of coastal and fluvial flooding. In case of floods, water-related capacities such as high-capacity pumping, flood containment, water purification and flood rescue using boats can be deployed to mitigate the damage. ECPP capacities can then pump out floodwater or deliver clean water in all kinds of terrains, build barriers, provide drinkable water and carry out search and rescue for people in flooded areas.





## High-capacity pumping (HCP)

## Floods

### What is it?

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- It is a team with equipment that operates mainly in flood scenarios to pump water and mud out of flooded areas (urban or rural) and into water basins.
- In a fire emergency, it can also support firefighting teams by delivering water across long distances.

### What does it look like?

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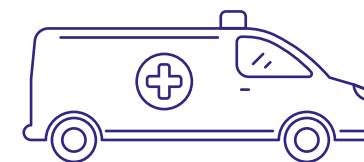
- The available teams currently range from 12 to 45 personnel.
- They are equipped with medium- and high-capacity pumps, vehicles and a self-sufficient base camp.



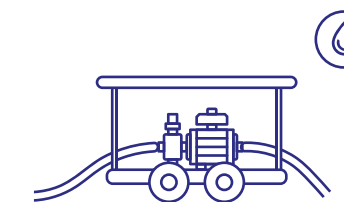
12-45 personnel



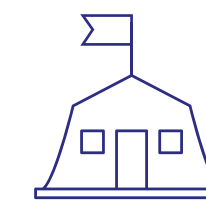
2-13 vehicles



Ambulance (optional)



Medium and high-capacity pumps



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## High-capacity pumping (HCP)

## Floods

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

#### Pumping with mobile medium- and high-capacity pumps with:

- an overall capacity of at least 1 000 m<sup>3</sup> per hour;
- reduced capacity when pumping across a 40-metre height difference.

#### Ability to:

- operate in areas and terrain that are not easily accessible;
- pump muddy water containing no more than 5 % solid elements in particles sized up to 40 mm;
- pump water up to 40 °C for longer operations;
- deliver water over a distance of 1 000 metres.

#### Main components

---

- Medium- and high-capacity pumps
- Hoses and couplings compatible with different standards, including the Storz standard
- Sufficient personnel to fulfil the task (if necessary, on a continuous basis)

#### Deployment

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- Availability for departure within a maximum of 12 hours after accepting the offer
- Ability to be deployed for a period of up to 21 days

Note: Most common type of hose coupling employed on fire hoses in firefighting applications.



## Water purification (WP)

## Floods

### What is it?

---

- It is a team with equipment that provides drinkable water from surface water sources, according to the applicable standards and at least to the level of WHO standards.
- It checks water quality at the purification equipment's outlet point.

### What does it look like?

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- The available teams currently range from 12 to 40 personnel.
- They are equipped with sedimentation and bladder tanks, a filter unit, chlorination capability, communications equipment and a self-sufficient base camp.



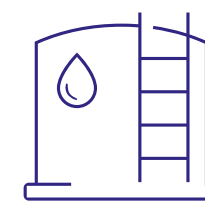
12-40 personnel



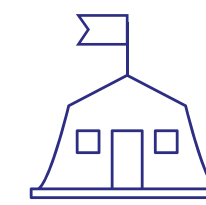
2-13 vehicles



1-3 mobile water purification



1-3 mobile water storage units



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## Water purification (WP)

## Floods

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- Purification of 225 000 litres of water per day
- Storage capacity equivalent to the production of half a day

#### Main components

---

- Mobile water purification unit
- Mobile water storage unit
- Mobile field laboratory
- Couplings compatible with different standards, including the Storz standard
- Sufficient personnel to fulfil the task on a continuous basis, if necessary

#### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 12 hours after accepting the offer
- Ability to be deployed for a period of up to 12 weeks



## Flood containment (FC)

## Floods

### What is it?

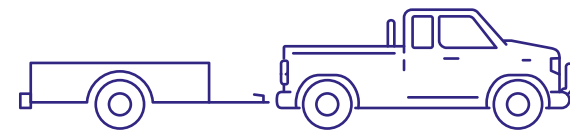
- It is a team with equipment able to reinforce existing structures and build new barriers to prevent further flooding of rivers, basins and waterways with rising water levels.

### What does it look like?

- The available teams currently range from 40 to 101 personnel.
- They are equipped with vehicles and trailers, foils, material and equipment for building barriers, sandbags, sandbag-filling machines (optional) and a self-sufficient base camp.



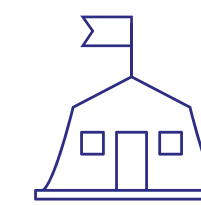
40-101 personnel



12-56 vehicles with trailers



1000 m



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## Flood containment (FC)

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- Ability to dam up water to a minimum height of 0.8 metres using:
  - > equipment for building 1 000 metres of barriers;
  - > further materials made available on-site.
- Capacity to reinforce existing levees
- Operation at a minimum of three locations at the same time within an area accessible by trucks
- Continuous 24/7 operation
- Supervision and maintenance of barriers and dykes
- Ability to work with local staff

#### Main components

---

- Material to build watertight barriers for a total distance of 1 000 metres (sand shall be made available by the local authorities)
- Foils / plastic sheets (if needed to make an existing barrier watertight, depends on construction of barrier)
- Sandbag filling machine

#### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 12 hours after accepting the offer
- Deployment by land or sea (deployment by air is only an option in well-justified cases)
- Ability to be operational for at least 10 days

## Floods



## Flood rescue using boats (FRB)

### What is it?

---

- It is a team with equipment able to perform water search and rescue and assist people trapped in a flooding situation using boats.
- It provides life-saving aid and delivers life-saving essentials as required.

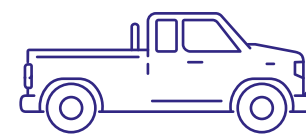
### What does it look like?

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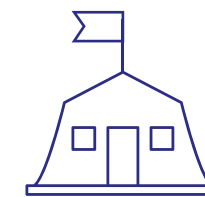
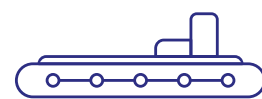
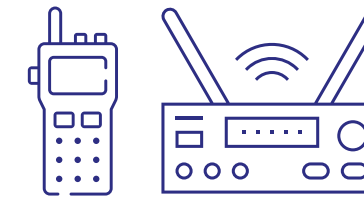
- The teams currently range from 35 to 107 personnel.
- They are equipped with working boats, lifeboats, flat-bottomed boats, barges, rescue rafts, communications equipment and a self-sufficient base camp.



35-107 personnel



11-65 vehicles



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?





## Flood rescue using boats (FRB)

## Floods

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- The module must have at least 5 boats and the ability to transport 50 people in total, excluding the staff of the module.
- The boats shall be designed for use in cold climate conditions and be able to drive upstream against at least 10 knots flow.
- It must be operational 24/7.
- Ability to:
  - > search for people in urban and rural areas;
  - > rescue people out of a flooded area, including medical care on first responder level;
  - > work together with aerial search (helicopters and planes);
  - > deliver first life-saving essentials in a flooded area (transportation of doctors, medicines, food and water);



## Flood rescue using boats (FRB)

## Floods

### Main components

---

- Boats designed for:
  - > shallow-streaming water conditions (>0.5 metres);
  - > use in windy conditions;
  - > day and night operations.
- Equipped according to international safety standards, including life jackets for the passengers
- People trained for swift water rescue (no diving, only surface rescue)

### Deployment

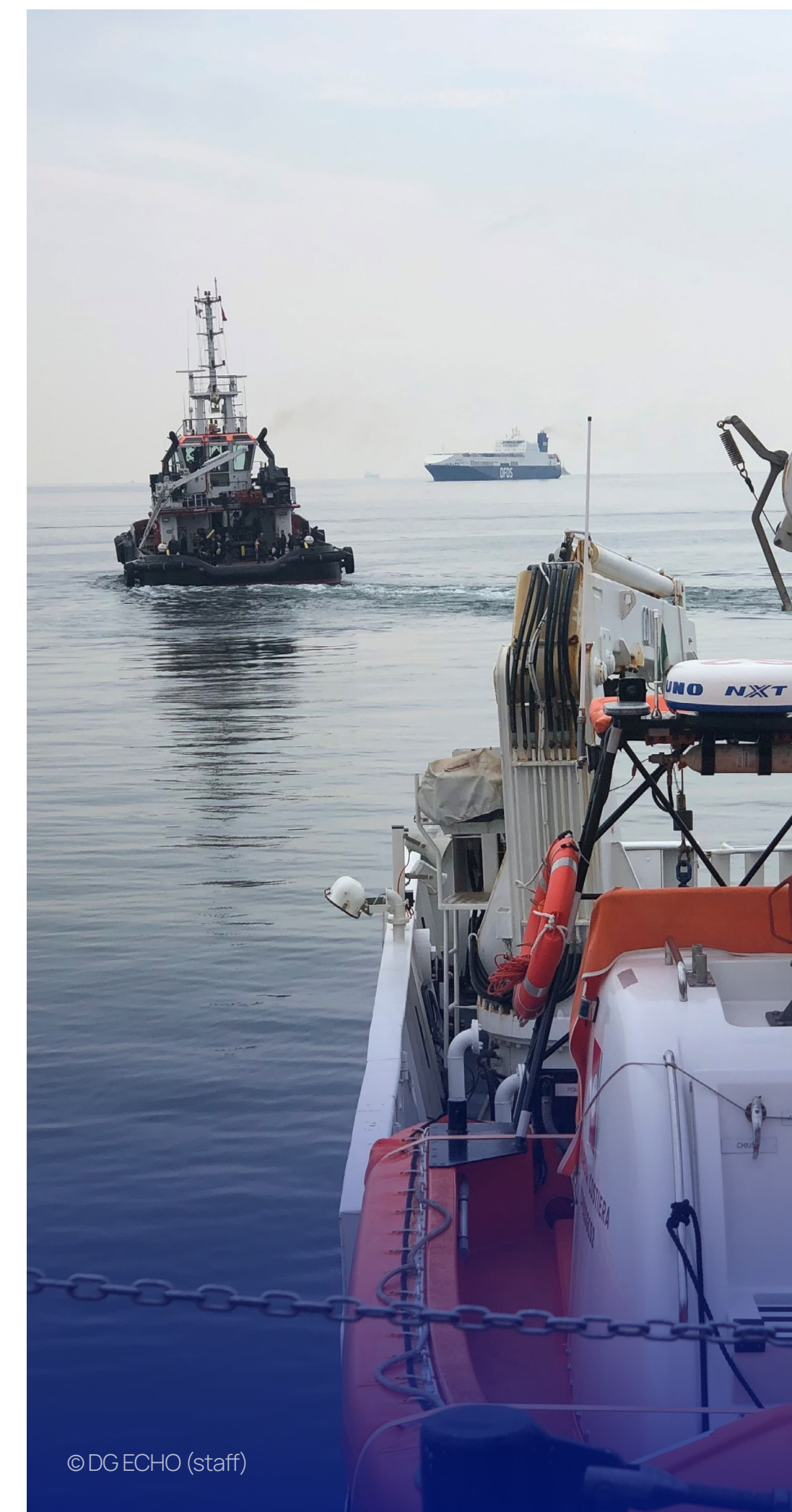
---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 12 hours after accepting the offer
- Deployment by land or sea (deployment by air is only an option in well-justified cases)
- Ability to be operational at least for 10 days



## Maritime

The marine environment is subject to multiple pressures and impacts from human activities at sea and on land. Due to increased traffic and vessel size, and sea transportation of diverse potential pollutants, the risk for incidents has increased. The UCPM includes the protection against marine pollution among its competences and it can respond to maritime incidents, including oil spills, with dedicated capacities. Also, other maritime incidents such as evacuation from ships can be addressed. The ECPP, therefore, includes capacities that can intervene to contain oil spills and carry out decontamination at sea and to protect shorelines.





## Teams for maritime incident response

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.

### What is it?

---

- It is a team with equipment that responds to incidents at sea.
- It intervenes in case of rescue needs on board ships and/or supports firefighting teams on board ships and/or intervenes in case of chemical hazards on board.

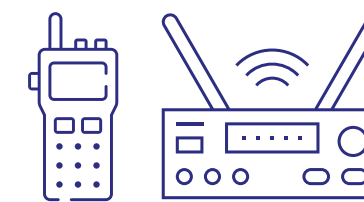
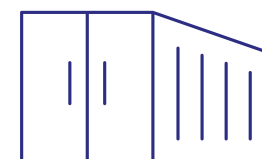
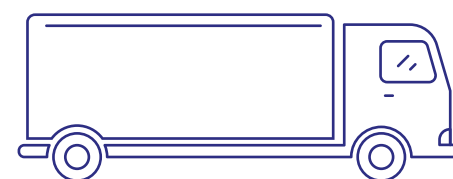
### What does it look like?

---

- The current teams consist of 40 personnel.
- They come with maritime incident equipment, such as personal protective equipment, fire and rescue equipment and communications equipment.



40 personnel



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## Coastal and freshwater pollution response

Maritime

### What is it?

---

- It is a team able to stop the spread of pollutants floating in flooded areas, coastal or freshwater bodies and recover them efficiently, protecting shorelines and banks.

### What does it look like?

---

- Currently not available in the ECPP



## Coastal and freshwater pollution response

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- Intervening quickly to protect water bodies or stretches of coast/banks
- Adapting to different sites (surface area of the beach, access conditions)
- Recovering different types and quantity of pollutant (floaters), and adapting to the rate of waste evacuation
- Storing waste

#### Main components

---

- Containers with a configuration of equipment depending on actual situation and needs
- A multipurpose work platform with a small outboard engine in a transport container
- Equipment for pollution recovery in coastal or freshwater (e.g. coastal containment barriers/breakwaters and required accessory equipment (anchors, chains, buoys, ropes), hydraulic power packs, hydraulic and oil transfer hoses, light and/or modular skimmers and pumps)
- Waste storage capacity (e.g. collapsible tanks) and safety equipment: PPE for oil recovery (e.g. overalls, gloves, boots, glasses, helmets, shoe covers, decontamination devices, equipment and accessories to delimit the area, lighting systems)
- Communication equipment
- Trained personnel to fulfil the tasks

#### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 12 hours after accepting the offer
- Ability to operate for a period of up to 14 days

### Maritime



## Pollution detection (at-sea, shoreline, inland)

Maritime

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.
- Currently not available in the ECPP

### What is it?

---

- It is a team able to conduct an initial identification and assessment of pollutants and the contaminated area of sea, shoreline and inland water.

### What does it look like?

---

- Currently not available in the ECPP



## At-sea pollution response (offshore, heavy equipment, recovery vessels)

Maritime

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.
- Currently not available in the ECPP

### What is it?

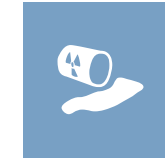
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- It is a team able to stop the spread of pollutants at sea and to recover them effectively.

### What does it look like?

---

- Currently not available in the ECPP.



## Shoreline and inland pollution response (on-land pollution recovery, waste management and oiled wildlife response)

Maritime

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.

### What is it?

---

- It is a team able to clean up polluted shores, beaches, banks and oiled wildlife. This capacity enables the recovery of substrates with different characteristics and the handling of waste.

### What does it look like?

---

- The current teams consist of 4 to 6 personnel.
- They come with equipment to steer and contain oil on water, collect it from the water and shoreline, and protect the vulnerable coastline.



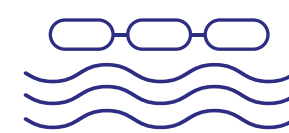
4-6 personnel



3 boats



Variable sized oil booms



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



Medical

## Medical

The evolving disaster risk landscape in Europe means that we can expect more sudden onset disasters, while there can be dozens of infectious disease outbreaks happening around the globe, which can spread quickly from one country to another and potentially evolve into large-scale health emergencies. The mission of medical teams and the emergency healthcare workforce is to respond to these situations to reduce loss of life and to prevent long-term disability<sup>(6)</sup>.



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<sup>(6)</sup> European Commission, Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) (2021): Overview of natural and man-made disaster risks the European Union may face : 2020 edition. Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union. Online: <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2795/1521>





## Medical aerial evacuation of disaster victims (MEDEVAC)

Medical

### What is it?

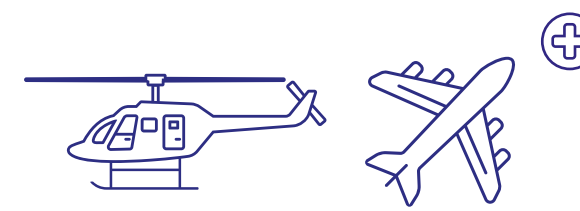
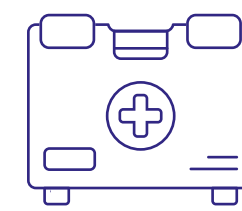
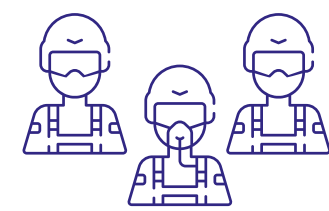
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- It is a team of health professionals that come with planes or helicopters equipped with stretchers to transport disaster victims to health facilities for medical treatment.

### What does it look like?

---

- The current teams are composed of an aircraft equipped to support 3 to 6 patients requiring intensive care, along with medical personnel and a flight crew.



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## Medical aerial evacuation of disaster victims (MEDEVAC)

Medical

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- Transport 50 patients per 24 hours
- Fly day and night

#### Main components

---

- Planes or helicopters equipped with stretchers

#### Deployment

---

#### The following apply:

- availability for departure within a maximum of 12 hours after accepting the offer;
- storage and maintenance of the module's equipment;
- equipment for communication with the relevant partners, notably those in charge of coordination on-site.



## Emergency Medical Team (EMT) type 1 (fixed): outpatient emergency care

Medical

### What is it?

---

- It is a team of health professionals, including doctors, nurses, paramedics, support workers and logisticians, who treat patients affected by an emergency or disaster.
- It provides daylight-hours care for acute trauma and non-trauma presentations, referrals, ongoing investigation or care and community-based primary care in an outpatient fixed facility.

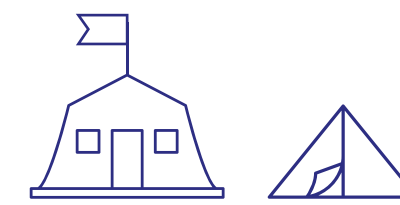
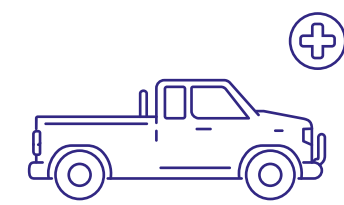
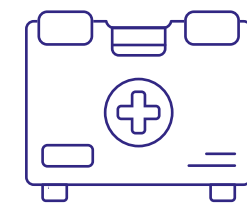
### What does it look like?

---

- The teams comprise around 25 personnel.
- They are equipped with light, deployable and fixed outpatient facilities (such as tents or specially equipped vehicles).



25 medical personnel



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## Emergency Medical Team (EMT) type 1 (fixed): outpatient emergency care

### Minimum requirements

### Medical

#### Capacities

---

#### Outpatient initial emergency care for injuries and other significant healthcare needs, including:

- triage, assessment, first aid;
- stabilisation and referral of severe trauma and non-trauma emergencies;
- definite care for minor trauma and non-trauma emergencies;
- daytime services for at least 100 outpatient consultations per day.

#### Main components

---

Team and staff requirements:

- management: staff to cover the functions of team leader, deputy team leader, liaison officer (link to reception / departure centre, on-site operations coordination centre, local emergency management authority or other coordinating mechanism, as appropriate), and safety and security officer;
- health professionals: as defined in the minimum standards of the WHO;
- logistics: one logistics team manager and logistics team in compliance with self-sufficiency requirements.

The team shall comply with the 'Classification and minimum standards for foreign medical teams in sudden onset disasters' and subsequent or additional guidelines issued by the WHO.

#### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 24–48 hours after accepting the offer
- Ability to be operational for at least 14 days



## Emergency Medical Team (EMT) type 1 (mobile): outpatient emergency care

Medical

### What is it?

---

- It is a team of health professionals, including doctors, nurses, paramedics, support workers and logisticians, that treats patients affected by an emergency or disaster.
- The team provides daylight-hours care for the stabilisation of acute trauma and non-trauma presentations, referrals for further investigation or inpatient care and community-based primary care, with the ability to work in multiple locations over the period of deployment.

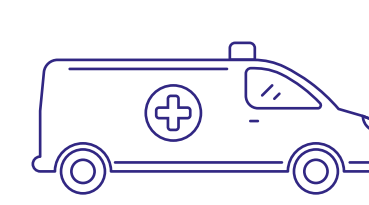
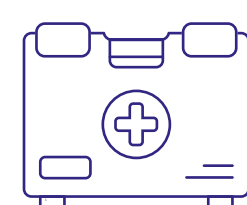
### What does it look like?

---

- The teams comprise a hub with 5 personnel and mobile teams with 4 personnel each.
- They can work in remote areas to access small communities.
- They operate either from suitable existing structures or supply their own mobile outpatient facilities, such as tents or specially equipped vehicles, as mobile medical clinics.



20 medical personnel



4 ambulances

How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## Emergency Medical Team (EMT) type 1 (mobile): outpatient emergency care

### Minimum requirements

### Medical

#### Capacities

---

#### Outpatient initial emergency care for injuries and other significant healthcare needs, including:

- triage, assessment, first aid;
- stabilisation and referral of severe trauma and non-trauma emergencies;
- definite care for minor trauma and non-trauma emergencies;
- daytime services for at least 50 outpatient consultations per day.

#### Main components

---

Team and staff requirements:

- management: staff to cover the functions of team leader, deputy team leader, liaison officer (link to reception / departure centre, on-site operations coordination centre, local emergency management authority or other coordinating mechanism, as appropriate), and safety and security officer;
- health professionals: as defined in the minimum standards of the WHO;
- logistics: one logistics team manager and logistics team, in compliance with self-sufficiency requirements.

The team shall comply with the 'Classification and minimum standards for foreign medical teams in sudden onset disasters' and subsequent or additional guidelines issued by the WHO.

#### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 24–48 hours after accepting the offer
- Ability to be operational for at least 14 days



## Emergency Medical Team (EMT) type 2: inpatient surgical emergency care

Medical

### What is it?

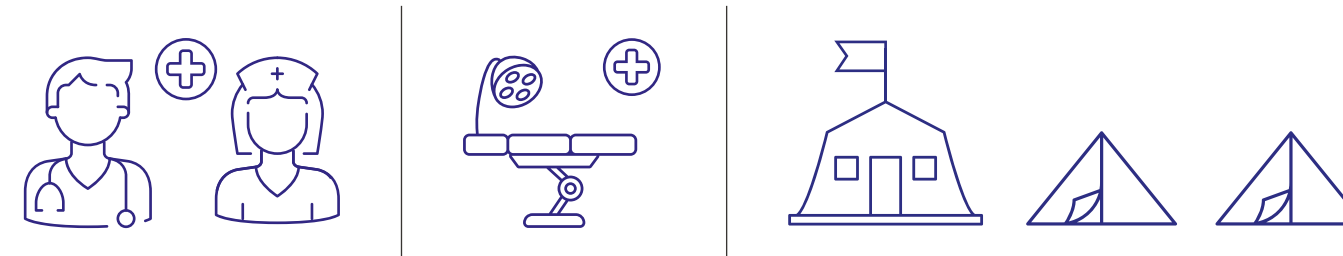
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- It is a team of health professionals, including doctors, nurses, paramedics, support workers and logisticians, who treat patients affected by an emergency or disaster.
- Its services include inpatient acute care for medical conditions (communicable and noncommunicable diseases), and general and obstetric surgery for trauma and other major conditions.
- The unit can receive, screen and triage new and referred patients in an outpatient and emergency department-type setting.

### What does it look like?

---

- This is a multidisciplinary team experienced in working in resource-scarce settings.
- The facility structure is temporary, deployable and adaptable.
- A minimum of 20 inpatient beds are provided, with a preference for more.
- An operating theatre environment is also ensured.



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?





## Emergency Medical Team (EMT) type 2: inpatient surgical emergency care

Medical

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

Inpatient acute care, general and obstetric surgery for trauma and other major conditions, including:

- intake/screening of new and referred patients, counter-referral;
- surgical triage and assessment;
- advanced life support;
- definitive wound and basic fracture management;
- damage control surgery;
- emergency general and obstetric surgery;
- inpatient care for non-trauma emergencies;
- basic anaesthesia, X-ray, sterilisation, laboratory and blood transfusion;
- rehabilitation services and patient follow-up.

Capacity to receive and integrate specialised care teams to work within their facility, if some of the services above cannot be provided by the team

Day and night services (24/7, if necessary), including as a minimum:

- one operating theatre with one operating room;
- at least 20 inpatient beds per operating table;
- capability to treat 7 major or 15 minor surgical cases per day.



## Emergency Medical Team (EMT) type 2: inpatient surgical emergency care

Medical

### Main components

---

Team and staff requirements:

- management: one team leader, one deputy team leader, one liaison officer (link to reception / departure centre, on-site operations coordination centre, local emergency management authority, or other coordinating mechanism, as appropriate), and one safety and security officer;
- health professionals: as defined in the minimum standards of the WHO;
- logistics: one logistics team manager and logistics team for the EMT and its inpatients.

The team shall comply with the 'Classification and minimum standards for foreign medical teams in sudden onset disasters' and subsequent or additional guidelines issued by the WHO.

### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 48–72 hours after accepting the offer, and ability to be operational on-site within 24–96 hours
- Ability to be operational for at least 3 weeks outside the Union and at least 14 days inside the Union



## Emergency Medical Team (EMT) type 3: inpatient surgical emergency care

Medical

### What is it?

---

- Complex referral-level inpatient care for medical and surgical conditions and intensive care capacity in a temporary facility of tents, prefabricated buildings or vehicles

### What does it look like?

---

- Currently not available in the ECPP



## Emergency Medical Team (EMT) type 3: inpatient surgical emergency care

Medical

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

Complex inpatient referral surgical care, including intensive care capacity and:

- capacity to provide EMT type 2 services;
- complex reconstructive wound and orthopaedic care;
- enhanced X-ray, sterilisation, laboratory and blood transfusion;
- rehabilitation services and patient follow-up;
- high-level paediatric and adult anaesthesia;
- intensive care beds with 24 hour monitoring and ability to ventilate;
- acceptance and referral services from EMTs types 1 and 2, and from the national health system.

Specialised services may be included, such as burn care, dialysis and care for crush syndrome, maxillofacial surgery, orthoplastic surgery, intensive rehabilitation, maternal health, neonatal and paediatric care, and transport and retrieval.

Day and night services (covering 24/7 if necessary), including as a minimum:

- one operating theatre with at least 2 operating tables in 2 separate rooms within the theatre area, at least 40 inpatient beds (20 per table) and 4–6 intensive care beds;
- additional operating tables require an extra 20 inpatient beds each to ensure adequate post-operative capacity;
- capability to treat 15 major or 30 minor surgical cases per day.



## Emergency Medical Team (EMT) type 3: inpatient surgical emergency care

Medical

### Main components

---

Team and staff requirements:

- management: one team leader, one deputy team leader, one liaison officer (link to reception / departure centre, on-site operations coordination centre, local emergency management authority or other coordinating mechanism, as appropriate), and one safety and security officer;
- health professionals team: as defined in the minimum standards of the WHO;
- logistics team: one logistics team manager and logistics team for the EMT and its inpatients.

The team shall comply with the 'Classification and minimum standards for foreign medical teams in sudden onset disasters' and subsequent or additional guidelines issued by the WHO.

### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 48–72 hours after accepting the offer and ability to be operational on-site within 5–7 days
- Ability to be operational for at least 8 weeks outside the Union and at least 14 days inside the Union



## Mobile biosafety laboratories

Medical

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.

### What is it?

---

- This is a team equipped with a mobile, deployable diagnostic capacity to respond to broad biological hazards in public health emergencies and in clinical and research settings.
- The unit is used in case of biological events and is deployable for outbreak detection and response, natural or man-made disasters and preparedness for mass gathering events.
- Its primary function is for use in emergencies, but it is also capable of providing routine support to national public health systems.

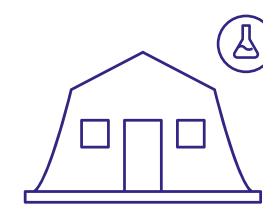
### What does it look like?

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- Box-based deployable laboratory unit with a testing capacity of around 100 samples per day, primarily conducting RT-PCR-based diagnostics, but also capable of performing serology and sequencing in the field as well as providing clinical laboratory support



12 laboratory  
experts



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## Medical evacuation jets, air ambulance and medical evacuation helicopter (separately for inside Europe or worldwide)

Medical

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.

### What is it?

---

- Medical evacuation jets, air ambulances and medical evacuation helicopters that can be provided at short notice

### What does it look like?

---

- Currently not available in the ECPP



## Emergency Medical Teams for specialised care

Medical

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.

### What is it?

---

It is a specialised care team (SCT) that can be embedded in local health care facilities, or Type 2 or Type 3 EMTs (unless otherwise specified).

A non-exhaustive list of services provided by SCTs, with further specialties added to the list as part of an ongoing standard-setting process, is provided below:

- outbreak
- surgical
- rehabilitation
- mental health
- reproductive and newborn care
- interdisciplinary, interhospital and technical support.

### What does it look like?

---

- Currently not available in the ECPP



## Medical aerial evacuation of disaster victims for highly infectious diseases patients (MEDEVAC HID)

Medical

### What is it?

---

- It is a team able to provide aerial transport of highly infectious disease (HID) patients, including in-flight treatment, to specialised health facilities in the Union.

### What does it look like?

---

- Currently not available in the ECPP



## Medical aerial evacuation of disaster victims for highly infectious diseases patients (MEDEVAC HID)

Medical

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- Aircraft with a capacity to transport at least one or more HID patients per flight

#### Main components

---

- Ability to fly day and night
- System for safe in-flight medical treatment of HID patients, including intensive care:
  - > appropriately trained medical personnel to provide care for one or more HID patients;
  - > dedicated on-board technical and medical equipment to provide care to HID patients during the flight;
  - > appropriate procedures ensuring isolation and treatment of HID patients during the aerial transport.
- Support: aircrew adapted to the number of HID patients and the time frame of the flight
- Appropriate procedures ensuring the handling of equipment and waste as well as the decontamination of personnel according to established international standards, including, where applicable, relevant Union legislation

#### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 24 hours after accepting the offer



## Burns Assessment Teams (BAT)

Medical

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.
- Currently not available in the ECPP

### What is it?

---

- It is a specialised team with medical equipment able to provide advisory, clinical and coordination functions in response to mass burn incidents.

### What does it look like?

---

- Currently not available in the ECPP

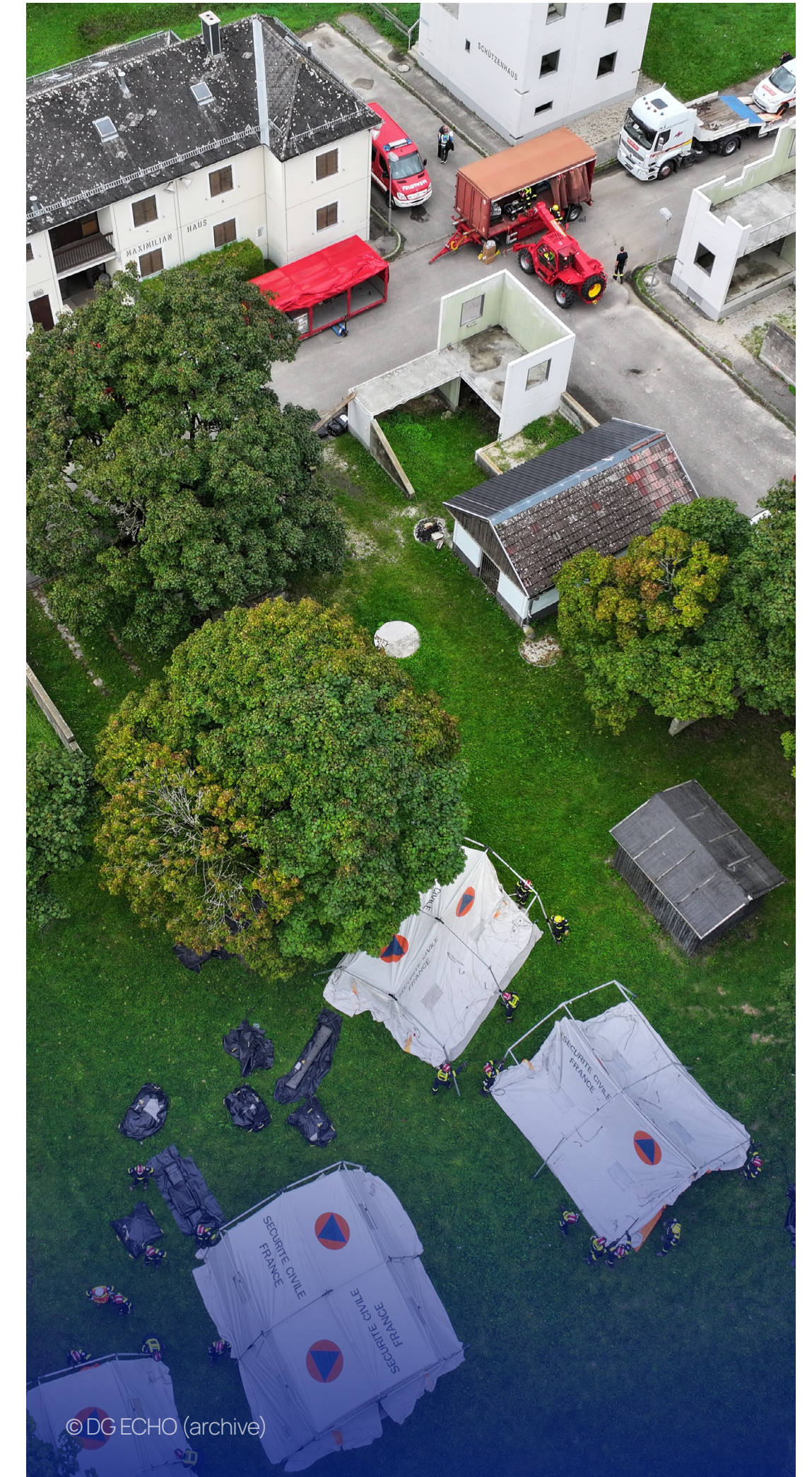


## Shelter and other support

## Shelter and other support

In the face of an increasingly volatile disaster landscape in Europe, the need for effective temporary shelter solutions is critical. Sudden onset disasters, such as floods, earthquakes and wildfires, could displace large numbers of people, leaving them without homes and vulnerable to further risks. Providing temporary shelter is essential to address the immediate and short-term needs of these displaced populations. Effective implementation requires careful planning, cultural sensitivity and coordination among various stakeholders.

In addition to shelter, drones have become vital assets in emergency response efforts. Their capabilities significantly enhance disaster management in several ways such as monitoring and surveillance, rapid damage assessment, and search and rescue operations.



## Shelter and other support

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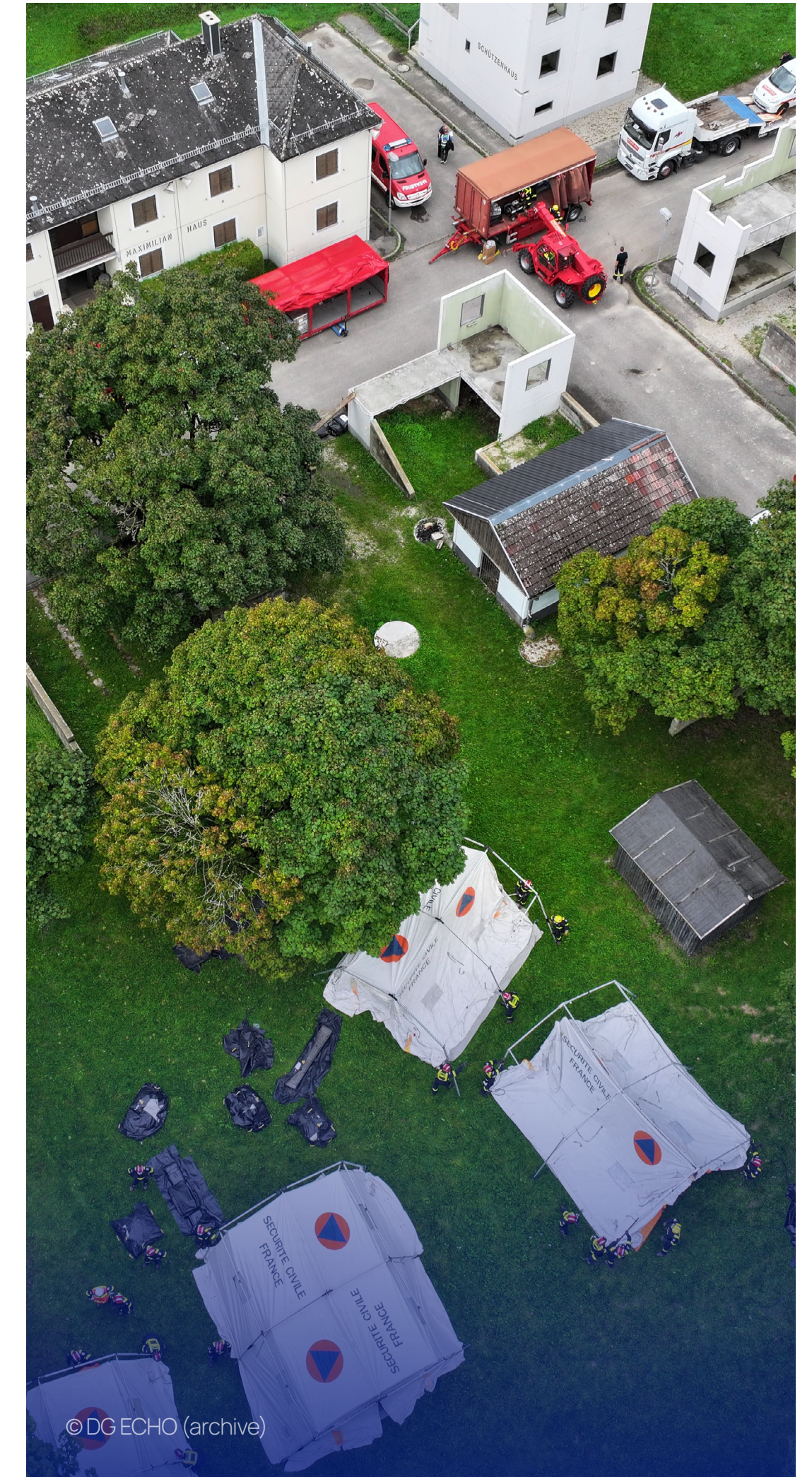
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## Emergency Shelter (ES)

## Shelter and other support

### What is it?

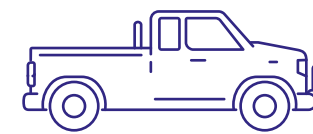
- It is a team able to provide temporary emergency shelter to the affected population, including space for housing, hygiene and sanitation, basic medical service and social gathering.
- The team is also able to provide staff to handle, mobilise, assemble, put in place and maintain shelter units when required. Where a handover takes place, it must train the relevant personnel (local or international) before it pulls out.

### What does it look like?

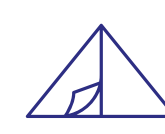
- The current teams consist of 64 personnel and 22 vehicles.
- They can provide emergency shelter for currently up to 350 people, including registration, accommodation in tents, sanitary facilities, electricity, basic medical and psychosocial care, food and water supply, and distribution.



64 personnel



22 vehicles



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## Emergency Shelter (ES)

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- Shelter capacity composed of a physical reserve of assets capable to shelter – when deployed simultaneously – a minimum of 250 persons.

#### Main components

---

- Shelter units, including tents, with heating (for winter conditions), appropriate aeration systems (for summer conditions) and basic materials, such as beds with sleeping-bags and/or blankets
- Sanitation and hygiene facilities
- Infirmary for basic medical services
- Basic hygiene kits, multi-purpose facilities for preparation (optional) and consumption of food, distribution of drinkable water, social assembling
- Power generators and lighting equipment
- Appropriate arrangements ensuring the adequate transport and delivery of the units
- Appropriately trained personnel and assets to handle, mobilise, assemble, put in place and maintain physical assets in the affected area

#### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure of physical reserve within a maximum of 24 hours after the acceptance of the offer
- The duration of the mission and, if applicable, the start of the handover process is to be defined in agreement with the affected country.

### Shelter and other support



## Teams with unmanned aerial vehicles

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.

### What is it?

---

- It is a team equipped with drones that intervene in any emergency scenario to collect tactical operational information in areas with restricted access, to support assessment and decision-making.
- The team can support operational management, provide a rapid first view of the incident without exposing rescuers, make aerial view mapping or direct streaming and inform the assessments while focusing on an identified risk.

### What does it look like?

---

- The teams currently range from 4–17 personnel.
- They are equipped with 2–4 different types of drones.
- The teams come with their own vehicles if deployed by land or sea.
- They can also be deployed by air (transport is arranged on-site).



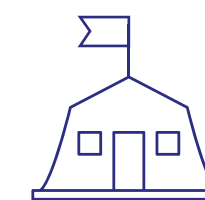
4–17 personnel



2–5 vehicles



2–4 types of drones



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?

Shelter and other support



## Evacuation support: including teams for information management and logistics

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.

### What is it?

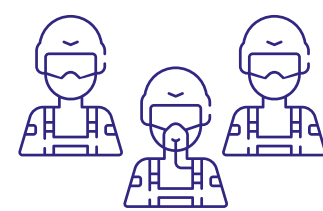
---

- An evacuation support capacity is a team of experts with equipment designed to evacuate people affected by disasters or crises from gathering points.
- It may include complementary services for evacuees, such as short-term accommodation, registration, basic medical and psychosocial care or assistance to consular authorities.

### What does it look like?

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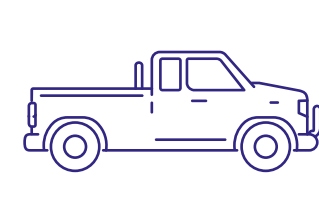
- The existing teams are composed of 27 personnel.
- They can rely on a fleet of 4 jet aircrafts for up to 3 patients on stretchers and 73 seated patients, or up to 91 seated patients.
- They have equipment to provide medical care on the ground and in the air.
- They come with their own vehicles if deployed by land.



6 air crew personnel



21 personnel



Up to 4 aircraft

How many are in the ECPP?

Where?

Shelter and other support



## Additional shelter capacity: units for 250 persons (50 tents) including self-sufficiency unit for the handling staff

## Shelter and other support

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.

### What is it?

---

- Shelter units for 250 persons (about 50 tents)
- Self-sufficiency unit (food, accommodation, and water, sanitation and hygiene facilities) for the handling staff

### What does it look like?

---

- Currently not available in the ECPP

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## Cultural Heritage Protection (CHP)

## Shelter and other support

### What is it?

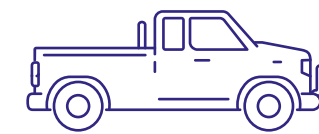
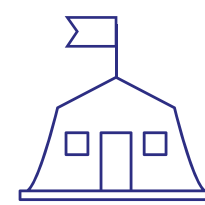
- It is a team able to provide technical, operational and safety support for the protection of cultural heritage.

### What does it look like?

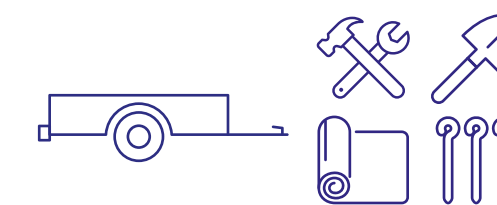
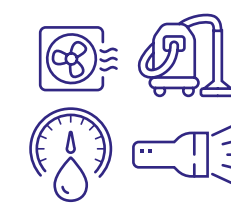
- Personnel (currently up to 33) from disaster management and cultural heritage protection agencies are assigned to each team.
- Equipment includes individual and personal protective equipment, a toolkit to intervene in the protection/ safeguard of cultural heritage assets and communication equipment.
- A self-sufficient base camp is also included.
- Deployment is mainly by air (transport solutions are arranged on-site), but deployment by land or sea is also possible.



Up to 33 personnel



Up to 5 vehicles



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## Cultural Heritage Protection (CHP)

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- The module contributes to protecting/safeguarding movable, immovable and intangible cultural heritage through tasks, such as:
  - > risk assessment and/or damage assessment;
  - > cultural heritage emergency management;
  - > cultural heritage information management;
  - > emergency planning and damage mitigation techniques;
  - > securing, recovering cultural heritage assets;
  - > providing support for post-disaster needs assessment (PDNA).

#### Main components

---

- An appropriate team of experts from disaster management and cultural heritage protection agencies
- Appropriate equipment such as:
  - > a toolkit for cultural heritage experts (i.e. PPE);
  - > a toolkit (if needed) to intervene in the protection/safeguarding of cultural heritage assets, according to the mission terms of reference.
- Other equipment for communication/information exchange with relevant partners

#### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 96 hours after accepting the offer
- Ability to operate for 10 days with possibility to extend

### Shelter and other support



## Emergency Energy Supply (EES)

## Shelter and other support

### What is it?

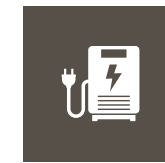
---

- It is a team able to provide emergency backup power and to handle, assemble/disassemble, install/uninstall, operate and maintain the emergency energy supply capacity when required.
- The team is also able to train the relevant personnel (local and/or international) before it pulls out.

### What does it look like?

---

- Currently not available in the ECPP



## Emergency Energy Supply (EES)

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- Emergency energy supply units must be able to generate and/or provide emergency energy on-site when deployed simultaneously.
- The module must be capable of providing power for at least one month.

#### Main components

---

- Power generators of various sizes to allow flexibility and scalability
- Adequate connectivity, synchronisation, monitoring and power transfer systems to enable connecting the capacity to the affected facilities as well as parallelling control of units
- Spare parts and other consumables required to keep the capacity operational, such as batteries, energy-harvesting equipment, connectivity and synchronising equipment, other apparatuses and related services
- Procedures to ensure emergency fuel supply to keep the capacity operational
- Procedures to transport, handle, assemble/disassemble, install/uninstall, operate and maintain the emergency energy supply capacity
- Lighting equipment for emergency lighting of the affected area as well as lightning protection systems
- Suitable storage facilities
- Appropriately trained personnel and assets to handle, assemble, install, operate and maintain the emergency energy supply capacity

#### Deployment

---

- Availability of the technical team and deployable components to depart within a maximum of 12 hours after accepting the offer

### Shelter and other support



## Transport and Logistics (T&L)

### What is it?

---

- It is a team able to provide aerial transport and related logistics services. Its capabilities include transporting people involved in response operations as well as the aerial transport of material/equipment.

### What does it look like?

---

- Currently not available in the ECPP

## Shelter and other support



## Transport and Logistics (T&L)

## Shelter and other support

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- Ensuring relevant logistical support functions
- Operating day and night
- Performing, where necessary, in operationally challenging circumstances
- Transporting at least 5 passengers or material (allowing for the fast deployment of small teams/experts/pilots)

#### Main components

---

- Aircraft(s)
- Logistics staff and equipment, if applicable
- Technical staff, including crew, adequately equipped and trained to perform the tasks defined above
- Adequate communication equipment (such as air-to-air and air-to-ground communication for aerial capacities)

#### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 12 hours after accepting the offer



## Bridges capacity

### What is it?

---

- It is a team with specialised equipment able to provide emergency bridging capacities for vehicles and pedestrians <sup>(6)</sup>.
- The team is also able to provide staff to transport, handle, assemble, install, operate and maintain the bridge capacity when required. Where a handover takes place, the team must train the relevant personnel (local and/or international) before pulling out.

### What does it look like?

---

- Currently not available in the ECPP

## Shelter and other support

<sup>(6)</sup> Due to its complexity railway bridges should not be considered for the ECPP bridge capacity.



## Bridges capacity

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- The bridge capacity shall be able to self-sufficiently carry out the construction of bridges <sup>(7)</sup> in a period of six weeks <sup>(8)</sup>, where needed, with ramps.
- Vehicle bridge: 1 lane, a length of 20 m, a minimum load of 20 t, passenger pads for pedestrians
- Pedestrian bridge: minimum 150 cm width (adequacy for wheelchair handling), up to 25 m length, free-standing or with floating support, a minimum load of 5 kN/m<sup>2</sup>

#### Main components

---

- Equipment and vehicles to carry out all necessary preparatory works in the riparian area <sup>(9)</sup>
- Appropriate equipment and vehicles to transport the bridge components and staff for the initial deployment and on-site transport
- Equipment and vehicles/cranes to facilitate the on-site assembling of the bridges
- Appropriately trained personnel and assets to handle and mobilise the equipment
- Appropriate storage facilities in the Union <sup>(10)</sup>, logistics and adequate stockpiling monitoring system

#### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 72 hours after accepting the offer
- If applicable, the duration of the mission shall be determined in agreement with the affected country.

#### Self-sufficiency

---

- Where the capacity is deployed together with staff, the capacity shall ensure at least self-sufficiency during the first 96 hours of deployment.

<sup>(7)</sup> Self-supporting constructions without support pillars should be used for both pedestrian and vehicle bridges. The constructions should not restrict the navigation of boats or other vehicles.

<sup>(8)</sup> Different construction systems leading from specialist work frame systems to fast-mounting systems should be considered.

<sup>(9)</sup> Does not include asphaltting appropriate paths to the bridge or away from the bridge.

<sup>(10)</sup> For the purposes of the logistics of storage facilities, 'in the Union' encompasses the territories of Member States and participating states of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

### Shelter and other support



## Transport and Logistics (non-aerial configurations)

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.

### What is it?

---

- It is a team able to provide land or maritime transport and related logistics services. Its capabilities include transporting people involved in response operations, as well as material, equipment and assistance.

### What does it look like?

---

- Currently not available in the ECPP

## Shelter and other support



## Relief items and other types of in-kind assistance

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.

### What is it?

---

- Generic relief items and other in-kind assistance items that are put at the disposal of Union Civil Protection Mechanism operations.

### What does it look like?

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- It can consist of any type of relief item, such as tents, pumps, stockpiles of essential goods and aid material.

## Shelter and other support

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# Technical Assistance and Support Team (TAST) / Information Technology (IT)

## Technical Assistance and Support Team (TAST) / Information Technology (IT)

The integration of TAST and IT teams with other operational teams can significantly enhance the effectiveness, efficiency and coordination of disaster response operations. Establishing and maintaining critical data connectivity and communications infrastructure is essential for ensuring seamless communication flows within the deployed teams and among relevant stakeholders.

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## Technical Assistance and Support Team (TAST)

TAST/IT

### What is it?

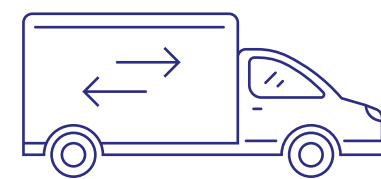
- The primary role of a TAST is to provide logistical support to expert teams when they are dispatched under activation of the UCPM.
- TASTs can provide support in different areas according to the circumstances and needs of a mission, e.g. administrative/office and ICT support, subsistence/logistics and transport support on-site, enabling experts to concentrate on their core mission objectives.

### What does it look like?

- The current TASTs in the ECPP are of different types, ranging from ICT/admin to TAST subsistence/logistics and subdivided into several units of different size (light, medium, heavy).
- The composition of TASTs (type and size) are adapted for each deployment, depending on mission requirements and the situation on-site.



Light: 2 personnel  
Medium: 4 personnel



Medium logistics:  
4-6 personnel



12-20 personnel



12-20 people

How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



## Technical Assistance and Support Team (TAST)

TAST/IT

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- Capable of assisting an assessment, coordination and/or preparedness team or an on-site operations coordination centre, or being combined into a civil protection module as referred to in Article 12(2)©

#### Main components

---

The following support components enable all on-site operations coordination centre functions to be fulfilled, taking into account acknowledged international guidelines, such as UN guidelines:

- > support with set-up and running of office;
- > ICT support equipment;
- > logistics and subsistence support equipment;
- > transport support on-site.

The components shall be able to be divided into different units to ensure flexibility when adapting to the needs of a specific intervention.

#### Deployment

---

- Availability for departure within a maximum of 12 hours after accepting the offer



## Communication teams or platforms to quickly re-establish communications in remote areas

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.

TAST/IT

### What is it?

---

- It is a team with equipment able to establish a field emergency network (comprising infrastructure and communication) to ensure continuity of communications during a disaster for the benefit of rescue and emergency services and, if needed, for the affected population.

### What does it look like?

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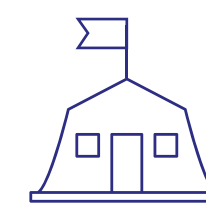
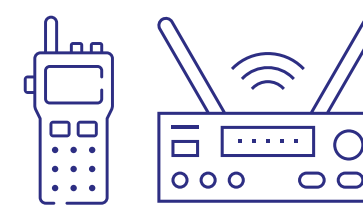
- The teams currently range from 9 to 17 personnel.
- They are equipped with a toolbox to deploy communication solutions adapted to the operational situation.
- Individual units come with their own vehicles if deployed by land or sea.
- Deployment can also be arranged by air, with transport organised on-site.
- Each team has a self-sufficient base camp if deployed by road.



9-17 personnel



6 vehicles



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?



# Urban search and rescue (USAR) and beyond the rubble

## Urban search and rescue (USAR) and beyond the rubble

The European Union and its neighbours are exposed to an ever-present seismic risk. The quakes that shook central Italy in 2016–2017, Croatia in March 2020, and Türkiye and Syria in 2023 are a tragic reminder of that. Due to the high exposure of people and physical assets to geophysical risks, and the vulnerability of the built environment in the EU, its neighbours, and global partners, it is essential to have teams ready to intervene at very short notice. These teams must be able to search for and rescue victims of earthquakes and other disasters that might leave people trapped under rubble, in narrow spaces, caves or in water. Specialised teams are also needed after such events for supporting damage assessment activities and first recovery.



© Polish State Fire Service

## Urban search and rescue (USAR) and beyond the rubble

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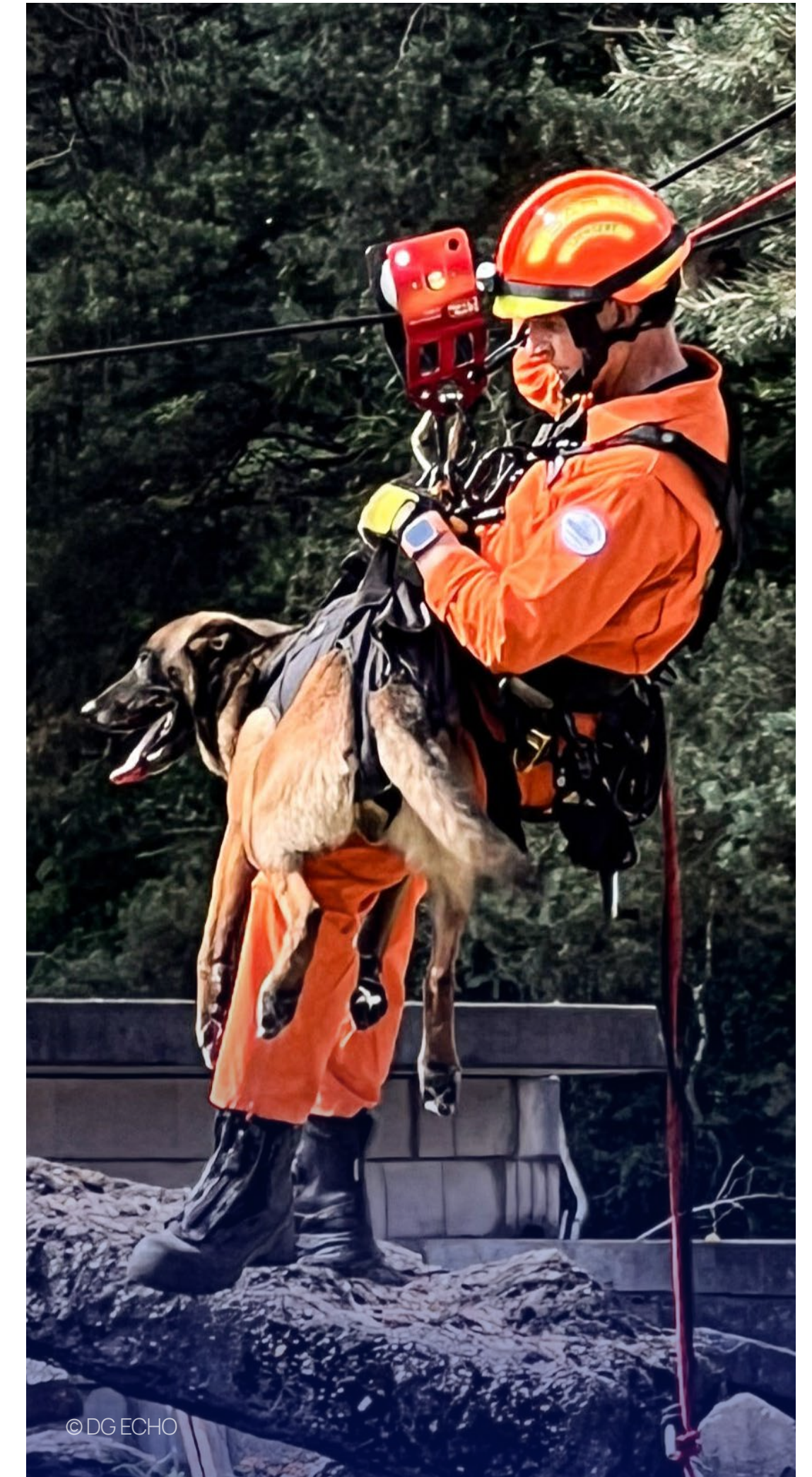
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## Light urban search and rescue (LUSAR)

### What is it?

---

- It is a team able to search for, locate and rescue victims trapped under debris, such as in collapsed buildings and transport incidents. It also provides first aid as required, until handover for further treatment.

### What does it look like?

---

- The teams currently range between 18 and 22 staff members.
- Each team is equipped with search dogs and/or technical search equipment, rescue capabilities and techniques (including light lifting and moving, technical rope, advanced life support)
- Each team maintains a self-sufficient base camp
- Teams deploy with their own vehicles (if deployed by land) or can be transported by air (in this case, transport solutions are arranged on-site).



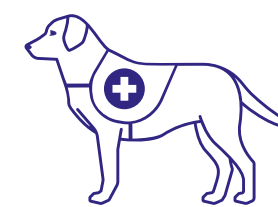
19 personnel



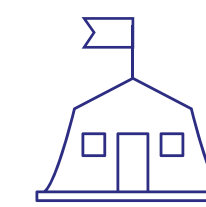
3 medical staff



3-4 vehicles



optional search dogs



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?

## USAR and beyond the rubble



## Light urban search and rescue (LUSAR)

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

In full compliance with the INSARAG guidelines, the module shall have the ability to perform the following:

- search with dogs or technical search equipment (or both)
- rescue, including light lifting
- technical rope rescue
- advanced life support.

#### Main components

---

- Fully compliant with the INSARAG guidelines
- Managing operations (command, liaison, coordination, planning, media/reporting, assessment/analysis, safety/security)
- Conducting search operations (technical search, canine search)
- Performing rescues (breaking and breaching, lifting and moving, technical rope)
- Delivering medical care, including care for patients, team personnel and search dogs

#### Deployment

---

- Fully compliant with the INSARAG guidelines

## USAR and beyond the rubble



## Medium urban search and rescue (MUSAR)

## USAR and beyond the rubble

### What is it?

- It is a team with equipment that intervenes, mainly in earthquake scenarios (but not only) to search for, locate and rescue victims located under debris (such as collapsed buildings and transport incidents).
- It provides life-saving first aid as required until handover for further treatment is possible.

### What does it look like?

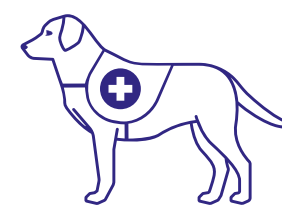
- The teams currently range from 41 to 52 personnel.
- They are equipped with search dogs and/or technical search equipment, as well as rescue capabilities and techniques (lifting, cutting concrete, technical rope, basic shoring, hazmat detection and isolation, and advanced life support).
- Each team maintains a self-sufficient base camp.
- Individual units come with their own vehicles if deployed by land, or they can be transported by air, in which case transport solutions are arranged on-site.



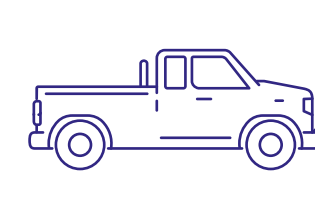
41-52 personnel



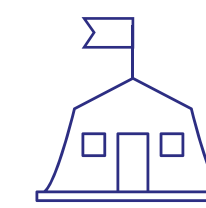
4-6 personnel



2-4 search dogs

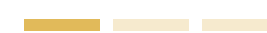


Up to 8 vehicles



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?





## Medium urban search and rescue (MUSAR)

## USAR and beyond the rubble

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

The module has the ability to perform the following, taking into account acknowledged international guidelines, such as the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) guidelines:

- search with search dogs and/or technical search equipment
- rescue, including lifting
- cutting concrete
- technical rope
- basic shoring
- hazmat detection and isolation(\*)
- advanced life support(\*\*)
- ability to work on one site 24 hours per day for 7 days.

(\*) Basic capacity, more extensive capacities are included in the 'chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear detection and sampling' module.

(\*\*) Patient care (first aid and medical stabilisation), from victim access to victim handover.





## Medium urban search and rescue (MUSAR)

## USAR and beyond the rubble

### Main components

---

- Managing operations (command, liaison/coordination, planning, media/reporting, assessment/analysis, safety/security)
- Conducting search operations (technical search and/or canine search, hazmat detection, hazmat isolation)
- Performing rescues (breaking and breaching, cutting, lifting and moving, shoring, technical rope)
- Delivering medical care, including care for patients, team personnel and search dogs (4)

### Deployment

---

- Operational readiness in the affected country within 32 hours



## Heavy urban search and rescue module (HUSAR)

### What is it?

- It is a team with equipment that intervenes, mainly in earthquake scenarios (but not only), to search for, locate and rescue victims under debris (such as collapsed buildings and transport incidents).
- The team members provide life-saving first aid as required, until handover for further treatment is possible.

### What does it look like?

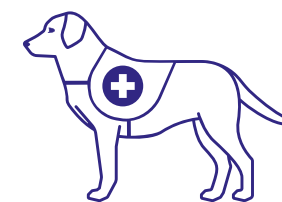
- The teams currently range from 66 to 84 personnel.
- They are equipped with search dogs, technical search equipment and rescue capabilities and techniques (heavy lifting, cutting reinforced concrete and structural steel, technical rope, advanced shoring, hazmat detection and isolation, and advanced life support).
- Each deployment has a self-sufficient base camp.
- The personnel come with their own vehicles (if deployed by land) or can be transported by air, in which case transport solutions are arranged on-site.



66-84 personnel



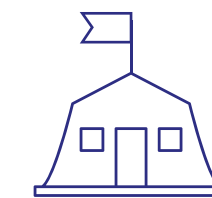
10-12 medical personnel



4-8 search dogs



5-20 vehicles



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?

## USAR and beyond the rubble



## Heavy urban search and rescue module (HUSAR)

## USAR and beyond the rubble

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

The module has the ability to perform the following, taking into account acknowledged international guidelines, such as the INSARAG guidelines:

- search with search dogs and technical search equipment;
- rescue, including heavy lifting;
- cutting reinforced concrete and structural steel;
- technical rope;
- advanced shoring;
- hazmat (hazardous materials) detection and isolation<sup>(\*)</sup>;
- advanced life support<sup>(\*\*)</sup>;
- ability to work 24 hours per day on more than one site for 10 days.

(\*) Basic capacity, more extensive capacities are included in the 'chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear detection and sampling' module.

(\*\*) Patient care (first aid and medical stabilisation), from victim access to victim handover.





## Heavy urban search and rescue module (HUSAR)

## USAR and beyond the rubble

### Main components

---

- Managing operations (command, liaison/coordination, planning, media/reporting, assessment/analysis, safety/security)
- Conducting search (technical search, canine search, hazmat detection, hazmat isolation)
- Performing rescues (breaking and breaching, cutting, lifting and moving, shoring, technical rope)
- Delivering medical care, including care for patients, team personnel and search dogs<sup>(\*)</sup>

### Deployment

---

- Operational readiness in the affected country within 48 hours

Note: For self-sufficiency of HUSAR include (on top of article 12) at least 10 days of operations.

(\*) Subject to medical and veterinary licensing terms.





## Teams for mountain search and rescue (MSAR)

### What is it?

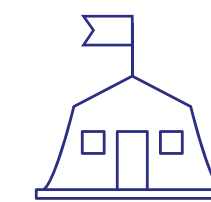
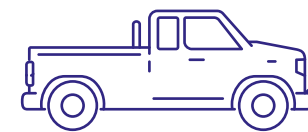
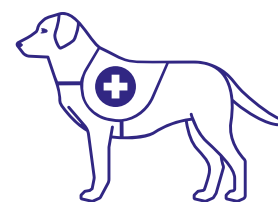
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- It is a team with equipment able to conduct technical search and rescue operations in mountainous areas in all weather conditions.
- It is also able to perform vertical rescues in very restricted areas that are difficult to access.

### What does it look like?

---

- The teams currently consist of about 40 personnel.
- They are equipped with technical search equipment and, optionally, with search dogs.
- The members have rescue capabilities and techniques, e.g. abseiling/descent techniques, climbing techniques (on rock, ice and mixed), canyoning techniques and vertical rescuing techniques.
- Each deployment has a self-sufficient base camp.
- Personnel deploy mainly by air (with transport solutions arranged on-site), but deployment by land or sea is also possible.



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?

## USAR and beyond the rubble



## Teams for mountain search and rescue (MSAR)

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

---

- Searching in mountainous environments (all types of areas within Europe), rescuing during all times of day and performing one technical rescue at a time
- Performing vertical rescue in very restricted areas

#### Main components

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- Providing medical care on advanced life support level and installing communication systems (wireless and long lines wired)
- Supporting any other module requesting advanced rope technical support
- Managing operations (command, liaison/coordination, planning, media/reporting, assessment/analysis, safety/security)
- Providing logistics (base of operations, maintenance and supply, communications);
- Conducting search operations (technical search, canine search, drone search)
- Performing rescues (mountain rescue, rescue in vertical terrain, avalanche rescue)
- Delivering medical care (care for the team including canines and victims encountered)
- Maintaining adequate personnel

#### Deployment

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- Availability for departure within a maximum of 12 hours after accepting the offer
- Ability to work 24 hours a day for 7 days

## USAR and beyond the rubble



## Teams for water search and rescue (WSAR)

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.

### What is it?

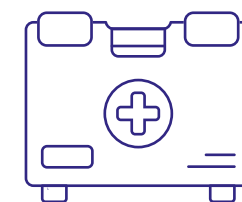
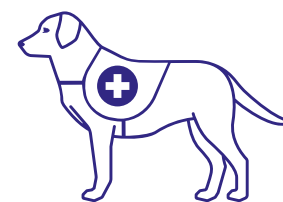
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- It is a team with equipment intended for conducting technical search and rescue operations, including underwater using divers and in flooded areas in all weather conditions.

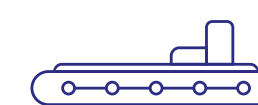
### What does it look like?

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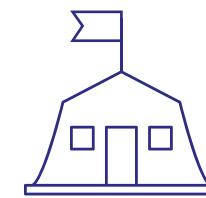
- These teams currently consist of about 50 people.
- They are equipped with technical search equipment, canine search units and underwater search equipment (for depths of up to 39 metres).
- The unit comes with three light inflatable rescue boats.
- Each deployment has a self-sufficient base camp.



13 vehicles



3 boats



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?

USAR and beyond the rubble



## Teams for cave search and rescue (CSAR)

### What is it?

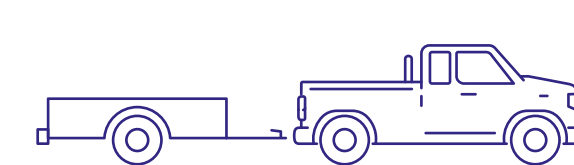
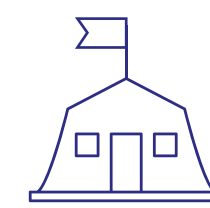
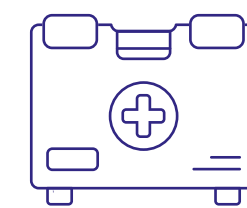
- It is a team able to undertake search and rescue operations in underground and enclosed spaces. It searches in confined spaces with technical search equipment down to 1 000 m depth (caves).
- The team rescues people out of a confined spaces with technical single-rope rescue technique for horizontal and vertical transport down to 1 000 m depth (caves).

### What does it look like?

- The teams currently available range between 20 and 40 people.
- Equipment includes technical search equipment, rescue equipment including rescue from the depths, basic support and first aid material.
- Available techniques encompass cave search and rescue methods, such as rigging, anchor systems, belays, rappelling, simplex and complex mechanical advantage systems, advance extrication, stokes basket operations, low and high angle rescue, litter rigging and evacuation, traversing, self-rescue and movement in aquatic environments.
- Each team maintains a self-sufficient base camp.



20-40 personnel



Up to 10 vehicles with a trailer

How many are in the ECPP?

Where?

## USAR and beyond the rubble



## Teams for cave search and rescue (CSAR)

### Minimum requirements

#### Capacities

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- Searching in confined spaces with technical search equipment down to 1 000 m depth (caves)
- Rescuing people out of confined spaces with technical single-rope rescue technique for horizontal and vertical transport down to 1 000 m depth (caves)

#### Main components

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- Providing medical care on advanced life support level, installing communication systems (wireless and long lines wired) and conducting technical blasting in case of narrow passages
- Using mountaineering equipment for accessing cave entrances
- Conducting cave diving operations in siphons and potentially other water environments
- Supporting any other module requesting advanced rope technical support
- Managing operations (command, liaison/coordination, planning, media/reporting, assessment/analysis, safety/security)
- Providing logistics (BoO, maintenance and supply, communications)
- Performing cave search and rescue (including technical rope rescue techniques for horizontal and vertical transport)
- Providing medical services (care for patients and team personnel)
- Maintaining adequate personnel

#### Deployment

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- Availability for departure within a maximum of 12 hours after accepting the offer
- Ability to work 24 hours a day for 7 days

## USAR and beyond the rubble



## Structural engineering teams to carry out damage and safety assessments, appraisal of buildings to be demolished/repared, assessment of infrastructure, short-term shoring

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.

### What is it?

- It is a team with equipment able to carry out damage and safety assessments, appraise buildings to be demolished/repared, assess infrastructure and perform short-term shoring of damaged buildings.
- The unit can assist USAR teams in the safety assessment of collapsed structures.

### What does it look like?

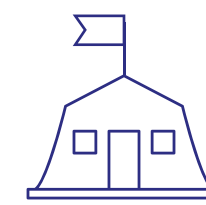
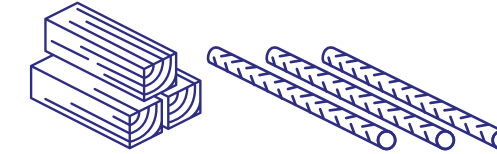
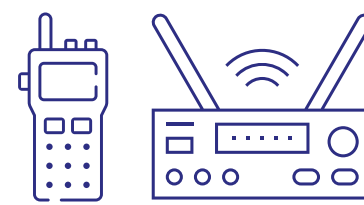
- The current teams can be deployed with 2 to 14 personnel.
- When deployed in a rapid assessment configuration, they come with ICT, communications equipment and a base camp.
- When deployed in a building protection configuration, the members are equipped with welding machines, power generators, drills, saws, nails, screws, steel cables, wooden beams, wooden tables and a self-sufficient base camp.



Up to 14 personnel



2-6 vehicles



How many are in the ECPP?

Where?

USAR and beyond the rubble



## Standing engineering capacity (SEC)

## USAR and beyond the rubble

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.

### What is it?

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- It is a team able to undertake construction, extension and rehabilitation of properties and buildings.
- It can provide support in the following fields:
  - > water supply and disposal
  - > electricity supply
  - > woodwork
  - > metalwork (construction and rehabilitation of buildings)
  - > mechanical workshop service
  - > car repair service
  - > engineering and mechanical services
  - > establishment of IT / telecommunications systems
  - > administration.

### What does it look like?

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- Currently not available in the ECPP



## Teams with specialised search and rescue equipment, e.g. search robots

- This is an other response capacity (ORC), so it does not have minimum requirements.

### What is it?

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- It is a team with specialised search and rescue equipment, such as search robots that can be dispatched at short notice.

### What does it look like?

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- Currently not available in the ECPP

## USAR and beyond the rubble

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## Annex

## Self-sufficiency (general)

## Self-sufficiency

### Self-sufficiency

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The following elements have to be present and guaranteed for at least 96 hours:

- appropriate shelter for the prevailing weather;
- power generation and lighting covering the consumption of the base of operation and of the equipment required to fulfil the mission;
- sanitation and hygiene facilities for the personnel of the module;
- availability of food and water for the personnel of the module;
- medical or paramedical staff, facilities and supplies for the personnel of the module;
- storage and maintenance of the module's equipment;
- equipment for communication with the relevant partners, notably those in charge of coordination on-site;
- local transportation;
- logistics, equipment and staff enabling the set-up of a base of operations and the beginning of the mission without delay upon arrival on-site.

Compliance with these requirements can be guaranteed by:

- including in the capacity the necessary staff, equipment and consumables;
- making the necessary arrangements on the site of operations;
- making the necessary arrangements to combine the non-self-sufficient team with a TAST.

## Self-sufficiency for the Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs)

## Self-sufficiency

The team should ensure self-sufficiency during the entire deployment time.

In addition, the minimum standards of WHO apply.

### Self-sufficiency

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The following elements have to be present and guaranteed for at least 96 hours:

- appropriate shelter for the prevailing weather;
- power generation and lighting covering the consumption of the base of operation and of the equipment required to fulfil the mission;
- sanitation and hygiene facilities for the personnel of the module;
- availability of food and water for the personnel of the module;
- medical or paramedical staff, facilities and supplies for the personnel of the module;
- storage and maintenance of the module's equipment;
- equipment for communication with the relevant partners, notably those in charge of coordination on-site;
- local transportation;
- logistics, equipment and staff enabling the set-up of a base of operations and the beginning of the mission without delay upon arrival on-site.

Compliance with these requirements can be guaranteed by:

- including in the capacity the necessary staff, equipment and consumables;
- making the necessary arrangements on the site of operations;
- making the necessary arrangements to combine the non-self-sufficient team with a TAST.

## Self-sufficiency for aerial capacities

## Self-sufficiency

### Self-sufficiency

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The following elements have to be present:

- storage and maintenance of the module's equipment;
- equipment for communication with the relevant partners, notably those in charge of coordination on-site.

## Self-sufficiency for Urban Search and Rescue teams

## Self-sufficiency

The team should ensure self-sufficiency during the entire deployment time.

Full compliance with INSARAG guidelines is required.

### Self-sufficiency

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The following elements have to be present and guaranteed for at least 96 hours:

- appropriate shelter for the prevailing weather;
- power generation and lighting covering the consumption of the base of operation and of the equipment required to fulfil the mission;
- sanitation and hygiene facilities for the personnel of the module;
- availability of food and water for the personnel of the module;
- medical or paramedical staff, facilities and supplies for the personnel of the module;
- storage and maintenance of the module's equipment;
- equipment for communication with the relevant partners, notably those in charge of coordination on-site;
- local transportation;
- logistics, equipment and staff enabling the set-up of a base of operations and the beginning of the mission without delay upon arrival on-site.

Compliance with these requirements can be guaranteed by:

- including in the capacity the necessary staff, equipment and consumables;
- making the necessary arrangements on the site of operations;
- making the necessary arrangements to combine the non-self-sufficient team with a TAST.

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