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**NOTE**

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From: Presidency

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To: Working Party on Civil Protection

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Subject: Work programme of the Croatian Presidency in the field of civil protection

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Delegations will find in the Annex the work programme of the Croatian Presidency in the field of civil protection.

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**Work Programme of the Croatian Presidency in the field of civil protection****Working Party on Civil Protection (PROCIV) January-June 2020**

Guaranteeing the security of its citizens is one of the aims of the European Union, as stated in the Strategic Agenda 2019 – 2024<sup>1</sup>. Strengthening the resilience of the community, in order to secure sustainable development, maintain the quality of life of EU citizens and provide responses in the event of disasters caused by nature or human actions, forms an integral part of this objective. An efficient approach to these challenges requires an interdisciplinary approach.

Having in mind that Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) is, in essence, an interdisciplinary area, we wish to use a multi-sectoral approach to have a better hold over all DRR investments, and put the focus on building and enhancing the resilience of the community as a whole through the cooperation of all sectors.

In a wider context, investing in DRR means investing in the safety and stability of Member States and the EU as a whole, which in turn helps ensure prosperity. Investing in DRR is in line with global initiatives. At the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, which took place in Geneva, Switzerland from 13 to 17 May 2019, the EU and the Member States jointly expressed their desire to achieve Target E of the Sendai Framework<sup>2</sup> by 2020. Concretely, that means developing and implementing disaster risk reduction strategies based on knowledge and encouraging risk-informed private and public investments in order to create a more sustainable economy.

The new EU budgetary cycle (multiannual financial framework) and financing programmes start next year and it is therefore important to be informed of what is available for financing disaster risk management and make use of those opportunities.

The Croatian Presidency will focus on creating innovative measures for the reduction of risks from disasters and for the transfer of knowledge and experiences to the countries of South East Europe.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/39914/a-new-strategic-agenda-2019-2024-en.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.unisdr.org/files/43291\\_sendaiframeworkfordrren.pdf](https://www.unisdr.org/files/43291_sendaiframeworkfordrren.pdf)

## **1. Multi-sectoral Disaster Risk Management Investments**

It is with this in mind that the Croatian Presidency plans to continue with the implementation of the revised UCPM legislation.

The new legislative framework calls on Member States to further develop their national risk assessments and the assessments of their risk management capability, as well as further develop and refine their disaster risk management planning. In this regard, the exchange of information on the measures taken and the extent of investment in prevention and preparedness is crucial. This is particularly relevant in relation to key risks, risks with cross-border effects and low-probability risks which could have a high impact on society as a whole.

## **2. Support for developing the Multiannual Financial Framework**

The Croatian Presidency will continue to support the development of the new legislative framework through the negotiations on the latest amendment of the UCPM legal basis to ensure that adequate financial resources are available within the 2021 – 2027 Multiannual Financial Framework.

## **3. Deliverables**

A Presidency Report on the progress made in the area of civil protection will be submitted to the Council in June. The Report will include a compilation of the outcomes of the discussions on a Workshop on Multi-sectoral Disaster Risk Management Investments.

The Croatian Presidency aims to use a questionnaire to survey Member States on the current practices, existing coordination mechanisms and communication, funding sources and strategic baselines for disaster risk management financing. As a direct outcome of this questionnaire and of the discussions carried out during the Workshop, a collection of good practices encompassing activities, coordination mechanisms and DRR financing resources will be developed, to enable continuity of the discussions.

#### 4. Presidency-related events

The Presidency ‘Workshop on Multi-sectoral Disaster Risk Management Investments’ was held in Zagreb on 29 and 30 January.

The Directors-General for Civil Protection of the European Union, the European Economic Area and the candidate countries will be invited to their 44th meeting in Zagreb on 28 and 29 April.

PROCIV meetings will be held on 18 February, 22 April, 13 May (possibly) and 16 June.