



Kyiv, November 8, 2019

## EU helps Ukraine improve disaster risk management

The EU-funded Programme for Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters ([PPRD East 2](#)) over the 4 and a half years of its implementation has helped Ukraine improve disaster risk management. As was reported at the PPRD East 2 National Advisory Group meeting in Kyiv on February 6, 2019, the assistance was provided through alignment of the national legislation to EU standards, holding trainings for employees of the State Emergency Service and other disaster risk management stakeholders.

At the national level, the PPRD East 2 Programme supported Ukraine in amending the National Water Code by including the main provisions and principles of the European Union Floods Directive. Using the Programme expertise, Ukraine also changed its national legislation to align it to the EU good practice of host nation support which provides a basis for receiving support from foreign forces within Ukraine in case of a disaster, as well as to align the national disaster loss data system to the requirements of the EU Joint Research Centre Disaster Loss Data Guidance and the Sendai Framework, a voluntary non-binding agreement for reducing disaster risk adopted by the UN Member States in 2015.

*“Due to the successful implementation of the PPRD East 2 Programme, Ukraine is now in its final stage of improving the Disaster Lost Data collection system by aligning the national legislation to the international standards. This will allow Ukraine to be ready for the implementation of Sendai Framework and for its reporting,”* **Ruslan Biloshytskyi, Deputy Head of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine**, said.

Ukraine also benefited from the regional activities undertaken within the Programme. Sharing experience and learning from the other countries paved the way for Ukraine to build stronger cross border and regional cooperation. One of the best examples is the development of the Dniester River Flood Risk Management Protocol following the ratification of the Agreement between Ukraine and Moldova on Cooperation on the conservation of the Dniester River basin by the Verkhovna Rada.

In terms of facts and figures, Ukraine took part in 40 regional and 8 national events of the Programme with a total of 312 participations - 194 from the State Emergency Service of Ukraine and 118 from other disaster risk management stakeholders. Five thematic Focal Points have been appointed ([Flood Risk Management and Disaster Risk Assessment](#), [Disaster Loss Data](#), [Host Nation Support](#), [Raising Awareness about Disasters](#), and [Civil Protection Lessons Learned](#)) and five national inter-institutional working groups have been established.

### Background information:

Sendai framework is a voluntary agreement which recognizes that the State has the primary role to reduce disaster risk but that responsibility should be shared with other stakeholders including local government, the private sector and other stakeholders. It aims for the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries.

The EU-funded Programme on Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters (PPRD East) aims to protect the environment, population, cultural heritage, resources and infrastructures of the Eastern Partner Countries by strengthening the countries' resilience, preparedness and response to man-made disasters and disasters caused by natural hazards. Currently in its 2<sup>nd</sup> phase, the PPRD East Programme facilitates the strengthening of disaster risk management capacities at the national level in **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine**, strengthens regional cooperation among the Partner Countries, and brings Partner Countries progressively closer to the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. This 2<sup>nd</sup> phase runs from 2014 to 2019 with a budget of EUR 5.5 million.



THE PROJECT IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION



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The Programme is implemented by the Consortium led by Stantec.

The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.