
Five countries to receive over €1 billion in EU aid following natural disasters

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- Support from the EU Solidarity Fund for Italy, Slovenia, Austria, Greece, and France following severe floods in 2023
 - Assistance will cover part of the costs of emergency and recovery operations
 - EU aid should be expanded in view of the increasing number of natural disasters in Europe, MEPs say
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On Tuesday, MEPs approved over €1 billion in EU Solidarity Fund aid to support recovery efforts in five EU countries due to severe floods that occurred in 2023.

The €1,028,541,689 in aid from the European Union Solidarity Fund (EUSF) will be distributed as follows:

- **Italy:** €378.8 million for the Emilia-Romagna region following flood damages in May 2023, and an additional €67.8 million for the Tuscany region after floods in October and November 2023.
- **Slovenia:** €428.4 million to address the consequences of the floods in August 2023.
- **Austria:** €5.2 million to assist with flood damages from August 2023.
- **Greece:** €101.5 million to support recovery efforts following the floods in September 2023.
- **France:** €46.7 million for flood damages suffered by the Hauts-de-France region in November 2023.

The EUSF assistance will cover part of the costs of emergency and recovery operations, including repairing damaged infrastructure, safeguarding cultural heritage, and conducting clean-up operations.

MEPs express their “deepest solidarity with all the victims, their families and all the individuals

affected by the destructive floods in Italy, Slovenia, Austria, Greece and France as well as with the national, regional and local authorities involved in the relief efforts". They point to the "increasing number of severe and destructive natural disasters in Europe" and consider that the "budget of the EUSF or its equivalent should be expanded in view of the upcoming Commission proposal on the new Multiannual Financial Framework".

The aid package was approved by 632 votes in favour, 7 votes against and 3 abstentions.

[More information can be found here](#) (Commission proposal) and in the [EP report](#) by rapporteur [Georgios Aftias](#) (EPP, Greece). Watch the rapporteur's plenary speech [following this link](#).

Background

Since its inception in 2002, the [EUSF](#) has mobilised over €8.6 billion for 130 disasters (110 natural disasters and 20 health emergencies) in 24 member states (plus the UK), and four accession countries (Albania, Montenegro, Serbia and Türkiye).

Further information

[EP Think Tank briefing: "EUSF mobilisation for 2023 flooding in Italy, Slovenia, Austria, Greece and France"](#)

[Video of the plenary debate \(07/10/2024\)](#)

[Procedure file](#)

[Committee on Budgets](#)

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