



Fragility, Security and Development in a Changing World

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First responders to crisis situations

- *Humanitarian Aid*
- *Civil Protection Mechanism*

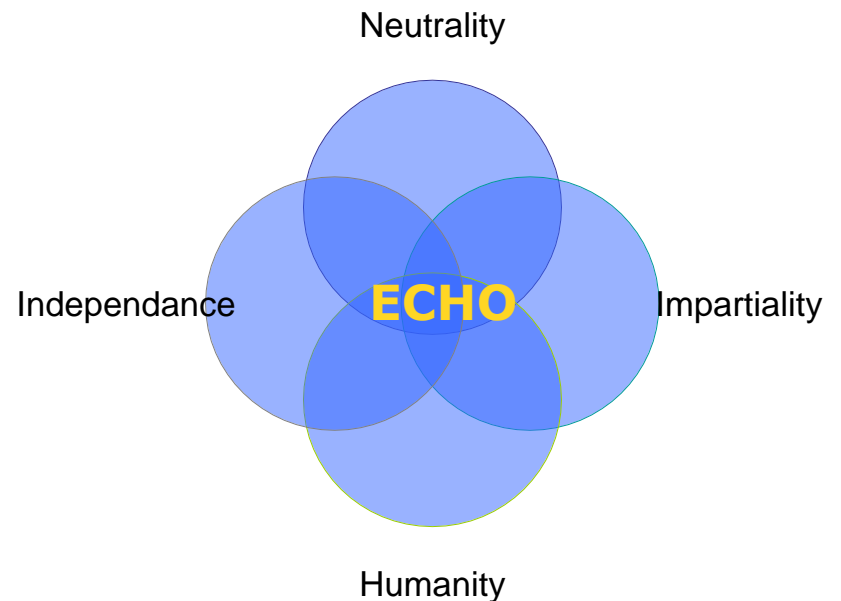


Humanitarian Aid

Responding to crisis situations

DG Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection

In charge of humanitarian aid and disaster response.



Humanity

Human suffering must be addressed wherever it is found with particular attention to the most vulnerable population. The dignity of all victims must be respected and protected.



(ext. European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid)

Neutrality

Humanitarian aid must not favour any side in an armed conflict or other dispute.



(ext. European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid)

Impartiality

Denotes that humanitarian aid must be provided solely on the basis of need, without discrimination between or within affected populations.



(ext. European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid)

Independence

*Means the autonomy of humanitarian objectives from **political**, economic, **military** or other objectives. It serves to ensure that the sole purpose of humanitarian aid remains to relieve and prevent the suffering of victims of humanitarian crises.*



EU humanitarian aid is NOT a crisis management tool



Helping victims when disaster strikes



Natural Disasters





Man-Made Disasters



In Europe



Outside Europe



Humanitarian Aid Mandate

Save and preserve life during emergencies and in their immediate aftermath, in man-made disasters and natural disasters, inside the EU and outside the EU.

Provide assistance and relief to people affected by longer-lasting crises such as civil wars.

Fund the delivery of aid ensuring that aid is accessible to those for whom it is intended.

Assist refugees and displaced people wherever they find sanctuary and to help them resettle if they return home.

Support short-term rehabilitation and reconstruction work to help victims regain a minimum level of self-sufficiency, taking long-term development objectives into account where possible.

Ensure preparedness for natural disasters, in particular by setting up early-warning systems and financing disaster prevention projects in high-risk regions.

What kind of humanitarian operations does ECHO fund?

Water and sanitation

- New wells and boreholes
- Water piping
- Latrines
- Sewage treatment
- Hygiene education etc.

Food and nutritional support

- Basic food supplies
- Supplementary feeding for infants
- Special rations for malnourished people
- Seeds for farmers etc.

Medical assistance

- Vaccination campaigns
- Essential drugs
- Hospital equipment
- Primary health clinics
- Local staff trainings etc.

Shelter

- Tents
- Plastic sheeting
- Building materials etc.

What kind of humanitarian operations does ECHO fund?

- Support for **humanitarian mine clearing**
- Support for **psychosocial assistance** and technical assistance to partner organisations
- **Disaster preparedness**
(DIPECHO)
- **ECHO flight**
Free **humanitarian air service** operating from DRC and Kenya to open up remote areas to aid agencies, enabling quick transportation of staff and cargo

EU Comprehensive Approach



Range of EU options

Diplomatic
actions

Economic
Sanctions

CSDP
Activity

Development
Aid

Conflict
Prevention
measures

JHA, TRADE,
CLIMA,...

Humanitarian
Assistance

political
framework
for
crisis approach

In But Out

In

- **assess situation and ring the alarm bells (as we did in CAR); to help formulate key messages on issues like IHL (as we do in Syria); to help mobilize our political and development colleagues when needed.**

Out

- **HA cannot be put under any political objective. It needs its neutrality, impartiality and independence to be able to act in conflict. It is often the only tangible symbol of EU solidarity.**

Civil-military coordination

- Civil Protection: arrangements with EU Military Staff (2006) – transport and other assets, based on Oslo Guidelines
- Humanitarian aid: European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid, on the basis of MCDA/Oslo Guidelines

← **Humanitarian principles**

← **Humanitarian criteria, civilian nature, last resort, limited in time, no cost to beneficiaries**

Cooperation between CSDP missions and humanitarian aid

PoC

- Artemis, EUFOR DRC, EUFOR Chad/CAR, EUFOR CAR
- EUPOL DRC, EUMM Georgia

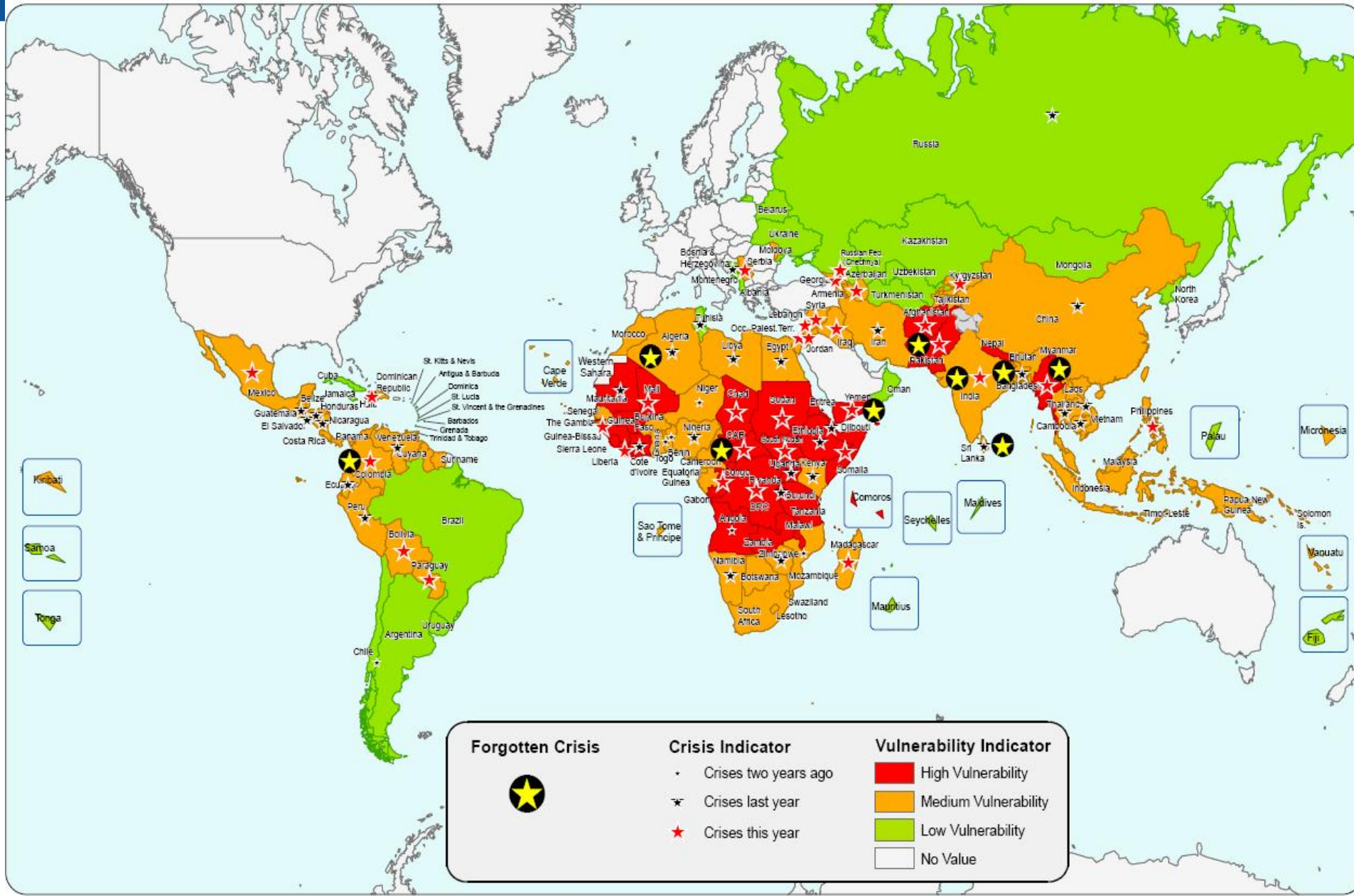
Support to humanitarian aid

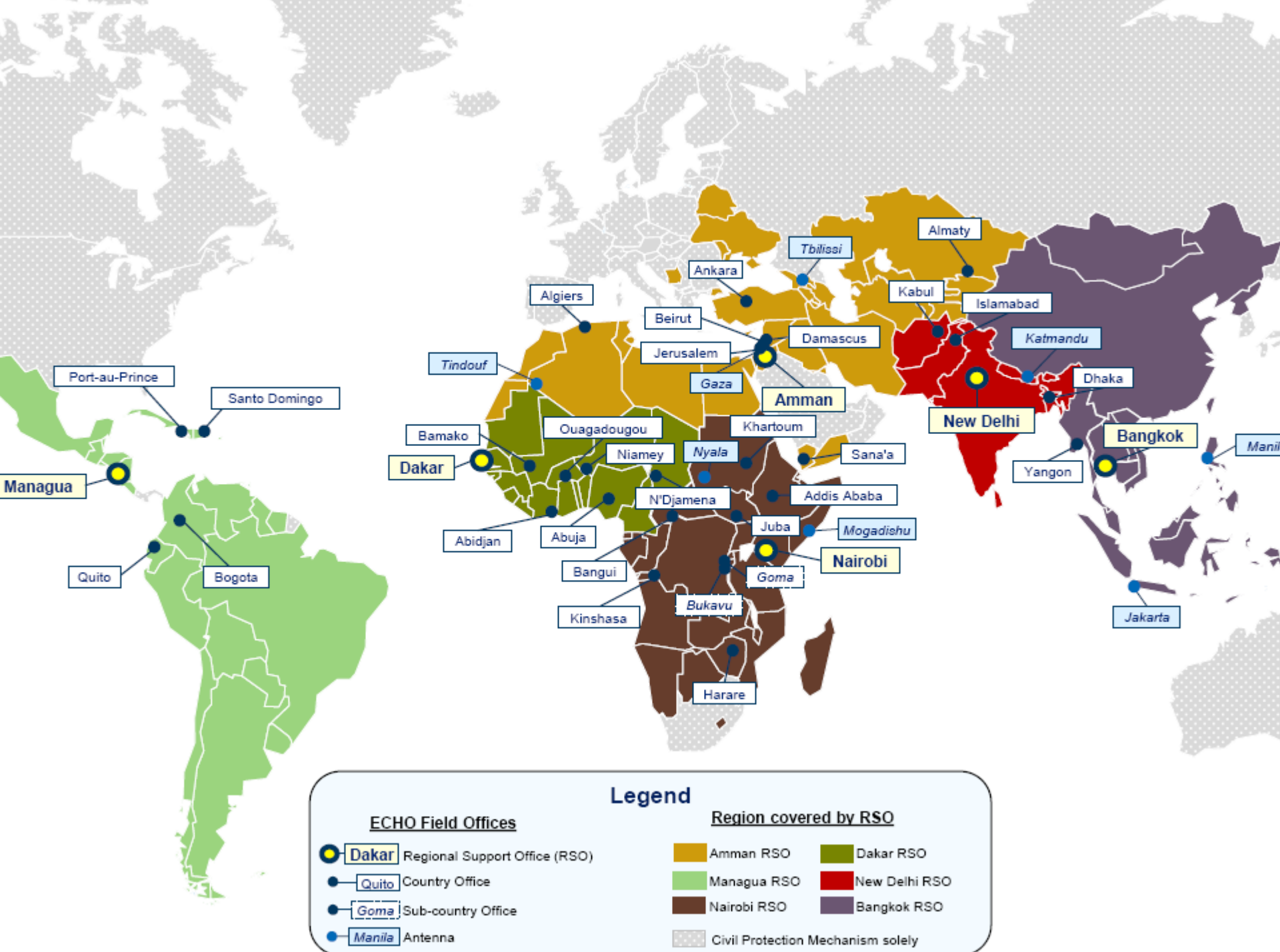
- EUFOR Libya
- EUNAVFOR Atalanta

Promotion of IHL, principles and civmil practice

- EUTM Mali, EUTM Somalia

ECHO Global Needs Assessment and Forgotten Crisis 2013







Civil Protection Mechanism

Responding to crisis situations

Fundamentals of Civil Protection

- **Responsibility:** Member States are responsible for the security and the safety of their citizens and foreigners on their territory.
- **Solidarity:** Member States have the responsibility to support Member States affected by a disaster when needed. (re-enforced by Lisbon Treaty Solidarity Clause)
- **Call for assistance:** Member States and third countries can call for assistance when overwhelmed by a disaster. After needs identification, they are responsible to receive / and for the use of EU/foreign assistance.
- **Voluntary:** The level of support / assistance is determined by the Member State providing assistance.
- **Commission as facilitator:** EU supports preparation, facilitates cooperation, coordination and complements MS. (Art. 196 Lisbon Treaty)



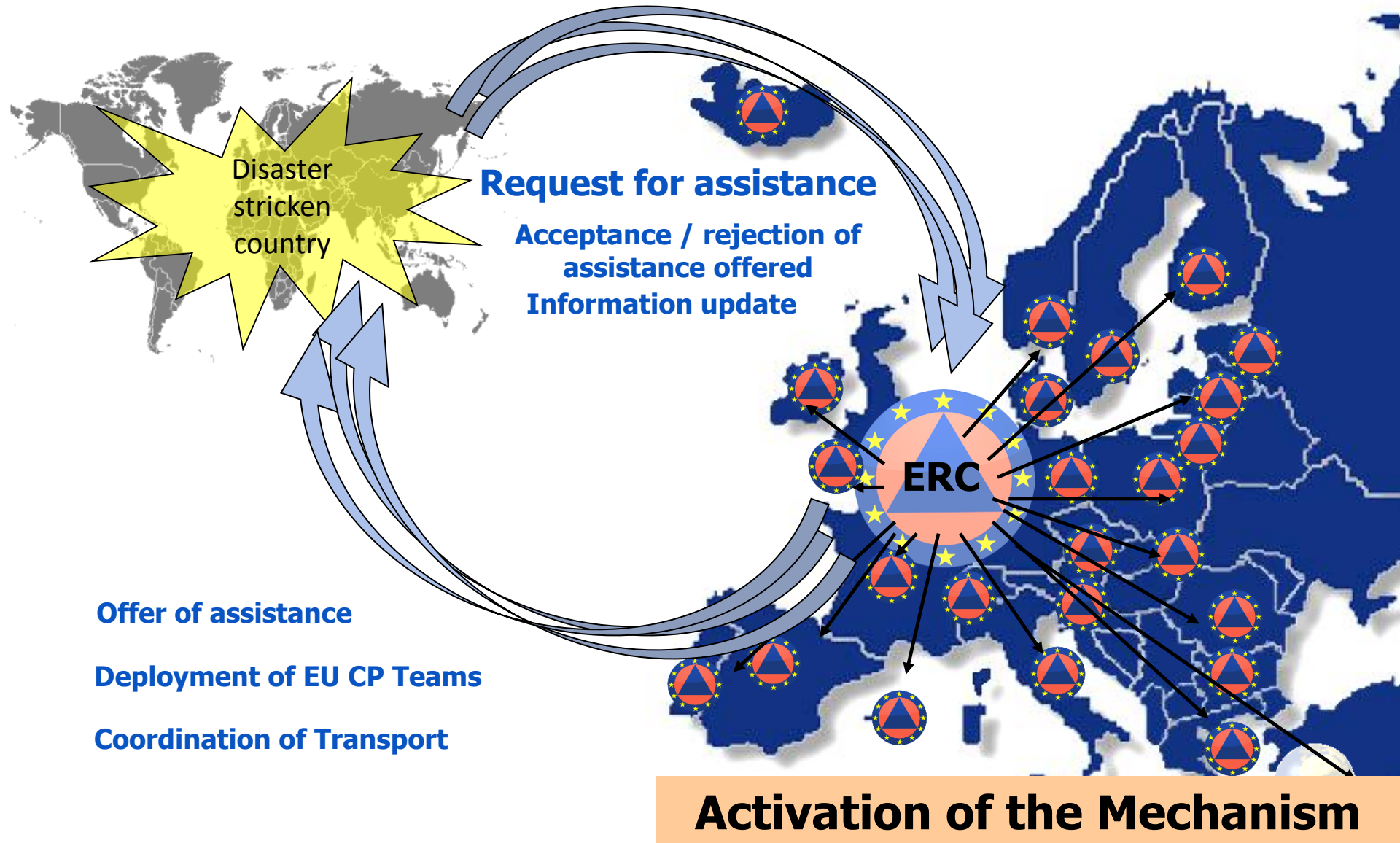
The Civil Protection Mechanism

- **Response:** Facilitates cooperation in civil protection assistance interventions in the event of major disasters inside and outside the EU
- **Preparedness:** Training, exercises, exchange of experts, modules
- **Prevention:** Support MS in preventing risks or reducing harm to people, the environment or property resulting from emergencies
- **32 participating countries:** 27 MS + Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Croatia and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- The Mechanism's **tools**
 - Emergency Response Centre (ERC, ex-MIC)
 - Common Emergency and Information System (CECIS)
 - Training programme
 - Civil Protection modules

Types of disasters covered by EU CP Mechanism

- **Natural disasters**
 - Floods, earthquakes, forest fires, cyclones
- **Manmade disasters**
 - Environmental disasters (Deepwater Horizon, HU alkali sludge accident 2010)
 - Complex emergencies (Georgia 2008)
- **Health emergencies**
 - H1N1 crisis (medical support Bulgaria, Ukraine)
- **Assistance to consular support**
 - Terrorist attacks (medical evacuation Mumbai)
 - Evacuation of EU citizens from Libya and TCN from Tunisia/Egypt





Emergency Response Centre: ERC



**Thank you for
your attention!**