



# EUROPEAN CIVIL PROTECTION

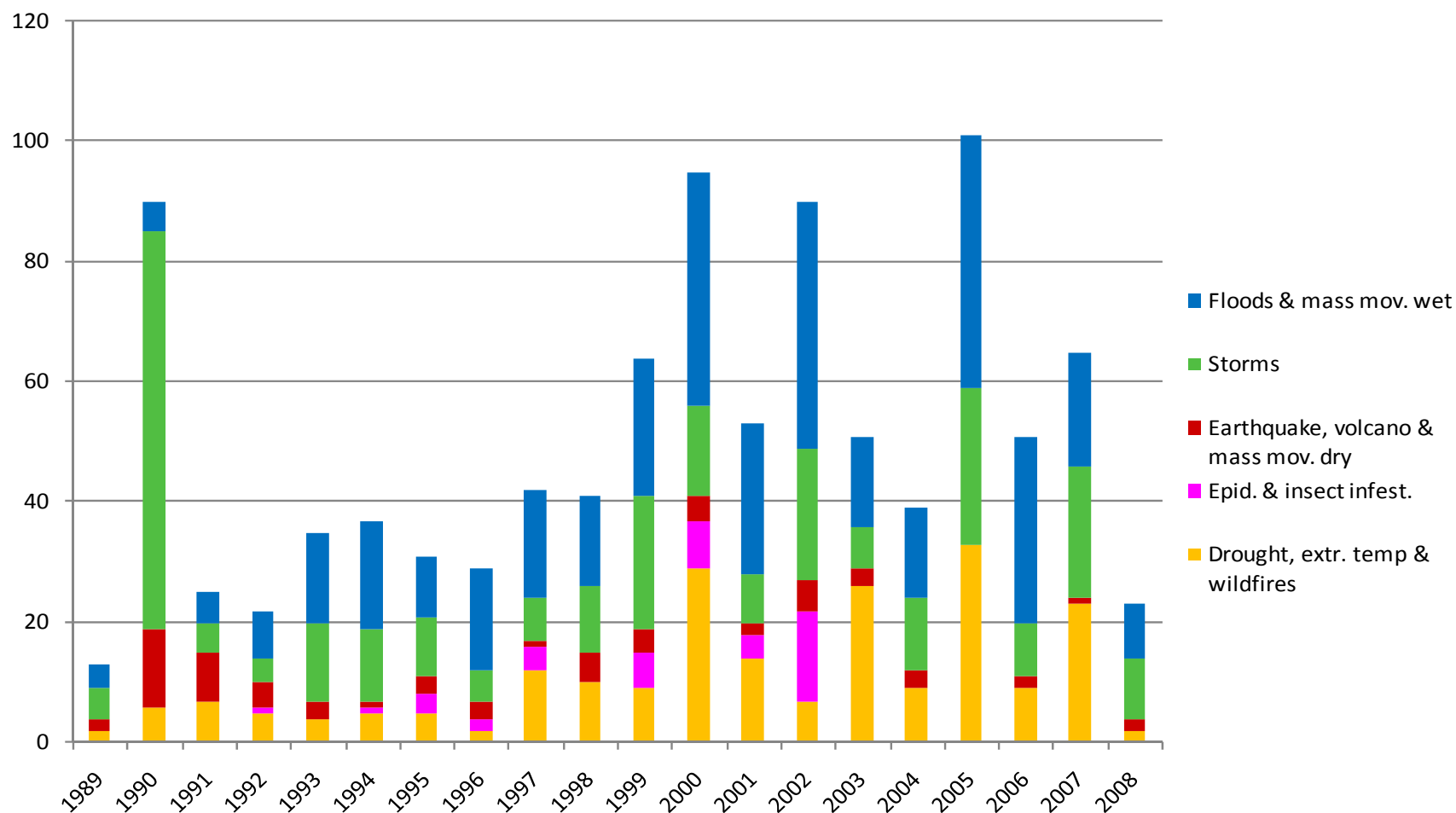
A Community approach to the prevention of  
natural and man-made disasters

Com(2009)82

DG ENVIRONMENT  
Civil Protection Unit



# Disasters in Europe

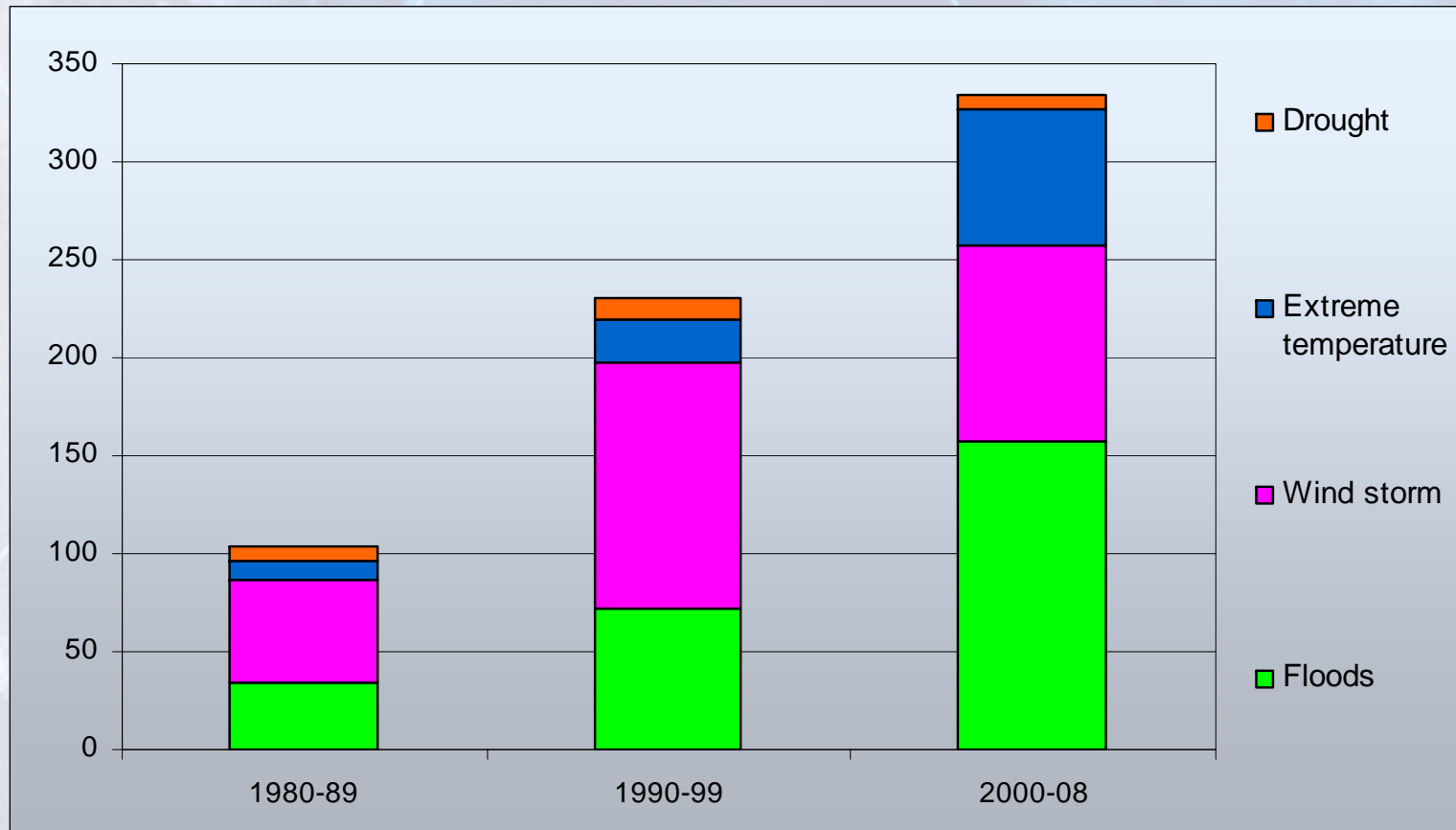


Source: CRED, 2009





# Frequency of climatic disasters

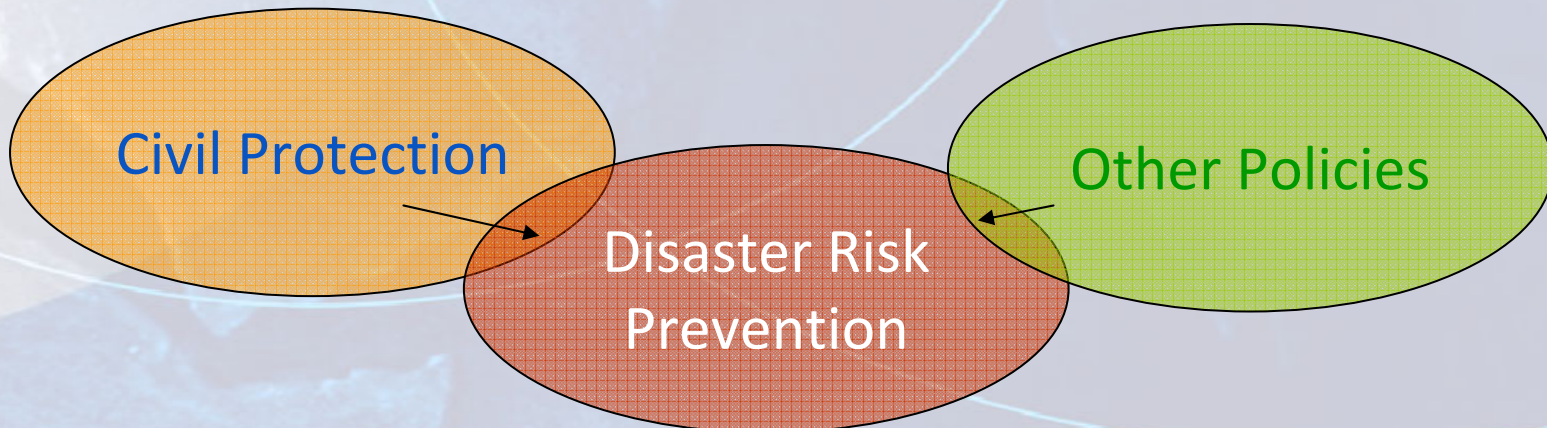


Source: CRED, 2009



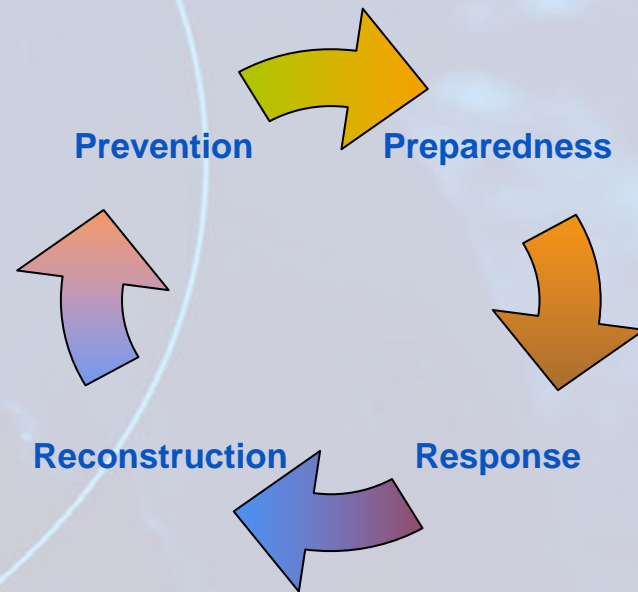
# Why a prevention strategy?

- Links between prevention, preparedness, and response and reconstruction
  - Progress both in response and prevention
  - Links between policies areas
- Announced in COM(2008)130 on reinforcing the Union's disaster response capacity



# Prevention – What is the aim?

- Creating the conditions for the development of knowledge based disaster prevention policies at all levels of government
- Linking the actors and policies throughout the disaster management cycle
- Making existing instruments perform better for disaster prevention



# ***Creating the conditions for the development of knowledge based disaster prevention policies at all levels of government***

- An inventory of information on disasters
- Spreading best practices
- EU guidelines on hazard/risk mapping
- Research activities

## ***Linking actors and policies throughout the disaster management cycle***

- Extending the "lessons learnt" exercises to disasters prevention
- Training and awareness-raising in the area of disaster prevention
- Improving the linking between actors
- Reinforcing early warning tools





# ***Making existing instruments perform better for disaster prevention***

- More efficient targeting of Community funding
- Taking account of disaster prevention in Community legislation



## Way forward

- Input from other institutions
- Further consultations with stakeholders from public and private sector to promote the approach
- 2010/2011: further prevention proposals?



# Thank you



The screenshot shows the European Civil Protection website. At the top left is the European Union flag. Below it is the text "European Civil Protection". A navigation menu on the left includes "News and emergencies", "Civil Protection", "Marine Pollution", "Chemical Accidents", "Leak", and "Funding opportunities". The main content area is titled "What's on..." and features a sub-header "EUROPEAN CIVIL PROTECTION Together in the face of disaster". The primary news item is "Civil Protection Forum: Together in the face of disaster, Brussels, 22-23 November 2007", with a sub-header "In times where natural and manmade disasters are on the increase, the debate on how to prevent, prepare for and respond to disasters never seems to cease." Below this are several news items with dates: "14/09/2007 Commission Decision of 8 August 2007 laying down rules for the implementation of the provisions on transport in Council Decision 2007/162/EC, Euratom establishing a Civil Protection Financial Instrument", "27/08/2007 Greek fires: Commission reiterates its sadness and welcomes European solidarity", "26/08/2007 Greek fires: Commission reiterates its sadness and welcomes European solidarity", "26/08/2007 Europe steps up efforts to combat forest fires in Greece", and "25/08/2007 Greek forest fires: further assistance on its way". A sidebar on the left lists "Current emergencies" (None) and "Major recent emergencies" (Cypress forest fires, Albania forest fires, Bulgaria forest fires).

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/civil>

