



EU Stockpiling strategy

Boosting the EU's material preparedness for crises

Ville Korhonen, Policy Officer, DG ECHO B2

EU Stockpiling Strategy securing vital societal functions



The EU stockpiling strategy aims to ensure that during any crisis, anywhere in Europe, Member States have enough essential goods – such as food, water, oil, gas, medicines – to keep the vital societal functions running.

Material preparedness means adopting a comprehensive approach to stockpiling and addressing its entire cycle, from anticipation to monitoring of supply chains, measures to strengthen supply security, management of stockpiling, and deployment.

Why an EU Stockpiling strategy

Challenges:

- Limited common understanding of the essential goods needed.
- Limited information sharing and coordination between the EU and Member States, as well as between the civilian and military sectors.
- Untapped potential for cross-sectoral and cross-border cooperation with the private sector.
- The role of external action and cooperation instruments is insufficiently considered.

How to tackle the common challenges?

- **Ensure access to essential goods under all circumstances**
- **Improve the interoperability of stockpiling systems at national and EU levels**
- **Strengthen the EU's strategic autonomy and reduce vulnerabilities**
- **Implement in close coordination with Member States and stakeholders – fully respecting subsidiarity and national competences**
- **Produce an initial, cross-sectoral inventory of current legal frameworks, instruments, common challenges, potential gaps, and synergy potential at EU level**
- **Prepare an overview of Member States' practices, identifying potential for cross-sectoral or cross-border cooperation**

Seven chapters with 18 key actions



1.

**Improving
coordination
among Member
States and with
the EU**



2.

**Foresight,
anticipation and
strategic
planning**



3.

**Filling gaps via
EU strategic
stockpiling**



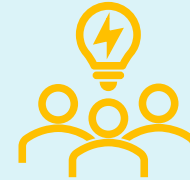
4.

**Interoperable
transport and
logistics
infrastructure**



5.

**Improving
civil-military
cooperation**



6.

**Fostering
public-
private
cooperation**



7.

**Fostering
cooperation in
external action
and international
partnerships**

Fostering public-private cooperation

“Every day, businesses across the EU acquire, produce, stockpile and distribute essential goods and manage critical infrastructure.

The private sector has significant expertise relevant to material preparedness.

Businesses are increasingly exposed to risks and threats that may impact their supply chains and normal operations.

A more comprehensive cross-sectoral and EU-wide approach to public-private cooperation in material preparedness is needed.”

Fostering public-private cooperation

The Commission (DG GROW supported by DG ECHO) will set up a **public-private Preparedness Task Force** to build a more agile form of preparedness that can address or anticipate supply chain bottlenecks or risks and support stockpiling and emergency production.

The Task force will

- discuss criteria to be used in mapping key European companies involved in producing essential goods
- facilitate the sharing of best practices in securing essential goods in crises, covering supply chain security, resource efficiency and circularity, interoperability, innovative stockpiling models, stockpiling management, ensuring rotations of stocks and deploying stockpiles.

An example of public-private cooperation in stockpiling: Critical Stock Obligation in Finland

Finland's Critical Stock Obligation requires both the government and oil importers to maintain emergency stockpiles of crude oil and petroleum products to ensure supply in case of disruptions. The National Emergency Supply Agency (NESA) manages public stockpiles, while importers must hold stocks equivalent to two months of average net imports, and the country collectively meets the EU and IEA obligation to have 90 days of reserves.

Stockpile requirements

Government obligation: The government, through the NESA, manages state emergency stockpiles to ensure the country is protected from supply disruptions and meets international obligations.

Importer obligation: Companies that import crude oil or fuel products must store quantities equal to two months of their average net imports from the previous year.

International obligations: Finland maintains these emergency and obligatory stocks to fulfill its commitments to international bodies like the IEA and EU, which require member states to hold reserves equivalent to 90 days of average net imports.



Thank you!