In 2022, the EU and its Member States were among the leading donors of humanitarian aid in the world.

Last year brought unprecedented humanitarian challenges, mainly driven by climate change, the war in Ukraine, conflict, and disease. And the number of people in need keeps growing in 2023 – according to the UN, more than 339 million people will require humanitarian assistance this year.

Here are 7 key crises in the world to watch closely this year, to which the EU will continue to provide humanitarian and civil protection assistance.

From Niger and Chad to Zimbabwe and Zambia, the 10 most under-reported humanitarian crises during 2022 were all on the African continent. Hundreds of millions of people are internally displaced due to conflict, or have sought refuge in neighbouring countries.

Droughts and other extreme weather events, and the repercussions of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, have resulted in food insecurity, which has particularly affected Africa.

Millions of children are chronically malnourished. Maternal mortality rates are very high. Climate-related disasters are escalating.