The primary intention of the INSARAG External Classification (IEC) system is to provide better understanding of the individual abilities of USAR teams making themselves available for international assistance.

Having teams classified according to a standard will enable disaster affected countries to prioritise acceptance of international response support from USAR Teams who can add proven value to their national capacity. The IEC is an independent, verifiable, voluntary process that has received unanimous acceptance through the INSARAG.

**IEC CLASSIFICATIONS AND RECLASSIFICATIONS by year and level**

- **2005**: 1 CLASSIFICATION
  - Central Rescue Services of Budapest (CRSB)
- **2006**: 1 CLASSIFICATION
  - Lithuanian Emergency Response Team (ERU) (LIT)
  - USAID Fire Department (USAR TF#1)
- **2007**: 5 CLASSIFICATIONS
  - Ethiopian Disaster Relief Team (EDRT)
  - Erzincan Fire and Rescue Brigade (ERFB)
  - USAR TF#1
  - New South Wales Fire and Rescue Service TF#1
  - Florida Fire Rescue (FFR)
- **2008**: 5 CLASSIFICATIONS
  - USAR TF#1
  - New South Wales Fire and Rescue Service TF#1
  - Colorado Fire District 1
  - USAID Fire Department (USAR TF#1)
  - new South Wales Fire Task Force (NDFTF)
- **2009**: 5 CLASSIFICATIONS
  - USAR TF#1
  - new South Wales Fire Task Force (NDFTF)
  - USAR TF#1
  - new South Wales Fire Task Force (NDFTF)
  - USAR TF#1
- **2010**: 5 CLASSIFICATIONS
  - USAR TF#1
  - new South Wales Fire Task Force (NDFTF)
  - USAR TF#1
  - new South Wales Fire Task Force (NDFTF)
  - USAR TF#1

**IEC OVERVIEW by country**

- **AMERICAS REGION**: United States, Canada, Mexico
- **AFRICA, EUROPE AND MIDDLE EAST REGION**: France, Germany, UK, Italy, Spain
- **ASIA-PACIFIC REGION**: Japan, China, Australia, New Zealand

**Sources**: INSARAG, OCHA, USAID, UN OCHA, ReliefWeb

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