Context

Strengthening financial resilience, making smart investments for disaster and climate resilience, and enhancing institutional capacity and preparedness makes economic sense. To be better prepared for disasters, there is a need to scale up investments to bolster disaster prevention and preparedness across the EU and through the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM). A new Technical Assistance Financing Facility for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness (TAFF) has been established to facilitate the access of national civil protection and disaster risk management authorities to technical assistance and global knowledge on prevention and preparedness to support country and EU efforts on disaster risk management (DRM).

About

The Technical Assistance Financing Facility for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness (TAFF) is a partnership between the European Commission through its Directorate-General for Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), the World Bank, and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR).

Its overall objective is to strengthen the knowledge and capacities of countries under the EU’s UCPM for disaster and preparedness with a focus on:

1. Strengthening the capacity of civil protection and other relevant competent authorities in scaling up disaster and climate resilience in line with the Union Disaster Resilience Goals and the European Green Deal, as well as the countries’ national priorities.

2. Supporting investments in disaster prevention and preparedness through the development of a project pipeline and enhanced administrative capacity.

3. Improving the knowledge base on disaster risk management, and facilitate the sharing of knowledge, good practices, and information.

TAFF provides country-specific technical assistance to strengthen the capacity of civil protection and other relevant competent authorities under the UCPM in scaling up investments contributing to disaster and climate resilience.

Technical assistance includes various types of analytics, technical studies and recommendations for plans and strategies, piloting of activities, and capacity-building/training activities. Key areas of support include:
Improving anticipation and disaster risk management planning to proactively address potential hazards

Raising risk awareness and preparedness levels among the population to effectively respond to emergencies

Enhancing early warning and hydro-meteorological systems for timely and accurate information dissemination

Strengthening national civil protection systems to strengthen to prevent and prepare for disasters

Partnership:

TAFF is fully funded by the EU, managed by the GFDRR and implemented by the World Bank.

How it works:

*Eligible countries* include EU Member States, Participating States of the UCPM, and Georgia and Kosovo\(^1\) in view of their ongoing efforts to join the UCPM.

*Eligible entities* include national level civil protection authorities or authorities with disaster risk management (DRM) responsibilities of eligible countries.

*Expressions of Interest and Shortlisting:* Eligible entities can respond to a Call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) which will be published on DG ECHO and GFDRR websites. The EOI will be accepted on an annual basis within defined timeframes. Proposals outside of this range, particularly due to emergency situations, will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

*Proposals and start of activities:* Based on the approved shortlist, the World Bank/GFDRR, in coordination with the beneficiary country and entity, develops a full proposal for the proposed activities, and the World Bank teams start implementation.

*Project duration* is expected between 18 and 24 months.

*Coordination and reporting:* The World Bank/GFDRR teams will implement activities in coordination with the beneficiary, and disseminate knowledge and lessons learned via the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network. A dedicated webpage is available for TAFF under the [UCPKN website](https://www.ue.europa.eu) and the [GFDRR website](https://www.gfdrr.org).

**Key dates:**

- **April 18, 2024:** Deadline for the submission of Expressions of Interest by Countries.
- **May 20, 2024:** Official notification on shortlisting by DG ECHO and World Bank/GFDRR.

**Contact**

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\(^1\) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.