

Ethiopia – Strengthening the Understanding of Urban Disaster Risk in Secondary Cities

Country

Ethiopia

ACP-EU Disaster Risk Management Program Component

Improve urban and peri-urban
resilience mechanisms in targeted
Central, Eastern and Western African
cities

Amount Approved

€250,000 / \$264,000

Duration

01/2024 – 06/2025

Context and Objectives

Ethiopia’s disaster risk landscape is changing rapidly. Climate projections indicate a higher likelihood of floods, landslides, and extreme heat, while the country also has one of the fastest growing urban populations in the world. Rapid urban population growth, coupled with inadequate land use and urban planning, and poor infrastructure, exacerbate the exposure and vulnerability of urban areas to climate-related hazards, such as flooding, landslides, water scarcity or extreme heat.

The objective of this project is to enhance the disaster and climate resilience of secondary cities in Ethiopia by developing a better understanding of urban disaster and climate risks for all urban areas (above 20,000 inhabitants).

Main Activities and Expected Results

City-level screening of climate and disaster exposure

This activity aims to identify and map disaster risk at the city level using remote sensing and earth observation methods in combination with the best available geodata for climatic and non-climatic hazards and disaster exposure.

Expected Results:

- Strengthened the knowledge base to enhance capacities at the federal and local levels for disaster risk management.
- Enhanced city level understanding of climate and disaster risk.

Analysis of urban growth dynamics and identification of hotspots of changing disaster risk

This activity uses geodata to assess the current extent of built-up land for every urban area and determine growth dynamics. The urban growth assessment helps inform the targeting of priority urban areas for disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation investments.

Expected Results:

- Improved understanding of the urbanization rates.
- Improved understanding of urban disaster risk change.

Technical assistance and capacity building for urban monitoring and urban disaster risk assessment

This activity provides technical assistance and capacity building for urban monitoring and urban disaster risk assessment. The structured data sets developed under Components 1 and 2 inform the establishment



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of the Urban Observatory which will help authorities at different levels of government identify relevant climate and disaster information.

Expected Results:

- Enhanced evidence-based decision-making.
- Improved capacity to use technology and web-based go-database for quick disaster risk analysis.
- Improved capacities to assess urban disaster risk.

Partnerships and Coordination

The World Bank implements this project in close coordination with the Ministry of Urban Development and Infrastructure, the Ethiopia Space Science and Geospatial Institute, and the Ethiopia Disaster Risk Management Commission. The World Bank coordinates its efforts with the EU Delegation in Ethiopia.