

Zambia – Strengthening the Disaster Risk Management Framework and Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management into Priority Sectors

Country

Zambia

ACP-EU Disaster Risk Management Program Component

Mainstream DRR and CCA into national and priority sector policies and investment planning

Amount Approved

€400,000 / \$440,000

Duration

01/2025 – 05/2026

Context and Objectives

Zambia is increasingly exposed to climate-related hazards, particularly droughts and floods. These events have caused significant losses and the combination of rising temperatures, erratic rainfall, and weak institutional capacity is amplifying the vulnerability of the population, particularly in urban areas.

The objective of this project is to strengthen Zambia's disaster risk management (DRM) by supporting the update of policies and institutional frameworks, enhancing emergency preparedness and response capacities, and promoting risk-sensitive land use planning through flood risk assessments in selected cities. Work complements the preparation and implementation of the \$100 million [First Zambia Climate and Economic Resilience Programmatic Development Policy Financing with Catastrophe Deferred Drawdown Option](#).

Main Activities and Expected Results

Assessment of Zambia's DRM framework with a focus on policies and institutions

This activity aims to support the updating of the DRM regulatory framework. Identified gaps include institutional coordination, early warning systems, participation of stakeholders at local levels, and financing strategies.

Expected Results:

- Increased awareness of central and local authorities about the relevance and priorities of strengthening the DRM sector as well as willingness to support and finance them.
- A stronger DRM sector with financial support from the central government to fulfill its role.
- Improved enabling environment for risk financing tools and leveraging of global and regional facilities for information sharing, capacity building, and financing.

Emergency preparedness and response capacity assessment

This activity aims to identify and mitigate the important gaps in the capacity of the government to prepare for and respond to disasters. Technical assistance includes developing plans for indicative activities, terms of reference, implementation arrangements and financing.

Expected Results:

- Identified EP&R priorities actively addressed by the central government and local authorities.
- Stronger government EP&R capacity.



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Flood risk assessment and risk-sensitive land use planning in selected cities

This activity supports the development of risk-sensitive land use planning through assistance for analysis and identification of priorities to help move towards bankable investment projects.

Expected Results:

- Increased awareness of the urban authorities of the relevance of mainstreaming flood risk in urban planning and development.
- Flood risk informed urban population and authorities for better decision making.
- Identified and consensual regulation and investments priorities being addressed by the central government and local authorities.
- Identified potential sources of technical assistance and financing to design and implement identified interventions.

Partnerships and Coordination

The World Bank implements this project in close coordination with the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, Zambia Meteorological Department, Water Resources Management Authority, Zambia Environmental Management Agency, Ministry of Finance and National Planning, the National Remote Sensing Centre, and the Zambia Fire and Rescue Services.

Coordination is also ensured with regional and global development initiatives active in disaster risk finance, such as African Risk Capacity and the Global Shield Financing Facility. The World Bank coordinates all its efforts with the EU Delegation in Zambia.