

## Jamaica – Enhancing Disaster Resilience through Fiscal Preparedness and Risk Management

<p><b><u>Country</u></b></p> <p>Jamaica</p> <p><b><u>EURECa Component</u></b></p> <p>Strengthen Financial Protection</p> <p><b><u>Amount approved</u></b></p> <p>€550,000 / \$600,000</p> <p><b><u>Duration</u></b></p> <p>06/2025 – 03/2028</p>	<p><b><u>Context and Objectives</u></b></p> <p>Jamaica is high vulnerability to frequent and intense natural hazards, in particular tropical storms and floods. Such events place substantial fiscal burdens on the government, as seen in 2024 with Hurricane Beryl and the increased emergency spending that followed it. With the overwhelming majority of Jamaica’s GDP produced in costal zones, the economic impact of extreme events often diverts resources from growth-oriented investments.</p> <p>The objective of this project is to enhance the Government of Jamaica’s institutional, technical, and financial capacity to manage risk resulting from the occurrence of natural or health-related hazards, including the adverse effects of climate change. The technical assistance provided is supporting the implementation of the World Bank-financed <a href="#">Sustainable and Resilient Recovery Development Policy Financing and a Catastrophe Deferred Drawdown Option</a>.</p>
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### **Main Activities and Expected Results**

#### **Support for strengthening preparedness and response**

This activity focuses on strengthening Jamaica’s institutional capacity to effectively manage and respond to disaster, climate, and health-related shocks through improved preparedness and response mechanisms. This includes a comprehensive review and refinement of the National Response Coordination Plan and the Draft National Logistics and Relief Plan.

##### *Expected Result:*

- Enhanced disaster risk management capacity in terms of infrastructure, finance, and human capital.

#### **Physical and financial resilience of critical assets**

This component aims to reduce the vulnerability of critical infrastructure and improve fiscal resilience to withstand natural hazards and climate shocks through robust building standards and financial planning. Specifically, activities cover the implementation of climate-resilient building codes, capacity building for code enforcement, and promotion of inclusive construction practices.

##### *Expected Result:*

- Enhanced response mechanisms of national and subnational authorities.



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### **Support for the implementation of the National Natural Disaster Risk Financing Policy**

This component supports effective implementation of the National Natural Disaster Reserve Fund, a key component of the National Natural Disaster Risk Financing Policy. Specific activities involve the integration of gender-sensitive data and national disaster financing instruments into disaster response planning.

#### *Expected Results:*

- Enhanced capacities of national authorities to understand, develop, and use disaster risk financing instruments.
- Strengthened fiscal and financial preparedness to manage disaster and climate shocks.

### **Partnerships and Coordination**

The World Bank implements the project in close coordination with the government's Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management. The project team coordinates its efforts with the EU Delegation in Jamaica.

The project is also coordinated with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) under a recent WB-IDB initiative for strengthening disaster risk financing, as well as with the International Monetary Fund and Japan International Cooperation Agency for fiscal resilience and technical assistance.