



TAFF

Technical Assistance Financing Facility
for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness

Component 2: Knowledge and capacity building



Last update: September 2025



Enhancing Policy and Investments for EU Disaster and Climate Resilience – Phase 2

Overview

Grant Size	€400,000
Duration	June 2025 – December 2026
Key hazard(s)	Multi-hazard
Key word(s)	Preparedness in early-childhood and primary education; Disability-inclusive emergency preparedness and response; emergency operators; persons with disabilities; preparedness curriculum and training materials and teaching resources, and Emergency Preparedness and Response

Context

Across the European Union, disaster risks are rising in frequency and complexity due to climate change, changing hazard landscapes, pandemics, and evolving geopolitical threats. In response, the European Commission launched the EU Preparedness Union Strategy (2025) to strengthen the Union's capacity to anticipate, prevent, and manage crises through enhanced coordination, capabilities, and an integrated all-hazards, whole-of-government, and whole-of-society approach.

Recent crises, from the COVID-19 pandemic to accelerating climate impacts, have exposed gaps in preparedness. EU instruments such as the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) and rescEU which serve as a strategic reserve of European disaster response capabilities and stockpiles, fully funded by the EU, demonstrated added value. However, critical evidence and practice gaps persist, particularly in inclusive preparedness, embedding preparedness in education systems, and diagnosing systemic gaps in national preparedness and response. Given the diverse risk profiles, resources, and institutional arrangements across Member States and UCPM Participating States comparative analysis, cross-country learning, and cooperation are essential to guide policymaking, steer investment decisions, and the development of a coherent, evidence-based culture of preparedness in line with EU/UCPM legislation and frameworks.

Objective

Provide targeted technical assistance to the European Commission, as well as to EU Member States and UCPM Participating States

- Generate practical, actionable evidence to inform policy reform, program design, and investment decisions on prevention and preparedness.
- Support strengthening Europe's ability to anticipate, prevent, prepare, and respond to crises

Key Activities and Expected Results

The technical assistance is structured around three key areas.

Area 1 focuses on integrating preparedness in early-childhood and primary education by conducting a comparative baseline across EU Member States, selected UCPM Participating States, and global comparators on how preparedness

is embedded in early childhood and primary education. A repository of effective resources for dissemination will be available through the UCP Knowledge Network.

Area 2 focuses on inclusive preparedness and response through the development of a set of actions aiming at supporting persons with disabilities and response operators in emergency contexts.

Area 3 identifies best practices in emergency preparedness and response arrangements through a focused case study to assess current emergency preparedness and response arrangements, identify gaps and opportunities across risk assessment, planning, capabilities, communications, and inclusion, and provide prioritized recommendations and investment options. The case serves as a practical model for other EU Member States and UCPM Participating States.

In terms of expected results, the findings and recommendations from each area of work provide the European Commission and relevant national authorities with a robust evidence base to inform policy choices, curriculum and training design, investment prioritization, and inclusive operational practice. The process fosters collaboration among education and civil protection stakeholders, including organizations of persons with disabilities, build consensus around practical, scalable solutions, and facilitate knowledge transfer across EU Member States, UCPM Participating States, and global comparators. Ultimately, the technical assistance supports the development of EU-level guidance and tools, strengthen disability-inclusive preparedness and response, embed preparedness in early childhood and primary education, and equip countries with actionable diagnostics, contributing to a stronger culture of preparedness, improved disaster prevention and response, and enhanced resilience across the Union.

Sustainability and Coordination

The findings and outputs of this technical assistance will be disseminated among EU institutions, Member States, UCPM Participating States, and relevant international partners, deepening the collective knowledge base on disaster preparedness, inclusive response, and risk-informed education across Europe. This supports the ongoing efforts to strengthen national and EU strategies and facilitates the adoption of innovative, evidence-based practices in education, civil protection, and inclusion. By focusing on curriculum integration, inclusive operational guidance, training, and stakeholder engagement, the project improves the capacity of education systems, DRM and civil protection agencies, to respond to emergencies, ensuring that the benefits of the knowledge endure beyond its completion.

Given the alignment with EU and international standards, the approaches, good practices, and lessons learned through this technical assistance are also relevant to other countries participating in the UCPM and the broader international community. Documented experiences and knowledge products can inform similar efforts in neighbouring countries and global comparators, contributing to the global DRM knowledge base and fostering improved coordination and resilience. In this way, the project's outputs will support the implementation of the EU Preparedness Union Strategy, the Disaster Resilience Goals, and international frameworks such as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Sustainable Development Goals, strengthening preparedness and resilience at national, regional, and global levels.

Contacts

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