TAFF

Technical Assistance Financing Facility for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness

Component 1: Country-specific technical assistance

Last update: September 2025

Germany:

Return of Investments in Disaster Resilience Measures: Identifying potential measures and generating evidence to inform decision-making

Overview

Grant Size	€250,000
Duration	September 2024 – December 2025
Key hazard(s)	Droughts; Floods; Health Emergencies; Heatwaves
Key word(s)	Cost benefit analysis; Smart investments; Prioritisation

Context

Germany is vulnerable to a series of disaster risks, particularly those exacerbated by climate change, such as floods, heatwaves, and droughts. To strengthen disaster resilience, the country has implemented various measures, including the Federal Government's German Strategy for Strengthening Resilience to Disasters. As one of the world's leading economies, Germany's recent experiences with devastating floods underscore the growing pressure on its disaster preparedness systems due to evolving climate risks. As part of the effort to scale up disaster and climate resilience, it is critical to evaluate and prioritise smart investments. Understanding the costs and benefits of such investments, including reduced losses, stimulated economic activities, and socioeconomic and environmental co-benefits, is critical to inform policy dialogue and planning.

Objective

The grant's objective is to support Germany strengthen the economic case for ex-ante disaster preparedness and prevention.

Key Activities and Expected Results

Case studies of the socio-economic costs and benefits of disaster prevention measures

This Activity includes analytics to quantify the return of select investments in disaster prevention and preparedness measures, evaluating floods, heat waves, drought, and health emergencies, among others. The analysis can help inform dialogue and decisions related to public budgeting processes.

Risk communication, learning, and dissemination

This includes activities (such as presentations) to contribute to increasing the awareness of decision makers within Germany of the crucial role and range of benefits of ex-ante preparedness and prevention measures, as well as to capture and transfer lessons learned from Germany to peers in the European Union and beyond.

Sustainability and Coordination

This project builds upon the insights and outcomes of preceding initiatives, notably integrating and operationalising the research from the Economics for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness (EDPP2) project. It aims to enrich the existing body of knowledge on smart investments in disaster prevention and preparedness by showcasing new case studies and examples from diverse interventions. For example, project activities can inform government efforts related to the implementation of the German Strategy for Strengthening Resilience to Disasters.

By providing key insights into the costs and benefits of resilience measures, the project also yields valuable insights for disaster resilience planning that are applicable to countries working towards Sendai Framework targets and the achievement of the Disaster Resilience Goals. The project's results not only inform the BBK's efforts to promote a proactive preparedness approach within Germany's disaster resilience strategy but also serve as a resource for other national ministries and international stakeholders. These insights will be crucial for informing smart investments in resilience and will contribute to a global understanding of effective disaster prevention and preparedness, especially considering climate change and extreme weather events. Overall, the activities benefit from the knowledge generated through collaborations between government counterparts, the World Bank, and the Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

Contacts

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