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GFDRR Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery

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TAFF

Technical Assistance Financing Facility for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness



Factsheet

Context

Strengthening financial resilience, making smart investments for disaster and climate resilience, and enhancing institutional capacity and preparedness makes economic sense. There are however recurring barriers, such as gaps in financial frameworks, limited institutional capacity, and difficulties in accessing EU funding, identified in the report Understanding the Needs of Civil Protection Agencies under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism *(UCPM),* conducted by the World Bank and DG ECHO. To be better prepared for disasters, there is a need to scale up investments to bolster disaster prevention and preparedness across the EU and through the UCPM. To address these needs, and in response to challenges identified in the report Economics for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness, the **Technical Assistance Financing Facility for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness (TAFF)** has been established to facilitate access to technical assistance and global knowledge on prevention and preparedness for national civil protection and disaster risk management authorities to support country and EU efforts on disaster risk management (DRM).

About

The overall objective of TAFF is to strengthen the knowledge and capacities of countries under the EU's UCPM for disaster and preparedness with a focus on:

1

Strengthening the capacity of civil protection and other relevant competent authorities in scaling up disaster and climate resilience in line with the Union Disaster Resilience Goals, the European Green Deal, the EU Preparedness Union Strategy, as well as the countries' national priorities.

2

Supporting investments in disaster prevention and preparedness through the development of a project pipeline and enhanced administrative capacity.

3

Improving the knowledge base on disaster risk management, and facilitate the sharing of knowledge, good practices and information.

TAFF has two components:

1. **Component 1 – Country-specific technical assistance** to strengthen the capacity of civil protection and other relevant competent authorities under the UCPM in scaling up investments contributing to disaster and climate resilience. Technical assistance includes various types of analytics, technical studies and recommendations for plans and strategies, piloting of activities, and capacity-building/training activities. Key areas of support include:
    - **Anticipate** – improving anticipation and disaster risk management planning to proactively address potential hazards;
    - **Prepare** – raising risk awareness and preparedness levels among the population to effectively respond to emergencies;
    - **Alert** – enhancing early warning and hydro-meteorological systems for timely and accurate information dissemination; and
    - **Secure** – strengthening national civil protection systems to prevent and prepare for disasters.

2. **Component 2 – Knowledge and capacity building** to facilitate the transfer and sharing of knowledge among countries on disaster risk management and facilitate the sharing of good practices across UCPM countries. Knowledge products and activities include for example studies, collection of best practices and lessons learned, practical guidance/knowledge notes, interactive workshops and technical deep dives/clinics, and training programs. **In 2025**, TAFF workshop brought together over 120 participants from the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM), TAFF-supported projects, EU institutions, and partner organisations. Also, a series of reports was published providing an overview of the risk trends, key challenges, and key opportunities for strengthening resilience to wildfires and earthquakes.

How to Apply

***Implementation arrangements**:* The World Bank/GFDRR teams implement, working closely with the beneficiaries to ensure activities are aligned with their needs, and disseminate knowledge and lessons learned.

Eligible countries include EU Member States, Participating States of the UCPM, and Kosovo[1] in view of their ongoing efforts to join the UCPM.

Eligible entities include national level civil protection authorities or authorities with disaster risk management (DRM) responsibilities of eligible countries, with the agreement of the national civil protection authorities.

***Expressions of Interest and Shortlisting**:* Eligible entities can respond to a Call of Expressions of Interest (EoI) which will be published on DG ECHO and GFDRR websites, by submitting an EoI. The EoI will be accepted on annual basis within defined timeframes. EoIs outside this range, particularly due to emergency situations, will be considered on a case-by-case basis. It is recommended for EoIs to be developed in coordination with the World Bank/GFDRR teams.

Proposals and start of activities: Based on the shortlist of EoIs agreed with DG ECHO, the World Bank/GFDRR teams, in coordination with beneficiary country and entity, develop - the full project proposal, and World Bank/GFDRR teams start implementation in line with the agreed scope.

Project duration is expected between 18 and 24 months.

***2024 Call of Expressions of Interest**:* Eight country-specific activities are being implemented in Albania, Germany, Iceland, Kosovo, Moldova, North Macedonia, Romania, and Türkiye; as well as cross-cutting analytical activities (EU-wide).

2025 Call of Expressions of Interest: Seven country-specific activities are being implemented in Croatia, Ireland, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia, Sweden, and Türkiye; as well as cross-cutting analytical activities (EU-wide).

2026 Call of Expressions of Interest: Eight country-specific activities are being implemented in Albania, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Montenegro, Malta, Slovakia, Kosovo, and Türkiye. The project summaries will be made available online (links below).

Partnership

The **TAFF for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness** is a partnership between the European Commission through its Directorate-General for Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), the World Bank and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR). TAFF is fully funded by the EU and managed by the GFDRR and implemented by the World Bank.

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https://www.gfdrr.org/en/taff
https://civil-protection-knowledge-network.europa.eu/technical-assistance-financing-facility-taff

[1] This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.