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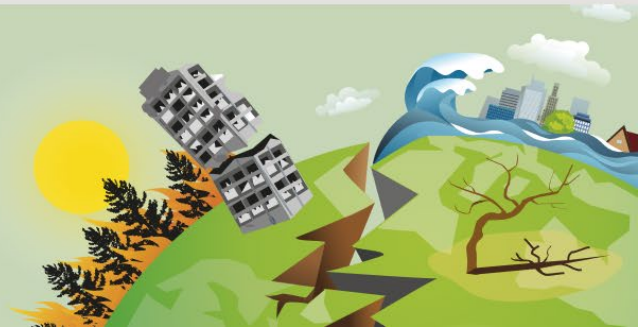
GFDRR Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery

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TAFF

Technical Assistance Financing Facility for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness

Component 1: Country-specific technical assistance



Last update: September 2026

Montenegro:

Strengthening Emergency Coordination and Unified Resilience Efforts (SECURE ME)

Overview

Grant Size	€450,000
Duration	July 2026 – January 2028
Key hazard(s)	Multi-hazard (earthquake, flood, wildfire)
Key word(s)	Institutional framework, policy coherence, prioritisation of measures, risk preparedness; recovery, build back better, disaster risk financing, institutional capacities

Context

Montenegro is exposed to a range of natural and climate-related hazards, including earthquakes, floods, wildfires, landslides, extreme weather events, and heatwaves, which pose significant risks to public safety, critical infrastructure, economic activity, and national resilience. Recent disasters and emergencies highlight the importance of strengthening disaster risk management (DRM) capacity and advancing a more coherent, risk-informed, and governance-driven approach to emergency management.

Montenegro has an established policy and legislative foundation for DRM and civil protection, including through the Law on Protection and Rescue and the Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy. In the context of Montenegro's accession path to the European Union (EU), it is important to strengthen governance arrangements, disaster risk financing, interagency coordination, and operational readiness in line with EU requirements and practice of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM). These efforts are consistent with broader national priorities related to risk reduction, climate adaptation, civil protection, and resilience, recognizing that increasingly complex and interconnected risks require strong institutional leadership, coordinated action across sectors, and a whole-of-society approach. While important progress has been made, opportunities remain to further strengthen institutional coordination, clarify operational roles and responsibilities, enhance disaster-related fiscal preparedness, and build operational capacities at different levels.

Objective

The objective of this grant is to support Montenegro's transition toward a more coherent, governance-driven, and risk-informed DRM system that is resilient to multi-hazard risks and aligned with EU standards and accession requirements. This will be done by focusing on three complementary areas: (i) DRM governance and EU alignment, (ii) financial preparedness and fiscal resilience, and (iii) operational capacity development on emergency management and knowledge exchange. Through targeted training, structured knowledge exchange, and peer learning with EU counterparts, the grant will support implementation-oriented reforms that strengthen coordination, promote interoperability, and enhance preparedness for future emergencies and disasters.

Key Activities and Expected Results

The project comprises three key elements.

First, under 'DRM governance and EU alignment', activities will include rapid diagnostic assessment of Montenegro's emergency management governance architecture, including legal mandates, command arrangements, inter-institutional coordination mechanisms, as well as gaps in relation to EU accession requirements and UCPM practice. Based on desk research, stakeholder consultations, and international good practice, recommendations for a prioritized reform roadmap will be developed to clarify roles and responsibilities, formalize coordination arrangements, and identify priority areas for legal, institutional, and operational reform.

Second, under 'Financial Preparedness and Fiscal Resilience', activities will include a rapid review of Montenegro's macro-fiscal impacts due to disasters, its existing financial instruments, institutional arrangements, post-disaster financing practices, and fiscal preparedness gaps, with recommendations on financing options. Also, ongoing damage and loss assessment framework will be reviewed and recommendations for improvements provided.

Third, under 'Training, Capacity Building, and Knowledge Exchange', activities will strengthen operational capacity on emergency management through targeted training, workshops, study visits, and peer-learning exchanges with EU counterparts at national and municipal levels.

In terms of expected results, the project will provide Montenegro's Ministry of Interior, Directorate for Protection and Rescue, Ministry of Finance, and other key DRM stakeholders with a comprehensive evidence base to inform strategic investment decisions, regulatory reforms, and institutional strengthening. The process will help build consensus on reform priorities, strengthen coordination among national and local authorities, support alignment with EU resilience and civil protection standards, and enhance administrative capacity to plan, finance, and implement disaster prevention and preparedness measures. This project is also expected to contribute to efforts to improve fiscal preparedness by supporting more systematic approaches to disaster risk financing, damage and loss assessment, and access to relevant post-disaster financing mechanisms. In the long-term, the project can contribute to a more coherent, well-governed, fiscally prepared, and EU-aligned DRM system in Montenegro, strengthening national resilience and benefiting citizens, vulnerable communities, public institutions, and the broader region.

Sustainability and Coordination

The reform roadmap, disaster risk financing diagnostic, and capacity-building outputs developed under this project will be disseminated among stakeholders in Montenegro and shared more broadly with the regional DRM community. These knowledge products will provide a strategic basis for future investments, policy reforms, and institutional strengthening, anchoring Montenegro's DRM governance development within the longer-term framework of EU accession, EU Preparedness Union Strategy, and other resilience priorities. The project will also support alignment with relevant EU frameworks and instruments, including the UCPM and the EU Solidarity Fund. Expanding technical assistance toward broader DRM governance and systemic resilience priorities, this project activities will build on and complement the ongoing TAFF project (2024-2026) 'Montenegro: Enhancing Disaster Resilience and Continuity of IT Infrastructure and Services in the Operational Communication Center 112', which focuses more narrowly on functionality and business continuity of Montenegro's Operational Communication Centre 112.

Given alignment with EU and regional standards, the approaches, good practices, and lessons learned through this project can be relevant to other EU Member States and countries participating in the UCPM. Documented experiences and knowledge products can inform similar governance reform, fiscal preparedness, and capacity-building efforts in neighbouring countries and the broader UCPM community.

Contacts

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