Building Disaster Resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa Program

RESULT AREA 5
Africa Disaster Risk Financing Initiative

Program Brochure
ABOUT THE ADRF INITIATIVE

The Africa Disaster Risk Financing (ADRF) Initiative is part of the wider ACP-EU Program Building Disaster Resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa, an initiative of the Africa Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States, financed by the European Union (EU), and implemented by the African Union Commission (AUC), the United Nation Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) / World Bank. ADRF activities started in 2015, following the official launch of the Initiative at the Understanding Risk and Finance (URF) conference1 in Addis Ababa, in November 2015.

The objectives of the ADRF Initiative are to:

- Support the development of multi-risk financing strategies at regional, national and local levels to help African countries make informed decisions;
- Improve financial response capacity post-disaster; and
- Mitigate the socio-economic, fiscal and financial impacts of disasters in African countries.

The initiative expects to catalyze the uptake of innovative risk identification, assessment and financing tools within the development policy frameworks and agenda of several middle and low-income African countries. The ADRF technical assistance is driven by demand from governments.

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1 The URF was financed by the ADRF Initiative and organized in Addis Ababa on November 17-20, 2015. For more information, see the links to: The URF page: https://understandrisk.org/event/understanding-risk-finance-conference/ The conference materials: http://www.gfdrr.org/sites/default/files/publication/URF%20Proceedings.pdf
WHAT WE DO

The ADRF Initiative has three main components and associated activities:

- **Creating an enabling data environment for risk financing.** Activities aim to build the understanding and awareness of disaster and climate risks in Sub-Saharan Africa, providing a fundamental input to developing disaster risk financing strategies, approaches, and tools for financing risks. This includes facilitating the development of simplified multiple-hazard country risk profiles to demonstrate the risk posed by a variety of natural hazards, as well as to illustrate how these risks could impact socio-economic growth and be influenced by climate change.

- **Supporting countries in developing risk financing strategies.** The ADRF initiative supports countries in developing multi-risk financing policies, instruments and strategies to enhance their post-disaster response capacity, from resource mobilization ex-ante to resource execution post-disaster. To reach this, the ADRF has taken a phased approach by first identifying needs and priorities and then accelerating technical assistance to build a strong and coherent commitment to this agenda together with governments and other relevant stakeholders. This includes reviewing budget instruments and expenditure frameworks, exploring the potential to establish contingency funds and loans/grants, assessing the use of sovereign-level insurance contracts, and strengthening the ability of social protection systems to scale up in the event if a shock.

- **Facilitating regional risk financing and knowledge sharing initiatives.** The ADRF Initiative supports the facilitation of knowledge sharing and best practices on risk assessment and risk financing solutions. Activities include the improvement of hazard and risk data accessibility and sharing, and knowledge exchange and learning events to share experience on risk financing, and sub-regional initiatives. These activities are undertaken with government and technical partners, including partners working on other result areas of the ACP-EU Program.

HOW WE DO IT

The ADRF Initiative is managed by the GFDRR Secretariat, which has a coordination office in Brussels, and activities are implemented by the GFDRR team and the World Bank country and regional disaster risk management and disaster risk financing and insurance teams, in close partnership with EU Delegations to African countries and/or to regional and sub-regional organizations. This ensures complementarity and alignment with the ACP-EU Cooperation Strategies as well as with the EU and World Bank's strategies in the respective African countries and sub-regions. A Steering Committee composed of members from the AUC, African Regional Economic Communities, AfDB, UNISDR, ACP Secretariat, EU and GFDRR / World Bank oversees the Program’s implementation.