



# TAFF

Technical Assistance Financing Facility for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness

Project brief



Last updated: September 30, 2024

## North Macedonia – Resilience Investments, Governance and Recovery for Disaster Risk Reduction

### Overview

Grant Size	€500,000
Duration	September 2024 – June 2026
Relevant DRG	Anticipate; Prepare; Alert; Secure
Key hazard(s)	
Key word(s)	Risk governance; Critical infrastructure; Resilient recovery

### Context

North Macedonia faces significant challenges from natural and human-made hazards, with climate-related events occurring more frequently and intensely and earthquakes continuing to be a major concern. More recently, in 2024, the country experienced intense wildfires, highlighting the continuing need for enhanced mitigation and preparedness. To address this, North Macedonia is working to overcome barriers and fill knowledge gaps identified in past national disaster risk management and climate change adaptation assessments, aiming to scale up prevention measures and strengthen preparedness. Challenges remain in addressing vulnerabilities in critical infrastructure, improving recovery frameworks and enhancing coordination. The country is committed to building a proactive risk management framework at national and local levels, including clarifying stakeholder roles, improving operational planning and supporting cross-institutional coordination, enhancing preparedness and climate resilience, and aligning with EU standards.

### Objective

The objective of the project is to enhance societal and community resilience in North Macedonia by addressing seismic and climate-related risks through foundational and transformational risk reduction and resilience-building measures.

### Key Activities and Expected Results

#### COMPONENT 1

##### Transformative and anticipatory risk governance and enhanced preparedness

To improve resilience building and enhance overall disaster preparedness in the country, this component establishes the foundation of transformative and anticipatory risk governance in protection and rescue. It will support a functional analysis of the existing DRM system to strengthen national strategies, deepen the understanding of risk and methodologies for hazard assessments to strengthen DRM and risk governance/planning, and build capacity of stakeholders for enhanced preparedness from national to community level.

## COMPONENT 2

### Scaling up prioritised prevention investments in critical infrastructure

This component focuses on significantly enhancing the resilience-building of critical infrastructure against climate and disaster risks, to be accomplished through strategic and prioritised investments in preventive measures with a focus on seismic resilience and energy efficiency. It will support analytics to enhance the understanding of the vulnerability of critical infrastructure assets, develop methodologies and tools to support disaster risk screening and develop proofing interventions, identify pilot interventions at local level for critical infrastructure upgrading, and help enhance technical capacity of institutional stakeholders in this field.

## COMPONENT 3

### Establishing a resilient recovery framework

This component aims to develop a comprehensive framework that ensures communities can effectively recover and rebuild in the aftermath of disasters, focusing on long-term resilience and sustainability. It will support analytics to enhance the understanding of the vulnerability and needs of the population related to effective disaster recovery, identify gaps in the policy and regulatory framework to inform the development of a robust post-disaster recovery framework, and help build the capacity of DRM stakeholders to conduct PDNAs and resilient and inclusive disaster recovery.

## Government Counterpart(s)

Protection and Rescue Directorate (PRD), the Crisis Management Centre (CMC), the Institute of Seismology and Earthquake Engineering (IZIIS), the Red Cross (RC), key ministries and local governments.

## Sustainability and Coordination

The project builds on previous and on-going national and donor-supported technical assistance and investment programmes, ensuring continuity and maximising collective efforts towards common goals. The project will strengthen DRM systems in line with global and regional frameworks and key national strategic priorities. It aligns with the EU's [IPA CARE Programme](#), incorporates lessons from past projects ([IPA Floods and Fires](#), [CRISIS](#), [ROSES](#) etc.) and complements ongoing projects with the World Bank ([Sustainable Municipal Development Project](#), [North Macedonia Sustainability and Resilience DPO](#), [Climate Change Development Reports country dialogues](#)). Analytics under this project will align with established methodologies, including UNDP Guidance Notes and European Commission [studies](#) and guidance notes for critical infrastructure resilience. The project will also coordinate with various ongoing EU-funded studies and research under Track 1 '[Technical assistance for disaster risk management](#)' (single-country) at both national and regional levels leveraging knowledge, good practices and lessons learned on DRM. The project promotes collaboration with a people-centred, inclusive, gender-sensitive and climate-risk informed holistic approach and, to foster ownership, supports community and stakeholder involvement. Overall, the activities will benefit from the knowledge generated through collaborations between government counterparts, the World Bank, and the Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

## Contacts

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## About TAFF

The **Technical Assistance Financing Facility for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness (TAFF)** 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) to strengthen the disaster risk knowledge and management capabilities of countries participating in the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM). The TAFF provides technical assistance to strengthen the capacity of civil protection and other relevant competent authorities under the UCPM to scale up investments in disaster and climate resilience.

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Funded by  
the European Union



GFDRR  
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery



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