

# TAFF

Technical Assistance Financing Facility  
for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness

Project brief



Last update: September 17, 2024

## Romania – Romanian Assistance for Post-Disaster Improvement and Development (RAPID)

### Overview

Grant Size	€500,000
Duration	August 2024 – June 2026
Relevant DRG	Secure; Anticipate; Alert
Key hazard(s)	
Key word(s)	Post-disaster recovery; build back better; inclusive disaster recovery; disaster response and recovery

### Context

Romania is exposed to various natural hazards, including earthquakes, floods, forest fires, droughts, landslides, storms, and extreme temperature events. Aging infrastructure, particularly in cities and throughout transport systems, increases the country's vulnerability, as witnessed by the number of buildings impacted by the 1977 earthquake. Climate change is expected to intensify these risks, making multi-hazard prevention, preparedness, and response readiness a key focus of government reform and investments. In recent decades, Romania has taken major steps to improve its disaster risk management framework and system. Through the adoption of key strategic documents – including the [National Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction \(2024-2035\)](#), the National Strategy for Seismic Risk Reduction (2022-2050), and the National Strategy for Climate Change Adaptation (2024-2030) – the government is seeking to further strengthen its disaster and climate resilience, including improving the capacity of the national civil protection system and relevant institutions to manage disaster response and recovery in an effective and inclusive manner.

### Objective

The objective of this project is to strengthen the capacity of civil protection institutions to ensure an effective and inclusive disaster response and recovery, and to improve existing recovery frameworks.

### Key Activities and Expected Results

#### COMPONENT 1

##### Identifying gaps

This component will include a diagnostic assessment of Romania's current disaster recovery framework, particularly concerning seismic and climate-related hazards. The assessment will help identify and propose ways to address gaps in Romania's post-disaster recovery framework, such as those related to governance and coordination, or different technical elements.

## COMPONENT 2

### Strengthening recovery framework

Based on the diagnostic analysis, this component will focus on identifying technical recommendations in line with Build Back Better principles. Recommendations will be supported by international good practice and examples related to post-disaster recovery. These activities can inform the development of a robust post-disaster recovery framework for Romania, aiming for resilience, sustainability, and alignment with international standards to mitigate future seismic and climate-related vulnerabilities.

## COMPONENT 3

### Capacity building

This component will include knowledge exchange events, training sessions for government officials and first responders, and institutional capacity building to improve recovery planning and execution and inclusiveness of response. The capacity building activities will help facilitate inter-ministerial coordination and support the establishment of an overview of the requirements for critical disaster response and recovery resources.

## Government Counterpart(s)

Department of Emergency Situations under the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Romania.

## Sustainability and Coordination

This project forms part of broader World Bank DRM engagement in Romania, which encompasses a range of activities aimed at strengthening the country's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters. This project also complements ongoing projects and initiatives led by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and its subordinate units, and other line ministries, to strengthen the resilience of critical emergency response infrastructure and systems. This includes investment financing through the [Strengthening Disaster Risk Management Project](#), the [Improving Resilience and Emergency Response Project](#), the [Strengthening Preparedness and Critical Emergency Infrastructure Project](#), and the [Romania Safer, Inclusive and Sustainable Schools Project](#). In addition, the results of this project will also complement the reforms and expected results tracked under the Second Disaster Risk Management Development Policy Loan with a Catastrophe Draw Down Option (Cat DDO). In parallel, this project will complement efforts led under a GFDRR grant through the Japan-World Bank Program for Mainstreaming DRM in developing countries, that is supporting Romania in addressing existing gaps in DRM policy development and emergency preparedness efforts, as well as in promoting and advancing investments in resilient public infrastructure. 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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