

TAFF

Technical Assistance Financing Facility
for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness

Project brief



Last update: September 17, 2024

Türkiye – Enhancement of the Flood Early Warning System in Samsun and Communication Strategy

Overview

Grant Size	€500,000
Duration	September 2024 – September 2025
Relevant DRG	Alert
Key hazard(s)	
Key word(s)	Flood Risk Management; Early Warning System; Communication strategies; Public awareness and preparedness; Capacity Building

Context

Enhanced accuracy and reliability of flood predictions through early warning systems (EWS) facilitate timely warnings and improved safety for at risk populations. At the same time, an effective communication strategy ensures the swift and efficient dissemination of risk information from EWS to decision-makers, as well as the broader public, enabling them to promptly initiate actions to mitigate the loss of life and property. In the context of climate change and increased flood risk, it is critical for countries, including Türkiye, to continue improving their EWS and related communications strategies. To minimise losses, the government is implementing a range of measures to improve flood predictions and reduce flood risk in Samsun Province. Samsun City is located within the boundaries of the Kızılırmak (Bafra) and Yeşilirmak (Çarşamba) river basins and both rivers, along with other local streams, present a significant risk of flooding. A series of investments is planned in this area to manage flood risk and serve as an example for other areas in Türkiye.

Objective

The objective of the project is to improve the EWS for floods in Samsun and to develop an effective communication strategy for disseminating information to the public at the city level, which will also serve as an example for other cities and at national level.

Key Activities and Expected Results

COMPONENT 1

Technical evaluation of the current EWS and recommendations for improvement on the EWS-produced information

This component will support analysis of the current EWS and identify key recommendations for its improvement. This will support enhancements to the EWS in Samsun, improving the region's early warning capabilities and responsiveness to potential flood events. The analysis will also generate recommendations based on a good practice review that will inform and strengthen wider disaster response measures, thereby contributing to a more robust disaster risk management framework at the national level.

COMPONENT 2

Evaluation of information dissemination methods for EWS and recommendations for an effective communication strategy for EWS-generated information

This component will support analysis to optimise the delivery and impact of EWS-generated warnings, ensuring that critical information reaches the relevant stakeholders in a timely, clear, and actionable manner. The analysis will provide a set of technical recommendations for stakeholders to consider and be supplemented by capacity building.

Government Counterpart(s)

General Directorate of State Hydraulic Works Türkiye; Regional Directorate of State Hydraulic Works of Samsun; Disaster and Emergency Management Center (AFAD); MOAF (DG Water Management); Governorships; Municipalities; Provincial Directorates of the Ministry of Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change; the Ministry of National Education; Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) active in the field of disaster response (UMKE, AKUT, etc.).

Sustainability and Coordination

This project complements government efforts to strengthen EWS capacity, and DRM more broadly, with a focus on flood resilience. Samsun is considered a potential model for the nation's other flood-prone areas, offering insights that could also be applicable to other hazards that Türkiye faces. This technical assistance also aligns with the World Bank-financed [Flood and Drought Management Project \(FDMP\)](#), which seeks to improve flood control measures for communities in targeted regions and enhance the country's overall capacity to manage flood and drought risks. A critical aspect of the FDMP is the strengthening of flood monitoring and forecasting systems, a task undertaken by the State Hydraulic Works and Directorate General for Water Management. The FDMP includes a thorough evaluation and refinement of existing flood forecasting and early warning systems, aiming to improve their optimization. This concerted effort is designed to meet Türkiye's broader disaster resilience goals, as well as the FDMP's goals, and set the standard for flood risk management practices.

This technical assistance grant will support these efforts by focusing on the existing EWS in Samsun, with the goal of refining the information produced, enhancing its dissemination, and establishing a communication strategy that could serve as a benchmark for other cities and at the national level. 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.

