



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EUROPEAN CIVIL PROTECTION AND HUMANITARIAN AID  
OPERATIONS (ECHO)  
Strategy and Policy  
Prevention and Preparedness Capacity Building

Brussels,

**CORRESPONDENCE SLIP**

**Addressees: Directors-General for Civil Protection of the Member States and Participating States of the Union Civil Protection Mechanisms; Directors-General for Civil Protection of Georgia and Kosovo <sup>(1)</sup>; Members of the Civil Protection Committee; Member States' Permanent Representations and Participating States' Permanent Missions to the EU; Disaster Prevention Expert Group; Members of the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network Board**

**Subject: Invitation to submit an expression of interest to benefit from a project under the Technical Assistance Financing Facility for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness (TAFF)**

Dear Directors-General,

This is an invitation to submit expressions of interest under the UCPM Technical Assistance Financing Facility for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness (TAFF).

TAFF is a novel technical assistance instrument launched in 2024 as a partnership between the European Commission (DG ECHO) and the World Bank Group. TAFF aims to support EU Member States and Participating States of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) as well as Georgia and Kosovo to increase their technical capacity for disaster prevention and preparedness and support the implementation of the Union Disaster Resilience Goals ([link](#)). The Facility will provide access to tailor-made technical support through leading global expertise on disaster and climate resilience.

The work programme <sup>(2)</sup> of the UCPM for 2021-2026 provides for a funding opportunity to support Member States' efforts in the field of disaster risk management (Action 5.4, Technical Assistance Financing Facility). As stipulated in the same document (art. 5.5), the World Bank Group will execute this action, given the robust technical expertise and

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<sup>(1)</sup> This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence

<sup>(2)</sup> [Commission implementing decision C\(2023\) 6621 final](#) of 06.10.2023 on the financing of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and adopting a multiannual work programme for 2021-2026 repealing and replacing Implementing Decision C(2022) 9290 final.

global practice of this organisation on disaster prevention and preparedness and climate resilience.

The purpose of this action is to help national civil protection and other disaster risk management authorities fill technical and/or financial gaps in preparing investments or in strengthening their institutional and policy framework for disaster risk management.

Enclosed, you will find the guide for applicants setting out the scope and procedure for this funding opportunity, the evaluation criteria as well as the template to be used for your expression of interest.

The call for expressions of interest will be published on the [TAFF](#) website and the UCPM Knowledge Network dedicated [webpage](#).

Your expression of interest should be submitted to [UCPM\\_TAFF@worldbank.org](mailto:UCPM_TAFF@worldbank.org).

The deadline for submitting expressions of interest is **18 April 2024 at 17.00 CET**.

Questions on eligibility and the procedure for applying should likewise be addressed to [UCPM\\_TAFF@worldbank.org](mailto:UCPM_TAFF@worldbank.org) well in advance of the deadline for submitting expressions of interest.

We will also organise an **on-line information session on Friday 22 March 2024 from 10.00 to 12.00 CET** via Webex. Interested participants should connect using the following link:  
<https://ecconf.webex.com/ecconf/j.php?MTID=m497b9ef9bbe647be98d5fcfa8feb23cf>

Yours faithfully,

*[e-signed]*

Erwan MARTEIL  
Head of Unit

Contact: [ECHO-CP-P&P@ec.europa.eu](mailto:ECHO-CP-P&P@ec.europa.eu)

Enclosures:    Agenda of the Info Day – 22 March 2024 (see next page)  
                    Guide for applicants including evaluation criteria and template for the  
                    expression of interest  
                    TAFF Factsheet

## **Annex I: Agenda of the TAFF Info Day – 22 March 2024, 10:00-12:00 CET**

10:00 – 10:15: Welcome

- Gaetano Vivo, Deputy Head of Unit, Prevention and Preparedness Capacity Building Unit, ECHO.B.3

10:15 – 10:45: Presentation of the Technical Assistance Financing Facility

- World Bank Group

10:45 - 11:45: Questions and answers: World Bank Group and ECHO.B.3

11:45 – 12:00: Conclusions and next steps: World Bank Group, and ECHO.B.3

*Connection Link:*

<https://ecconf.webex.com/ecconf/j.php?MTID=m497b9ef9bbe647be98d5fcfa8feb23cf>