



# TAFF

Technical Assistance Financing Facility  
for Disaster Prevention and Preparedness



## Annex 4:

Evaluation of the Expressions of Interest – Description of Evaluation Criteria

**Summary:** The following evaluation criteria facilitate the rating of the Expressions of Interest (EOIs) based on the set objectives and priorities of the Technical Assistance Financing Facility (TAFF). The criteria focus on (1) eligibility, and several key aspects including (2) quality; (3) relevance, and (4) impact. The assessment score for criteria 2, 3, and 4 takes into consideration a minimum pass score for each and across. In case of over-demand, additional criteria will be applied for the shortlisting of EOIs (additional information at the end of this Annex). The evaluation will only consider information provided in the EOI template as submitted.

### 1. Eligibility (Yes/No)

EOIs will be first checked against formal eligibility requirements (see Table 1). EOIs that are considered eligible will be evaluated against the other set of criteria (see Table 2) and ranked according to their scores. EOIs that do not fulfill the evaluation criteria will be disqualified.

Table 1. **TAFF Eligibility check**

Section	Criteria	Guidance
<b>Eligibility</b> (Yes/No/ To be clarified)	Eligible country	<p>A country shall be eligible if established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>EU Member States:</b> Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, and Sweden.</li> <li>• <b>UCPM Participating Countries:</b> Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Montenegro, Republic of North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Türkiye, the Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other countries: Georgia and Kosovo<sup>1</sup> in view of their ongoing efforts to join the UCPM.</li> </ul>
	Eligible entity	Submitting entity, beneficiaries and affiliated entities must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be legal public entities (public bodies)</li> <li>• be the national level civil protection authority or a national authority with disaster risk management (DRM) responsibilities of eligible countries</li> </ul>
	Eligible activities	See eligible and non-eligible activities in <b>Annex 5: List of Potential Activities Supported under TAFF</b>
	Duration	12-24 months (potential extension to max 30 months total).
	Budget	between €250,000–€750,000
	Endorsement	Confirmation that the EOI is endorsed by a legal representative.
	On time submission	Before announced date/time (18 April 2024, 24:00 CET time)

## 2. Quality (25 points)

**Quality** refers to commitment, technical feasibility, maturity, readiness, and sustainability of the project, specifically:

- **Commitment:** the EOI is signed by the head of the organization/legal representative and is supported by the relevant Ministry (5 points).
- **Technical soundness:** description and soundness of the proposed project objective(s) and activities (10 points).
- **Readiness:** Are the counterparts ready to start a collaboration on this project or do any pre-conditions need to be met (such as completion of another activities, etc.). (10 points)

## 3. Relevance (35 points)

**Relevance** refers to strategic relevance of the proposed activity, specifically:

- **Targeting:** key challenges/issues that the project will address. (10 points).
- **TAFF Objectives:** Extent to which the EOI and its activities contribute to the achievement of the TAFF objectives and priorities (10 points).

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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.

- **Strategic relevance:** Extent to which the proposed activities are aligned with existing strategic documents, plans or initiatives, or demonstrate a clear and sound rationale (i.e., peer review recommendations, evaluations, lessons learned, previous studies, etc.) *(10 points)*.
- **Operational relevance** extent to which the EOI is aligned with other projects or activities (past, ongoing, or planned) or fills specific gaps (including alignment and avoiding duplication with other initiatives) *(5 points)*.

#### 4. Impact (30 points)

**Impact** refers to expected impact of the activity, specifically:

- **Impact of the project:** Extent to which the EOI puts forward tangible and realistic impacts *(10 points)*.
- **Dissemination:** Extent to which the dissemination strategy is clear and adequate to communicate on the project results and to share results with other Participating States *(10 points)*.
- **Sustainability:** Extent to which the EOI puts forward a convincing sustainability plan and demonstrates commitment to build on the EOI results *(10 points)*.

**Assessment score:** Each EOI will be assigned an assessment score. EOIs need to simultaneously meet two requirements: (1) to reach the minimum pass score per EOI criteria, and (2) to reach at least 45 points in total for the three EOI criteria. Only EOIs passing both thresholds will be considered for shortlisting — within the limits of the available budget. Other EOIs will be rejected.

Table 2. **TAFF Award Criteria**

Criteria	Minimum pass score	Maximum score
Relevance	20	35
Quality	10	25
Impact	15	30
<b>Sum across criteria</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>90</b>

#### **Additional criteria in case of over-demand (15 points)**

In case of over-demand, the following additional criteria will be applied for the shortlisting of EOIs (based on information provided in the EOI):

- **Relevance to UCPM:** extent to which the project deals with issues that are potentially relevant to multiple countries in the UCPM *(5 points)*.
- **Contribution to DRM Knowledge base:** extent to which the project introduces innovative approaches or deal with topics that are emerging/have relevance for knowledge agenda on DRM *(5 points)*.
- **Potential synergies between projects:** extent to which commonalities can contribute to synergies with other TAFF-supported projects *(5 points)*.