



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 Kosovo⁽¹⁾; 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 (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 an innovative technical assistance instrument launched in 2024 as a partnership between the European Commission (DG ECHO) and the World Bank Group and its Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR). TAFF aims to support EU Member States and Participating States of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) as well as Kosovo to increase their technical capacity for disaster prevention and preparedness and support the implementation of the Union Disaster Resilience Goals. The Facility provides access to tailor-made technical support through leading global expertise on disaster and climate resilience.

The work programme⁽²⁾ of the UCPM for 2021-2027 provides for a funding opportunity to indirectly support Member States' efforts in the field of disaster risk management

(1) 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
(2) Commission Implementing Decision C(2025) 6902 final of 17.10.2025 on the financing of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and adopting a multiannual work programme for 2021-2027, repealing and replacing Implementing Decision C(2024) 7235.

(Action 5.4, Technical Assistance Financing Facility). As stipulated in the same document (art. 5.5), the World Bank Group/GFDRR will implement activities of this action, given the robust technical expertise and 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 to preparing investments or to strengthening their institutional and policy framework for disaster risk management. Currently, 14 country-based TAFF projects are in implementation, with one project that ended in 2025 (Iceland). A full overview of current TAFF engagement is presented in the TAFF booklet (Annex 6).

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. An overview of projects from the 2024 and 2025 calls is also annexed.

The call for expressions of interest will be published on the [TAFF](#) and the [UCP Knowledge Network](#) websites.

Your expression of interest should be submitted to UCPM_TAFF@worldbank.org, and consulted with the World Bank/GFDRR prior to submission.

The deadline for submitting expressions of interest is **27 March 2026 at 23.59 CET**.

Questions on eligibility and procedure should likewise be addressed to UCPM_TAFF@worldbank.org well in advance of the deadline for submitting expressions of interest.

An **on-line information day on Track 1 grants and TAFF will be organised on Thursday 12 February 2026 from 10:00 to 12:30 CET**. The agenda and other practical details on the live streaming event will be published on the [Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network website](#). Participants will be able to ask questions via a dedicated session on slido.com.

Yours faithfully,

[e-signed]

Erwan MARTEIL
Head of Unit

Contact: ECHO-CP-P&P@ec.europa.eu

Enclosures:

- Annex 1: TAFF Factsheet
- Annex 2: Guide for applicants
- Annex 3: TAFF Expression of Interest (EOI) Template
- Annex 4: TAFF Evaluation of the EOI Criteria
- Annex 5: TAFF Indicative Table of Activities
- Annex 6: TAFF Booklet with an overview of 2025 and 2024 projects
- Questions and Answers
- Agenda of the Info Day – 12 February 2026 (see next page)

- INFORMATION DAY -
THURSDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2026, 10:00 – 12:30 CET
WEB STREAMING

10:00	Welcome of participants and preliminary remarks Erwan Marteil, Head of Unit, <i>B.3 Prevention and Preparedness Capacity Building, DG ECHO, European Commission</i>
10:10	Overview of Track 1 grants Cristina Brailescu, Team Leader, <i>DG ECHO B.3 Prevention and Preparedness Capacity Building</i>
10:20	Overview of the call for proposals: call document and recommendations for a good proposal Juan Francisco Galvan Montero, Planning and Programming Officer, <i>DG ECHO B.3</i> Application process: online platform and application form Cristina Colaco, Call Coordinator, <i>DG ECHO B.3</i> Questions & answers – <i>slido.com</i>
11:20	<i>Wellbeing break</i>
11:25	Introduction to the Technical Assistance Financing Facility (TAFF) Christian Aagaard, Call Coordinator, <i>DG ECHO B.3</i> Overview of the 2026 TAFF call for Expression of Interest, including process and form Zuzana Stanton-Geddes, Sr. Disaster Risk Management Specialist, <i>World Bank</i> ; and Cristina Otano, Sr. Operations Officer, <i>Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)</i> Questions & answers – <i>slido.com</i>
12:25 – 12.30	Concluding remarks