



RISK FINANCING
& INVESTMENT



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INTRA-ACP DISASTER RISK REDUCTION PROGRAMME

Implemented with the European Union,
the World Bank and the Global Fund
for Disaster Risk Reduction (GFDRR)

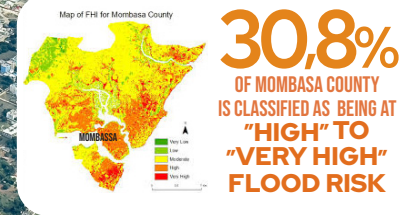


CASE STUDY

RISK REDUCTION INVESTMENT

Mombasa Strengthens Resilient Urban Planning

With support from the Intra-ACP DRR Programme, Mombasa is accelerating risk-informed planning to address rising flood and coastal hazards. Through World Bank/GFDRR technical assistance, the city is strengthening climate risk analysis, improving governance frameworks, and identifying investment priorities for greener, safer and more inclusive infrastructure—helping transform resilience into concrete action.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

01 COUNTRY/REGION/LOCATION

Mombasa County, Kenya – a rapidly growing coastal port city exposed to climate and urban risks.

02 RISK ADDRESSED

Urban flooding, coastal erosion, extreme rainfall impacts, and systemic vulnerabilities linked to drainage and land use.

03 IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD/TIMEFRAME

April 2024 to December 2025, supporting risk assessment and investment-oriented resilience planning.

04 ACTORS/IMPLEMENTING AND LOCAL PARTNERS

Intra-ACP DRR Programme, **EU, World Bank** and **GFDRR**, working with national and county authorities.

05 KEY BENEFICIARIES

Residents and **businesses** in high-risk zones, **public services**, and **infrastructure systems** across Mombasa County.

CONTEXT AND CHALLENGE

Mombasa is a strategic economic hub for Kenya and East Africa, driven by trade, tourism and rapid urban growth. Yet its coastal geography and accelerating development increase exposure to climate hazards. Flooding is amplified by inadequate drainage, encroachment into flood-prone areas, and growing pressure on ecosystems that naturally protect the shoreline.

Climate change is intensifying rainfall variability and compounding coastal risks, while informal expansion and infrastructure gaps reinforce vulnerability for communities and critical assets. In this context, Mombasa needs **robust risk information, stronger planning tools**, and **investment-ready options** to ensure future infrastructure development reduces risk rather than locking in exposure.

WHY THIS ACTION MATTERS?

- Urban floods and coastal hazards can disrupt **transport, services, livelihoods** and **local economies** – especially in fast-growing coastal cities.
- By **translating climate-informed risk assessment into practical planning and investment priorities**, Mombasa strengthens its capacity to anticipate shocks, protect communities, and safeguard critical infrastructure.
- This approach also helps ensure that **major development projects integrate resilience from the outset**, reducing long-term costs and future losses.

See the intervention and results on page 2 →



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INTERVENTION AND APPROACH

The **intervention supports Mombasa's transition** towards **risk-informed urban development** through targeted technical assistance delivered by the **World Bank/GFDRR** under the Intra-ACP DRR Programme. A detailed flood risk assessment is being finalised, focusing on high-risk zones and integrating climate-informed projections to better anticipate future hazards. In parallel, the initiative identifies **practical options for risk reduction**, including **nature-based solutions** (such as mangrove restoration), **improved drainage systems**, and **early warning enhancements**. Beyond infrastructure measures, a capacity needs assessment reviews ins-

titutional and regulatory frame-works—examining planning tools, zoning practices, building codes, and development processes—to identify entry points for mainstreaming resilience into urban planning. This dual approach strengthens both the evidence base and the enabling environment for action.

Importantly, outputs are designed to directly inform **investment strategies of the EU, the World Bank and other partners**, ensuring that resilience is translated into concrete, implementable priorities aligned with Mombasa's long-term development objectives and inclusive growth ambitions.

PROGRAMME OUTPUT ALIGNMENT



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This action supports the Intra-ACP DRRP by strengthening Investing in Resilience, translating flood risk evidence into practical investment guidance that helps partners prioritise resilient infrastructure choices and climate-smart urban planning aligned with their investment strategies.



Over the past year, the Mombasa City Lab has shown that by bringing together government, communities, and technical experts, we can tackle one of our city's greatest challenges: urban flooding.



H.E. DG FRANCIS THOYA
Deputy Governor of Mombasa

RESULTS AND CHANGE

- 1 Stronger risk intelligence for decision-making.** Flood risk analysis improved understanding of high-risk zones and future climate impacts, enabling better planning choices.
- 2 Investment priorities guided by resilience evidence.** Findings are informing partner investment strategies and helping integrate risk reduction into infrastructure design choices.
- 3 Improved institutional readiness and governance entry points.** Assessment of policies, codes and planning processes identified opportunities to embed resilience systematically across sectors.
- 4 Greater momentum towards green and inclusive solutions.** Nature-based and hybrid options were prioritised, supporting both hazard reduction and ecosystem protection outcomes.

EARLY CONCRETE UPTAKE IN ONGOING INVESTMENTS:

EU GLOBAL GATEWAY - MOMBASA-KILIFI HIGHWAY



The EU-funded Mombasa-Kilifi highway project under Global Gateway is already integrating flood risk evidence produced through the assessments, helping ensure that design and planning choices strengthen long-term infrastructure resilience.



CLEAN OCEANS/COPIP - CIRCULAR SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT



Mombasa's circular solid waste management initiative, supported through the COPIP programme, is aligning with DRR findings by recognising poor waste management as a key driver of urban flooding and prioritising solutions with resilience co-benefits.



WHAT MADE THE DIFFERENCE?



INVESTMENT-ORIENTED RISK ANALYSIS



STRONG TECHNICAL PARTNERSHIP: EU - WB - GFDRR WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES



CLIMATE-INFORMED FLOOD MODELLING



COMBINATION OF GREY + GREEN + HYBRID SOLUTIONS



SOURCES

<https://alliancebioversityciat.org/stories/bringing-climate-information-life-mu...lit, secatio consero int.>

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