



INTRA-ACP DRR PROGRAMME

Scaling Investment in Resilience

From reactive disaster financing to proactive and risk-informed investment



Insights from the Technical Working Group
Brussels, 2 June 2026

The Intra-ACP Disaster Risk Reduction Programme convened its first Technical Working Group on Scaling Investment in Resilience to discuss how African, Caribbean and Pacific countries can move from predominantly reactive disaster financing towards more proactive, sustainable and risk-informed investment.

Bringing together the European Union, OACPS, and the DRRP Implementing Partners which include regional organisations, development finance institutions, UN agencies and technical experts, the TWG drew on practical programme experience to identify what enables resilience investment to take root, scale and endure.



EIGHT KEY FINDINGS FROM THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

01



Resilience must be financed before disasters occur

Resilience is built through proactive investment in prevention, preparedness, risk-informed planning and resilient development – not through post-disaster recovery alone.

03



Risk Analytics must inform investment decisions

Risk analytics, hazard information and evidence-based planning need to become an integral part of investment design and decision-making.

05



Private capital remains underutilised

Mobilising private investment requires clearer incentives, stronger value propositions, enabling regulatory frameworks and engagement with private actors from the outset.

07



Knowledge management requires greater attention

The DRRP has generated substantial experience and evidence. Successful approaches now need to be systematically captured, communicated and shared so they can inform replication and future investment.

02



Governance is the foundation of resilience investment

Government ownership, supportive legislation, institutional coordination and the integration of DRR into national and sectoral planning and budgeting systems are essential enabling conditions.

04



Diversified disaster risk financing instruments are critical

Sovereign parametric insurance, contingency funds, catastrophe bonds, contingent credit and other innovative instruments can provide rapid liquidity and strengthen financial resilience when deployed as part of a diversified financing strategy.

06



Project preparation remains a major bottleneck

Many countries have promising resilience concepts but lack the technical capacity, project preparation support and financial structuring required to turn them into investment-ready projects.

08



Sustainability beyond the current programme cycle must be prioritised

With the DRRP entering its final implementation phase, successful approaches need to be institutionalised and connected to sustainable financing pathways that can continue beyond the programme.

THE CASE FOR PROACTIVE RESILIENCE INVESTMENT

Why invest before disasters occur?



THE SCALE OF LOSS

USD 200 billion

Estimated annual direct disaster losses worldwide.



A MUCH HIGHER OVERALL COST

USD 2.3 trillion

Potential annual losses when wider economic and indirect impacts are taken into account.



PREVENTIVE INVESTMENT REMAINS MARGINAL

Only 1–2%

of Official Development Assistance was allocated to disaster risk reduction between 2019 and 2023.





FROM RESILIENCE ACTION TO INVESTMENT

DRRP experience shows that scaling investment in resilience depends on a connected pathway of mutually reinforcing conditions and actions.

Across different country contexts, programme interventions illustrate how stronger governance can create the institutional foundations and enabling conditions for investing in resilience; how risk assessments and analytics can then inform priorities and investment decisions; how these priorities can be translated into investment-ready projects; and how public finance and disaster risk financing instruments can ultimately mobilise and sustain the resources required. The examples below each **illustrate a different stage of this pathway, showing how DRRP-supported interventions can contribute to moving resilience from policy and risk knowledge towards concrete, financeable investment.**

GOVERNANCE

📍 VANUATU

Creating the institutional foundations for investment

Formalised **Provincial Disaster & Climate Change Committee** enabled inclusive decision-making, access to national financing and created a governance model subsequently replicated across additional provinces.

RISK ASSESSMENT

📍 BURUNDI

Turning recovery evidence into resilience investment intelligence

Post-disaster and climate-risk assessments informed the climate-resilient design of a €79 million Global Gateway investment in the Port of Bujumbura.

INVESTMENT PLANNING

📍 SAINT LUCIA

Translating risk analysis into investment-ready projects

Risk analytics and pre-feasibility work informed a **USD 25 million Urban Resilient Flood Investment Project**, combining green and grey infrastructure.

PUBLIC FINANCE

📍 KENYA

Embedding resilience within public financial management

Disaster and climate budget tagging and expenditure tracking systems strengthened visibility and accountability for resilience expenditure across government and helped shift financing away from reactive emergency reallocations.

RISK FINANCING

📍 MALAWI & ZAMBIA

Moving from reactive financing towards pre-arranged financial protection

Anticipatory parametric drought insurance demonstrated how financial instruments can support action before disaster impacts peak; Zambia financed its premium directly through the national budget.

FROM LESSONS TO INVESTMENT: BUILDING THE CASE FOR RESILIENCE

The TWG concluded that scaling resilience requires more than mobilising additional finance. It depends on stronger governance and institutional capacity, better use of risk intelligence and project preparation, and closer integration of resilience considerations into public and private investment decisions.

Resilience should therefore be positioned not as a standalone sector, but as an enabler of sustainable investment. Integrating risk analytics, governance reforms, planning tools and resilience assessments upstream can help reduce risk, improve project bankability and protect larger infrastructure and development investments.

Building on the experience and evidence generated through the DRRP, the next step will be to develop a stronger resilience investment case within the European Union's Global Gateway framework. This will help demonstrate more systematically how DRRP approaches can contribute to de-risking investment, strengthening project pipelines and enabling larger-scale public and private investment in resilience.

➔ To support this process, DRRP experience and case studies will be further consolidated into practical evidence and guidance for policymakers, financial institutions and investors.

