

Disaster Risk Finance Academy: Affordable Disaster Risk Insurance through Public-Private Partnerships

Istanbul, Türkiye | April 7-11, 2025

Overview

Program Description: In partnership with the Turkish Catastrophe Insurance Pool (TCIP), the Insurance Development Forum, and academic partners, the *Disaster Risk Finance Academy: Affordable Disaster Risk Insurance through Public-Private Partnerships Program*'s objective is to help countries accelerate the development of disaster insurance markets through public-private insurance partnerships (PPIPs).

Participants in this program will:

1. Understand how effective PPIPs are developed, learning from larger-scale programs in peer countries with proven impact
2. Learn the essential elements for PPIPs and disaster-risk finance which can contribute to increased resilience and more stable growth
3. Work with local and international academia, think-tanks, private sector, and other stakeholders to identify the building blocks of high-quality disaster insurance markets and risk-finance mechanisms fitted to the needs and challenges in their country.

Location: Panorama Room and Panorama Terrace, 1st Floor, the Grand Tarabya Hotel

Agenda

Day 1			
Introductions, Overview and Fundamentals of Disaster Risk Finance (DRF)			
8:30-9:15	Opening ceremony	Opening remarks, introduction to the program, expectations for the week	J. Humberto Lopez, Country Director for the Republic of Türkiye, World Bank Group (WBG) Emine Feray Sezgin, Vice President Insurance and Private Pension Regulation and Supervision Authority (SEDDK), chairman of the Board of the Turkish Catastrophe Insurance Pool (TCIP) Mustafa Erdik, Prof. Dr. Emeritus of Earthquake Engineering, Bogazici University / TCIP Jean Pesme, Global Director, Finance, Competitiveness & Innovation (FCI) Global Department, WBG
9:15-9:30	Introductions	Ice breaking exercise	Table discussions led by WB TTLs
9:30-10:30	Context and ambition in my country – Part 1	2 min per country presentations by delegates on their risk profile, DRF in their country, their objectives and expectations for the week to identify common areas of interest	Country delegations: Algeria Albania Djibouti Egypt Georgia Jordan Kazakhstan
10:30-10:50	Coffee break and group photo		
10:50-11:15	Fundamentals of DRF	Framing presentation as foundation for the week	Reda Aboutajdine, Senior Financial Sector Specialist, World Bank Group
11:15-12:15	Context and ambition in my country – Part 2	2 min per country presentations by delegates on their risk profile, DRF in their country, their objectives and expectations for the week to identify common areas of interest	Country delegations: Kyrgyz Republic Moldova Morocco Tajikistan Tunisia Türkiye Uzbekistan
12:15-13:15	Lunch		
Making DRF solutions sustainable – the role of public financial management (PFM)			
13:15-14:15	Embedding DRF in the budget cycle	Technical framing presentation on disaster risk-based budgeting, followed by discussion between delegates in country groups	Tatiana Skalon, Senior Financial Sector Specialist, WBG and Stephanie Allan, Public Financial Management Expert

14:00-14:15	DRF in government budget	Technical framing presentation about how to get government administered disaster funds right	Tatiana Skalon and Stephanie Allan
14:15-14:45	Experience in my country on disaster funds	Country delegates will present their experience	Morocco and Moldova delegates
14:45-15:15	Coffee break		
15:15-16:15	What instruments can my country access to finance disaster response? The WB Crisis Response Toolkit	World Café – 3 rotating topics of discussion in groups with host expert	Country delegates discussion with WB specialists
16:15-16:30	Wrapping up and key takeaways		Omer Emekcioglu, Assoc.Prof. Dr. Deputy Director of the Disaster Management Institute & Vice Coordinator of the International Affairs Office, ITU University
16:30-17:00	Discussions in country groups to identify relevant lessons and actions		Moderated by Lili Sisombat, Senior Knowledge and Learning Officer, WBG
18:00	Networking dinner		
Day 2			
Enhancing Financial Resilience for Vulnerable Households and Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)			
8:30-8:45	Look forward to day 2		WBG team
8:45-9:30	Protecting vulnerable households	Technical framing presentation on the value of building the financial resilience of households, and how this might differ for countries with greater or less developed markets	Evie Calcutt, Senior Financial Sector Specialist, WBG and Sophie Evans, Associate Director, Centre for Disaster Protection (CDP)
9:30 – 9:45	Experience in my country of delivering sovereign support through digital payments	Country delegate to present their experience: Kazakhstan	Ms. Aitpisheva Assemgul, Head of the Department at the Central Bank’s National Payment corporation
9:45 - 10:15	Group exercise	Delegates will receive a hypothetical disaster scenario and prepare a proposal for how best to respond through existing delivery mechanisms in their respective countries and how to strengthen their reach through future investments	Moderated by Sophie Evans
10:15-10:45	Coffee break		

10:45-11:15	Protecting vulnerable MSMEs	Framing presentation on the impact of natural catastrophes on MSMEs and the jobs market, including risk coping strategies and role of access to finance, drawing on experiences from COVID-19	Evie Calcutt
11:15 – 11:30	Experience of protecting businesses	Presenting a new project in Pakistan with financing for microfinance institutions to on lend to firms and others affected by climate shocks	Evie Calcutt
11:30 - 12:00	Group exercise	Delegates to consider the same hypothetical disaster scenario from the previous exercise and consider how their government would support firms in that situation, given their past lessons	Moderated by Evie Calcutt
12:00-13:00	Lunch		
Getting Agriculture Insurance Right			
13:00-13:20	Introduction to agriculture insurance	Technical framing presentation on the motivation for, and main elements of agricultural insurance	John Plevin, Senior Financial Sector Specialist, WBG
13:20-13:50	The role of public and private sector	Technical framing presentation on PPIPs, their value, and key elements	Charles Stutley, Agricultural Insurance Expert
13:50 -14:20	Experience of agriculture insurance in my country	Country delegate to present their experience	Albania and Morocco delegates
14:20-14:45	Coffee break		
14:45-15:45	Interactive discussion - over coffee - on unblocking private sector involvement	Group discussions led by International Finance Corporation (IFC) insurance specialists	Fatou Assah, Principal Operations Officer, and Zeeshan Ahmed Vazeer, Senior Insurance Specialist, IFC
15:45 – 16:30	Experience of agriculture insurance in my country	Presentation on successes and lessons learned from implementing agricultural insurance in Türkiye	Ayşe Berrin Bice and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hasan Cumhuri Sarisu, TARSIM, Türkiye
16:30-16:45	Wrapping up and key takeaways		Gulum Tanircan, Prof.Dr. Earthquake Engineering, ITU University
16:45-17:15	Discussions in country groups to identify relevant lessons and actions		Moderated by Lili Sisombat
Evening	Optional: informal meet the experts		
Day 3			
Getting Property Catastrophe Insurance Right			
8:30-8:45	Look forward to day 3		

8:45-9:00	Introduction to property catastrophe insurance	Technical presentation on key concepts around designing property catastrophe insurance programs	Sid Miller, Catastrophe Insurance Expert
9:00-10:30	Public-private partnerships in property catastrophe insurance	World Café – 3 rotating topics on: (i) understanding the problem, (ii) design and development, and (iii) claims management. Participants will have factsheets to fill in for each of the groups	Sid Miller, Tatiana Skalon, John Plevin Insurance Development Forum representatives: Panayotis Koulovasilopoulos, Senior Underwriter, Hiscox Fedra De Angelis Effrem, Public Sector Solutions Manager, Swiss Re Anıl Gümüş, Head of Commercial Lines Underwriting and Zeynep Tecimer, Head of Claims, AXA Sigorta
10:30-10:45	Coffee break		
10:45-11:45	International experience sharing	Short talks on property catastrophe insurance PPIPs (Morocco, Kyrgyz Republic, New Zealand, Switzerland)	Kyrgyz Republic and Morocco delegates Sid Miller Fedra De Angelis Effrem
11:45 – 12:00	Wrapping up and key takeaways		Omer Emekcioglu, ITU University
12:00-13:00	Lunch		
13:00-13:30	Discussions in country groups to identify relevant lessons and actions		Moderated by Lili Sisombat
Study Visit			
13:30-17:30	Study Visit to Turkish Catastrophe Insurance Pool (TCIP)	Led by TCIP team, study visit will focus on technical design, risk modeling and data, governance, legal environment, implementation, etc.	Led by Serpil Günal, General Secretary, TCIP
Day 4			
Insurance Development Forum (IDF) – Private Sector Exchange			
8:30-8:45	Recap of day 3 – delegates to speak about two things they learned in TCIP - and look forward to day 4		
8:45-10:30	International market perspective	Introduction and presentations from IDF members: (i) underwriting perspective – how does the market think about and manage risk; (ii) insurance in practice: what works, what does not?; (iii) innovation in insurance. Q&A from the delegates to the private sector	IDF representatives , including: Panayotis Koulovasilopoulos, Senior Underwriter, Hiscox Wendy Smith, Agriculture & Public-Private Partnerships Lead, AXA Anjum Masood, South Asia Operations Manager, Blue Marble
10:30-10:45	Coffee break		
10:45-11:45	Exploring regional approaches	Presentation on experience of regional risk finance and insurance initiatives followed by group discussion	Evie Calcutt
11:45-12:00	Wrapping up and key messages		Gulum Tanircan, ITU University

12:00-13:00	Lunch		
13:00-14:30	Group exercise	Delegates in groups will develop ideas jointly with IDF on how to design PPIPs to address specific DRF priorities to pitch the ideas in shark tank style	Moderated by John Plevin
15:30-18:00	Visit to earthquake observatory	Visit to the Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute	Nurcan Ozel, Prof.Dr. Geophysics & Director of Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute and Mustafa Erdik, Bogazici University
Day 5			
Translating Knowledge into Action and Outcomes			
8:30-8:45	Look forward to the final day		
8:45-10:30	Translating knowledge into action: soft skills	Training from the university on how to implement what was learned during the week in practice including stakeholder mapping and influencing	Nihan Yildirim, Assoc. Prof. in Department of Management Engineering, ITU University
10:30-10:45	Coffee break		
10:45-11:30	Action plans	Country teams to wrap up the week with an action plan	Moderated by Lili Sisombat
11:30-12:15	Shark tank judging		Moderated by John Plevin
12:15-13:00	Lunch		
13:00-13:30	Certificate distribution and closing remarks		

For more information, please contact

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