



REPAIR Peer-to-Peer Workshop provides platform for regional knowledge exchange on Disaster Risk Financing strategies

Disaster management leaders from across Eastern and Southern Africa gathered in Madagascar in September for a REPAIR Program workshop on disaster risk financing. Fresh off triggering a \$19.9 million activation following two severe tropical cyclones earlier this year, host country Madagascar shared key operational and financial strategies with delegates from Burundi, Malawi, Seychelles, and Zambia. Officials from Madaga-

-scar's treasury (DGT), disaster management agency (BNGRC), emergency prevention unit (CPGU), and the country's development fund (FID) provided insider accounts on coordinating rapid recovery efforts across the island. The event served as a two-way knowledge exchange, allowing both Phase 1 and Phase 2 participating nations to refine their disaster financing strategies ahead of future climate shocks.



REPAIR disbursement funds school kits for flood-affected children

In March 2026, the town of Gatumba in Western Burundi was hit by severe floods directly impacting over 4,400 families. Following an activation request by the authorities, the program disbursed USD198,238 for the procurement of school kits for 4,500 children. Containing books, pens, pencils, mathematical instruments, and a pair of school uniforms, these kits are helping to safeguard the continuity of their studies following the floods. Recipients of the kits were selected by school principals and teachers in concert with parents so as to ensure that the most vulnerable children were given priority.

REPAIR countries prepare for 'super' El Nino

Governments across Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) are scaling up anticipatory measures to mitigate the severe humanitarian and economic impacts of El Niño. Facing dual risks - widespread flooding in East Africa and prolonged droughts across Southern Africa - authorities are mobilizing multi-layered preparedness plans.

These plans include operationalizing pre-arranged disaster risk financing, such as the REPAIR program, to ensure emergency resources reaches vulnerable populations before disaster strikes, and deploying pre-positioned supplies for rapid deployment.





Comoros SIMEX uses cyclone scenario to test disaster preparedness

Representatives from national ministries, civil security agencies, and international partners gathered in August for simulation exercise designed to test the Comoros' emergency response capabilities during a major natural disaster. The exercise, organized by the Directorate General of Civil Security (DGRC), forms a core component of REPAIR.

Building on Comoros' milestone achievement as the first nation to disburse REPAIR reserves in December 2024, the simulation put institutional frameworks into practice.

Participants tested alert systems, command center

operations, inter-agency coordination, and funding triggers against a realistic intense cyclone scenario.

By stressing operations, identifying systemic gaps, and improving cross-institutional workflows before the next major cyclone hits, the initiative aimed to turn institutional readiness into immediate, life-saving operational capacity.

As REPAIR senior program manager, Eric Kouevi, noted in his opening remarks: *"A successful simulation exercise isn't one where everything goes perfectly—it's one where we dare to expose our vulnerabilities in a safe environment, ensuring we don't first uncover them when lives are on the line."*



Mozambique conducts first AAR

Over the past 18 months, Mozambique has twice activated REPAIR following Cyclone Jude in 2025 and devastating floods earlier this year triggering disbursements totaling USD36.8M.

To evaluate these responses, key government stakeholders and disaster management agencies recently convened in Maputo in for an After Action Review (AAR). The workshop established a dedicated action tracker to monitor lessons learned and featured a focused segment on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) mainstreaming.

REPAIR visits BNGRC HQ

As part of the REPAIR peer-to-peer learning workshop in Antananarivo, participants had the opportunity to visit the headquarters of the Bureau National de Gestion des Risques et Catastrophes (BNGRC), Madagascar's nerve centre for disaster management and response.

After being welcomed by the agency's Director general, General Gabriel Ramanantsoa, they were treated to a guided visit of the various cells, including the CERVO unit, which aims to transform technical knowledge into emergency assistance on the ground.



Spotlight on REPAIR beneficiaries



In early February, Lydia and her family lost their home to flooding when intense tropical cyclone Gezani tore through Tamatave. She later enrolled in the cash-for-work (CFW) scheme funded by the REPAIR disbursement of USD11 million to help rehabilitate the city's infrastructure.

According to Lydia, one of the most striking changes was the revival of community cohesion. Prior to the launch of the CFW scheme, residents attempted to clear debris on their own under difficult and often hazardous conditions. The initiative brought neighbors together around a common goal, working side by side to restore their neighbourhood. Ultimately, this collective action not only accelerated the cleanup but also restored confidence following the impact of the cyclone.



Seychelles signs its first delivery channel

Last month, the Government of Seychelles signed a milestone performance agreement with the Agency for Social Protection (ASP) to streamline emergency financial relief following climate-related disasters. Under the agreement, the ASP will serve as the primary delivery channel for rapid household cash transfers when shocks like floods, landslides, food insecurity, or tsunamis strike, ensuring critical liquidity for affected families during recovery efforts.

The ASP will draw on its existing beneficiary registry and payment infrastructure to reach affected households quickly, while also being able to extend support to newly affected families identified in the aftermath of a shock.

MEET THE TEAM

Eric Kouevi - Senior Program Manager

Eric is a development finance professional with over 15 years of experience advising governments and financial institutions on capital markets, disaster risk financing, and strategy.

Founder of Dzifa & Co. and Serenity International, Eric previously served as Country Director at the Tony Blair Institute, advising the President of Togo. Oxford- and Sorbonne-educated, he combines deep expertise in francophone Africa with a continental footprint across Anglophone and Lusophone markets.



What is REPAIR?

Launched in October 2024, the Regional Emergency Preparedness and Access to Inclusive Recovery (REPAIR) Program is committed to strengthening the financial and operational preparedness of Eastern & Southern African (ESA) countries against climate shocks. The program currently comprises Angola, Burundi, Comoros, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Seychelles and Zambia. Ultimately, participation in REPAIR will grow to 12 participating countries.

REPAIR is a World Bank project implemented by ARC Ltd. It is centered around a USD926 million Regional Climate Risk Fund, with a further USD795 million expected to be leveraged from private capital by 2031. An additional grant funding from the Global Shield Financing Facility supports the implementation of Technical Assistance services for both financial and operational preparedness activities by ARC Ltd.

By providing access to tailored and adapted pre-arranged financing facilities, coupled with efficient and transparent mechanisms to channel funding to affected communities, REPAIR supports effective and gender-sensitive responses in times of need. REPAIR also supports adapted coping mechanisms for Micro-, Small and Medium Enterprises and Women-Owned/Led Small and Medium Enterprises.



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