



# Combined Project Information Documents / Integrated Safeguards Datasheet (PID/ISDS)

Appraisal Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 21-May-2018 | Report No: PIDISDSA24097



**BASIC INFORMATION**

**A. Basic Project Data**

Country Romania	Project ID P166302	Project Name Disaster Risk Management Project	Parent Project ID (if any)
Region EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA	Estimated Appraisal Date 21-May-2018	Estimated Board Date 02-Aug-2018	Practice Area (Lead) Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience Global Practice
Financing Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Romania (through its Ministry of Public Finance)	Implementing Agency Ministry of Internal Affairs - Department of Emergency Situations and General Inspectorate for Emerg	

Proposed Development Objective(s)

The Project Development Objective is to enhance the resilience of critical disaster and emergency response facilities and to strengthen the institutional capacities in investment planning for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation

Components

Improving Resilience of Disaster and Emergency Response Infrastructure  
Enhancing Institutional Capacity for Risk Reduction Investment Planning  
Project Management

**PROJECT FINANCING DATA (US\$, Millions)**

**SUMMARY**

<b>Total Project Cost</b>	60.48
<b>Total Financing</b>	60.48
<b>of which IBRD/IDA</b>	60.48
<b>Financing Gap</b>	0.00

**DETAILS**

**World Bank Group Financing**



International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)

60.48

Environmental Assessment Category

B-Partial Assessment

Decision

The review did authorize the team to appraise and negotiate

Other Decision (as needed)

## B. Introduction and Context

### Country Context

- 1. Romania is one of the fastest growing economies in the European Union (EU), with growth of 7 percent in 2017.** Growth was led by the private consumption (up to 9.5 percent annually), which was fueled by the reductions of the standard Value Added Tax (VAT) rate and of the Personal Income Tax (PIT) and the Corporate Income Tax (CIT) and by increases in the minimum and public-sector wages and pensions. Despite its fast-economic growth over the last years, Romania still faces the twin challenges of inclusion and consolidating the sustainability of its growth model by focusing on better quality investments, and higher productivity and exports, rather than only domestic consumption. Investment growth increased by just 1.1 percent reflecting the poor performance of public investment mainly due to the decrease in EU investment funding.
- 2. Romania is still among the poorest countries in the EU.** With more than a third of its population living on less than \$5 per day measured in 2005 PPP terms, Romania has the highest share of population living in moderate poverty in the EU. While growth was broadly inclusive over the past 10 years, the 2008 financial crisis halted progress in poverty reduction and growth in income for the bottom 40 percent. While income of the bottom 40 percent increased by an annualized 12.6 percent between 2006 and 2008, despite the relevant measures taken by the Government to overcome the crisis, the income growth was negative on average for all households and the incomes of the bottom 40 percent were hit by some of the largest shocks in the region from 2009 to 2013, due to large-scale employment losses and reductions in pension benefits.
- 3. Thus, the Government's program for 2017-20 is focused on further investments in infrastructure, healthcare, education, supporting job creation and small and medium enterprise development, in addition to tax and pension reforms.** The Government's Program reconfirms Romania's roadmap for achieving the Europe 2020 objectives for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. It prioritizes the use of EU funds for investment in line with the European Structural and Investment Funds envelope for 2014-20, which amounts to approximately EUR 40 billion.



## Sectoral and Institutional Context

4. **Geophysical and climate-related disasters pose a considerable threat for Romania's poverty alleviation efforts and its sustainable economic growth and its sustainable economic growth, with disaster losses growing with climate change and urbanization.** Romania is prone to a range of natural disasters, particularly earthquakes, floods, drought and extreme weather, which have resulted in significant physical, social and financial impacts over recent decades. Since 1990, 77 severe disaster events<sup>1</sup> were recorded in Romania, including 44 floods, 15 extreme temperature events, 7 storms, 2 earthquakes, 1 drought and 1 landslide resulted in over US\$3.5 billion of direct damage<sup>23</sup>. At the same time, disaster impacts are increasing including due to (i) increased exposure of people and economic assets; (ii) insufficient funding for risk reduction; and (iii) climate change effects.

5. **Romania's vulnerability to natural disasters will be further exacerbated by climate change.** Romania's climate is predicted to change considerably over the next 50-100 years. Increases in air temperatures vary between climate models, but increases in the annual average temperature are expected to be in the range of between 0.5°C – 1.5°C by 2029; and 2.0°C – 5.0°C by 2099 (depending on the global climate scenario used). Projected increases in temperature and changes are expected to lead to more frequent and persistent heat waves, and more spatially-extended droughts. The total amount of annual precipitation is projected to decrease by 10 percent to 20 percent (depending on climate model scenarios and geography within Romania) by the end of the century. Precipitation patterns are also expected to become more irregular, with more frequent shorter, intense, localized rainfall events increasing flood risk. Observed and anticipated climate change impacts include the increased incidence of severe inland flooding and frequency of flash floods, the increased intensity and frequency of droughts, and an increased risk of soil erosion and desertification.

6. **Romania is one of the country's most at risk from earthquakes in the European Union (EU), with hundreds of lives lost and tens of thousands of buildings damaged in earthquakes in the last 200 years<sup>4</sup>.** In the last 5 centuries, there have been on average two magnitude-7+ earthquakes each century, with five earthquakes since 1802 with magnitudes higher than 7.5. Moreover, seismic experts consider an 8.1 magnitude earthquake possible. The vulnerability of the Romanian economy to earthquakes is exacerbated by the fact that more than 75% of the population (or 65% of urban population) and 45% of all critical transport, energy, water, communication services are in areas with high earthquake hazard.<sup>5</sup> Furthermore, 60-75 % of Romania's fixed assets which contribute to 70-80 % of the country's GDP are located in seismic zones.

7. **Bucharest is the most earthquake-prone capital city in the EU due to its proximity to the Vrancea earthquake zone which is capable of producing earthquakes as high as moment magnitude 8.1<sup>6</sup>.** In 1977,

<sup>1</sup> To be classified as a disaster, it must conform to at least one of the following criteria: 10 or more dead, 100 or more affected, declaration of state of emergency and/or call for international assistance (EM-DAT).

<sup>2</sup> EM-DAT Disaster Database: [www.em-dat.be](http://www.em-dat.be)

<sup>3</sup> Many other smaller disasters occur on an annual basis which are not reflected in the EM-DAT database.

<sup>4</sup> Vulnerability to seismic risk is due to Romania's geographical location on the Vrancea subduction zone. Proximity to the fault and poor soils mean that Bucharest is among Europe's capital city with the highest disaster risk and one of the 10 most vulnerable cities to seismic risks in the world.

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.igsu.ro/documente/RO-RISK/Raport\\_Final\\_de\\_tara.pdf](https://www.igsu.ro/documente/RO-RISK/Raport_Final_de_tara.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> 2017. Professor Radu, Vacareanu, Technical University of Engineering Bucharest



a moment magnitude 7.4 earthquake caused over 1,500 fatalities, left 11,321 injured, and collapsed or severely damaged 156,000 residential apartments. More than 2,274 schools and 459 hospitals were severely damaged. In 1978, a World Bank report estimated a total loss of US\$2 billion in 1978 dollars, with Bucharest accounting for 70% of the total (approximately US\$1.4 billion). Scientists and engineers estimate that a similar event today might have direct damage costs of €7-11 billion Euros, with economic losses exceeding €25 billion. Estimates of fatalities range from 700 to 4,500<sup>7</sup>, with functionality and access to housing in Bucharest reduced to 30%, and rising slowly to 65% after a year and 90% after two years<sup>8</sup>. The increased concentration of economic assets and population growth in earthquake prone areas, such as Bucharest, means that the risk will increase over time, almost doubling by 2080, unless urgent action is taken to reduce and manage earthquake risks.

8. **Romania is also one of the most flood-prone countries in Europe<sup>9</sup> with significant damage from hydro-meteorological events occurring several times per decade.** In 2006, extreme floods resulted in economic damage equivalent to 1% of GDP. Romanian officials ordered the controlled flooding of thousands of hectares of unused agricultural spaces to prevent further damage in cities across Romania. 160 localities were affected, 10,000 homes damaged, about 600 km of roads and 300 bridges damaged, and 21,000 ha of farmland affected. Today, experts anticipate that a 100-year flood along the Danube River would affect more than 800,000 inhabitants, 3,550 communities, 5% of national highways, 700 km of major roads, more than 2000 km of county and local roads, 100 nationally protected areas, and more than 300 cultural heritage buildings<sup>10</sup>. For a 1000-year flood, more than 1.8 million inhabitants would be affected<sup>6</sup>. Moreover, by 2080 (considering change in socio-economic and climate conditions) GDP losses from floods may quadruple (depending on the mitigation pathway selected). Across Romania, GDP losses are highest in Ialomița and Satu Mare counties followed by Arad, Teleorman, Giurgiu and Calarasi counties.

9. **Romania also experiences increased frequency and intensity of landslides, wildfires, drought and extreme heat/cold events.** Bucharest currently ranks as the 5th fastest-warming city in the world. The frequency of wildfire events doubled from ~175 per year (1956-2005) to ~341 events per year in the last decade, with 25% increase in burn area per event<sup>6</sup>. While snowfall has decreased overall across the country, snow fall events are becoming more intense, such as the 2014 event. During the 1980 - 2012 period drought occurrences increased, with more than half of the years having amounts of precipitation below normal. For example, the 2011-2012 droughts resulted in 40-60% decline in crop yields. Landslides are frequent in some areas, associated with snowmelt and spring rain, intense rainfall in summer and earthquake activity. Most of the damage is related to homes and road infrastructure.

10. **The annual average risk to assets in Romania is 0.41% GDP and well-being risk is 0.58% GDP<sup>11</sup>.** Compared to other EU countries, Romania has high asset risk, significant risk to social well-being, and relatively lower resilience. For example, Romania: (a) faces double the risk to assets and socio-economic activity from disasters compared to Poland; (b) 70% of assets of the poor are vulnerable to destruction as

<sup>7</sup> Fatality ranges are so wide because the timing of the earthquake (day/night) significantly changes the number of people who could be inside buildings when they are damaged or collapse.

<sup>8</sup> Modelling undertaken by the Technical University of Bucharest

<sup>9</sup> From 1987 to 2002 Romania had the greatest area in the EU impacted by repeated floods. European Spatial Planning Observation Network 2004

<sup>10</sup> Risk Assessment conducted by the government of Romania, known as Ro-Risk.

<sup>11</sup> World Bank and Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery Resilience Indicator



compared to 43% in Poland, and the assets of the non-poor in Romania have three times the vulnerability as compared to Poland; and (c) 80% of the population have access to early warning in Romania, as compared to 100% in Poland. Considering actions that could be taken, **policies aimed at reducing exposure and vulnerability of assets and improving access to early warning systems – could reduce asset losses by 13% and well-being losses by 16%.** Policies aimed at increasing resilience – including access to savings, insurance and finance, accelerating reconstruction through access to finance and streamlined processes, post-disaster support etc. – could reduce asset losses by 2.8% and well-being losses by 14%.

11. **Romania is committed to improving disaster risk management, with improvements to the country's emergency response system a national priority.** This includes enhancing early warning systems, information management, modernizing equipment for search and rescue operations<sup>12</sup>, integrating preparedness and response procedures for medical and non-medical emergency situations and developing information campaigns and information applications for citizens. In addition to its national public awareness campaigns, local responders for emergency situations promote disaster risk actions at all levels with brochures, posters and flyers. Recently the government, through the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Department of Emergency Situations, has actively engaged local civil society to improve preparedness, response capability and to start training volunteers to support response. In 2008, the Government also introduced compulsory indemnity home insurance (PAID) was introduced to cover losses caused by earthquakes, floods and landslides, with current coverage of ~20% of homeowners.

12. **The structure for emergency and disaster response in Romania has undergone significant changes in recent decades.** Since 1989, Romania has been going through a major transition with associated re-organization of the disaster and emergency response structure.<sup>13</sup> Major changes were taken in 2004 through the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 21/2004 which set up the National System of Emergency Situations Management and created the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations by merging the Fire Brigade Military Corp and the Civil Protection Command. **In 2014 an update of the legal framework (Government Emergency Ordinance 1/2014) led to the creation of the DES, within the MoIA, which is in charge of national coordination of emergency prevention and management actions, the provision and coordination of human, material, financial and other resources needed to restore normality, including specialist first aid and emergency medical care in Emergency Care Units and Centres.** The DES coordinates the GIES, the General Inspectorate of Aviation (with respect to medical missions), and performs the operational coordination of territorial ambulance services in counties and in Bucharest, Emergency Rooms form the Emergency Hospitals, and of public mountain rescue services.

13. **The Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration is responsible for seismic risk reduction and the integration of disaster and climate risks in sub-national urban, land use and regional plans.** The National Program for Local Development covers infrastructure (roads, bridges, water treatment plants, schools, hospitals, cultural buildings) and a series of smaller programs are dedicated to sports buildings. MoRDPA also has responsibility for programs aimed at the reduction of seismic risk in the high-risk buildings in Romania, a program that has had limited success due to legislative and

---

<sup>12</sup> An Urban Search and Rescue Team, with the GIES, received accreditation in 2014 to the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) for disaster response in accordance with United Nations (UN) and European Union (EU) standards.

<sup>13</sup> Before 1989, the National Government took full responsibility for the reconstruction work in the aftermath of disasters. The Government mobilized military and other public/private resources through top-down directives to manage large-scale damages. All related financial consequences of large-scale disasters were managed by the state.



implementation issues. MoRDPA is also seeking to devise an improved strategy to address seismic risk in multifamily residential buildings, as part of its broader housing reform agenda. Finally, the MoRDPA has responsibility for the strengthening of building codes against seismic risk for new and existing buildings, and has recently commissioned further upgrades. The Ministry of Regional Development also holds the responsibility of supporting sub-national authorities in the integration of climate and disaster risk into development and urban plans.

14. **Romania also committed to the international Sendai Framework for Disaster Reduction 2015-2030 at the Third UN World Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan in 2015<sup>14</sup>.** The Sendai Framework is a 15-year, voluntary, non-binding agreement which recognizes that the State has the primary role to reduce disaster risk but that responsibility should be shared with other stakeholders including local government, the private sector and other stakeholders. It aims for the following outcome: The substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries.

15. **In the event of a major emergency that exceeds response and disaster management capacity at sub-national level, the National Committee for Special Emergency Situations (NCSES) can be convened.** The main piece of legislation regulating the emergency situations is the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 21/2004 on the National Emergency Situations Management System (NESMS, in Romanian: SNMSU - Sistemul Național de Management al Situațiilor de Urgență), as subsequently amended, and its secondary legislation and supplemented by the Government Decision (GD) (Ordinance) no. 94/2014 on certain measures for emergency situation management.

16. **The NCSES is formed of representatives of all Government ministries at the Minister or State Secretary level, including the MoIA and the MoPF, and is chaired by the Minister of Internal Affairs.** The NCSES will convene and the Chief of the DES will report on the disaster parameters. According to GD no. 94/2014, the NCSES will issue decisions with respect to actions that should be taken to respond to the disaster event calamity/emergency situations related to natural, technological, biological (such as pandemics), or radiological phenomena occurred or imminent threat of natural disaster. The decisions are voted on by all its members, according to process outlined in GD no. 94/2014. The resulting legal evidence is a Decision of the NCSES, which is signed by the President of the NCSES (currently Minister of Internal Affairs).

17. **The Department of Emergency Situations and the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations have made considerable progress** since their creation, including: leading Romania's commitment to the international policy for disaster risk reduction (the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction) in 2015<sup>15</sup>; creation and operationalization of the multi-sector, multi-institutional National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction that also brings together government, civil society, private sector and academia; implementation and operationalization of the NMISES; an emergency management information system that enables reporting of disaster and emergency situations and deployment of appropriate rescue and emergency services; and creation and training of volunteer emergency responders. Moreover, under the leadership of these institutions, Romania recently completed a multi-hazard risk assessment of Romania (RO-RISK) which was evaluated as robust and are in compliance with

---

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.preventionweb.net/files/globalplatform/romania11.pdf>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.unisdr.org/we/coordinate/sendai-framework>





EU standards. These institutions have also embarked on a significant program to upgrade and modernize its emergency and response equipment.

18. **Despite this progress, the government does not yet have a systematic process in place to reduce the seismic risk in public buildings that provide vital public services and are critical for rapid recovery in the event of a disaster.** Public buildings at risk of significant damage or collapse include fire stations, ambulance stations, civil protection command centers, city halls and hospitals – damage to which would significantly reduce the ability to rescue and care for injured persons and to continue critical health provision and public administrative functions. Despite 2,000 schools being severely damaged or collapsing in the 1977 earthquake, the education sector has not undertaken systematic seismic risk reduction interventions in preschool, kindergarten, elementary and secondary school buildings. Additionally, for critical lifeline utilities – water, energy, communication and transport – there is a lack of comprehensive measures to quantify and reduce risks from different hazards, an issue exacerbated by decentralized government ownership and oversight of such services.

19. **This increased incidence of natural disasters, coupled with the projected climate outlook for Romania, highlights an urgent need to enhance the country's physical, social and financial resilience to climate and disaster risks.** This can be achieved through a comprehensive disaster and climate resilience program in Romania which will include a combined approach of:

- a) Prioritizing urgent investments in risk reduction, preparedness and response, particularly in public buildings with critical functions prior to, during and post-disaster.
- b) Accelerating policy reforms aimed at building disaster and climate resilience
- c) Access to predictable post-disaster financing and enhancing the government's capacity to manage the fiscal impacts of natural disasters.

20. This project will support progress on (a), with a parallel Development Policy Loan with Catastrophic Drawdown Option (DPL with CAT-DDO) (P166303) focused on policy reform and access to contingent financing.

21. The proposed project as the first one in the series, starts with the one of the most urgent needs for a well-functioning disaster risk management system: disaster resilient emergency response facilities that meet modern standards. DES and GIES have already been using EU resources very efficiently to improve Romania's emergency response capacity with modern rescue and response equipment and vehicles. The proposed first project will support improving resilience in emergency response infrastructure, primarily in fire and ambulance stations and emergency coordination centers.

22. After the first project starts to demonstrate results, and as new risk assessments (building on RO-RISK), cost-benefit analysis and risk reduction plans become available, additional series of projects can be developed to undertake physical risk reduction in other high priority sectors in Romania. This future planning will also be supported by progress achieved in the policy reforms targeted in the Romania Cat-DDO.





23. The proposed project is envisioned as the first of a series of investment operations to support long-term physical resilience to disaster and climate risks in Romania, with future operations informed by data and analysis funded under this project.

### C. Proposed Development Objective(s)

#### Development Objective(s) (From PAD)

24. The Project Development Objective is to enhance the resilience of critical disaster and emergency response facilities and to strengthen the institutional capacities in investment planning for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation

#### Key Results

25. In the aftermath of disaster, it is critical that emergency coordination centers and rescue facilities are undamaged and fully operational, with staff uninjured, equipment undamaged and energy, water and communication systems functional. It is also critical that expected coverage of emergency operations such as fire stations are not compromised by one or more buildings suffering damage.

26. Emergency coordination centers under the Department for Emergency Situations and General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations have the responsibility to mobilize and direct local and national government resources to areas with the most urgent needs using the national information system for emergency situations (NMISES) and other emergency systems such as 112. The Department of Emergency Situations also coordinates international support through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism<sup>16</sup>, resources from the private sector and volunteers and non-governmental organizations.

27. Fire, Ambulance and Rescue Stations represent a critical part of the government's emergency and disaster response system. These buildings need to be modernized and strengthened to ensure that they are fully operational in any disaster and so the staff can mount the most effective and timely response possible in their area of coverage and responsibility.

28. This proposed project aims to strengthen, modernize and make energy efficient emergency coordination centers and fire and rescue stations with the highest exposure to earthquakes, with the most direct beneficiaries being the **1700 users of the around 35 identified buildings** (rescue personal, emergency and disaster management staff, volunteers and administrative staff). Through ensuring that these services are fully operational and can respond to the community needs within their area of responsibility, **the Project will reach 5 million beneficiaries in the community.**

### D. Project Description

29. The Project will have three key components: (a) Improving seismic resilience of disaster and emergency response infrastructure; (b) Enhancing technical capacity for risk reduction investment planning; and (c) Project management.

---

<sup>16</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/echo/what/civil-protection/mechanism\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/echo/what/civil-protection/mechanism_en)



30. Through the project, building up-to-standard and safer emergency and response buildings would result in avoiding creation of new risks against natural hazards and serve the purpose of long-term risk reduction. Retrofitted and reconstructed seismic and disaster resilient and furnished modern facilities will also contribute to a more efficient and effective disaster and emergency response system. In addition to enhancing the buildings resilience, retrofitting/reconstruction measures will also include energy efficiency and functional upgrades, which will in turn result in the savings of gas, electricity and water consumptions, thereby also reducing the carbon footprint of structurally intervened buildings.

31. Detailed design and roll-out of key interventions will be informed by the following cross-cutting areas:

a. Climate change: In addition to screening the project for climate and disaster risks, civil works to improve structural performance in the scope of the Project will be complemented by energy efficiency and climate change adaptation investments.

b. Gender: Designs to improve buildings will consider gender friendly spaces, safe bathroom and sanitary facilities. This is important as many of the emergency response buildings were constructed prior to women participating in emergency and disaster response and therefore the buildings do not have dedicated facilities for women. This is a challenge considering the changing gender profile in the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations (GIES) to include more women in recent years, and majority of the volunteers trained by GIES being women. Therefore, designs for upgrade and new construction will carefully consider this changing demographic. The Project aims to collect gender-disaggregated beneficiary data as during implementation gender-specific interventions may arise depending on the needs.

c. Universal Access and Disability: Given the construction age of many buildings, considerations around universal access and disability may be absent. Therefore, all upgrades will ensure buildings are compliant with EU and Romanian regulations on universal access.

### **Component 1: Improving seismic resilience of disaster and emergency response infrastructure**

32. The main objective of this component is to improve the seismic safety and disaster resilience of critical disaster and emergency response facilities through investments in building infrastructure, structural strengthening and modernization. This is especially important given that most buildings were constructed prior to 1990, before the current seismic and building codes were established. Improvements will ensure that these critical buildings are fully operational before, during and post-disaster for all types of disasters – earthquakes, floods, storms, extreme weather and so forth – by considering the resilience of critical systems such as energy, water and communications. Buildings will also receive energy efficiency improvements, aligned with EU and Romanian regulations which contribute to operational savings and Romania NDC Commitments. Finally, all building renovations achieve universal access and ensure equal access for men and women by the additional of gender appropriate facilities (e.g. bathrooms for women).

33. About 35 buildings have been identified by the Government as paramount in the emergency and disaster response and preparedness system and which are also at high risk of partial or complete collapse during an earthquake. These buildings include response headquarters, fire and rescue stations and



command centers; inability of one or more of these buildings to be fully operational in an earthquake, storm or flood disaster creates a significant gap in government response capacity. This sub-set of buildings represents a small contribution to the overall number of public buildings in Romania at risk from collapse or serious damage. However, this Project aims to develop the systems, frameworks and data for an eventual larger scale risk reduction program. It will also showcase the benefit of this approach for short-term gain, such as amenity and energy efficiency improvements, and long-term risk reduction and climate adaptation and will provide a very visible sign of the government commitment to, and progress in, risk reduction. This is particularly important given the limited progress in Romania in risk reduction in recent decades.

34. The structural retrofitting, functional upgrading and energy efficiency investments would include financing of (i) preparation, review and analysis of the Technical Surveys, Energy Efficiency Audits, Feasibility Studies and Technical Designs, (ii) civil works for retrofitting or reconstruction of priority facilities, and (iii) supervision of construction works. This component will also finance non-structural activities focused on promoting best practices in seismic retrofitting and low-energy improvement techniques, implementation of guidelines and codes for infrastructure development, emergency response planning and capacity development, and public awareness, for example.

### **Component 2: Enhancing technical capacity for risk reduction investment planning**

35. The objective of this component is to improve the understanding of disaster and climate risks in Romania, with a focus on developing a national risk reduction program and investment strategy to guide future investments in subsequent phases of the Project.

36. This will focus on financing activities that: (a) improve hazard, exposure, and vulnerability datasets critical to prioritize risk reduction actions, as well as additional risk modeling for all types of natural hazards so as to build on RO-RISK, (b) forward-looking resilient investment planning for disasters and climate change, (c) development of a package of evidence-based priority investments to support strengthening of existing critical buildings across the country, and (d) development of designs, communications activities, and other activities to enhance the capacity of the Government to implement and manage large-scale retrofitting programs. This activity would also support, within the framework of a long-term investment plan, the commissioning of retrofit designs for investment activities that may potentially be considered in future phases.

### **Component 3: Project Management**

37. The component will support all costs related with implementing and managing the Project such as the hiring of external specialists and consultants for the DES/GIES project units for technical issues, procurement, financial management, monitoring, and evaluation, etc. The project management component will also support incremental operational expenses of the project management and coordination units.



**E. Implementation**

Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

38. The Implementing Agency for the Project will be Ministry of Internal of Affairs (MoIA). Project coordination will be undertaken by the Department of Emergency Situations (DES) through a Project Coordination Unit (PCU) and project implementation will be undertaken in a dedicated Project Implementation Unit (PIU) located within the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations. This PCU will be responsible for overall coordination, oversight, as well as relations with and reporting to the World Bank on the project activities and progress. In turn, all day to day implementation activities, including procurement, financial management, social and environmental safeguards, as well as monitoring and evaluation shall be performed by the PIU.

39. The project will be primarily implemented and managed by civil servants, and will use existing government capacity. Component 3 will provide support to create additional capacity as may be needed for procurement, financial management, environmental and social safeguards as well as monitoring and evaluation.

**F. Project location and Salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis (if known)**

Project activities will be in Bucharest and other areas of Romania at high risk from earthquakes. Activities under Component 1 could include, inter alia, construction, rehabilitation and partial demolition of existing high risk buildings, and where found, removal of asbestos.

**G. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team**

Mohamed Ghani Razaak, Social Safeguards Specialist  
Harika Masud, Social Safeguards Specialist  
Cesar Niculescu, Environmental Safeguards Specialist

**SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY**

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	The project is anticipated to have limited, reversible and insignificant environmental and social impacts due to building construction and retrofitting



activities. Anticipated environmental impacts during the construction works will be noise pollution, emissions of particulate matter/dust to air, domestic waste water, disposal of excavation materials and hazardous materials. Due to demolishing activities there is the potential of asbestos contamination which will arise from old pipes, paint used and roofing materials, etc. All construction, retrofitting and demolition works will be conducted in line with the national environmental regulations and World Bank’s Operational Policies.

According to the initial screening, additional analysis is needed to assess whether there are Roma issues relevant to the Project and the need for consultations on how and if the project could affect Roma differently. These will be done as part of project preparation and will be reflected in appropriate safeguards documents and tools.

An ESMF has been prepared ex ante to supplement the Project’s environmental and social safeguards instruments and public consultations held.

Performance Standards for Private Sector Activities OP/BP 4.03	No	Not applicable.
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	The project will be implemented in settled areas and the team does not expect to have any activities in natural habitats.
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	The project will be implemented in settled areas and the team does not expect to have any activities in forests.
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	The project does not include any activities related with pest management.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	Yes	OP 4.11 was triggered to include procedures and responsibilities for managing works in culturally and historically significant areas and accidentally discovered or chance find cultural artifacts to ensure that Cultural Heritage assets will not be adversely affected by World Bank-financed projects.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	No identified indigenous people impacted by the project. Roma community considered as a vulnerable group and the project does not include any activities that would affect Roma people. A Roma filter has been developed and specific actions/plans will be developed, if necessary to



		address any of their concerns during the course of the project implementation.
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	No	The project will support retrofitting or reconstruction of high priority public buildings used for emergency response purposes which are owned or are the responsibility of the Ministry of Interior. The social screening exercise carried out for buildings selected for the project support confirmed that the proposed constructions/rehabilitation of the buildings are confined to the lands belong to respective state agencies and no additional land will be required. Therefore involuntary resettlement or land acquisition is not expected.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	The project does not include any dams.
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	Project does not have any impact on international waterways.
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	Project is not in disputed areas.

**KEY SAFEGUARD POLICY ISSUES AND THEIR MANAGEMENT**

**A. Summary of Key Safeguard Issues**

1. Describe any safeguard issues and impacts associated with the proposed project. Identify and describe any potential large scale, significant and/or irreversible impacts:

The most significant safeguard issue associated with the project is potential noise, dust, discovery and handling of asbestos and localized environmental issues associated with rehabilitation and strengthening of the buildings. Some of the buildings may also be located in cultural heritage areas so the implementing agency will need to consider the potential for chance finds of cultural significance.

2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area:  
No long term impacts are expected.

3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts.

4. Describe measures taken by the borrower to address safeguard policy issues. Provide an assessment of borrower capacity to plan and implement the measures described.

The borrower will need to put in place an Environmental and Social Management Framework.

5. Identify the key stakeholders and describe the mechanisms for consultation and disclosure on safeguard policies, with an emphasis on potentially affected people.



**B. Disclosure Requirements**

**Environmental Assessment/Audit/Management Plan/Other**

Date of receipt by the Bank	Date of submission for disclosure	For category A projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors
21-May-2018	22-May-2018	

**"In country" Disclosure**

Romania

22-May-2018

Comments

**C. Compliance Monitoring Indicators at the Corporate Level (to be filled in when the ISDS is finalized by the project decision meeting)**

**OP/BP/GP 4.01 - Environment Assessment**

Does the project require a stand-alone EA (including EMP) report?

NA

**OP/BP 4.11 - Physical Cultural Resources**

Does the EA include adequate measures related to cultural property?

NA

Does the credit/loan incorporate mechanisms to mitigate the potential adverse impacts on cultural property?

NA

**The World Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information**

Have relevant safeguard policies documents been sent to the World Bank for disclosure?

Yes

Have relevant documents been disclosed in-country in a public place in a form and language that are understandable and accessible to project-affected groups and local NGOs?

Yes





### All Safeguard Policies

Have satisfactory calendar, budget and clear institutional responsibilities been prepared for the implementation of measures related to safeguard policies?

Yes

Have costs related to safeguard policy measures been included in the project cost?

Yes

Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project include the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?

Yes

Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?

Yes

### CONTACT POINT

#### World Bank

Alanna Leigh Simpson  
Senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist

Elif Ayhan  
Senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist

#### Borrower/Client/Recipient

Romania (through its Ministry of Public Finance)  
Boni Cucu  
Director General  
boni.cucu@mfinance.gov.ro

#### Implementing Agencies

Ministry of Internal Affairs - Department of Emergency Situations and General Inspectorate for Emerg  
Raed Arafat  
Secretary of State, Head of Department for Emergency Situati  
arafatr@smurd.ro



**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

The World Bank  
1818 H Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20433  
Telephone: (202) 473-1000  
Web: <http://www.worldbank.org/projects>

**APPROVAL**

Task Team Leader(s):	Alanna Leigh Simpson Elif Ayhan
----------------------	------------------------------------

**Approved By**

Safeguards Advisor:		
Practice Manager/Manager:	Soraya Goga	21-May-2018
Country Director:	Tatiana Proskuryakova	21-May-2018