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# **Southern Africa-Indian Ocean (SA-IO) Disaster Preparedness ECHO and Partners Workshop**

Johannesburg, 28 - 30 June 2022

**WORLD CAFE**

**Questions for Breakout Groups**

**Topic: Anticipatory Action| Scenario: Conflict**

**Guidelines**



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- 3 sessions of 12 breakout groups are scheduled to be held on the afternoon of June 29, 2022. Each group will discuss 3 different topics (Early Warning Systems Digital Platforms, Anticipatory Action, and DP in Urban contexts) under two different scenarios (Cyclones, and Conflict) – ie each group will undertake 6 discussions.
- Given the large number of participants, every topic / scenario group is to be duplicated, so as to allow a meaningful group size. It is foreseen that there will be approximately 10-12 participants per discussion group.
- Each topic/scenario discussion will last 45 minutes. Participants are going to migrate every 45 minutes throughout the 3 sessions until they have covered all six topics and scenarios,
- There will be 15-minute breaks every 90 minutes (ie after two discussion sessions), for separate lightning talks.
- Participants will be assigned to their first group, and to the groups they subsequently migrate to. These groups will observe the following criteria: (1) No individual organization is represented twice in each group, (2) Gender equality, (3) rotation between the group is based on individual migration, meaning the groups do not remain the same when moving from one topic to the other,
- Facilitators will remain in their initially assigned topic/scenario, and thus discuss the same topic/scenario with six visiting groups
- Facilitators will be guiding the same discussion with the different groups, based on a set of pre-defined questions,
- Facilitators may wish to pre-identify a note taker before the start of the workshop, or assign him/her from each group,
- Facilitators are expected to bring their own laptops,
- Flip chart will be provided,
- Time keeping is extremely important to ensure that all questions are covered under each topic/scenario
- Facilitators and notetakers are expected to capture answers for all the questions,
- Facilitators and notetakers of duplicated groups are expected to combine their collected answers into one file on the evening of June 29th,
- Facilitators of duplicated groups are expected to summarize the key findings and put them in a PPT (template provided) on the evening of June 29th,
- Facilitators of duplicated groups will have to agree who is presenting on the 30<sup>th</sup> the key findings with the PPT.

**Topic: Anticipatory Action**  
**Scenario: Conflict**



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## **Facilitator's Name:** Markus Enenkel, Adair Ackley

### **Question 1: Are you aware of any AA for conflict settings, and if so could you outline them?**

- Participants have experience in Mozambique Cabo Delgado, but not in AA.
- Management of natural resources that can lead to conflict i.e. UNOPS project on Social Cohesion project in Cabo Delgado: IDPs and host communities. Think of more as mitigation not AA per se (project not yet started)
- There are issues related to the non-linearity of resource management and conflict; i.e. under certain conditions, the limitation of resources (e.g. water) can have a 'pacifying' effect at the transboundary scale

### **Question 2: What other specific DP activities are relevant and feasible in contexts of potential conflict, including civil unrest?**

- Coordination meeting if you know civil unrest is coming- Cluster System approach (Malawi)
- Collect information (variables) type of conflict- potential loss, involved parties, parameters, casualties
- Knowledge about the reliability of information variables/sources (e.g. number of casualties tends to be the most uncertain; number of conflict events one of the most reliable variables)
- Example: START Network **election** prepositioning NFI/Food. Key dates/anniversaries know conflict can occur. Alternative to relying on- concrete low hanging fruit elections.
- Pre-activation surveys are already carried out and could be tailored to the specific needs of AA in conflict; focus on the identification of the most vulnerable households
- Simulation Exercises for conflict could benefit from simulations from other hazards (= low hanging fruit)
- Referral methods, tribal elders community

### **Question 3: What aspects of Protection, IHL and Safety could be integrated in AA / Conflict DP activities, and how?**



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**Question 4: How can ECHO support its partners' preparedness for conflict scenarios, in terms of capacity and safety / security?**

- Contingency planning for logistics protection/security of aid workers, and commodities (warehouses, trucks).
- Secure locations to receive refugees/IDPs. Protection of civilians.
- Cabo Delgado- Government did not allow humanitarian workers to access the areas
- Madagascar example: Trainings on don't join "gangs" for youth with advocacy and alternative employment options; trainings on early actions (e.g. evacuation, protection of infrastructure, communication of early warnings)
- UN and NGO security advise on staff evacuations or go to safe room. Now specific NGOs focus on this. The International NGO Safety Organization (INSO) supports aid worker safety and humanitarian access by establishing field safety coordination platforms in insecure settings that provide NGOs with accurate, unbiased and real-time analysis of local safety conditions.
- UNHCR Syria example: Prefinanced agreement with Jordan government to cross-border to post-conflict allow UN trucks to cross into Syria to send assistance avoiding refugees crossing into Jordan. But trucks bombed.
- Sri Lanka Example: set up places of worship as safe havens – IDPs traditionally went there; places of worship served as demilitarized zones to provide basic services but soon also became safe havens for insurgents that infiltrated camps. Sustainability issues- dependent upon the camps (Exit strategy).
- Community consultations
- South Sudan example: Protection of civilian sites and for agencies, preposition at UN compounds as know people will go there



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- ECHO Funding for:
  - Scenario planning for the conflict (how many could potentially be displaced/refugees)
  - Training mechanisms
  - Studies for empirical evidence (robust, longitudinal studies at household level are costly and very scarce, but needed to scale up AA or discover new mechanisms, such as AA for conflict)
  - Comparison of forecasting models for conflict do they work? What does 'work' mean? What level of uncertainty/skill is sufficient to trigger what kind of early action?
  - Preposition of NFIs/Food
  - Identification of early actions to take EPR plans
  - Direct links to Copernicus EMS (e.g. satellite data to confirm conflict impact and/or confirm trigger)

#### Question 5: What specific areas of work are required to scale-up AA in conflict settings?

- More empirical evidence (MEAL) is needed as a fundamental AA pillar (currently only 1) forecasting 2) pre-agreed finance and 3) early action)
- Cross-border movement trends for refugee contexts
- Predictions for Cabo Delgado displacement was lower when it was 700,000 in reality
- What would the **triggers** be? Eyewitness reports? High-res satellite imagery of fires, infrastructure damage, insurgent activity?
- **Important to note that AA can also be used for before the peak of the hazard;** 'the AA phase ends when the response phase starts



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### Question 6: Is there a role for ECHO and its partners in this?

Eswatini example: No Regrets approach- minimizing the impact. Preposition for conflict and then use for disaster vice versa. Trainings first aid and safe access- applying to natural hazards and conflict contexts win-win.

Disaster diplomacy aiming to facilitate access

Strategic partnerships to foster the generation of evidence-based learnings and their translation into humanitarian programming

Advocacy among donor governments to accept higher uncertainties of AA for the sake of faster, more efficient, and more dignified humanitarian assistance

### Question 7: How can we best ensure a systematic linkage between EWS and AA?

Mozambique:

- After a conflict starts you can forecast the development of the conflict
- Government says you can return, but it is not a safe location
- Escalation of the conflict – can identify relocation sites procuring rapid response mechanism/kits
- Hard to predict peacekeeping troops were in the North- insurgents moved South so it displaced more people was not seen in the trends
- Often challenging to harmonize quantitative risk metrics with individual risk perception

Mauritius:

- Disseminate the EW messages, SMS automatic, social media (EWS climate risks), take in vulnerable from outer islands



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**Question 8A: What examples do you have of local / grassroots / indigenous knowledge and experience being used in this context in your country?**

- Common language, warnings in local languages
- Social Cohesion:
  - Youth movements
  - Community movements
- Conflict over herders, cattle grazing: how to reduce this conflict (making land, training on agriculture)
- Positive peace

**Question 8B: How can the use of such knowledge and experience be optimised?**

*Input answers here*

**Additional Input**



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*Input answers here*