



European Union
Civil Protection and
Humanitarian Aid

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: Cyclones

Guidelines



European Union
Civil Protection and
Humanitarian Aid

- 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 30th the key findings with the PPT.

Topic: Anticipatory Action

Scenario: Cyclones

Facilitator's Name: Caroline Ruto

Question 1: What is the state of play of AA for cyclones in your country?

- In most countries, central level coordination exists however it lacks at decentralized levels, and where it exists it is inefficient). 5 cyclones made a landfall in Madagascar this year with two following the same trajectory. AAs were not effective.
- In Malawi, there is unpredictability of cyclones based on EWS hence the governments do not prioritize the funding of AA.
- There AA working group at regional level but absence of enabling environment for AA at country level. (The system is reactive; it responds to emergencies) no allocation of funds from Governments for AA.
- There are community of practice for AA which includes different organizations that does little actions in relation to cyclones
- Some of the AA activities includes coordination, prepositioning of food and NFIs, contingency plans and community action plans led by NGOs and safe spaces emphasis on rural areas. Risk communication on cyclone trajectory and anticipated preparatory actions.
- Plan (Mozambique, Malawi, Uganda) -Training of trainers, school management committees, preparedness planning with communities and schools focusing on identified localized actions and contingency planning. Schools as evacuation centers which impact on learning,
- Prepositioned items are usually used for response which does not support AA.
- Madagascar. Localized action, vulnerability analysis, capacity build and training, Simex, EWS (meteorological). Frequent cyclones increased awareness.
- Mauritius. Cyclonic season intensified work on EWS, information shared focusing on meteorological, activation of the EOC and all its members (Incident Command Structure), National multi-hazard emergency alert system, different levels/phases of alert (class one) trigger various response actions (AA). Radio, digital display, SMS. Resilient and multipurpose infrastructures, emergency vouchers/cash and food.
- Plan Regional remarks: Prepositioning of supplies.

Question 2: Is Cash considered as AA in existing protocols in your country?

No- Focuses only on the Disaster Response and not Anticipatory Actions.



European Union
Civil Protection and
Humanitarian Aid

Question 3: Is Prepositioning considered as AA in existing protocols in your country?

Explanation.

Yes- there are some prepositioning of stock of emergency supplies but not specific for cyclones.

Prepositioning is considered as AA in many countries but there is no enabling environment (funding prioritization and allocation is still response-driven)

Question 4: What are the specific challenges faced to scale-up AA in your country?

- Lack coordination with emergency prepositioning of supplies.
- Donor reluctance when it comes to anticipatory action.
- Lack of flexibility and responsiveness of existing systems.
- Weak participation of institutions and communities (creation of schools and local disaster committees).
- Poor infrastructure system (telecommunication, roads).
- Inadequate Interagency coordination (examples of education cluster and others) and coordination with Government. Engagement of government at times they seem inefficient to timely respond to emergencies.
- Community structures exist but their functionality is contingent to funding.
- In most countries (Madagascar) Government existing humanitarian/emergency coordination structures remain practically centralized and theoretically decentralized.
- Lack of shock responsive social protection system (although it is considered responsive).
- Lack of Political will of the local Governments.

Question 5: What specific activities could ECHO and its partners implement to scale-up AA for Cyclones in your country?



European Union
Civil Protection and
Humanitarian Aid

- No regret approach should be embraced.
- Adapt existing programmes to respond to the needs and the focus on AA
- Preposition and emergency cash transfer should be prioritized based on specific context
- To strike the balance between continuing to respond to on-going emergencies which remain largely underfunded and fund AAs.
- Institutional capacity building and build local capacity for DP.
- To ensure AA is not project based and advocate for the Government to take lead and fund AA for sustainability.

Question 6: How can we best ensure a systematic linkage between EWS and AA?

- Harmonization of funding streams (Humanitarian and Development funding)
- Transitional Development Funding (BMZ).
- Enhancing the capacity at local level to ensure better linkage between information on EWS at central and local level to translate into AA.
- Ensuring there are existing triggers for implementation of AA. Develop plans which can be implemented.
- Ensuring there is proper coordination (integration of EWS) and prioritization of actions.
- Enhance community awareness (risk perception) and credibility of the EWS.
- How do you strike the balance of meeting today's need while asking for funds for AA for future events.
- Government enforcement on linking EW/EA (AA).
- ECHO should link more with ongoing work.

Question 7: How can strategic adaptations and expansions of social protection systems contribute to improving DP for cyclones?

- Budgeting allocation for example in areas such as social protection.
- Modifying the Crisis Modifier to support AA.
- Adaptation of Government funding mechanisms to support AA.
- Advocate for Productive safety programmes (they can expand and contract to respond to programmes and needs).



European Union
Civil Protection and
Humanitarian Aid

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

- Other countries use drums to warn communities.
- Placing sandbags on the roof tops ahead of cyclones.
- Some communities look at the direction of the rain,

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

- Collaborate with local universities for evidence based research.

Additional Input

Input answers here