



SA-IO Disaster Preparedness: ECHO and Partners' workshop



Breakout group: Anticipatory Action / Cyclones



The current situation:



1. Identification of stakeholders and their roles has been well defined in several countries
1. Forecasts have improved over time and skills to interpret them
1. Contingency plans often include the actions to respond to alerts
1. Prepositioning is well integrated into government protocols
1. Risk communication messaging on cyclone trajectory and anticipated preparatory actions has improved

1. Contingency plans often not funded and lack of resources for prepositioning
1. AAs are mostly implemented by non state actors and less frequently from government
1. Cash transfers not in governmental protocols
1. Anticipatory action not systematically integrated into governmental structures from national to local level.
1. Within the national system often enabling environment is lacking (public goods)



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Gaps to be filled / challenges to be addressed

1. The funding modality for AA also presents challenge when it comes to prepositioning.
2. Collaboration for reaching also remote areas
3. Targeting the most vulnerable beneficiaries is complex
4. Often cyclones are not prioritized as a hazard (recent in Malawi)
5. Lack of understanding of impact-based forecasting and the cascading effects of cyclones
6. Coordination across government, including weak chain of command from the national to the local government
7. SIMEX and IBF for development of triggers
8. Lack of coordination for transforming scientific data into information, standard operation procedure for data and information exchange among national stakeholders.
9. Risk perception to build credibility of existing EWS to trigger the necessary AA
10. Government enforcement on linking EW and EA needs to be done through triggers and associated plans



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Role / added value for ECHO and its partners?

- Adapting existing programmes to respond to the needs .
- Support Systems that facilitate AA and involve the Government, facilitating collaboration among different stakeholders
- Flexible funding: Expand the scope and amount of the crisis modifier also for anticipatory actions (bearing the risk). ☒ ECHO can advocate to include this tool on all EU funded project or EU member state development agencies.
- Explore the possibility of financing a regional pooled fund for AA
- Create awareness among governments, donor community both the development and humanitarian investing in capacity strengthening, equipment, the development of triggers based on IBF
- Conduct M&E of ongoing projects and inform ECHO partners of complementarity amongst organization – not working in silos
- Harmonize the use of existing tools and platforms and avoid duplication
- Provide research grants for local universities to assess the effectiveness of local knowledge AAs



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Recommendations:

- **Government Coordination** forums in place can be used to plan for AA but they are not trickled down to local level.
- Current social protection systems in place could be scaled up (Electronic vouchers Zimbabwe), embedding AA into current programmes
- Pre-contracted retail suppliers for distribution of items contingent on disasters
- There is need for Government taking the lead role on AA and not project based.
- There is need to link humanitarian and emergency programming(Nexus approach).