

Terms of Reference for Regional Technical Working Group on Anticipatory Action



1.0 Introduction

There is pressing need to build capacity of vulnerable people before the onset of disasters through Anticipatory Action (AA) which aims to enable the communities to anticipate, prepare for, and take appropriate early action. This in recognition that climate extremes, major drivers of disasters, can often be predicted using early warning systems.

Consequently, decisions to act early can be based on this information. While several organizations and institutions are already engaged in promoting AA initiatives in the region, these efforts often remain fragmented and un-coordinated. Documenting lessons learned and harmonizing approaches is vital to address challenges posed by recurrent hazards in the region.

Despite the presence of country-led early warning systems across all countries in the IGAD region, there are numerous instances of inadequate preparedness and mitigation measures leading to significant impacts on livelihoods, property, and food security. This underscores the need for a coordinated platform to guide and lead

harmonization of national approaches to AA by various stakeholders. IGAD through ICPAC and its partners established a Regional Technical Working Group on AA (RTWGAA) in 2023 to facilitate coordinated approaches to anticipatory action in the Eastern Africa region.

2.0 Overall objective

The overall objective of the RTWGAA is to promote the scaling of coordinated anticipatory action approaches to manage climatic and non-climatic risks on people's lives and livelihoods and on development in different sectors, in line with the regional AA roadmap.

3.0 Priorities

Support implementation of the regional anticipatory action roadmap as a comprehensive framework for enabling the scaling of coordinated anticipatory action design, implementation and financing.

Provide a platform for knowledge exchange



among TWG members to enable commonly agreed AA approaches and accountability frameworks.

Promote active partnerships and collaborations that leverage on comparative strengths to enhance the coverage and quality of anticipatory action approaches delivered.

4.0 Governance Structure

The IGAD is the permanent chair of the RTWGAA, supported by a co-chair who is nominated from the members of the RTWGAA to serve for a minimum period of 2 years.

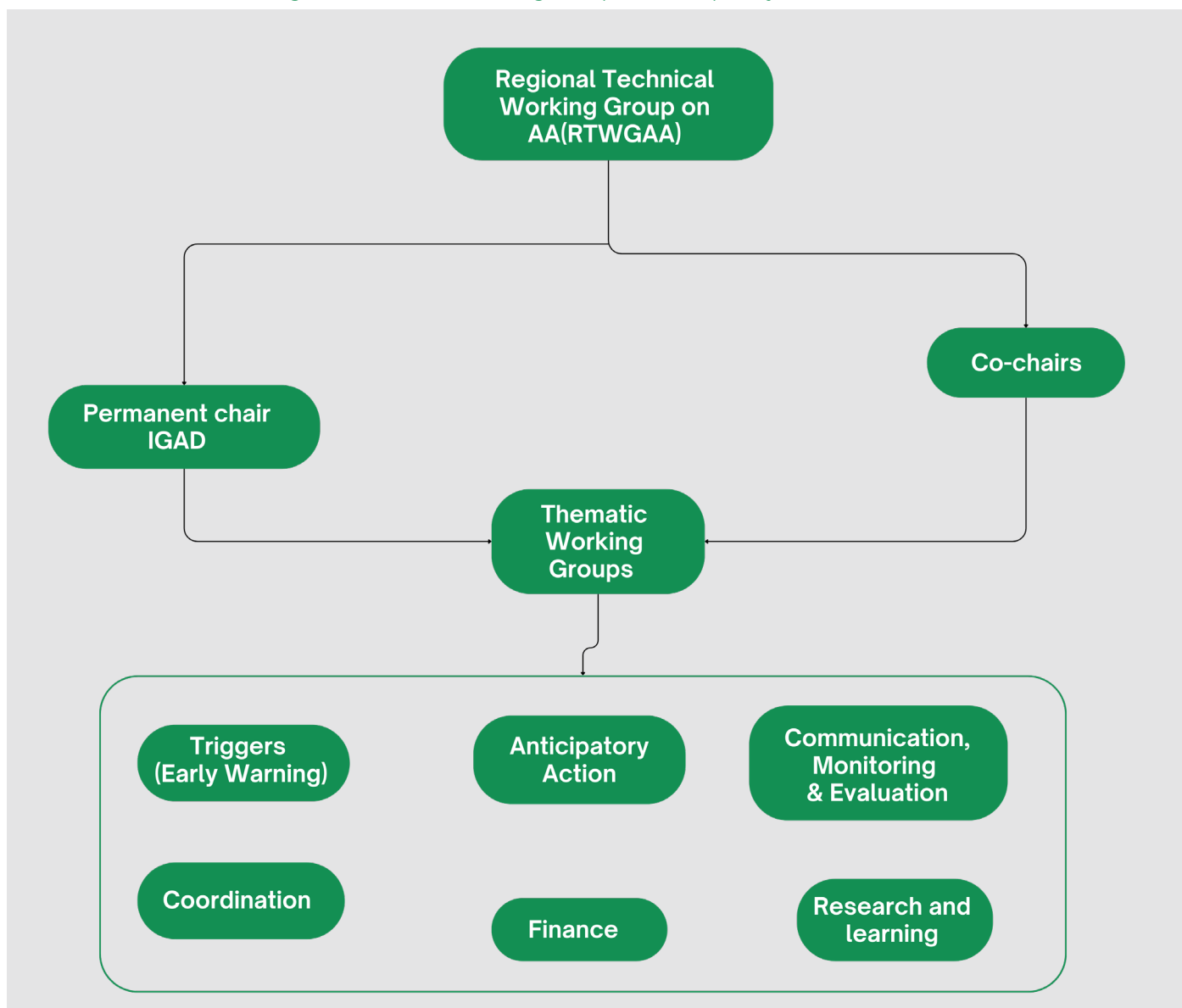
The thematic sub-working groups provide technical leadership and advisory support on the thematic areas as per the pillars in the regional roadmap.

Roles and Responsibilities

a) Chair and Co-chairs

- Convene the quarterly RTWGAA and propose the agenda for discussion.
- Oversee the implementation of sub-working group activities
- Provide strategic direction to RTWGAA in relation to the evolving context in the region
- Ensure linkages between the RTWGAA and the national level AA TWGs
- Consolidate meeting notes, reports on progress and outputs achieved, to be shared with the TWG and related platforms
- Ensure that a mid-term and end-term evaluation is conducted to assess the effectiveness of the RTWGAA and progress in implementation of the regional AA roadmap.

Governance Structure of Regional Technical Working Group on Anticipatory Action.





Computer monitors displaying DEWETRA and the East Africa Hazards Watch apps showcasing real-time monitoring and forecasting of natural hazards like floods, landslides, drought, cyclones, pests (desert locust), heavy rainfall, floods, and crop failures, which are increasing in frequency and intensity due to climate change, at the Disaster Operations Center (DOC) at ICPAC Head offices in Nairobi, Kenya

b) Sub-working groups

The sub-working groups will support implementation of the 6 pillars of regional AA roadmap, as well as keep track of progress, new information, needs and emerging issues and provide strategic and technical guidance in their thematic areas. The sub-working groups will serve as a port of call for national TWGs to raise thematic issues and concerns, share emerging ideas and seek technical guidance on the AA approach. The sub-working groups are:

- › Triggers (Early Warning)
- › Anticipatory Actions
- › Monitoring and Evaluation
- › Finance
- › Research and learning
- › Coordination

5.0 Membership

Membership to the RTWGAA is voluntary. The RTWGAA constitute members drawn from organizations who have technical expertise, experience and interest in Anticipatory Action and Disaster risk management within Eastern Africa. The chairs and focal points from National TWG are also members of RTWGAA. The working group will endeavour to foster partnership with other related working groups within and outside Eastern Africa.



A man attempts to fend-off a swarm of desert locusts at a ranch near the town of Nanyuki in Laikipia county, Kenya, February 21, 2020. PHOTO | REUTERS

6.0 Duration

The RTWG on Anticipatory Action is established to serve from 2024 to 2027, within the timeline of the regional AA roadmap. The mid-term and end-term evaluation will provide guidance on the future duration and functionality of the RTWGAA.

7.0 Quorum and Frequency of meetings

The RTWGAA meetings are held on a quarterly basis through either online or physical meetings taking advantage of regular forums where many members are present like Greater Horn of Africa Climate Forum (GHACOF), Africa Dialogue Platform (ADP), Conference of Parties (COPs) etc.



About IGAD Anticipatory Action

The current reality is that humanitarian needs and losses and damages from various hazards are rising in the Eastern Africa region. While multiple Anticipatory AA initiatives are ongoing in the region, these initiatives are implemented by various organisations in a fragmented manner.

Further, the efforts towards AA in the region are not systemised and while lessons on AA have been generated from pilots in the region, the learning and evidence is not systematically collected and used to inform AA systems development and implementation by all. ' To be at par with the need, Anticipatory Action systems and delivery must be scaled-up to cover all vulnerable people and contribute to enhance their resilience. This will require the approach to be mainstreamed in national government strategies and plans and humanitarian disaster risk management systems and financing.

In response to these challenges, IGAD has developed IGAD Regional Roadmap for Anticipatory Action (IRRAA). The vision of the IRRAA is "Building a Coherent Regional Anticipatory Action Approach, harmonized and Integrated within the National Policies and Strategies, by promoting Anticipation of Disasters to enhance climate-resilient communities across the IGAD region".

The vision is based on four specific objectives; Strengthening Early Warning Systems (EWS) and Decision Support tools for AA; Advocacy and integration of AA principles and approaches into national and regional policies, strategies; Provide a strategy for resource mobilization and partnerships and strengthen the coordination role for IGAD to support the co-development and implementation of anticipatory action across all levels.

