

IGAD REGIONAL ROADMAP FOR ANTICIPATORY ACTION



Executive Summary

Today, there is a heightened governmental emphasis on bolstering anticipatory action (AA) capabilities and establishing systems to shield vulnerable populations from foreseeable hazards before they escalate into disasters. This commitment is backed by a coalition of development, climate, policy, and humanitarian donors. The impetus for this stems from the distinctive socio-economic and climatic conditions prevalent in the Eastern Africa (EA) region, compelling humanitarian actors to intensify efforts in disaster risk management, focusing on capacity building and system development to safeguard vulnerable communities from foreseeable hazards. Nevertheless, the prevailing reality indicates that early warnings often fail to translate into timely action, resulting in escalating losses and damages from various hazards across the EA region. Consequently, there is a pressing need to scale up AA systems and their implementation to encompass all vulnerable populations, thereby augmenting their resilience to Climate and non climatic induced disasters.

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), in collaboration with various partners, has developed a regional roadmap known as the IGAD Regional Roadmap for Anticipatory Action (IRRAA). The vision of the IRRAA is to establish a cohesive regional approach to anticipatory action, harmonized and integrated within regional and national policies and strategies, thereby promoting disaster anticipation to inform anticipatory actions aimed at fostering climate-resilient communities across the IGAD region. The roadmap is structured around four specific objectives: strengthening Early Warning Systems (EWS) and decision support tools for AA, advocating for and integrating AA principles and approaches into national and regional policies and strategies, providing a strategy for resource mobilization and partnerships, and enhancing the coordination role of IGAD to support the co-development and implementation of anticipatory action at both regional and national levels. The IRRAA has six pillars; (i) A harmonised approach to develop triggers and thresholds for multiple hazards (ii) A harmonised approach to design Anticipatory Actions, (iii) Enhanced access to AA financing mechanisms (iv) Communication and advocacy (v) Research, innovation, and learning, and (vi) Coordination and legal framework.

The IRRAA offers a comprehensive framework for implementing AA in the region, including integrating AA into national and regional sectoral policies and plans. This response is prompted by the escalating frequency and severity of climate and non-climate related induced disasters, which exhibit dynamic characteristics necessitating regular reviews of AA frameworks as climate science and risks evolve under a warming climate.

Furthermore, the roadmap underscores the importance of coordination and collaboration across multiple stakeholders and sectors including government agencies, UN agencies, the Red Cross society, Civil Society Organizations, development and financial partners, academia, and the private sector. The IRRAA aligns with international and regional frameworks such as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Africa Union Programme of Action (PoA) for the Implementation of the Sendai Framework, the IGAD Strategy for Disaster Risk Management, and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. It is anticipated that the IRRAA will guide the design and implementation of AA initiatives through the established TWG on AA in the region. Moreover, the roadmap delineates activities aimed at enhancing technical capacity on Impact-based Forecasting (IbF), including bolstering the sharing of observational datasets, providing infrastructure, co-producing thresholds and triggers with various stakeholders, forecasting and communicating forecasts, risks, and corresponding anticipatory actions.

To scale up AA, various coordination mechanisms and engagements need to be established. It is widely acknowledged that the expansion of AA must be nationally owned and locally led to be truly effective. This necessitates engagement from development, climate, and humanitarian donors. Through the IR-RAA, IGAD aims to promote layered and sequenced AA financing and programming approaches across the Humanitarian, Development, Peacebuilding, and Climate (HDPC) nexus. The 2023 development initiatives reports indicate that climate-vulnerable countries experiencing protracted crises have received minimal funding from multilateral climate funds, compared to those highly vulnerable to climate change but not experiencing protracted crises. The development and climate finance can facilitate governments in scaling up support for both sudden onset and slow onset disasters, particularly suitable for institutionalizing AA and implementing early actions in response to seasonal drought warnings in partnership with civil protection and line ministries.



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List of Acronyms

AA	Anticipatory Action
AMHEWAS	Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action System
AU	African Union
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ECHO	European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
EWS	Ealy Warning System
IbF	Impact-based Forecasting
ICPAC	IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies
IGAD	Inter-governmental Authority on Development
IRRAA	IGAD Regional Roadmap on Anticipatory Action
NTWG	National Technical Working Group
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
RTWGAA	Regional Technical Working Group on Anticipatory Action
UN	United Nations
UNDRR	United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction
WFP	World Food Programme

Acknowledgment

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IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre

The World Food Programme

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The European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations

Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

Member states Countries

Anticipation Hub

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency

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1. Introduction

Within the Eastern Africa (EA) region, humanitarian needs and emergencies have been on the rise in the recent past due to the increase in frequency and magnitude of disasters. The traditional reactive response approach has been insufficient to effectively reduce the impacts of these disasters, often resulting in significant human suffering, economic losses, widening of existing gender inequalities, and development setbacks. Given its unique socio-economic dynamics, the region is strategically significant for comprehensive disaster risk management considerations.¹ On the other hand, the funding required to assist affected people is often not enough to meet the needs and tends to be disbursed when predictable hazards have turned into disasters. Building capacity and developing systems to protect vulnerable population from predictable hazards through the Anticipatory Action (AA) approach before they become disasters is needed. AA systems and their delivery must therefore be scaled-up to cover all vulnerable people and enhance their resilience to weather/climate-related hazards.

1.1. Disaster Risks Profile in the Region

The EA region has faced multiple weather and climate-related extreme events, such as floods, droughts, strong winds, and landslides, which continue to increase in frequency, magnitude, and duration due to global warming.² Four out of the eleven EA countries—Sudan, Somalia, South Sudan, and Ethiopia—are identified on the top emergency humanitarian watchlist for 2024, as reported by the International Rescue Committee (IRC).³ The convergence of climate-related impacts with ongoing conflicts and poverty is intensifying within vulnerable communities across the region, disproportionately affecting women and girls. In recent times, EA has faced, in succession, challenges of flooding and drought; from the severe flooding in 2020, to a prolonged drought from 2020 to 2022, and another flooding in 2023.⁴ Exacerbated by conflict in most areas of the region, the devastating floods and prolonged drought led to the loss of lives and livelihoods, millions of people facing acute food insecurity and on the brink of famine, massive displacement, loss of millions of livestock, and setbacks in agricultural harvests.

Additionally, pandemics and epidemics like COVID-19, malaria, and yellow fever exacerbate macroeconomic crises, impacting food prices and health systems. Given the interconnected nature of these hazards, there is a critical need for comprehensive risk management strategies that incorporate climate information to enhance resilience and safeguard communities in the region. To address the increasing challenges posed by climate extremes and disasters, a more proactive, holistic and coordinated approach is needed.

IGAD has developed a Regional Roadmap on Anticipatory Action (IRRAA) that provides strategic direction and guidance to support the design and implementation of AA initiatives. The IRRAA is a vehicle for collaboration, coordination, and concerted action among stakeholders. The IRRAA provides a comprehensive plan to guide the region in effectively incorporating AA into its disaster risk reduction (DRR), climate change adaptation (CCA), response, and recovery efforts. Institutionalising AA into disaster risk management and humanitarian sectors and including gender-specific considerations enhance preparedness, save lives, protect livelihoods, strengthen community resilience, and promote gender equality and social inclusion.

1 <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/global-peace-index-2022>

2 <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/chapter/chapter-9/>

3 chrome-extension://efaidnbmninnibpcjpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.rescue.org/sites/default/files/2024-01/CS2401_Report_Watchlist_Final_30MB.pdf.

4 <https://reliefweb.int/report/sudan/eastern-africa-humanitarian-snapshot-october-2020>

The AA approach to risk management rests on the three main pillars: pre-defined thresholds and triggers based on forecasts and risk information, predetermined anticipatory actions, and pre-arranged/ predictable/ flexible financing. AA also contributes to conflict prevention, protects critical infrastructure, ensures economic stability, and empowers local communities.

This proactive approach requires:

- Anticipatory Action plans to be in place long before the onset of a hazard of interest.
- The Anticipatory Action Plans are needs-based, pre-agreed plans that consolidate the key information and implementation arrangements (procedures and partnerships) required to deliver timely action ahead.
- The AA pre-agreed activities should consider gender-sensitive disaster risks and vulnerabilities.
- Skilful forecasts with sufficient lead time to allow for the implementation of the actions in the anticipatory window (between when a forecast is issued and before the hazard occurs and impacts are felt). For an effective trigger, the forecasts need to not only indicate a future hazard but also present the potential impacts of the hazards, who would be affected and where.
- Consideration of vulnerabilities related to cultural norms, age, gender, and socio-economic status.
- A co-production process between forecasters, research scientists, key sector institutions in government, humanitarian and development organisations, with meaningful participation of women and youth, and consideration of indigenous knowledge.
- Pre-identified financing to support the implementation of AAs and a pre-arranged framework to automatically release funds in an efficient and timely manner.

The IRRAA seeks to provide a regional guidance to track and consolidate regional and national efforts towards establishing and implementing the AA approaches. This document has the following outline: Vision and Mission Statement; Goals and Objectives; Linkages with Global, Regional and National Initiatives; Overview of Early Warning and Anticipatory Action; Pillars of Roadmap and Implementation Matrix.



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2. Vision and Mission Statement

Vision

A regional Anticipatory Action approach that is harmonized and integrated into national policies, strategies, and systems, to enhance delivery of AA at scale to promote the resilience of communities across the IGAD region.

Mission

A people centred, multi-hazard end-to-end early warning system for timely and proactive anticipatory action to reduce climate-related risks is established and collaboratively implemented at local to regional level.

3. Goals and Objectives

The goal of the IRRAA is to support the development of harmonised, coordinated and scaled-up AA across the IGAD region.

The roadmap aims to:

- Strengthen and/or develop end-to-end early warning systems (EWS) and decision support tools for AA.
- Guide regional capacity strengthening that is needed to design and implement AA.
- Enhancing the collection, accessibility, access, and use of data disaggregated by gender, age, and socio-economic status for effective IbF (Impact-based Forecasting) and AA.
- Advocate for the integration of AA principles and approaches into national and regional policies, strategies, development plans, systems, and structures.
- Support national actors to develop strategies for resource mobilization and partnerships for delivering AA at scale.
- Strengthen the coordination role of IGAD and National Disaster Risk Management Authorities to support the co-development, harmonization, and implementation of gender-responsive AA across the member states.

4. Linkages with Global, Regional and National Initiatives

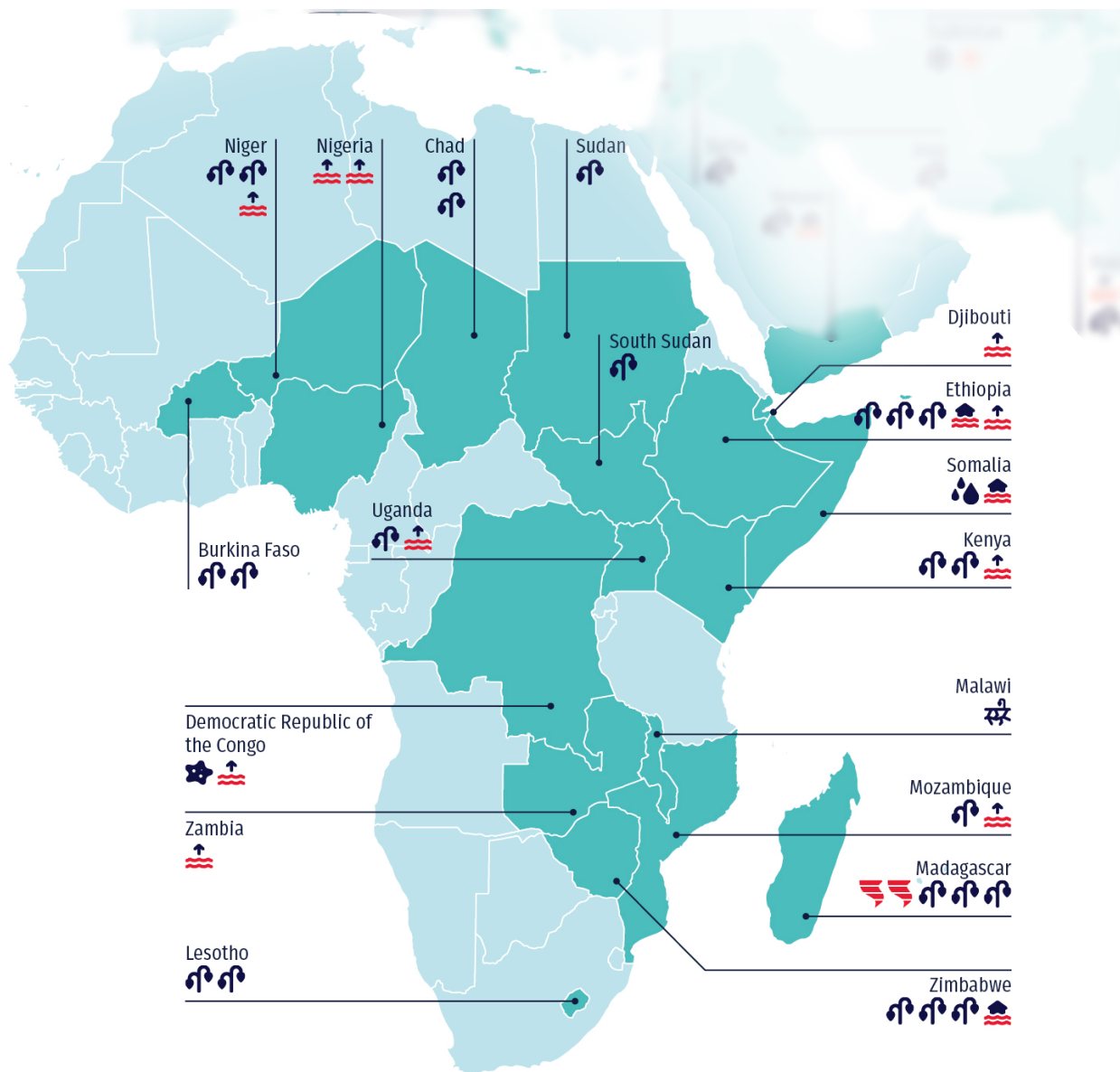
The IRRAA links and contributes to regional and global initiatives. At the regional scale, IGAD has developed a regional strategy for DRM. The IRRAA linkages with IGAD DRM priorities areas encompass enhancing risk knowledge, fostering effective disaster risk governance, promoting investment in DRR for building resilience, and strengthening preparedness mechanisms. It also aligns with the IGAD Regional Strategy and Action Plan for Mainstreaming Gender in Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation and the IGAD Regional Gender Equality Strategy 2023-2030. The Africa Union Commission Programme of Action (PoA) for the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 provides an excellent opportunity to contribute to building resilient African communities capable of preventing, better preparing for disasters, coping with hazards, and swiftly returning to normalcy after a disaster strikes, which also connects to the IRRAA. The IRRAA links to the Sendai Framework, which focuses on the adopting measures addressing the three dimensions of disaster risk (exposure to hazards, vulnerability and capacity, and hazard characteristics). Other global initiatives that align with IRRAA are the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) particularly SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 11, 13, 15,⁵ and Paris Agreement to combat climate change and adapt to its effects.

5. Early Warning and Anticipatory Action

At global scale, there are over 101 countries reporting the existence of multi-hazard early warning systems (MHEWS) as of 2023, with the number expected to rise. Over the same time period, about 70 frameworks on AA and EWS have been developed, translating to over 7.6 million covered with Early Warning Systems in line with UN Initiative for Early Warning for All (Anticipation Hub 2022). Within the African continent and the IGAD region, various frameworks have been developed to support the anticipatory action and EWS. For example, the AU's Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action System (AMHEWAS) represents a significant step towards achieving the anticipatory action work and hence contributing to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction goals. The IGAD institutional and operational framework for multi-hazard early warning system provides guidance on the regional approaches to early warning systems at IGAD. The East Africa Hazards watch is an excellent 'one-stop shop' platform for accessing multi-hazard early warning information in the region. At national scale, various countries have made recognized steps towards AA.



⁵ <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>



Key

	Cold wave / dzud		Flash flood		Riverine flood
	Conflict and violence		Flood		Storm
	Cyclone / typhoon / hurricane		Flood caused by tropical storm		Tropical storm
	Disease outbreak		Food insecurity		Typhoon-induced flood
	Drought		Heat, humidity and air pollution		Volcanic ash
	Dry spell		Heat wave		Wildfire
	Economic crisis		Landslide		Winter storm
	Electoral violence		Livestock pests and diseases		Multi-hazard
	El Niño		Population movement		to be determined
	Epidemic		Rain flood		

Figure 1: Countries within Africa that have anticipatory action frameworks. Within the IGAD region, Sudan, Djibouti, Somalia, Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia have been reported to have developed their anticipatory action frameworks (source: Anticipation Hub 2022)



5.1. Kenya

The country has developed a national anticipatory action system documented in the Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP). The AAP for floods is supported by Kenyan Red Cross Society and was developed by stakeholders through a National Technical Working Group (NTWG) and with financial support from the IKEA Foundation, technical support from the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) and 510 staff from the Netherlands Red Cross (NLRC). For drought, the AAP are being developed for Marsabit and Wajir counties, with high engagement of the county government key sectors through TWGs established in both counties. The NTWG has been set up through the Kenya Red Cross, with the National Disaster Operations Centre as the lead. Plans are underway to develop an AA strategy at national level and integrating it into relevant sectors and DRM systems.

The operational NTWG enables strong national coordination of. Since the implementation of the AAP is at the county level, there is need to strengthen national and county-level coordination by joining up county stakeholders with the NTWG, to help to bring together various AA initiatives by different partners. This can begin by strengthening county DRM initiatives through mainstreaming AA. The national government's treasury also need to be incorporated into the NTWG to enhance a better flow of funding relating to the AAP protocols.



5.2. Ethiopia

The Drought AAP has been developed for Somali region and currently being revised by the WFP country office (CO) based on feedback received from WFP's regional bureau and headquarters. The drought AAs have been implemented by the CO for two rainy seasons (March – May 2021 and October – December 2022). The monitoring and evaluation system for AA is also available for 2021 and the same being replicated for OND (October-November-December) 2022.

There is an established TWG through the Ethiopia Red Cross with Ethiopia Disaster Risk Management commission as the lead. Red Cross AAPs for drought and floods have been developed. The national flood Early Actions Protocol (EAP) was developed, validated by stakeholders, and approved by IFRC for initial funding. Through the AAP, 350,000 CHF were secured to fund readiness activities, and the system was tested during the March to May 2021 below-average rainy season. Useful tools to support the implementation of the flood AAP include the Community Resilience Assessment (CRA) dashboard and the IbF model, developed and tested by stakeholders. Partners involved in AA initiatives include the National Disaster Risk Management Commission, the Ethiopian Red Cross, the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), and the World Bank. One emerging challenge is the need to layer drought AAs (implemented within a short window) with long-term resilience interventions/support to inform the design of AAs, enhancing the implementation of AAs and the sustainability of results.





5.3. Uganda

A national flood AAP system has been established by stakeholders in Uganda, with technical assistance from the Uganda Red Cross and the 510 staff members from NLRC, along with financial backing from the IKEA Foundation. National Technical Working Groups (TWGs) are being formed in each region. The National AA TWG members comprise WFP and FAO of the UN and the Uganda Red Cross. The opportunities for advancing AA in the country include creating drought AA plans with support from FAO and WFP, establishing a drought early warning system with assistance from National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre, Food Agriculture Organization (FAO), and World Food Programme (WFP), and conducting assessments and ongoing capacity building in disaster risk management, focusing specifically on drought. Challenges with Forecast-based Financing (FbF) in the country include the lack of skilled forecast products within monthly-seasonal timescales by the Uganda National Meteorological Authority. The institution responsible for forecasting is receptive to support in areas such as Ibf, forecast evaluation, and dissemination.



5.4. Somalia

Drought is a major driver of crisis, including recurrent food and nutrition crises, and is prone to erratic and extreme weather patterns. Drought AAs have been implemented for March-April-May (MAM) and OND 2022 seasons, with cash and early warning information delivered through the National Safety Nets programme. The CO now has pre-allocated funds to develop systems for AA and seeks to develop AA for multiple hazards. There is strong engagement from the government (Somalia Disaster Management Agency (SODMA), the Ministries of Disaster Management and of Labour and Social Affairs, etc.) and key actors working on AA in Somalia. A NTWG is already established. For flood, the AA framework is being established through coordination by SODMA.

The close collaboration between national stakeholders and donor partners has resulted in the development of a drought framework, involving humanitarian partners under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator, in collaboration with the Federal Government of Somalia and supported by OCHA, the World Bank, donors and technical partners. The framework was first triggered in June 2020, prompting the activation of financing agreements for pre-agreed activities designed to get ahead of worsening food insecurity. The trigger for drought in Somalia tracks humanitarian needs as captured by the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) over time to determine whether there is an increased risk of an extraordinary crisis. Through support from ECHO, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) have developed anticipatory actions to forecast displacement.



5.5. Sudan

The development of an Early Warning System in Sudan has been piloted with FAO providing strategic support to monitor the risk of drought and dry spells. The success of such systems in countries where early warning data can be scarce relies on building strong partnerships with local and national agencies, so that knowledge gaps are filled. FAO has supported the creation of a Food Security Technical Secretariat, which provided vital information on the food security of households as well as the body conditions of livestock and their movements, animal and plant diseases, and the availability of water. The EWS was first piloted in August 2017 to monitor and raise the drought alarm. The first early action was quickly rolled out in October of that year; a rapid assessment enabled FAO to understand how people would be affected and which specific interventions would help agro-pastoralists the most in the face of the steadily intensifying dry spell.



5.6. South Sudan

In 2022, OCHA developed and implemented an early action to address impending extreme flooding in the region. The intervention was concentrated in and around the Bentiu Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp, Unity State. A high-level special task force including a special envoy, deputy special envoy, and a senior OCHA employee based in Rubkona County (the site of the early action) to oversee operations was in charge of coordination; and OCHA developed a public project tracker and dashboard specific to projects funded through the allocation. The AA activities have been majorly supported by DANIDA and the UN through OCHA. The flooding feasibility study has shown good level of cooperation between the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs & Disaster Management, which entrenches buy-in within government systems. The DRC has also developed system to anticipate conflict induced displacement in the region.

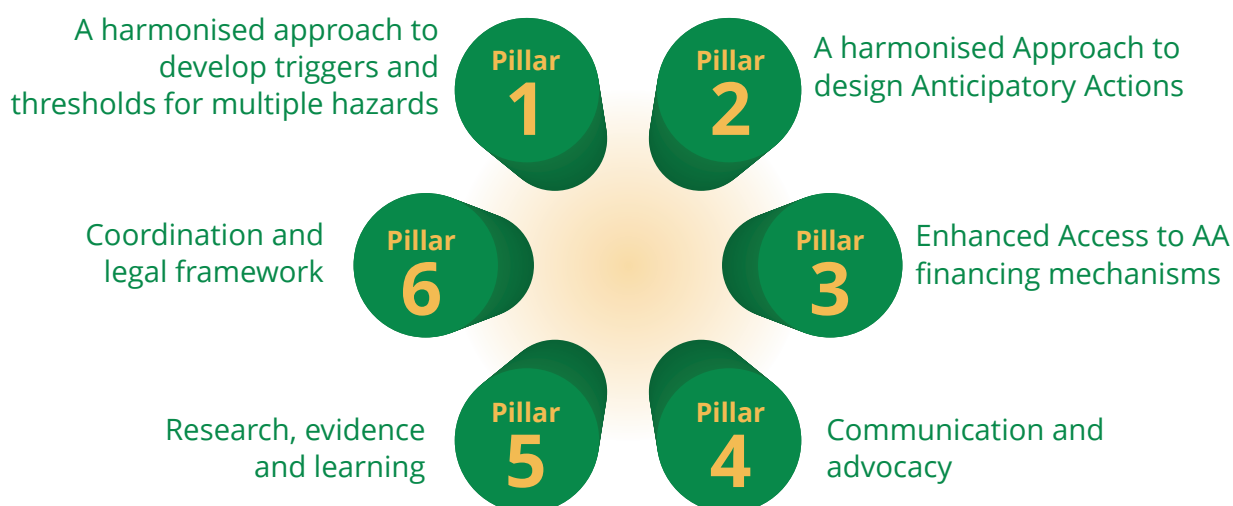


5.7. Djibouti

There is recognizable ongoing work in Djibouti with regards to AA and early warning. Through support from DANIDA, drought AAs and triggers for the July – September main rainy season have been developed, with additional support from the TWG. The drafted AAP however still needs technical review, considering the target population in the rural areas are highly mobile pastoralists. The triggers and AAs for the two main rainy seasons are yet to be developed.

6. Pillars of the Regional Roadmap

The IRRAA focuses on six key pillars to guide the AA approach:



These pillars are elaborated in the sections that follow.

6.1. Pillar 1: A harmonised approach to develop triggers and thresholds for multiple hazards.

Triggers are a critical part of the AA approach, giving an alert on when to activate the implementation of pre-agreed AAs. Multiple actors and initiatives in the Eastern Africa region are currently developing triggers for AA in different ways. This has the potential to cause confusion, when different trigger systems activate AA while others do not, leading to a fragmented implementation of actions. To address this, it is vital that there are commonly agreed and harmonised approaches to develop triggers, while factoring in the context specificity required.

Secondly, triggers need to go beyond forecast of hazards such as rainfall, to forecasts of potential impacts including information such as who or what may be affected and where. This has raised the need to have impact-based forecasting (IbF) for different hazards and risks as triggers for AA. For an effective IbF, it is essential to have datasets on socio-economic exposure and disaggregate vulnerability, as well as tailored hazard forecasts with sufficient lead time for action. All this information then needs to be combined into impact thresholds that serves as decision making points for anticipatory action activation. However, the region still faces several challenges, such as fragmented risk data, lack of IbF models, and insufficient capacity to fully transition into operational IbF systems for AA implementation, among others. Furthermore, the development of IbF must be co-developed with multiple actors.

This pillar aims to develop a harmonised approach for developing triggers and thresholds, including IbF, that are tailored to different hazards and contexts in the region.

Indicative activities under this pillar are:

- i. Consolidate various approaches used in the region to develop triggers and thresholds and make it available in a regional database.
- ii. Provide a harmonised methodology and guidance for developing triggers, including enhanced risk profiles and IbF for different hazards.
- iii. Provide technical support and capacity building for trigger development.
- iv. Provide technical support to make granular and gender-disaggregated risk data available and accessible for the development of risk profiles and IbF.
- v. Guide cross-country coordination on the development, monitoring and issuing of triggers, especially for transboundary hazards.
- vi. Systemize the development and updating of triggers within DRM and humanitarian systems and structures.

6.2. Pillar 2: A harmonised Approach to design Anticipatory Actions

The AA initiatives in the region are implemented in silos, resulting in the development of agency-specific anticipatory action plans, focusing on individual institutional needs and priorities. The plans therefore do not leverage the comparative advantage of capacities and mandates of different actors. This misses the opportunity to design and deliver comprehensive packages of AAs at scale. Additionally, AA is heavily driven by humanitarian actors with limited engagement of governments in the region. This means that the AAs are not aligned and integrated in the existing and planned governments DRM systems, and therefore limits the sustainability of AA delivery.

Pillar 2 aims to provide a harmonised approach to design and deliver Anticipatory Actions at scale in the region.

Indicative activities for Pillar 2 are:

- i. Develop a regional inventory for existing Anticipatory Actions and plans and present them in a regional database.
- ii. Define guidance for a harmonised approach to developing AAs for different hazards, while factoring in context specificity.
- iii. Provide technical support for the development of joint anticipatory action plans, developed and endorsed by governments with support from partners.
- iv. Provide guidance for design and delivery of AAs for transboundary hazards.
- v. Guide the integration of joint anticipatory action plans in government disaster risk management frameworks and in humanitarian systems.

6.3. Pillar 3: Enhanced Access to AA financing mechanisms

Funding for the AA approach is needed for both developing or enhancing the systems required ('build funds') and pre-arranged financing for delivering the AAs when activated ('fuel funds'). There are few initiatives in the region that are supporting development or enhancement of systems needed for AA. While much is still to be done to have robust systems in place, very limited funding has been invested in building these systems. On the other hand, a significant amount of 'fuel funds' have been delivered in the region, for example through the CERF AA pilots (US\$ 40M in 2022), the WFP AA Climate Trust Fund (US\$ 17M between 2022 and 2024) and the Red Cross Red Crescent AA in Ethiopia and Somalia. These funding mechanisms are very agency-specific and are not yet at the scale that matches the need for AA delivery to beneficiaries, as the largest amount of funding in the region is for emergency response. Furthermore, funding arrangements for build and fuel funds are sometimes disconnected, such that some agencies can access funding for setting up AA systems but may struggle to have pre-arrange fuel funds for implementation, and vice versa. Additionally, the AA financing mechanisms are not integrated to DRM financing systems such as through social protection, to ensure reach of many vulnerable people and long-term sustainability. Information needs to be developed on how much funding is required for AA for different hazards and severity levels, and how much can be absorbed by implementing agencies within the forecast lead times for anticipatory action to cover at-risk populations at scale.

This pillar aims to enhance the access to different sources of financing mechanisms for both 'build' and 'fuel' funding for AA in the region.

The indicative activities under pillar 3 are:

- i. Develop guidance on identification, access and layering of different funding mechanisms to support pre-arranged AA financing at scale.
- ii. Guidance to integrate pre-arranged financing for AAs to the existing social protection schemes.
- iii. Provide technical support to integrate pre-arranged financing systems for AA into relevant financing systems.
- iv. Support the development of AA financing strategies, embedded in DRF strategies.

6.4. Pillar 4: Communication and advocacy

There is a lack of consolidated information on ongoing AA initiatives in the region, including who is doing what and where. This limits the ability to collaborate can lead to duplication of efforts. Regular communication is required to raise the visibility of ongoing AA initiatives in the region, including progress, successes and challenges, evolving needs, as well as when triggers are reached and AAs activated. Such communication is important to enhance awareness and partnerships for a coordinated AA approach. Additionally, much can be achieved by having a consolidated evidence base and using it for collaborative advocacy efforts to governments, donors as well as practitioners to support increasing the scale of AA and mainstreaming it into regular systems.

This pillar aims at enabling collaborative communication and advocacy efforts on AA in the region.

The indicative activities under pillar 4 are:

- i. Map the existing AA systems, initiatives and priority needs and maintain regular updates.
- ii. Develop a regional strategy for communication and advocacy to support implementation and financing of the AA approach at scale.
- iii. Develop a regional Information Management System on AA in different contexts in the region.
- iv. Establish a regional platform for communicating triggers and thresholds and AAs activated.

6.5. Pillar 5: Research, evidence and learning

While the AA approach has gained significant momentum in the region, there is minimal evidence to demonstrate its effectiveness, as well as the value of AA in saving lives, livelihoods and assets and in supporting the resilience of people and systems. Evidence generation is disjointed and developed using different methodologies, which limits the availability of a robust and large-scale evidence base for AA to inform learning, practice and advocacy in the region. Further, as AA systems continue to improve, new challenges emerge and the context and needs evolve, forward-looking research is needed to advance the science and practice of AA and related issues.

This pillar aims to develop research, evidence and learning should inform the strategic direction of AA in the region.

The indicative activities in this pillar will include:

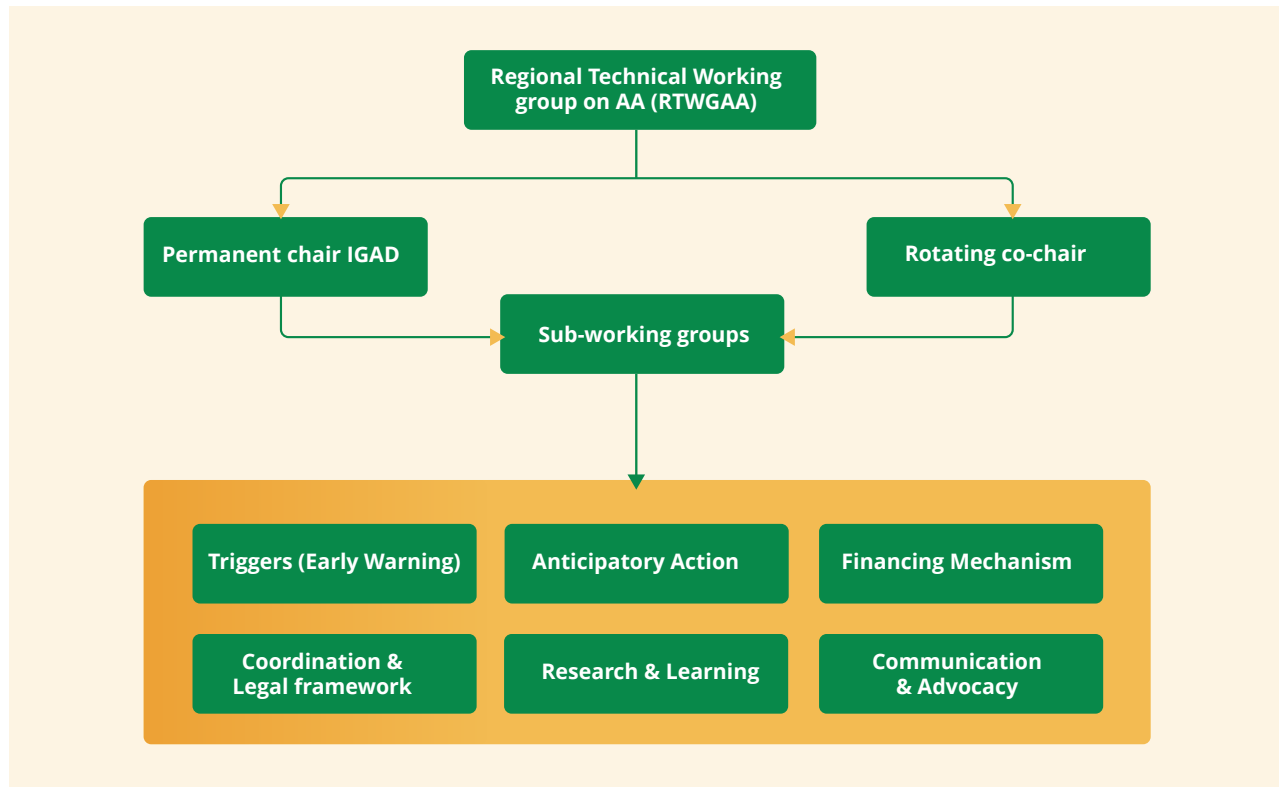
- i. Map out the priority research, learning and evidence needs for AA as well as actors in the region.
- ii. Develop a strategy for regional AA research, learning and evidence.
- iii. Develop guidance for generating AA evidence and learning, including generating evidence on cost-benefit analysis of AA.
- iv. Provide technical support for generating evidence and learning.
- v. Conduct a mid-term and end-term evaluation to assess the effectiveness of the RTWGAA and progress in implementation of the regional AA roadmap.
- vi. Establish a community of practice for research, learning and evidence on AA in Eastern Africa.

6.6. Pillar 6: Coordination and legal framework

There lacks a well-structured coordination and legal framework to support AA in the region. Many DRM and other relevant policies in the region do not specifically include the AA approach and most organisations engage with it based on their own organisational coordination and implementation structures. This not only limits the scale of the AA approach, but also the accountability systems required to support effectiveness of the approach.

Under this pillar are the following the indicative activities:

- i. Develop a regional policy to enable AA or integrate the approach in relevant existing regional policies.
- ii. Provide technical support to NTWGs in the countries in the region to integrate AA in relevant policies.
- iii. Provide technical support to strengthen the operations of the NTWGs.
- iv. Integrate the AA systems into existing mainstream systems/ mechanisms e.g., DRM, social protection, financing, and humanitarian systems.
- v. Organise regular regional AA events such as dialogue platforms and ensure the RTWGAA is represented in key regional and international events such as UNFCC COP, DRR Platform, Global AA Platform etc.
- vi. Support linkage with other relevant working groups e.g., the Cash Working Group (CWG), Food security Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG), Gender Based Violence (GBV) as well as AA working groups in other regions, among others.



A summary of the structure of the Eastern Africa Regional Technical Working Group on Anticipatory Action.

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