

Anticipatory Action Newsletter

Issue 1



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Introduction

Welcome to the first issue of the IGAD Anticipatory Action Bulletin, a platform that is dedicated for knowledge sharing and regular updates and insights on AA activities within the Eastern Africa region. There is increased 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 extreme climatic conditions prevalent in the Eastern Africa (EA) region, compelling actors to intensify efforts in disaster risk management, focusing on capacity building and system development to safeguard vulnerable communities from foreseeable hazards.

In this issue, we highlight progress on three areas: Regional technical working group, IGAD AA roadmap, co-development of triggers and thresholds as well as key upcoming events across within and outside the region.



The Regional Technical Working Group

IGAD together with partners established a regional technical working group (TWG) on AA. The aim of the regional AA TWG is to promote coordinated AA approaches to manage climatic and non-climatic risks, enhancing and developing various sectors, on people's lives and livelihoods and on development in various sectors, in line with the regional AA roadmap.

Membership to the TWG is voluntary and it includes organizations with technical expertise, experience and interest in Anticipatory Action and Disaster risk management within Eastern Africa, and national TWG representatives. In the first quarter of 2024, a call was put out to expand The Regional Technical Working Group. IGAD together with partners established a regional technical working group (TWG) on AA. The aim of the regional AA TWG is to promote coordinated AA approaches to manage climatic and non-climatic risks, enhancing and developing various sectors, on people's lives and livelihoods and on development in various sectors, in line with the regional AA roadmap.

Membership to the TWG is voluntary and it includes organizations with technical expertise, experience and interest in Anticipatory Action and Disaster risk management within Eastern Africa, and national TWG representatives. In the first quarter of 2024, a call was put out to expand membership, resulting in many organizations expressing interest to be part of the TWG. This demonstrates the engagement of actors in the AA approach as well as the need to share knowledge across board as the approach is still nascent in the

region. The AA TWG also seeks to foster collaboration and synergy with other WGs in the region like the regional cash working group, Inter-Agency working group, gender-based violence, food security and nutrition working group (FSN WG) among others.

IGAD Regional Roadmap

IGAD in collaboration with partners, have developed a Regional Roadmap for Anticipatory Action (IRRAA). The roadmap aims to establish a cohesive regional approach to AA, harmonized and integrated within regional and national policies and strategies, so as to inform how AAs are designed and delivered to foster climate-resilient communities across the IGAD region.










The six key pillars that define the roadmap are; (i) A harmonized approach to develop triggers and thresholds for multiple hazards (ii) A harmonized approach to design Anticipatory Actions, (iii) Enhanced access to AA financing mechanisms (iv) Communication and advocacy (v) Research, evidence, and learning (vi) Coordination and legal framework.

The IRRAA offers a comprehensive framework for guiding implementation of AA in the region, including integrating AA into national and regional sectoral policies and plans, and structured coordination and collaboration across diverse stakeholders and sectors. Through the roadmap, IGAD aims to promote layered and sequenced AA financing and programming approaches across the Humanitarian, Development, Peacebuilding, and Climate (HDPC) nexus. More details on the AA roadmap can be accessed [here](#).

Type of Organization

[More Details](#)

 Insights

 Government	108
 Intergovernmental organization	33
 Private and NGOs	140
 Academia and research institute	97
 Donor	1
 Policy and advocacy	25
 Humanitarian	73
 If other, type in the box below	0
 Other	35

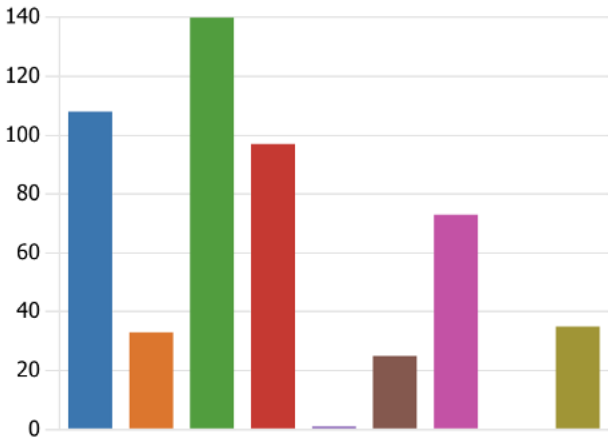


Figure 1: The composition of the members to the Regional Technical working group on Anticipatory Action.

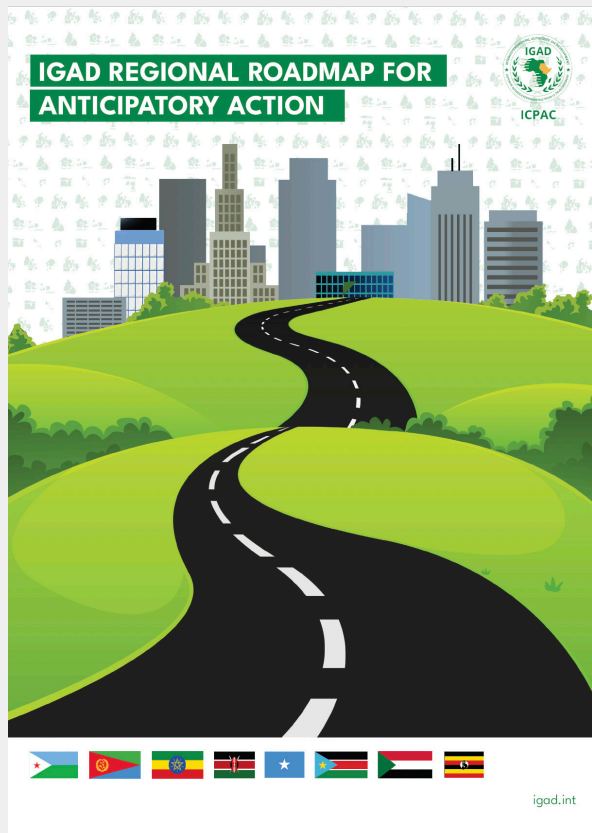


Figure 2: The IGAD Regional Roadmap for the Anticipatory Action.

Co-development of Triggers and Thresholds

Over the past three years, IGAD has continued to offer technical support to its member-states on development of triggers and thresholds to anticipate potential drought and flood. The triggers have been developed in conjunction with National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NHMSs), National Disaster Management Agencies, the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, WFP and other partners.

In efforts towards developing impact-based triggers, the process has involved linking bio-physical indicators of drought, such as the standard precipitation index, with people's recollections of drought impacts and socio-economic indicators. This assumes that the resultant trigger thresholds would reflect local impacts and be actionable to activate relevant drought Anticipatory Action.

The process is a contribution to a 'harmonized' understanding and approach to developing impact-based Triggers and Thresholds.

The continuous review and refinement of the approach offers promise and potential for replication and scaling up across the region. Through initiatives with partners, IGAD will aim to develop harmonized approaches for establishing reliable information on triggers, with attention to development of impact-based forecasts that combine forecasts of hazards with risk (exposure, vulnerability, and capacity) information.

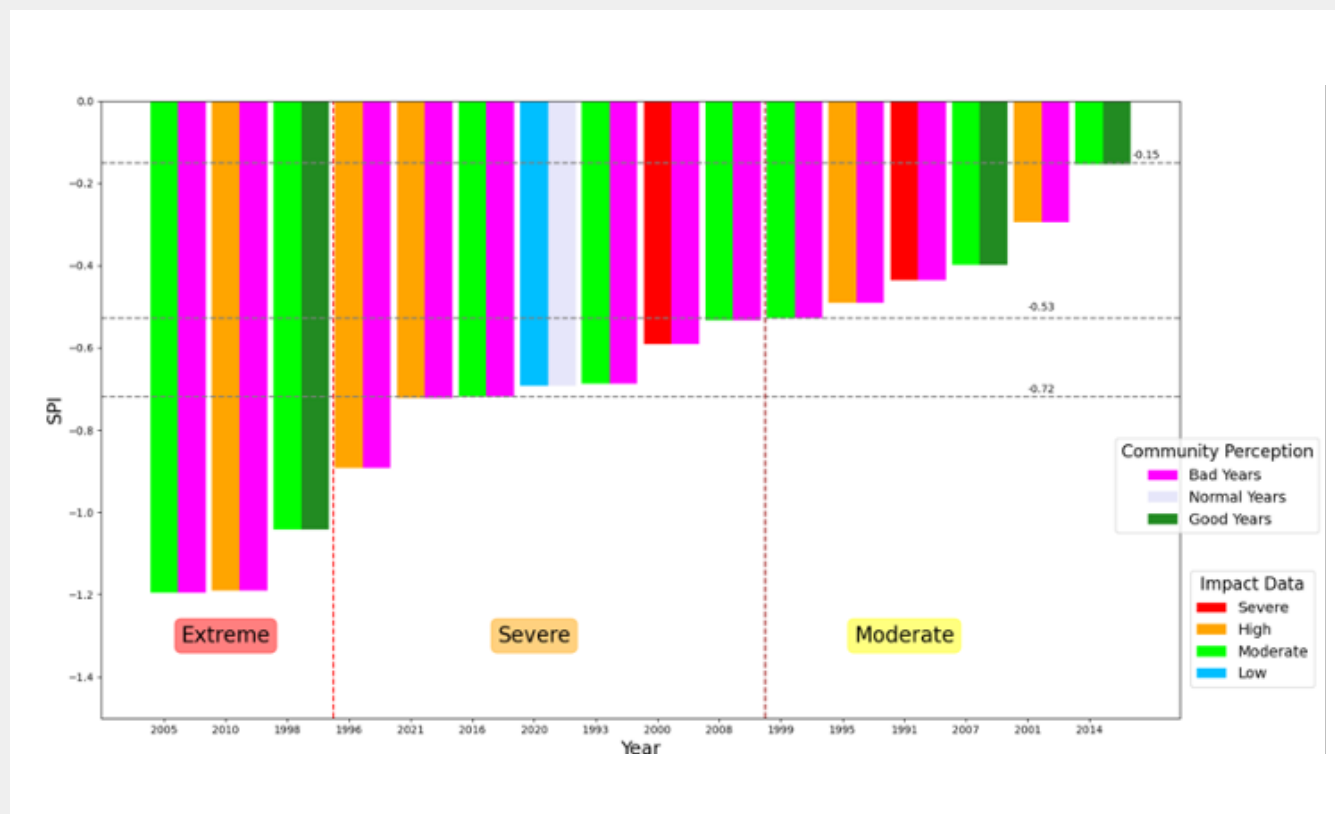


Figure 3: Linkages between Standardized Precipitation Index, socio-economic impacts and local impact perceptions to support Trigger/Thresholds Development.

Country Briefs



In Somalia, through the leadership of the Somalia Disaster Management Agency (SODMA), a national technical working group on AA was established in 2023, bringing together various actors to collaborate on AA. The TWG has developed a national flood AA framework that was used to guide AA activations ahead of the flooding that occurred in the October to December 2023 and March to May 2024 seasons.



In Uganda, the EU-funded Strengthening Shock-responsive Systems, under the Pro-Resilience Action (PRO-ACT) project, is a partnership between FAO, WFP and the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries (MAAIF). The project facilitated the development of a drought early warning system in the Karamoja subregion. This EWS informed the development of drought AA triggers in Karamoja.



In Djibouti, through support from the Government of Denmark, the capacity of the Djibouti Meteorological Agency has been strengthened to develop drought triggers for activating AAs in the country. The Red Crescent simplified Early Action Protocol (EAP) was activated in November 2023, providing AA assistance to at-risk communities ahead of flooding in Djibouti City.



In Sudan, FAO led the development of the Early Warning Early Action (EWEA) system to monitor and raise drought alarms and determine the most beneficial interventions for agro-pastoralists amid the worsening dry spell.



In Kenya, the National Roadmap on Anticipatory Action has been launched, following five years of extensive consultations, workshops and meetings with diverse stakeholders and agencies. The five-year roadmap (2024-2028) represents a significant milestone in collective efforts to enhance disaster risk management and resilience through AA in Kenya.



In South Sudan, OCHA developed and implemented an early action to address impending extreme flooding in the region in 2022.



In Ethiopia, there is a vibrant national AA TWG led by the Ethiopia Disaster Risk Management Commission. In 2024, through support from OCHA, the TWG has developed harmonized triggers for drought, bringing together triggers developed by WFP and the Ethiopia Red Cross Society.



Upcoming Events

The 12th Global Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Action

This year's edition in Berlin, Germany, from October 22-24, focuses on "Mainstreaming Anticipatory Action: Collaboration in Complex Contexts."

The Eastern Africa Dialogue Platform (EADP) on Anticipatory Action

The inaugural Eastern Africa Dialogue Platform will be held from 1st - 3rd October 2024, in Mombasa, Kenya. The theme for the workshop will be "From Policy to Practice: Strengthening Disaster Risk Management through Anticipatory Action."

The second quarter of TWG meeting

The quarterly meeting for the TWG will be held in October within the sidelines of EADP event. For more details email igadtwgaa@igad.int



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