

DECLARATION FROM THE FIRST EASTERN AFRICA DIALOGUE PLATFORM ON ANTICIPATORY ACTION ‘MOVING FROM POLICY TO PRACTICE: STRENGTHENING DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT THROUGH ANTICIPATORY ACTION’

3 October, 2024

East Africa is experiencing growing humanitarian needs, with multiple disasters affecting the region in an already fragile and complex context. There is a pressing need to scale up Anticipatory Action (AA) to protect those most at risk across the region.

To achieve this ambition there is need for wider coordination, alignment and collaboration, with governments at the forefront in leadership.

From 1st to 3rd October 2024, more than 200 people, including representatives from government, UN Agencies, Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, humanitarian agencies, NGOs, national hydrological and meteorological services, Disaster Risk Management authorities, research and academia, and donor agencies and development partners, met in Mombasa, Kenya to discuss progress and steps towards strengthening Disaster Risk Management through anticipatory action.

These conversations culminated into the following declarations:

MOMBASA 2024 DECLARATION

We, the participants of the 1st Eastern Africa Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Action, commit to scaling up anticipatory action to enhance the resilience of communities across the Eastern African region in alignment with the IGAD Regional Roadmap on Anticipatory Action.

We commit to:

1. Coordinate for collective anticipatory action through existing coordination structures, such as regional and national working groups, to harmonise triggers and thresholds, actions and financing by leveraging on each other's strengths.
2. Enhance the technical capacities of governments to design and implement the anticipatory action approach at national level.
3. Support the integration of anticipatory action into national policies, laws and frameworks, including social protection systems and establish clear governance structures at the regional, national and local levels.
4. Collectively communicate and advocate for anticipatory approaches across the development, humanitarian and peace nexus.
5. Strengthen national and regional forecasting capabilities to ensure early warning is effectively developed, communicated, leading to coordinated and timely anticipatory action from the local to the national and regional level.

6. Promote community-led and informed anticipatory action through the meaningful participation of those at greater risk of being disproportionately impacted by disasters, including women and children;
7. Ensure that Anticipatory Action frameworks are responsive to the needs of the most vulnerable, including displaced populations, those in conflict-affected areas, and communities facing protracted crises.
8. Continue, wherever possible, to explore anticipatory action in fragile and conflict-affected areas, and expand to other hazards such as heatwaves, contexts such as urban areas, to leave no one behind.
9. Explore and implement innovative approaches to scale up, reach and protect more people at risk, especially in hard to access areas, leveraging new technologies like digital Cash and Voucher Assistance.
10. Cooperate to address transboundary risks and encourage data sharing within and across countries for Anticipatory Action.
11. Develop a solid evidence base by collectively monitoring and evaluating progress, based on robust scientific methodologies, and by sharing lessons learned in relevant knowledge platforms and events such as the dialogue platforms.
12. Where necessary, support to develop communication and advocacy strategies on anticipatory action.



More specifically, we encourage national governments to:

13. Set up, or continue to support, anticipatory action technical working groups to lead the development and evolution of national roadmaps for Anticipatory Action and further coordination effort.

14. Allocate budget resources for Anticipatory Action, recognising that governments should lead resource mobilisation efforts.

We appreciate if the international community could:

15. Increase flexible and coordinated funding for Anticipatory Action.

16. Support the long-term journey to embed Anticipatory Action into governance structures across the region.

17. Support the Early Warning Systems value chain to reach the last mile.

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Partners



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