

CONTENT

STEP 4: REFLECT ON SUITABLE ANTICIPATORY ACTION APPROACHES IN YOUR
CONTEXT

Step 4: Reflect on suitable anticipatory action approaches in your context

If after your discussions you decide to start working on anticipatory action, it is recommended to revisit chapter 1 and broadly explore how anticipatory action could be operationalized. Keep in mind though that, as explained in chapter 1, the different approaches to anticipatory action are not rigidly distinct but complement and build on each other: Using an imminent DREF, for example, may serve as a stepping stone toward s/EAP development or as a testing ground for early actions that would later be formalized in a more structured framework.

The definitive decision on which approach to take does not have to be taken at this stage and can be informed by the outcome of a potential scoping study (see next step). However, reflecting on suitable and realistic entry points might already provide a valuable orientation for a National Society in which direction to move.

Questions to help you reflect which entry points to anticipatory action would be suitable in your context

Existing practice and experience:

- In which areas does the National Society in general have extensive operational experience with relevant programming and related capacities?
- Do you have experience with an imminent DREF as a response DREF? Would it be possible to implement early actions instead? What experience does the National Society have with community-based disaster risk management, community early warning systems, and community action planning through EVCA?
- Would you have the capacity to implement anticipatory action in an area that has not been preselected as needed for, e.g. EAPs and imminent DREF?

Institutional and governmental environment:

- Is there a national or subnational anticipatory action framework in place that could be built upon, e.g. by the government or other humanitarian actors?
- Does the government express interest in risk-informed or forecast-based action?
- Does the National Society have established partnerships with other National Societies or other partners that have experience with anticipatory action?

Funding landscape:

- Are there any institutionalized funding mechanisms for anticipatory action at the national or subnational level?
- Are crisis modifiers or contingency funds already embedded in ongoing programmes?
- Do you have experience with an imminent DREF or a response DREF?

Scale and ambition:

- Is the objective to test anticipatory action in a limited geographic area or to establish a formalized, multi-year framework?
- Does the National Society aim to strengthen community-level resilience, national systems, or both?

Once you have a general commitment to work on anticipatory action and a rough orientation on potential entry points, the next steps of this Manual will help you decide whether you want to do a scoping study or not. If you have funding for a study now (or other reasons why a study now would be good) but the timing is not ideal for the National Society, you can carry out the scoping study and then start your anticipatory action programme at a more suitable time; however, be aware that some of the analysis in the scoping study might change over time (e.g. available data, forecasts or staff capacity).