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The in-situ phase serves to fill information gaps and to answer questions remaining after the desk review. To encourage buy-in from the National Society's senior management, make sure they are informed about the activities and that the anticipatory action focal point accompanies the data collection.

Methodology

The following phases and methodologies represent the minimum steps toward primary data collection. You may also collect complementary data through surveys or other tools as time and resources permit.

Key informant interviews (KII)

Before meeting stakeholders, make sure that you introduce yourself and the study. You can also ask interviewees to sign a research consent form.

As you will speak to very different stakeholders, interview questions need to be adjusted to each participant based on their area of expertise. You can use the compilation of guiding questions provided in the [toolbox](#) as a starting point and narrow them according to your needs. It may not be possible to answer all of these questions in the limited time frame of the study, but they can serve as a guideline to identify open questions and gaps.

Experience from other countries has shown that it is beneficial to begin speaking to data stakeholders and begin working toward data sharing agreements from the early stages, as this can be a lengthy process. Guidance about how to set up a data sharing agreement can be found in the [toolbox](#).

Community visit

A community visit including participatory data collection is another way to understand the disaster impact and resulting needs. Given the likely resource constraints, you will not be able to gather information from all potentially affected communities. Nevertheless, consulting communities can assist you in understanding the realities of intended recipients. Based on the results of the risk assessment, the prioritization of hazards from the desk review, and key determinants of vulnerability and exposure, purposefully select communities in close cooperation with the anticipatory action focal point and the National Society. If there is an ICRC Delegation present in the country, seek the latest security advice ahead of visiting any field locations.

There are many methods for working with communities. Please refer to the eVCA (enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment) tools in the [toolbox](#) for participatory methods. The People-first Impact Method (P-FIM) is another promising approach to shaping your anticipatory action program. Rather than taking the need for anticipatory action as a given or necessity, it builds trust and two-way communication, allowing communities themselves to define their priorities and what should be done, when, and by whom. A longer description of the approach is provided in the [MEAL chapter](#), and links to supporting documents and contacts for training are available in the toolbox.

Stakeholder workshop

If time and budget allows, consider organizing a stakeholder workshop to get feedback on the study results, fill remaining data gaps, and develop recommendations for the anticipatory action set-up. Such workshops are also a good opportunity to generate interest in anticipatory action and build the relationships needed to carry the concept forward.

Please find examples of agendas in the [toolbox](#).