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STEP 2: UNDERSTAND WHOM TO ENGAGE IN YOUR CONTEXT

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If your National Society conducted a scoping study, the results of this study are a good place to begin, as they likely include a preliminary identification of stakeholders. If your National Society conducted a scoping study but over a year has passed, you should revisit and update those results as necessary, since potential stakeholders, data sources, and forecasts may have changed. You will not have to conduct a comprehensive scoping study, but it may be helpful to revisit [chapter 1](#) to help you determine which elements may need updating and how to do so.

If your National Society did not conduct a scoping study or include a stakeholder mapping in the scoping study, begin by mapping relevant stakeholders for your context. The [toolbox](#) below contains a variety of links and resources on how to conduct a stakeholder mapping or analysis.

Generally, the intensity and type of engagement required will vary depending on the anticipatory action approach pursued. For example, developing an s/EAP usually requires close collaboration with national hydrometeorological services and disaster management authorities, while community-based approaches may place stronger emphasis on civil society organizations and community structures.

In the video below, Sheikh Khairul Rahaman talks about his experiences in involving stakeholders in anticipatory action projects in Bangladesh.



Stakeholder mapping for the drought EAP in Somalia

During the induction workshop in Hargeisa (2022), the Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS) did a first mapping of stakeholders who might be influential with varying interest to support the development of the drought EAP. In this first mapping, SRCS mapped out to what degree stakeholders are influential to the development of a drought EAP and also what their interest in a drought EAP might be. Crucial are particularly those stakeholders that are very influential but not very interested. Hence, for those a plan needs to be developed on how to engage them.

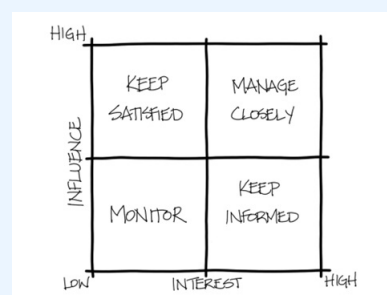


Photo credit: [InsideProduct](#)

At a minimum, you should engage one or more representatives from the following institutions:

- National hydrometeorological services (for weather-related hazards)
- Government agencies or ministries responsible for (or involved in) disaster risk management
- Government agencies involved in social protection (if your National Society intends to provide cash as an early action and/or explore linkages to social protection).
- Any organizations already working on anticipatory action in your country
 - **NOTE:** If other non-governmental actors are working on/implementing anticipatory action, it is essential that these organizations coordinate their efforts to engage the government and ensure their key messages align. For an example of such coordination see the [case study on how BDRCS and WFP worked together in Bangladesh](#)
- Participants in existing technical working groups related to anticipatory action
- Experts in sector specific or crosscutting concerns, such as agriculture, social affairs, protection gender and inclusion, education, migration, (mental) health etc. as appropriate
- If you are working in a conflict setting, ensure to engage the ICRC. They will be able to provide guidance on what else to consider and who else to engage in your context to ensure the safety of staff and volunteers. The “Anticipatory action in fragile, conflict- and violence-affected settings” toolkit (see [toolbox](#) below) includes resources on conflict analysis and stakeholder mapping that can additionally support you at this step.

You may also want to consult with or engage donors, especially as a source of information for relevant programmes.

After you have a comprehensive list of stakeholders, you will need to prioritize them and identify their potential role in developing, implementing, enabling or otherwise supporting your anticipatory action system. As mentioned above, the role and relevance of specific stakeholders will depend on the anticipatory action pathway pursued. For example, for community-based approaches, community-based organizations and civil society actors may play a particularly central role. For approaches focused on institutionalization of anticipatory action within existing disaster management systems, national-level authorities may be the primary entry point. The table below outlines a potential format for clearly identifying what stakeholders can bring to the anticipatory action system and how essential their participation is for your success, with a particular focus on s/EAP development.

Table: Sample stakeholder mapping/analysis

From Stakeholder mapping

Stakeholder	Stakeholder What are they doing in AA?	What do you need from them? / What role could or should they have in the project?	How important / influential / essential is their involvement?