

CONTENT

EARLY ACTION PROTOCOLS

Early Action Protocols

An EAP consists of three main components: trigger, actions and funding mechanism. The EAP delineates roles and responsibilities for quick action when a trigger is reached and constitutes the Red Cross Red Crescent's approach to formalized anticipatory action frameworks. National societies can access IFRC-DREF funds with a

- full EAP
- simplified EAP

Details on the differences between full and simplified EAPs as well as templates and guidance on EAPs can be found in [chapter 4](#) of the Manual's main body.

The focus of this Manual is the development of a full EAP, as it represents the most comprehensive and formalized approach to anticipatory action within the Movement. The simplified EAP is a lighter-touch version of the full EAP and is thus covered inherently.

Activation and trigger	s/EAPs have a pre agreed threshold at which the EAP is activated and actions are implemented. There is no need to go through any additional approval processes for funds to be released once a threshold is met, thereby gaining valuable time to reduce the impact of a disaster.
Funding	Once approved, funding is guaranteed through the Anticipatory Pillar of the DREF.
Selection of actions	Actions are pre-agreed and are in many cases tested before in a simulation and / or an imminent DREF (see below).
Intervention area	Communities are not pre-selected but the hazard forecast in combination with vulnerability information will indicate where anticipatory action is needed most.
Risk assessment	The development of an s/EAP usually allows for a more rigorous analysis of the historical impacts and vulnerability of the population leading to a more targeted and potentially effective intervention.
Capacity	National Societies can access readiness funds through the EAP. However, the development is often (but doesn't have to!) done in a project with a partner.