

CONTENT

ANTICIPATORY ACTION AS PART OF COMMUNITY-BASED DISASTER RISK
REDUCTION

Anticipatory action as part of community-based disaster risk reduction

Community work is at the core of all National Societies as volunteers of the Red Cross and Red Crescent are deeply embedded in their respective community structures. One central guiding framework of the RCRC Movement in CBDRR is the Roadmap to Community Resilience (R2CR) via the enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (EVCA). It is a participatory community risk assessment process which enables communities, with the support of Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies when needed, to assess and analyse the risks they face, explore where these risks come from, which members of the community are most exposed, what coping capacities are available, and what initiatives can be undertaken to strengthen coping capacities and reduce the risks. As part of the R2CR via EVCA process, a Plan of Action is developed which elaborates risk reduction measures. This comprehensive community plan could contain the development of an anticipatory action plan, bridging longer-term mitigation and preparedness measures to immediate early actions for prioritized risks

As you can see in the table below, embedding anticipatory action in community-based disaster risk reduction can take many different forms. Which pathway is feasible and most effective varies highly, depending on factors like local context, needs, institutional setup or available resources.

Activation and trigger	The National Society and the community can implement anticipatory action in a pre-defined or non-defined manner. To trigger anticipatory action, community-based early warning systems or national warnings can be used, either defined in an anticipatory action plan, as part of a more vast contingency plan or needs-based, only when a forecast indicates an imminent disaster.
Funding	There is no global funding mechanism for anticipatory action at the community level. However, low cost or no cost actions could be explored or other local funds could be obtained, e.g. through a written anticipatory action plan with a budget and making the case for anticipatory action.
Selection of actions	Actions could be planned prior to the hazard in an anticipatory action plan for the community. Ideally, these actions are really tailored to the community and build on the EVCA, where available.
Intervention area	As the focus is on a particular community the intervention will take place in that specific community once a forecast indicates an imminent disaster.
Risk assessment	The EVCA is an in-depth risk assessment which allows a thorough impact analysis which could serve as a basis for the selection of anticipatory actions.
Capacity	The implementation of actions is dependent on the community, ideally incorporated in the key roles and responsibilities of the Community Resilience Committees, and their resources to invest in the community action plan and the anticipatory action plan accordingly, if applicable.



Guidance and specific considerations on the use of the community based approaches for anticipatory action can be found in the latter chapters of this Manual.