

CONTENT

COMPLEMENTARY AND EVOLVING PATHWAYS

Complementary and evolving pathways

The approaches outlined above represent the most common entry points for National Societies to engage in anticipatory action. However, in practice, these approaches are neither mutually exclusive nor rigidly distinct.

For many contexts, elements from different approaches overlap or reinforce each other. For example, a government-owned anticipatory action framework with nationally defined triggers may be closely linked to a formalized EAP developed by the National Society, allowing for coordinated activation and complementary activation. Similarly, a municipal anticipatory action plan developed with the support of a National Society may build directly on years of community-based disaster risk reduction work, including EVCA processes and volunteer networks. An imminent DREF may also serve as a stepping stone toward the development of an EAP, or as a testing ground for early actions later formalized in a more structured framework. National Societies are therefore encouraged to view these approaches not as isolated models, but as entry points and adaptable components within broader anticipatory action ecosystems.

Importantly, the approaches presented in this chapter are not exhaustive and additional pathways may exist depending on the operational, institutional and donor landscape. For instance, anticipatory elements can be integrated into longer-term programmes through crisis modifiers: A crisis modifier refers to an agreed adjustment to a pre-existing project or intervention that allows funds to be (re-)allocated or activities to be adapted in anticipation of an imminent shock. The feasibility and design of crisis modifiers, however, depend heavily on donor agreements, project configurations and flexibility, and therefore vary significantly across contexts. Beyond crisis modifiers, some National Societies have also established own pooled or contingency funds to finance anticipatory action independently or in advance of international support.