

CONTENT

MOVING FROM AWARENESS TO EXPLORATION

Moving from awareness to exploration

This chapter introduced the main approaches through which National Societies can engage in anticipatory action. As outlined, these pathways differ in terms of formality, funding mechanisms, scale, and institutional integration. They are not mutually exclusive and may evolve or be combined over time as capacities, partnerships and opportunities develop. Hence, at this stage, the aim is not yet to decide on a specific pathway, but to become familiar with the range of possible entry points and understand how anticipatory action can be embedded in different operational and institutional contexts.

Building on this overview, the next chapter moves from orientation to exploration: It guides National Societies through the process of assessing whether and how anticipatory action could be feasible and valuable in their specific contexts. This includes scoping opportunities and capacities, identifying potential hazards and partners, and determining whether to pursue a more formalized anticipatory action system such as an Early Action Protocol.

In general, the following chapters focus in detail on the development of a full or simplified Early Action Protocol (s/EAP). As the most comprehensive, institutionalized and formalized approach to anticipatory action within the Movement, an s/EAP provides access to pre-agreed funding for a defined multi-year period and establishes clear and predefined triggers and actions. However, as outlined above, it represents only one pathway among several, and may be pursued progressively as capacities and institutional readiness evolve. Specific guidance on other pathways can be found at the end of this manual.