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Step 1: Activate your s/EAP

If at any stage the preapproved trigger is reached, then the National Society can start implementing their early action activities. The activation needs to be confirmed by the global IFRC-DREF team, and this is done via the Activation template. The Activation template can be prepared in advance (since the early action and budget have been preapproved) and can be updated based on the specific details of the activation when the trigger is reached.

Activating without the pre-agreed trigger being met

The EAP and the sEAP are pre-agreed funding modalities, funding is guaranteed based on a preapproved trigger, a preapproved set of early action activities, and a preapproved budget. This means that whenever the preapproved trigger is reached, the National Society can immediately start doing the early action activities. But what happens if the preapproved forecast doesn't predict the hazard, but other forecasts sources are indicating the likelihood of the impending hazard? Or if the trigger threshold hasn't been reached, but severe impacts are being experienced by at risk communities? Or what happens if….

There might be many reasons why a National Society wants to activate their s/EAP. There is flexibility to activate if the pre-agreed trigger has not been reached, however this requires exceptional approval by the DREF Appeal manager in advance of activating the s/EAP. You should reach out to the regional DREF focal point and send as much information to justify the activation as possible to DREF.anticipatorypillar@ifrc.org. The DREF team aims to ensure as much flexibility as possible in order to protect vulnerable communities in advance of a hazard.

To access the early action budget, the National Society should submit the signed 'request for payment' along with the filled activation template to the IFRC Project Manager. The activation template is published on the IFRC website by the IFRC Regional PMER Focal Point.

If you want more information on the **activation process**, please read **chapter five of the IFRC interactive guidance package.**