Concept note: Bangladesh

Pilot Programmatic Partnership

Increasing capacities and scale for anticipatory action including through social protection systems
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Abbreviations and acronyms

AA Anticipatory action
AAP Anticipatory Action Protocol
BAMIS Bangladesh Agro-Meteorological Information System
BDRCRS Bangladesh Red Crescent Society
BMD Bangladesh Meteorological Department
CERF Central Emergency Response Fund
DG ECHO Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
EAP Early Action Protocol
ECHO European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
ECMWF European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecast
EWS Early Warning System
FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FbA Forecast-based Action
FbF/A Forecast-based Financing/Action
FFWC Flood Forecasting Warning Centre
GRC German Red Cross
HCTT Humanitarian Coordination Task Team
IFAD International Fund for Agriculture Development
IWFM Institute of Water and Flood Management
MoDMR Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief
NFI Non-food item
NSSS National Social Security Strategy
PPP Pilot Programmatic Partnership
SOD Standing Order on Disasters
SRSP Shock-responsive social protection
TWG Technical Working Group
UN United Nations
WFP World Food Programme
About the Pilot Programmatic Partnership

Extreme weather events are increasing in frequency and intensity due to climate change, while conflicts are driving consistent and unsustainable increases in humanitarian needs. Combined, they are pushing acute hunger to new heights reaching a five-year high in 2020.

A strategic shift from responding to predictable shocks to anticipating their impacts has the potential to break the cycle of growing dependence on humanitarian aid. This approach, commonly known as anticipatory action, establishes risk-monitoring systems linked to flexible finance and standard operating procedures by delivering support to protect people’s lives and livelihoods ahead of forecast shocks.

Anticipatory action can be delivered through a variety of modalities, including through national social protection systems. Social protection systems consist of policies and programmes designed to address economic, environmental and social vulnerabilities to food insecurity and poverty. Linking anticipatory action to social protection means making better use of existing infrastructure to reach and proactively support vulnerable populations ahead of forecast shocks.

Recognizing the clear effectiveness of this approach, the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) established a three-year Pilot Programmatic Partnership (PPP) with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to explore and strengthen the critical link between these two approaches.

The partnership aims at scaling up anticipatory approaches to crises, with an initial focus on the Asia region including Bangladesh, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Pakistan, the Philippines and Viet Nam.
Country risk profile at a glance

The geography of Bangladesh has a significant influence on levels of disaster risk. The country supports three major river systems and their deltas: the Brahmaputra (known locally as the Jamuna), the Ganges and the Meghna. These rivers receive runoff from India, China, Nepal and Bhutan in a wide catchment area of around 12 times the land area of Bangladesh itself. Nearly 70 percent of the country is vulnerable to flooding, and 25 to 30 percent is inundated during a normal monsoon period. Cyclones also hit coastal areas almost every year, usually accompanied by high winds and surge.

Figure 1. Climate-related multi-hazard risk (2021–2025)

Climate change is disrupting traditional rain patterns, causing some areas to experience droughts. Sea level rise is pushing saltwater into coastal agricultural areas, and is expected to permanently submerge large swaths. Thus Bangladesh is a hotspot for disaster risk with a large number of exposed populations (see Figure 1).

As per the latest Global Climate Risk Index\(^1\), Bangladesh ranks seventh among the ten countries most affected by climate disasters from 2000 to 2019.

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The agriculture sector, which employs nearly 40 percent of the workforce in the country, is particularly at risk with the changing climate. Highly agriculture-dependent provinces (see Figure 2) may suffer not only from a loss of livelihoods, but also from increased food insecurity among the poorest households, among other impacts of extreme natural climatic events such as drought or floods.

Pre-monsoon flash floods are the major natural disaster in the region, threatening overall agricultural production including Boro rice. For instance, at the beginning of April 2017, a devastating early monsoon flash flood in Haor basin destroyed the nearly ready-to-harvest annual rice crop and resulted in significant income loss to farmers, and a high rate of food insecure households (62 percent)\(^2\). The COVID-19: Bangladesh Multi-sectoral Anticipatory Impact and Needs Analysis ranked Netrokona, Kishoreganj and Sunamgonj districts of Haor, the second, third and fourth respectively as “national priority geographic areas”, based on physical, socioeconomic and disaster vulnerabilities.\(^3\)

Figure 2. Percentage of population employed in the agriculture sector (2016)

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Review of national disaster preparedness, anticipatory action and shock-responsive social protection systems

Disaster preparedness systems

Bangladesh has a well-established policy framework for tackling disasters and climate change:

- **The Disaster Management Act (No. 34)** provides the legal basis for disaster risk reduction and emergency response management in Bangladesh. This Act defines the organizational structure of disaster management at national and local levels and details the responsibilities of all government departments and committees related to the disaster management system.

- **The 2021–2025 National Plan for Disaster Management** covers all investment areas where risk-informed planning and implementation are highly appreciated. Building on the achievements of previous plans, the focus of the 2021–2025 Plan is the continuation of disaster risk reduction for achieving resilience.

- **The National Disaster Management Policy** defines the national perspective on disaster risk reduction and emergency management, describing the strategic framework and national principles of disaster management in Bangladesh. It includes broad national objectives and strategies in disaster management.

- **The Standing Order on Disasters (SOD) 2019** provides a legal basis to perform disaster management activities. It details the roles and responsibilities of each government body engaged in disaster management, and also provides for the establishment of coordination processes at national and local levels. The SOD has incorporated the humanitarian cluster system that increased the ability of the international community to complement and support the preparedness and response efforts of the Government of Bangladesh.

- **The Communicable Diseases (Prevention, Control and Eradication) Act** aims at tackling public health emergencies caused by communicable diseases, and checking and eradicating all contagious diseases. The bill was framed merging four existing laws – the Epidemic Disease Act of 1897, the Public Health (Emergency Provisions) Ordinance of 1944, the Bangladesh Malaria Eradication Board (Repeal) Ordinance of 1977 and the Prevention of Malaria (Special Provisions) Ordinance of 1978.

- **The Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100** focuses on economic growth, environmental conservation and enhanced climate resilience, and lays out holistic and cross-sectoral actions to improve productivity and minimize disaster risks. According to the World Bank, coupled with increasing climate risks, a business-as-usual scenario without the implementation of the plan would lead to declining agricultural production, increased unemployment and migration.

Institutional arrangements include:

- The Department of Disaster Management, under the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR), coordinates at national level. Disaster management committees at central, divisional, district, upazila and union levels are in charge of management and coordination at the subnational levels.

- There are several agencies monitoring and forecasting extreme climate events that can be engaged in the development of anticipatory action (AA) trigger mechanisms, including: the Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD), the Bangladesh Water Development Board, the Flood Forecasting Warning Centre (FFWC), the Centre for Environmental and Geographic Information Services, the Institute of Water and Flood Management (IWFM) and the Bangladesh Agro-Meteorological Information System (BAMIS).

- The Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock are the designated lead ministries to respond to all hazards and natural disasters that may impact the agriculture sector. Both have emergency plans and procedures in place, as disasters can result in a significant disruption of agricultural operations and substantial loss of crops and/or livestock.
The Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Climate Change is the lead agency to plan, promote, coordinate and oversee the implementation of environment, forestry and climate change programmes. It is currently managing the “Climate Change Risk Fund”.

Social protection architecture is fragmented, and limited progress has been made to consolidate the efforts/assistance undertaken by various actors. Currently, there are over 100 social protection programmes that are spread across 30 ministries. In 2015, Bangladesh initiated a series of reforms through the adoption of the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) that will run until 2025, to build an inclusive social protection system, for instance by introducing a cluster approach for the ministerial implementation of different social protection programmes and establishing a single management information system.

Anticipatory action systems

In 2019, a Forecast-based Financing/Action Technical Working Group (FbF/A TWG) was established, bringing together interested partners under the leadership of the MoDMR and the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS). The working group is linked to the Humanitarian Coordination Task Team (HCTT), co-chaired by the United Nations (UN) Resident Coordinator and Senior Secretary of the MoDMR, who approved the HCTT 2020 work plan, which includes the promotion of coordinated engagement on AA through the FbF/A TWG.

The most frequent and impactful hazard in Bangladesh is river flooding, which has been prioritized by the AA community of practice:

- The BDRCS, with the technical support of the German Red Cross (GRC), pioneered AA in Bangladesh and implemented successive FbF/A projects in 2015, 2017 and 2019. The BDRCS first Early Action Protocol (EAP) focused on the monsoon flood in the Jamuna river and was approved by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in 2018, then revised in December 2019. The EAP was activated on 4 July 2020, in Kurigram, Gaibandha and Jamalpur districts.
- The United Nations Flood Anticipatory Action Pilot, developed a Flood Anticipatory Action Framework in 2020, with the FAO, the United Nations Population Fund, the World Food Programme (WFP) and BDRCS, with funding from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). It relied on the Red Cross trigger methodology:
  
  1. **Trigger for Stage I:** Pre-activation (readiness) trigger is reached when the water flow at the Bahadurabad gauging station over a three-day period is forecast to be more than 50 percent likely to cross 100,000 m³/s (one in five-year return period) by the Global Flood Awareness System of the European Union and/or FFWC’s ten-day lead time model.
  2. **Trigger for Stage II:** Activation trigger is reached when the water level at Bahadurabad is forecast by the FFWC’s five-day lead time model to cross the government-defined “danger level” of +0.85 m.

By 4 July 2020, the first trigger mark was reached, and on the same day, only four hours after the system raised alarm, CERF released the pre-agreed USD 5.2 million to the three partners – the fastest disbursement of such funds in UN history. While the flood triggers were not met in 2021, the next phase of the pilot is still active in 2022.

- WFP is currently developing Anticipatory Action Protocols (AAPs) for the flash flood in Teknaf. The AAPs were tested over the 2021 monsoon season, and are soon to be presented and validated with partners.
- The European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)-funded Supporting Flood Forecast-based Action and Learning project, implemented by CARE (lead), Concern Worldwide and Islamic Relief, helped to implement FbF/A in Kurigram, Gaibandha and Jamalpur districts through support for early warning systems (EWSs), impact-based forecasting and community-level early actions with technical support from the Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System.
- The International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) also supported the FFWC and IWFM to develop a flood EWS for the Haor river basin (with a three-day lead time).

The second most frequent and impactful hazards being addressed are cyclones. BDRCS got its cyclone EAP approved in April 2018. The trigger is based on cyclone forecasts of the BMD and provides a limited lead time of 30 hours. Forecast-based action (FbA) for the 2020 cyclone Amphan was implemented by BDRCS with funding from the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund, focusing on the provision of dry food and evacuation.
The activities involved mobilization of over 700 members from the Unit Disaster Response Team and the Community Disaster Response Team for dissemination of early warning messages, providing evacuation support and preparing cyclone shelters with the Cyclone Preparedness Programme volunteers. At least 36,365 beneficiaries were reached through the distribution of dry food, drinking water, face masks, soap and hand sanitizers to 192 shelters in 10 coastal districts of Barguna, Patuakhali, Pirojpur, Satkhira, Khulna, Bagerhat, Bhola, Lakshmipur, Noakhali and Jhalokathi.

BDRC and GRC are also working to pilot FbF/A for heatwaves. To advance anticipatory action efforts in Dhaka, a simulation was conducted from 24 April to 3 May 2021 to test the triggers and early actions for heatwaves. A global forecast model for temperature from the European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecast (ECMWF), with ten days of lead time, and national forecasts (by BMD) with five days of lead time, were identified by the study team and used for the pre-activation and activation stages of the simulation.

Finally, Start Fund Bangladesh developed AAPs for riverbank erosion and dengue fever.

- In April 2020, Start Network funded efforts to anticipate and mitigate a dengue fever outbreak in Dhaka (alert B027). The Social and Economic Enhancement Programme, a local partner of the Start Network, focused on the management of dengue fever, disinfection of hospitals and advocacy. The activities included the development of a model mechanism to prevent dengue fever (with a private hospital for the government to replicate), the spraying of larvicides within a 450-meter radius of a hospital and households, and advocacy through video conferences, social media campaigns, dialogue and dissemination of leaflets.

- In June 2020, Start Network funded CARE Bangladesh to anticipate the impacts of CARE due to flooding in Kurigram Rowmari and Char Rajibpur (alert B031). Riverbank erosion can cause significant damage to land and property resulting in significant socioeconomic impacts. The activities included provision of early warning messages to vulnerable communities and stakeholders, along with raising awareness of COVID-19, distribution of cash to 430 households, support to 405 households with non-food items (NFIs) and hygiene kits, and support for the relocation and strengthening of four government primary schools in risk-prone areas.

**Shock-responsive social protection systems**

Unlike many other countries where social protection and disaster management are conceptualized as distinctive policy issues, in Bangladesh, the MoDMR is an integral part of the Social Safety Net Programme delivery. The safety net and social protection programme in Bangladesh provides an excellent opportunity to strengthen risk management and risk reduction in upazilas and unions, as well as to enhance the resilience of women, physically challenged, poor and vulnerable people to shocks and stresses. The NSSS Action Plan for 2021–2025 has been recently approved. The increasing vulnerability to shocks highlights the need for a complementary approach to existing social protection systems. Coordinated efforts along with well-designed and properly executed institutional mechanisms will help limit the impact of disasters and support the overall development process in the country.
Key gaps and opportunities

Coordination and institutionalization

Despite numerous pilot initiatives and the development of AAPs for a wide range of hazards, a lot of work is still needed to scale up and mainstream the approach with the Government of Bangladesh. Although the SOD clearly mentions the need for “Implementation of FbF/A”, the AA approach has not yet been systematically integrated into national disaster preparedness for implementation at scale.

FAO is in a good position to reinforce the coordination around AA and shock-responsive social protection (SRSP) through an active participation in the FbF/A TWG, and the collaboration in flood AA planning with other key actors. Being the lead technical agency supporting the agricultural sectors in the country and the Food Security Cluster co-lead, FAO will coordinate to design and address cash and cash+ assistance for the most vulnerable with hazard-specific AA and SRSP. Learnings from the Philippines, where FAO is the co-lead of the national TWG on AA, as well as co-lead of the thematic sub-group on early warning, may also help FAO to determine how to influence the integration of AA in relevant policies and plans in Bangladesh.

More specifically, SRSP is not implemented yet and its value as an effective delivery mechanism of AA is not adequately demonstrated. More dialogue is needed with policymakers for their sensitization to the relevance of AA and SRSP, and more evidence from pilot initiatives is needed to create an enabling environment and buy-in. Through the Pilot Programmatic Partnership, FAO will be able to test SRSP in a given geographic area and collect practical learning and evidence that may eventually influence the NSSS.

Delayed scale-up/ institutionalization of AA may be due to the long time required to reach consensus among the country-level humanitarian and government partners. It is expected that the Government of Bangladesh will be involved further in AA initiatives, which will help to accelerate the alignment of methods and will provide supporting evidence and advice for policymakers to scale up the approach in the country. At the sub-national level, FAO will work closely with the local government to target the most vulnerable households, as well as to plan and test appropriate AAs to flood, in order to ensure coordination of efforts in the Haor basin.

Geographic and hazard scope

A lot of actors are involved in the development of flood AA in the Jamuna river, which provides a comparatively long lead time of 10 to 15 days, and few are trying to address more rapid onset events such as flash flooding in the Haor region, with a lead time of three days. With support from IFAD, FFWC and IWFM developed a flash flood model taking into account rainfall forecast data (which can be accessed from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration or ECMWF) targeting a ten-day lead time, which provides scope to develop flash flood AAPs to protect lives and livelihoods of at-risk Haor communities.

Triggers

Early warning is developed and disseminated only as a weather forecast, hence impact-based forecasting is a critical requirement for effective disaster risk reduction and AA. There is a need to adjust AA trigger thresholds based on localized end-users’ perception and diverse geographic impact. For instance, the CERF monsoon flood AA trigger (based only on Bahadurabad point in the north) is too high for certain locations and needs to be further localized. The sharing of forecasts and trigger thresholds between the different AA stakeholders must also be enhanced, increasing the chances of joint activations to protect a higher number of vulnerable communities and to support the possible AAs of the local government. FAO will work closely with the Department of Agricultural Extension, Department of Livestock Services and Department of Fisheries to help build a model that predicts the possible impact of flood on the agriculture sector at different times of the year.

Mobile technology plays a key role not only in helping to drive economic growth and societal development, but also in transforming disaster response and potentially reducing the impact of natural disasters. Bangladesh now has around 170 million mobile connections and 90 million unique mobile subscribers. Therefore, FAO and Viamo, a global social enterprise improving lives via mobile, are partnering to develop an innovative EWS to strengthen the resilience of farming communities most vulnerable to natural disasters. A hotline will be developed that can be reached all day. Depending on the needs, the caller can either receive early warning
messages or share critical information about the situation in the callers’ location.

The ECHO partnership will take this up, gather further feedback from end-users and aim to ensure that messages and agricultural advice are tailored to local needs (especially in the Haor as a first focus area for this initiative). One option being considered is piloting the dissemination of flood impact-based forecasts for triggering agriculture-related AA, through BAMIS.

**Anticipatory action and shock-responsive social protection delivery**

Detailed risk profiling up to union level and regular updates are needed to inform which priority areas should be covered by AA if an impending threat is monitored. One opportunity is the contextualization of the INFORM Risk Index planned by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in the HCTT Nexus Strategy for Climate-related Disasters 2021–2025.12

The 2020 CERF activation experience highlighted that collaborating with other agencies in a project area provides a unique opportunity to layer actions for additional needs and to tackle various kinds of vulnerabilities at once. Joint beneficiary profiling by various agencies to reach out to at-risk communities with multi-layered support for better protection will help to ensure increased coordination between implementing agencies to plan resources (especially when arranging logistics) and **establish joint protocols** for distribution. This allows addressing grievances, disseminating common early warning and preparedness messages, and reaching out to the most vulnerable communities, to maximize the impact of the collective support.

The assessment conducted in 2018 on SRSP in Cox’s Bazar identified that the Government of Bangladesh has a wide range of social transfer programmes managed across more than 30 ministries, which are inconsistent in their design as well as implementation quality. A national reform process under the NSSS is coordinated by the Central Management Committee at national level, involving all concerned line ministries and supported by development partners, including donors and UN agencies. A key reform pillar was moving towards a life-stage approach for all social transfers. At the same
time, there was no agreed classification of existing programmes by life-stage, and no consistent analysis conducted following an agreed framework. The new five-year plan prioritizes the implementation of the NSSS and it will be fast-tracked to provide comprehensive social protection to all poor and vulnerable citizens based on a modern life cycle-based approach.

**Financing**

Despite the availability of the CERF (for flood AA), FAO’s Special Fund for Emergency and Rehabilitation Activities, the FbA by the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (for the Red Cross EAPs), or the Start Fund anticipation window (for the Start Network), there is a lack of sustainable and flexible financing options to support AA implementation, especially for local organizations or for the local government. Although disasters are recurrent every year, the Government of Bangladesh’s annual budget does not specifically include allocations for humanitarian assistance through AA. Moreover, establishing a tentative budget model for undertaking anticipatory pilots requires identification, agreement and selection of some existing safety net programmes to improve their design by including the elements required to make them anticipatory in nature. This needs to be supported by strong advocacy and liaison with policymakers to keep earmarked AA allocations in the annual budget of the Government of Bangladesh.

While social protection programmes can contribute to some of the AA financing, they might not suffice, in particular for extreme emergencies. FAO will advocate to secure financing for AA from Government Disaster Risk Reduction allocation – in addition to other available financing sources – to allow for multi-partner and multi-sectoral interventions. It is expected that more learning will be collected on AA and SRSP, and on their respective strengths and limitations, to appropriately inform the necessary changes in the government’s policies and plans.

**Collection of evidence**

As per the SOD 2019, the FbF/A TWG is mandated to prepare protocols or guidelines describing roles and responsibilities, along with the implementation of monitoring for government and non-governmental organizations involved in FbA. A collective gathering of evidence and sharing of learning will be crucial for an effective scale-up of AA in the country and to avoid learning in silos.
Expected results: Year 1

Against this background, DG ECHO and FAO launched the PPP on ‘increasing capacities and scale for anticipatory action including through social protection systems’. Below are the expected results of Year 1 activities in Bangladesh.

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<th>Result</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Deliverables</th>
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| 1. Anticipatory action systems are established and the capacity of national governments, humanitarian partners and local stakeholders to link early warnings to AAs is strengthened. | 1.1 Identify end-user needs regarding how early warning information can inform site-specific AA.  
1.2 Assess risk and humanitarian needs; prioritize hazards and vulnerable target populations; identify or develop EWS and related anticipatory action triggers.  
1.3 Develop flood AAP including clear risk monitoring, trigger mechanisms, protocols and responsibilities, as well as pre-allocated flexible financial resources.  
1.4 Strengthen national and local capacities to develop, monitor and implement AA systems. | • One AAP for flash flood  
• 125 partners trained  
• 350 people involved in the AAP development  
• One simulation exercise with joint effort  
• Enhanced coordination around AA at national level and provincial levels  
• One impact-based forecast model on agriculture for AA piloted with BAMIS |
| 2. Social protection systems are strengthened in terms of anticipatory capacity to allow national governments, humanitarian partners and local stakeholders to link social assistance programmes with humanitarian cash and cash+ mechanisms. | 2.1 Assess national social protection systems (policy, programmes and operational mechanisms) related to national policies to manage risk (this will include looking at disaster risk management and disaster risk reduction strategies) and link with humanitarian plan.  
2.2 Based on the feasibility assessments and using FAO’s established methodology, define suitable options to strengthen anticipatory capacities of national social protection and/or humanitarian cash programmes.  
2.3 Organize national capacity development events on shock-responsive social protection and cash programming to channel anticipatory action. | • One feasibility assessment  
• 60 partners trained |
| 3. FAO and DG ECHO partnership is enhanced so that multi-risk anticipatory actions are implemented, including via expanding or complementing national social protection systems, to protect lives and livelihoods ahead of a shock. | 3.1 Write the country PPP concept note jointly with DG ECHO.  
3.2 Regularly update the PPP steering committee on progress made.  
3.3 Carry out preparedness/readiness activities to ensure the timeliness and effectiveness of AA.  
3.4 If predefined early warning triggers are reached, implement AA by expanding and/or complementing SRSP mechanisms. | • One concept note and corresponding work plan  
• One readiness plan for flood AAP and activation report (if any trigger is reached) |
| 4. Learning and advocacy products are produced to improve future programming and accelerate a system-wide shift towards an anticipatory approach to disasters. | 4.1 Integrate a multi-risk approach into all programming.  
4.2 Produce learning, advocacy and communication products, including based on the results of impact analyses and/or feasibility studies.  
4.3 Support global and regional advocacy and policy engagement to bolster evidence-based decision making and uptake of anticipatory action and shock-responsive social protection by national and intergovernmental entities. | • One monitoring and evaluation plan to monitor trigger and assess activation  
• One impact analysis in case an early warning trigger is reached and leads to an AA activation  
• One learning and advocacy product  
• One country-level learning sharing event |
Way forward

Bangladesh has been at the forefront of AA piloting since 2015. It is one of the most advanced countries with the first activation of the CERF for AA in 2020, and with strong support provided by the national government on the topic (materialized by the integration of AA in the SOD 2019). Nonetheless, despite all the evidence brought forth by the various AA activations (from BDRCS, UN, and Start Network), AA is not yet mainstreamed in government policies and laws. The PPP will help to analyse with the government how AA can be further integrated in national mechanisms and complement existing practices, such as the Cyclone Preparedness Programme.

Moving to Haor region with the PPP will help to gather more learnings on flood AA. Besides, FAO can be instrumental to address new hazards after year 1 of the PPP, such as landslides and drought, based on the needs that can be identified collectively with the FbF/A TWG.

While the CERF AA framework has helped to coordinate the flood AA threshold and triggering alignment, it now needs to be tested in other river basins and to be accepted by more stakeholders, based on disaster impact in different geographies and communities. Impact-based forecasting in close collaboration with the Ministries of Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock, and Environment, Forestry and Climate Change will also help to build their capacities in emergency management. The PPP will be instrumental to ensure the sharing of practices and learnings around triggers.

Layered and coordinated action by responding agencies (e.g. complementary assistance combining common household profiling in advance, early warning messaging, cash and NFIs) is significant to carry forward the actions. The PPP can help to document suitable AA assistance.

Finally, more dialogue with policymakers and their sensitization to the relevance of AA and SRSP at country and regional level, linked to the collection of evidence on AA implementation for a range of hazards, will create an enabling environment and the needed government buy-in to sustain the approach.

Notes

3 Bangladesh. Disaster Management Act No.34. 2012.
8 Delta Plan 2100. Dhaka, Bangladesh. wwwbdb2100kp.gov.bd/
FAO’s Anticipatory Action approach uses risk analysis and forecasts to trigger interventions before a crisis escalates into a humanitarian emergency.

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