Christian Aid Zimbabwe

ANTICIPATORY ACTION OVERVIEW

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Pepukai Muchazondida Svinurai, Christian Aid, 0772550722

1. ANTICIPATORY ACTION SESSION OBJECTIVES

1.Explore how Anticipatory Action can effectively reduce the impacts of Emergencies:

- •Discuss the principles of anticipatory action and its importance in modern humanitarian response.
- •Analyze case studies that illustrate successful anticipatory actions and their outcomes.
- •Identify key strategies for integrating preparedness into existing humanitarian frameworks to enhance resilience.

2. Discuss implementation of AA Planning in our work:

- •Group discussions to brainstorm and map out anticipatory actions tailored to specific local contexts.
- •Share experiences, challenges, and best practices related to anticipatory planning.

Expected result:

Develop actionable plans that partners can implement in their respective organizations or communities, fostering a collaborative approach to improving emergency preparedness amongst local humanitarian actors.

2. AA DEFINITION

Definition:

Anticipatory Action Planning involves proactive measures taken before a crisis occurs to to mitigate acute humanitarian impacts. Emphasizes preparedness and early intervention. Defined as proactive measures taken before predicted hazards. Empowers communities and organizations through timely, evidence-based interventions.

Anticipatory actions (AA) are predefined actions taken: 1) based on defined thresholds from weather/climate forecasts and risk analyses, 2) in anticipation of predictable hazards, and 3) to prevent or mitigate the risk or impact. In other terms, AAs are predefined actions taken within a specific window of opportunity ahead of a hazard event.

AA Core characteristics:

- ✓ Occurs before a shock
- ✓ Protective intent
- ✓ Pre-agreed and risk-informed triggers

3. CONTEXT







Climatic Challenges:

•Severe droughts and floods exacerbated by climate change.

•Significant threats to food security, livelihoods, and community resilience, especially in vulnerable regions: Manicaland, Masvingo, Matabeleland, and parts of Mashonaland.

Impact of Droughts:

•Increased frequency of severe droughts, occurring every five years.

•Recent events have affected millions, leading to widespread food insecurity.

Zimbabwe Anticipatory Action Roadmap:

•Developed in 2024 by the Department of Civil Protection and the AA Community of Practice (CoP), including START NETWORK members.

•Aims to integrate AA into disaster risk management for effective resource prepositioning and early response to climate-induced shocks.

•Serves as a national referral document for sharing AA knowledge and fostering collaboration among stakeholders in disaster risk reduction.

•Not yet Launched though

Contex cont’

PROBLEMS WE ARE FACING

SOLUTIONS

Decision-making is centralised and priorities are disconnected from communities	Shifting power and resources, and decentralising decision-making to locally-led networks and organisations.
The system is reactive, fragmented and inefficient	Building a global financing system that reduces risk, anticipates, and acts ahead of predictable crises.
Incentives and ways of working are outdated, inflexible and resistant to change	Incentivising innovative, locally-led and contextual solutions and learning together with people affected by crises. Address administrative barriers

USE OF ANTICIPATORY ACTION FOR DIFFERENT HAZARDS

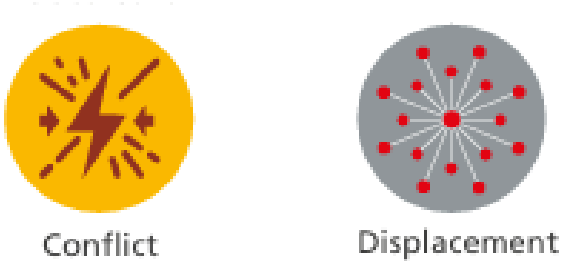
Hazard where AA has been used



Hazard where potential for AA is still being explored

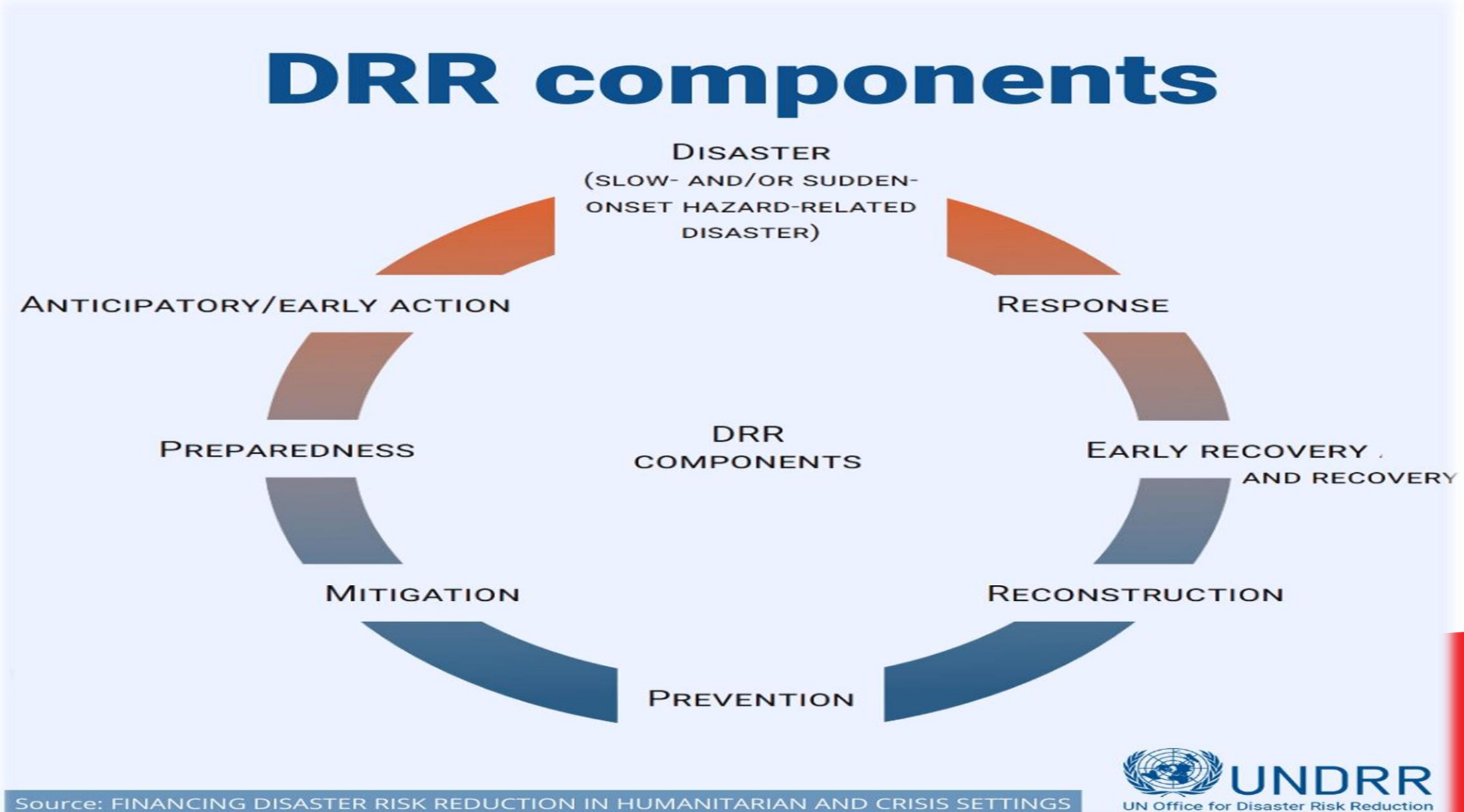


Compounding hazard for which AA can be adapted*



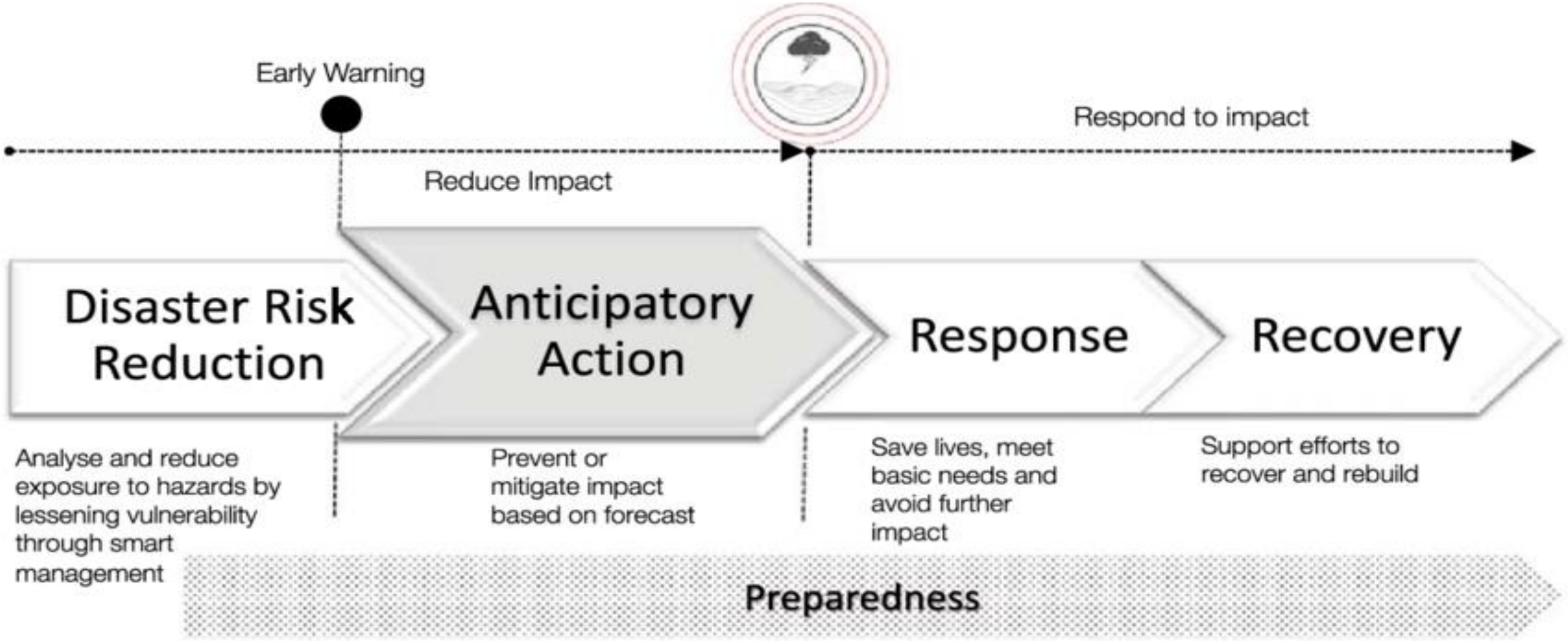
** AA for such shocks is being explored by certain agencies and researchers, but is contentious in terms of technical feasibility and humanitarian accountability*

4. AA in DISASTER RISK REDUCTION



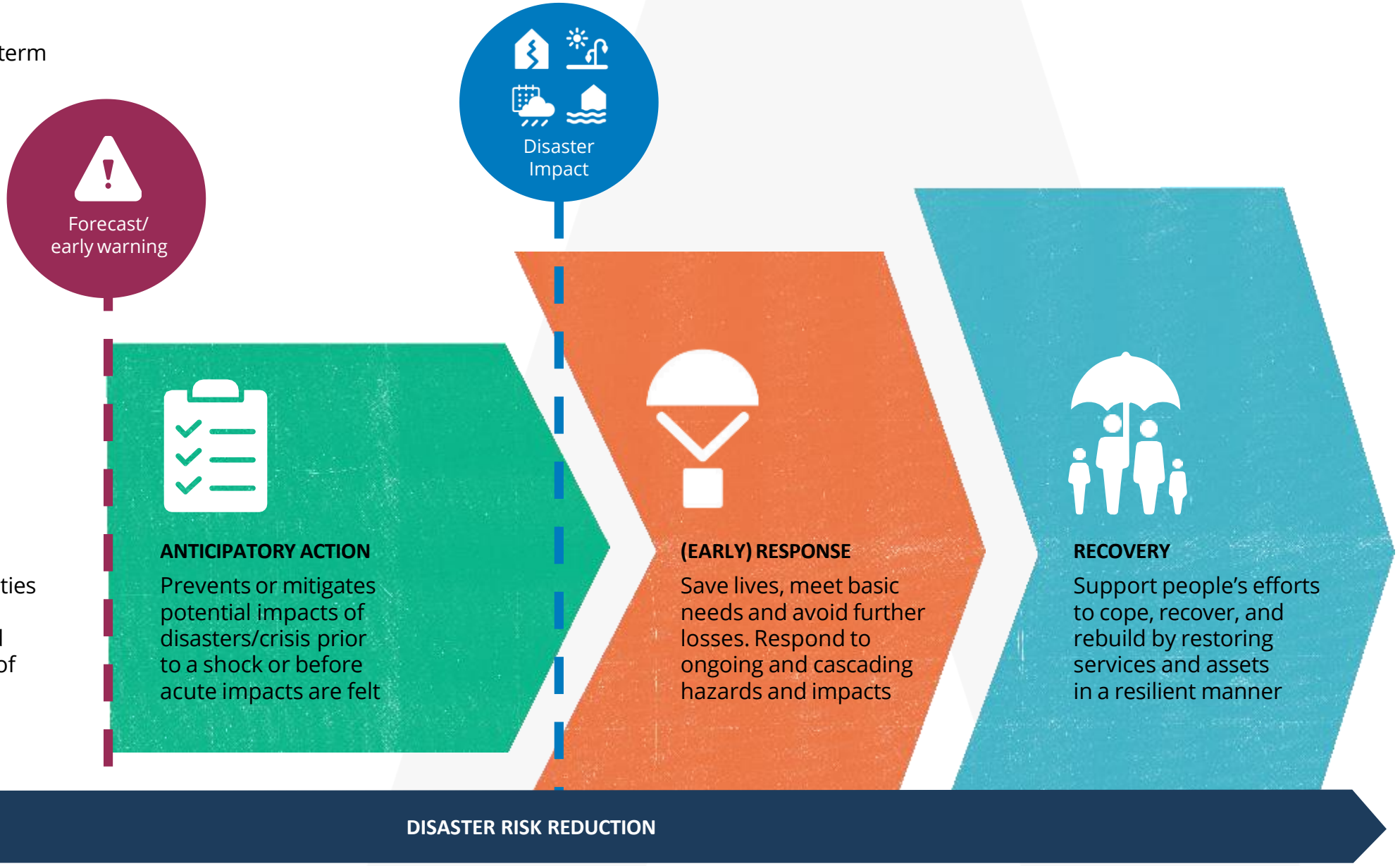
Series of components that work together to mitigate the impacts of disasters

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION CONT'



BRIDGING A GAP WITHIN THE DRM CYCLE

Bridging the gap between longer-term disaster preparedness and DRR and the life-saving window of emergency response



PREPAREDNESS

The knowledge and capacities developed to effectively anticipate, respond to, and recover from the impacts of likely, imminent or current disaster/emergencies

5. ANTICIPATORY ACTION ROADMAP

The roadmap is guided by four key pillars:

1. Co-ordinating frameworks: establishing robust national structures for multi-agency collaboration
2. Trigger methodologies: implementing diverse but harmonized triggers for AA to enhance forecasting and response capabilities
3. Financing mechanisms: expanding financial resources to support AA across sectors
4. Evidence based advocacy and awareness raising: promoting anticipatory approaches and generating supportive evidence for their implementation

•Triggers: *are specific indicators or thresholds that signal the need for anticipatory action before a predicted hazard impacts communities.*

•E.g.,

•Meteorological triggers: Weather forecasts indicating extreme conditions (e.g., drought, floods). Hydrological Triggers: Water levels in rivers or reservoirs reaching critical thresholds.
•Socio-Economic Triggers: Indicators of rising food prices, displacement rates, or malnutrition levels.
Importance:
•Help stakeholders activate pre-planned responses, allocate resources, and coordinate efforts efficiently to protect vulnerable communities.

6. WHY ANTICIPATORY ACTION FRAMEWORK IN ZIMBABWE

The Anticipatory Action Framework is informed by global and regional disaster risk reduction frameworks, strategies and as well as national policy frameworks and legislations. Key among the frameworks and strategies include the following:

increasing access to multi-hazard early warning systems by 2030.

- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** Particularly SDG 13: Urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.
- **Conferences of Parties (COP):** COP28 commitments on climate resilience and anticipatory action. Launch of the Getting Ahead of Disasters Charter for collaborative financing.
- **Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction:** Mainstreaming risk reduction and climate adaptation into sustainable development.
- **Early Warnings for All (EW4All) Initiative:** Goal to implement advanced early warning systems globally by 2027.
- **Risk-informed Early Action Partnership (REAP):** Promoting country-led, risk-informed approaches for anticipatory action.
- **SADC Disaster Preparedness and Response Strategy (2016-2030):** Emphasizes understanding risk through Early Warning and Action Systems.
- **Southern Africa Regional Anticipatory Action Roadmap:** Scaling up early warning and anticipatory action through strategic partnerships.
- **Maputo Declaration:** Commitment to effective early warning systems across the SADC region.
- **National Development Strategy 1:** Strengthening disaster risk management (DRM) capacities.
- **Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Strategy:** Enhancing prevention, preparedness, and early warning capabilities.
- **National DRM Bill:** Assigns roles for early warning systems and advocates for a disaster risk reduction fund.

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7.PRINCIPLES OF ANTICIPATORY ACTION

A. Focus on taking action before a crisis occurs to minimize impacts.
B. Use reliable forecasts and risk assessments to guide planning and actions.
C. Involve local communities in the planning process to ensure relevance and effectiveness.
D. Maintain the ability to adjust plans based on evolving situations and new information.
E. Work with various stakeholders, including government, NGOs, and local organizations, to enhance collective response capacity.
F. Implement systems to track the effectiveness of anticipatory actions and learn from experiences for future improvements.

PRINCIPLES- AA CONT’

- AA in Zimbabwe is a proactive and cost-effective pathway to Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).
- It complements existing Disaster Risk Management (DRM) strategies by focusing on prevention, preparedness and early action through pre-arranged financing and pre-agreed actions.
- In Zimbabwe, through Multi-Hazard Contingency Planning, Anticipatory Action forms an integral part of contingency planning in that it ensures adequate prepositioning of resources before the hazards occur.

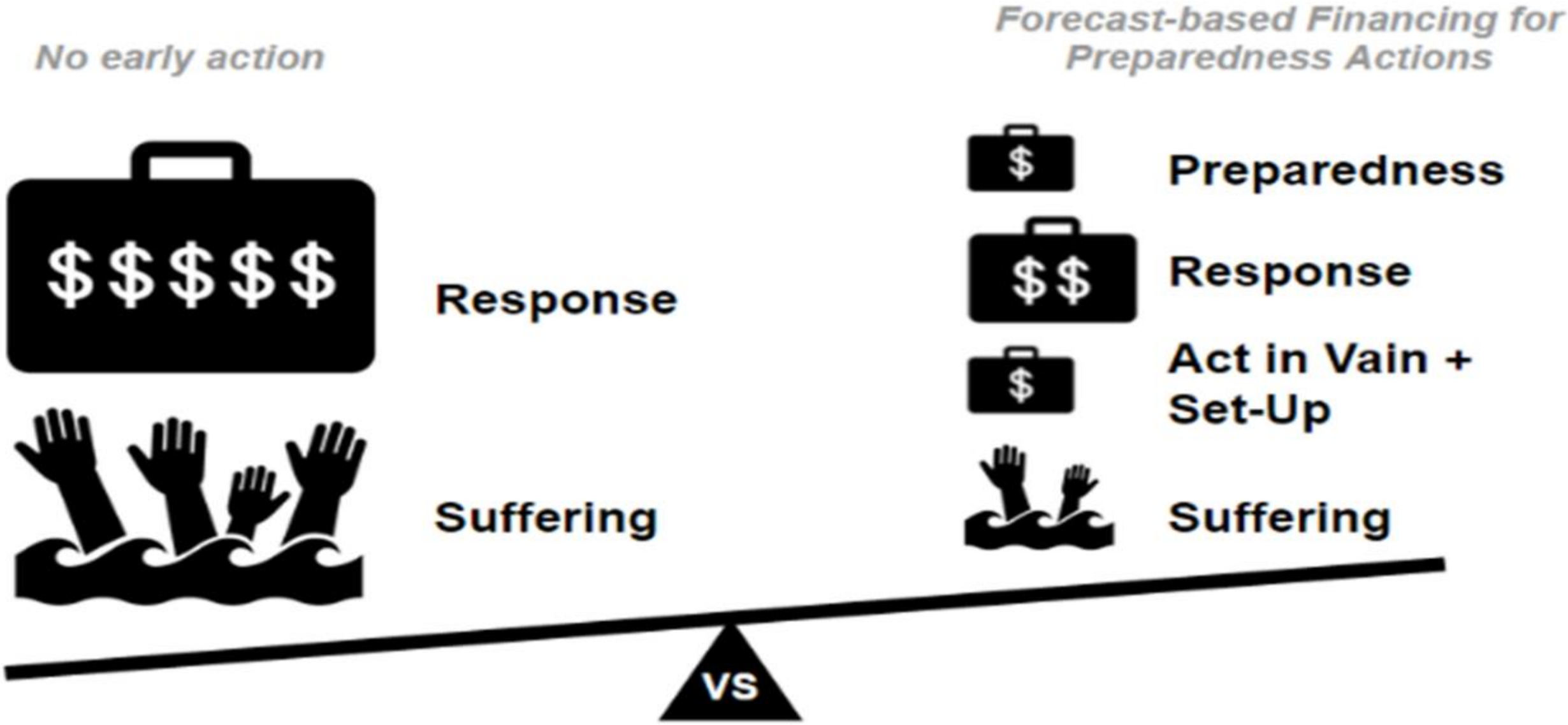
AA principles cont'- exercise 1



Where does Anticipatory Action belong in the timeline?

Choose the right colour

AA Principles: exercise 2



8.ANTICIPATORY ACTION TRIGGER MODEL- ZIMBABWE

- There is no nationally agreed-upon harmonized trigger model, reflecting the diversity of requirements among various stakeholders in anticipatory action.
- However, it has been collectively acknowledged that adopting a multi-trigger model, tailored to the specific needs and standards of different agencies, is a viable solution for Zimbabwe.
- This approach allows for flexibility and customization, ensuring that the model can accommodate the distinct operational protocols and priorities of each agency involved

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9.DROUGHT & FLOOD TRIGGER MODELS FOR RISK MITIGATION

Drought Trigger Models: Agencies Involved:

- **Zimbabwe Red Cross Society (ZRCS):** Tested in 2022/23 and 2023/24.
- **World Food Programme (WFP):** Tested in 2022/23 and 2023/24.
- **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO):** First drought trigger in 2023/24.
- **Plan International:** Model developed but not yet tested.

Flood Trigger Models: Agencies Involved:

- **UNESCO:** Developed flood trigger model, yet to be tested.
- **Plan International:** Developed flood trigger model, yet to be tested.
- **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO):** Model nearing completion and validation.

Ongoing Efforts:

- **WFP:** Co-developing flood anticipatory action model with technical support from:
  - **Zimbabwe National Water Authority (ZINWA)**
  - **Meteorological Service Department (MSD)**

10.CRITERIA FOR SELECTING ANTICIPATORY ACTIONS

1. **Agro-ecological zones:** Zimbabwe's classification into five regions affects rainfall and agricultural productivity, with Regions 4 and 5 being food-deficit and flood-prone.
2. **Severity of forecasted risk:** Risk arises from the interaction of physical hazards and social vulnerabilities, influencing the level of adverse effects.
3. **Existing vulnerabilities:** Profiling households in target districts ensures AAs address specific community needs and vulnerabilities, particularly related to climate change.
4. **Major livelihoods:** Selection is influenced by local livelihoods, shaped by land reforms, macroeconomic conditions, and access to resources.
5. **Lead Time for deployment:** Time from fund release to AA implementation is crucial for timely action.
6. **Outcome Potential:** Expected outcomes must align with intended objectives, guided by robust data and analysis for effective decision-making.

11.FUNDING SOURCES FOR AA

Available Funding Instrument for AA		Trigger	Coordinating/Funding Agent	Indicative Budget	Implementing Agency
Budget instruments (appropriations, reallocations, contingency reserves)		Expected hazard (D/F)	Government		
National Civil Protection Fund		Expected hazard (D/F)	Government		DCP
Start Ready		WFP -MSD drought AA Model	Start Network	$1.5 M	Start Network Partners
Anticipatory Action Trust Fund		WFP-MSD drought AA Model	WFP	$5 M	WFP
Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and Early Response			UN OCHA	$5M	Multisectoral
Special Fund for Emergency and Rehabilitation Activities (SFERA			FAO		FAO
Early Action Protocols			IFRC	$500,000	IFRC
Welthungerhilfe Anticipatory Humanitarian Action Facility (WAHAFA):		WFP-MSD drought AA Model	WHH	€300,000	WHH
Proposed Instruments					
Private Sector Partnerships • **Corporate social responsibility funding & Impact investment instruments**					Private Companies
1. Microinsurance (Farmers basket) **2. National Civil Protection Fund** **3. National Disaster Fund** **4. Disaster Risk Finance instruments – Disaster insurance –Africa Risk Capacity-ARC Sovereign Drought Insurance**					
Multi-lateral financing - ECO, USAID, UK FCDO, ECHO, German Federal Foreign Office, Government of Canada					

12.LOCAL HUMANITARIAN ACTORS CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTING AA

•**Limited funding & resources**: Insufficient financial support restricts the ability to implement and sustain anticipatory action initiatives.
•**Data availability & quality**: Inadequate access to reliable data and predictive models hampers effective planning and decision-making.
•**Capacity & training**: Lack of technical skills and training among local personnel affects the implementation of anticipatory actions.
•**Coordination challenge**: Difficulties in coordinating with government agencies, NGOs, and communities can lead to fragmented efforts.
•**Policy and institutional barriers**: Existing policies may not support innovative approaches, creating obstacles to implementing anticipatory measures.
•**Climate change uncertainties**: Increasing unpredictability of climate events complicates planning and preparedness efforts.

13.CASE STUDY: START NETWORK SUPPORTED EAFI PROJECT: GWANDA

The Drought Trigger Model through START NEWTORK/WFP issued an alert for potential drought conditions in July 2024

Phase 1- Design phase- 1 MONTH

- District and ward inception meetings
- Community Consultations
- Compilation research findings & development of AA Plan
- Validation of research and AA Plan at district and national level.
- Development of the EAFI proposal
- Validation of proposal ideas with DCPC, agree on implementation modalities.

Phase 2- EAFI Award & Implementation- 2 MONTHS

- Inception- partner level, district and wards
- Project implementation
- Hosting the Start Ready team & partners.
- Weekly reviews (online, field level)
- Evaluations (e.g., post distribution, Endline assessment)















CASE STUDY CONT' KEY RESULTS

- **Water Availability & Mgt:** *Capacity testing, solar installation and piping of 5 high yielding boreholes for for hh and agricultural use), pump minders & protection trainings, 21 water troughs for livestock-*
- **Livelihoods strengthening:** *Distributed essential inputs to 500 farmers (livestock acaricides-1litre per HH), 400 seed packs-2kg velvet beans, 1kgsunhemp, and small grains (2kg sorghum) & legume seeds (2kg cowpea) to 4,000 farmers, training on climate smart agriculture.*
- **Disaster preparedness***: Facilitate regular performance tracking meetings by the Disaster Civil protection Unit (district and ward level).*
- **Early Warning Systems:** *13 Rain gauges distributed –regular rainfall amounts collection, weekly radio broadcasts to 58000 local listeners, bulk messages in local languages on weather updates and agric advisory messages*.

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14. STRATEGIES THAT ENHANCED SUCCESS OF EAFI









1. CA's participation in the national anticipatory action forum e.g., WFP AA framework dvt, improved CAZ learning & design of AA in Zimbabwe.
2. Funding availability e.g., START NETWORK, Internal CA funding
3. Collaboration with established partners & wider consultation: Leverage partner existing relationships for timely starting and project execution. Engage with local authorities and government stakeholders ensured comprehensive input and support.
4. Utilization of Disaster Risk Reduction Committees: Employ district and local committees to facilitate grassroots involvement and response planning, guaranteed ownership.
5. Collaboration with specialist gvt departments: Work with specialized government departments to ensure quality control and adherence to standards.
6. Adoption of pluralistic extension models: Incorporate private/community & gvt led extension including localized demonstrations and innovative solutions
7. Layering activities: Organize activities in a layered approach to ensure quick and efficient delivery of interventions.
8. Regular updates: Provide weekly updates on financial and programmatic aspects to enable timely adaptations and adjustments
9. Timely disbursements of funds, including pre-financing in the event of late disbursements.



Group1: Identify Actions that are Anticipatory for drought based on the Zimbabwean seasonal calendar.

Group 2: Identify key areas that need to be addressed by individual partners to enhance readiness to implement AA

Group 2: Identify what Local Humanitarian actors need to do collectively to ensure readiness for anticipatory action

Thank you