



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL
PROTECTION
STATE DEPARTMENT FOR SOCIAL
PROTECTION & SENIOR CITIZEN AFFAIRS



Early Action and shock responsive social protection - a global perspective

David Kamau: WFP - Kenya



What is anticipatory action ?

Pre-defined interventions in the form of assistance to households or communities, taken ahead of a forecasted extreme weather event to reduce its impact on vulnerable populations, save lives and protect livelihoods.



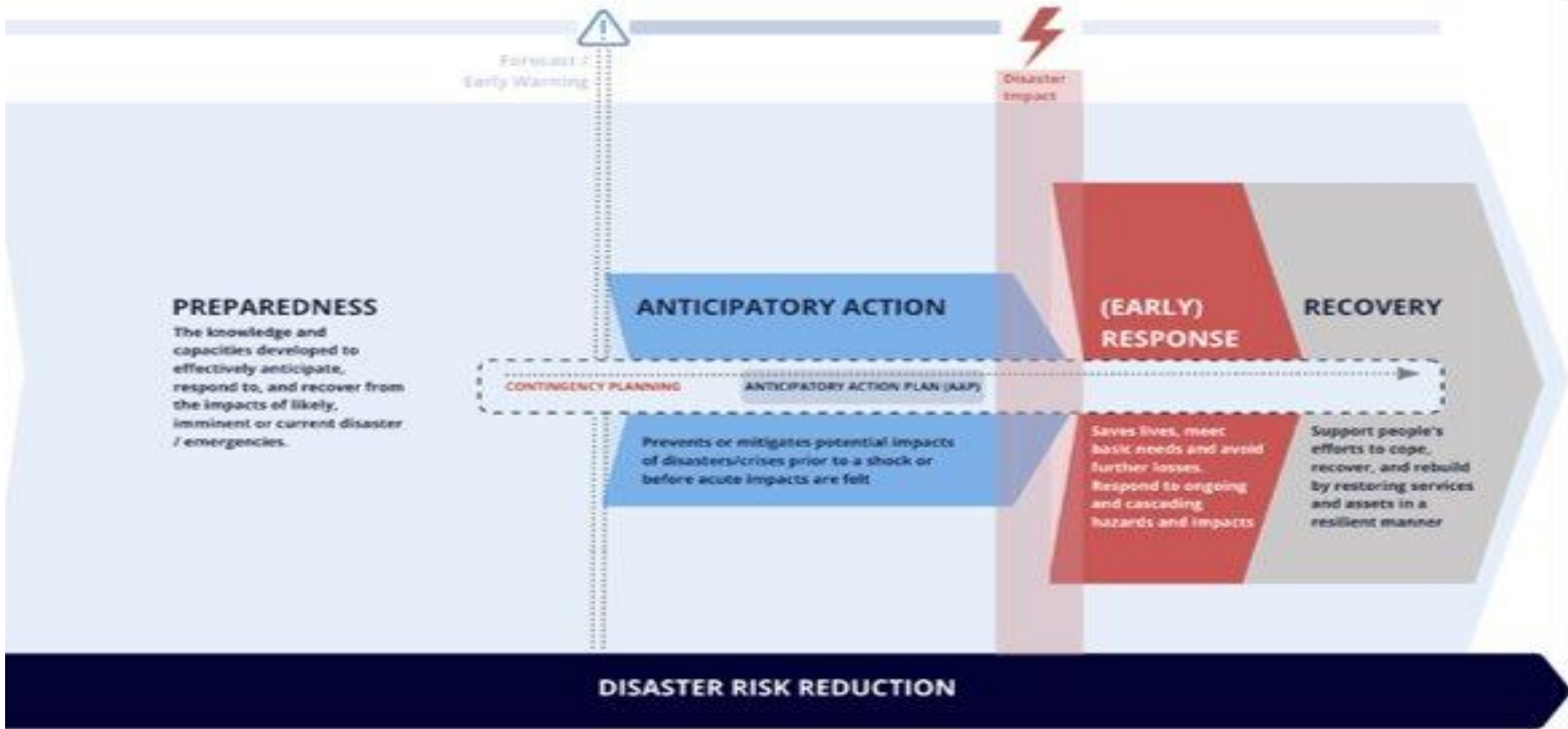
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The assistance should reach recipients before the impact of the hazard



Drought in Kenya – Ending Drought Emergency Common Programme Framework



Table 2: The cost of drought events¹⁰

Drought event	Numbers of people affected (millions)	Humanitarian aid (GoK & external, USD)
2011	3.75	427,400,000
2009	3.79	432,500,000
2006	2.97	197,000,000
2003-2004	2.23	219,100,000
1998-2001	3.20	287,500,000

- Drought is one of the biggest threats to the achievement of Kenya Vision 2030.
- Between 2008-2011 the impacts of drought were estimated to have slowed GDP by an average of 2.8% pa
- Total damage and losses estimated at US\$ 12.1 billion.
- The highest values of per capita damage and losses were in areas where the Human Development Index is lowest.





Bangladesh: flooding 2020

- Cash transfers with mobile accounts (\$53) to 140,000 beneficiaries
- Early warning is made five days in advance (trigger for preparation and activation)
- **100 days** before the traditional humanitarian response.
- Better food consumption and well-being of beneficiaries compared to people who received support only after the emergency
- The cost of the humanitarian operation has been reduced by 50% with this approach.

YEAR	TIMING OF SUPPORT	PEOPLE REACHED	COSTS OF SUPPORT	COST PER BENEFICIARY
2017	3 weeks after flood	105,000 people	2.4 million	23 USD
2019	4 weeks after flood	200,000 people	5.2 million	27 USD
2020	2 weeks before flood	220,000 people	2.8 million	13 USD



Ethiopia- Drought 2021

Early cash transfers and early warning information for beneficiaries of PSNP and SIPE social programmes.

Results:

- 95% of people who received assistance **used climate forecast information** to reduce drought impacts.
- More than 95% of people who received assistance **used the money within 30 days** after the payment.
- Most of the money was used to cover food needs, pay off debt, and buy livestock.



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Somalia- Drought 2022

- 4th drought forecast in early 2022.
 - Money transfers were activated in a short time before the drought for 120,000 people benefiting from the Baxnaano social protection program (\$40 vertical expansion).
 - Payments in mobile e-wallets.
 - Strengthening of government systems, including the Unified Social Registry (USSR).
 - Reinforcement of the multi-donor investment platform.
- **Results**
 - Preliminary evidence - increased capacity of families to cope with crises (based on feedback from 78.8% of respondents).



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A cost-effective approach

- **Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia:** Potential savings of \$1.6 billion over a 15-year period if action is implemented before prices rise and before communities have to adopt negative survival measures.
- **Nepal:** savings of \$34 for every dollar invested in Anticipatory Actions and reduction of needs and costs in the long run.





Disease pandemics: The cost of doing nothing - The price of inaction in response to the COVID-19 crisis

- It is better, cheaper and more dignified to frontload responses to the pandemic and its secondary impacts.
- Waiting and then reacting when the full impacts are already visible would be a more expensive proposition.
- Delaying action not only shifts the burden to the future, but the price of the response will also exponentially increase, as the crisis cascades and reverberates for years to come.
- Acting now to mitigate the impact saves *lives* and money in the long term.



Looking into the future

- **Let us not ask** “how much does it cost if we do this, and instead ask how much does it cost if we don’t do this” – Dr. Keetie Roelen during SPC2023
- **For every shilling invested in early action interventions**, the return is not only commensurate but worth the investment.
- To achieve the **SDG Goals & Vision 2030 targets** in the next 7 years – Kenya needs to factor in “Early Action” in Social Protection to reduce impacts of disasters.
- Leverage on existing instruments e.g., **social registries** for ESR and HSNP; adequate **financing**.





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THANK YOU!

ANY QUESTIONS?

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