



QUICK FACTS



According to the **World Risk Report 2022**, the **Philippines' ranks 1<sup>st</sup>** in terms of risk to natural hazards and the increasing impact of climate change.\*



Natural disasters in the last 30 years have caused an estimated **USD 23 billion in damages** while at least **60 percent of the country's total land area** continues to be exposed to multiple hazards.\*\*



**74 percent of the population** is vulnerable to the impact of these hazards.\*\*

\* World Risk Report 2022

\*\*Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (<https://www.gfdr.org/philippines>)

With the increasing attention to change the way how disasters are managed, **FAO is at the forefront of demonstrating how to act before a disaster targeting smallholder farmers and fisherfolk to protect, cope and adapt to multiple shocks.** One of the key strategies is to implement a humanitarian approach largely known as **Anticipatory Action (AA)** within the context of a robust **shock-responsive social protection (SRSP) system.** AA is an innovative approach that systematically **links early warnings to actions designed to protect at-risk families and their assets ahead of a hazard.** It is a vital part of a comprehensive SRSP system that emphasizes the importance of **enhancing financial resilience at all levels and social protection of populations at risk**, which entails communities having access to effective, responsive and inclusive social protection, risk financing and insurance mechanisms. FAO assists people to strengthen their livelihoods to withstand crises, which reduces humanitarian needs and costs by a significant margin.

Building resilience through AA and SRSP

FAO is forging a way for a faster, more effective humanitarian system by shifting from disaster response to anticipation within the context of an integrated SRSP system.

Anticipatory Action is driving a change in the way humanitarian and development actors are approaching predictable crises. The fact is, increasingly, we can predict disasters. Thanks to technological advances, early warning information is more accurate and readily available than ever before. These gains also come with the responsibility to act on them.

Components of FAO's AA strategy

Anticipatory action means making smart, effective, and proactive investments that soften the blow of disasters. To make this possible, every anticipatory action system, no matter the context, is built with five key ingredients:

**Crisis timelines:** A tool to help understand the usual evolution of a hazard and its relative impacts on livelihoods.

**Early warnings:** A set of pre-selected, context-specific information points that are monitored to predict a crisis and to trigger action when a warning threshold is crossed.

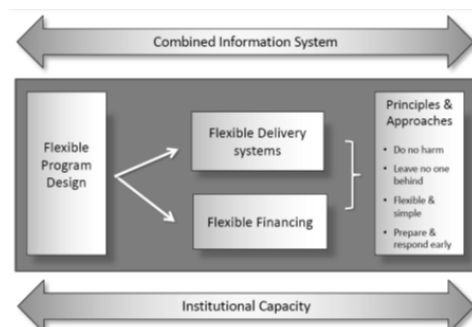
**Anticipatory actions:** Early, short-term disaster management interventions implemented as soon as a warning trigger is reached to prevent or mitigate the impact of a hazard.

**Flexible financing:** Pre-identified resources to enable rapid action when warning triggers are reached. One example of flexible financing is FAO's Special Fund for Emergency and Rehabilitation Activities (SFERA) Anticipatory Action Window.

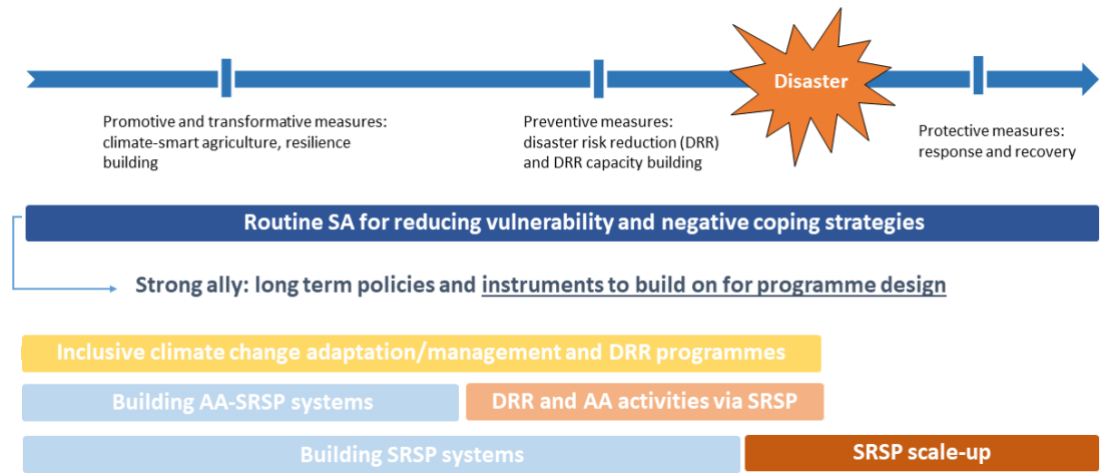
FAO's framework for establishing SRSP systems

Based on national and international lessons, establishing a responsive SRSP system in the Philippines requires focused activities on introducing or strengthening to allow AA as well as response and recovery efforts:

- **Information systems.** Combining socio-economic and disaster risk information helps identify which households should be targeted and where and models the impact of shocks on households of different wealth groups/quintiles. Bringing together national information systems helps to develop triggers for when funds can be released so that responses can be faster.
- **Delivery Systems.** Identifying, targeting, and interacting with beneficiaries facilitate the provision of support before, during and after a shock.
- **Institutional capacity.** Effectively coordinating disaster risk management (DRM) and social protection structures, processes and institutions helps to maximize impact and avoid duplication of interventions. Ensuring that all agencies have the right capacity to implement adaptive and shock responsive social protection is critical to effective risk management.
- **Financing.** Making sure that the appropriate amount of financing is available and accessible at the right time in the right place accelerates responses to shocks.



## FAO's niche and contribution to development of AA and SRSP systems



## Highlights of FAO's AA and SRSP interventions in the Philippines

**Supporting capacity development for partners and stakeholders.** Since 2016, FAO has been conducting various capacity building activities to support the strengthening of SRSP systems establishment in the country. These included: (1) SOCPRO-TCE mission to deliver a five-day training course on cash transfer and SRSP for FAO staff and government partners; (2) SOCPRO mission to support the SRSP-AG framework for coordinating and facilitating the implementation of complementary interventions in partnership with the national government; (3) SOCPRO mission to support the inception phase of the ASEAN project on SRSP; and (4) FAO funded the participation of representatives from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the Department of Agriculture (DA) to the Social Security Academy (SSA) organized by International Training Centre (ITC) - ILO in Turin, Italy in 2017 and 2019.

**Strategic initiatives to promote resilience in the agriculture sector through SRSP.** From 2017 to 2019, FAO completed a number of important initiatives that paved the way for the establishment of SRSP systems in the country. The most notable of these projects are: (1) Linking social protection programmes to agricultural interventions to build efficient and shock responsive system in support of smallholder farmers; (2) Strengthening capacity of ASEAN Member States to design and implement risk informed and shock responsive social protection systems for resilience; (3) Enhancing the resilience of the poor in BARMM and other vulnerable areas through social protection and livelihoods promotion; and (4) Early action to protect rice farmers' livelihoods in selected vulnerable areas of Mindanao against potential extreme dry conditions brought by El Niño.

## Key results

Though still in its infancy, FAO's AA/SRSP work has already produced a number of important outputs and outcomes that have contributed to the strengthening of AA and its linkages with Social Protection systems in the Philippines. These include:

- Development of two important publications: a Policy Brief that showed the coherence between SRSP and agriculture, and a booklet highlighting the impact of Early Warning Early Action
- Development of the Philippine Roadmap on Adaptive and Shock-Responsive Social Protection (ASRSP) and its eventual adoption at the Cabinet Cluster
- Enhancement of partnerships with multiple government agencies, including the newly established Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) regional government, on AA/SRSP initiatives
- Inclusion of the ASRSP Roadmap Implementation in the country's Social Protection Plan 2020-2022
- Establishment of FAO as key partner of the Philippine Government for the development of SRSP related strategic documents (i.e. SPOF)
- Signing of a Cooperation Agreement between FAO and DSWD on the establishment of a national SRSP system
- Strategic role of FAO as current Co-Chair of Anticipatory Action Technical Working Group together with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)
- Increased awareness and support from international donors and governments for financing of AA and SRSP initiatives in the country
- Pilot-testing of AA and ASRSP to generate evidence and proof of concept with DSWD and Local Government Units in North Cotabato and Surigao del Norte



## Completed and On-going AA and SRSP projects

**Ensuring inclusive and risk-informed shock-responsive social protection resulting in more resilient communities in BARMM**

Donor: UN Joint SDG Fund; February 2020 – March 2022

**Scaling-Up Early Warning Early Action (EWEA) for Agriculture and Food Security**

Donor: Government of Germany, AA Federal Foreign Office; January 2021 – December 2022

**Scaling up the Joint Programme on risk-informed shock-responsive social protection in BARMM amid COVID-19**

Donor: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Government of Australia; June 2021 – November 2022

**Enhancing capacities for inclusive disaster risk reduction and management towards adaptive and shock-responsive social protection amid COVID-19**

Funding source: FAO Technical Cooperation Funds; June 2021 – November 2022

**Increasing capacities and scale for Anticipatory Action including through social protection systems**

Donor: European Commission Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection; August 2021 to present

**Rural livelihoods protection through anticipatory action along eastern seaboard**

Donor: United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; November 2021 – December 2022