10 years Global Dialogue Platform

Anticipation Hub

REPORT

from the 13th Global Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Humanitarian Action

Anticipatory action: a decade of learning, a future in a changing humanitarian landscape

2 to 4 December 2025

Partners

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

WFP World Food Programme

OCHA

START NETWORK

WELT HUNGER HILFE

DANISH REFUGEE COUNCIL

Gargaar Relief and Development Organization

The Anticipation Hub is an initiative of

German Red Cross

IFRC

Climate Centre

Supported by

german humanitarian assistance

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

04 Highlights from the 13th Global Dialogue Platform

DAY ONE

06 Opening ceremony

09 Ten years of anticipatory action: time capsule

10 Parallel sessions #1

12 From vision to impact: the power of acting ahead

12 Anticipatory action: a decade of learning, a future in a changing humanitarian landscape

17 Parallel sessions #2

DAY TWO

19 The anatomy of success: when anticipatory action works (or doesn't)

23 Parallel sessions #3

25 The spark before the spotlight

25 Anticipatory action: realities, challenges and the way forward – the government perspective

26 What did we learn? What would we do differently? Where next?

28 Parallel sessions #4

DAY THREE

30 Rethinking financing for anticipatory action

35 Parallel sessions #5

37 Anticipatory action at a crossroads: where do we go next?

38 Your voice, our future: where do we go next?

40 Closing ceremony

42 Reflections on the 13th Global Dialogue Platform

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS 45

Further details about the 13th Global Dialogue Platform, including the full agenda, speakers and participant list, are available on the event website, where most of the sessions can be watched again. tinyurl.com/2ts45dn7

Acronyms and abbreviations

AI	artificial intelligence
CALP Network	formerly the Cash Learning Partnership
CARE	Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere
CBPF	Country-Based Pooled Fund
CERF	Central Emergency Response Fund
DG ECHO	Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
DRM	disaster risk management
EAP	early action protocol
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GFFO	German Federal Foreign Office
GREDO	Gargaar Relief Development Organization
ICPAC	IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
NGO	non-governmental organization
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
WAHAFA	Welthungerhilfe Anticipatory Humanitarian Action Facility
WFP	World Food Programme
WHH	Welthungerhilfe

Highlights from the 13th Global Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Humanitarian Action

In-person participants at the 13th Global Dialogue Platform.

Celebrating a decade of achievements

This year's Global Dialogue Platform marked ten years since the first event in 2015, which is also when the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) funded the first pilot projects to trial acting ahead of hazards as a new approach to disaster risk management (DRM). The participants in Berlin, Germany, and online took the opportunity to reflect on the past decade – the successes, the lessons learned – and celebrate the achievements. "We have done a lot of work in the last ten years," said Siphokazi Moloinyane, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), "and there is still a lot more to be done."

A focus on the future – especially financing

As well as looking back, several sessions during the three-day event considered where anticipatory action should head next, as practitioners and governments seek to strengthen this approach and enhance coordination. Securing the financing needed for this will be a major challenge – especially at a time when humanitarian budgets are being cut – and this was a recurring theme during the discussions. "This is the 'bread and butter' for anticipatory action these days," noted Jesse Mason, World Food Programme (WFP).

Over the next decade, anticipatory action must be systematically embedded into national DRM systems. Achieving this will require the humanitarian community to work in close partnership with national

governments and institutions, enabling them to exercise their mandate with advanced levels of complementarity, coherence and coordination.

“Despite the many challenges organizations have faced this year, we were encouraged to see the 13th Global Dialogue Platform convene more than 320 participants from across governments, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, United Nations (UN) agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), as well as donors, research institutes and academia,” noted Alessandra Gilotta, Anticipation Hub. “This strong participation underscores the unique convening role of the Global Dialogue Platform in advancing anticipatory action.”

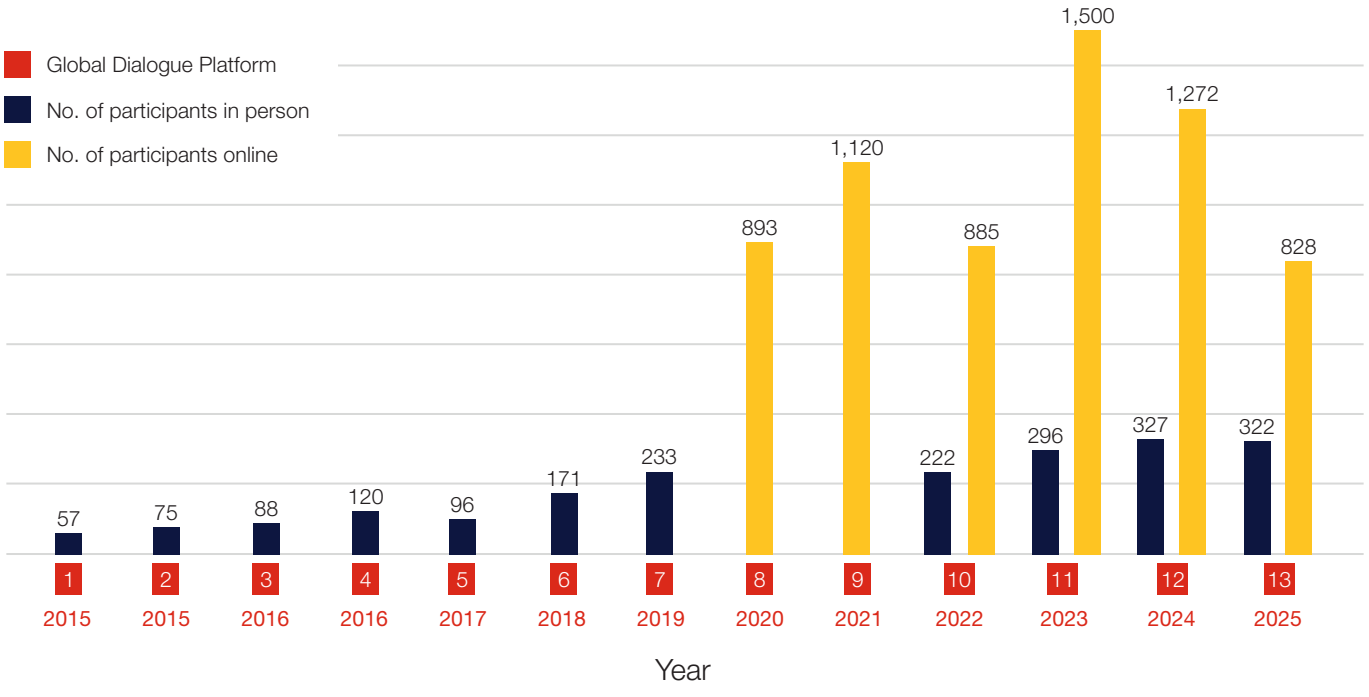
Thinking creatively to tackle the challenges

A common thread across the dialogue platforms is sessions that stimulate creative thinking and positivity. At the venue in Berlin, participants had the opportunity to contribute to collective artwork that captured dreams and visions for the future of anticipatory action. The event also saw the first edition of a photography contest that sought to showcase the human stories of anticipatory action (see page 41). Other activities included the launch of short films, cartoons and wild-card sessions that helped to inspire new ideas for the next ten years.

Reaching around the world

The 13th Global Dialogue Platform was global in both name and nature, with more than 1,100 people from more than 120 countries taking part.

Table 1. Participant numbers at the Global Dialogue Platforms, 2015-2025



DAY ONE

> Anticipatory action is not a luxury; it remains a top priority, grounded in trust, data-driven decisions, and with people at the centre.
>
> Jagan Chapagain, IFRC

Opening ceremony

The opening ceremony of the 13th Global Dialogue Platform successfully set the tone for three days of dynamic exchange, collaboration and reflection. After welcoming the participants joining from around the world, representatives from the organizations that planned the event delivered a series of initial remarks that underscored the mission of the dialogue platforms: to bring the community together for exchanges on lessons, challenges and opportunities for anticipatory action. They outlined the aims and expectations for the three days ahead, setting a clear direction for the discussions and exchanges to follow.

"Mostly of the deadliest and costliest hydrometeorological disasters in this century were forecast; we *knew* they were coming," began **Jagan Chapagain**, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). "If people still suffer, something is missing. Early warnings must be trusted, acted upon, and backed by planning and coordination – and this is precisely what anticipatory action gives us. It closes the gap between 'we knew' and 'we acted'."

Jagan Chapagain, IFRC.

Other speakers focused on the central theme for the event: a decade of anticipatory action. "Ten years ago, we were pioneers – and I include the GFFO in that 'we' – and we formed this approach as a gamechanger across the humanitarian system," recalled **Veronika Beutin**, GFFO. "Since then, we have championed this approach." She noted that this

year has not been easy for the humanitarian system, or for donors. Despite this, the GFFO remains firmly committed to anticipatory action and has anchored this approach within its humanitarian strategy with a commitment to dedicating 5 per cent of funding to this approach. She encouraged other donors to do the same.

Lisa Doughten, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), noted that the past ten years have proven that anticipatory action is not just common sense; it enables us to make much better use of limited resources. She highlighted the recent events in the Caribbean, where anticipatory actions were implemented in Cuba and Haiti before Hurricane Melissa made landfall. This demonstrates that timely interventions can be game changers.

> **We have proven anticipatory action is not only common sense; it is possible. Frameworks are now in place in 70 countries; this is extraordinary progress – and it is only possible thanks to your efforts. The question is no longer whether anticipatory action works: it is how to scale it [up] sustainably.**
>
> Lisa Doughten, OCHA

"I have been at most of the global dialogue platforms," began **Christof Johnen**, German Red Cross. "I like the audacity and the courage [we showed] to call it a 'global' platform right from the beginning." At the start, he recalled, it was "a bunch of nerdy people", but today, these events have grown to become an example of what can be achieved when people have a vision. Furthermore, while the humanitarian system is often criticized as competitive, he noted how the collaborative nature displayed by anticipatory action practitioners – including UN agencies, the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, NGOs and scientists – will be crucial as resources shrink: "The priority ahead is adapting to new funding realities and sustaining support for local governments and NGOs."

Alinur Ali Aden, Gargaar Relief and Development Organization (GREDO), expressed his excitement to be part of this year's organizing team. He then told the participants how his organization began to implement anticipatory action. "Start Network's triggers helped GREDO to act ahead of drought-induced displacement in Somalia," he explained. GREDO contributed to the design of the trigger system and advocated for a sustainable, locally led approach. However, resources for local actors remain limited, particularly in hard-to-reach areas, and reliance on short-term donor programmes restricts access to the

funding needed to act ahead of hazards, acting as a barrier to building capacity. He emphasized that "without funding, we cannot talk about capacity; no money, no capacity."

> Local organizations depend on limited resources, even though they are closest to the communities and the heart of the disaster.
>
> Alinur Ali Aden, GREDO

Other speakers reflected on the evolving challenges for anticipatory action, and the wider humanitarian system. "We are all facing a perfect storm; it has become a lot harder to be a humanitarian," noted **Martin Frick**, WFP, "but this room is full of warmth and energy in these 'cold' times. We have seen that [anticipatory action] is the most efficient way of using the money. In addition, it is maybe the most dignified way, because you enable [at-risk] people to have agency; they know their situation best."

Martin Frick, WFP.

> Stand up and say: 'This works!' It is an unprecedented success story. If you have any doubt about the efficiency of humanitarian action, look at anticipatory action.
>
> Martin Frick, WFP

Fleur Wouterse, FAO, concluded the opening session by looking back at its achievements in the past decade. "FAO has made anticipatory action a core operational pillar," she said. "In 2016 we had only two protocols; now, we have 52 in 30 countries." She identified three highlights regarding the impacts of FAO's work in this field: (1) cost-effectiveness; (2) national and government ownership and institutionalization; and (3) strong alliances with partners. "Our commitment is clear: make anticipatory action a standard, scalable approach that leaves no one behind," she added.

Ten years of anticipatory action: time capsule

The second session asked participants to take a walk down memory lane and reflect on their personal experiences with anticipatory action – no matter how long, positive or challenging they were – and take a moment to appreciate them. Next, **Dr Nikolas Scherer**, Anticipation Hub, and **Bettina Koelle**, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, presented the anticipatory action time capsule, a timeline of significant events from the past ten years.

> “It was inspiring to walk back through the ten years of anticipatory action.”
>
> Phoebe Shikuku, LinkedIn

But when and where did the story begin? According to those who were there at the start, the initial idea for this approach formed among a group of humanitarians who were at an Oktoberfest event in Lima, Peru, in 2013. While sharing their frustrations over why they couldn't use forecasts to begin providing relief, they realized that the main blockage was the lack of financing available when a hazard was forecast; funds were only released after a disaster. Together, they conjured up ways to link the release of financing to hazard forecasts, rather than waiting for the impacts to unfold.

Other significant periods followed:

- **2013 to 2018** saw the first pilot projects, alongside institutional learning about how this approach works and its uptake by more organizations.
- **2019 to 2022** saw anticipatory action expand and strengthen through interagency collaboration, the standardization of approaches and growing political momentum.
- From **2023 to today**, the focus has been on mainstreaming anticipatory action through policy commitments, institutionalization within governments, and further expansion and refinement of this approach.

The participants also shared their own highlights from the last ten years, from new projects to national frameworks for certain hazards. And the session closed with an open question for everyone in attendance: what else should be in this time capsule as we move forwards?

Dr Nikolas Scherer and Bettina Koelle.

> “You have all, in one way or another, contributed to these achievements.”
>
> Dr Nikolas Scherer, Anticipation Hub

Parallel sessions #1

At the helm of action: governments leading the anticipatory action revolution

This session showcased how governments are increasingly mainstreaming anticipatory action into their DRM systems, revealing experiences and challenges from different contexts to inspire the way forward.

Let's talk about the weather (ten years on): what can extreme weather forecasts tell us today? Where are we still stuck? How well have forecasts performed so far?

Ten years on from the first pilot projects, this session discussed how extreme weather forecasts have evolved and performed, as well as their reliability, their accuracy, and their impact on decision-making for anticipatory action.

Anticipatory action within the humanitarian reset: cost-effectiveness in a tight financing landscape

Amid tighter funding landscapes, this session explored: (1) how budget cuts are already eroding anticipatory action's capacity, both directly and indirectly, and the outlook for 2026; and (2) the latest evidence on the cost-effectiveness of anticipatory action, as one of the few areas that clearly delivers value for money when coordinated. It was also an opportunity to co-produce, through a working session, proposals for system-level commitments on anticipatory action to carry into the humanitarian reset.[1]

Resetting who leads: forecasting the future of locally led anticipatory action

In the context of the humanitarian reset, locally led anticipatory action offers a practical pathway to address long-standing challenges while redefining how humanitarian action is conceived and led. While localization and anticipatory action have gained significant traction, questions remain about what locally led anticipatory action means in practice, what it requires from international partners, and what systemic shifts are needed to make it the norm. Despite positive rhetoric, many initiatives labelled as 'locally led' leave power, money and decision-making in the hands of international actors. This session challenged participants to explore what genuinely locally led anticipatory action looks like in the new context, consider the uncomfortable truths that must be faced, and reflect upon the shifts required to make locally led systems the backbone of anticipatory action.

You can rewatch many of the parallel sessions on the event website. tinyurl.com/2ts45dn7

[1] For more about the humanitarian reset, see: tinyurl.com/mry2v5j6

Ready when it matters: the act of readiness for implementing effective anticipatory actions

Readiness remains a key – yet often overlooked – element in delivering anticipatory action. This session highlighted operational readiness as a key enabler of effective anticipatory action, emphasizing that this approach depends on the ability to translate early warnings into timely actions through pre-agreed systems and processes. Discussions focused on the importance of clearly defined roles, pre-arranged financing and procurement, effective coordination, and early engagement with communities. Participants also stressed the need to institutionalize readiness by embedding anticipatory action within DRM and governance frameworks, aligning standard operating procedures with local contexts, and using tools such as simulations and scenario-planning to test systems.

> When we talk about anticipatory action, we often focus on risk analysis and trigger models. However, the operationalization of the anticipatory actions is the critical path to delivery.
>
> Ed Parkinson, Start Network

Discussions under way during the first round of parallel sessions.

From vision to impact: the power of acting ahead

The first session after lunch on day one highlighted the profound difference that anticipatory action can make in people's lives. These impacts were brought to life through testimonies from those who have benefitted directly from this approach. This included live conversations with the FAO team in Somalia and the Ethiopian Red Cross Society.

Talking to local actors on day one.

A short film that showcased local voices in anticipatory action, promoted by the event's organizing team and developed by Welthungerhilfe (WHH), was also launched during the event; it can be watched here: tinyurl.com/4wr6st4n

Anticipatory action: a decade of learning, a future in a changing humanitarian landscape

"This session will involve a lot of you," explained **Stefanie Lux**, German Red Cross, as the next session commenced. "We want to collect the lessons from the last decade – and we want to reflect on all the milestones we have achieved. We want to celebrate what you have all done."

The major milestones were collected according to the elements that comprise anticipatory action, with participants providing their own highlights under each theme, while also sharing their wishes for what lies ahead.

Siphokazi Moloinyane, Julia Wittig and Stefanie Lux.

Funding mechanisms. The first term used for acting ahead of disasters was 'forecast-based financing': the name was a bit long and too technical, recalled Stefanie Lux, but it had one advantage: it was very clear how it was different from traditional response efforts, with funding released based on triggers. It also marked the start of pre-agreed financing models for anticipatory action, which continue to be revised as this approach expands.

> We are moving towards a diversified system of anticipatory action financing; that's what I am proud of.
>
> Julia Wittig, OCHA

> 25 per cent of the [Start Network's] Start Fund[2] is now anticipatory, which is a great achievement.
>
> Ed Parkinson, Start Network

> One of our recent milestones in CARE is creating a dedicated fund for anticipatory action.[3] The interesting part is that it is mobilizing private donor money.
>
> Thuy-Binh Nguyen, CARE International

[2] See: tinyurl.com/yu9789cf
[3] See: tinyurl.com/3b7pmc98

Impacts on the ground. Participants provided personal and organizational highlights about how anticipatory action has supported those at risk from hazards.

> We [FAO] have done a lot in this past decade. We have supported the establishment of 50 protocols in 32 countries [and] assisted 1.8 million people whose livelihoods are dependent on agriculture.
>
> Elwathig Mukhtar, FAO

> The Global Food Security Cluster recently decided that anticipatory action needs to be front and centre in its strategy. We will continue during the humanitarian reset, to see how we can integrate anticipatory action into the humanitarian cycle.
>
> Matthias Amling, WHH

> We piloted anticipatory action for the first time in Afghanistan this year, with 23 partners working on actions for food security... we now have 11 national NGOs working on this approach.
>
> Serin Hetou, OCHA

Non-weather hazards. Having initially focused on hydrometeorological disasters, anticipatory action has, in recent years, expanded to other types of hazards.

> About six years ago, we [Danish Refugee Council] started to think how we can harness the benefits of anticipatory action for other hazards. In 2023, we activated our first protocol for displacement and, in 2024, we [acted ahead of] conflict with local peace committees in South Sudan.
>
> Alexander Kjærum, Danish Refugee Council

> We are developing the first early action protocol [EAP] for wildfires. This was a very interesting challenge, as this hazard presents an interesting question: how can we forecast these? We need to know how they advance in the forests. It's very new and very exciting to explore.
>
> Diego Araya Donoso, Chilean Red Cross

> We are proud of our first non-weather hazard, which was in Malawi, in anticipation of a cholera outbreak. Our partners were able to support 700,000 people.
>
> Alicia Pavón Vergés, Start Network

Governments and regional organizations. National-level ownership of anticipatory action has increased in recent years, with governments in several countries now leading efforts to coordinate this approach.

> We are very proud of our regional roadmap on anticipatory action… and three countries are now developing national roadmaps.
>
> Dr Ahmed Amdihun, IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC)

> Right now, we have a special commission to work on anticipatory action, involving many institutions: the Salvadorean Red Cross Society, WFP, government ministries... We are moving anticipatory action to the national strategic level, to make it one element of the permanent training programme in civil protection agencies.
>
> Luis Alonso Amaya, Civil Protection of El Salvador

Local actors. This group has moved increasingly to the centre of discussions over the past decade.

> As a local partner, we are reaching the people at the grassroots level through the WAHAFA [WHH Anticipatory Humanitarian Action Facility] project. We have invested in local communities... and each and every step we have taken, we have extensively engaged with the community, which has strengthened their ownership.
>
> Hussein Mohamed Hassan, Rural Education and Agriculture Department Organization

Gathering evidence. Lastly, participants shared some milestones in terms of gathering evidence of the impact of anticipatory action.

> For us, a milestone was 2019, when we developed, with the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, the first guidance for monitoring and evaluation [of anticipatory action] – which we have used ever since to gather evidence.
>
> Shirin Merola, WFP

There was plenty of time for networking and discussions during the event.

Parallel sessions #2

Ten years of anticipatory action: what worked, what didn't, and what's next?

This session reflected on a decade of anticipatory action, highlighting key achievements, challenges, lessons and what lies ahead in the future.

> "What should be the priority for the next ten years? Think big. Keep scaling up. Keep collaborating. Keep innovating."
>
> Ioannes Kaffes, OCHA

What difference did we make this year? Evidence and lessons from this year's activations

This was a fast-paced, story-driven session where practitioners shared what happened during this year's activations: what worked, what did not, and what changed as a result. In a series of ignite talks, speakers spotlighted concrete evidence, surprising findings and honest lessons learned since last global dialogue platform.

Are we truly inclusive? Intersectional approaches to anticipatory action

Despite progress with anticipatory action, meaningful inclusion across gender, age, disability and intersecting identities remains inconsistent. Frameworks often reference 'inclusion', but key questions persist: are women, girls, older people, persons with disabilities, indigenous communities and other underrepresented groups genuinely engaged? Are systems shaped by their lived experiences? This session, co-convened by members of the Protection, Gender and Inclusion in Anticipatory Action Working Group, examined whether anticipatory action is truly inclusive and identified the practical shifts needed to broaden participation and impact.

Expanding the scope of anticipatory action: navigating non-hydrometeorological hazards

Anticipatory action has gained global traction for its effectiveness in mitigating the impacts of predictable hydrometeorological hazards. Yet crises have multiple drivers and varied impacts, from food insecurity and malnutrition to conflict, displacement, and animal diseases or pests. This session brought together organizations and practitioners testing anticipatory approaches across a diverse range of 'newer' domains to demonstrate the breadth and applicability of this approach. The speakers shared insights, innovations and breakthroughs that are enabling anticipatory action to expand beyond traditional hazards.

Making sure anticipatory action is future proof

This session explored how anticipatory action programmes are being developed with the future in mind. Are our approaches fit to address

how climate change is affecting hazards, as well as future changes to exposure and vulnerability?

Wild card: serious games for anticipatory action

The first interactive wild-card session provided an introduction to game design, followed by a lively series of games.

A parallel session on day one.

> Today's discussions reinforced that:
>
> - plan–resources–coordination remains the backbone of effective anticipatory humanitarian action
> - 'we know, we act' captured the shift from reactive aid to early, risk-informed action
> - with climate impacts becoming faster and more intense, anticipatory humanitarian action is now a global humanitarian priority, backed by pre-agreed plans and financing.
>
> Abu Al Tareq Ahmed (Nipun), Centre for Disability in Development, LinkedIn

> A fantastic and thought-provoking day one… My first time attending and, even though I'm online, it has felt truly inclusive and the range of session formats, activities, speakers and participants is so impressive.
>
> Nicola Golding, UK Met Office, LinkedIn

DAY TWO

> My heart is happy seeing you all from all over the world! Welcome Kabul, Ethiopia, Tbilisi and Heidelberg.
>
> Anita Auerbach, German Red Cross, session chat

The anatomy of success: when anticipatory action works (or doesn't)

The second day began by shedding light on a critical question: why do some anticipatory action initiatives thrive, while others don't? What followed was a candid conversation that aimed to move this approach forward; "We can't do that unless we acknowledge and learn from the setbacks," said **Alessandra Gilotta**, Anticipation Hub.

"In this conversation, we'll look at the ingredients that contribute to our successes and our failures," continued **Irene Amuron**, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, and she asked the participants to share their suggestions through an online poll (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Audience responses to an online poll

Erin Coughlan de Perez, Tufts University and the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, was one of the authors of an early paper about anticipatory action in 2014, in which this approach – then known as forecast-based financing – was proposed.[4] "If you read it back, we talked about three barriers," she recalled. "One, lack of funding: we only got money after a disaster. Mandates were another: our mandate as humanitarians was to *respond* to disasters. And third, there was not a lot of information on what to do when you got a forecast."

This has changed over the past ten years, Erin continued: "We have made so much progress with overcoming these three barriers. For example, we now have much more evidence about what works and what doesn't. This approach is starting to be well documented around the world." There are still areas for improvement, though, not least the

[4] See: tinyurl.com/p8k3cj2k

need for more funding: “Anticipatory action cannot be seen as dessert, or the optional course; it needs to be seen as the way to manage your existing funds.”

Next, a panel of experts shared some thoughts on what constitutes success, based on their experience over the past decade. “I see anticipatory action as a success when our governments activate based on early warnings,” said **Dr Ahmed Amdihun**, ICPAC. He noted how government in eastern Africa are leading new developments, highlighting the upcoming national dialogue platform in Somalia, with the government playing a leading role.

Another achievement was the regional roadmap for anticipatory action in eastern Africa, which sets out what the region wants to achieve. “Once we make sure that all the pillars are successfully integrated into national policies and operational plans, this [will be] a clear indicator of successful integration,” he added.

Dr Annette Detken, Frankfurt School of Finance & Management, suggested one of the elements behind successful projects, drawing on the example of the data needed to inform early warnings. “It is important to be impartial, not to ‘sell’ something,” she noted, “but to provide the information that builds trust in this approach. And you build that trust by showing that this [approach] works.” She also addressed the issue of financing, which is essential for anticipatory action to succeed, by highlighting new opportunities for countries. Under the Global Shield, for example, countries can make requests for pre-agreed finance – including for anticipatory action: “Madagascar and Pakistan have already made such a request, identifying anticipatory action as an area where they would like support.”

Erin Coughlan de Perez.

Dr Ahmed Amdihun speaks during the plenary on day two.

Online reflections on success

Throughout the session, participants joining online shared their thoughts on what constitutes success in the field of anticipatory action.

"Success means robust planning, reliable forecasting, timely funding and strong local coordination."
Emma Helmut, Adventist Development and Relief Agency

"Success needs trust in the systems we build – that they work when they should… If there's no trust along the system, there's no success."
Hannes Serocki, WHH

"Ultimately, success would be delivering better outcomes for at-risk communities in a way that means people are not only surviving but continue to thrive – despite the increased intensity of severe weather events and chronic, conflict-induced displacement."
Ana Marie Dizon, Danish Refugee Council

"For me, success in anticipatory action is if we can act within the window of opportunity and be able to lessen acute humanitarian impacts before they fully materialize."
Alemayehu Addisie Hassen, Save the Children International

"What works: early warning and predictive analysis, community-level preparedness, pre-agreed early action plans, and coordination and advocacy."
Yusuf Abdi, Somali Livelihood Initiative and Disability Organization

Continuing the discussion, **Helen Ticehurst**, UK Met Office, raised the importance of the weather and climate services that underpin actions ahead of hydrometeorological hazards, for example through forecasts and other technical data. "Forecasts only have value when they inform actions," she stated, "and we know that when they do, they have to be communicated in ways people understand." Co-production is essential for this: when weather and climate services and their partners work together, they can develop useful, usable services. One example from the past decade is impact-based forecasts, which combine weather and climate data with partners' data on the impacts of hazards: "Recognition of [impact-based forecasts] has been a success over the last ten years."

Next, **Carolina Kyllmann**, Clean Energy Wire, offered insights into how to work with the media to inform people about the need to act ahead of hazards. Anticipatory action doesn't fit the 'classic' media model, which tends to focus on what has happened: "In this case [anticipatory action], we, the media, have to reimagine what that story looks like."

Again, partnerships are central, this time between the media and those who understand how disasters can be prevented. But how can you tell a story if there is no disaster? Start by sharing the numbers, she suggested, and include emotional aspects as well, to provide a face

and a name for the figures: “There is a need to tell human stories: either those of the people helped, or those doing the helping.”

To conclude the session, the panellists reflected on where anticipatory action has fallen short over the past decade. “We are failing to communicate the value of anticipatory action,” suggested Carolina Kyllmann. “In the Valencia floods [in 2023], one of the criticisms was that the warnings weren’t early enough. For many people, this might have been the first time they have even heard about early warnings.” Dr Annette Detken considered the policy aspect: “We are failing to systematically include anticipatory action in countries’ DRM strategies. We are moving there, but we can do more.” We also need to do more to demonstrate impact, concluded Dr Ahmed Amdihun: “Evidence is the most important power that this community of practice has.”

> “We should stop doing anticipatory action like a secret service; we need make ourselves more visible!”
>
> Irene Amuron, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre

Parallel sessions #3

Reaching those who need anticipatory action most: how can we target best and cover the last mile?

This session explored how anticipatory action can more effectively reach the people most vulnerable and most at risk, and the strategies needed to facilitate this.

Delivering together: coordination and anticipatory action

Focusing on collaboration, this session discussed the role of coordination in making anticipatory action more effective in a challenging humanitarian context.

> “In Pakistan, we’ve proved anticipatory action works… It’s time to move from pilots to national system change.”
>
> Jamshaid Farid, Help Foundation

Working with forecasts and triggers: what are the remaining challenges?

Forecasts and triggers are at the heart of anticipatory action, but translating data and probabilities into timely, confident decisions remains a challenge. Partners have highlighted ongoing difficulties, such as: (1)

uncertainty in forecast reliability and lead times (e.g., with flash floods); (2) limited capacity or access to high-quality data; (3) misalignment between forecast thresholds and operational or funding timelines; and (4) communication gaps between technical and programmatic teams. This session delivered a set of practical solutions to address these.

Colliding crises: rethinking anticipatory action in a multi-risk world

The reality of how crises unfold is complex, with the risks communities face often cascading, coinciding and reinforcing across multiple hazards. In this session, participants explored a scenario to exchange ideas on how to tackle multi-risk events through anticipatory action, hearing from experts on successful real-world adaptations that have been implemented to manage multi-risk events.

Spreading the word on anticipatory action: the media's role in expanding reach and engagement

Anticipatory action relies on timely forecasts and climate insights to help people prepare before hazards hit. Yet scientific data often remains inaccessible to those who need it most. The media plays a critical bridging role here, translating complex forecasts into actionable knowledge for communities to trust and act upon. This can be seen as a 'sandwich': the scientific community (a slice of bread) provides data and models; communities and public (the other slice) consume this to act; and disseminators (the spread in the middle) – media, storytellers, practitioners, volunteer networks and others – act as catalysts and connectors to translate the jargon. In this 'glocal' (global–local) exchange, participants delved into how the media can help explain anticipatory action in simple terms, guide public and policy discussions, and tell the human stories that show why this approach matters.

There were plenty of opportunities for creative thinking during the three days.

The spark before the spotlight

"These three days are [an opportunity] to showcase our work and what went well. The next ten minutes are to share something that didn't work – did that ever happen to you?" asked **Marie Wagner**, WHH. "Maybe an occasion when the pre-agreed money wasn't released in time," suggested **Julia Wittig**, OCHA, "or maybe researchers who designed a study that didn't work in practice. Be candid and courageous!"

In groups of three or four, participants shared stories about the times when things did not go according to plan – and, most importantly, what they learned from them. (In the spirit of sharing in a 'safe space', the stories are not being recorded here!)

Julia Wittig and Marie Wagner.

> "The Global Dialogue Platform is looking back at the last ten years of anticipatory action and how we have come so far. But still a lot can be done to show how it makes a difference, and how much more we need to learn!"
>
> Ana Marie Dizon, Danish Refugee Council, LinkedIn

Anticipatory action: realities, challenges and the way forward – the government perspective

The keynote address came from **Ana Cristina Joao Manuel**, National Emergency Operations Center of Mozambique, who shared some of the realities and challenges that governments face when mainstreaming anticipatory action. "The government of Mozambique… began to consider anticipatory actions as a strategy for prevention and mitigation after the El Niño-induced drought of 2015/16," she noted. "[And in 2022] Mozambique took a historic step: through the *National*

Financial Protection Plan against Disasters (2022–2027), anticipatory actions were officially institutionalized – first for drought, and later for floods and cyclones – through standard-operating-procedure manuals, and event- and district-specific plans."

> "The success of anticipatory action in Mozambique was no accident; it was the result of a participatory, co-created, technical and deeply collaborative process."
>
> Ana Cristina Joao Manuel, National Emergency Operations Center, Mozambique

Ana Cristina Joao Manuel.

What did we learn? What would we do differently? Where next?

The candid conversations continued into the next session, with long-term practitioners of anticipatory action reflecting on their setbacks, the insights gained along the way, and the recommendations they would offer for the future. "We have gathered our 'dinosaurs', those who have been part of this since the beginning," joked **Shirin Merola**, WFP. "It's an opportunity to learn from their great experience and also plan for the future."

> "Hi Ntale, great to hear about your continuous great work and insights throughout the years."
>
> Caroline Zastiral, IFRC, session chat

Ntale Emmanuel began by sharing his own experience with anticipatory action, and that of the Uganda Red Cross Society. "It's ten years since we piloted this approach... and we have learnt a lot of things. We have developed a flood EAP and activated it, we have held a national dialogue platform, we have mainstreamed this approach into government plans... and we are now reviewing DRM policies [in Uganda] to make sure the pieces of anticipatory action are all captured." One of the most important lessons, he noted, was that implementing anticipatory action successfully needs more than technical solutions: "We need to change the mindset, from response to anticipation. Not only with the government, but also with communities."

Ntale Emmanuel.

Niccolò Lombardi, FAO, recalled that when he started working on anticipatory action in 2018, there were some doubts: "I remember colleagues asking: why are you doing that? But I could see what it was trying to achieve and I believed in it." FAO has expanded from two initial protocols to more than 50 worldwide today, and from assisting a few thousand people each year to around 2 million in the past two

years. This approach has also become a full part of FAO's strategic framework, he confirmed: "It is not a project anymore; it is part of how FAO sees its work around resilience."

> We need to look at the process backwards: the trigger is the latest possible time that we can start implementing actions.
>
> Niccolò Lombardi, FAO

Matthias Amling, WHH, shared some lessons from his time working on anticipatory action. One of these is the need to be more targeted, especially in the context of the humanitarian reset: "We need to target those most at risk." Other tips shared were the need to be more coordinated, for example connecting all the frameworks and protocols within a country. "And we need to be as locally led as possible," he concluded.

But with all the lessons learned over ten years, why are we still – at certain times, and in some places – failing? The second part of this session was a frank conversation about how we can do better. **Stefanie Lux**, German Red Cross, began the discussion by setting out some realities from practice: "The trickiest part is putting this 'no brainer' idea into practice! There are a lot of nitty-gritty things you must get right." She shared an early example from a project in Peru that attempted to act ahead of snowfall. Despite careful preparation, the hazard didn't proceed in the expected locations. "We have to be exactly where the hazard hits," she said. "That was one of the challenges we experienced very early on."

"This [approach] aimed for a paradigm shift, which sounded really great at the start," recalled **Jesse Mason**, WFP. "But each time we got somewhere, we encountered a new problem. First it was evidence, then it was cash, then it was coordination. And each time, this community came together and found solutions to them." He noted the need to use the evidence now gathered to demonstrate the impacts of this approach, and to do so together: "We can't do this individually anymore."

And what about the future? **Jamshaid Farid**, Help Foundation, shared some advice from Pakistan: "We started with localization from the beginning… engaging local actors at the start, so that our models and triggers are long-lasting and sustainable." This has delivered benefits which will be even more important moving forwards. "We should depend less one external aid," he suggested, "and [more] on our own [national] systems, our own resources, and our in-country knowledge."

> In most countries, there will be someone working on anticipatory action. Before you start, please check what is already out there!
>
> Stefanie Lux, German Red Cross

Shirin Merola, Stefanie Lux, Jesse Mason and Jamshaid Farid.

Parallel sessions #4

Pollen bombs and vector booms: what health forecasting is possible?

By thinking outside the box on how to anticipate disease outbreaks, this session explored which forecasts are feasible and the opportunities to work with them.

Guiding tomorrow's anticipatory action: what role can artificial intelligence play?

This session allowed participants to discover what role artificial intelligence (AI) can, and cannot (yet), play in strengthening anticipatory action across the entire timeline: from forecasting and risk mapping to data integration and faster decision-making. Practitioners and researchers shared emerging use cases, good practices and gaps, and discussed how AI can be applied responsibly to support at-risk communities, but without reinforcing bias.

Charting new waters: funding for anticipatory action in a shifting humanitarian system

With a focus on financial sustainability, this session discussed how funding for anticipatory action can be scaled up and diversified amid a rapidly changing humanitarian financing landscape.

From flight to future: anticipatory action along the displacement journey

The session discussed the different approaches that can be taken to use anticipatory action for displacement, highlighting opportunities to mitigate the impacts of displacement on humanitarian needs. It also shared ways to integrate the vulnerabilities of already displaced people into anticipatory action frameworks.

Strengthening capacities for what's ahead on anticipatory action

How can training on anticipatory action be more interesting and engaging, and less complex and technical? This was a chance to explore interactive exercises and collectively design a new way forward to strengthen capacities in anticipatory action.

Wild card: using theatre and improv for anticipatory action

In this session, participants were encouraged to leave their comfort zone to overcome 'roadblocks' and improve collaboration and trust between partners.

The artwork for the 13th Global Dialogue Platform, created by Rebeka Ryvola de Kremer from the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre.

> "Day 2 again challenged and inspired me to think broader and deeper about the future of anticipatory action… [it] is not only about extreme climate or hydrometeorological events; forecastable risks today include conflict dynamics, epidemics, wildfires... and displacement itself — and anticipatory action must be designed to act ahead of all of these."
>
> **Céline Sinitzky Billard, CALP Network, LinkedIn**

DAY THREE

Rethinking financing for anticipatory action

The final day began with an exchange critical to the next decade of anticipatory action: how to secure the financing needed for this approach to scale up and be sustainable – and all amid a changing and challenging humanitarian landscape. To kick-start the discussions, preliminary results from a recent exercise to track the 'build' and 'fuel' funding (or financing) provided in 2024 were shared; these were reported to the Anticipation Hub by governments as part of the tracking of their commitments under the Grand Bargain (Figures 2a, 2b and 2c).

> "I'm looking forward to talking about financing... this is the 'bread and butter' for anticipatory action these days."
>
> Jesse Mason, WFP

Figure 2a. Donor financing for anticipatory action, 2024

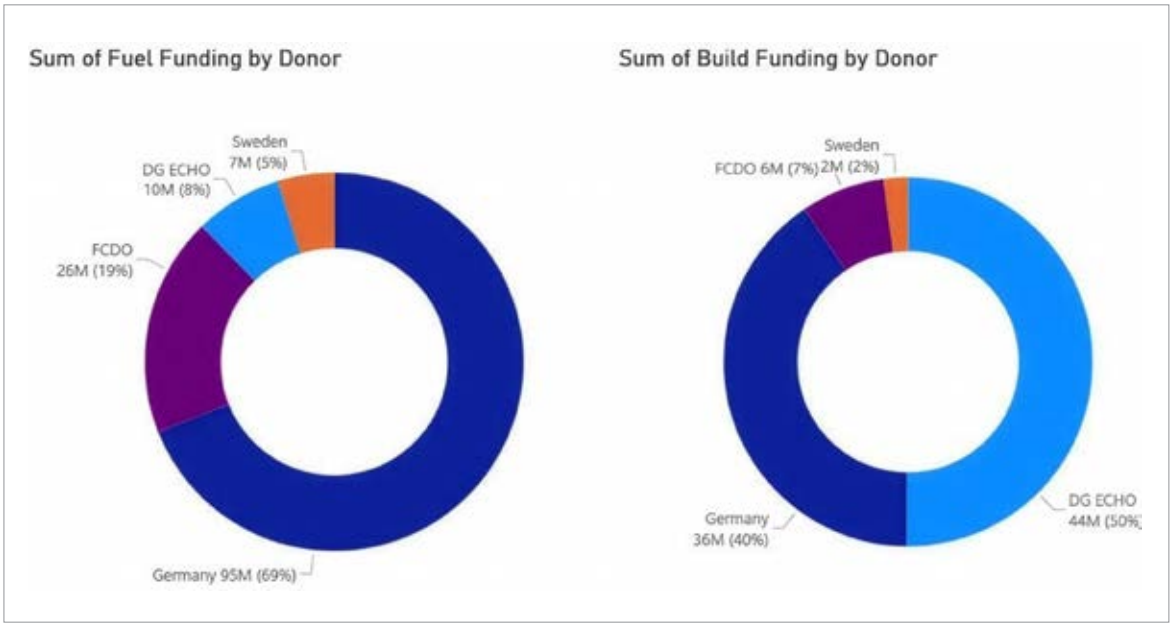


Figure 2b. Distribution of fuel financing, 2024

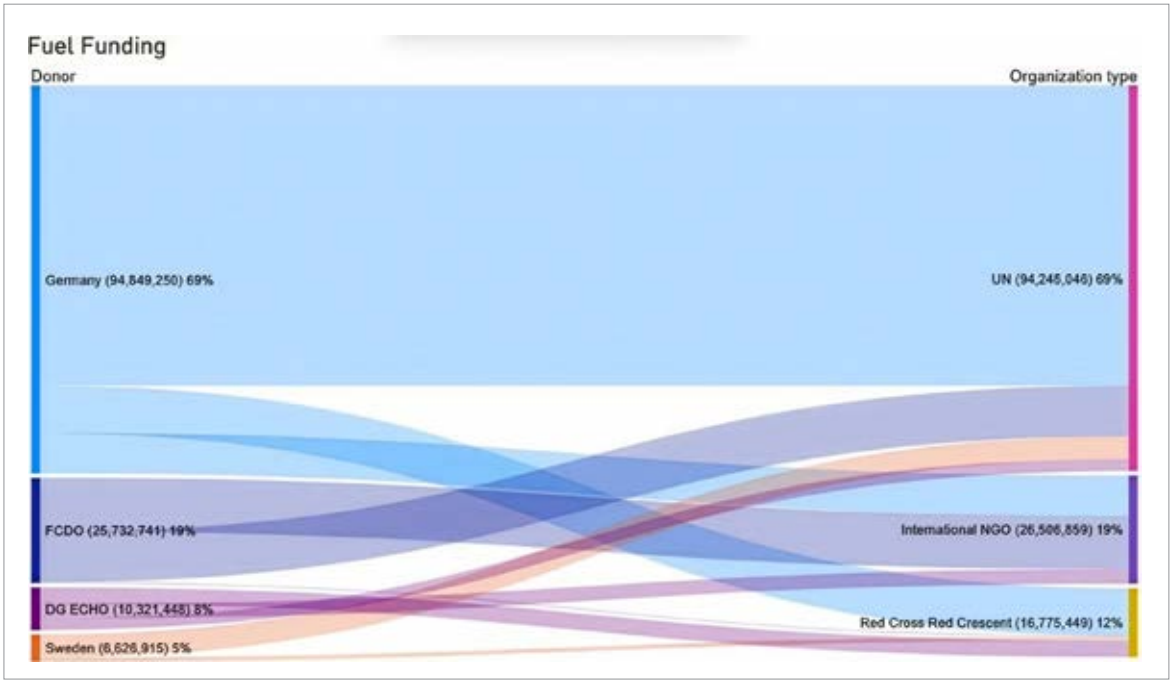
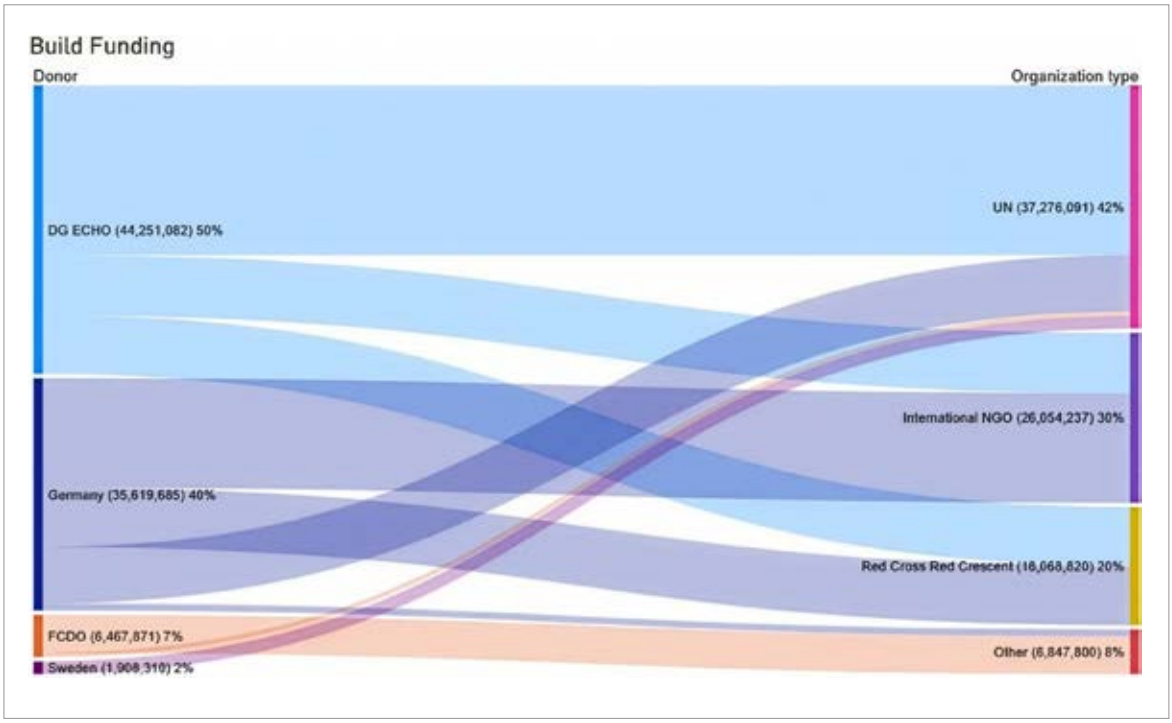


Figure 2c. Distribution of build financing, 2024



Fuel funding is provided for the **implementation** of anticipatory actions; this includes pre-positioning items and operational-readiness costs.

Build funding directly **builds and strengthens** core aspects of the anticipatory action ecosystem, such as capacity building, data and forecasts, the development of frameworks, and its integration into broader policy frameworks, among other activities.

Katrin Planta, GFFO, spoke about ways to coordinate better among donors. One initiative already under way is the 'donor group of friends', a small but regular exchange about strategies and priorities, and a space to learn from each other: "It is also a way to reach out to [new] donors working on related topics, such as early warnings." But there are also ways to enhance coordination within the GFFO, for example between the headquarters and regional offices: "This helps to ensure everyone understands anticipatory action and can advocate for this regionally." Then there is a need to coordinate between the relevant ministries within the German government and explain what anticipatory action offers them. And lastly, there is a need to coordinate with implementing partners "to have exchanges on a regular basis... It's about talking to each other and listening to each other".

Sergio Garcia de Diego confirmed that the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) is committed to continue scaling up anticipatory action as a long-term approach, but without the specific targets that other donors have set themselves: "We are letting it grow naturally, by itself."

As part of this, it is already the biggest provider of build funding. On the fuel side, it is a little behind but is reviewing the tools it has for responding to emergencies and how to make them anticipatory. One example is crisis modifiers, which are already being used in some countries. And funding cannot only come from humanitarian sources; there will need to be support from development funds as well.

Following these opening presentations, **Outi Myatt-Hirvonen**, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, spoke about how the Fund for responding to Loss and Damage[5] could be used for anticipatory action. "We need to understand what makes this distinct," she noted, "and how it can complement other funding streams. It cannot operate in isolation; it needs to be in national systems and embedded in the global architecture." The first call for funding opens in December 2025, and the eligibility criteria are compatible with the objectives of anticipatory action: "We have an opportunity here; we need to establish practical ways of incorporating anticipatory action into proposals [to the fund]."

Peter Klansoe, Humanitarian Innovative Finance Hub, talked about other new avenues for financing, notably insurance. What will it take for this to happen? "What's important is that we have a common understanding of how insurance can add value to existing mechanisms," he explained. This includes better predictability – "when this happens, you get this amount" – and flexibility, so insurance funds can be used as needed. Insurance is also released quickly, which is critical for anticipatory action. Furthermore, it helps to share risks among a broad range of stakeholders.

> "Insurance is not new, but it's perhaps new in the financial toolbox for humanitarians."
>
> Peter Klansoe, Humanitarian Innovative Finance Hub

[5] See: tinyurl.com/4nemsnuy

Daniel Pfister, OCHA, outlined the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPFs) as being critical for anticipatory action. But given the current challenges facing funding for humanitarian work, what are OCHA's plans to make these more effective, and more accessible to local actors? "Our role is to bring everyone together, and we will do what we can to support you," he confirmed. "Including for financing."

> Thank you to all the donors and partners who have enabled us to do anticipatory action.
>
> Daniel Pfister, OCHA

> OCHA leadership and key messages are much much much appreciated in these times of the humanitarian reset.
>
> Liesa Sauerhammer, German Red Cross, session chat

For fuel financing, OCHA is looking to expand the use of the tools at its disposal. CBPFs allow funding to organizations in that country, and there is a new tool, Regional Humanitarian Pooled Funds, that enable funding for countries without CBPFs. OCHA is trying to make these funds as predictable as possible, he added. It is also exploring how to make them more efficient, "to make the money we do have go further". Local partners are the most efficient way to do this, and CBPFs try to provide as much funding to them as possible; about 50 per cent in the last year did so: "We are really trying to push that further."

Speed is also a factor when financing anticipatory action. "This year, [OCHA] managed to disburse funds within four minutes of an early warning being issued," Daniel told the audience. But the key is the speed with which the money can be used for actions, not just its disbursement. And there has been progress here as well, he noted.

Of course, a critical question for all agencies is: how do we get more money? CERF is looking into insurance, both as a way to secure the portfolio it has and to increase the funding available. Partners can help here by advocating with the private sector: "If we can do things together, we can do it with a bigger voice".

Outi Myatt-Hirvonen, Daniel Pfister and Jesse Mason.

And an overarching task is to work with governments to position them to provide the funding needed themselves. “That is the goal we are all chasing,” Daniel concluded.

The plenary session closed with perspectives from some of the countries that use anticipatory funds.

> “Anticipatory action is the core driver… in saving lives, in terms of access to resources as a local partner.”
>
> Beth Mburu, AIC Health Ministries, Kenya

> “First, we need to give anticipatory action legal recognition. Nothing will happen, in any country, if we don’t give it this. And there needs to be knowledge and capacity for implementation.”
>
> Luis Alonso Amaya, Civil Protection of El Salvador

Imagining the future of anticipatory action

This activity brought to life participants’ visions for the future of anticipatory action, presented through collaborative art, including a ‘cartoon tower’ created over three days.

Parallel sessions #5

The ‘what went wrong in anticipatory action’ lab: from failure to doing it better

This session offered a candid space to reflect on where anticipatory action has fallen short, drawing out practical lessons that can transform setbacks into pathways for doing better.

Cash before crisis: sharing evidence, lessons and best practices

This session explored the use of cash-based approaches in anticipatory action, presenting evidence, lessons learned and practical experiences from various countries. A table discussion with the audience listed what should be done – and what should be avoided – to prepare an anticipatory cash action.

Building broader coalitions: finding new partners for anticipatory action

Anticipatory action has grown from small pilots into a recognized approach for reducing the impacts of predictable hazards. Yet its full potential is still far from being reached, limited by fragmented funding, capacity gaps, regulatory hurdles, forecast limitations and challenges in reaching the last mile. This session sought to expand the agenda by identifying under-represented actors and sectors, exploring how to better engage new partners across the humanitarian, development, climate and financial systems, and encouraging practical ideas for future collaboration.

> “Full house today at the workshop… Ana Cristina João Manuel and Carlos Augusto Benedito sparked significant interest and curiosity among participants as they shared the recent government-led trigger alignment among partners… and the integration of anticipatory action into the government’s disaster-risk framework.”
>
> Ria Kulenovic, German Red Cross, LinkedIn

How after-action reviews can transform lessons learned into action

When activations end, the learning begins. This was a chance to explore how after-action reviews can convert lessons learned into concrete changes that strengthen systems, partnerships and future interventions. Panellists from Madagascar, Mozambique and Nigeria shared examples of how their reviews helped to identify gaps, refine coordination and drive meaningful improvements.

There was plenty to discuss during the parallel sessions.

AZEEMA film premiere

The lunch break on the final day saw the premiere of AZEEMA: UNDAUNTED, a film that captures two years in Sudan: can the country's weather forecasters, community leaders and communities themselves launch DARAJA Sudan[6], an emergency early-warning service for 48 million people, before the next extreme weather event?

The film will be officially launched in 2026.

Creativity can unlock new ideas. To kick-off the final afternoon, the session 'Moving forward for action' encouraged participants to create word chains – one word per person – to develop possible futures for anticipatory action.

[6] See: tinyurl.com/58ffuyez

Anticipatory action at a crossroads: where do we go next?

How have people working on anticipatory action felt during 2025? It has been a year of major changes, devastating hazards, severe funding cuts – and almost everyone has felt the impacts. After ten years, anticipatory action is at a crossroads: where will this approach head next? That was the question for the final plenary session.

Andoniaina Ratsimamanga, Malagasy Red Cross Society, began by stating that anticipatory action is not a luxury; during the humanitarian reset, and with increasing needs worldwide, we will all have to do more with less money: "Everything we do has to build on what already exists." **Luis Alonso Amaya**, Civil Protection of El Salvador, agreed that these are difficult times: "It's hard to invest in an initiative like anticipatory action at this moment." But there is still a need to invest, he argued, and at every level – and to talk with politicians and financial decision-makers to strengthen this initiative. "We need to think about what we want in our countries, what we want in our societies, and to make strategic decisions to not only support response [activities], but to build resilient countries," he concluded.

Luis Alonso Amaya and Gantsetseg Gantulga.

But what are the priorities for achieving this? Establishing national-level technical working groups? Aligning projects and programmes at the country level? Harmonizing triggers? And where is the greatest duplication in anticipatory action? Is it the number of global- and regional-level working groups? Or the number of country-level plans and initiatives? For this latter question, there was a strong consensus among the participants: there is a need to reduce the number of plans for each hazard within countries. "This is an area where governments can play a role," noted **Gantsetseg Gantulga**, IFRC, who facilitated the discussion.

Next, **Aditya Bahadur**, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, set out what he sees as priorities, including the need to scale up anticipatory action. "It's easy to think that this approach is now hyper-mainstream," he said, "but less than 1 per cent of humanitarian funding goes to anticipatory action. We are still on the margins of the humanitarian sector; our job is far from done."

Localization is another theme that comes up repeatedly, but this can mean very different things to different people. We must have integrity about this, he continued: "It has to mean empowering people on the frontlines of climate risks." At the same time, we need to ensure we don't alleviate the responsibility of national and global actors to confront these risks as well.

Regarding effectiveness, the need for more evidence is a common call. “But we have reams of evidence on its effectiveness,” Aditya countered. “We just need to do a better job of consolidating, synthesizing and communicating this evidence to propel this agenda forward.”

Lastly, he identified innovation as a priority for the next decade: “We have become quite comfortable and familiar: what is the next frontier for anticipatory action? Which technologies can we use, where does ‘big data’ have a role? Who are the new stakeholders to bring along? These are the questions we need to think about.”

Aditya Bahadur.

> **Across sessions and breakout groups, one message was clear: mainstreaming locally led anticipatory action requires a sector-wide reset. Start Network remains committed to this shift, working with frontline actors to build a system where the earliest responders lead and where anticipatory action becomes the norm, not the exception.**
>
> Start Network on LinkedIn

Your voice, our future: where do we go next?

Thoughts for the future continued into the next session, with the online and in-person participants invited to voice their ideas and suggestions for the next steps in anticipatory action.

> **I need to push my country to integrate this approach in our health system. We also need to coordinate all partners in our country.**
>
> Placide Welo Okitayemba, Ministry of Health, Democratic Republic of the Congo

> We [GFFO] think that the anticipatory action community has come a long, long way. That's a positive development in these very difficult times. We have committed to 5 per cent of our humanitarian funding to anticipatory action… and we would encourage other donors to do the same.
>
> Stefan Delfs, GFFO

Stefan Delfs.

> Many communities we work in are also exposed to conflicts; I hope we can continue to have dialogues about how to anticipate multi-hazards.
>
> Alexander Kjærum, Danish Refugee Council

> Our early warning system [in China] can empower anticipatory action into the future... For example, we will use our AI model to give the Red Cross early-warning information.
>
> Liu Ying-Jie, China's National Early Warning Centre

> Anticipatory action is not just a humanitarian issue; longer-term development and climate-adaptation initiatives need to build crisis modifiers into their planning, and be allowed a commensurate level of flexibility to reallocate funds to anticipatory action to protect development gains.
>
> Richard Ewbank, Christian Aid, session chat

Closing ceremony

The 13th Global Dialogue Platform concluded with reflections – on the event, and the decade passed – from member of the organizing team.

> Welcome to the beginning of the end – and well done for surviving the cold!
>
> Irene Amuron, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre

> This year's event is very special... we come together after a year of major challenges. Funding is tight, questions of legitimacy are being raised and priorities keep shifting... this makes gatherings like this even more important. It is inspiring to see so many people here today.
>
> Bettina Iseli, WHH

> This conference has been extremely lively... so much diversity and expertise. One thing I really like [is] the openness of the debate. We speak frankly about the 'pain points' and don't gloss over them.
>
> Marten Mylius, Danish Refugee Council

Participants in Berlin follow the closing ceremony.

> At this moment in time, when our 'baby' is ten years old, we need to recognize that the time is right to protect some hard-won gains, [including] the highly sophisticated architecture for anticipatory action [and] the very effective dialogue between researchers and practitioners. And we are starting to see this approach step beyond hydrometeorological hazards; this progression needs to continue.
>
> Aditya Bahadur, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre

Stories of resilience: a decade of anticipatory action in focus

During the closing ceremony, the winners of the inaugural photography contest, 'Stories of resilience: a decade of anticipatory action in focus', received their prizes. First place went to Alexis Vallejo, FAO, for his photo from Bolivia. Second prize went to Hassan Haji Ibrahim, GREDO, for his photo from Somalia, and third place to Ei Hnin Hlaing, FAO, with a photo from Mongolia. Their photos, alongside the other 12 finalists, were exhibited throughout the event in recognition of their contribution to the visual storytelling of anticipatory action.

Installing reservoirs to anticipate drought in the Altiplano, Bolivia. These are essential for storing water in the highlands.
© Alexis Vallejo, FAO, 2024.

Under the shade of a tree in a dry landscape in Somalia, local community leaders gather to discuss early warning signs, risk mapping, and collective anticipatory strategies.
© Hassan Haji Ibrahim, GREDO, 2024.

Anticipatory action brings life: showing off newborn lambs, thanks to the FAO's anticipatory action interventions in Burd Soum, Mongolia.
© Ei Hnin Hlaing, FAO, 2018.

Reflections on the 13th Global Dialogue Platform

> Three key takeaways: (1) technology and innovation should go hand in hand with localization and community engagement; (2) after 10 years of joint action, there is already great coordination in this area of work, at all levels – but we can always do better to reduce duplications and harmonize approaches; (3) the international aid cuts represent a big challenge for the people who need support… But evidence continues showing that forecasting and anticipating crises is simply the right thing to do.
>
> Niccolò Lombardi, FAO, LinkedIn

> It is so great to connect to a like-minded community! Amazing event.
>
> Anna Maria Rosinska, European Commission Joint Research Centre, session chat

> This event is very important and gives me other ideas on how to redesign our strategies of responses to crises in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
>
> Habimana Jonas Seruvugo, session chat

> Today's discussion leaves me inspired, challenged and convinced that locally led anticipatory action isn't just the future — it's the only path to a fair, effective humanitarian system. The reset is here. Now it's on us to ensure it's locally led.
>
> Céline Sinitzky Billard, CALP Network, LinkedIn

> We are honoured to be part of the Nepal delegation at the 13th Global Dialogue Platform. Small in size but significant in impact, much like Nepal's own journey in anticipatory action.
>
> Danish Red Cross in Nepal, LinkedIn

> The consensus was clear: the humanitarian reset presents an opportunity to activate effective local leadership, reshaping the humanitarian system.
>
> Tapiwa Magaisatapiwa Magaisa, Nutrition Action Zimbabwe, LinkedIn

> This dialogue has been very interesting and, considering that we [Mozambique] are a country highly vulnerable to climate events, allow me to share that we now have advance warming for the dry season.
>
> Yolanda Mulhuini, Ecumenical Committee for Social Development, session chat

> Well done to the brilliant planning team of 13th Global Dialogue Platform. Until next year, *Aluta continua*.
>
> Phoebe Wafubwa Shikuku, session chat

Natalie Acosta and Julia Mühlhauser, Anticipation Hub.

> Events like the #GlobalDP remind us how much collective energy and commitment there is to make humanitarian action more anticipatory, people-centred and impactful.
>
> Anticipatory Action by WHH, LinkedIn

> The recent progress some governments have made is inspiring. And the fact that 196 Member States endorsed a resolution on institutionalizing anticipatory action at last year's International Red Cross Red Crescent Conference shows the commitment is there. As I head home, I feel motivated as always by the anticipatory action community, but in particular this year I am motivated by how governments are stepping up.
>
> Stephanie Julmy, IFRC, LinkedIn

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to all our partners for their support with the 13th Global Dialogue Platform and the GFFO for its financial support. Thanks also to the Storytile team for their continued support for the dialogue platforms.

Thank you to everyone who took part in the event. Comments from participants included in this report have been edited for length and style.

Partners

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

WFP World Food Programme

OCHA

START NETWORK

WELT HUNGER HILFE WHH

DRC DANISH REFUGEE COUNCIL

Gargaar Relief and Development Organization

The Anticipation Hub is an initiative of

German Red Cross

Climate Centre

IFRC

Supported by

german humanitarian assistance
DEUTSCHE HUMANITÄRE HILFE

You can rewatch most of the sessions online. tinyurl.com/2ts45dn7

The full agenda, including all speakers, is also available online.

Publisher

Deutsches Rotes Kreuz e.V.
German Red Cross
National Headquarters
International Cooperation Department
Carstennstraße 58
12205 Berlin, Germany
www.drk.de

Writing and editing

Julia Burakowski
Natalie Acosta
Sude Niehues
Tim Woods

Layout and typesetting

MedienSchiff BRuno, www.msbruno.de

Photographs

Philipp Meise

#GlobalIDP