



Government Offices of Sweden Ministry for Foreign Affairs



Concept Note

Act II: Disaster Displacement and Anticipatory Financing

a follow-up meeting to last year's high-level meeting Anticipate and Act

chaired by the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs

in collaboration with WFP, UNDRR, the Swedish Red Cross and Sida

3 June, 2021

Purpose and structure of the meeting

The purpose of “Disaster Displacement and Anticipatory Financing” is to follow up on last year’s high-level meeting Anticipate and Act on Addressing the Humanitarian Impact of Climate Change which was co-hosted by Sweden, WFP and UNDRR in collaboration with the Swedish Red Cross. The intention is to keep up the momentum for the anticipatory action agenda, to review progress, to bring up aspects not sufficiently covered at the high-level meeting and to deepen the understanding on how best to move forward, including the process towards COP26.

This meeting is organised by the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs in collaboration with WFP, UNDRR, the Swedish Red Cross and Sida, and it will take place fully virtually on the Zoom platform. It will be opened and chaired by Ms. Janine Alm Ericson, State Secretary, International Development Cooperation, Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs. After introductory video messages by the Swedish Minister for International Development Cooperation Mr. Per Olsson Fridh, the Executive Director of WFP Mr. David Beasley and the Head of UNDRR Ms. Mami Mizutori, two panel discussions and a video message from Mr. Jagan Chapagain, Secretary General of IFRC will follow.



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Disaster Displacement following Climate change

The first panel will address disaster displacement, as a result of or exacerbated by climate change. Some 25 million people are displaced every year by sudden-onset natural hazards, clearly outnumbering the displacements triggered by conflict. Slow-onset natural hazards also fuel displacement.

While the high-level meeting focused on food insecurity as a consequence of climate change, it is high time to recognise disaster displacement as a phenomenon that needs to be addressed urgently. Indeed, climate-related displacement is set to be one of the greatest challenges of the current era. According to IDMC's recently launched Global Report on Internal Displacement 40.5 million new displacements were recorded in 2020, the highest figure in a decade.

Approximately 30.7 million new displacements were triggered by disasters in 2020, with weather-related events responsible for 98 percent of all disaster displacement. Displacement that is recurrent or protracted impacts on income levels and increases other risks. How can data collection on disaster displacement be collected more comprehensively and systematically? What specific measures are most effective? How can actors in different fields collaborate better? How can we limit disaster displacement through better risk analyses, and preventive measures? How can we ensure that when displacement does occur, its most negative effects, such as loss of livelihood, and increase in sexual and gender-based violence are mitigated, while durable solutions are also prioritized?

Financing for Anticipatory Humanitarian Action

The number of people affected by humanitarian crises keeps rising. So does the cost for the much-needed humanitarian response. The widening gap between humanitarian needs and the funding available to meet these needs is an issue that must be urgently addressed in a holistic manner. Reports show that spending money on anticipatory humanitarian action is in fact much more cost-efficient than responding once a humanitarian crisis has taken place. Is being more proactive the solution or at least part of the solution? What are the barriers to scaling up anticipatory action and how can these be overcome? If we are moving towards anticipatory humanitarian action, how can we increase funding for this purpose? Should it be from development or humanitarian budgets? Which funding mechanisms and channels are currently available and are these options sufficient?