



In January 2022 a tropical storm, causing Cyclone Ana, hit Malawi and surrounding countries. It was the second deadliest severe weather event in the area in 2022, took the lives of thousands and displaced thousands more. In the photo a young girl walks through the displacement camp she now lives in during one of the frequent sporadic rains that continue daily. Credit: Thoko Chikondi

# SAVE THE CHILDREN'S FRAMEWORK FOR ANTICIPATORY ACTION

December 2022



**Save the Children**

# CONTENTS

Framework for Anticipatory Action in Save the Children	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
Introduction	3
Why Anticipatory Action?	3
1. Defining Anticipatory Action and Key Components	4
1.1. What is Anticipatory Action?	4
1.2. Anticipatory Action in the Disaster Risk Management Continuum	4
2. Key Components of Anticipatory Action	7
2.1. Risk Information, Forecasting and Early Warning	8
2.2. Planning, Operations and Delivery	9
2.3. Funding	9
2.4. Related Terms	7
3. Save the Children's Vision and Ambition for Anticipatory Action	10
3.1. Our Vision for Anticipatory Action	10
3.2. Principles to Guide our Anticipatory Action Agenda	10
3.3. AA and Organizational Policies	11
3.4. Areas of Ambition	11

**The purpose of this Framework is to create a common understanding of Anticipatory Action across Save the Children.** The Framework explains how Anticipatory Action fits within the scope of Save the Children's work, outlines key components, as well as a broad ambition for our work on Anticipatory Action. The Framework has been developed in consultation with stakeholders across Save the Children and is a starting point to create new and adapt existing processes to better anticipate and mitigate the impact of future crises. It aims to set forth a more fluid space and potential for improved risk management across humanitarian and development work.

## INTRODUCTION

### Why Anticipatory Action?

The catastrophic scale of humanitarian needs across the world, driven by conflict, fragility and the increasing frequency and scale of climate driven disasters, threatens to unravel the lives of millions of children and undo hard-won development gains. The COVID-19 crisis and Ukraine conflict have had far reaching global humanitarian implications, exacerbating a global severe hunger crisis and exacerbating economic volatility and instability. Climate driven crises will increase in number, scale, frequency, and intensity in the coming years and will impact the most vulnerable, including children, extremely poor, and conflict affected communities, worst. Neither the current models for funding nor operational capacity can cope with the alarming increases in humanitarian need.

**Predictable crises, stagnant system:** A recent study found that at least half of all humanitarian crises are somewhat predictable, meaning risks can be planned for and managed in advance. Yet less than 1% of funding to these crises was pre-arranged<sup>1</sup>. Despite advances in risk modelling, satellite observation and early warning systems, the humanitarian system still approaches most emergencies as if they were unexpected, releasing funds and acting only after a crisis unfolds.

**Saving lives, reducing costs:** Anticipatory action can bring substantial savings when compared to traditional response. For example, a 2017 SCUUK [study](#) in Ethiopia found that for every 1£ spent acting earlier in an emerging slow-onset food crisis, targeted households received £2.58 in social value (maintained income, dietary diversity, food consumption, maintained school attendance etc.) as compared to traditional response.<sup>2</sup>

To protect the rights, lives and dignity of children now and in the future requires a fundamental shift in our ways of working. Anticipatory Action offers the potential to address humanitarian crises in a way that is proactive rather than reactive, to save lives and livelihoods. The model facilitates dynamic thinking about risk, improves linkages across humanitarian, development and peacebuilding sectors and recognizes the agency of communities and children.

*Anticipatory Action (AA) is acting ahead of a predicted hazard to prevent or reduce the impacts on communities before they fully unfold. AA leverages a window of opportunity between when an early warning or forecast is available and a full-blown crisis using pre-positioned resources and plans to take protective action for communities. AA can save lives and livelihoods, mitigate suffering, improve effectiveness of response and recovery, and, importantly, better preserve the dignity of communities.*

Save the Children has committed to scaling AA across our work in the current strategy. This means continuing to adapt systems and culture to shift from reactive needs-based response to risk-informed action. It will require close work with partners, including communities, governments, civil society, donors,

scientists and the international system.

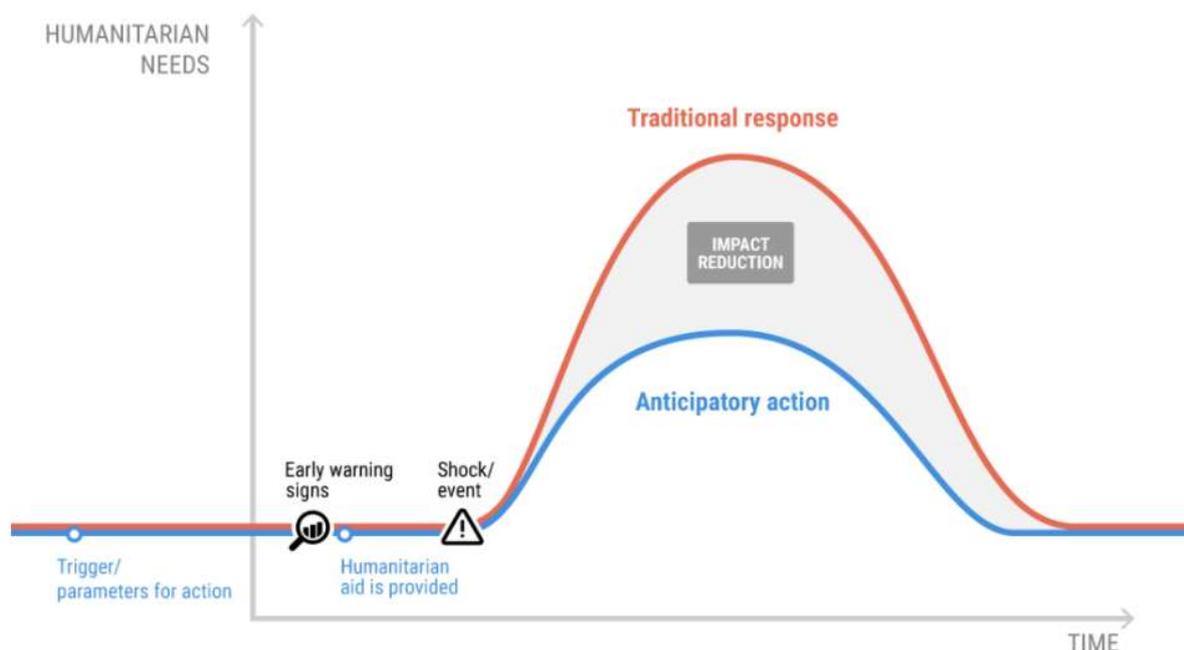
<sup>1</sup> Weingärtner, L. and Spencer, A. (2019) [Mapping financial flows to humanitarian crises. Financial flows mapping: The potential for a risk finance facility for civil society](#). Paper 2. London: ODI and Start Network

<sup>2</sup> Atkinson, Emily. (2018) [Social Cost Benefit Analysis of the Early Action Fund](#). Save the Children UK

# 1. DEFINING ANTICIPATORY ACTION AND KEY COMPONENTS

## 1.1. What is Anticipatory Action?

Save the Children defines Anticipatory Action as **acting ahead of a predicted hazard to prevent or reduce the impacts on communities before they fully unfold**. Anticipatory Action can be used interchangeably with 'Early Action', which Save the Children has championed for years as an effective approach to slow onset crises.



Source: UN OCHA

Anticipatory action relies on credible information about risk and vulnerability, plans and ideally pre-defined resources to act based on forecasts to prevent or mitigate humanitarian impact on populations. These components and the partnerships needed to deliver them are described in more detail in section 2.

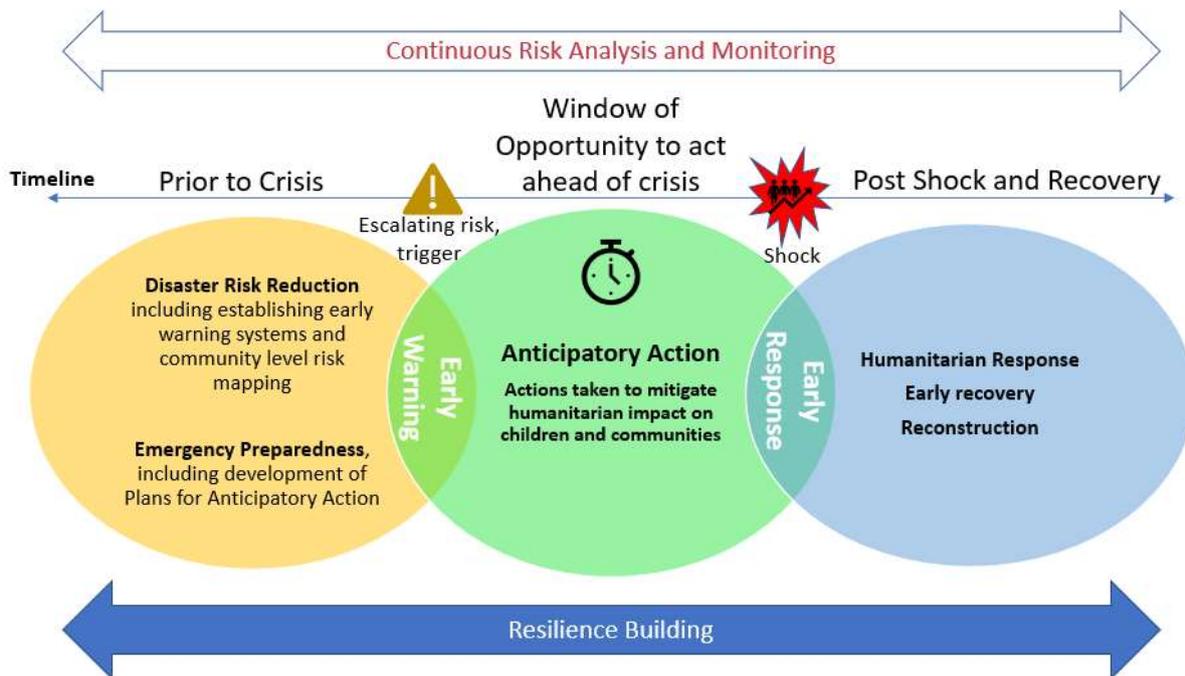
Anticipatory action should be seen as part of a wider Disaster Risk Management continuum with strong links to Disaster Risk Reduction, Resilience Building, Emergency Preparedness and Emergency response. Depending on the context, Save the Children can support Anticipatory Action in through a variety of roles, approaches and actions, depending on what is appropriate and possible. Likewise, Anticipatory Action is applicable for climate driven shocks, disease outbreaks and conflict, and it is relevant to all program sectors.

## 1.2. Anticipatory Action in the Disaster Risk Management Continuum

Reducing risk of hazards to populations in both the long and short term is possible and should be a priority across development, humanitarian and peacebuilding work. Disaster Risk Reduction, Conflict Mitigation, Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Building activities aim to mitigate the risks of identified hazards over extended periods, whereas humanitarian aid is largely set up to react based on needs once a disaster occurs. Despite sustained efforts to strengthen and operationalise early warning and early action, there has been little focus and resourcing of action in advance of predicted humanitarian crises. The disconnect between longer term risk mitigation activities and humanitarian response, often implemented by different stakeholders with different sets of expertise, has been a significant obstacle to effective management of disasters. Anticipatory Action bridges this gap to establish a continuum between DRR, response, and longer-term development. The result is a more fluid process, that helps communities and families at all phases of a disaster.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Adapted and paraphrased from Early Action at Save the Children, Briefing Note. August 2019

## Anticipatory Action as a bridge between Disaster Risk Reduction, Preparedness and Crisis Response



### Disaster Risk Reduction

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) aims to identify, assess and reduce the likelihood of impact of hazards in the long run. It involves risk assessments, including the vulnerabilities and capacities of systems, communities and individuals in relation to prevalent hazards, including planning for hazard events and establishing early warning systems. This can take the form of a community based participatory approach, as well as wider work strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risks. **As such, DRR can provide a foundation to set up and operationalize Anticipatory Action approaches.**

### Emergency Preparedness

**Risk-informed preparedness measures are foundational to Anticipatory Action.** Emergency preparedness is about ensuring Save the Children and partners are fully prepared to enable humanitarian action (including anticipatory action) when needed, including developing systems for risk monitoring and understanding when to act and developing plans for actions. **SC's Emergency Preparedness Procedure (EPP) process can likewise be an entry point for Anticipatory Action approaches.**

### Climate Resilience and Climate Change Adaptation

Likewise, Anticipatory Action links closely with climate-resilience and climate adaptation, which aim to strengthen resilience to climate-related risks at longer timeframes. Climate research has confirmed that the risk of increased extreme weather events has already manifested itself and will continue. In West Africa, for example, the risk of flood-producing storms has tripled in the last three decades. **Anticipation has been recognized as a core capacity for climate-resilience, alongside or as part of adaptation, elements that will become increasingly existential to SC approaches.**

### What does AA look like?

SCI participated in the development of an OCHA-led flood anticipation system in Bangladesh that triggered in 2021 allowing over 200,000 people to be supported ahead of a major flood. Households that received cash transfers a few days before severe flooding were able to maintain higher levels of food consumption and wellbeing during and after the flood, compared to those not receiving the transfer. Even small differences in timing were important, with households receiving the transfer a day earlier experiencing slightly greater welfare benefits<sup>1</sup>.

The table below visualizes Anticipatory Action within a wider framework of risk informed programming

Integration of risk management and anticipatory capacities across humanitarian, development, and adaptation programming					
	Reduce Impact of Disaster			Respond to Impact of Disaster	
	Disaster Risk Reduction	Emergency Preparedness	Anticipatory Action	Timely Response	Early Recovery
<b>Objective</b>	Reduce likelihood and impact of possible disasters	Strengthen Save the Children and partner response capability	Take action to mitigate impact of predicted crises	Respond to crisis and avoid further losses	Restore essential services and assets
<b>Planning</b>	<b>Proactive:</b> Activities planned before the crisis, based on most common hazards		<b>Proactive:</b> Activities planned before a crisis, based on <b>forecasts and projections</b>	<b>Reactive:</b> activities usually planned after the crisis emerges, based on the <b>real-time situation</b>	
<b>Funding</b>	Funding is secured during normal times		Funding secured during normal times & accessed based on pre-agreed triggers or protocols	Funding is sought once crisis has been declared	
<b>Timing focus</b>	Intervention is implemented <b>before</b> a crisis emerges, based on most common hazards		Intervention implemented <b>before</b> a crisis emerges ( <u>or a spike in an existing crisis</u> ), based on <b>forecasted hazard/event</b> indicating potential for humanitarian impact	Intervention is implemented <b>after</b> a crisis emerges, based on real time events	
<b>Certainty of impacts</b>	<b>Some uncertainty</b> in planning as risk assessment often based on historical profile of previous crises and evolving understanding of current and future trends		Depending on quality of data/forecasts and lead time various levels of <b>uncertainty</b> in estimating needs/ severity of imminent crisis.	<b>Certainty</b> as planning based on existing impacts and real-time needs (e.g. crisis declared by the government)	
<b>Examples</b>	Examples: - Participatory risk assessment - Community-based infrastructure work (e.g. strengthening embankments/terraces) - Agricultural interventions (like crop varieties)	Examples: - Conducting cash feasibility assessment - Prepositioning stocks and agreements/MoUs with partners, suppliers, government - Capacity building - Establishing plans for AA	‘No regrets’ activities with the intent to prevent or mitigate the impact of potential crisis, for example: - Cash-transfers ahead of anticipated hazard (e.g to assist evacuation or protective actions) - WASH campaigns or assistance - Livestock vaccination and fodder distribution ahead of drought-induced food crisis	Multi sectoral humanitarian response, for example: - Shelter provision - Water trucking - Nutrition treatment - Setting up TLS, CFS - Case management services	Restoring infrastructure, basic services and livelihoods, for example: - Supporting returns - Building back better
<b>Systems Development</b>	Ongoing Risk analysis and integration of risk frameworks into programming				
	Development of early warning systems Contingency planning and/or developing Early Action Protocols Development of shock-responsive actions / crisis modifiers Pre-positioning of anticipatory financing Support to national DRR systems and policies		<b>Note:</b> Consideration and monitoring of prevalent hazards and risks to children and communities and how best to mitigate risk/build resilience of communities and systems should be an ongoing process and there is typically significant overlap across areas of work. Appropriate actions will vary by context.		

### **The Role of Analysis and Foresight**

Capacities for data **analysis and foresight**, such as those being developed by the Context Analysis and Foresight Unit are a crucial element of anticipatory action, which requires a good understanding of hazards and the risks they pose to populations as well as continual monitoring to inform action. Risks to children and communities will not remain static over time. There is a need to ensure that AA plans and models are continually updated to integrate evolving understanding about future climate-related and other risks, rather than relying solely on historical data. Likewise, capacities for conflict monitoring and work on access to affected populations can inform anticipatory action.

### **Child-centered strategies for Risk Mitigation**

Children of different ages and genders are impacted differently than adults by a crisis and are generally much more vulnerable. Just as we tailor our emergency response to meet needs of children, we should use the same child-lens to plan triggers, actions and timelines for anticipatory action. Save the Children already has a good understanding of how various hazards may impact children and experience mitigating risk to specific events. Our AA approach can build on a wealth of knowledge and experience across the health, nutrition, food security and livelihoods, child protection, education and WASH and shelter sectors as well as in our work on communicating with communities. We may, for instance already be acting on expected impact to prevent disease outbreaks, ensure children can stay in school and that families have access to safe water, healthcare and the information they need to stay safe. In the coming year, we will be reviewing where we are already taking risk informed approaches to early action and looking for opportunities to build on these approaches.

### **Save the Children Expertise:**

SC created the Household Economy Analysis in the 1990s as a tool for early warning, because of its unique ability to quantify and project households' access to food and income. HEA can be combined with hazard forecasting to tell us what the impact of an anticipated shock will be on household food and income, providing a rigorous assessment of how many people will need help, the types and timing of assistance that may best support them and how much it will cost. [HEA is already being used for anticipatory action](#) and has significant potential to be expanded.

## **1.3. Related Terms**

- **Early Action:** This term has been used synonymously with Anticipatory Action, including in Save the Children, and also to refer to the 'action' element of Anticipatory Action (as separate to forecasting, triggers/plans and financing).
- **Forecast Based Financing (FbF) and Forecast-Based Action (FbA):** Often used as synonyms for AA. FbF often refers to a deeper approach to AA with prepositioned funding and hard triggers.
- **Disaster Risk Finance:** Refers to efforts to meet the costs of crises ahead of time, for example using innovative pre-arranged funding tools (like insurance)<sup>4</sup>. Disaster Risk Finance can support anticipatory action schemes as well as timely response.

## **2. KEY COMPONENTS OF ANTICIPATORY ACTION**

As noted above, Anticipatory Action requires three key components: Information about risk, including vulnerability and capacity, Planning and Funding. This section describes these components in greater detail. Example protocols are available and further guidance will be further developed in 2023.



**Risk Information  
Forecasting and Early  
Warning**



**Planning Operations  
and Delivery**



**Financing**

<sup>4</sup> For information about insurance models, refer to the [review of the ARC Replica initiative](#) in Senegal, where Save the Children was engaged as a partner.

While some countries may have fully developed anticipatory action systems with financing mechanisms and clearly defined triggers, many will not. **Lack of hard and fast triggers or well-defined plans should not prohibit possible action to protect children when it makes sense and when we know what to do.** The framework presents two different ‘levels’ of investment that can be taken for each of the components below. These allow country offices to easily navigate to the guidance notes and capacity support that suits their ambitions:

- The ‘**light-touch**’ option often builds off the EPP process and allows the country office to take anticipatory action, without requiring significant upfront investment.
- A ‘**deeper**’ approach requires more significant investment into risk analytics, pre-defined triggers and detailed planning. Note that in many cases a deeper approach may be most feasible and effective in consortium with other actors, including government, UN and other national and international NGOs. Some examples are provided below.

## 2.1. Risk Information, Forecasting and Early Warning

Anticipatory action is based on forecasts and/or analysis of a predictable imminent or future crisis event and therefore relies on information that attempts to model the future.

Forecasts can flag an imminent hazard (such as drought) or warn of the impact of hazards (such as acute food insecurity associated with drought). AA requires understanding not just of hazards, but also the risks those hazards pose based on various population groups’ vulnerabilities, exposure, and capacities to cope. This process requires engaging scientists, meteorological agencies, or risk modellers, as well as communities, local/national/regional authorities and specialists working in sectors like health, nutrition, water and sanitation, food security and livelihoods, education, protection, etc.

Triggers or thresholds for anticipatory action can be both firm or more subjective (referred to as ‘hard’ or ‘soft’ triggers). An example of a *hard* trigger could be a 50% probability that a category 4 cyclone or higher will hit a particular area. A hard trigger works well when there is a fairly high degree of confidence in the forecast and potential consequences, often achieved through significant upfront investment in risk information and trigger design. A *softer* trigger (with less upfront investment) might be a humanitarian team reviewing early warning information and deciding that a particular population is at risk of a disease outbreak. Established triggers may not always be effective in modelling lived experience, so need to be regularly reviewed.

**A light or deep approach?**  
 Save the Children’s role in and approach to Anticipatory Action will differ substantially depending on several factors: leadership and capacity of government and other actors in setting up coordinated anticipatory action plans, context and hazard as well as experience of the country office in risk-based approaches and availability of dedicated anticipatory action funding opportunities.

Country-offices may wish to mix and match approaches, for example selecting one hazard for which they will make an in-depth investment or collaborate in coordinated AA planning and maintaining a lighter-touch approach for other hazards.

Light-touch Risk Identification and Monitoring	Deeper Risk Identification and Monitoring Frameworks
Identifying priority risks, and assessing early warning information already available ( <i>note that this is already part of the Emergency Preparedness Procedure</i> )  Select <b>early warning indicators to be monitored, data sources to be used</b> and identify ‘soft’ triggers for action, which can be subjective (based on expertise/experience)	Detailed mapping of available hazard forecasting models and vulnerability data. Establish partnerships for risk analytics and/or develop early warning systems to fill critical gaps.  Develop ‘hard’ triggers that indicate <b>pre-agreed thresholds for action</b> , potentially in partnership with at-risk communities themselves
Continuous context and forecast monitoring	

## 2.2. Planning, Operations and Delivery

The window of opportunity between an early warning and a predicted crisis occurring can be very short (for example 5-10 days for a flood, or a matter of months for a drought-induced food crisis), which means that planning action ahead of time is important.

Plans can take various forms depending on the mode of delivery for the anticipatory action; whether it is a stand-alone humanitarian programme that is mobilised when thresholds are met, a scale-up of an existing development programme (for example through anticipatory crisis modifiers) or a collective plan pre-agreed with other actors such as OCHA or the Start Network. The more detailed the plan, the more opportunity there is to coordinate (e.g. with governments), to involve at-risk communities ahead of time, and to take advantage of short windows of opportunity. However, such plans also required greater investment ahead of time.

**Linking AA plans to the Save the Children Emergency Preparedness Procedure (EPP):** The EPP already includes a national humanitarian risk analysis, ranking of hazards, defining indicators and triggers for early response and humanitarian intervention. These parts of the EPP can quite easily be adapted for the lighter-touch approaches to anticipatory action and can be a starting point to develop deeper plans.

Light Touch Plans	Deeper Plans
<p>Pre-agreed process for anticipatory action that indicates who will do what if an early warning signal emerges. The process outlines <b>how decisions will be made and over what timeframes</b> to ensure that early warning turns into early action.</p> <p>Indeed a vital initial anticipatory action can be to strengthen timely, accessible communication of a forecast or predicted shock.</p>	<p>A plan that outlines <b>when to act</b> (the thresholds), <b>the specific actions</b> that will be needed to support communities at risk, <b>who will do</b> these and over what timeframes – This is often called an Early Action Protocol.</p> <p>Deeper plans can also be held jointly by interagency groups. Save the Children has experience in supporting plans organized by national START network members, OCHA and IFRC. There may be important opportunities for SC to strengthen sector-specific forms of anticipatory action (eg protection of children and their access to education), as well as to extend the geographic coverage and localise national EAPs.</p>

### Example timeline for Anticipatory Action showing the role of Early Action Protocol



## 2.3. Funding

The short windows of opportunity for anticipatory action mean that sources of funding should be identified and ideally pre-arranged ahead of time. Funding for the pre-work to establish AA may be separate from funding to activate systems. While the number of funding sources for AA is currently limited, donors are committed to scaling up these approaches. For example, in 2021 the German Federal Foreign Office committed 5% of their humanitarian budget to AA, looking to triple their previous investments. ECHO have integrated AA into their annual HIPs and have created strategic funding partnerships with several organisations leading AA. The USAID Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance is also developing their AA strategy. Budget lines for crisis modifiers within multi-year development or resilience-building programmes also present an opportunity to integrate anticipatory action linked to forecast-based triggers and action plans.

Different sources of funding have varying requirements in terms of the levels of upfront investment required to access them. The below table gives some examples, but is not exhaustive.

	Examples of funds accessible to lighter-touch systems	Examples of funds accessible to deeper systems
<b>SC own funding</b>	<b>Humanitarian Fund</b> —Save the Children has committed to allocating 13-15% of its Humanitarian Fund to support Anticipatory Action and Emergency Preparedness in advance of predicted hazards. <sup>5</sup>	<b>OCHA:</b> OCHA have initiated AA pilots in a number of countries, there is possibility for partners to join these with potential for future funding.
<b>START Network</b>	<b>Start Fund</b> is open to ad-hoc requests from members (including Save the Children) for anticipatory funding for small to medium scale crises.  Start Anticipation grants or Analysis for Action grants can fund development of risk analysis and/or protocols for AA, which could be suitable for ‘lighter-touch’ systems.	<b>Start Ready</b> provides pre-arranged financing that is released for pre-agreed NGO-lead plans when trigger thresholds are met. Start Ready is currently operational in 9 countries with plans for further expansion.
<b>Institutional Funding</b>	Crisis modifiers: Donors may allow for crisis modifiers, either as a percentage set aside as contingency or as a percentage flexibility on overall budget lines. These can be designed in a light touch way or to be released when specific triggers are met. Crisis modifiers can be considered for both humanitarian and development awards.  Other institutional funders might be willing to support components of Anticipatory Action.	German Federal Foreign Office and ECHO have both funded partners to build the risk analytics, plans and partnerships for ‘deeper’ AA systems.
<b>Other</b>	Some flexible funding may support anticipatory action. For instance, SC Denmark has set aside some of its flexible humanitarian funding to be available for Anticipatory Action.  Other institutional and private funders may be willing to support anticipatory action. Please contact the anticipatory action team if you would like support in approaching donors.	

### 3. SAVE THE CHILDREN’S ANTICIPATORY ACTION VISION AND AMBITION

#### 3.1. Our Vision for Anticipatory Action

Save the Children aims to prevent and reduce the impact of predictable crises on children so that they can survive, learn and be protected. In order to do this, we will develop our culture, practice and partnerships to enable SC and the communities we work with to proactively anticipate, plan for, and respond earlier to protect children from predictable hazards, while also influencing and supporting governments, donors and the broader international community to adopt anticipatory action best practices for children.

#### 3.2. Principles to Guide our Anticipatory Action Agenda

Several principles will guide our approach:

- **Child-centered:** We will leverage our sectoral expertise to develop a deeper understanding of age and gender specific risks to children and how to monitor them as well as the forms of AA that best support children. Additionally, children should be consulted so we can understand their perceptions, vulnerabilities and preferences in relation to various hazards.
- **Localization and accountability to children and communities:** Communities and local actors are first to respond before and after a crisis and should be at the forefront of our work on AA in line with our overall Shifting Power ambition to put local and national actors in the driving seat of humanitarian response and ensure our actions are safe for and accountable to children. Analyzing risks and pre-agreeing actions ahead of a crisis should enable communities and local responders to take more of a leadership role in prioritizing risks and deciding what assistance is needed, where, when and for whom.
- **Continuous learning and innovation:** We will learn from partners and teams, encourage peer to peer learning globally and champion country level initiatives. We will seek to ensure that our anticipatory

<sup>5</sup> Guidance on how to use SC’s Humanitarian Fund for Anticipatory Action can be found here: <https://savethechildren1.sharepoint.com/what/humanitarian/Pages/Humanitarian%20Fund.aspx>

approaches are informed by evolving understanding of future risks, as well as historical analysis of past risk and lived experience.

- **Collective approaches and emphasis on value-add:** We will form and maintain **strategic partnerships** at the global, regional, national and local level with communities, NGOs, government, and research institutions as well as private and tech actors. We acknowledge that the complexity of the risk analysis underpinning anticipatory action requires collective approaches. This will include strategic partnerships with national meteorological agencies as well as other government agencies at national and local levels. We will build on and strengthen existing Early Action/Anticipatory capacities and systems and assess how our approaches, roles and partnerships allow us to contribute the most for children.
- **Break down silos, build bridges:** Our approach to AA will span humanitarian and development sectors, and leverage competencies of Save the Children and partners across the risk management spectrum.

### 3.3. AA and Organizational Policies

Anticipatory Action will align with Save the Children's global programmatic approaches, including promoting localisation, gender equality, environmental impact as well as industry-wide standards like Do No Harm, Sphere Standards and the Core Humanitarian Standards. Anticipatory Action activities should align with existing technical and operational standards.

### 3.4. Areas of Ambition

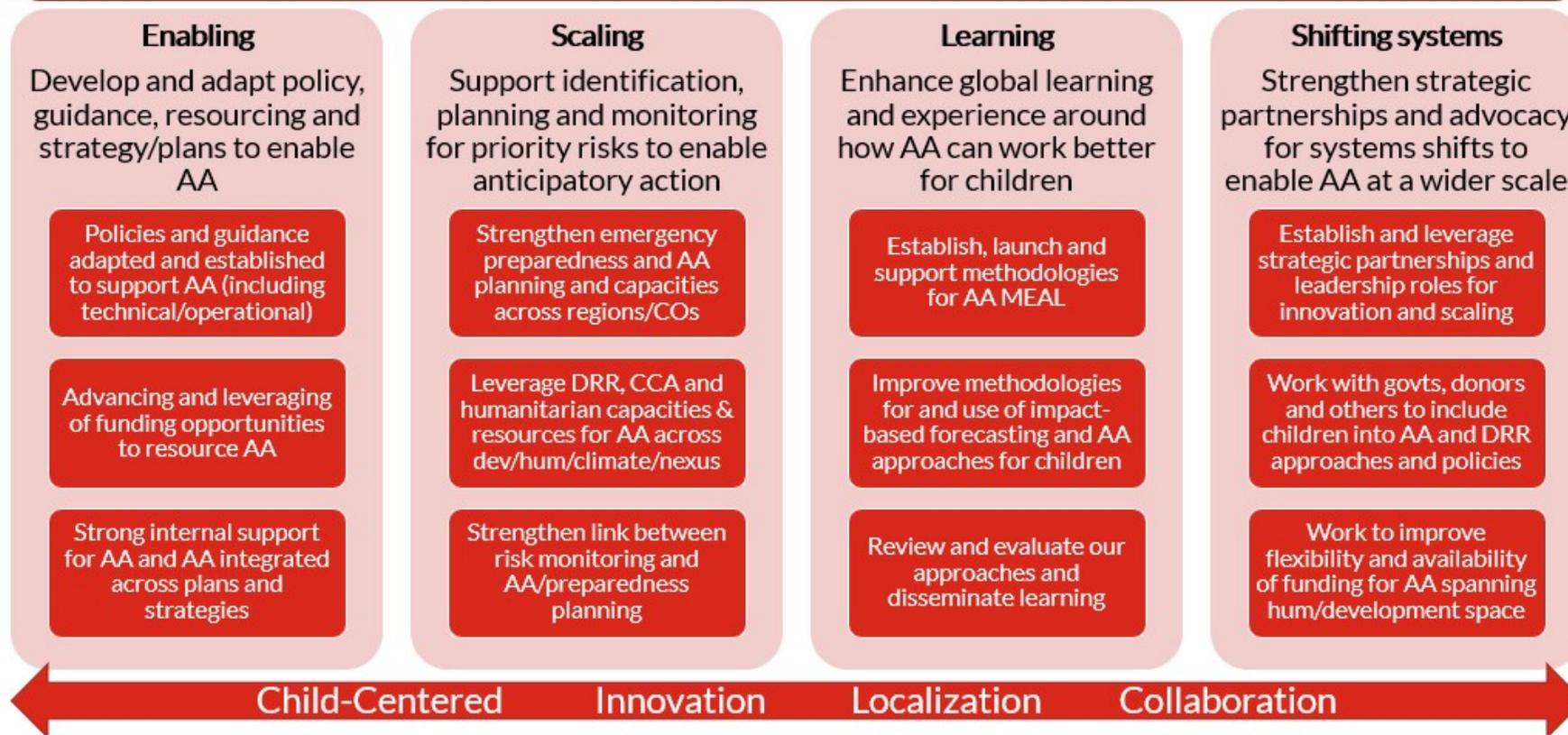
Save the Children will work on AA across multiple levels, including directly implementing AA, joining coalitions and partnerships, contributing to learning about AA for children and influencing governments and the humanitarian system. Below are four key pillars of work for the coming strategy period, which may evolve over time.

- **Create an enabling environment for Anticipatory Action** by adapting culture, policy and guidance; a focus on capacity building and learning, access to resources and strategic operational partnerships (including with local agencies and organizations).
- **Scaling the use of Anticipatory Action approaches within countries and across regions**, supporting countries to establish systems contextualized to local hazards, forecasting abilities and potential for collaboration. This also means leveraging our expertise and footprint in both humanitarian and development work and establishing functional systems for risk monitoring.
- **Enhance learning and experience about how Anticipatory Action can work better for children**, both in Save the Children and more broadly. This will require a learning agenda and should take a specific focus on how we can improve our ability to predict impact of various hazards on children and also what sorts of actions we can take before a shock or crisis to support the best outcomes for children.
- **Influencing a shift towards Anticipatory Action in the wider humanitarian system**, working on both the humanitarian and development sides as well as with governments and research institutions. This will include leveraging our roles as a major humanitarian and development actor, global child rights actor, Global Co-Leadership of the Education cluster (and others) to push for earlier, risk-informed action to mitigate impact of crises on children. Also establishing broader partnerships for innovation and scaling and calling for increased resources going towards anticipatory action.

## Save the Children's Ambition and Focus Areas for Anticipatory Action

**Our Ambition: Reduce the impact of predictable crises on children so they can survive learn and be protected**

To achieve this, Save the Children will develop culture, capacities, experience and systems to enable SC and partners to better anticipate, plan for, and act earlier to protect children from predictable hazards, while also influencing and supporting governments, donors and the broader international community to adopt anticipatory action best practices for children.



**Save the Children**