

Terms of reference

Eastern Africa Forecast based Financing (FBF) Technical working Group.

Members: IFRC, Climate Centre, Netherlands RC, British RC and Belgium RC.

Introduction

The present climatic conditions in East Africa varies considerably between cool, humid conditions of the western highlands, to the warm, dry, arid and semi-arid conditions of northern Kenya, southeast Ethiopia, Djibouti and Somalia. These climatic conditions are influenced by the region's diverse topography and climatic process which affect temperatures, quantity, geographical distribution of rainfall throughout the region. Changes in climatic conditions have been witnessed in recent years due to natural climate variability or, possibly, climatic change. This Seasonal shifts in precipitation have increased incidence of droughts and floods in various countries (AF, 2010; McSweeney et al., 2009)

Projections ahead suggest that East Africa will see annual temperatures rise accompanied by greater seasonal variation in rainfall patterns, and possible increase in the occurrence of intense precipitation events, and increased frequency of drought. These changes in temperature and precipitation patterns will have an impact on social economic activities mostly affecting the agriculture production, pastoralism, and human health among others. (Boko et al., 2007; Christensen et al.2007)

[IFRC Strategy 2030](#) highlights that climate and environmental crisis is one of the key challenges affecting our world today. Strategy 2030 provides clear guidance and directions for National Societies to work towards integrating climate risk management – including adaptation and mitigation – across all of our programmes, operations and advocacy, and adopt better environmental management in our approaches to addressing exposure and vulnerability.

In line with the Red Cross Movement guide; *Ambition to Address the climate crisis(2020)* which highlights the urgent need to reduce the current and future humanitarian impacts of climate change, the East Africa cluster will proactively work with the Partners within the Red Cross Movement and External stakeholders eg UN agencies, research institutions, etc by aligning the climate actions to the 4 main pillars which are: Scaling up climate smart initiatives, DRR, Early action and preparedness initiatives, reducing health impacts of climate change, addressing climate migration and displacement and enabling climate resilient livelihoods and sustainable water resource management.

Purpose:

The core functions for the Eastern Africa FbF Technical working group:

- Support the National Societies implementing Forecast based Financing/Foecast based Actions to develop their Early Action Protocol
- Support the National Societies to systematically integrate Forecast based Actions, Preparedness, DRR and climate change actions into their programmes, policies and strategies.
- Promote better Collaboration and synergies among the Red Cross Partners implementing Anticipatory Action/Early Warning Early Action.

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- Provide a platform to discuss and share ongoing initiatives, lessons learned & best practices, on current developments and future trends in relation to mainstreaming Forecast based Actions, climate change into programmes in the region.
- Promote the one movement approach and voice in advocacy to external partners within the region.

Convener of the Task Team:

IFRC EA Africa Cluster and Africa regional office shall convene the meeting in consultation with the members of the group.

The EA group will meet (virtually & physically) every third week of the month.

Proposed activities.

- Share information and updates on FbF/FbA, projects, funding opportunities, Climate and weather risk analysis and various CCA and climate resilience actions.
- Presentations by technical experts on tools, new technologies and skills available to help National Societies to systematically integrate Forecast based Action, PER and other initiatives.
- Sharing resources on Virtual FBA training and other relevant courses in line with the objectives.
- Explore partnerships on Weather and Climate Services with the technical support from the RC/RC Climate Centre eg ICPAC.
- Support in preparations of National, regional and Global dialogue platforms in close coordination with the National Societies.
- Convene annual regional discussions on EWEA.
- Explore opportunities to streamline Green response.