

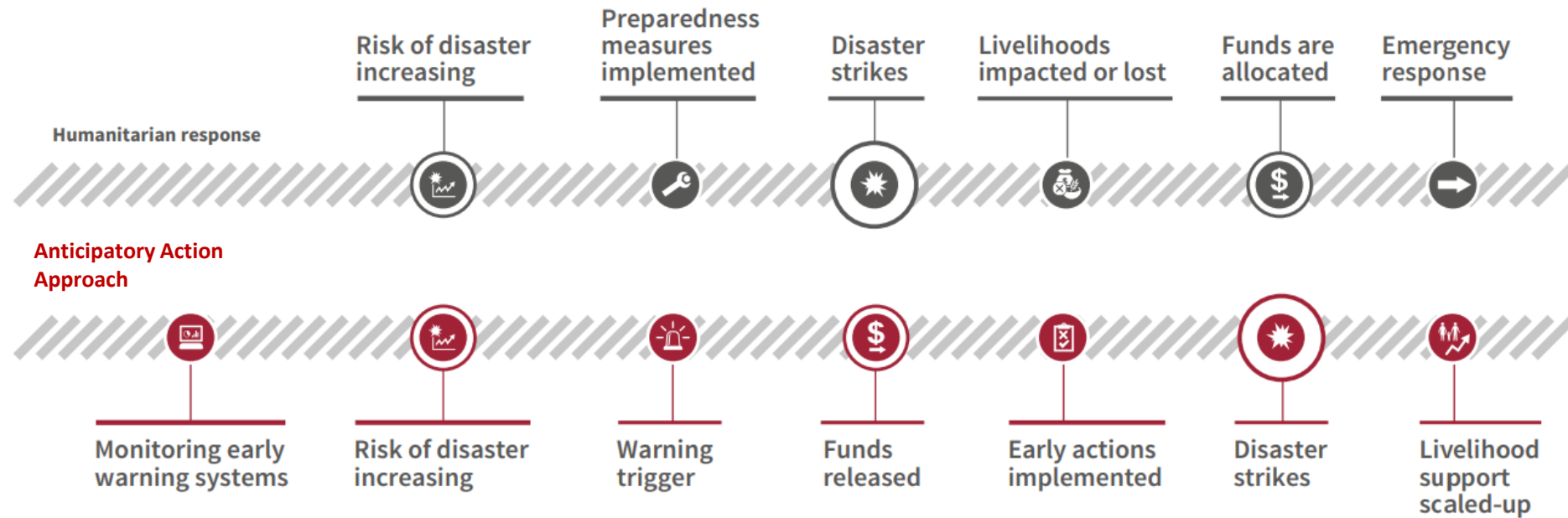


Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Anticipatory Action



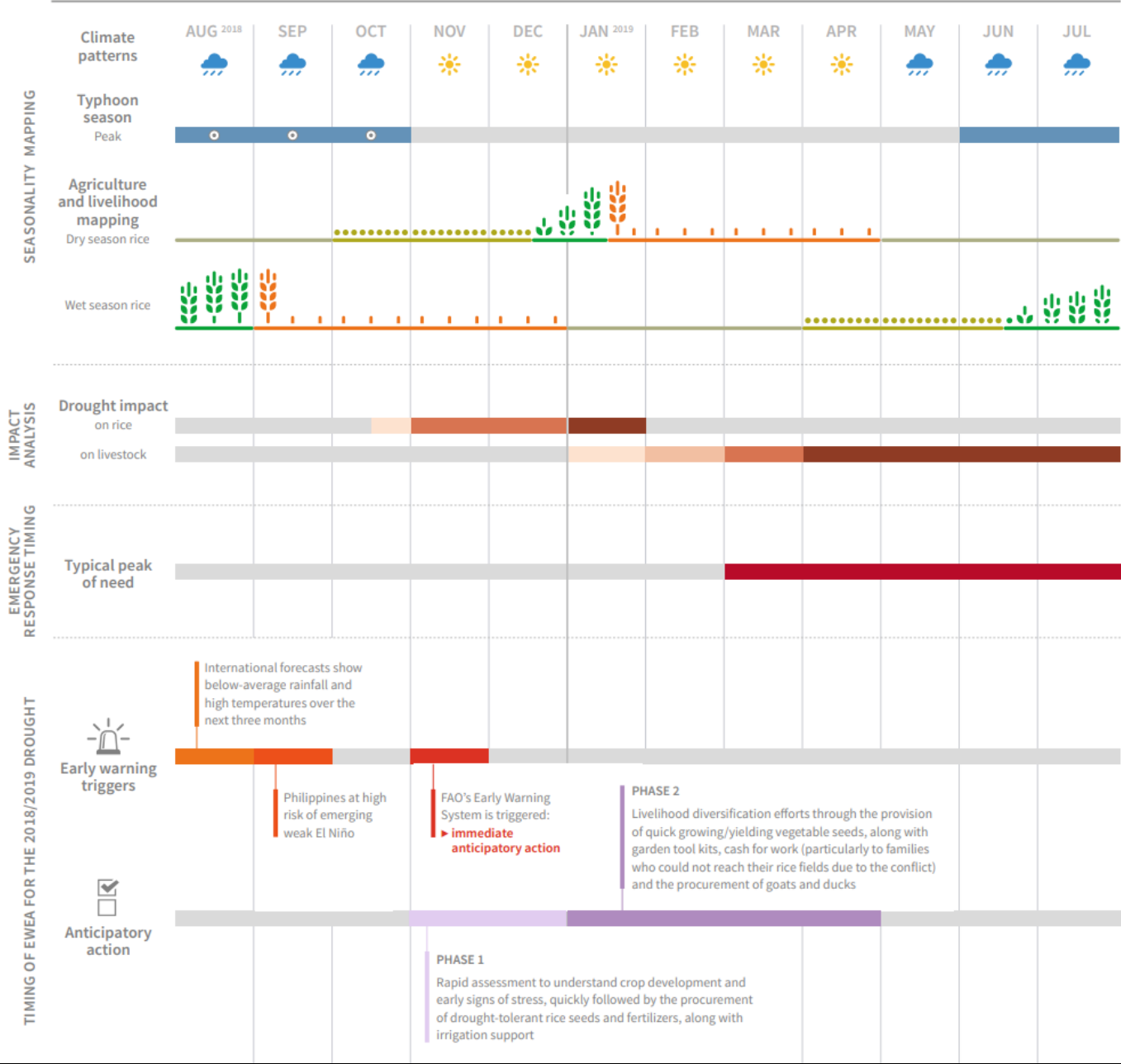
WHAT IS ANTICIPATORY ACTION?



A photograph of two women in a traditional setting, likely a fish market or processing area. They are working with large, flat, dried fish laid out on a wooden surface. The woman in the foreground is wearing a yellow and white striped long-sleeved shirt and is carefully handling one of the fish. The woman in the background is wearing a dark, patterned sweater and is also working with the fish. The background shows wooden buildings and a woven basket, suggesting a rural or traditional environment. The text "IMPACT DATA & CRISIS TIMELINES" is overlaid in the center of the image.

IMPACT DATA & CRISIS TIMELINES

Mindanao crisis timeline





EARLY WARNING

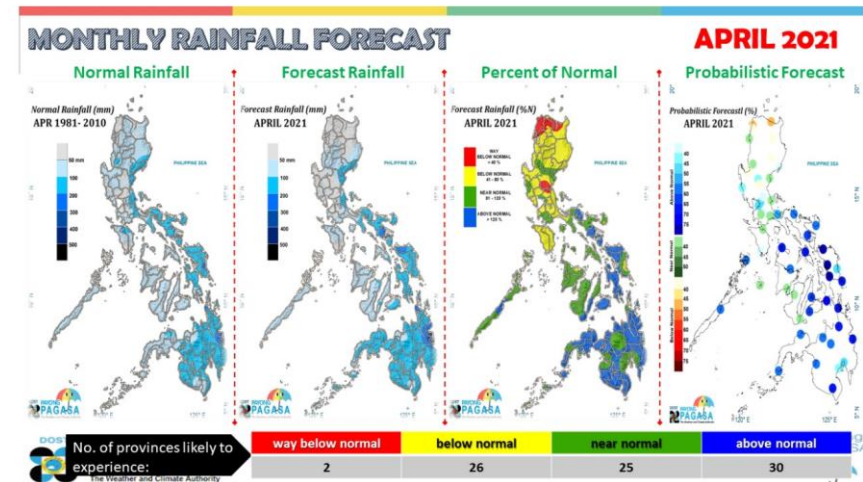
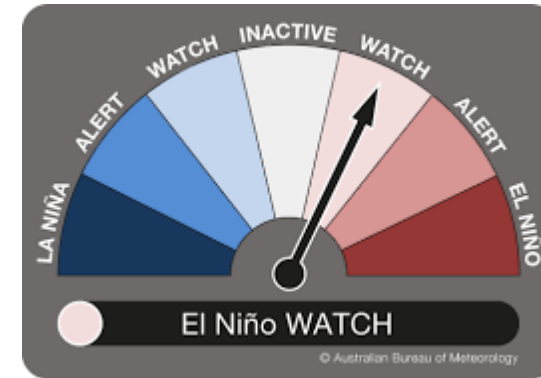
Early Warning

- Monitoring tools aimed to build evidence and confidence about the development and potential impact of these events on lives and livelihoods
- Aim to support decision making, based on **readily and regularly available information** – building upon existing systems if possible
- Hydro-meteorological forecasts, seasonal and vulnerability information
- Provides the **trigger** to act early
- The decision of when and whether or not to take preparatory action on seasonal forecasts depends also on risk appetite
 - > **action upon uncertainty required**



Example: The Philippines

- Indicators (range of hydro-meteorological & seasonal, no vulnerability information available):
 - El Niño
 - 1 and 3 month rainfall & temperature forecast (IRI, PAGASA, World Meteorological Organization)
 - Cumulative rainfall (PAGASA)
 - Vegetation health index (GIEWS)
 - Agricultural stress index (GIEWS)
 - Dry spells (PAGASA)
 - Soil Moisture (PAGASA)
- Thresholds: Established based on historical drought events and testing periods
- Triggers for 2018/19 drought: El Niño alert issued, below-average rainfall forecast, dry-spells and aligning with a key cropping season



Challenges

- Need to better **assess the skill of the seasonal forecasts** and if they can be connected to national trigger systems
- Collecting and analysing **data to set triggers** (i.e. daily weather records and evidence of extreme events)
- Connecting forecasts to tailored **messages** for communities
- **Risk appetite** of actors to act on the forecasts and confidence on the skill level varies
- **Institutionalisation** and sustainability of trigger methods



A man in a teal long-sleeved shirt and plaid pants is harvesting rice in a field. He is holding a bundle of harvested rice stalks in his left hand and using his right hand to cut more stalks. The field is filled with tall, golden-brown rice plants. The text "ANTICIPATORY ACTIONS" is overlaid in white capital letters within a white rectangular border.

ANTICIPATORY ACTIONS

Anticipatory Actions

Criteria:

- Timebound
- No harm & no regrets
- Technically sound
- Verified with communities
- Logistically feasible



Examples of Anticipatory Actions

- Ahead of a warning of a severe winter season in Mongolia, **destocking-for-cash and health kits** were provided to herders to keep their animals alive and healthy
- **Before a peak** of drought in Afghanistan provide drought-tolerant seeds, cash and livestock health kits/feed to protect livelihoods
- On a flood trigger warning in Bangladesh, **distribute cash, water proof drums, animal feed and dignity kits** to safeguard food security, livelihoods and vulnerable women and girls



A photograph of four women in a rural field, likely in India, harvesting cotton. They are wearing vibrant, colorful saris in shades of blue, pink, green, and orange. They are bent over, using tools to pick cotton from the plants. The field is filled with tall cotton stalks, and the ground is dry and dusty. The sky is overcast and grey. A white rectangular box is superimposed over the center of the image, containing the text "FLEXIBLE FINANCING" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

FLEXIBLE FINANCING

Flexible Financing

- Rapid, reliable and flexible allocation of financial resources required for AA to work
- Funds are **agreed in advance**, together with the specific thresholds/triggers, a clear indication of activities to be implemented as well as roles/responsibilities
- Example: In July 2020, based off a flood trigger in Bangladesh, the Central Emergency Response Fund disbursed resources to FAO, WFP and UNFPA in **four hours**, the fastest in UN history



A woman wearing a traditional conical hat and a floral-patterned shirt is holding a small goat. She is standing in a grassy field with trees in the background. Another goat is visible in the lower-left corner. A white rectangular box with the text "EVIDENCE & LEARNING" is overlaid on the image.

EVIDENCE & LEARNING

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ANTICIPATORY ACTION

For every USD 1 spent on interventions, households had a return of:

PHILIPPINES

4.4

KENYA

3.5

MONGOLIA

7.1

MADAGASCAR

2.5

SUDAN

6.7

COLOMBIA

2.6

LINKING
ACTIONS TO

Food Security | Nutrition | Resilience

EXPLORING
SECONDARY
BENEFITS

Education | Health | Dignity | Migration

INSIGHTS
INTO

Programming | Coordination | Gender
and conflict programming