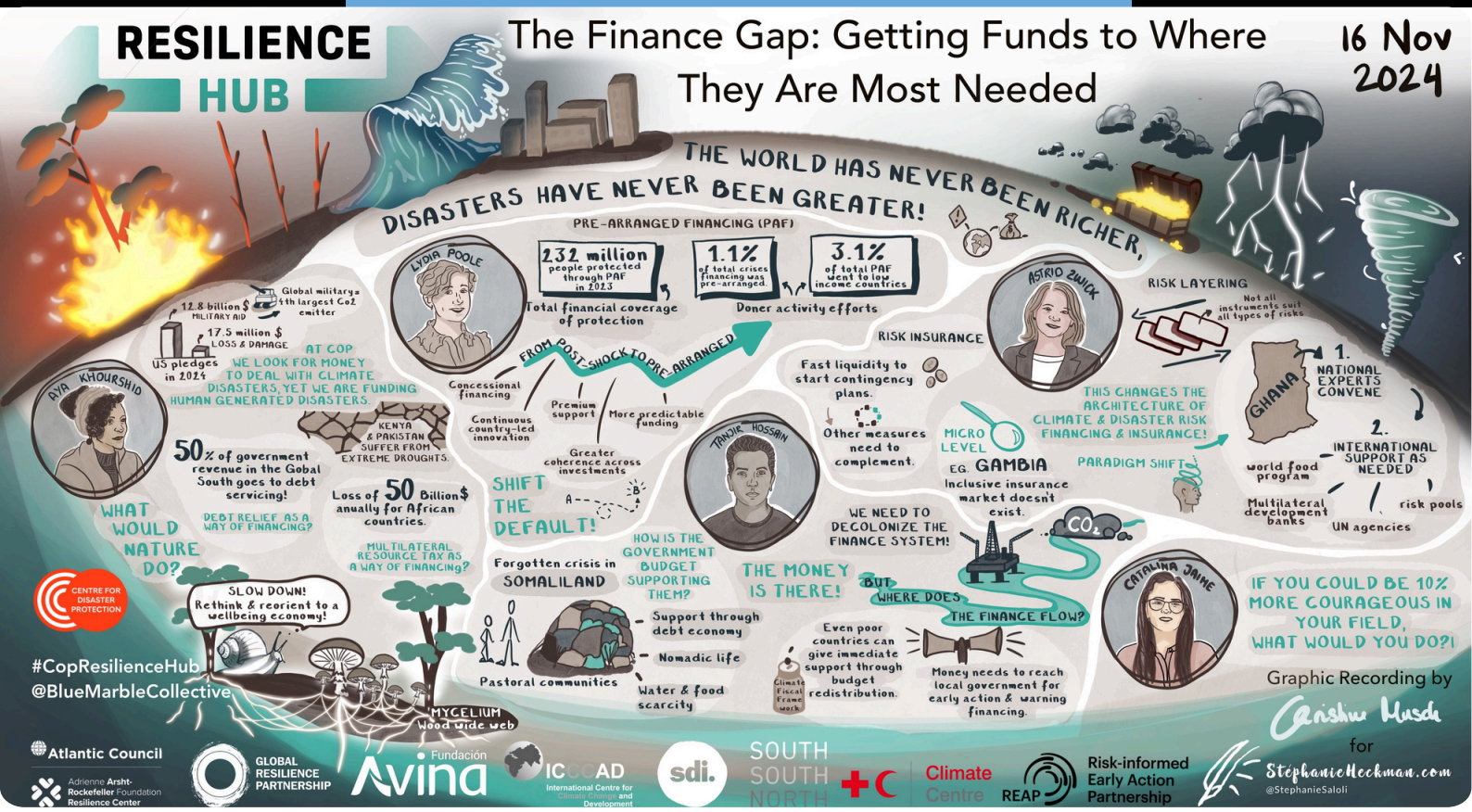
Risk-informed Early Action Partnership

Newsletter

THE REAP EXCHANGE

December 2024



Artwork by Christine Musch of the #BlueMarbleCollective of the COP29 Resilience Hub

REAP AT COP29, BAKU

At COP29 in Baku, REAP brought together endorsers and partners at the ODI Global pavilion to discuss how we are turning the Getting Ahead of Disasters Charter's principles into reality. Sessions showcased encouraging progress, including aligning investments across adaptation, development, and disaster risk management, and pre-arranging finance to deliver resources swiftly to impacted communities. Speakers emphasized the importance of national and local leadership while acknowledging the need to overcome systemic challenges. REAP also hosted an evening reception at the Resilience Hub Pavilion, bringing together key partners, government representatives, and practitioners to strengthen collective momentum for early warning early action. Participants reflected on REAP's journey so far, and opportunities to integrate EWEA into national systems and deliver for climate-vulnerable populations.

REAP co-led "The Finance Gap" event alongside the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre and the Centre for Disaster Protection. Discussions included:

1. Financial Inequities – The vast disparity in funding priorities, with climate finance lagging behind other national & international priorities.
2. Pre-Arranged Finance – Enhancing accessibility for low-income countries to enable faster, predictable responses.
3. Debt Relief and Inequalities – Urgent solutions like debt relief and revenue reallocation to bolster resilience investments.
4. Innovative Risk Management – Highlighting successful strategies such as Ghana's drought insurance and micro-insurance initiatives.
5. Decolonizing Climate Finance – Calls for systemic change to ensure funds reach the most vulnerable communities, particularly women and children.

We saw a growing number of EWEA events at the COP, & you can read about our thematic analysis of the events here.

EARLY ACTION CHAMPIONS

Embedding early action at scale relies on the work of our REAP Partners. Let's celebrate some of that work from the last quarter!

The Government of Canada

The Government of Canada supports early warning and early action in many ways, including through the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems Initiative (CREWS), the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF), and the CLARE research programme (which focuses on risk-informed early action, among other topics). In 2024, Canada gathered an informal group of donors to help track investment trends, identify gaps and build coherent engagement with international processes such as the Early Warnings for All initiative. The commitment to collaboration by the “Friends of Early Warnings” group embodies a core value of REAP and will help strengthen relationships between early warning donors and implementers.

Nepal’s National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority

Nepal's National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) is a leader in anticipatory action. Following two national AA dialogues in recent years, the NDRRMA has committed to institutionalizing AA by establishing an anticipatory action clinic—a centre of excellence for the Government of Nepal. The clinic was made possible by financial and technical support from several Partners, including UK FCDO, the Nepali Red Cross, the Danish Red Cross, the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, and REAP. The clinic will spearhead a national AA framework, completed by capacity building and learning activities to ensure AA is embedded as a national approach to disasters.

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) plays a critical role in promoting anticipatory action and bridging legal and policy frameworks to improve disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation measures in the Asia Pacific region. UN ESCAP has a long experience in early warning and early action, establishing the Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia (RIMES) in 2009 and establishing and managing the ESCAP Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness in 2005. UN ESCAP joined REAP at the 2024 Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, cementing its commitment to global progress on early action.

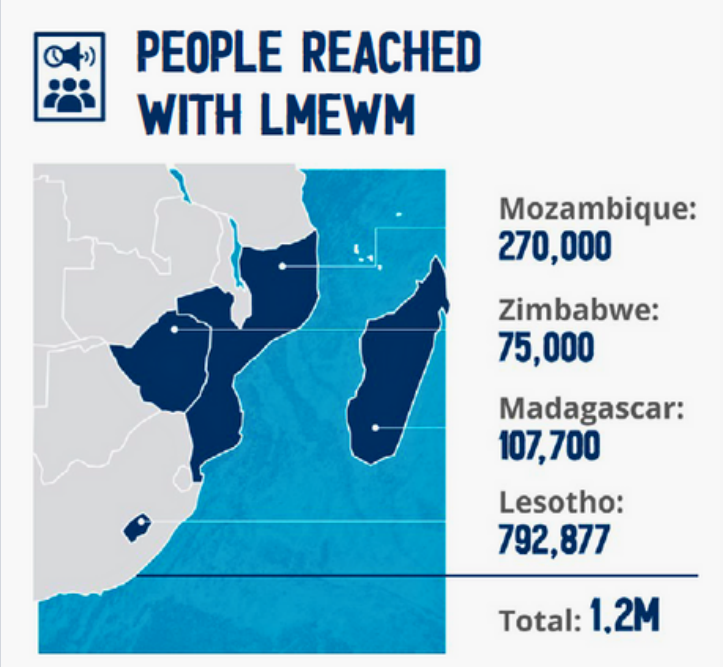
INCLUSIVE RISK COMMUNICATION

A REGIONAL CASE STUDY ON DEVELOPING AND DISSEMINATING MESSAGES TO COMMUNITIES AHEAD OF EL NIÑO-INDUCED DROUGHT

The World Food Programme (WFP) is reaching the last mile with early warning messages in Southern Africa. In 2023-2024, El Niño brought severe drought to Southern Africa, worsening food insecurity for millions of people. To help communities prepare for and reduce the impact of drought, the World Food Programme (WFP) developed and delivered ***Last-Mile Early Warning Messages (LMEWM)***. These messages provided timely, clear advice to vulnerable communities, helping them act before the drought struck.

WFP worked in Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe to deliver these life-saving messages, and their recently published case study documents what worked well, and what lessons can be learned for the future.

Read more in our short case study, and in WFP's longer report and executive summary.



COMMUNICATING FOR RESILIENCE: INCLUSIVE EARLY WARNINGS



CLEAR Global prioritizes delivering lifesaving information in accessible languages during climate emergencies, recognizing that as well as language exclusion, vulnerable people often also face compounding challenges like food insecurity. With climate change disasters rising by 83% in the last 50 years, affecting agriculture and economies, the organization highlights that official warnings are often not understood by many, contradicting assumptions about language reach. Language investment decisions should be data-driven, acknowledging that language use varies, especially among migrants and displaced populations who may not understand local official languages.

CLEAR Global offers free data on language use in high-risk areas, helping to challenge these assumptions.

To celebrate the launch of CLEAR's new Language Data Initiative work on putting language on the map in the humanitarian and development sector, we co-wrote a blog to highlight the challenges and opportunities for making early warnings more inclusive and accessible for all.

Read the insights on language inclusion, and ensuring greater equality, diversity and inclusion here.

PARTNER CALLS AND RESOURCES

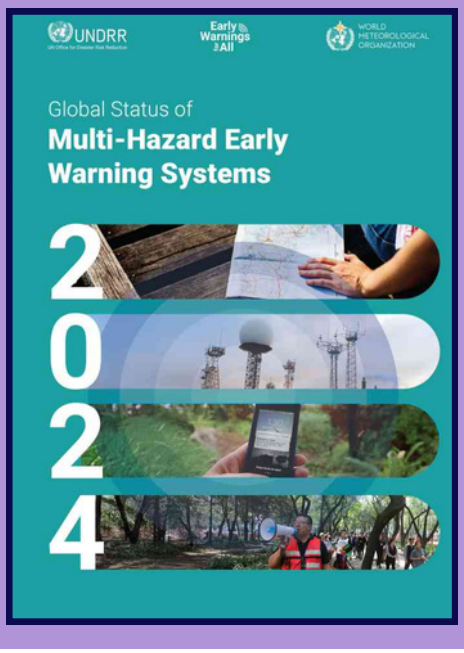
BEYOND DROUGHT: A SYSTEMS APPROACH TO DROUGHT RESILIENCE



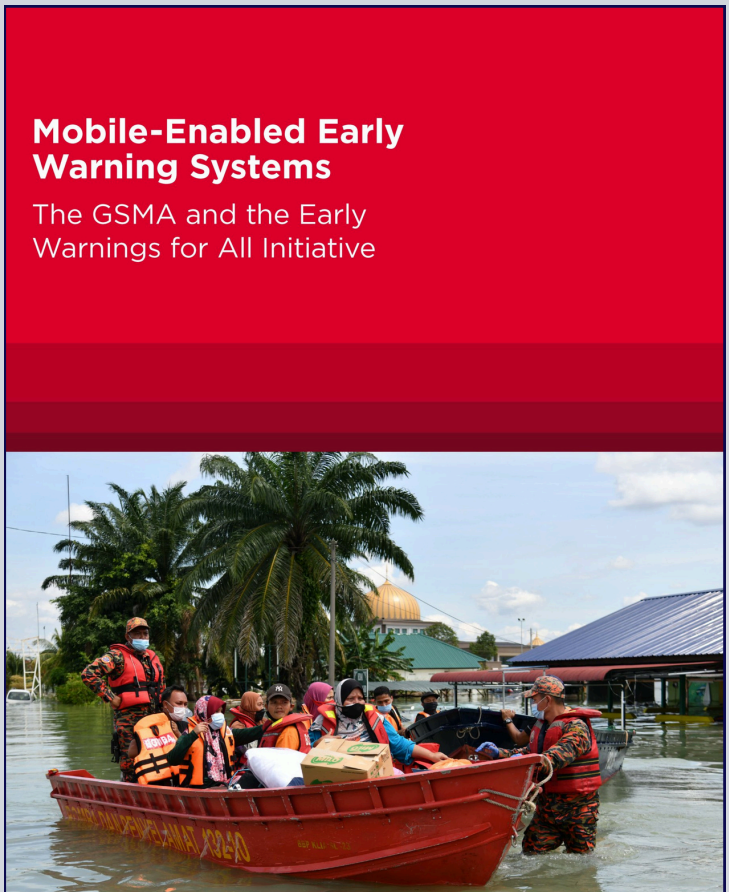
THE STATE OF PRE-ARRANGED FINANCING FOR DISASTERS



GLOBAL STATUS OF MULTI-HAZARD EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS



MOBILE-ENABLED EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS: THE GSMA AND THE EARLY WARNINGS FOR ALL INITIATIVE



MEMBERSHIP OF THE SANTIAGO NETWORK

The Santiago network is inviting membership expressions of interest. This page outlines eligibility and submission processes, with detailed membership information available in the guidelines for designating organizations, bodies, networks, and experts as members.

SANTIAGO NETWORK

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: TURNING THE WORLD RISK POLL INTO ACTION 2024

World Risk Poll
Powered by Gallup

JOINT PARTNER PUBLICATIONS

NEW REAP BLOGS



Embedding Protection, Gender, and Inclusion in Anticipatory Action: A Guide and Toolkit for Practitioners



COP29: EWEA actors are feeling the heat – and not just figuratively!



Bound by Water: Transboundary Cooperation Across the Nile Basin

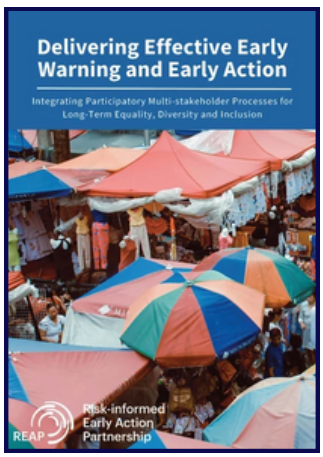


Scaling Up Early Action Beyond 2025: A Call for Sustained Commitment and Collective Action

REPORTS, TOOLS & BRIEFS



Comprehensive Climate and Disaster Risk Management Resources. A collection of guidance documents, training courses, and resources organised by the agency they were published or developed by. This live document will be regularly updated, ensuring key stakeholders have easy access to the most current and relevant resources on CRM.



Delivering Effective Early Warning and Early Action. This policy brief is aimed at mandated organisations such as national governments, international donors, and multilateral agencies. It advocates for advancing participatory, decentralised, and democratic approaches in the development, operation and evaluation of EWS.



The Getting Ahead of Disasters Charter, supported by over 40 countries at COP28, promotes a proactive approach to disaster management by integrating risk information into decision-making and developing risk-informed activities. Organizations are eager to implement this principle, particularly through Crisis Modifiers (CMs), which, despite their long history, lack comprehensive international guidance. This note seeks to address this gap by defining CMs, comparing types, providing examples, discussing benefits and challenges, and exploring their potential future roles.

Access the report here, and a shorter blog on the key findings of the report, here.

NEW REAP PARTNERS



The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) officially joined the Risk-informed Early Action Partnership (REAP) during the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction. This partnership aims to enhance early action financing and strengthen early warning systems across the Asia-Pacific region. The announcement was made by Tiziana Bonapace, ESCAP's Director of the Division of Information and Communication Technologies and Disaster Risk Reduction, and Kamal Kishore, Head of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and REAP Board Member. Read the story here.

"In a world rife with competing emergencies and disasters, and displacement and human mobility forecasted to rise, humanitarian actors need to be more effective in preventing and reducing human suffering. Smart partnerships and collective advocacy are required to reverse these trends. Our contribution to REAP's ambitious mission is grounded in a firm belief that anticipatory action can address and mitigate the impacts of displacement" said Eva Grambye, Executive Director for Strategy, Programme and Results at the Danish Refugee Council. Read more.

Plan International UK has joined the Risk-informed Early Action Partnership (REAP) to reinforce the role of gender-sensitive, inclusive early warning systems in disaster resilience. Plan International UK's partnership with REAP will strengthen efforts to ensure girls' safety and well-being during crises, ultimately advancing a more equitable world.

REAP appreciates Canada's commitment to improve outcomes for populations at increased risk from disasters. Together, we will strengthen the connections between those who provide, design, and rely on funding for climate resilience, driving meaningful change to protect lives and livelihoods on the frontlines of the climate crisis.

ALLFED's new commitment to REAP will allow the organization to leverage its expertise in food security and resilience to contribute directly to improving early warning systems and early action through sharing expertise, good practice and innovations, developing new systems, and aiding country-specific resilience planning.