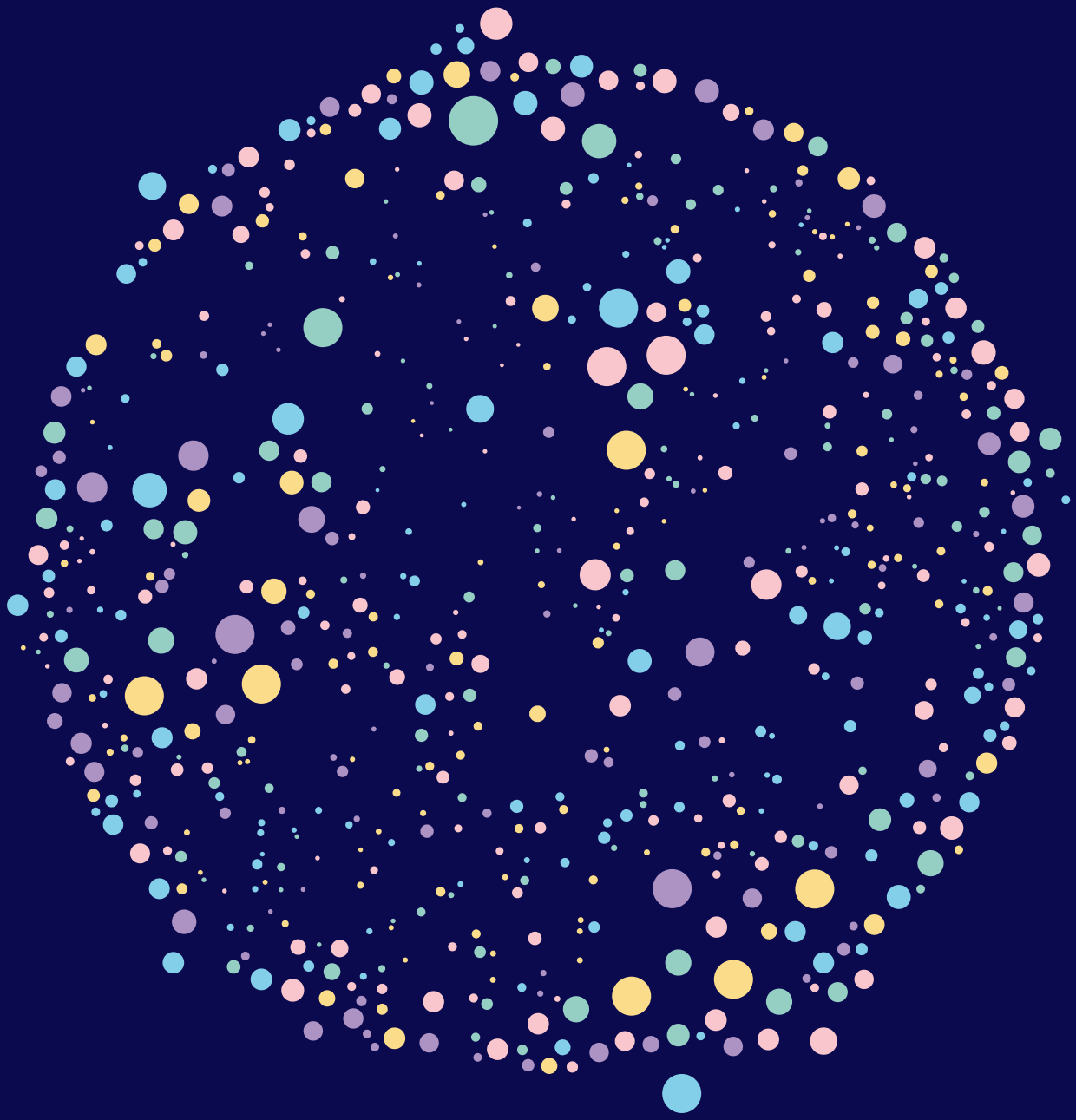
FROM VISION TO COLLECTIVE IMPACT

A REAP RETROSPECTIVE (2019-2025)



REAP
Risk-informed
Early Action
Partnership



Produced by the REAP Secretariat with the support of REAP Partners

The Risk-informed Early Action Partnership (REAP)
Hosted at the **International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**
Chemin des Crêts 17, Petit-Saconnex, 1209 Geneva, Switzerland

Foreword

The Risk-informed Early Action Partnership (REAP) brings together an unprecedented range of early warning and early action stakeholders who collaborate to make people safer from disasters. In 2019, REAP was established with four targets designed to drive a systemic shift towards acting earlier to reduce the impacts of disasters, by 2025. REAP pursued this by creating a space in which Partners and aligned organizations could use the targets to set a collective direction, identify critical obstacles to progress, and work together to overcome them. In 2025, the Governing Board of REAP decided to extend REAP's mandate to 2030, with a refreshed strategy to deliver even greater impact.

As REAP transitions to its 2030 strategic period, this report looks back over the last six years to highlight where we have collectively made a difference, and what we have learned. It is designed to be a reflection and celebration of the work we have undertaken together, and a guide to help us implement our next strategy more effectively, by documenting what worked and what didn't. The report should be read alongside the "Early Action: The State of Play" reports (2021-2024), which tracked annual progress against REAP's targets on a broad scale and highlighted the specific contributions of Partners.

REAP's work would not have been possible without the commitment and energy of its Partners, who number 107. The Partners are the true engine of REAP's work, contributing to working groups and partnership dialogues, co-developing knowledge and shared influence, and lending their valuable perspectives to guiding REAP along its course. REAP also owes a debt of gratitude to its Governing Board, which has provided the strategic leadership necessary for success, and it has been an honour for the Governments of Saint Lucia, Samoa, and the UK to steer the Partnership as co-Chairs. Lastly, and always in support of the Partners, the Secretariat has worked tirelessly to ensure that REAP keeps putting one foot forward where it is needed most. For their support to the Secretariat, special thanks are owed to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, host of the Secretariat, and the United Nations agencies the Food and Agriculture Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, and the World Food Programme for contributing the time of staff members to bolster the lean, full-time Secretariat staff.

Covering every detail of six years of work would not be possible in a single document. Thus, this retrospective aims to tell a coherent story of success and lessons learned through key examples. The chapters of the report reflect the partnership activities and behaviours that make REAP so effective: convening to foster connection, building coherence across initiatives, and co-producing knowledge and shared influence.



Dr Fatumanava-o-Upolu III Pa'olelei Luteru
Co-Chair of the REAP Governing Board;
Ambassador and Permanent Representative;
Permanent Mission of Samoa to the United Nations.



Gerard Howe
Co-Chair of the REAP Governing Board;
Deputy Director, Climate Resilience Department;
Energy, Climate and Environment Directorate;
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, United Kingdom.

Looking ahead

The coming years represent a crucial moment for REAP's ambitions to flourish. As climate risks intensify and disasters grow more frequent and complex, the question is no longer whether early warning systems work, but whether they are fully functional, embedded in national systems, and consistently triggering early action before impacts occur. REAP's 2030 strategy is designed to meet this moment with urgency, clarity, and ambition.

What lies ahead is both exciting and essential. REAP will increasingly act as a catalyst for turning early warning into early action at scale, by helping governments and Partners align finance, policy, and practice around a shared objective: enabling the system to act ahead of disasters. This means working as a strong coalition to support the institutionalization of early warning systems that are backed by legislation, integrated into national decision-making, and connected to fit-for-purpose financing mechanisms that release resources early and predictably.

In the next phase, REAP will strengthen its role of sense-making for a complex and diverse ecosystem, bringing together our coalition of governments, regional bodies, donors, humanitarian and development actors, academics and the private sector to build coherence across the early warning early action (EWEA) value chain. Through targeted convening, knowledge synthesis, and strategic alliances, REAP will help identify where gaps persist, what opportunities we have and how investments can be better optimized, sequenced, and scaled.

A particular focus will be placed on advancing the critical financing mechanisms to set up, enable, and maintain early action. Along this, REAP will support policy change by strengthening leadership, skills, and political buy-in at national level, under the leadership of key regional REAP Partners, recognizing that sustainable EWEA depends on laws, mandates, budgetary authority, and ultimately and importantly on the ownership of communities at the forefront of climate risks.

The years ahead offer a unique and timely opportunity to shift from ambition to implementation, from warnings to action, and from fragmented efforts to resilient, country-led systems that protect lives and livelihoods of all at-risk populations before disasters strike. REAP, the largest EWEA coalition of actors working together, is ready to make that shift happen.



Catalina Jaime
Head of Secretariat
The Risk-informed Early Action Partnership (REAP) Secretariat,
and Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
Lead Author

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Our diverse partnership

REAP is the uniquely diverse partner-driven space for coming together to make sense of the complicated early action ecosystem, and the Partnership welcomes everyone with the ambition to scale up risk-informed early action: national governments, regional intergovernmental bodies, civil society and international organizations, research institutes, private sector organizations, and philanthropies.

Since REAP's inception at the United Nations Climate Action Summit in 2019, the Partnership has grown steadily in size, while retaining the diversity of membership that makes us so effective. From 34 founding organizations, REAP has grown to 107 Partners (January 2026) demonstrating their commitment to our shared agenda.



REAP Partners gather at Understanding Risk 2024. Photo by Nyree Pinder

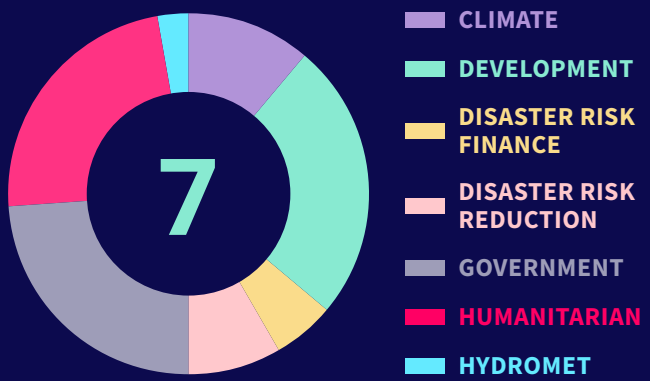
TOTAL ORGANIZATIONS

107

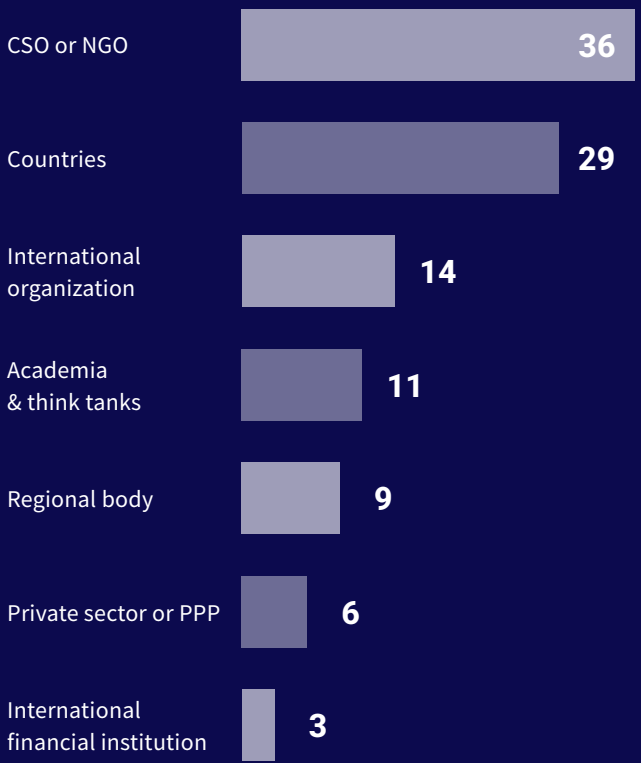
TOTAL TYPES OF ORGANIZATION

7

DIVERSITY OF SECTORS



TYPES OF ORGANIZATION



Chapter 1: Building coherence

REAP was established to drive greater coherence among the climate, development, and humanitarian sectors, all of which play essential roles in effective early action. The advances in global political support, leadership by national governments and intergovernmental regional bodies, partnerships and collaborative ways of working, and the focus on people-centred approaches show that early warning and early action have now become more widely embraced and increasingly integrated across these sectors. Funding for early action remains a fundamental challenge, not only in terms of the amount available but in how what is available is invested. Despite this, there clear progress that we can build on in the future. Below are just a few examples, although there are many more.

The rapid increase in the number of EWEA initiatives has offered greater opportunities to mainstream the agenda while increasing the risk of fragmentation. In its first six years, REAP found that organizations often lack awareness of each other's priorities and capabilities, whether they fall within similar stakeholder groupings or not. REAP works to bridge gaps between and within these groups, promoting enhanced collaboration and strategic alignment, a key aspect that will be strengthened in the new 2030 strategy. REAP is the place where organizations come to identify these gaps and then leverage the diversity of the Partnership to help fill them. This chapter sets out some examples.

2019
- Launch of REAP

2020
- Launch of the Anticipation Hub
- Endorsement of the Africa Multi-hazard Early Warning and Action System (AMHEWAS) framework by the African Union Assembly

2021
- Commitment to REAP and the InsuResilience Global Partnership by the G7
- Launch of the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF)

2022
- Launch of the UN Early Warnings for All initiative
- Publication of the G7 statement on anticipatory action in humanitarian assistance
- Resolution to scale anticipatory action by the Red Cross Red Crescent Council of Delegates
- Publication of the Ministerial Maputo Declaration on the Commitment by Southern African Development Community (SADC) to enhance Early Warning and Early Action in the Region
- Launch of the Global Shield Against Climate Risks

2023
- Publication of UN General Assembly resolution on Sendai Framework calling for enhanced financing for early/anticipatory action
- Launch of G20 Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Working Group with an early warning and early action priority area
- Launch of the Water at the Heart of Climate Action initiative
- Launch of the Green Climate Fund and Climate Risk & Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative Scaling-up Framework
- Launch of Getting Ahead of Disasters: A Charter on Finance for Managing Risks

2024
- Launch of the CREWS Early Warnings for All Accelerator for Least Developing Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS)
- G20 DRR Ministerial Declaration expresses strong support for investment across the early warning early action value chain

2025
- G20 DRR Ministerial Declaration calls for progress on pre-arranged finance and people-centred early warning systems
- Inclusion of early warning early action indicators in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Global Goal on Adaptation

GLOBAL POLICY COHERENCE

Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) and Regional Platforms

The Global and Regional Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction are held regularly to advance the goals of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030. Both REAP Partners and the REAP Secretariat have been in attendance throughout the series of events, holding dialogues on the sidelines of the official negotiations and advocating for the increased recognition of EWEA as a fundamental element of disaster risk reduction. The Partnership also came together to support the Third Multi-Hazard Early Warning Conference (MHEWC-III), held during the preparatory days of GPDRR 2022.

Most recently, demonstrating the progress that has been made in recent years, GPDRR 2025 welcomed several side events dedicated to EWEA, including a Zurich Climate Resilience Alliance (ZCRA) / REAP Partner session on Equity in Action: Early Warnings for All People. On the last day, the High-Level Dialogue on Advancing multi-hazard early warnings and early and anticipatory action fed into the formal outcomes document from the 8th Global Platform.

Was it a success? The outcome document from the 8th session demanded progress in a number of EWEA-relevant areas, including enhanced data and risk analytics, scaled-up pre-arranged financing, user-centred early warning systems co-developed with at-risk communities, and increased international support and national ownership. It cemented early warning early action agenda as central to effective disaster risk reduction.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE EARLY WARNINGS FOR ALL MULTISTAKEHOLDER FORA

What was it? The Early Warnings for All (EW4All) Multistakeholder Fora (MSF) —regional (2024-25) and global (June 2025)—held predominantly in conjunction with the official Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Who was there? EW4All Pillar Leads the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO), plus REAP Partners and the REAP Secretariat.

What did we do? The EW4All Leads organized five regional MSFs to broaden the range of perspectives and participants in the EW4All initiative. The REAP Secretariat supported the African and Asia Pacific editions in person, and a broad range of Partners came together for the first Global EW4All MSF, held on 2-3 June 2025 in Geneva to build on the recommendations from the regional consultations and to feed into the discussions of the 8th Session of the GPDRR.

Was it a success? The regional fora highlighted good practices and persistent gaps in cross-sector collaboration around early warning and early action, and were critical to ensure that regional perspectives were mainstreamed in the global discussions in Geneva. The Global Forum strengthened connections across different EW4All mechanisms at global, regional and especially national level, and enabled broader participation of key EWEA stakeholders, opening a pathway for incorporating key recommendations into planning, coordination, and financing decisions. REAP provided graphic recorders to ensure each sessions' conclusions were available in a different format.

"ITU's engagement in REAP, particularly through our role in the Risk Communication Working Group and close collaboration with the Secretariat, has been instrumental in connecting the dots and ensuring close coordination with critical partners who contribute to our EW4All work on warning dissemination and communication.

These partners include academia, the private sector, and non-profits working in the broadcasting and media space. Thanks to REAP's networking platform and groups, we've significantly improved our technical assistance and outreach to countries, especially at the community level. As a UN organization, this has allowed us to build on our own expertise and existing partnerships but leverage new programs, reach more stakeholders, and bring the benefits of partnerships to those who need early warning systems the most."



Vanessa Gray,
Head of Climate Change and Emergency Telecommunications, Telecommunication Development Bureau of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).



REAP Partners gather at the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2025. Photo by Andrew Duthie

Group of Twenty (G20)

During its G20 Presidency (2023), India established a G20 Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Working Group (WG) to mainstream EWEA, and following regular engagement with India's National Disaster Management Authority at the annual Conferences of the Parties (COPs), and the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2022, REAP was invited to contribute technical assistance. Working with the Centre for Disaster Protection (CDP), the CREWS Secretariat, UNDRR, and the UK Government, the REAP Secretariat coordinated the development of the G20 DRR WG Input Paper: Building Resilience through Financing Early Action, which helped cement early warning early action as a G20 priority in the working group's 2023-2025 roadmap.

During Brazil's Presidency (2024), the REAP Secretariat worked with UNDRR and WMO to develop the G20 White Paper: Leveraging Existing Platforms for Knowledge Sharing on Early Warning Systems and REAP research was referenced throughout UNDRR's Anticipatory Finance: An Introductory Guide. The Ministerial Declaration was an important EWEA policy milestone, referencing comprehensive risk management, pre-arranged financing, adaptive social protection, early and anticipatory action, and multi-hazard warning systems. However, given the range of priorities within the Working Group, there was a risk that these important topics would be left out of the Declaration. It was thanks to consistent and nuanced advocacy by REAP Partners that this policy win was achieved.

The following year, under the South African Presidency, ITU leveraged REAP's network to develop Scaling Up Cell Broadcast for Last-mile Early Warning Delivery: Progress, barriers, and enabling mechanisms, and Partners once again came together to advocate for the inclusion of key elements of the agenda in the Ministerial Declaration, including pre-arranged financing (para 18) and people-centred multi-hazard early warning systems (MHEWS) (paras 20-23).

Was it a success? Since 2023, EWEA has become embedded in the G20 DRR Working Group discussions and outcomes, and the ministerial declarations reference elements across the full value chain. The language has also shifted to become more explicitly "integrated, inclusive, and people-centred", indicating a nuanced understanding in the G20 of the enabling conditions for effective action, thanks to consistent and coherent advocacy by REAP Partners.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (COP)

COP26 (2021) was REAP's first UNFCCC climate conference. To help Partners make sense of the often-chaotic space, the REAP Secretariat piloted a mapping of sessions relevant to the EWEA agenda and a collaboration with the Anticipation Hub on promoting the events, raising the profile of the EWEA discussions. It also began a long-standing Partnership with the Resilience Hub and other REAP Partners to support event programming on EWEA themes in this important convening space.

The Secretariat also coordinated REAP's first Presidency side event and the REAP: World in 2025 video, which proved to be great successes thanks to the willing contributions of so many Partners, in addition to the EWEA-related events they held themselves. Following the conference, the Secretariat worked on an outcomes analysis, which highlighted the many announcements of financial support for EWEA activities made at the conference.

COP27 (2022) was the first time that early warning appeared in the decision text in its own section—a critical step forward for EWEA. The REAP Secretariat continued mapping events, as well as supporting the Resilience Hub on event programming alongside Partners.

The Secretariat also co-hosted several high-level side events, including Turning Ambition into Action through the Power of Partnerships with the United Arab Emirates (UAE, COP28 Presidency), supported by African Risk Capacity Ltd, the Government of Mozambique, the IFRC, the World Food Programme (WFP), and WMO. It was followed by a reception in the UK Pavilion where the UAE announced their REAP membership. REAP Partners, supported by the Secretariat, hosted many more events and discussions, making COP27 a busy moment for EWEA.

> *"The REAP reception, strategically placed at the end of week one, was an invaluable networking space for taking stock with negotiators and with colleagues across different sectors on the progress made so far on early warning early action, momentum needed heading into week two, and more broadly on collaboration towards COP28".*
>
> COP27 reception attendee

COP28 (2023) saw the landmark operationalization of the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage, although the negotiations didn't specifically focus on EWEA. However, REAP and the COP28 Presidency delivered a key policy win: the launch of the Getting Ahead of Disasters Charter (more below). EW4All also demonstrated leaps forward with the launch of the 2023 Global Status of Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems report and the Early Warnings for All Dashboard. The REAP Secretariat continued to help make sense of the EWEA-related events taking place, and worked with UNDRR to mainstream EWEA in Resilience Hub programming.

CREWS co-hosted REAP's COP28 reception, drawing attention to the complementarity of the two initiatives, while REAP also scaled up its regional approach with an event hosted in the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) pavilion to facilitate regional exchange—an event which led to discussions about more formal methods for information exchange and learning and influenced the direction of REAP's 2030 strategy. Once again, COP28 was host to a large number of EWEA-related side events and moments, some of which are covered in the Secretariat's outcomes analysis.



The Government of Samoa endorses the Getting Ahead of Disasters Charter at COP28. Photo by Natasha Russell

COP29 (2024) was another strong year for EWEA outside of the negotiations. The Secretariat tracked 47 separate side events, similar to COP28 (54) and a marked increase from COP26 (28). The discussions evidenced a broad range of topics, with a strong showing from events on disaster risk finance—including the REAP-organized Signaling change: one year on from the Getting Ahead of Disasters Charter, supported by the Governments of Fiji, Nepal, Samoa, and the UK, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the IFRC, ODI Global, and the Start Network.

In addition to supporting Resilience Hub programming, REAP held its reception in the Resilience Hub for the second time, demonstrating the value of the convening space. Putting the focus on governments, the reception provided a platform for Samoa, Somalia, and the UK to share their work in integrating early warning early action into their planning. The outcomes analysis tracks the many and varied discussions that took place.

COP30 (2025) delivered another critical policy win for EWEA: the inclusion of EWEA indicators in the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA, see annex, para 10). While concerns remain over the GGA, the importance of mainstreaming EWEA into such a seminal global agreement cannot be understated. The success is due to the consistent and robust engagement of REAP Partners through the GGA process and especially during the UAE–Belém work programme, where 15 different Partners and the Secretariat made submissions in 2024.

REAP once again partnered with CREWS for an impactful reception, where both initiatives launched their complementary 2030 strategies. The Secretariat also co-hosted a joint COP30 Action Agenda event with UNDRR and the Water at the Heart of Climate Action initiative that asked, "What is the radical, urgent change needed to get ahead of disasters?" UNDRR and the REAP Secretariat also collaborated on a Plan to Accelerate Solutions for comprehensive risk management, a critical element of REAP's policy work and a concrete contribution to axis 6 of the COP30 Action Agenda. More Partner activity is covered in the Secretariat's outcomes analysis.

Was it a success? Expectations are always high before a COP, because needs are increasing at a dramatic pace. While the conference struggles to deliver on these expectations, we must remember that every step forward is progress. It is critical that we maintain the momentum on EWEA and build on the gains that we have collectively achieved over the last few years, especially given the shrinking space for international cooperation. We will need to become smarter about where we apply our influence and energy to ensure concrete progress in the years to come.

THE GETTING AHEAD OF DISASTERS CHARTER

Arguably REAP's most visible policy success, the Getting Ahead of Disasters Charter was born from REAP-led research on finance for early action published in 2022, and the high-level discussions that followed (June; October). The discussions highlighted that clearer guidance was needed on what constitutes good finance for early action.

In parallel, the REAP Secretariat was in discussions with the upcoming COP28 Presidency, the UAE, on ways to integrate early earning early action into the COP28 agenda. The two collaborated to host a high-level discussion in New York on the occasion of the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework, inviting delegates from governments, international and civil society organizations, and networks operating in the EWEA space. From the discussions, the idea of the Charter was born.

The Charter was co-developed over the course of 2023 in the biggest collective policy effort of the Partnership to date: 47 different organizations contributed their views and inputs to develop the Charter text, coordinated by the Secretariat.

The Charter emphasizes shifting from reactive to proactive finance to protect development gains and reduce humanitarian impacts. It introduces a proactive framework for managing climate-related risks focused on collaboration and early action to reduce disaster impact, structured around five principles: acting before disasters to reduce risks and ensure timely funding; coordinating climate adaptation and disaster management finance; pre-arranging funds for rapid support; improving delivery systems to reach vulnerable communities including conflict-affected areas; and prioritizing locally led approaches with government leadership.

It was launched by the COP28 Presidency (the UAE), the Governments of Samoa and the UK, and REAP at an official Presidency event in Dubai, where it was endorsed by 41 countries and organizations. Since then it has provided a framework for REAP's work on financing early action, and Partners have contributed case studies that demonstrate what implementation of the Charter's principles looks like. The COP29 event "Signaling Change: One Year on from The Getting Ahead of Disasters Charter reflected on the Charter's progress since its launch, and reviewed innovative strategies implemented by endorsers. The Charter continues to be an effective mobilizer of actors seeking to improve how we use finance to get ahead of disasters.



REAP Partners participate in the launch of the Getting Ahead of Disasters Charter at COP28. Photo by Natasha Russell

REGIONAL POLICY COHERENCE

National- and local-level leadership is central to REAP's theory of change as an enabler of effective and sustainable EWEA. Given the global nature of the Partnership and the resources available to it, this increasingly means working at the regional level to achieve greater impact—an imperative that was reaffirmed by Partners during the strategic review process. Regional intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) play a crucial role in supporting their Member States and advocating for their interests at the international level, forming a critical link between global and national stakeholders.

In 2023, the REAP Secretariat and Partners including the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA) and the Start Network worked with Sweden (EU Council President) in the **European Council working party on Humanitarian Aid and Food Aid (COHAFA)**. Together, they mainstreamed early action into policy discussions on food security and humanitarian action, supporting the ongoing attention on anticipatory action within the EU.

In 2024, REAP provided financial and technical support to the Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Company (PCRIC) to host the inaugural **Pacific Region Disaster Risk Finance Workshop**. The REAP Secretariat and Partners the Centre for Disaster Protection, United Nations Capital Development Fund, and the WFP supported PCRIC to bring together key disaster risk finance actors from government ministries in the region to build relationships and discuss shared strategies for disaster finance. REAP has continued to support the annual workshop, now in its 3rd year.

GNDR's membership of REAP has enhanced our visibility and facilitated collaboration with many new partners and initiatives, which is critical for a network of community-based organizations. We made a substantive contribution to the EW4All initiative in Africa because, as a REAP Partner, we were selected as the civil society representative and coordinator to support effective participation at the national level, and thus contributed to the development of the EW4All Africa action plan. We also participated in the EW4All MHEWS day during the Regional Platform on DRR held in Windhoek, Namibia, as well as in other regional forums. With REAP support, GNDR has consolidated its position as a key early warning early action stakeholder, and successfully secured funding from the UK FCDO for the project, "Localised Early Warning System".

The project contributed to strengthening the understanding of the role of civil society organizations in early warning systems, and supported the development of a roadmap for the implementation of localized early warning systems. Overall, REAP's contribution to facilitating coordination and connectivity among stakeholders has been significant and is expected to remain critical for strengthening collaboration and partnerships.



Marcos Concepcion Raba
Executive Director,
Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR)



Participants share learning and ideas at a Getting Ahead of Disasters Workshop, November 2025. Photo by Erick Forester

Deepening regional engagement

Following the launch of the Getting Ahead of Disasters Charter at COP28 (see section on COP), regional organizations were invited to share their specific, self-identified needs around finance for getting ahead of disasters, and the value of dedicated convening spaces to explore the topic. The consultations led to the first Getting Ahead of Disasters Workshop for regional IGOs in Nairobi in May 2025, organized jointly by the REAP Secretariat and CDP. The workshop included technical briefings and capacity-building sessions, and space for participants to share learning and identify areas of joint work, advocacy, and further exploration, all in a Chatham-House style environment.

Following the overwhelmingly positive feedback from participants, the African Union Commission (AUC) asked the REAP Secretariat and CDP to support it in organizing another Chatham House-style workshop for stakeholders on the African continent, which took place in November 2025.

Who was involved? Stakeholders from regional IGOs and national governments spanning the Caribbean, North Africa, Central Africa, Eastern Africa, Southern Africa, Western Africa, Asia, South Asia, and the Pacific Islands, alongside CDP and the REAP Secretariat.

Was it a success? Not only did the first workshop initiate multiple workstreams based on participant requirements, including forming an ongoing and active community of connected individuals and developing e-learning modules on key topics (in progress), but the second workshop delivered clear next steps for the African continent, providing the AUC with a concrete steer for how to support its Member States.

What did we learn? Peer exchange not only builds capacity, but connection, which is crucial for delivering regional coherence. When participants are given the opportunity to shape the agenda, and engage with one another in a neutral and confidential environment, they more easily reach consensus on the way forward. Technical partners can perform a useful facilitation role, but it is the participants that have the solutions.

What's next? Other regions have expressed interest in holding similar workshops, and in inter-regional learning opportunities, and this support will form a critical element of REAP's work under its 2030 strategy.

COHERENT INVESTMENT: SUPPORTING THE FRIENDS OF EARLY WARNINGS

In March 2024, a group of 17 bilateral donors convened in Geneva as the "Friends of Early Warnings" for an inaugural informal dialogue on early warning system investments.

The group came about as a result of conversations between the REAP Secretariat and the Meteorological Service of Canada in Uruguay (Regional Platform for DRR), in Geneva, and online to discuss the challenges of obtaining a comprehensive overview of the EWEA funding landscape for donors and recipient countries. When other donors were consulted, it became clear that an informal space was needed to progress the discussions, and the group asked the Secretariat to help convene it.

Following two virtual meetings, the group met in person in March and online in May and September 2025, supported by the REAP Secretariat and with REAP Partners providing technical inputs. These now-regular meetings generated consensus on how to align efforts and most effectively support the scale-up and implementation of early warning systems in the months and years ahead: in particular on the need for improved financial tracking to provide transparency regarding what is already being provided and how it is being spent.

The Global Observatory for Early Warning Systems Investments was designed in part to respond to the need surfaced by this donor group. The Global Observatory was launched in late 2024 and presents WMO and UNDRR analysis of early warning system project data from the multilateral development banks and climate funds. It evidences the need for greater sharing of data on investments, coordination and alignment of investments across donors.

The Global Observatory provides a strong foundation for increased donor coherence. However, the process also surfaced the need for increased openness and access on financing data to enable true mapping of early warning system investment information.

Who is involved? The Friends of Early Warnings is a donor-led and managed informal discussion space. The REAP Secretariat supports meeting organization and tracking, and REAP Partners provide technical inputs on request of the group chair.

Was it a success? While the Friends of Early Warnings informal donor group has achieved remarkable progress in just two years, it has become clear that building alignment across 17 donors will require significant efforts—efforts which the Secretariat and Partners are committed to supporting.

What did we learn? Greater connections are sorely needed across bilateral donors, multilateral banks, climate funds, implementing partners, Global South governments and non-state actors from civil society, academia, private sector and others. Current investments across the value chain and across these diverse stakeholders are often disconnected, yet require greater alignment in the taxonomy, across geographies and in the understanding of the underlying challenges for effective early action. Step by step, a small group of committed donors is showing it can lay the foundations to better align and connect current efforts.

What's next? The Friends of Early Warnings will continue to drive progress in delivering more efficient and effective early warning systems investments.



The Friends of Early Warnings gather in Geneva, February 2025. Photo by the Canadian Mission

"Through REAP, the Early Warning Systems teams of Practical Action and the Zurich Climate Resilience Alliance have made robust connections with important donors. Our longstanding leadership of REAP's Early Warning Initiatives Working Group and collaboration with other REAP Partners delivered the credibility required to be invited to present to the Friends of Early Warnings informal donor group on funding for effective and people-centred early warning systems. Building on this foundation, we deepened our relationships through online forums and in-person platforms facilitated by REAP, including discussions at the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, and by leading research and dialogue to co-develop recommendations to improve funding for people-centred early warning systems.

As a result, Practical Action and the Zurich Climate Resilience Alliance now have a direct relationship with the Friends of Early Warnings, strengthening access to key early warning systems donors and creating new opportunities to work together and influence financing decisions in line with shared objectives on people-centred, effective early warning systems for all—an important relationship that can be challenging for civil society organizations to build without the support of partnerships like REAP."



Mirianna Budimir
Senior Climate and Resilience Expert, Practical Action and the Zurich Climate Resilience Alliance

COHERENT IMPLEMENTATION: SUPPORTING EARLY WARNINGS FOR ALL

REAP operates in a complex ecosystem of initiatives, networks, and partnerships working on EWEA. One of the most important moments for this ecosystem took place in March 2022, when the United Nations Secretary General announced the launch of the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative, designed to protect everyone on Earth by early warning systems within the next five years.

While led by WMO, UNDRR, ITU, and the IFRC, EW4All requires broad stakeholder participation to be successful. As such, WMO approached the REAP Secretariat in June 2022 to support the development of the EW4All Executive Action Plan. The REAP Secretariat drew on the diverse EWEA expertise in the Partnership to form an Advisory Group in (July-August) to support the Plan's lead author and lead the drafting of the sections on partnerships and locally-led action.

The collective knowledge of REAP Partners also supported the development of the EW4All M&E framework via the EW4All M&E Working Group. For example, the UK Met Service flagged the relevance of indicators from the Science for Humanitarian Emergencies and Resilience (SHEAR) and Weather and Climate Information Services (WISER) projects. Indicators from CREWS and Resurgence were also considered, to reflect the cross-cutting nature of the EW4All initiative and the importance of last-mile impact. These contributions highlighted the need to anchor EW4All pillar reporting in five critical foundations that were not previously covered in other early warning systems frameworks[1]. They were incorporated into the EW4All M&E framework, along with dedicated indicators, and were formalized as EW4All "enablers". They now form a key element of progress reporting in the Global Status of Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems reports (see 2024 and 2025 versions), further acknowledgement of the importance of "enablers" for effective MHEWS.

REAP Partners once again came together to assist EW4All in developing a taxonomy for early warning systems activities, designed to enable tagging and tracking of financial flows across multilateral development banks (MDB) and climate funds. Via group consultations, the Partnership lent their perspectives to the consultant tasked with this work. The consultant's draft was discussed with the EW4All Pillar Leads, and the taxonomy was subsequently published. The scale of the challenge of accurately and consistently tagging and tracking financial flows means that issues of attribution versus contribution persist, particularly for larger investments. However, consistent tagging based on the taxonomy is a critical foundation for a more robust analysis of such flows, and will serve as a foundation for the further development of the Global Observatory for Early Warning Systems Investments (see next section).

Who was involved? Overall REAP support to EW4All was undertaken by the Secretariat, based on discussions and perspectives drawn from, in particular, the *ad hoc* EW4All Advisory Group, the Early Warning Initiatives and Risk Communication Working Groups, as well as bilaterals with a range of Partners with deep expertise across the EWEA value chain.

Was it a success? EW4All, via its Pillar Leads, is committed to mainstreaming a broad range of perspectives into the initiative. REAP's diversity and strong network uniquely positions it to support sister initiatives like EW4All, due to the speed and breadth with which it is able to highlight critical perspectives.

What did we learn? Although the early warning EWEA space can feel complex and crowded at times, initiatives can achieve much greater impact when they leverage each other's strengths. While REAP has contributed to EW4All, EW4All has significantly raised the profile of EWEA.

What's next? REAP and its Secretariat will continue to support EW4All (and other similar initiatives) to achieve its goal.

1 (1) Nationally-led planning processes for sustainable financing of EWS (referred to as "financing"); (2) Legal and regulatory frameworks reflecting the inter-ministerial nature of EWS ("risk governance"); (3) Broad and inclusive national coordination platforms ("coordination"); (4) Investments in EWS communication and outreach ("communication)"; and (5) State and non-state involvement in M&E ("monitoring and evaluation").

"Being a REAP Partner has delivered concrete benefits, which is critical for an organization that works directly with cities and their communities. A presentation we gave in a monthly partnership call led to a request for support in Sudan from another REAP Partner. Our project team participated in a drill for the CAP [Common Alerting Protocol], enabling us to integrate the CAP into the emergency early warning service we were co-leading, and specifically into the flow of 22 million SMSs that were issued by our national telecom partners over a 6-week period. In a separate example, through our REAP connections, we were encouraged to apply to the AI for Good Challenge of the EW4All AI Subgroup.

We were successful in winning a top award for a proposed DARAJA + AI solution, which has led to emerging partnerships with a range of global and niche technology companies. We also believe that the call by a major agency for a global supplier for climate services for vulnerable communities—which Resurgence won via a competitive bidding process— was informed by the advocacy of REAP and its Partners for co-production and last mile dissemination and feedback."



Mark Harvey
CEO and Founder of Resurgence



REAP high-level event at COP28. Photo by Natasha Russell

Chapter 2: Fostering connection

REAP is not just a space for collective action, but also for building connections to support the work of individual Partners. Sometimes these connections take years to form, and sometimes clear opportunities present themselves in the short term. This makes it challenging to track every new relationship formed within the REAP space, but you will find examples throughout this report. We gave Partners a chance to talk in their own words about how being a part of REAP has allowed them to form connections and collaborations that have supported their own work.

Over the years, several Partners have sat down with the Secretariat to talk about their work, and why they participate in REAP. Their Meet the Partner interviews demonstrate the range and impact of early warning early action efforts, and highlight key ways in which REAP helps organizations scale up their work:

Connecting Partners with a broad, diverse network of actors for strategic collaboration—REAP's convening power is its most consistently cited value.

Amplifying Partner influence in global and national policy processes through the power of collective advocacy, propagating key messages through events and dialogue.

Enabling access to shared tools, evidence, and communities of practice of committed individuals working together to improve planning, design, and implementation.

Enhancing legitimacy and institutional support, which can be critical in resource mobilization contexts.

SPOTLIGHT ON REAP'S STRATEGY RETREAT "SCALING UP EARLY ACTION BEYOND 2025"

What was it? A 3-day residential retreat in the UK (October 2024) to discuss and co-develop REAP's 2030 strategy.

Who was there? Approximately 45 individual REAP Partners (including the Governing Board) and the REAP Secretariat.

What did we do? We spent three days in plenary and breakout groups analyzing and discussing the findings of the strategic review, and building consensus on REAP's role and value-add in the post-2025 space. We even challenged breakout groups to deliver Dragon's Den-style pitches for the future of REAP to the Board, which generated interesting ideas. The retreat complemented a series of key informant interviews, virtual workshops and consultations, in-person workshops in Geneva and Himeji (Japan), deep thinking by the Core Design Team, and monthly engagement at the online Partnership meetings

Was it a success? Participants—who rarely have an opportunity to consider the full scope of the Partnership's work—expressed surprise and appreciation for the chance to hear from such a broad range of organizations and individuals, and to learn about the nuances of the Partnership. We generated a huge amount of insight that fed directly into the drafting of the 2030 strategy. Everyone left commenting on how energizing and inspiring they had found the gathering.

The richness of REAP's Partner base has given life to a vibrant and regular exchange of ideas and innovations, joint learning, collaborative endeavours, and the forging of new connections.

67 PARTNERSHIP CALLS

243 PARTNER PRESENTATIONS

The partnership calls, held regularly since the start of 2020, offered Partners a forum to learn, connect, and scale their work in ways that would not otherwise have been possible.

110 WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

47 CONTRIBUTING ORGANIZATIONS

REAP's working groups provided spaces for Partners to exchange in depth on shared topics, identify persistent gaps, and co-produce knowledge that benefits the entire Partnership and beyond.

16 GOVERNING BOARD SESSIONS

61% FEMALE **49%** MALE BOARD MEMBERS

- 35% Global Majority
- 12% Donors
- 41% International organizations
- 6% Civil society organizations
- 6% Private sector Board members

REAP's Governing Board has maintained a strong commitment to steer REAP through its first phase and beyond to 2030, setting and refining REAP's strategic direction.

8 TAG SESSIONS

46% FEMALE **54%** MALE TAG MEMBERS

- 8% Global Majority
- 8% Donors
- 45% International organizations
- 23% Think tanks and academia
- 8% Civil society organizations
- 8% Private sector TAG members

While in operation (2022-2024), the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) provided technical insights, advice, and mobilization of networks to support the Board and the Secretariat.

17 REAP COP SIDE EVENTS

152 EWEA COP SIDE EVENTS (ORGANIZED BY PARTNERS)

REAP Partners have come together at key moments to share joint learning and collectively influence important policy processes, including at:

- The G7 and G20
- The Global and Regional Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction
- The Global and Regional Multistakeholder Fora of the Early Warnings for All initiative
- The Global and Regional Dialogue Platforms on Anticipatory Action
- Regional climate weeks and NAP Expo
- …and many more!

REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEADERSHIP

16 Governing Board and Technical Advisory Group members

11 Working Group and Core Design Team members

21 inputs to the Getting Ahead of Disasters Charter

Country and regional leadership has always been a priority for REAP, and even more so under the 2030 strategy. Governments and intergovernmental organizations have participated in all areas of REAP's work.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GETTING AHEAD OF DISASTERS CHARTER

11 Global North/Minority countries, national agencies, or regional bodies

10 Global South/Majority countries, national agencies, or regional bodies

11 United Nations agencies

15 Civil society organizations and organizations sitting across the humanitarian, disaster risk reduction, academic and other communities

In 2023, the Partnership came together to co-produce Getting Ahead of Disasters: A Charter on Finance for Managing Risks. One of the biggest collective efforts of the Partnership to date, the process demonstrated the willingness and ability of Partners to work together towards a common goal over the course of 6 months, ahead of COP28.



REAP Partners gather at COP30. Photo by the Resilience Hub

As part of its commitment to REAP, the Insurance Development Forum provided funding to MapAction to deliver geospatial and information management services to help Start Network members accelerate anticipatory action in eight climate-vulnerable countries: an example of three REAP Partners coming together for greater impact.

In addition to funding the work of the Secretariat, UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) provided funding to the British Red Cross to deliver small grants to REAP Partners to advance work directly relevant to REAP's mission. These grants supported policy progress at the national level, research from the Global Majority, community engagement on early warning systems, and globally relevant research. Travel bursaries were provided to increase representation at global conferences such as the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and COP, by supporting individuals from the Global South affiliated to REAP Partner organizations.

20 PROJECT PARTNERS SUPPORTED

4 INITIATIVES FUNDED

16 TRAVEL BURSARIES

FROM CONVERSATION TO COLLABORATION: HOW REAP MEMBERSHIP HELPED SCALE COMMUNITY VOICES IN EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS

THE BEGINNING: A CONNECTION — While the IFRC is a founding member of REAP, and the host of the Secretariat, the active participation of the Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) team began when the REAP Secretariat opened a dialogue after hearing about the Community Trust Index (CTI). The timing was perfect: IFRC had developed a robust framework for measuring community trust in humanitarian action, but no specialized module existed for early warning systems—a critical gap, given that the success of any warning depends entirely on whether communities trust it enough to act.

BUILDING THE TOOL TOGETHER — REAP's network opened doors that proved essential. Through the Partnership, IFRC connected with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Disasters Program to scope the Community Trust Index for Early Warning Systems (CTI-EWS), and the Risk Communication Working Group served as an advisory body for the project.

The tool was piloted in Mozambique and Nepal, testing how trust shapes early warning effectiveness across different hazards (cyclones, floods) and governance systems. The pilots revealed something powerful: low scores on "participation" or "inclusion" weren't just measurements—they were community demands backed by data.

FROM PILOT TO PUBLIC GOOD — What distinguished REAP's approach was the commitment to positioning the CTI-EWS as a public good available to the entire early warning community. Through REAP's monthly partnership calls, it gained visibility among key actors in the EW4All initiative.

"REAP helped us move from 'this is an IFRC tool' *to* 'this is a shared resource for the EW4All agenda,'" noted Gefra Fulane, Research Coordinator at the IFRC.

TURNING RESEARCH INTO ACTION — The REAP Secretariat also provided practical support when it alerted IFRC to a call for proposals focused on turning research into action. IFRC successfully applied for funding for data-to-action activities following the Mozambique and Nepal pilots.

This funding could prove critical. The CTI-EWS can identify trust gaps, but closing those gaps would require resources for community validation workshops where findings were presented and contested, co-development of action plans with community representatives, establishment of feedback mechanisms so communities could report whether warnings improved, and re-measurement to track whether trust increased over time.

THE BROADER IMPACT: SHIFTING POWER — REAP's support has fundamentally challenged how the humanitarian community thinks about community engagement in early warning systems.

Traditional EWS evaluation asks: "Did people receive the warning? Did they act on it?" The CTI-EWS asks different questions: "Do communities trust the warning source? Were they involved in designing the warning system? Can they provide feedback and see it acted upon? Are their traditional knowledge systems valued alongside scientific forecasts?"

The tool's design also challenges extractive research practices. Communities aren't just asked about their experiences, they're asked whether they were consulted in warning system design, whether they can access feedback mechanisms, whether vulnerable groups are included, and these questions create accountability.

LOOKING FORWARD — The IFRC CEA team now regularly engages in REAP platform and has adapted the tool for use beyond IFRC programs, with partners across the humanitarian and development sectors planning to integrate community trust measurement into their early warning initiatives.

But the team is clear-eyed about ongoing challenges. *"The tool can measure whether communities feel consulted," reflects Gefra. "But we still need stronger accountability mechanisms to ensure that communities aren't just surveyed, they›re genuinely empowered to shape the systems meant to protect them. REAP didn't just help us develop and test a tool, it helped us build a coalition around the idea that effective early warnings require trusted relationships. That's the legacy of this Partnership."*

The CTI-EWS is available for organizations working to strengthen early warning systems. The tool measures community trust across the four EWS pillars and is designed to close the feedback loop, ensuring community insights drive concrete improvements. For more information or to access the tool, contact IFRC's Community Engagement and Accountability team: gefra.fulane@ifrc.org.



Gefra Fulane
Ph.D., Coordinator, Research and Capacity Strengthening, Disasters Climate and Crises, IFRC

Chapter 3: Co-creating knowledge and influence

REAP working groups and task forces provide Partners with dedicated spaces to build collective understanding on topics of shared interest and benefit the wider community of EWEA actors by publishing knowledge products. These groups are the main point of entry for many Partners into the REAP community and, while they are supported administratively by the Secretariat, they owe their successes to chairing and engagement by committed Partners who see the value in collaboration.

These collaboration spaces have been formed in response to short-term needs, such as the Heat and Health Working Group during COVID19, and the COP26 Partner Engagement Working Group—the impact of which was evidenced by the strong showing of early/anticipatory action actors at COP26, the positive reception to REAP's UK Presidency Pavilion event, and success of the early warning early action track of the Resilience Hub. The REAP Secretariat also convened a short-term Advocacy and Communications Working Group in 2022 to develop REAP's communications strategy, and then leveraged this community of individuals to support communications and outreach for the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2022 and the 3rd Multi-hazard Early Warning Conference.

Over time, REAP's Working Groups have focused more on delivery against the 4 Targets, in line with the perspective of many Partners that the targets, rather than hard goals, were a guiding ambition that formed part of a larger global policy and political process to prompt action at scale. This chapter delves into the purpose and successes of REAP's working groups, and some of the time-limited task forces that were convened for specific aims.

The REAP Secretariat and InsuResilience Global Partnership (IGP, now the Global Shield) co-chaired a pre-**COP26 task force on gender-smart early action and disaster risk financing**, and following this, the REAP Secretariat joined the **IGP Gender Working Group**, supporting development of the guide How to translate international commitments into action to achieve gender-smart Climate Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance Solutions.

The REAP Secretariat also co-facilitated (with the Anticipation Hub) the **IGP Sectoral Community on Linking Anticipatory Action and Risk Financing**. During the REAP Secretariat's tenure, the Sectoral Community produced Linking Anticipatory Action to Risk Financing: A Compendium of Think Pieces to deliver policy-relevant opinion pieces on challenges, opportunities, and solutions. After a hiatus, the Sectoral Community has returned as the **Thematic Working Group on Linking Risk Financing and Anticipatory Action**, under the chairing of the Anticipation Hub and the Munich Climate Insurance Initiative and launched with the paper Leveraging insurance for anticipatory action: insights and emerging lessons.

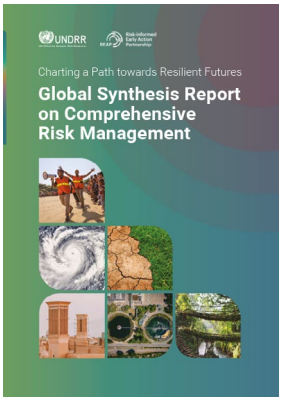
Target 1 Working Group on Comprehensive Risk Management (T1 WG)

Why this working group? REAP established the T1 WG following a 2021 multi-agency roundtable that highlighted the need for stronger coordination across disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. Co-chaired by UNDRR and the REAP Secretariat, the group met regularly to build shared understanding of comprehensive risk management (CRM), reduce duplication among Partners, and support governments to move from fragmented approaches toward more coherent, risk-informed governance by strengthening alignment across global frameworks and national processes while reinforcing national ownership.

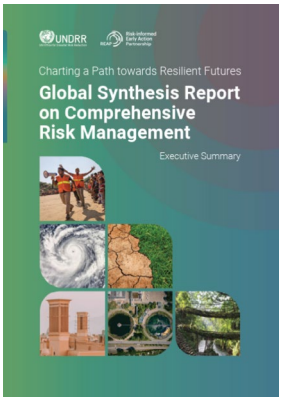
What did it achieve? A critical early success was the development of a "who-what-where" mapping which grew from fewer than 30 countries to a shared dataset spanning more than 60. The mapping helped identify overlaps, gaps, and opportunities for synergy across CRM-related activities, and over time, the group shifted from data collection to practical use of the mapping as a basis for dialogue, coordination, and alignment across Partners at country level. A 2022 strategy workshop with the Government of the Maldives demonstrated this approach in action.

The group also supported evidence generation and knowledge exchange, showcasing tools, guidance, and country experiences which fed into REAP knowledge products, State of Play reporting, and country case studies on the enabling environment for anticipatory action. In parallel, the group coordinated engagement around key global moments such as the COPs, the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, and NAP Expos, helping align messages and elevate CRM as a foundation for adaptation, loss and damage, and early warnings.

What did we learn? While political willingness to pursue integrated climate and disaster risk management is growing, implementation remains constrained by institutional silos, limited capacity, and fragmented financing. Mapping and coordination are essential starting points, but impact ultimately depends on sustained engagement at regional, country and sub-national levels, with governments in the lead. Effective CRM requires shared risk understanding across ministries, meaningful inclusion of local actors, and stronger links between risk assessment, planning, and financing. Global processes and guidance are most valuable when they translate into practical support, peer learning, and concrete examples that help countries move from parallel strategies toward truly integrated, risk-informed decision-making.

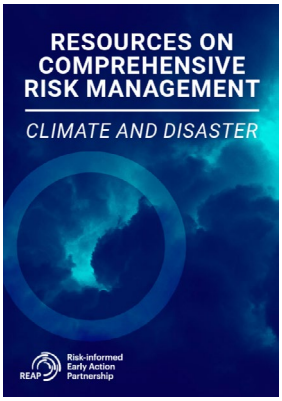


Global synthesis report on Comprehensive Risk Management: Charting a path towards resilient futures (2026)



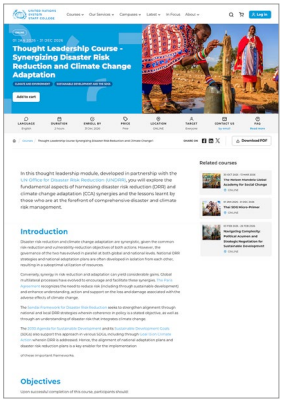
Executive Summary: Global Synthesis Report on Comprehensive Risk Management (2026)

Promising trends, persistent gaps, and practical pathways for coherence across governance, financing, and implementation, based on analysis of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and national DRR strategies from around the world.



Resources on Comprehensive Risk Management (2024)

Guidance documents, training courses, and resources for comprehensive risk management, organized by the agency they were published or developed by.



Thought Leadership Course - Synergizing Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation (2023)

A free, open-access e-learning course exploring the fundamentals of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation synergies, and lessons learnt by those working on CRM.



REAP Partners gather in the Resilience Hub at COP30 to discuss comprehensive risk management. Photo by Animesh Kumar

As disasters grow in scale, frequency, and complexity, the systems designed to manage risk remain siloed and fragmented. Yet systemic risks demand systemic solutions. Recognizing this, REAP's Target 1 focused on aligning the complementary aims of disaster risk reduction and climate action through coherent laws, policies, and plans.

Following a roundtable and creation of this dedicated REAP working group focused on strengthening policy coherence and supporting countries more effectively, we succeeded in bringing together key REAP members and the group quickly became a hub for coordinated action—mapping country support, compiling tools and technical resources, producing knowledge products that distill good practices, and elevating the topic at major global forums, including climate conferences. Regular exchanges with national governments, which shared progress and emerging needs, helped ensure that support remained targeted, responsive and context-specific.

The COP30 Presidency's decision to highlight comprehensive risk management in the Global Climate Action Agenda stands as a clear validation of this approach, showcasing the work to build resilience holistically through connecting DRR and climate action.

The collective work around this theme has strengthened the mandates of both REAP and UNDRR, providing a shared framework for advancing holistic risk governance.
The working group's outputs lay a firm foundation for operationalizing "policy integration," a central priority under the REAP 2030 Strategy's ambition for "sensemaking" and to "unlock action" at scale.





Animesh Kumar, Head, UNDRR Office in Bonn, and **Ben Webster,** Associate Director for Advisory, Training and Policy Engagement, CDP (former Head of REAP Secretariat).

Co-Chairs of the REAP Target 1 Working Group on Comprehensive Risk Management.

Target 2 Working Group (T2 WG)

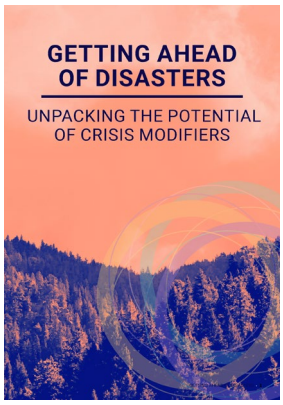
Why this working group? REAP established the T2 WG in 2024 to support the implementation of the Target 2 workplan and principles of the Getting Ahead of Disasters Charter. A linked series of events over the period 2021-2023 lead to the formation of the group: the publication of the State of Play 2021 and 2022 and "Finance for Early Action: Tracking Commitments, Trends, Challenges and Opportunities", which highlighted the issues surrounding the funding and financing of EWEA; two donor roundtables held in 2022 that elaborated a series of needs and actions designed to meet them; persistent challenges surfaced through IGP's Sectoral Community and the Insurance Development Forum's Sovereign and Humanitarian Solutions WG; the agreement with Partners of the Target 2 workplan in 2023; and finally, the development and launch of the Charter at COP28.

What did it achieve? The group brought together experts across a specific range of disciplines relevant to finance for early action, to collectively determine the best way to achieve the outcomes of the Target 2 workplan[2], and design the tools and guidance that would support the implementation of the Charter.

Alongside other interested Partners, the group supported the development of Getting Ahead of Disasters: Unpacking the Potential of Crisis Modifiers, a critical report shining the light on this innovative financing mechanism. While crisis modifiers themselves were not a new innovation, REAP Partners had identified that low understanding of their operation was preventing take up, and that they offered an important opportunity for risk-informing development planning.

Unfortunately, after two exploratory meetings the progress of the group suffered by the huge changes in the humanitarian and development sector, and it is currently inactive.

What did we learn? Once convened by the REAP Secretariat, the momentum was carried by the members who agreed that the group provided a much-needed space for discussion. Participants appreciated the opportunity to hear from colleagues in complementary but different fields in an informal environment, where individuals were invited based on their specialities, rather than as representatives of organizations. Offering people this option encourages open discussion, but requires a high degree of trust, which REAP built up over years.



Getting Ahead of Disasters: Unpacking the Potential of Crisis Modifiers (2024)

Addressing the lack of information on crisis modifiers, and to support the Getting Ahead of Disasters Charter, this paper sets out the definition and purpose of crisis modifiers, compares different types through examples, explains benefits and challenges, and explores the role they could play in the future.



Finance for Early Action: Tracking Commitments, Trends, Challenges and Opportunities (2022)

Documenting finance for early action pledges, building understanding of sources of finance and spending patterns, and tracking how the financing architecture is evolving.

2 (1) Finance for early action is diversified and expanded across sectors; (2) More, well-designed crisis finance is arranged in advance and arrives earlier; (3) Actors collaborate and coordinate more effectively; (4) Understanding and implementation of delivery mechanisms improves.

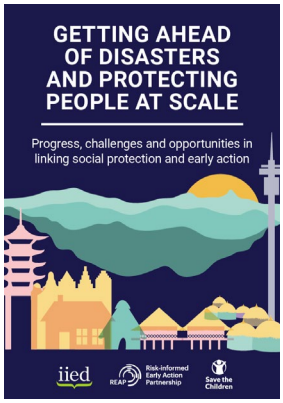
Linking Early Action and Social Protection Working Group (EA/SP WG)

Why this working group? REAP's EA/SP WG was convened at the request of UK FCDO ahead of COP26 to deliver key messages and policy positions. It brought together experts on shock-responsive and adaptive social protection—widely regarded as some of the most effective ways to deliver support to communities on the frontlines of the climate crisis—to deliver policy-relevant advice and build knowledge around how to effectively integrate social protection into early warning early action systems. Co-Chaired by UK FCDO and USAID, and subsequently then by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and Save the Children, after COP26 the group continued to support building shared understanding and collaborations amongst actors pursuing these two important agendas.

What did it achieve? Under the UK and US, the Working Group produced research on the EA/SP nexus, drafted briefing notes for key social protection fora such as the Adaptive Social Protection Forum in 2023, and organized events on social protection to disseminate knowledge and build understanding (e.g., at the annual Global Dialogue Platform). An external review of social protection and early action literature resulted in a 2026 policy paper offering recommendations for institutionalizing social protection as an early action tool. Overall, the group played a key role in building understanding of how social protection can be used effectively to support early action.

Once again, by 2025 it was increasingly difficult to maintain the group given the change taking place across the sector and following the publication of the policy paper, the group has disbanded.

What did we learn? The group quickly surfaced a fundamental issue: EWEA actors held a limited view of social protection as a simple delivery mechanism, rather than a complex macro-economic system, while social protection actors displayed a high degree of scepticism of EWEA as a new "silver bullet solution". Thus, the group focused on communicating the nuances of social protection and identifying practical points of entry for early action, including honesty around the limits of integrating the two.



Getting Ahead of Disasters and Protecting People at Scale: Progress, Challenges and Opportunities in Linking Social Protection and Early Action (2026)

A policy paper identifying where early action and social protection can be more effectively integrated, exploring barriers, and presenting strategies for overcoming the challenges.



Early action and the climate crisis: could social protection be a game changer? (2021)



Key messages: Early action and the climate crisis: could social protection be a game changer? (2021)

A briefing paper on the potential of early action and social protection as complementary approaches.



REAP Partners gather with key stakeholders at FFD4 in Sevilla (July 2025) to promote anticipatory social protection. Photo by Ritu Bharadwaj

I joined the REAP Early Action/Social Protection Working Group because social protection is one of the few systems that already reaches people at scale, and could be a practical route to move early warning into early action, especially in places facing repeated shocks. I also wanted to connect the social protection and anticipatory action communities, and learn from others working on delivery, risk communication, and financing.

The group has been genuinely useful for my work. It sharpened my thinking on what it takes to operationalize early action, such as triggers, delivery readiness, and pre-arranged finance, and it opened up collaborations and conversations with partners working across humanitarian, development, and climate spaces. It directly informed my work on the ASPIRE diagnostic and on CRISP-M, where we are testing how local planning, early warning, and last mile delivery can link to scalable programmes.

Beyond my own work, I think the WG has helped normalize the idea that social protection can be shock-responsive and anticipatory not as a pilot, but as a system goal. The biggest lesson for me is that we don't need to create new systems. We need to start with what exists, keep the trigger to delivery chain simple, invest in local capability and feedback loops, and be honest about the enabling conditions (data, coordination, and finance) that make early action real.



Ritu Bharadwaj, Director, Climate Resilience, Finance and Loss & Damage, IIED and IPCC Coordinating Lead Author, Cross Chapter paper on Least Developed Countrie and Lead Author, Working Group II

Co-chair, REAP Linking Early Action and Social Protection Working Group.

Early Warning Initiatives (EWI) Working Group

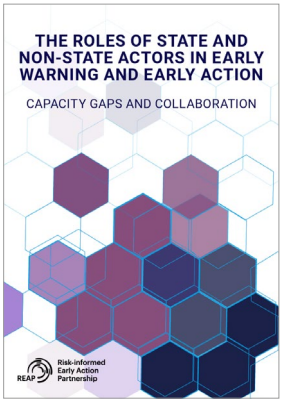
Why this working group? REAP established the EWI Working Group in 2021 to accelerate global progress toward REAP Targets 3 and 4. Initially chaired by the UK Met Office, and subsequently also by Practical Action, the working group met monthly to build shared understanding, improve coordination, and strengthen people-centred EWEA systems, guided by a core question: Which concrete actions have demonstrated scalable early warning systems that lead to early action?

What did it achieve? The group advanced several workstreams under the active leadership of its co-Chairs, CREWS, and the Anticipation Hub, including examining the diverse roles of state and non-state actors; elevating indigenous and local knowledge in early warning systems; showcasing contributions from private sector organizations (e.g., HydroMeteorological and Environmental Industry (HMEI), Deltares, Google, JBA Risk Management) to advanced modelling, risk analytics, and anticipatory insurance solutions; exploring challenges related to timescales and maladaptation; and analyzing financing challenges for people-centred early warning systems. The group proved to be a collaborative engine for evidence generation, practical insights, and cross-sector partnerships to strengthen global early warning systems and ensure they lead to meaningful, timely early action, especially for the communities most at risk.

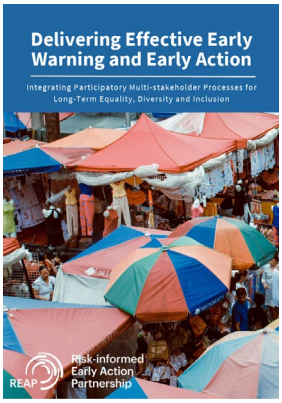
Some of the insights drawn from the group's work are distilled in the knowledge products below, as well as in blogs on reframing indigenous and local knowledge in early warning systems and artificial intelligence and early warning systems.

The Working Group also served as a space to coordinate and set up dedicated sessions and side events during moments such as Understanding Risk 2024 and the Global Platform for DRR 2025.

What did we learn? The REAP EWI Working Group discussions have provided a valued space to further prioritize stronger collaboration across the full range of EWEA stakeholders, address the fragmented mandates and priorities, and streamline financing for early warning systems. They flagged the need to develop robust frameworks for measuring the quality and impact of investments, ensuring equitable participation in decision-making, and enhancing mechanisms that enable local implementing actors to access necessary resources directly.



The Roles of State and Non-State Actors in Early Warning and Early Action



Delivering Effective Early Warning and Early Action: Integrating Participatory Multi-stakeholder Processes for Long-Term Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

This report and policy brief look at the multifaceted roles of state and non-state actors in delivering effective EWEA.



Enhancing Finance for People-Centred Early Warning Systems



Policy brief on Enhancing Finance for People-Centred Early Warning Systems

This report and policy brief explore how to reorient early warning financing towards systems that are inclusive, locally owned, and integrated across sectors.

In 2019, the UK Government and UK Met Office sought to address the gap between national disaster risk management and climate adaptation planning, and ensure the predictive capabilities of national agencies informed holistic approaches to climate risks. It was this recognition that strongly contributed to the formation of REAP.

Since then, REAP has expanded the network of the Met Office international team and we are more connected to agencies working in communities. These connections have primarily come through the EWI WG, where we have had the opportunity to share our 50 years of global experience and our own extensive operational experience providing early warnings to UK citizens, business and government.

We have also learnt a lot from other members of the group, via discussions on the roles of state and non-state actors, allowing us —as a government agency—to think outside the 'public' sphere. The early warning systems compendium has also become an extremely helpful handbook for proposal writing, programme design and delivery. As global strategic partnership manager for Met Office international, being a member of the EWI WG has meant I have excellent exposure to and understanding of all those working in this field which informs the work of my team across design, co-production, and delivery of early warnings across all timescales.



Nyree Pinder
Global Strategic Partnerships Manager, Met Office (UK)

SPOTLIGHT ON UNDERSTANDING RISK GLOBAL FORUM 2024

What was it? A biennial conference convened by the World Bank in Himeji, Japan (June 2024). REAP's Early Warning Initiatives Working Group generated an idea for a workshop to educate stakeholders about designing effective early warning systems.

Who was there? Led by the co-Chairs of the working group, the UK Met Office and Practical Action, a large cross-section of REAP Partners, including BBC Media Action, the CREWS, GSMA, Plan International, the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, START Network, the WMO, and the REAP Secretariat.

What did we do? We hosted a full-day interactive workshop called "Unifying partners old and new to ensure warnings save lives." Four sessions were each led by a group of REAP Partners and blended seamlessly together into a day-long case study where we explored early warnings and early action from a range of different perspectives—and in a context of rapidly evolving risks.

Was it a success? Participants were universal in their praise for the learning opportunity the workshop had provided. It's unfortunately rare to have the opportunity to consider EWEA in such a holistic manner.

Risk Communication Working Group (RC WG)

Why this working group? REAP established the RC WG in 2022 based on a clear demand from Partners for a space to promote effective risk communication and informed dialogue for decision-making, in support of REAP Target 4. Initially chaired by BBC Media Action and Resurgence, and then by the GSMA and the ITU, the group met every other month to explore early warning systems risk communication challenges, particularly reaching marginalized and vulnerable communities effectively.

What did it achieve? The RC WG operated through three thematic subgroups focusing on (1) guidance/principles, (2) policy, and (3) practice, with efforts to develop toolkits, policy recommendations, and research in a number of areas including:

- Ensuring communication reaches marginalized groups.
- Bridging scientific forecasting agencies and community-level dissemination.
- Addressing psychological and social biases that affect response to warnings.
- Developing multi-directional communication systems to strengthen dialogue, trust-building, and accountability.

From 2025 onwards, the group worked more closely with EW4All, contributing expertise to the "Warning Dissemination and Communication" pillar (Pillar 3) and supporting country-level implementation. It also assisted the design and launch of the IFRC's Community Trust Index (CTI) to measure and enhance community trust in early warning systems, piloted in Mozambique and Nepal.

Working group members contributed to events at Understanding Risk 2024, the Global Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Humanitarian Action, COP28 and COP29, the University College London Creating Effective Warnings for All conference, the AI for Good Summit, and other forums focused on innovation in early warning and risk communication.

What did we learn? By leveraging the collective intelligence of the broad range of Partners committed to ensuring that warnings lead to action, REAP Partners significantly improved the effectiveness of their messaging, as part of a broader early warning system communication strategy. Through the application of key principles for effective risk communication, the sharing of experiences amongst peers and the building of new connections, early warning systems can lead to concrete behaviour changes that can save lives and protect livelihoods.



The five components for effective early warning communication

A guide for policy makers and practitioners to appreciate the systemic issues underlying the effectiveness of early warnings and early action protocols (or lack of effectiveness).

GSMA initially joined the REAP RC WG to connect with others working in this space and to learn how risk communication is approached across different contexts and disciplines. The group offered a valuable forum to engage with practitioners and organizations thinking critically about how early warnings translate into action, and to position GSMA's work within the wider early action ecosystem. Through regular engagement, we built relationships that led to tangible partnerships through hosting joint sessions at events and launching new research collaborations.

The working group has cemented a vibrant community of practice with shared goals and policy drivers. Our collective emphasis on inclusion and people-centred approaches has helped reinforce these priorities in wider discussions and advocacy efforts beyond the group itself. It has been truly valuable to learn from actors approaching risk communication from different perspectives. These exchanges helped question assumptions and supported the development of a shared understanding of what the priorities are and where gaps remain.



Susanna Acland, Senior Research and Policy Manager, Mobile for Humanitarian Innovation, GSMA.

Co-Chair of the Risk Communication Working Group.

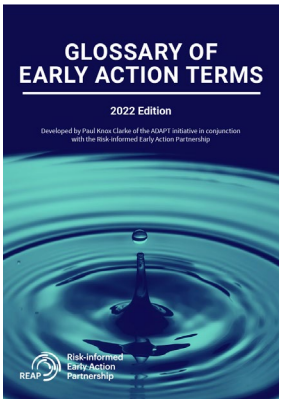
TASK FORCES

Reference Group for the Glossary of Early Action Terms: 2022 Edition

Why this group? Language and definitions are contentious but important issues: the EA/SP WG experienced this first-hand in trying to bring early action and social protection actors together. At the worst, misalignment can prevent effective collaboration. While previous attempts to agree definitions of key terms had limited success, Partners and donors asked the REAP Secretariat to coordinate a REAP effort. An independent consultant with extensive experience in collective sensemaking processes (e.g., the Grand Bargain) was hired and a reference group of Partners was convened.

Why was it important? The Glossary is a guide to help diverse actors more easily understand one another. The reference group development process itself facilitated productive conversations amongst Partners that had previously been struggling to reach consensus. Learning from the process also heavily contributed to REAP's own conception of the EWEA value chain and the significant need for convening and collective sensemaking across value chain actors.

Because the Glossary sets out normative definitions rather than being a rigid "dictionary", it enables flexible and productive conversations. It also builds on existing agreements, reflecting and referencing definitions where they already existed. This helped ensure that individuals and organizations could see their previous work was being acknowledged and they were therefore more willing to endorse new or modified definitions.



Glossary of Early Action Terms: 2022 Edition

An attempt to clarify key terms in the field of risk-informed early action by outlining how each term is used by various actors.

Compendium of Visualizations Expert Group

Why this group? Following recommendations in the State of Play reports, the REAP Secretariat convened a group of experts[3] (Mar-Nov 2023) to better comprehend how different organizations conceptualize the linkages across EWEA components. As these discussions progressed, an additional 15 organizations asked for the opportunity to input, demonstrating the high level of interest in this topic. Their inputs were added, with a critical outcome being the progressive understanding of other approaches to EWEA value chains. These expert contributors came from NGOs, media, academia, meteorology services, regional bodies, donors and UN agencies.

Why was it important? The compendium produced by the group presents 10 distinct visualizations selected for their contribution to overall thinking on how different disciplines and types of organizations approach EWEA, and concludes with a summary graph that outlines the 71 elements that these visualizations identify for effective early warning early action systems, grouped by 'Foundational elements' (legal, institutional and participation design aspects), 'Design timescale' (development of EWEA systems), and 'Event timescale' (actions taken once a warning has been issued). For intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies providing technical expertise and financial support to nationally-mandated early warning systems authorities, this guide is a critical resource to ensure truly holistic approaches to system design that incorporate multiple viewpoints.



The REAP Compendium of Visualizations on Early Warning and Early Action

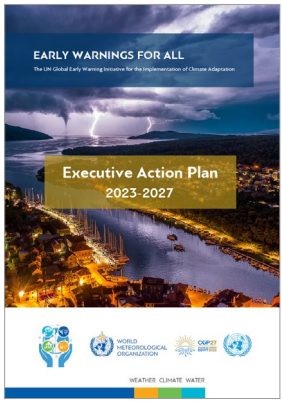
A comparison of how different actors conceptualize early warning early action systems, and identification of the complementary components that enable effective systems.

3 Australian Bureau of Meteorology; BBC Media Action; Caribbean Meteorological Organization; FAO; GEO Secretariat; Green Climate Fund; ICPAC; IFRC; Practical Action; Start Network; Tufts University; UK Met Office; UNDRR; USAID; and WFP. Additional input provided by CREWS, Deltares, GDPC, Red Cross Climate Centre, Resurgence, UK Health Security Agency, and WMO, as well as several independent consultants.

EW4All Advisory Group

Why this group? The WMO-REAP-CoE[4] "Early Warning for All" Advisory Group was established in response to the launch of the EW4All initiative, to support the development of an Executive Action Plan. In August 2022, the Advisory Group brought together 10 experts to reflect on the opportunities that this initiative provided in generating momentum around early warning systems commitments. To achieve this, the group shared good practices in existing people-centred early warning systems, served as a sounding board for the Plan's lead author, and assisted in documenting relevant resources for the design of the initiative.

Why was it important? The input provided by the Advisory Group helped lead to the production of two working papers that served as the foundation for the EW4All Executive Action plan: "The Gaps in the Global System for the Warning of Extreme Events", and "The Global Early Warning Architecture that delivers Early Warnings for All".



Early Warnings for All: Executive action plan 2023-2027

An attempt to clarify key terms in the field of risk-informed early action by outlining how each term is used by various actors.

4 Centre of Excellence for Climate and Disaster Resilience



UNDRR, WMO, and the REAP Secretariat gather in Malawi for the CREWS Steering Committee meeting. Photo by Catalina Jaime

REAP'S WORK WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE DEDICATED AND CONSISTENT SUPPORT OF ITS PARTNERS

Adaptation Research Alliance (ARA)

African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD)

African Risk Capacity (ARC)

African Union Commission (AUC)

Aktion Gegen den Hunger (Action Against Hunger)

Alliance to Feed the Earth in Disasters (ALLFED)

Anticipation Hub

Arab Republic of Egypt

Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)

BBC Media Action

Belize

BRAC International

Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC)

Centre for Disaster Protection (CDP)

El Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de los Desastres en América Central y República Dominicana (CEPREDENAC)

CLEAR Global

Climate Application and Prediction Centre for Central Africa (CAPC-AC)

Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) Initiative

Concern Worldwide

Danish Refugee Council

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe

E Co. Ltd.

Federal Republic of Germany

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

French Republic

GiveDirectly

Global Heat Health Information Network (GHHIN)

Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR)

Global Resilience Partnership (GRP)

Global Water Partnership (GWP)

GOAL Global

Government of Nepal, Ministry of Home Affairs, National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA)

Government of Samoa

Government of Sweden

Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

Grantham Research Institute at the London School of Economics

Green Climate Fund (GCF)

Group on Earth Observations (GEO)

GSMA Mobile for Development

Howden Group

Humanitarian Advisory Group

Humanity & Inclusion

IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC)

iMMAP Inc.

Insurance Development Forum (InsDevForum)

International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

International Rescue Committee (IRC)

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Jamaica

Jameel Observatory

Kingdom of Norway

Komunidad

LeoBlue

MapAction

Mercy Corps

Ministry of Economy of Fiji

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark

Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan

National Agency of Civil Protection, Togolese Republic

Nexus Somalia NGO Consortium

NORCAP, part of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)

ODI Global

Office of the Somali Prime Minister

OurLoop Stichting

Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Company (PCRIC)

Pacific Disaster Center (PDC)

People In Need

People's Republic of Bangladesh

PERIPERI-U Network

Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS)

Plan International UK

Practical Action

Principality of Liechtenstein

Republic of Finland

Republic of Ireland

Republic of Malawi

Resilience Rising *

Resurgence

Saint Lucia

Save the Children

Somali Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA)

START Network

Tearfund

The Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED)

The Gambia National Disaster Management Agency

The Government of Canada

Tonkin + Taylor International

University College London Warning Research Centre

UK Health Security Agency (UK HSA)

UK Met Office (UKMO)

United Arab Emirates

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) Local Climate Adaptive Living (LoCAL) Facility

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA)

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

United States Agency for International Development (USAID) *

Welthungerhilfe

World Food Programme (WFP)

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

World Vision International (WVI)

* Has since closed their operations


REAP
Risk-informed
Early Action
Partnership