

Terms of Reference

for a core group of technical focal points to guide the design of an anticipatory action framework in Chad (the “AA Core Group”)

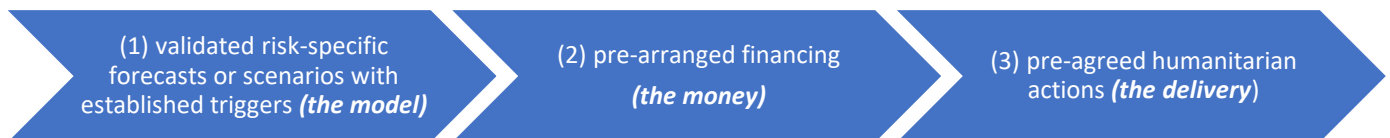
1. Background

OCHA considers AA as actions taken in response to a trigger (signaling an imminent hazard), before an emergency, which are intended to mitigate the impact of a foreseen hazard.

Acting prior to the onset of a predictable hazard helps to safeguard lives and livelihoods, to reduce human suffering, minimize losses and damages; it is also a faster, more efficient, and more dignified response.

OCHA has already facilitated the design and implementation of AA by humanitarian partners in 3 pilot countries (Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Somalia) through AA frameworks that use CERF funding to support faster collective action on predictable problems like drought and floods.

AA frameworks establish when and on what basis a humanitarian action will be triggered for a specific event; what activities the funding will be used for; how much funding will go to each agency. Accordingly, every framework must have three interconnected components:



The AA frameworks are developed and implemented in a consultative and participatory manner, whereby the RC/HC (supported by OCHA/RCO) convenes, leads, and facilitates this process from planning, design, implementation, as well as monitoring and evaluation.

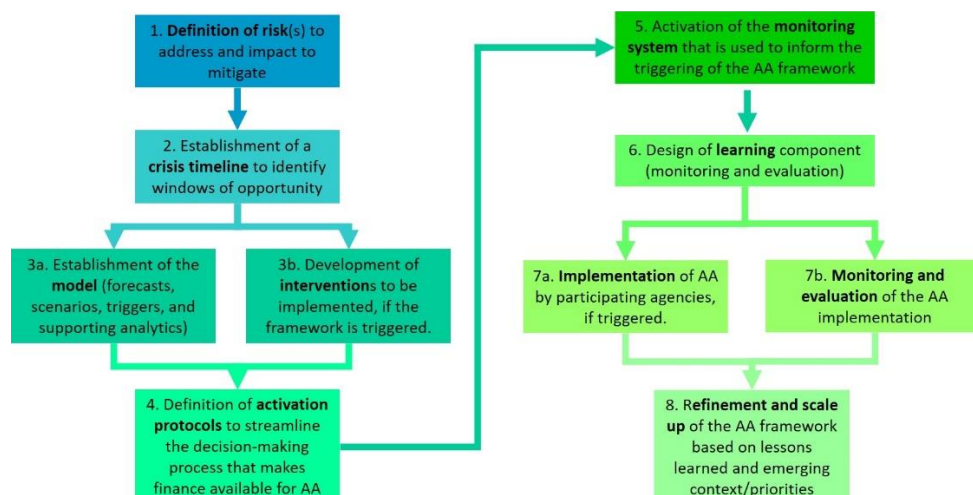
The process is anchored in an AA core group, which is made up of representatives of technical focal points from interested agencies who are willing and able to invest in anticipatory action in Chad. This document provides more details about the composition and work of the AA core group.

2. AA Core Group Overview

The first phase of the AA pilot is focused on the design and testing of the AA framework. Then, the second phase, based on the learning of the AA pilot, intends to sustainably, scale up the approach.

Looking at the design and testing phase exclusively, the design activities can take between 3 to 6 months, while the testing activities can take up to 9 months. The testing is synonymous with the activation and implementation of the planned AAs.

Throughout this process, the AA Core Group is key to taking forward the pilot (see illustration below), under the general guidance of the RC/HC.



3. Responsibilities of the AA Core Group

The list below summarizes the responsibilities of the AA Core Group. As such, each agency, represented by the relevant technical focal points, will be asked to contribute to the related processes and consolidate the relevant input from their agency.

1. Provide advice on the identification of the priority impacts/hazard(s) for the framework to focus on
2. Develop a crisis timeline (first draft provided by OCHA)
3. Provide input on the design of a trigger mechanism and governance system
4. Propose a cross-sectoral set of anticipatory interventions*
5. Develop 2-3 activation scenarios (in terms of shock severity/funding/number of people targeted)
6. Develop concrete project proposals for anticipatory interventions
7. Contribute to the monitoring, evaluation and learning activities of the pilot

At all stages of the process, the AA Core Group will be working with an OCHA team (of country and headquarters staff).

4. Ways of Working

OCHA shall appoint a day-to-day focal point for the AA pilot. The focal point will help facilitate the work of the AA Core Group.

AA Core Group members will be nominated by the agencies that are interested and able to participate in the AA pilot. A lead and alternate focal point should be nominated by each of the agencies.

During the 3 to 6 months of the design phase, meetings of the AA Core Group are likely to be higher in frequency. The meetings could initially be every week, or every other week, depending on the work plan.

Once the AA framework is set up and pending activation, the meetings of the AA Core Group will lessen. The meetings will then focus on the monitoring of the system, which would dictate the potential activation of the system.

If the framework is triggered, regular meetings are encouraged to support sharing of experiences and cross-learning.

Following the activation period, for purposes of monitoring and evaluation, the AA Core Group will continue to meet to ensure that the pilot is well documented and learnings are gained to refine and sustainably scale up AA in-country.

HCT/ ICCG/ sector members shall be maintained informed on a regular basis of the work done by the AA Core Group.

Unless otherwise agreed, the group will be dissolved after the completion of the pilot.

5. Profile of group participants

Agencies are encouraged to nominate focal points for the AA core group that have knowledge and experience of (at least some of) the following areas:

- Thematic/technical expertise in relevant sectors
- Early warning information/systems
- Preparedness, or operational readiness
- Disaster risk management and risk finance
- Resilience and Climate Change
- Crisis modifiers and triggers
- Contingency planning and finance
- Vulnerability assessment and monitoring