

Step 1: Reach out to IFRC delegation

Every National Society is covered by an IFRC Country Delegation, Country Cluster Delegation or Regional Office. Engaging with the IFRC should start from the beginning of the EAP development phase. The IFRC can provide technical support, including coordination with other in-country capacity strengthening initiatives, advice from IFRC sectoral experts, explanations of IFRC standards and guidelines, and providing lessons learned from response operations and anticipatory action.

Support on the IFRC plan and budgeting structure can be provided by the IFRC focal point at country or regional level. The EAP budget should be developed using the IFRC budget template (see [toolbox](#)) and advice on the budget can be provided by IFRC finance staff. Ultimately the finalised EAP will be submitted to the IFRC delegation for technical review and funding from the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF). Not involving the IFRC early in the EAP development process will likely result in delays in the technical review and approval of the EAP. The IFRC DREF does not provide funding for development of plans for anticipation or for response. National Societies should look for different sources of funding for these costs.