

Step 0: Monitor the forecasts and get ready

While the activation process starts, when the trigger is reached, in most cases forecasts already indicate a few days before the critical threshold is reached that an extreme event is approaching. This period can provide the National Society with crucial extra time to get ready for activation. Questions to be answered include: Is the automatic trigger mechanism in place and functioning? Or where there is no automatic system, does the person in charge of monitoring know whom to inform? Are all items available? Are necessary agreements with providers in place? Do all those involved know what to do? Are transport options ready to go? For branches that look most likely to be involved in activation, is all contact information up to date? Are local authorities informed that an activation might happen?



The few days before the activation give time for a last double-check that everything is in place. However, all necessary arrangements and plans should already be made during EAP development and set-up of the FbF system. Especially, the implementation process chart, detailing what will be done where at what moment by whom as well as the communication protocol, comprising contact information and who should communicate to whom, what and when, need to already be in place. (See Chapter Develop your EAP)