Step 3: Define your impact level

While a good forecast will tell you how much rain will fall and when, for FbF we would need to know how much rain is likely to cause a flood? And what level of flooding has caused a disastrous impact in the past? FbF is meant to reduce the impacts of extreme events of a strength or magnitude that have required humanitarian assistance in the past. Based on detailed analysis of risks associated with the relevant hazards, impact assessments of past events and vulnerability data, “impact levels” for a region are identified, e.g. this amount X of rainfall over 3 days has caused severe destruction of houses in the past. When the selected forecast indicates that the impact level will be reached, the EAP is triggered.

Trigger development is done in line with the impact-based forecasting approach. Chapter 4.1 Set the trigger outlines necessary steps a National Society must take to define their impact level and set triggers.