



Reasons to move towards Impact-based Forecasting

- Like humanitarian assistance in general, due to lack of funds and capacity FbF will not be able to help all populations at risk when an extreme event is approaching. Impact-based forecasting helps FbF identify those areas/communities for which the most severe humanitarian impact is expected and to prioritize those areas for the implementation of early actions. Similar to humanitarian response, which acts where disaster impact and needs are greatest, with the help of impact-based forecasting, FbF acts where the predicted impact and needs are greatest.
- Thus, impact-based triggers allow for evidence-based decision making. Deciding when and where to act based on the best possible information, rather than subjective information or judgment allows for transparent and accountable prioritization and decision-making.
- Impact-based forecast provides sector-specific and context-specific decision-making information to know who and what is more likely to be impacted by certain hazard. This can lead to more targeted and efficient sectoral early actions and response actions at the household and institutional levels.
- By focusing on communicating what could be the potential impacts of a forecast hazard, it is expected that the population at risk and the responding professionals (DM agencies, Red Cross Red Crescent, UN Agencies, NGOs, Civil society, etc) will be able to take more effective decision to activate Early Action Protocols, contingency plans and household level plans, and to act before a disaster happens.
- The development of Impact based forecast services, represents a radical shift in the way weather services are produced. Production of impact-based forecasts should therefore be a collaborative, participatory and inclusive process, in which triggers are co-produced among key agencies.

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This chapter will guide you through the process of defining the trigger for your EAP. It will address the following questions:

- What steps are required for the risk analysis?
- How can you assess the available forecasts and create an inventory of forecasts?
- How can you select the exposure and vulnerability indicators for your trigger model?
- How can you create an intervention map?
- How can you define and justify your impact level?

The steps below are not intended to be implemented in any particular order; different tasks may happen in parallel in what is an iterative process.