

UNDP Initiative on Preparedness & Anticipatory Action

A UNDP initiative to build capacities to better anticipate uncertainty, risk and crisis

The UNDP Initiative on Preparedness & Anticipatory Action is an overarching framework encompassing a portfolio of projects and programmes whose purpose is enhancing the **institutional, strategic, and operational capabilities** of UNDP Country Offices for **preparedness and anticipatory action**.

The Initiative is built upon:

- (i) A **community** of UNDP practitioners and government representatives sharing knowledge and joint learning through the UNDP Anticipation Academy;
- (ii) State-of-the-art tools, templates and **knowledge** products brought together under the UNDP Preparedness Toolkit;
- (iii) Impact-oriented **action** channeled through UNDP projects such as the *Strengthening Disaster Preparedness and Anticipatory Capacities in West and Central Africa* project.

The purpose is aligned with the UNDP Strategic Plan 2022-2025, where innovation and digitalization are *enablers* for resilience, which is both a *direction of change* and a *signature solution*.

What is UNDP's value proposition in preparedness and anticipatory action?

Preparedness and anticipatory initiatives enable people and organizations to take meaningful action ahead of crises, saving lives and livelihoods, providing economic benefits, and allowing countries and institutions to continue their pathways towards **resilient and sustainable development**, undeterred by crisis.

UNDP's value proposition is based on a comprehensive, **multi-dimensional** understanding of **systemic risk and uncertainty** that propels a shift from reaction to anticipation and prevention.

Preparedness and anticipatory action aim to reduce the risk potential and impact level of crises while facilitating effective response and recovery. For UNDP, these are core components of resilient and **risk-informed development**.

UNDP offers a unique developmental positioning of preparedness and anticipatory action not only as vehicles supporting immediate emergency or humanitarian response in the face of imminent crisis, but also – and more importantly – as useful instruments that can contribute to preventing risks from turning into crises or reducing their potential impact. Preparedness and anticipation thus sit at the **intersection of and serve both development and humanitarian realms**.

Community

The **Anticipation Academy** leverages **UNDP's Crisis Academy** model to facilitates joint learning and knowledge exchange among government representatives and UNDP practitioners to build **future-fit decision intelligence** to serve development action in the face of increasing uncertain futures.

Knowledge

The **UNDP Preparedness Toolkit** serves as a programmatic manual for UNDP Country Offices to design projects and programmes related to preparedness and anticipatory action in support of national and local priorities, improve the speed and efficiency of UNDP's programmatic solutions, and apply **foresight** to inform their development work, including in crisis settings.

Action

The Initiative gives rise to a series of impact-oriented projects and tools including but not limited to:

- **Risk scenario-building tools** using hindsight, insight and foresight to enable future-fit decision intelligence;
- The **'Digital Disaster Risk Reduction Maturity Model'**;
- The **'Strengthening Disaster Preparedness and Anticipatory Capacities in West and Central Africa'** project;
- The **'What if we were able to avert the next famine in the Horn of Africa?'** project

Expected Results

The Initiative will enhance the capacity of UNDP Country Offices for disaster preparedness and anticipatory action by securing the following outcomes:



Expanded expertise in applying anticipation by government and UNDP Country Offices



Improved decision intelligence on development solutions based on foresight



Expanded uptake and application of technological solutions for better preparedness and anticipation



Improved technical, human and financial resource allocation and mobilization for preparedness and anticipatory action

Impact

