Early Warning Systems GAP ANAlysis – Techincal WORKSHOP

[TIMe, date, venue]

## concept note and Agenda

This workshop is recommended only in case there is no prior gap analysis of early warning systems conducted for all four pillars and cross-cutting dimensions.

**Disclaimer**: The proposed gap analysis process does not apply to Pillar 2 on Detection, Monitoring, Analysis & Forecasting. As Pillar lead, WMO conducts a dedicated consultation process with National Hydro-meteorological Services, through which the relevant information is sourced accordingly. Therefore, the gap analysis technical workshop shall not review or collect any information concerning Pillar 2. However, National Hydro-meteorological Services should be invited as participants to this workshop, for the sake of coordination and alignment and for their input into inter-pillar discussions. The information collected independently for Pillar 2’s gap analysis may be presented during the plenary session.

## Introduction

Early Warning Systems are a proven and effective disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation measure, that saves lives and provides a tenfold return on investment. Yet, major gaps in early warning systems remain, especially when it comes to translating early warnings into risk-informed early action.

Along the four foundational pillars – risk knowledge, observation and forecasting, communication and dissemination and preparedness to respond – significant gaps pose challenges to the effective implementation of EWS:

**Pillar 1**

**Disaster risk knowledge**, the first pillar of EWS, suffers from significant shortcomings globally. Less than half of the countries reporting to have multi-hazard EWS, indicate they have disaster risk information and assessments available in an appropriate manner. Even fewer countries have EWS that are based in national legislation and regulatory frameworks for emergency response. Beyond the technical issues related to data collection and interoperability, a lack of understanding of the socioeconomic benefits of risk data for EWS, a lack of legislation and governance among national institutions are key priorities to be addressed globally.

**Pillar 2**

An assessment of **observation, monitoring, and forecasting** of hazards, reveals significant global gaps. In-situ observations fall far short of meeting the requirements of the Global Basic Observation Network. In the forecasting area, many countries lack the capacity to incorporate an impact-based approach to forecasting and still have challenges in accessing, analyzing, and translating prediction model outputs into actionable warning messages.

**Pillar 3**

Considering **warning dissemination and communication**, alerting authorities frequently use a variety of communication channels. Differences lie in the uptake of modern information and communication technologies in addition to the traditional mass media such as radios and TV channels. Challenges however remain in ensuring that public warnings from official sources are easily recognized, that redistribution including through relays of information at the community levels reaches all people at risk, especially the most vulnerable. The implementation of the Common Alerting Protocol, although recognized as suitable and ensuring consistency for all hazards and all media is still a gap in many countries.

**Pillar 4**

Having **preparedness and response plans and capabilities**, including at local government level is vital for responding to warnings issued by the regional or national hydro-meteorological services. Less than half of the countries which have WES in place report on the availability of such plans. Identified global gaps in this area relate to policy development, governance, collaboration, and inclusion at large.

To address these persisting challenges, the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) – a global initiative to ensure that everyone on Earth is protected by early warnings by 2027 – is being fast-tracked into action on the ground. The UN Secretary-General released in November 2022 the [High-level Executive Action Plan](https://www.preventionweb.net/publication/early-warnings-all-executive-action-plan-2023-2027) for this initiative, emphasising the urgent need to support the most vulnerable.

Building on the national inception workshop held on [DATE], this technical workshop will gather key stakeholders for a stock-take of existing actions, initiatives and progress on national EWS and identification of existing gaps, challenges and priorities. **It is recommended that country level actors review existing gap analysis material and review the tool in advance so that the workshop is based on existing information.**

This technical workshop is led by [NATIONAL AGENCY], and co-organized with the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office, UNDRR, WMO, ITU and IFRC.

## OBJECTIVES

## The technical workshop on Early Warning Systems Gap Analysis aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. Review of existing components of national EWS, for pillars 1, 3 & 4 as well as for cross-pillar dimensions, such as governance, stakeholder coordination, M&E, etc.
2. Identification of gaps and opportunities to scale up the implementation of national EWS, improve their coverage, delivery and effectiveness.

## Expected Outcomes

## The technical workshop on Early Warning Systems Gap Analysis aims to result in the following outcomes:

1. A completed minimum core capability checklist for pillars 1, 3 and 4 as well as for the inter-pillar domain
2. Sharing of the status of the 4 pillars and inter-pillar domains
3. List of priorities for technical support identified for all four pillars and inter-pillar domain

## National Consultation on Early Warnings for All

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| Time | Activity | Facilitators |
| 8:40 – 9:00 | Registration |  |
| 9:00 – 9:15 | Opening & Introduction to Minimum core capability checklist  | WMO/ UNDRR / ITU / IFRC |
| 9:15 – 10:30 | Breakout sessions: completing the pillar checklist (first group rotation) | One group for each pillar |
| 10.30 -10.45 | BREAK |
| 10.45 -12.30 | Breakout sessions: completing the pillar checklists (second group rotation) | One group for each pillar |
| 12.30 -13.30 |  LUNCH |
| 13.30 -15.00 | Breakout sessions: completing the inter-pillar checklist | One group for each pillar |
| 15.00 -16.30 | Presentations in plenary: Pillars 1, 2 & 3 | WMO/ UNDRR / ITU / IFRC |
| 16.30-17.30 | Presentations in plenary: Pillar 4 and inter-pillar | WMO/ UNDRR / ITU / IFRC |
| 17.30-18.00 | Way forward | TBD |