

EW4All Initiative: Recommended Steps for Country Roll-out & Implementation

Guide for Resident Coordinators and implementing actors

Please note that these suggested activities are for those countries that require them. For example, many countries will already have carried out gap analysis, or already have a Road Map. It is important that each country determine its own pathway, dependent on their specific circumstances and needs. These proposed steps are designed to help in your deliberations.

It is recommended that the UN focal point, designated by the Resident Coordinator, play a facilitating role to achieve these steps (as required) and to support liaison with the Government. In addition, the focal point may facilitate liaison between country actors and Pillar leads agencies at the regional and global levels.

Step 1.

Conduct stakeholder mapping: as a first step, the Initiative recommends identifying and mapping out all relevant stakeholders in the country, who are active across the spectrum of EWS – risk knowledge, monitoring and observations, dissemination and communication, and response. This includes government agencies, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, private sector entities, and communities at risk. To ensure for EWS to be accessible to all, identify Organisations of Persons with Disabilities to join at all levels of discussion. The mapping exercise will help to identify key actors, their roles (i.e. capacity development, direct implementation, technical support, donors, etc.), and gaps in stakeholder engagement. Should existing mappings be available, this step can be skipped.

Step 2.

Convene a national consultative workshop: A consultative workshop should be organized to present the Early Warning Initiative, secure institutional buy-in, present ongoing early warning work in the country, identify an appropriate coordination mechanism, discuss gaps and needs for support. The workshop should engage all stakeholders, including government officials, civil society representatives (including Organisations of Persons with Disabilities), and

affected communities. The workshop covers all four pillars of EWS. A key outcome is agreement on the most appropriate coordination mechanism for early warning. An indicative agenda is available, as is technical support for facilitation.

Step 3.

Conduct a gap analysis: After the consultative workshop, it is recommended that a gap analysis is conducted across all four pillars of early warnings, namely risk knowledge, monitoring and analysis, communication and dissemination, and response capability, if required. The gap analysis will help to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the existing early warning systems and highlight areas for improvement. A minimum core capability checklist developed by the EW4All Initiative can be made available for the gap analysis at country level. This exercise can be carried out as a one-day workshop which can be a useful way of ensuring all stakeholders have a shared understanding of the requirements of early warning systems across the four pillars. If a country opts for a workshop, technical support can be provided for facilitation.

Step 4.

Develop a national implementation roadmap: Based on the findings of the gap analysis, and if lacking, a roadmap should be drafted and endorsed. The roadmap should set out how to bridge the identified gaps, and outline the key actions and timelines required to improve the effectiveness of the early warning systems. The roadmap should also include provisions for monitoring and evaluation, to ensure that progress is being made towards achieving the goals of the initiative. A financing component is also critical, and additional technical support may be required to develop sustainable financing solutions for early warning.

Step 5.

Implementation, Monitoring and Reporting: The implementation of Early Warning involves a range of activities, including improving risk knowledge, strengthening monitoring and analysis capabilities, enhancing communication and dissemination systems, and building response capacity. The implementation process should be guided by the stakeholder coordination mechanism established or confirmed in the national consultative workshop.

Each EW4All Pillar has developed a detailed 18-month workplan and a 5-year implementation strategy, which should be consulted and used as guidance and blueprint. A key focus of this initiative is to promote a coordinated, cross pillar approach that prioritises strong coordination. A monitoring framework has been established for use in countries, and technical support is also available to strengthen reporting on Target G of the Sendai Framework, which tracks progress on Early Warning systems.