Climate change is increasing the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, most of which can be forecasted before they happen. Natural hazards affect 200 million people, kill 67,000 people and drive 26 million people into poverty every year. Vulnerable groups, the elderly, people with disabilities, women and children suffer the most. Lack of agreed triggers for action, lack of clarity on appropriate actions to take, and lack of funding compound the issue.

**The Problem**

- Climate change is increasing the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, most of which can be forecasted before they happen.
- Natural hazards affect 200 million people, kill 67,000 people and drive 26 million people into poverty every year.
- Vulnerable groups, the elderly, people with disabilities, women and children suffer the most.
- Lack of agreed triggers for action, lack of clarity on appropriate actions to take, and lack of funding compound the issue.

**Solution:**

Address risks before they become disasters.

We will help communities adopt the **Early Warning Early Action** approach which translates warnings into anticipatory action including:

- Evacuating people before a flood to reduce need for rescue and support
- Helping farmers identify alternative livelihoods for alternative income post-disaster
- Harvesting crops early to protect assets and livelihoods
- Releasing anticipatory cash grants so people can buy materials to reinforce homes

"Upgrading early warning and early action capacity in developing countries translates to 23,000 lives saved per year and up to US $2 Billion in avoided asset losses per year."

**Source:** World Bank Group
SRATEGY

Introduce forecast-based action in new countries through a pilot process that introduces triggers and actions to reduce the impact of hazards

Expand forecast-based action to additional hazards in countries already using the model

Introduce an end-to-end early warning system that includes nationwide adoption of triggers and forecast-based actions

SUSTAINABILITY

Our project will leverage the Red Cross Red Crescent (RC/RC) network to establish community and nationally owned early warning and early action systems that can operate beyond the lifetime of the project

- Build the capacity of RC/RC national societies to lead early warning and early action efforts in their respective countries.
- Support national RC/RC societies to be ready to complement and reinforce community-led early actions and a national forecast-based action system.
- Connect national societies with in-country resources and stakeholders for further capacity building.

REASON TO BELIEVE

RC/RC national societies are well placed to support people and communities before, during and after disasters due to their:

- Permanent presence in communities
- Role as auxiliaries to the public authorities in the humanitarian field
- Extensive network of local branches and community-based volunteers
- Disaster risk management structures and capacities developed in almost every country in the world

Access to IFRC finance mechanisms.

“If you anticipate problems, you can deal with them more cheaply, more quickly and with less suffering.”

~ MARK LOWCOCK, UNOCHA UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL & EMERGENCY RELIEF COORDINATOR

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVESTMENT

End-to-end early warning / early action in one country to include establishment of triggers and forecast-based action nationwide

$ 10 Million

Expand on pilot scope to introduce forecast based action to a broad geography including multiple hazards

$ 5 Million

Establish or expand early warning early action system to multiple jurisdictions in one country, to pilot or validate approach

$ 1 Million

Pilot

Scale

YEAR

0 - 1

1 - 3

0 - 4

Contact:
Stephanie Julmy, IFRC
Stephanie.julmy@ifrc.org

February 2020