

Early Warning and Anticipatory Actions in Agriculture and Food Security

Anticipatory Action/Forecast-Based Financing

The problem

- Natural hazards are emerging as the top threats to agriculture productivity and food security in Zimbabwe – droughts, floods, prolonged intra-seasonal dry spells, crop pests, livestock diseases, etc.
- Rapid onset, slow onset – both predictable with effective early warning systems (EWS)
- EWS provide an opportunity to predict when a disaster event may occur and provides a window of opportunity for action before the hazard event (anticipatory actions)
- From reaction to proactivity, Climate change adaptation, resilience of agric
- Community of Practice for Anticipatory Action/FbA was created to bring together agencies with initiatives to develop EWS for multiple hazards – coordination, technical oversight, risk analysis & triangulation, advocacy

Community of practice for Anticipatory Action

- Progress in developing EWS for droughts, floods at district or national level – meteorological & hydrological indicators
- Also locust monitoring prototypes to better predict & manage another locust outbreak
- Anticipatory actions have been shortlisted based on predicted impacts (actions to arrest deterioration, reduce vulnerability, increase coping capacity)
- Drought - risk information dissemination, water supply enhancement, animal feed reserves, scaled-up animal disease surveillance and management
- Floods – risk information dissemination, evacuation of livestock and assets, water diversionary channels
- All need to be done within a specific window of opportunity. 2021/22 season

Growth of Anticipatory action in Zimbabwe

- Scaling up to cover wider geographic units
- Securing of more funding to cover more anticipatory action beneficiaries
- Enhanced integration and coordination with existing resilience, DRR programs (development/humanitarian/peace nexus)
- Generation of evidence