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CLIMATE CENTRE

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
The Netherlands Red Cross

Forecast-based Financing

Scoping alternatives for early action in the Pacific

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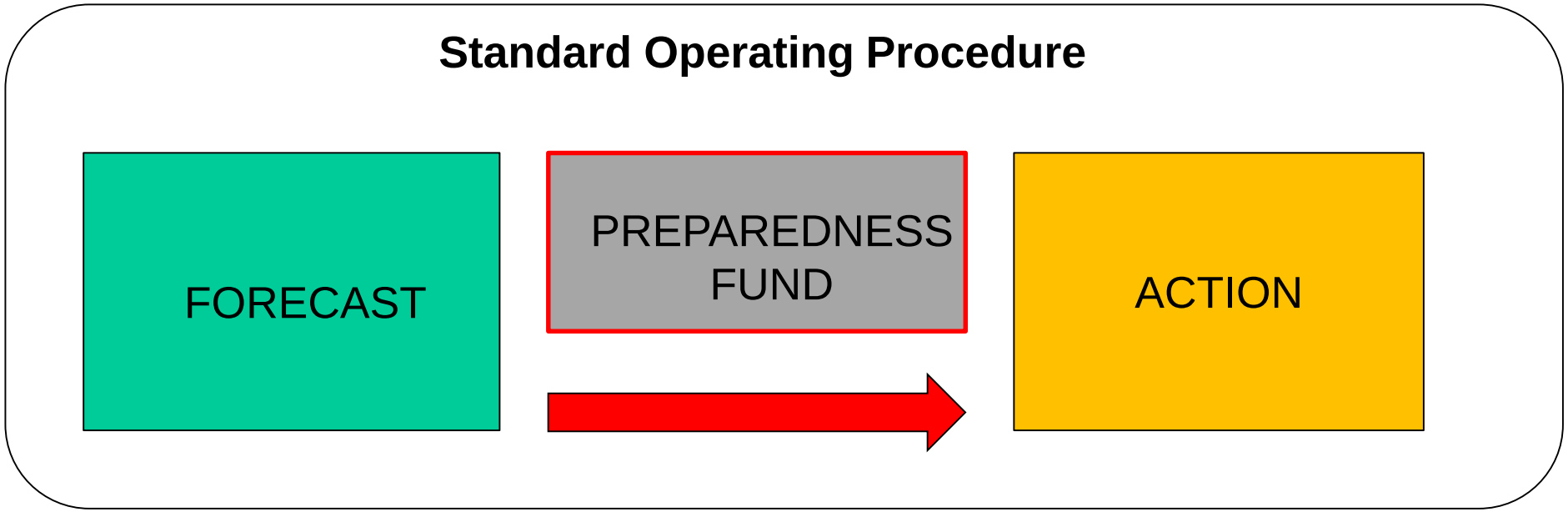
FbF: an anticipatory humanitarian system

Many humanitarian actions could be implemented in the window between a forecast and a disaster.



Why FbF?

Key bottlenecks in 'Early Warning Early Action':

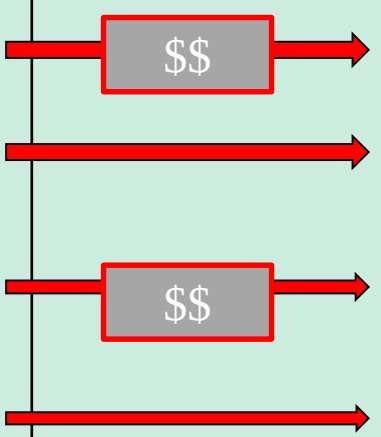
1. Lack of **funding** available to be used in window between an early warning and before a disaster

2. Lack of **operational protocols** for mobilizing action in this window

3. Acting early is often more **cost effective** then waiting to respond

Methodology

Low disaster probability = 'low regret' actions

	Three month	One month	Weekly	ACTIONS
Low	El Nino forecasts: • Sea surface temperature anomaly: 2°C (indicates El Nino) • 10% probability that El Nino will be 'extraordinary' Seasonal rainfall forecasts: • 20% probability of top 10% of rainfall • 40-50% probability of top 20% of rainfall	Sub-seasonal rainfall forecast: • An anomaly of 4-6mm/day over the coming month		**SOP 1:** • Community volunteer training • Sanitation and health awareness • Clean community campaign **SOP2**: • Train communities in early warning and evacuation

Methodology

Higher disaster probability = 'higher regret' actions

High

Seasonal	Monthly	Weekly	ACTIONS
El Nino forecasts: • Sea surface temperature anomaly: **3°C** (indicates El Nino) • **20%** probability that El Nino will be 'extraordinary' Seasonal rainfall forecasts: • **40%** probability of top 10% of rainfall • **70-100%** probability of top 20% of rainfall	Sub-seasonal rainfall forecast: • An anomaly of **10+mm**/day over the coming month	Flood forecast: • **68%** probability of exceeding the 10 year return period flood threshold of GloFAS* model Medium-range rainfall forecast: •> **30mm**/day absolute values	**SOPs 3-6:** • Clean drinking water • First aid kits • Assist district government in fumigation, hygiene kits, sanitation • Strengthen vulnerable houses **SOP 7** • Building temporary houses • Evacuation

- **Where activities/distributions take place**
- **Starting point for evacuation**

Scoping FbF in the Pacific

- Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands:

- What's the forecasting capability for various hazards?
- What's the risk profile for each hazard in different regions?
- What early actions could be taken within an SOP and *do they add value*?
- What's the interest and buy-in of key institutions and what's their absorptive capacity?
- Are there existing programs into which FbF could be built (e.g. DRR or Early Warning Systems)?

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Scoping FbF in the Pacific

Hazard:

- FbF for drought/dry spells is highly feasible
- FbF for tropical cyclone more problematic
- Flood forecasting ability currently limited

Actions:

- Inclusion of institutional-level actions e.g. activation of multi-agency partnerships
- Many community-level options based on traditional knowledge
- Remoteness an important consideration

Institutions and partners:

- Strong national and regional interest
- Clear need to embed FbF in a national government system
- Clear need for mult-agency implementation partnerships at country level