



Working Together: a statement of intent between the Risk-informed Early Action Partnership (REAP) and the Adaptation Research Alliance (ARA)

What is REAP?

[REAP is a global partnership](#) bringing together climate, development and humanitarian actors to scale up efforts and investment in early-warning early-action (EWEA) for climate-related risks to make [1 billion people safer from disaster by 2025](#).

What is the ARA?

The [Adaptation Research Alliance](#) aims to accelerate and scale investments in action-orientated research in developing countries, that addresses the pressing knowledge needs for adaptation and resilience of the most vulnerable, builds capacity at all stages from research to action, strengthens research–implementation linkages, and promotes greater learning.

Research need for Early Warning Early Action

It is still relatively early days for EWEA, and while [there is some evidence](#) of spread and impact, there is a need to strengthen and build the evidence base around early action approaches to inform better practice and to scale-up investment.

REAP has identified relatively good knowledge resources on [financing instruments](#), and robust evidence to support the [benefit of early warning systems](#), but evidence to support and inform the **early action** part of the value chain remains limited.

How do we want to work together?

There is complementarity between ARA and REAP: for effective early/anticipatory action, partners need to draw on learnings from the past, robust research, and emerging information. REAP doesn't intend to have its own research programme, but instead to stimulate research activity elsewhere.

This is where we believe the ARA comes in: as a forum for better research planning and cooperation, the ARA acts as a connector and an enabler for the variety of actors seeking to promote action-orientated research (e.g. researchers, policy-makers, end-users, action funders and research funders). The ARA targets emerging priorities driven by demand, such as those identified by REAP, and enables partners to better target programmes and activities to address those priorities.

REAP partners could engage in this process by identifying knowledge gaps and areas of need, and ensuring research programme design is end-user focused.

Research topics could cover behavioural, social and institutional *barriers to action across the value chain*, including hazard triggers, through to social and economic benefits of EWEA, and how knowledge generation and information flows can enable action by communities and decision-makers. Through action-orientated research, stronger links could be made between near-term anticipatory action and longer-term climate adaptation.

What does this mean for our stakeholders?

This statement of intent signals the desire of ARA and REAP to collaborate in advancing EWEA by providing a firm evidence base to its constituent climate, development, and humanitarian communities for risk-informed early action.

REAP and ARA could benefit from links to each other's networks and working-level connections. As an initial step, REAP will be represented on the Consultative Process Task Force of the ARA and also within the Global Health Steering Group. Other opportunities to develop the relationship further will be explored in due course and with input from partners.

We would love to hear the ideas of our networks and stakeholders and will seek opportunities to gather partner views. If you're working in research or EWEA, please feel free to share your ideas with us on bridging evidence gaps and strengthening action. You can visit our websites linked above, or email us on: ara@southsouthnorth.org and reap.secretariat@ifrc.org