



UGANDA RED CROSS SOCIETY

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Experiences from Uganda RC in convening partners for Early Warning Early Action

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A growing trend of more destructive climate induced disasters

- As the climate changes, we can expect more extreme and/or frequent weather events - depending on hazard and location. Risks for human and natural systems will increase, being generally greater for disadvantaged people and communities.
- Many predictable extreme events such as floods and drought, result in disasters and suffering yet the impact of these events can be reduced and in some cases even avoided if climate and weather forecasting would be used to take early action to before the disaster take place.



@URCS, Obongi districts 2021



@URCS, Butalejje July 2021



@URCS, karamoja district 2020

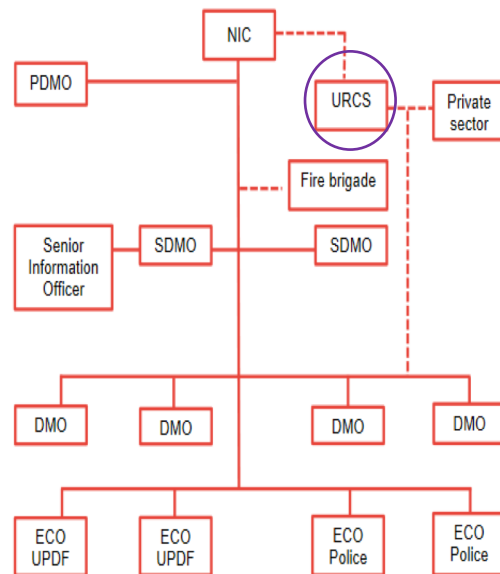
EWEA IN UGANDA

URCS' Role in EWEA

- ❑ URCS's volunteer network in the country has been instrumental in EWEA programs at community level including initiating of some disaster alerts and EW information and Emergency alerts. Volunteers and BMs are part of the DDMCs and SCDMCs.
- ❑ URCS works in partnership with GoU and other key stakeholders to deliver cost-efficient, well-targeted & timely action to the most vulnerable people faced with probable climate-related disaster. Through the Forecast-based Financing (FbF) approach.
 - Through, this we have established TWG's to develop and harmonize triggers and thresholds.
 - Developed flood EAP and now developing drought
 - SOPs for Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR)

The OPM, Department for Disaster Preparedness and Management established the NECOC. This is a 24 hour, 7-days a week central facility for early warning and the coordination of emergency and crisis response and recovery action. URCS is part of the NECOC

Structure of the National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre



Source: Adapted from Office of the Prime Minister-Disaster Management Department, Government of Uganda. National policy for disaster preparedness and management, available at: <http://www.necoc-opm.go.ug/publications/1.%20National%20Policy%20for%20Disaster%20Preparedness%20&%20Management.pdf>.

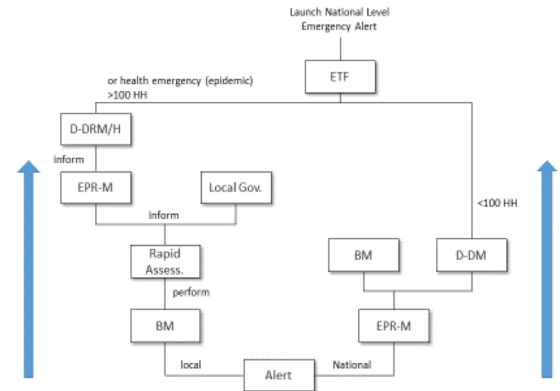
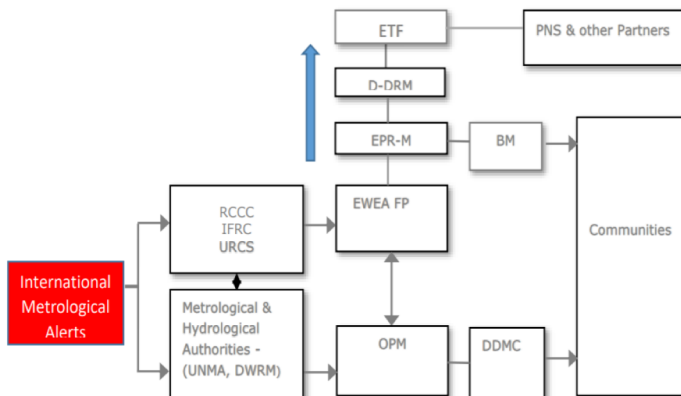
Emergency Alerts at URCS

EAP Alerts originate from the GloFAS, when it issues a forecast of at least 60% probability of a 5-year return period flood occurring in flood prone districts, which will be anticipated to affect more than 1,000hh. The EAP will be triggered with a lead time of 7 days and a FAR of not more than 0.5.

Alerts can originate from any source in the community (affected communities, partners, RCAT members, staff, government, etc.), but the relevant Branch Manager (BM) needs checks that it is true (through confirmation by at least one more credible source of information) before sending out an alert to the EPR Manager at HQ.

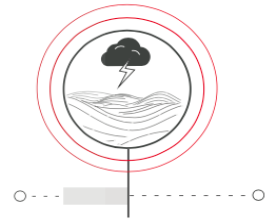
SOP Regulating Alert Flow Chart for FbF (Communication Protocols for EAP)

Alert flow under the EPR SOPs



Three (3) Critical Lessons

- ❑ The flow and origin of emergency alerts is not linear, despite having pre defined protocols and procedures.
- ❑ Working groups and coordination platforms like the FbF TWG, National DRR platform play a critical sharing alerts and harmonization.
- ❑ Technology and digital tools is increasingly making emergency alert flow effective i.e through the WhatsApp platforms



Q&A

THANK YOU

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