

Webinar Concept Note

Stakeholders Briefing on Early Warning for All (EW4All)

Date and time: Thursday the 15th of February 2024 at 13:30 - 14:30 CET

Call-in details: Register here ([LINK](#))

Background

Over the past 50 years (1970-2019), a weather, climate or water-related disaster has occurred on average every day – taking the lives of 115 people and causing US\$ 202 million in losses daily, according to a 2021 WMO report on disaster statistics¹.

Early warning systems have helped decrease the number of deaths and have reduced losses and damages resulting from hazardous weather, water, or climate events. Of all risk reduction and climate change adaptation measures, early warning and early action stand as one of the best-proven and cost-effective methods for reducing disaster deaths and losses. But major gaps still exist, especially in small island developing states and least-developed countries.

In response, and to support progress towards achieving Target G of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres, at COP27 in 2022 launched the Early Warning for All Initiative to ensure that early warning systems protect everyone on the planet.

In the background of increasingly extreme weather hazards and climate change, the initiative is built around four key pillars which include risk knowledge and management, observations and forecasting, dissemination and communication, and preparedness to respond. Meanwhile, the initiative's important and ambitious objective is to spearhead new action to ensure that every person on Earth is protected by early warning systems by 2027.

The Early Warnings for All initiative are co-led by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), with support from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and other partners.

It is important and it is recognized that this initiative needs to have a participatory and inclusive approach, in line with Sendai Framework guiding principles and the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework. Active engagement of all of society in all steps, from development to implementation, follow-up, and review, is not just a crucial guiding principle, but it ensures that the efforts meet the needs of the people at the local level.

¹ https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=21930#.Yjrzqlso_IV

Objectives

- Enhance the knowledge among stakeholders about the Early Warning for All (EW4All) Initiative.
- Learn about means that non-state actors can contribute to early warning systems on the local level.
- Initiate a discussion about means of integrating meaningful engagement and contributions of non-state actors in the Early Warning for All (EW4All) initiative, including the Stakeholder Forum that will take place in 2024.

Agenda

Moderator: [BCCI – Barbados Chamber of Commerce and Industry - tba]

5 min	Opening <i>By the moderator</i>
15 min	Stories from the field - Local Actions of Stakeholders on Early Warning <i>2 stories á 5 min each, and 5 min Q&A. Name tba.</i>
5 min	Experiences from State Level in Building Early Warning System for All <i>Barbados tba</i>
15 min	Briefing about the Early Warning 4 All Initiative <i>Luca Rossi, Senior Coordinator, Early Warning 4 All, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction</i>
15 min	Questions & Answers
5 min	Closing & Next Step

Guided questions

1. How can SEM and other stakeholders be engaged within and contribute to developing and implementing the EW4All initiative?
2. How do SEM and other stakeholders want to organise ourselves to facilitate this engagement? (One suggestion that has been discussed is to have the action plan lead coordinate an open working group which meets regularly.)
3. How do non-state stakeholders contribute to early warning at date, and what is needed to scale up these practices?

References

[Early Warnings for All: Executive Action Plan 2023-2027](#)

[First report of the advisory panel of the Early Warnings for All Initiative to the United Nations Secretary-General](#)
[Global status of multi-hazard early warning systems 2023](#)
[Early Warnings for All Dashboard](#)