

Delivering at Scale 2021-2025

Following the initial phase of operations, the case for the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS), its mission and business model is compelling. The *Operational Plan: Delivering at Scale, 2021-2025* adopted by the CREWS Contributing Members identifies the opportunities to further increase the impact and scale of operations in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

MEETING THE MOMENT

- **Disasters** have increased by a factor of five over a 50-year period and their occurrence will increase in coming decades, driven by climate change and more extreme weather.
- **The mortality rate** in LDCs and SIDS remains disproportionately high, due in large part to their limited access to effective early warning systems.
- **Improved early warnings, disaster risk management, and anticipatory humanitarian action** contribute globally to the reduction in the number of deaths due to extreme climate events.
- **Technological innovations** create opportunities to enhance early warning solutions, from facilitated access to global and regional predictions, faster warning generation and wider dissemination, to better access and understanding by vulnerable populations.

CREWS provides a unique opportunity to reverse by 2030, the current casualty-risk trends, namely the risk of loss of life due to extreme climate events, in LDCs and SIDS.

WHAT IS CREWS?

CREWS is an innovative pooled financing mechanism, with the objective to significantly increasing access to early warnings and risk information in LDCs and SIDS. CREWS was launched by the Government of France at the UNFCCC COP21, as a contribution to the UN Secretary-General's Climate Change Action Agenda.

Its programming is strengthened by the expertise and networks of its implementing partners, **who jointly provide analytical and advisory services, technical assistance, capacity building, and operational support** to countries, through regional and national projects.



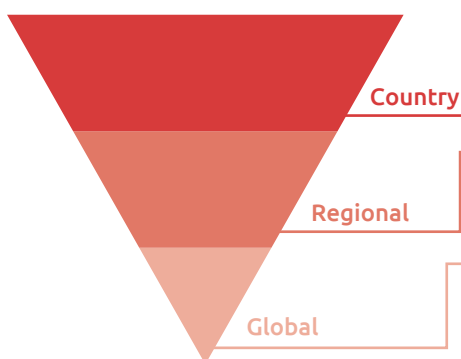
CREWS measures its results and impact **against relevant goals and targets** of the Sustainable Development Agenda (e.g. Poverty Goal No1), the Sendai Framework (Targets A,B and G) and the Climate Change Paris Agreement (Adaptation Goals).

CREWS contributes to **important global initiatives** such as the InsuResilience Global Partnership, the Risk Informed Early Action Partnership (REAP) and the Global Commission on Adaptation (GCA).



WHY INVEST?

Impactful action at three levels



Improving access to effective impact-based early warning system

- Hydrometeorological service delivery is improved
- Risk information is generated for impact-based forecasts & early warnings
- Information and communication technology are strengthened
- Preparedness and response plans are strengthened and accessible
- Gender-responsive capacity is built into the programs

Building regional institutions' capacities

- Institutional and human capacities at regional WMO and intergovernmental organizations are increased

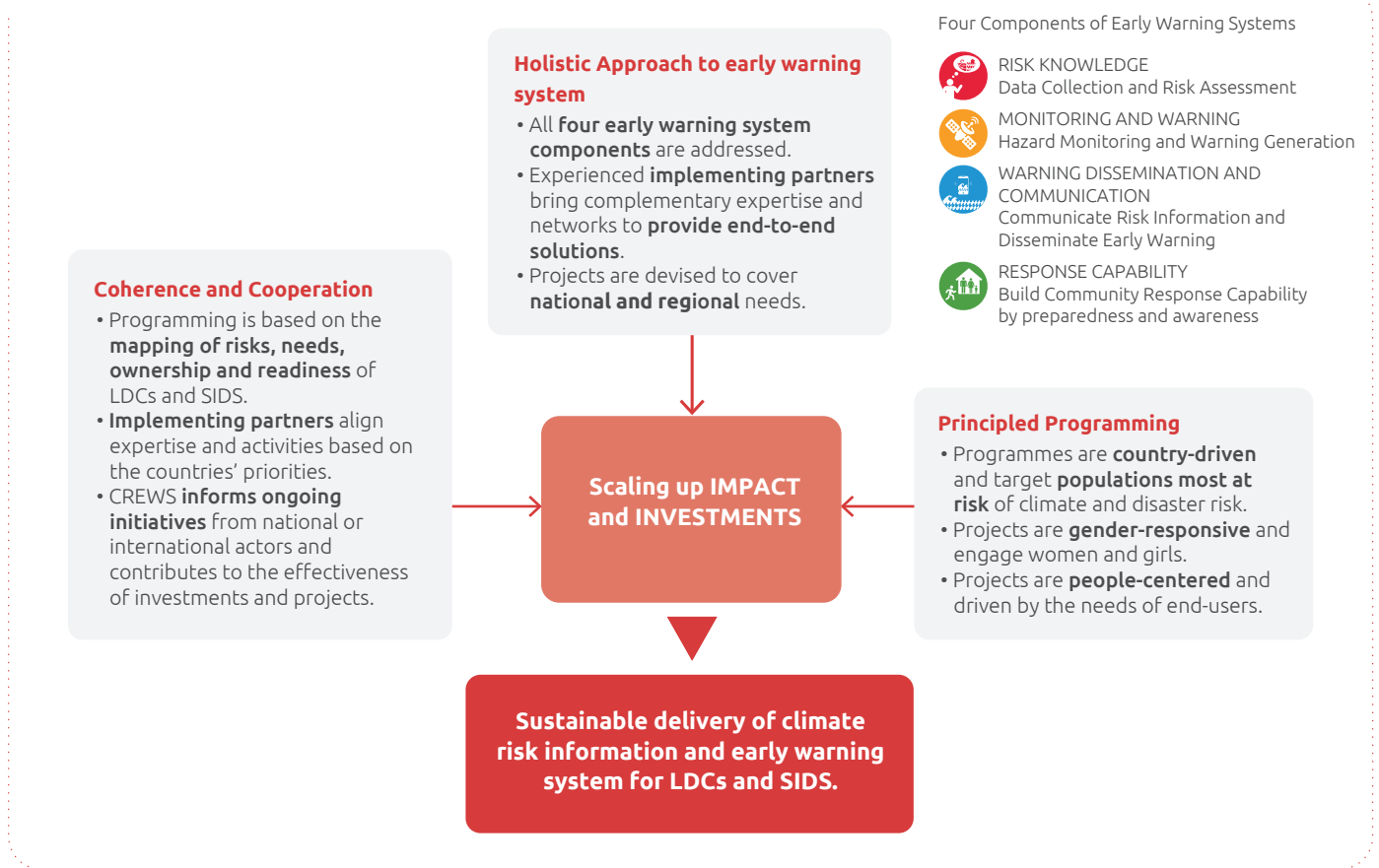
Increasing the coherence of investments in EWS

- CREWS maintains a mapping of needs, demand and leveraging opportunities across LDCs and SIDS to guide investment in a more programmatic manner
- Activities contributes to standardizing how to measure progress on early warning systems in countries and against global goals

How does CREWS leverage investments by the World Bank, the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Systematic Observation Financing Facility (SOFF) and other development partners:

- **Creating awareness and advocacy** about the need for early warning systems.
- **Triggering new financing**, delivering capacity and favorable environment for effective additional financing.
- Ensuring **investments are programmatically informed and optimally utilized.**

CREWS Value Proposition:



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

Since its creation, CREWS and its partners have improved the state of early warning systems and capabilities in LDCs and SIDS.

This has been achieved through the implementing partners' broad networks of national and local partners, such as national meteorological and hydrological services and national agencies for disaster risk management, which ensure that the needs of the end-users of risk information and warning services are met.



Gender equality: In recognition that women and girls' empowerment is fundamental for building communities' resilience to extreme climate events and that different genders access and react to warnings in various manners, the design and implementation of CREWS investments are guided by, and progress measured against Operational Procedure for Gender-Sensitive Programming.

Strategic partnerships were concluded over the period, with the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the InsuResilience Global Partnership, the Alliance for Hydromet Development, the Global Commission for Adaptation (GCA), the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), the Risk-informed Early action Partnership (REAP), the Anticipation Hub and the International Network for MultiHazards Early warning Systems (IN-MHEWS).

HOW WILL CREWS DELIVER AT SCALE

CREWS continuously refines its efforts based on lessons learned and the evolving global context. Through an extensive consultative process with recipient countries, implementing partners, contributors and observers, CREWS devised an Operational Plan for 2021-2025 outlining how CREWS will operationalize its efforts. To further enhance its value proposition and impact, the following strategic priorities were identified to guide operations:

PEOPLE AT THE CENTRE

by engaging actively with and encouraging collaboration between local level actors, to support effective early warnings leading to early action.

Strategic Results

- Ensure relevant local partners, including women and vulnerable groups, are engaged **in the project design**, and their input is collected and integrated.
- Understand and integrate local and traditional knowledge, risk perceptions, and gender context, **during the implementation phase**.
- Develop tools and capacity to monitor, forecast and aggregate risk data, using **technologies adapted to the local context**.
- Develop **operational procedures** on People-centered Early Warning, to inform project operations.

SUSTAINABILITY AT THE CORNERSTONE

by ensuring strong ownership by national and local institutions for the services developed, and sustained national and international funding.

Strategic Results

- Ensure **ownership of the project results**, including tools and services, by national and local institutions.
- Foster close collaboration between NMHS and relevant government stakeholders to secure **political buy-in and goodwill**.
- Assist relevant national institutions in **developing their strategic meteorological and hydrological plans** (e.g. linked to National Adaptation Plan (NAP), Disaster Risk Reduction Plan), **policies and legislation**, so functions are clear and sustainability is supported through adequate levels of national and international funding.
- Assist national actors in **making the case** for sufficiently resourced early warning system, by highlighting associated socio-economic benefits.
- Connect countries to **regional and global climate, meteorological or economic centers** to enable knowledge sharing, economies of scales (e.g. training), and harmonization of approaches.

COOPERATION and COHERENCE

through increased cooperation with relevant actors and initiatives, therefore contributing to the global awareness on ongoing initiatives, and to the effectiveness of projects and investments.

Strategic Results

- Enhance **mapping of needs, demands, and leveraging possibilities**, to assist with funding prioritization.
- Finalize **early warning system program indicators**, to harmonize measure by countries and development partners of Early Warning Systems status and monitoring of progress.
- Ensure coherence in programs at regional and country levels, and also through closer collaboration with selected external actors.
- Share on website, information on implementing partners' investments and programs.
- Update information on existing strategic partnerships and rationale for alignment and collaboration.
- Ensure CREWS support is **aligned with and adds value to** existing or potential projects by implementing partners and the broader community, while endeavoring to achieve the **maximum possible leverage** of its support.

NEW FEATURES

PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT

to help mobilize finance at scale, and foster innovative, sustainable, and cost-effective approaches to various elements of early warning systems.

Strategic Results

- Support private partnerships scoping efforts, and assess, through pilots, the relevance of public private partnership in recipient countries.
- At institutional level, increase collaboration with relevant Climate and Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance (CDRFI) actors by integrating them when relevant in Steering committees discussions.
- Collaborate with the InsuResilience Global Partnership in a countries, to ensure Disaster Risk Financing activities are aligned with, and informed by CREWS.

ACCELERATED SUPPORT WINDOW

to support short term targeted technical assistance activities and maximize CREWS ability to respond to country needs.

Strategic Results

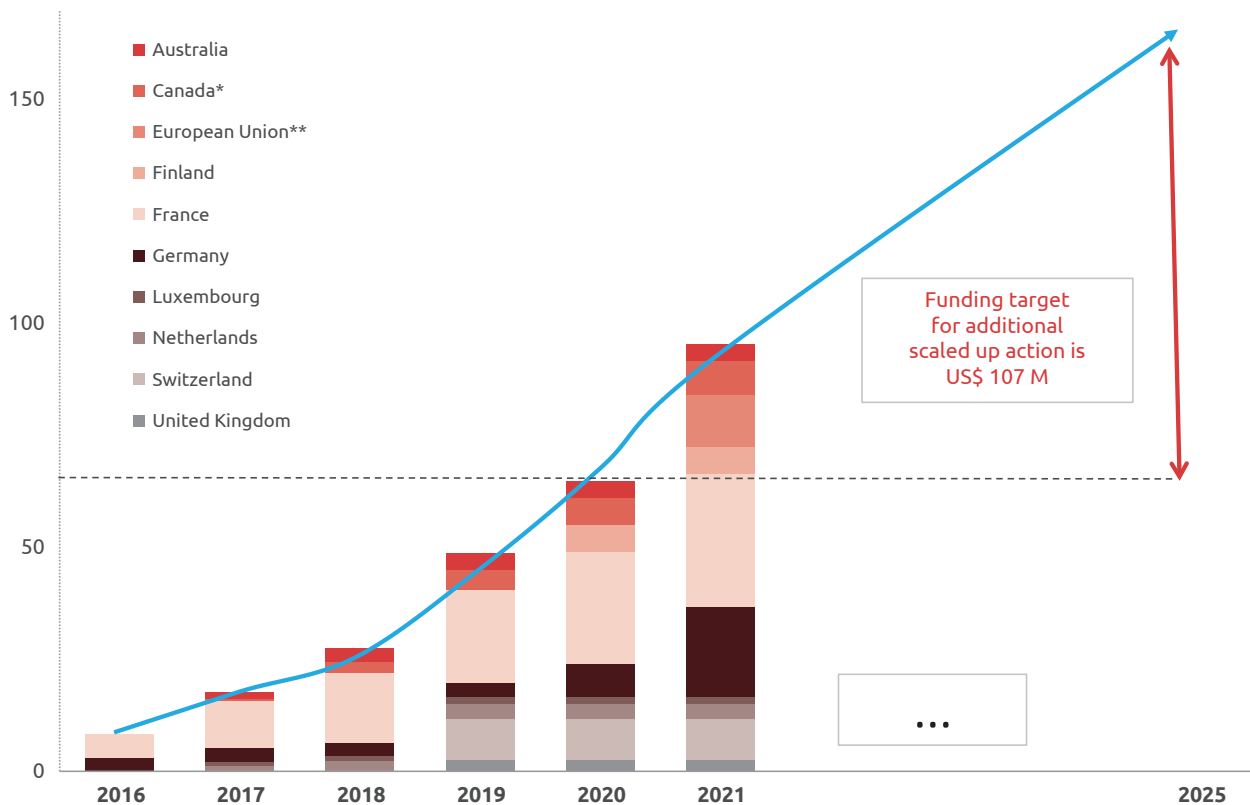
- Set up a complementary financing window for **short term actions**.
 - Develop streamlined **operational procedures** and **reporting template and funding allocation process**.
- Accelerated support action budget range: USD 50 000 to USD 250 000.**

SCALE OF AMBITION

Financial projections to scale up and optimize the impact of CREWS are provided to support:

- **New country or regional projects:** Based on pipelining process of countries, financing will be required for identified priority LDCs and SIDS.
- **Additional finance for existing recipient countries/regions:** Additional financing is required, in particular for regional projects offering a high degree of value-add to the national level.
- And **accelerated support financing modality:** The new financing modality will provide tailored expert advisory services to address gaps and sustain services for countries drawing on the knowledge and expertise of national meteorological and hydrological services.

Estimated additional funding needs to meet CREWS objectives is USD 107 million



* Canada contributed to CREWS through financial contribution to WMO.
 ** The European Commission pledged €10 million to the CREWS initiative.

CREWS gratefully acknowledges the contributions of its Members

CREWS Members



CREWS Observers



CREWS Implementing Partners

