AHEAD

DRC

Background

- The world is faced with an increasing number of forcibly displaced persons. Ten years ago around 37 million people were displaced from their homes. Today, the total number of displaced people has tripled. In addition to conflict-induced displacement, climate change continues to displace millions of people each year due to the impacts of natural hazards such as droughts and floods.
- Getting ahead of displacement crises can allow for a more dignified and cost-efficient responses and reverse the trend of growing humanitarian needs. Despite the growing prominence of anticipatory action in the humanitarian sector, in 2023, only one anticipatory action framework was active to address displacement.
- DRC have developed novel, AI/ML data models to predict displacement at the sub-national level 3-4 months into the future and have piloted the use of the models in combination with community-level data to prevent and mitigate the impacts of displacement.

AHEAD Project

- The four-year Dutch-funded project seeks to expand on the approaches DRC have been piloting and aims to reduce the upward pressure on humanitarian needs due to conflict-induced displacement by expanding AA approaches for more timely, dignified, efficient and sustainable

Outputs	Outcomes
Displacement forecasting model is expanded and validated to more countries	**Humanitarian actors have improved access to and increased use of reliable forecasts on future displacement**
Model accuracy and usability improved	
Understanding of the role and inclusion of communities, local actors, diaspora, hard to reach in AA improved	**AA in response to conflict-induced displacement acknowledged as a key response priority**
Collaborative, inclusive national level AA mechanisms designed	
Robust learnings generated through piloting of diverse approaches on AA to support displacement affected communities	**Robust evidence base informs advocacy to create an enabling policy environment for AA to conflict-induced displacement**
Advocacy and lobbying with donors, UN, INGO based on learnings and evidence	
Capacity improved among partners through trainings and tools dissemination	

- The AA frameworks and systems will be established in **Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Myanmar, Niger, South Sudan, Uganda and Yemen**
- The key learning questions that will be explored as part of the project and used to inform the advocacy efforts in the project includes:

How can we better utilize and integrate community level data and alternative data sources (e.g. earth observation) in AA mechanism? What is the added value?

What are the opportunities and challenges for better integration of local communities, local actors and diaspora in AA design processes?

How does working with local communities, local actors and diaspora in AA mechanisms impact on outcomes?

How can AA mechanisms be designed to better reach the H2R?

What is the impact of AA mechanisms in/for H2R?

What is the optimal process for developing joint, collaborative AA mechanisms for displacement?

What are the benefits on humanitarian needs of AA responses to displacement, what are the response activities / modalities that yield the highest benefits and how are benefits distributed across different types of groups?

What are the cost-efficiency and VfM aspects of AA responses to displacement?

What are the benefits and challenges of different funding modalities for AA?