How Forecast-based Action contributes to prevent the conditions leading to internal displacement:

the case of Mongolia Dzud
Session outline

1. Mongolia Dzud: rural to urban displacement

2. Applying FbA to prevent displacement in Mongolia
   • What is FbA and FbF
   • Mongolia Dzud in 2019/20 and Early Action Protocol
   • A multi-stakeholders strategy

3. Key take away and conclusion
The ger districts of Ulaan Baatar are home to tens of thousands of former herder families, many of whom were forced to move after losing their livestock.
Mongolia Dzud: rural to urban displacement

- During a long Dzud (extreme cold), nomadic farmers experience a high amount of livestock death, and as a result often migrate to slums outside of Ulaanbaatar, burning coal, tires, plastic to keep warm, leading to a high number of respiratory illnesses. Herders are sadly associated with theft and alcoholism.

- Dzud is becoming more extreme and recurrent because of climate change, eroding the resilience of pastoral communities, who resort to negative coping measures.

- Diversification of livelihoods is important, but livestock provides the direct basis and only source of income for ¼ of Mongolian’s population.
Applying FbA to prevent the conditions leading to displacement in Mongolia
Forecast-based Financing aims to anticipate disasters and reduce human suffering and losses

Monitored forecasts instantly trigger a danger level warning, when a set threshold is exceeded, and releases funds for regions under threat – before the disaster even happens.
Key components of Forecast-based Financing:

- **Triggers**: Matching forecasts and risks (exposure, impact, vulnerability)
- **Selection of Early Actions**: Reducing the humanitarian impact
- **Financing Mechanism**: Automatic allocation of funds before the disaster strikes
- **Early Action Protocol (EAP)**: Disaster
Forecast based Action by the DREF

- **IFRC funding mechanism** which enables access to humanitarian funding for early action, that can be taken based on meteorological forecast information. → Extreme weather events

  ✓ Short term: operation to be conducted in days maximum weeks.
  ✓ Funding max 250,000 CHF
  ✓ Early Action Protocol once approved stays in place for 5 years.

**Early Action Protocol**

- **Hazard**
- **Actors**
  - Risk analysis (past impact, exposure, vulnerability)
  - Prioritized impacts
  - Forecast
  - Early Actions
Early Action Focus Task Force
Development of Anticipatory / Forecast-based Early Action

TOTAL 60+
31 NS

Hazards
- Heatwave
- Volcano
- Conflict
- Cyclon/Typhoon
- Food insecurity
- Drought
- Floods
- Disease
- Coldwave/dzud

Agencies
- IFRC
- START
- WFP
- FAO
- OCHA
Mongolia Dzud in 2019/20 and Early Action Protocol

- Early Action Protocol (EAP) approved in June 2019 – targeting 4,000 people with a budget of CHF 249,818, covers 21 provinces of Mongolia, for a two-month response.

- EAP defines who takes what action when, where and with what funds

- EAP triggered if three or more provinces have more than 20% of very high risk in their area in Dzud risk map

- EAP outlines roles and responsibilities of different actors
Mongolia Red Cross Early Action Protocol

Readiness activities
Annual refresher training for branches, bags for kits and workshop with stakeholders

Prioritized impact
Mortality of livestock

Trigger: 20% more of province land area is indicated to be at very high risk from the DRM

Target: 1,000 HH
Lead time: 2 months
Lifespan: 5 years

Early actions
• Cash grant to allow herders to stock hay and fodder;
• Distribution of veterinary kits

Budget
36,000 CHF Readiness
214,000 CHF Activation
Total: CHF 250,000

Photo: MRCS volunteers mobilizing animal kit in January 2020
Mongolia Dzud in 2019/20 and Early Action Protocol

A multi-stakeholders strategy

- **NAMEN**: Information and research institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Environment, publishing the dzud risk map since 2015
- **NEMA**: National Emergency Management Agency, first responder to disasters in Mongolia and coordinates humanitarian assistance
- **Local municipality**: engaged at local level to provide beneficiary data and contribute to beneficiary selection
- **Mongolian RC**: national humanitarian organisation, auxiliary role, experience with FbF in 2017
- **IFRC**: supporting the MRC with an operational funding mechanism, technical assistance
- **Climate Centre**: provides assistance to develop the EAP, trigger mechanism and activation
- **Khan Bank**: The financial service provider supporting the cash programme
Key take-away and conclusions (1)

- Preventing the conditions of internal displacement is complex, as many factors play a role (climate change, eroding resilience, social and economic issues)

- Resilience, DRR and CCA strategies do not always include displacement as a specific “risk”, hence do not consider displacement preventive measures

- There is a need to open up / scale up new funding streams to implement preventive measures (FbF is an example)

- Collection of data and evidence-based knowledge is key, and local actors can play a significant role
Key take-away and conclusions (2)

• Early action measures have a direct correlation to anticipating and reducing displacement risks ahead of impact
• Applying FbA contributes to a better understanding of the drivers and underlying factors that affect displacement
  • *Displacement is not an “inevitable” consequence of disasters!*
• FbA needs to be accompanied by resilience building measures (livelihood diversification for instance), for a longer-term impact
• Communities participation is an essential component, especially when human mobility is considered a coping strategy
Thank you

https://www.forecast-based-financing.org/library/

https://media.ifrc.org/ifrc/what-we-do/migration-and-displacement/