

Start members and their partners should consider acting on developing risks through the Start Fund Crisis Anticipation. Click [HERE](#) for more information on Start Fund Crisis Anticipation. Click [HERE](#) for an anticipation note template.

## UPCOMING RISKS

### Risk Relevance

The risk relevance rating considers the relevance of the risk to the Start Fund Crisis Anticipation. Risks are categorised with FOREWARN input.

- HIGH RELEVANCE
- MEDIUM RELEVANCE
- LOW RELEVANCE

### Informal Global Risk Index

The INFORM risk index identifies countries at risk from humanitarian crises and disasters that could overwhelm national response capacity. It is made up of three dimensions-hazards and exposure, vulnerability and lack of coping capacity.



## HIGH RELEVANCE

### RISK AND COUNTRY

### RISK INFORMATION

### SOURCE



### Flooding

**ETHIOPIA, SUDAN,  
DRC, ERITREA**

INFORM Risk Class:  
High/Very high

Consistent recent rainfall has reportedly led to localised flooding, including in eastern Sudan and across Ethiopia. In mid-August NOAA and FEWSNET are forecasting heavy, above average rainfall affecting Ethiopia, southern Sudan, northeastern South Sudan, northeastern Democratic Republic of Congo, which they warn could exacerbate the existing-flooded areas and trigger new flooding. ICPAC similarly forecast heavy to exceptional rainfall forecast across Sudan, Eritrea, Djibouti, Ethiopia and South Sudan.

[NOAA/FEWS NET](#)

[ICPAC](#)

[GLOFAS](#)

[OCHA](#)



## Flooding

### SOUTH SUDAN

INFORM Risk Class:  
Very high

In July 2024 Start Network members raised an alert in anticipation of flooding, however decision makers considered the targeting too broad and the scale potentially beyond the niche of the Start Fund. Members were encouraged to consider resubmitting the anticipation alert note when more precise forecasts were available and with more focused targeting of an anticipatory intervention. FEWSNET are reporting that flooding is anticipated due to the escalating release of water from Lake Victoria in Uganda, existing floodwater, upcoming above-average La Nina-driven rainfall. The locations at risk include flood prone and conflict affected areas of north-central Unity and other low-lying areas and the Sudd wetland. NOAA also forecast upcoming heavy rainfall. While the government have approved a flood preparedness and response plan, there may be relevant gaps that a Start Fund alert could target. IFRC predict the peak of the crisis to be September to December, meaning there remains a window for anticipatory action to be taken.

[FEWS NET](#)

[IFRC](#)

[START FUND ALERT  
840](#)

[NOAA/FEWS NET](#)

## MEDIUM RELEVANCE

### RISK AND COUNTRY

### RISK INFORMATION

### SOURCE



## Cross-border displacement

### COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, PANAMA

INFORM Risk Class:  
Medium/High

The Venezuelan presidential election on 28 July may lead to a spike in migration to surrounding countries. The election results have been disputed by the opposition candidate, and Crisis Group report that police have used violence in response to public protests. Over recent years there has been a significant increase in the number of migrants and asylum seekers travelling to and through neighbouring countries, with multiple Start Fund alerts raised relating to anticipated spikes. The New Humanitarian highlights the risk of a further spike in migration in a context where a "regional trend to toughen up border policies... has increasingly forced migrants to rely on smugglers and informal paths to cross borders, exposing themselves to even greater risks". Start Network members have reported that a forecast spike may be delayed until later in the year, and highlighted the lack of humanitarian services and access along the new routes.

[CRISIS GROUP](#)

[THE NEW  
HUMANITARIAN](#)

[REUTERS](#)



## Wildfire

### BOLIVIA

INFORM Risk Class:  
Medium

The 2023–2024 El Niño has brought drier and hotter conditions to the Pantanal wetlands and the adjacent Amazon rainforest. By June, most of the Pantanal was experiencing extreme drought, increasing the risk of a severe fire season. Brazil's space research agency, INPE, reported a record number of monthly fire points in Bolivia for three consecutive months through June, with this early-season fire intensity already exceeding that of the same period in 2020, when fires burned about one-third of the biome in the region. As the dry season peaks in August and September, wildfire risk is escalating. At the end of July, Bolivia's Ministry of Defense reported six active fires in the Santa Cruz department, with multiple municipalities declaring a state of disaster. Start Network members raised response alerts to wildfires in the Santa Cruz department in September 2019 and October 2020.

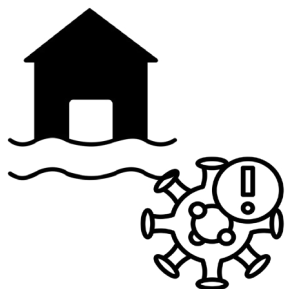
[REUTERS](#)

[NASA](#)

[PAHO](#)

[START FUND ALERT  
478](#)

[START FUND ALERT  
355](#)



### Flooding Disease outbreak

#### YEMEN

INFORM Risk Class:  
Very high

Heavy rainfall this week has caused severe flooding in the Hodeida governorate, resulting in numerous fatalities, the displacement of many residents, and significant damage to infrastructure. The FAO Agrometeorological Early Warning Bulletin is warning of continued heavy rainfall in Yemen over the coming weeks, increasing the risk of flash flooding and landslides. High-risk areas for flash floods include Wadis Tuban, Raslan, Zabid, Rimah, Siham, the southern and western coasts, and the western parts of Wadi Al Jawf. Yemen is currently experiencing a severe outbreak of acute watery diarrhea (AWD) and suspected cholera. Contaminated water and poor sanitation linked to the ongoing flooding heighten the risk of waterborne diseases, while stagnant floodwaters create mosquito breeding grounds, raising concerns about malaria and dengue fever outbreaks.

[FAO](#)

[ACAPS](#)

[NOAA/FEWS NET](#)

[WHO](#)



### Atlantic hurricane season

#### CARIBBEAN, GULF OF MEXICO

In May, NOAA warned of an active 2024 Atlantic hurricane season, forecasting 17 to 25 named storms, 8 to 13 hurricanes, and 4 to 7 major hurricanes, due to factors like near-record warm Atlantic waters, anticipated La Niña conditions, reduced trade winds, and less wind shear. In June, Hurricane Beryl, the first hurricane of the season to reach Category 5, caused major destruction in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, and Jamaica. Given the appearance of a Category 5 hurricane at the very start of the season, there are concerns about how the season will develop, particularly if La Niña conditions materialise, as peak hurricane season approaches in September. Start Network members in at-risk regions are encouraged to monitor the situation closely, prepare analysis of vulnerable communities and aggravating risk factors, and refer to the [Start Fund pre-alert guidance note](#) for hurricanes if considering raising alert.

[NOAA](#)

[NOAA](#)

[PRE-ALERT GUIDANCE  
NOTE - HURRICANES](#)

## LOW RELEVANCE

### RISK AND COUNTRY

### RISK INFORMATION

### SOURCE



### Displacement due to conflict

#### LEBANON

INFORM Risk Class:  
Medium

Displacement from southern Lebanon to the northern regions has been observed since the resumption of clashes between Hezbollah and Israel last October. This displacement is primarily due to ongoing insecurity and highly disrupted access to essential services. The situation may further escalate following recent events, such as the Israeli bombing of a building in Beirut on July 30th and increased targeting of Hezbollah leaders in the country. As a result, displacement towards the North from areas like Baalbek, the Bekaa, and al-Nabatieh is anticipated. In response, anticipatory actions to mitigate the secondary impacts on displaced persons should be considered. Any alert to the Start Fund should include very specific targeting criteria to focus the scope of the alert and align with the small to medium scale niche of the fund.

[AL JAZEERA](#)

[INTERNATIONAL  
CRISIS GROUP](#)

[IRC](#)

[ACAPS](#)

[ACLED](#)



## Drought

### HORN OF AFRICA

INFORM Risk Class:  
High/Very high

Climate models predict a transition to La Niña in the second half of 2024, which could bring below-average rainfall to the eastern Horn of Africa. The latest ICPAC forecast indicates a high probability of below-normal rains in southern Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, and Tanzania for October-December, a period that provides a significant share of annual rainfall. Household resilience remains low across Ethiopia, Somalia, and Kenya following the 2020-2022 La Niña-linked drought, which severely depleted assets and livelihoods. Despite improved agricultural and livestock production from above-average rains in late 2023 and early 2024, recovery has been hampered by compounding shocks including floods, ongoing conflict, and economic difficulties.

[FSNWG](#)

## KEY POLITICAL DATES: UPCOMING

This 'Key Dates' section produces tangible events that members of the Start Network can use to inform specific, anticipatory, and preventive actions. Dates are compiled by drawing upon both global risk indexes and national-level risk information sources.

### TIMELINE

AUG

17

#### ZIMBABWE - SADC SUMMIT

Ahead of 17 August Southern African regional body SADC summit there are reports of authorities arresting and detaining the civil society and political opposition.

[Crisis Group](#)  
[Human Rights Watch](#)

SEP

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#### ALGERIA - PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

Presidential elections are scheduled for 7 September, with incumbent president announcing his candidacy while the opposition raise concerns about the electoral process.

[Crisis Group](#)  
[Reuters](#)

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#### SRI LANKA - PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

Election Commission 26 July announced presidential election would be held on 21 September amid the ongoing economic reforms. Candidates continue to announce their participation in the electoral process.

[Crisis Group](#)  
[Reuters](#)

#### TUNISIA - PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

Presidential elections have been set for october amid reports of authorities arresting several opposition candidates.

[Crisis Group](#)  
[The Guardian](#)