

ISSUE BRIEF

UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF ANTICIPATORY ACTION IN SOMALIA

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Key messages

- Anticipating weather-related shocks is not as simple as predicting rainfall, then looking at the agricultural seasonal calendar. People in many parts of Somalia have been faced with several overlapping shocks, with interconnected impacts.
- Livelihoods are also frequently diversified, often combining activities across rural and urban settings. However, the early warning systems used to trigger anticipatory actions (see below) tend to look at particular hazards, usually related to agriculture, and rely on a very narrow set of parameters. This mismatch makes it hard to use them to trigger the right support at the right time.
- Difficulties begin long before the *humanitarian* calendar allows for anticipatory action. Other channels for development resources are needed to support livelihoods to deal with crises, especially because livelihoods are dynamic and so support must help people as they constantly adapt.

