

Panel Discussion Format

The past few years, South Asia as a region and the countries within have seen crisis and disasters of varying magnitudes. And these have resulted in the policymakers and stakeholders in the region coming together to plan and implement a range of responses. Mostly though, when we talk about crisis response and anticipatory action, the general idea is to deliver life-saving aid and short-term solutions for immediate relief.

However, improved data collection, monitoring impact and stronger evidence along with pre-planned investments can help develop long term strategies aimed towards building resilience. With every situation faced, there are lessons learnt and new methods and innovations explored for future preparedness.

As panelists, we would like you to share (via presentation or speech, as preferred) your experiences and observations from your region/country on crisis response, policy actions, the importance of pre-identifying triggers (and the tools required for it) and explore anticipatory action frameworks that can be implemented. And given how vulnerable this region's food system and the majority of the population is, we would also like you to consider how these issues tie into our countries' food security and health, and the need to conserve our resources as well as build sustainable, inclusive and resilient systems.

For the chairs, while you would need to monitor the session and manage Q&A discussions at the end, we also request you to focus on bringing out the key messages from each session and to foster a knowledge exchange between various participants within the panel and the gathered audience. The aim of these discussions is to make policymakers and stakeholders consider the need for analytical, evidence-based response to crisis management and disaster risk reduction, and we would like you to guide the sessions so as to facilitate this.