



Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) for Early warning systems

WSIS & SDG TalkX : ICTs and Disaster Risk Reduction, 13 Oct 2022

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UN Initiative on Early Warning Systems for All

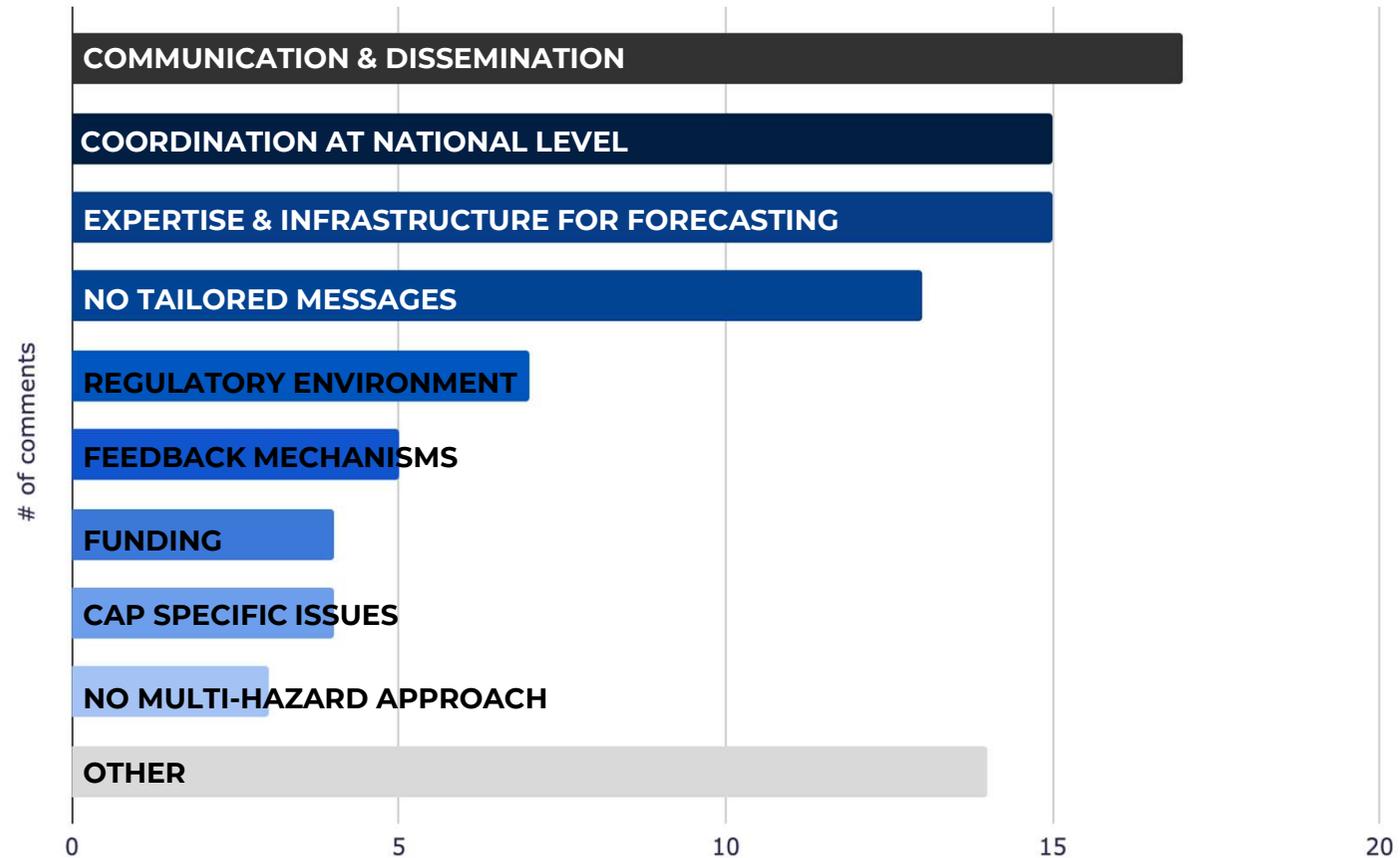


In March 2022, the UN set a new target to **ensure that everyone on Earth should be protected by early warning systems by 2027.**

Multi-Hazard Early Warning System(MHEWS) Value Cycle – 4 pillars

Communication & Dissemination Pillar in MHEWS

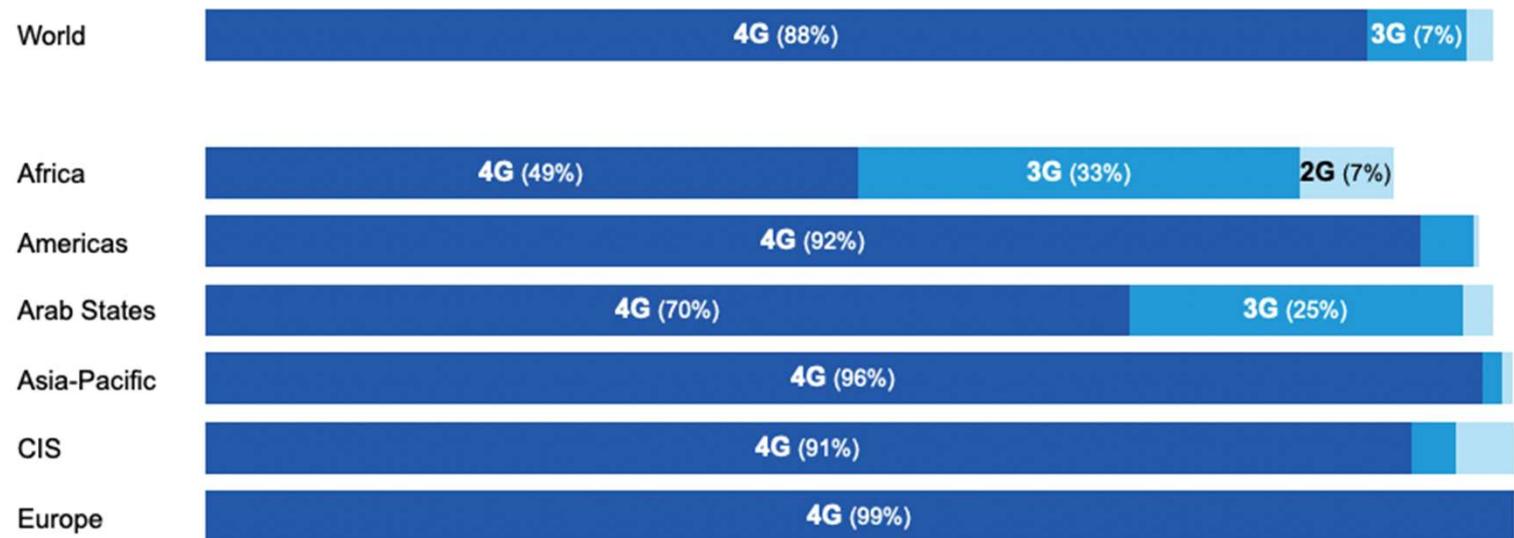
A Research conducted in 13 countries in Africa & Caribbean shows that **the biggest challenge for EWS is communication & dissemination pillar.**



95% of the world population is covered by mobile network

...a great opportunity to use mobile networks for early warning systems!

Population coverage by type of mobile network, 2021



Source: ITU, *Facts and Figures 2021*

How & why alerting via mobile-cellular networks works:



Cell-Broadcast (CB) & Location-based SMS (LB-SMS)

Both technologies have wide reach:

- Send geo-located messages to users within risk areas, including roamers
- Supports multi-language alerts
- Opt-in challenges limited
- Compatible on most (CB)/all devices (LB-SMS)

Differences:

- No risk of congestion (CB)
- No subscription needed (CB)
- A “blind technology” that does not allow 2-way communication (CB)
- 2-way communication to provide information such as number of users in risk areas (LB-SMS)

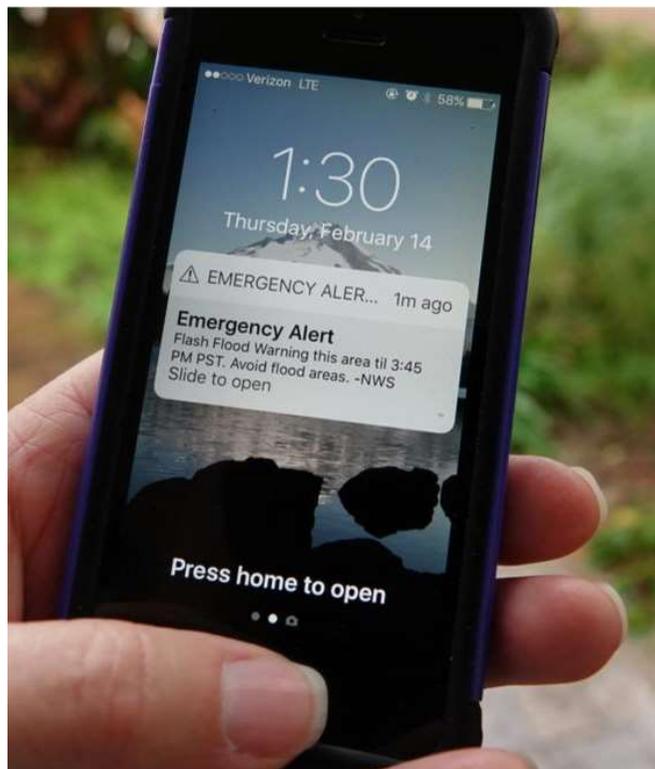


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ITU CONTRIBUTION TO EWS FOR ALL INITIATIVE

Digital transformation & early warning systems for saving lives

- Use growth in digital services and networks to deliver alerts to people at risk
- Focus on mobile networks and services
- Promote regulatory approach adopted by EU
- Discuss technologies and standards for implementation (including CAP)
- Identify experts and share best practices
- Bring on board partners and identify financing opportunities



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Thank you!