

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Scaling Anticipatory Action for Displacement

SAAD

Forecasting and mitigating conflict-driven displacement in Nigeria and Colombia to protect communities and provide a foundation for peace.

DURATION

24 months

Jul 2026 – Jun 2028

FUNDING

USD 1.75M

Andrew Carnegie Foundation

COUNTRIES

**Nigeria,
Colombia**

FORECAST LEAD

3–4 months
ahead of
displacement

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OVERVIEW

SAAD is a DRC initiative that tackles a critical gap in humanitarian practice: most anticipatory action focuses on climate-related hazards and neglects conflict-induced displacement, leaving actors trapped in reactive, high-cost response cycles that begin only after violence escalates. SAAD expands DRC's proven model for forecasting and mitigating conflict-driven displacement, so assistance reaches and protects communities before crisis peaks by combining machine learning forecasting with community-based early warning, protection monitoring, and conflict-sensitive anticipatory planning activated through DRC's Anticipatory Action Pooled Fund.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

- 1. Anticipate and act:** identify displacement risks months ahead and activate pre-agreed interventions.
- 2. Mainstream:** embed conflict displacement in early warning, triggers, and AA plans.
- 3. Prove it:** generate rigorous, policy-relevant evidence via quasi-experimental methods.
- 4. Scale:** embed the anticipatory-action-for-peace model in humanitarian and peace systems.

APPROACH: FROM LOCAL GROUNDING TO GLOBAL INFLUENCING

01

Localized forecasting

Refine DRC's ML model with protection and conflict data; pair 3–4 month forecasts with community early warning.

02

Conflict-sensitive AA plans

Co-design plans with civil society, protection and peace actors; set trigger thresholds and interventions.

03

Trigger-based activation

Release pre-authorised measures via the AA Pooled Fund: mediation, protection, livelihoods, cash, psychosocial support.

04

Evidence, learning & scaling

Quasi-experimental MEAL with local universities; global-to-local advocacy to embed AA for peace.

In Nigeria, SAAD anticipates transhumance-related tensions and community-armed group friction. In Colombia, it embeds forecast triggers within the Rapid Response Mechanism (SHARP). Co-financing the AA Pooled Fund peace window extends impact to Myanmar, Somalia, South Sudan, and Yemen.

TIMELINE

Year 1 · Jul 2026 – Jun 2027

Refine forecasting models; context analysis and community consultations; co-design AA plans and trigger thresholds with civil society and peace stakeholders; establish MEAL with university partners.

Year 2 · Jul 2027 – Jun 2028

Activate pre-agreed measures as thresholds are met; conflict-sensitive AA trainings; consolidate learning; global seminar in Berlin and roundtable on AA for peace in Geneva; disseminate evidence.