



Anticipatory Action to mitigate the impact of the Guinean floods in Niger

In November 2024, the World Food Programme (WFP), under the leadership of the Government of Niger, successfully implemented an anticipatory action (AA) activation to mitigate the predicted impacts of Guinean flood on the lives and livelihoods of highly vulnerable people across eight communes in the Dosso and Tillabéri regions along the river Niger.

This activation was coordinated by the National Anticipatory Action Technical Working Group (AATWG) and guided by the [United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund \(CERF\) Inter-Agency Framework for floods in Niger](#). Validated on October 28, this framework brings together UN agencies, including WFP, FAO, IOM, UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA, UNHCR, and UNDP. It ensures these organizations operate through a collaborative, multi-sectoral approach while working with local actors to strengthen their capacity to implement AA in the country.

On November 28, the CERF framework was activated after the pre-agreed activation trigger for river flooding was met, with the River Niger's water level reaching 580 cm in Niamey. This level corresponded to an orange alert, indicating imminent floods as forecasted by the Niger Basin Authority (ABN). These "Guinean floods", occurring between November and February, result from heavy rainfall in the mountains of Guinea, upstream of the river Niger. The current high river level has only been reached twice in the past, with both triggers being met later (between late December and mid-January).

The lead time between the forecast issuance and the predicted floods allowed WFP to implement the following anticipatory actions:

Key facts

Location: Karma, N'Dounga, Liboré, Kourtèye, Namaro communes in the Tillabéri region and Gaya, Tounouga and Tanda in the Dosso region

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| Number of people supported with early warning messages | 1,055,426 |
| Number of people supported with anticipatory multi-purpose cash transfers | 58,170 |

- 1) **Dissemination of Early Warning (EW) messages.** These messages informed individuals about the impending floods, enabling them to make risk-informed decisions, such as using anticipatory cash to reinforce their homes or purchase essential items. EW messages were broadcast through community radios identified in the intervention areas to reach at-risk individuals effectively.
- 2) **Distribution of multi-purpose anticipatory cash:** At-risk individuals received approximately 40,000 FCFA (USD 65) in cash, enabling them to cover their immediate needs, such as food, medicine, and cooking supplies. This transfer value aligned with the National Cash Working Group's recommendation to meet food needs for one month.

These anticipatory actions aim to 1) allow households to make relevant and timely decisions ahead of the forecast floods; 2) safeguard their homes, income, valuable assets, and the vulnerable members of their family, such as people with disabilities and children; 3) empower communities to meet their food and nutrition needs before and after the predicted crisis.

As part of this activation, critical anticipatory support from different UN agencies included:

- Provision of sexual and reproductive kits
- Access to safe drinking water
- Cash for work to clean canals and reduce the risk of water overflow
- Provision of sanitary facilities and hygiene and medical supplies

This proactive and collaborative implementation has been made possible thanks to the USD 748,500 CERF funding and the USD 700,000 multi-year funding and investments in anticipatory systems from the Government of Germany. This financial support is crucial to empower communities to anticipate and prepare for predicted floods, mitigating their harmful impact on the most vulnerable individuals.

AA Activation—November 2024

