



# Anticipatory Action Activation

## Peru



## Anticipatory Action to mitigate the impact of riverine floods in Peru

In February 2025, WFP has supported an Anticipatory Action (AA) activation in cooperation with the Government of Peru to provide anticipatory assistance to individuals at risk of riverine floods in the Atumplaya Municipality, San Martín Region, in the North of the country.

The Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) activated was developed by WFP in coordination with the Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion (known in Spanish as the Ministerio de Desarrollo e Inclusión Social or MIDIS), the National Institute of Civil Defense (known in Spanish as the Instituto de Defensa Civil or INDECI), the National Meteorology and Hydrology Service (known in Spanish as the Servicio Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología or SENAMHI), the Risk Management Offices of the regional and local governments of San Martín and the communities frequently affected by floods.

This AAP designs an AA implementation within the framework of Peru's social protection system. For instance, the procedures and tools of the National Household Targeting System, such as the socioeconomic targeting forms, were used to target and register the people who benefitted from anticipatory support ahead of the riverine floods in the Atumplaya Municipality.

The forecasts used to activate were based on the national flood alert system provided by SENAMHI, and trigger definition was backed up by a hydrological study of the Mayo River basins commissioned by WFP to the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre to identify overflow thresholds that cause flooding in the communities of Atumplaya. The study reconstructed hydrometeorological information from the selected areas and modelled flood scenarios, concluding in identifying the overflow threshold for the activation trigger: a caudal of 320.8 m<sup>3</sup>/s (5-year return period) occurring 3 days before the impact.

The alert observed on the SENAMHI hydrological platforms was communicated to MIDIS, the local disaster risk management authorities, and, afterwards, to the municipalities, which then transferred it to the targeted communities.

## Key facts

Location: Atumplaya municipality (San Martín Region)	
Number of people supported with early warning messages	1,700
Number of people supported with multi-purpose cash transfers	716

On February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2 days before the expected floods, the activation trigger was reached, and WFP started implementing the following anticipatory actions (AAs):

- Dissemination of Early Warning (EW) messages.** These actionable messages included information about the predicted flood and how to spend the cash transfers to minimize the potential impacts of the flood. Additionally, these messages encouraged women to prioritize their safety and dignity when accessing the cash-based transfers, preventing Gender-Based Violence (GBV). Moreover, nutrition information was also included to promote the use of cash transfers in a manner that improves households' food practices and, subsequently, their nutrition. With the previous training and support of WFP, local municipalities disseminated these messages to the targeted communities through visits to vulnerable households, local volunteers named "Community Watchers" (known in Spanish as Vigías Comunitarios), SMS, WhatsApp groups, the Facebook platform of the municipality and the municipality's loudspeakers.
- Distribution of unconditional multipurpose cash transfers.** At-risk people, on average, received 1,170 soles equivalent to USD 275 (between USD 74 and USD 315, depending on the number of household members) through account-to-account deposits and emergency cards, enabling them to cover their immediate needs by buying food, medicine, and cooking supplies. WFP distributed these transfers in coordination with local municipalities that supported their delivery.

These AAs were aimed at ensuring the people supported: i) are more protected from the impacts of floods than those not assisted (e.g., with lower rates of physical and socio-emotional illnesses); ii) maintain their food security before, during and right after the floods; and iii) experience less damage from flood impacts to their assets and resort less to negative coping strategies.

This activation was made possible through USD 64,548 in funding from the German Foreign Federal Office (GFFO) and capacity strengthening funds for developing the AAP from the Government of Ireland. This support has been crucial to ensuring communities receive humanitarian assistance days before the flood, reducing and mitigating the flood's impact on the lives, livelihoods and food security of the most vulnerable.



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