

# **10 Years of Action**

Anticipatory Action Year in Focus 2024 SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

**Cover:** Individuals benefiting from anticipatory support provided by WFP's AA programmes.

# Contents

Foreword	3
Executive Summary	5
WFP's Approach to Anticipatory Action	9
2024 Key Highlights	12
Asia and the Pacific	14
Bangladesh	17
Cambodia	21
Indonesia	24
Kyrgyz Republic	28
Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR)	32
Nepal	35
Pacific Multi-Country Office (MCO)	39
Pakistan	42
Sri Lanka	46
The Philippines	49
Eastern Africa	53
Burundi	56
Djibouti	60
Ethiopia	63
Kenya	67
Rwanda	71
Somalia	75
South Sudan	79
Uganda	82
Southern Africa	85
Lesotho	88
Madagascar	91
Malawi	95
Mozambique	98
United Republic of Tanzania	102
Zambia	105
Zimbabwe	107

Western Africa	110
Burkina Faso	112
Chad	115
Mali	119
Mauritania	122
Niger	125
Middle East	129
Iraq	132
Yemen	136
Latin America & the Caribbean	139
Caribbean Multi-Country Office (MCO)	142
Colombia	146
Cuba	149
Dominican Republic	152
Ecuador	155
El Salvador	158
Guatemala	161
Haiti	165
Honduras	169
Nicaragua	173
Peru	176
Acronyms	179

# Foreword

Devastating yet predictable extreme weather events affected the lives and livelihoods of millions of people worldwide last year - a trend that is expected to accelerate. With the gap between humanitarian needs and available resources widening, innovative solutions, such as anticipatory action to act ahead of shocks, are ever more crucial. Anticipatory action is a programmatic approach designed to shift the humanitarian system from reacting to the effects of extreme weather events to acting before they unfold, using data and forecasts to protect people lives and livelihoods from predictable shocks, including drought, floods and cyclones.

WFP has been at the forefront of anticipatory action since 2015, with the scale of its operations expanding significantly over time. In 2024, WFP covered over 6.2 million people across 44 countries with anticipatory assistance – providing direct support, such as cash and in-kind assistance to over 1.3 million people and disseminating early warning messages to over 8.6 million in 13 countries. 2024 also marked the largest activation to date, where WFP disbursed cash to almost half a million people in Bangladesh within 48 hours of a flood alert. This large-scale impact was made possible through our strong partnerships with national governments, regional and humanitarian organizations, and local communities.

WFP's anticipatory action work is not only defined by its scale – but also by its growing sophistication and versatility. In contexts as diverse as Haiti and Fiji, WFP now integrates anticipatory cash transfers into existing social protection systems, ensuring that assistance reaches people quickly through trusted mechanisms. At the same time, WFP is advancing early warning capabilities by collaborating with academia and the private sector to strengthen extreme weather event prediction, leveraging artificial intelligence.

As we conclude the first decade of WFP's anticipatory action programme, the 2024 Annual Report serves as a testament to the progress made in scaling up anticipatory action, and its growing impact on the people we serve. Yet, while the achievements of the past decade are worth celebrating, the work is far from over. The next ten years must be about taking anticipatory action further, ensuring that no one is left behind before disaster strikes. Additionally, WFP will work further on integrating anticipatory action and other Disaster Risk Financing Instruments (CDRFIs) to deliver more coordinated, effective, and dignified assistance to the most vulnerable communities.

None of our progress to date would have been possible without the steadfast support of our donors and partners. Their commitment to anticipatory action has helped WFP protect millions of lives before crises escalate. As we enter the next decade, we look forward to strengthening these partnerships and further mainstreaming anticipatory action across our lifesaving operations.

#### Valerie Guarnieri

Assistant Executive Director Programme Operations World Food Programme

Var N. Jo

### **ANTICIPATORY ACTION**

is defined as acting ahead of a predicted hazardous event to prevent or reduce impacts on lives and livelihoods and humanitarian needs before they fully unfold. This works best when activities as well as triggers or decision-making rules are pre-agreed, and decisions are made to guarantee the fast release of pre-arranged funding.

(Definition included in the Final Caucus Outcome Document of the Grand Bargain)





# **Executive Summary**

In 2024, the world faced some of the most extreme environmental conditions on record, triggering severe droughts, catastrophic floods, and intensified cyclones, which have disproportionately affected vulnerable populations. Amid these challenges, WFP marked the tenth anniversary of its Anticipatory Action (AA) programme, reaching unprecedented levels of scale and impact.

WFP's global Anticipatory Action portfolio accounted for US\$100 million, including US\$72.6 million of prearranged financing<sup>1</sup> for forecast-based activations. The increased portfolio was possible thanks to support from donor partners such as Austria, Australia, Canada, Denmark, the European Union, Germany, Google.org, Korea, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund, the World Bank, the Adaptation Fund and the Green Climate Fund.

## Scaling up

WFP expanded its Anticipatory Action operations from covering 4.1 million people in 36 countries in 2023 to over 6.2 million people in 44 countries in 2024. Additional countries – in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Middle East (including Chad, Iraq, Mali, Mauritania, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Yemen and Zambia) – are now able to reach more people with AA to reduce the effects of increasingly recurrent extreme weather events.

## Activations

<u>AAs were activated</u> in 2024 in Bangladesh, Burundi, Chad, Ethiopia, Honduras, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nepal, the Niger, Somalia and Zimbabwe. Over US\$27 million was rapidly disbursed for the activations, resulting in 1.3 million people receiving Anticipatory Action support and over 8.6 million people receiving early warning

1. Of which US\$35 million from the UN CERF.

information to protect their lives, livelihoods and food security ahead of predicted flood, cyclone or drought events. Monitoring and evaluation findings of the activations will be available in 2025.

## **Evidence** generation

In 2024, WFP conducted a review of all the evidence of its Anticipatory Action activations over the last decade. The review concluded that WFP has consistently generated evidence on its Anticipatory Action interventions, and the trends emerging from this review confirm that anticipatory action has a more positive effect on food security and psychological wellbeing than traditional post-shock response. The report will be published in 2025.

# TABLE 1Anticipatory Action activations in 2024

In addition, WFP finalized the evaluation of its 2023 activations. These include: an impact evaluation of the Bangladesh 2023 floods; a quasi-experimental evaluation of the droughts induced by El Niño in Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, as well as of the 2024 floods in Somalia. The findings of these various studies are consistent with the overall evidence trends that Anticipatory Action target groups benefit from higher food consumption, psychological well-being and lower crisis coping strategies than people who receive assistance months after peak flooding or drought. Moreover, a cost-effectiveness study conducted with the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) in Lesotho, Madagascar and Mozambique also estimates that US\$1 invested in anticipatory action yielding the same results as up to US\$1.38 invested in traditional response.

	People reached with anticipatory transfers	People reached with early warning messages	Funds disbursed per activation (US\$)
Bangladesh (floods)	478,140	1,500,000	5.7 million
Bangladesh (cyclones)	150,000	500,000	1.6 million
Burundi (floods)	21,710	0	350,641
Burundi (drought)	6,115	0	85,132
Chad	93,142	2,000,000	1.5 million
Ethiopia	64,086	525,714	4.8 million
Honduras	5,000	0	150,000
Kyrgyzstan	3,561	0	88,731
Lesotho (drought)	52,000	828,101	0*
Madagascar	271,810	252,111	1.2 million
Mozambique (drought)	58,880	248,795	7.6 million
Mozambique (cyclones)	70	21,205	66,713
Nepal	23,550	111,940	1.4 million
Niger	49,910	577,524	1.2 million
Somalia	79,512	1,899,600	1.4 million
Zimbabwe	24,920	147,268	500,000
TOTAL	1.3 million	8.6 million	27.6 million

\* The amount of funds disbursed in 2024 is zero because the funds were disbursed in 2023.

### Institutionalization within government systems

WFP intensified its support to government systems in disaster-prone regions throughout 2024. In Asia, WFP and its partners, including the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), developed technical guidance and training to strengthen the capacity of Cambodia and Indonesia to translate seasonal and sub-seasonal climate outlooks into subnational and sector-specific advice. WFP also arranged an exchange between the governments of Bangladesh and the Philippines on multihazard impact-based early warning systems and legislation enabling access to government funds for implementing anticipatory action. In Latin America and the Caribbean, WFP made major milestones in integrating anticipatory action with national social protections systems. Indeed, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti and Saint Lucia can now deliver assistance to at-risk populations days ahead of predicted floods or cyclones through existing social protection systems.

In Eastern Africa, WFP arranged a peer-to-peer exchange on drought trigger development between Ethiopia's and Djibouti's meteorological agencies, advanced forecasting using machine learning in Ethiopia and Kenya, and secured support to expand these innovations to Rwanda and Uganda by 2026. In West Africa, WFP is working with governments and partners to expand early warning system support to Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, while enhancing existing Anticipatory Action programmes in the Sahel. This includes, for example, the support extended to Mali to integrate anticipatory action into its national disaster risk reduction strategy. In Southern Africa, WFP's advocacy and technical support led to the integration of anticipatory action into key government programmes, policies, and governance structures, with the United Republic of Tanzania's Productive Social Safety Net Programme (PSSN) set to incorporate anticipatory action in 2025, and Madagascar embedding anticipatory action into

its Disaster Risk Management policy, Humanitarian Cash Guidelines, and national humanitarian response plan.

Furthermore, WFP serves as an implementing partner of the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF), working closely with six governments in Africa (Mozambique, Chad, Zambia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea and Sierra Leone) and four in the Caribbean (Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) to strengthen the observational infrastructure, which is critical for accurate and timely early warnings.

# Interagency collaboration

In 2024, WFP continued to work with partners at the country level through dedicated technical working groups, including to expand the United Nations interagency Anticipatory Action frameworks for Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) funding in additional countries and/or for additional hazards such as for cyclones in Madagascar and Mozambique, flooding in Chad and the Niger, and flooding and cyclones in Haiti.

Significant progress was also made at the regional level. For example, in Asia the regional CERF working group which includes the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), WFP and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), designed an Anticipatory Action training package and conducted training of trainers to continue building Anticipatory Action skills in the different countries. In southern Africa, the three agencies arranged a regional after-action review of the El Niño activations, together with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and partner governments as part of the Southern Africa Dialogue Platform. These achievements at the country and regional levels also reflect the progress made with the implementation of

the joint <u>Food and Agriculture Organization-WFP</u> <u>Anticipatory Action Strategy</u>.

At the global level, WFP co-championed the Grand Bargain Caucus on Scaling up Anticipatory Action together with the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and Save the Children. The Grand Bargain Caucus members endorsed the <u>Outcome document</u> which includes commitments on 1) increasing funding for anticipatory action with a target of at least 5 percent of humanitarian funding by 2026; 2) tracking investments to ensure accountability and transparency and; 3) improving coordination among all partners.

In 2024, WFP continued to support the Early Warning for All (EW4A) initiative, including as its lead/colead agency role in Cambodia, Bangladesh (jointly with the IFRC), Nepal, Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Mozambique (led by the Government) and through the support it provides to national hydrological and meteorological agencies in the 44 countries in which the Anticipatory Action programme is being implemented.

## Knowledge management and learning

Throughout 2024, WFP strengthened its Anticipatory Action knowledge sharing and learning foundations through targeted webinars hosted in the internal Anticipatory Action community of practice. Major milestones include the publication of case studies on social protection and integration of Anticipatory Action in Fiji and in Haiti, a regional case study about the development and dissemination of early warning messages during the El Niño events in southern Africa, guidance on integrating cash assistance within Anticipatory Action frameworks and an associated webinar. These efforts are continuing to build evidence and promote practical Anticipatory Action applications across different sectors. Moreover, WFP continued to incorporate the findings of its after-action reviews in its country Anticipatory Action operations. This includes learnings on reducing operational timelines for delivering cash, disseminating early warning information in the most user-friendly ways, and improving trigger performance and communication among partners.





# WFP's Approach to Anticipatory Action

## Background

Extreme weather events pose a significant risk to food systems, disproportionately affecting the most food insecure people around the world. Extreme environmental conditions also interact with other main drivers of hunger and malnutrition, including conflict and economic shocks (now exacerbated by the lasting impacts of the COVID19 pandemic). This creates multiple effects across many different points within food systems, resulting in more frequent emergency responses and continued erosion of vulnerable population's ability to adapt to extreme weather events. WFP recognizes that integrated and risk-informed approaches are needed to address the deeply rooted causes of food insecurity and malnutrition among the most vulnerable, as well as to help governments, communities and households build stronger capacities, systems and institutions to manage multiple risks.



#### FIGURE 1



Source: WFP.

### Anticipatory action for extreme weather events

Anticipatory Action is defined as "acting ahead of a predicted hazardous event to prevent or reduce impacts on lives and livelihoods and humanitarian needs before they fully unfold."<sup>2</sup> In contrast to conventional humanitarian response – which takes place when a disaster has already occurred, and the effects are visible – anticipatory action happens in the uncertainty that the forecasted event might not come to pass and must be implemented in the window of opportunity between issuance of the forecast and the expected onset of the extreme event and/or its immediate impacts.

WFP pioneered the approach with the German Red Cross in 2015. Since then, WFP has worked with partners to expand the innovative AA approach globally and inform key initiatives such as the Riskinformed Early Action Partnership (REAP), which is drawing heavily on the experience and expertise of WFP and the Red Cross system. WFP's work on AA consists of both: 1) enabling national governments, humanitarian and development partners to develop and institutionalize AA systems; as well as 2) directly delivering AAs to populations at risk of imminent extreme weather events.

AA saves lives and upholds the dignity of people; it also makes financial sense. The benefits and effectiveness of AA have been showcased by a growing volume of evidence. <u>A study has just been</u> published on the relative costs and benefits of AA compared to traditional humanitarian response in three countries where WFP implemented anticipatory actions ahead of the El Niño-induced drought of 2023-2024: Lesotho, Madagascar, and Mozambique. Every US\$ 1 invested in anticipatory action is equivalent to US\$1.23 or \$ 1.28, depending on the country, in post-shock response to yield the same quantity of benefits. Evidence generated by WFP in Bangladesh and Nepal shows that anticipatory action investments have reduced the cost of humanitarian responses to floods in affected areas by up to 50 percent.

<sup>2.</sup> Definition included in the <u>Final Caucus Outcome Document of the Grand</u> Bargain.

# Core components of anticipatory action

Anticipatory action requires the linking of three core elements (see Figure 2):

#### TRIGGERS

Triggers are used to decide when to act. In the case of AA, triggers usually consist of weather or impactbased forecasts stating that an imminent extreme weather event (and its associated impacts) will likely exceed a specific threshold. Once received, this forecast triggers anticipatory actions to mitigate the expected impact.

#### **PRE-AGREED ACTION PLANS**

Anticipatory Action Plans (AAPs) are pre-agreed plans that consolidate the key information required to deliver timely action ahead of predicted extreme weather events. This includes details on forecast thresholds, triggers, readiness and anticipatory actions, targeted populations, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plans, associated internal and partner responsibilities and costs.

#### **PREARRANGED FINANCE**

Contingency funds are committed significantly in advance of a potential extreme weather event, and rapidly disbursed to implement the pre-agreed AAP once a pre-defined trigger is reached.

#### **FIGURE 2**

#### Core components of anticipatory action





# **2024 KEY HIGHLIGHTS**



		4
EAST	ASIA A	ND THE PACIFIC
		1,458,355
	-5	655,251
)	<b>()</b>	2,111,940
)	<u>ک</u>	23.2 million
)	\$	8.7 million

# ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



### TARGET LOCATIONS AND HAZARDS



Anticipatory Action initiative for Khulna Cyclone Remal, Bangladesh.

# **KEY INFORMATION**

655.251

2,111,940



-\$

((<->))

people covered **1,458,355** 

**PEOPLE REACHED WITH** 

**PEOPLE REACHED WITH** 

ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS

**EARLY WARNING MESSAGES** 



#### DONORS

United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), Government of Ireland, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Green Climate Fund (GCF), Life for Guardian's Foundation (LGF).



#### us\$ funds pre-arranged for activations 23.2 MILLION

of which **US\$17.6 MILLION** from CERF and **US\$5.6 MILLION** from WFP Trust Fund



US\$ FUNDS DISBURSED FOR ACTIVATIONS **8.7 MILLION** 



#### **REGIONAL PARTNERS**

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in the Climate Risk and Early Warning System (CREWS), Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC).

# **Regional highlights**

In 2024, the Asia-Pacific region continued to witness significant extreme environmental conditions. These include continued cyclone activity, with notable events such as Cyclone Remal in Bangladesh in May affecting 5 million people, and six back-to-back cyclones (category of typhoons and above) in the Philippines between September and November, affecting 13 million people. Additionally, monsoon rains in Bangladesh resulted in flash floods in July. Recognizing the growing risk of floods, WFP in Asia and the Pacific expanded Anticipatory Action (AA) programming across the region, covering more people, new hazards, and new geographical areas. WFP currently has capacity to cover almost 1.5 million people in Bangladesh, Nepal, the Philippines and Fiji prior to floods and cyclones. Four activations took place in 2024, two of them in Bangladesh, one in Nepal and one in Kyrgyzstan (for heavy snowfall). WFP Bangladesh broke two records with the fastest activation and the biggest coverage ever recorded. The fastest activation occurred in May, with WFP providing anticipatory cash assistance in less than 24 hours to reach 150,000 people ahead of cyclone Remal, and the biggest coverage occurred when 478,140 people in need were reached ahead of the Jamuna floods with anticipatory cash transfers and early warning messages. The activation in Nepal ahead of floods reached 23,550 people with cash transfers and 111,940 people with early warning messages in the Koshi Basin.

Recognizing the importance of having an effective and reliable early warning system to inform AA programmes, WFP, along with partners, continues to advocate strengthening the early warning system through regional events and meetings. WFP participated in many events including the World Meteorological Organization and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Specialized Meteorological Centre regional forum on "towards a weather-ready and climate resilient ASEAN" (Singapore, September 2024), South Asia AA Dialogue Platform (Colombo, September 2024), and Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (Manila, October 2024). The high-level ministerial conference emphasized the importance of Early Warning for All (EW4ALL) targets, in which closing last-mile coverage remains the key priority for the next three years. Building on the momentum of the EW4ALL initiative, WFP - along with partners - is leading or co-leading EW4ALL coordination in Nepal, Bangladesh, Cambodia and the Lao People's Democratic Republic, advancing the process of road-map development, and aligning the ongoing and upcoming climate finance investments to address EW4ALL needs. WFP partnered with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in the Climate Risk and Early Warning System (CREWS) project to strengthen early warning system through improving vulnerability and risk data layers, contingency plans, and building an enabling environment for having AA programmes. This CREWS partnership is paving the way for WFP to continue the collaboration with WMO to fundraise to expand CREWS and advance overall EW4ALL in Cambodia.

As part of a project supported by the European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), in close cooperation with the ASEAN Specialization Meteorological Centre, WFP worked with partners (the Finnish Red Cross, Regional Integrated Multi Hazard Early Warning System and the Finnish Meteorological Institute) to develop (i) technical guidance on translating seasonal and sub-seasonal climate outlooks for sector-specific national and subnational outlooks, and (ii) a training programme on the technical guidance for staff from the National Hydrometeorological Agency of Cambodia and the National Disaster Management Agency of Indonesia. This activity was intended to strengthen the governments' capacity to use climate early warning products at seasonal and sub-seasonal time scale to inform preparedness and take anticipatory measures for managing extreme environmental conditions.

Moreover, WFP is paving the way for South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) initiatives, allowing governments to learn from each other's experience in institutionalizing AA. In 2024, WFP arranged a South-South cooperation exchange between the governments of Bangladesh and the Philippines to share Bangladesh's learnings on the technical and policy environments that advance implementation of AA; these includes the multi-hazard impact-based early warning system project and the disaster bill to enable access to government funds for implementing AA. In Cambodia, WFP used its partnership with the Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES) to design an Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) for floods in Pursat basin. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, WFP in partnership with the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) conducted a feasibility study for five southern provinces.

Regarding evidence generation, WFP in Asia Pacific has conducted an AA impact evaluation based on the activation in Bangladesh in May and July 2024, using a randomized control trial methodology to measure the impact of anticipatory cash compared to later post-shock transfers. Initial findings show positive effects of AA on food security, coping strategies and mental health. The final results will be disseminated in 2025.

At the regional level, WFP continues to advance AA institutionalization, working alongside governments and regional partners to integrate AA within existing policy and regulation frameworks. In 2024, the AA Regional Working Group, which WFP is part of, designed an AA training package and conducted a training of trainers to continue building skills for AA in the various countries.



# BANGLADESH





#### TARGET LOCATIONS

Kurigram, Gaibandha, Jamalpur, Sirajganj, Bogura, Khulna, Satkhira, Barguna, Patuakhali, Bhola, Sylhet, Sunamganj and Cox's Bazar districts.



#### HAZARDS

Cyclones, floods



#### **PEOPLE COVERED**

1,098,500



# **PEOPLE REACHED WITH ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS** 628,140



**PEOPLE REACHED WITH EARLY WARNING MESSAGES** 2,000,000



#### **US\$ FUNDS DISBURSED FOR ACTIVATIONS**

7.3 million



#### DONORS

United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), Government of Ireland.



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR)
- 2. Department of Disaster Management (DDM)
- 3. Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA)
- 4. Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC)
- 5. Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

In 2024, WFP:

- Broke two records with the fastest activation and the biggest coverage ever recorded, in May and June respectively.
- Contributed to developing the National Financing Strategy, in collaboration with key collaborators.
- Supported a South-South cooperation exchange with the Philippines, showcasing Bangladesh's experience of integrating anticipatory action (AA) into social protection systems.
- Supported refinement of the flood trigger for the Jamuna River basin, integrating high-resolution hydrological forecasts with community vulnerability data to ensure more precise activation of AA.
- Paved the way for the installation of flood markers at selected unions (the smallest rural administrative and local government unit), to improve community-based flood forecasting and strengthen the link between local data and national activation thresholds.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN BANGLADESH**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 3: "Assist national institutions and communities in strengthening their capacity to implement inclusive, responsive, and nutrition- and gendersensitive safety net programs and in disaster risk preparedness and response to protect the food security and nutrition of vulnerable populations" of the WFP Bangladesh Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026).

In 2024, Bangladesh faced significant humanitarian challenges – including recurring extreme weather events such as severe floods in the Jamuna River basin and tropical cyclones – which compounded the vulnerabilities of marginalized communities. The economic strain, coupled with high food insecurity, exacerbated the needs of vulnerable populations.

WFP implemented a proactive, AA approach, focusing on early warnings and anticipatory cash-based interventions to mitigate the impact of predictable disasters. This was achieved in collaboration with key government counterparts such as the MoDMR, the MoWCA, the BMD and the Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC), with strong integration into national disaster management and social protection systems.

With support from the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and other donors, WFP broke two records, with the fastest activation and the biggest coverage ever recorded. The fastest activation occurred in May, with WFP providing anticipatory cash assistance in less than 24 hours to reach 150,000 people ahead of cyclone Remal, while the biggest coverage reached 478,140 people in need ahead of the Jamuna floods<sup>3</sup> with anticipatory cash transfers and 1,500,000 with early warning messages.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In 2024, the national AA technical working group (AA TWG), co-chaired by WFP and the Bangladesh Red Cross and Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), achieved significant progress in strengthening coordination and alignment across collaborators. A key milestone was the harmonization of the Anticipatory Action Plans (AAPs) for floods and cyclones, which was instrumental in standardizing triggers, early actions, and implementation timelines.

In addition, a National Financing Strategy was developed, in collaboration with key collaborators, integrating AA and climate risk insurance as central components. This strategy ensures sustainable and timely funding mechanisms for disaster preparedness and response.

To strengthen regional knowledge sharing, WFP supported a South-South cooperation exchange with the Philippines, showcasing Bangladesh's experience in integrating Anticipatory Action into social protection systems. This exchange provided actionable insights, including shared technical approaches for flood impact modelling, community engagement strategies, and lessons learned on operationalizing AAPs. The collaboration reinforced Bangladesh's role as a regional leader in anticipatory action and advanced cross-border efforts to improve disaster preparedness and ability to offset the worst effects of disasters.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

In 2024, WFP collaborated with the Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD) and the Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC) to strengthen government forecasting systems and trigger mechanisms for floods and cyclones. A key achievement was the refinement of the flood trigger for the Jamuna River basin, integrating high-resolution hydrological forecasts with community vulnerability data to ensure more

<sup>3.</sup> Cash before the storm: WFP's early action empowers Bangladeshis <u>| World Food Programme</u> and In Bangladesh's Jamuna Basin, WFP's anticipatory action response breaks ground in the fight against climate change | by WFP Asia & Pacific | Medium.

precise activation of anticipatory actions. This updated trigger was designed to activate the readiness trigger for floods within the 15-day window, optimizing the time available for cash transfers and community preparedness.

To support this effort, WFP co-organized several consultations with BMD and FFWC, attended by representatives of the Department of Disaster Management (DDM), the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), CARE, Save the Children, and BDRCS. Outcomes included the adoption of enhanced flood and cyclone forecast products, which are now being disseminated through the national early warning system.

Additionally, WFP facilitated the installation of flood markers at selected unions to improve community-based flood forecasting and strengthen the link between local data and national activation thresholds. This intervention supports the integration of localized data into national forecasting models, enabling better-informed decision-making for decentralized anticipatory action.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

In Bangladesh, the development and implementation of AA interventions were guided by the CERF Anticipatory Action Framework for floods and cyclones under the United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office (UNRCO) leadership. The framework was co-developed through extensive consultations with key government partners including the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) and the Department of Disaster Management (DDM), and with technical support from partners such as WFP, UNICEF, FAO, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS). Decisionmaking was facilitated through technical working groups (TWGs) and complemented by consultations with local communities in flood-prone and cycloneaffected areas, to ensure that the selected AAs addressed ground-level needs and vulnerabilities.

The framework guided the prioritization of actions and the allocation of roles among partners, enabling cohesive planning and implementation. Ahead of the hazard season, operational readiness measures were completed, including the pre-registration of 400,000 eligible households, identification of prearranged finance for cash transfers, and coordination with mobile financial service providers to ensure rapid disbursements. Community consultations also played a critical role in refining the household selection process, ensuring that vulnerable groups were effectively targeted.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

In May 2024, WFP, in collaboration with the Government of Bangladesh, implemented AA ahead of Cyclone Remal to mitigate risks to lives and livelihoods in the coastal districts of Khulna, Satkhira, Barguna, Patuakhali, and Bhola. This activation was a critical step in using early warning systems and anticipatory cash transfers for disaster preparedness. Based on forecasted wind speeds and locations, triggers were reached on 25 May, approximately 24 hours before the cyclone's landfall.

Through a bank-led mobile financial service provider (bKash), 150,000 people received US\$43 (BDT 5,000) each to reinforce homes, evacuate, and secure essential supplies such as food, medicines, and cattle feed. Approximately 500,000 people received early warning messages – through local and Cyclone Preparedness Programme volunteers, radio, television, and announcements broadcast through loudspeakers, enabling them to make risk-informed decisions.

In July 2024, another large-scale AA activation was implemented in the Jamuna Basin, covering Kurigram, Gaibandha, Jamalpur, Sirajganj and Bogura districts. This activation supported 478,140 people with anticipatory cash transfers of BDT 5,000 (US\$43) per household, just 12 hours after the trigger was reached, four days ahead of the floods. Early warning messages were disseminated to over 1,500,000 individuals in 200 unions, enabling timely preparations – such as the purchase of food, medicine and other essentials – in both flood and cyclone-prone areas.

Key findings from the activation post-distribution monitoring include:

- **99 percent** of persons receiving cash successfully withdrew their funds.
- **97 percent** of these people used the cash to prepare for the hazard.
- **84 percent** of those assisted understood the objective of the anticipatory cash transfer.
- Families prioritized purchasing food, medicine, and transportation for evacuation.

WFP also conducted an impact evaluation using a randomized control trial to assess the impact of AA compared to traditional post-shock assistance. Initial findings point to AA having a positive effect on food consumption scores and food-base coping strategies, as well as on mental health; the final results will be available in 2025.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Increase anticipatory cash transfers and early warning messages to support 500,000 households (100,000 more households) across 17 high-risk districts, addressing risks of floods, cyclones, drought, and potentially landslides.
- Improve the integration of early warning systems with climate services, delivering actionable, localized forecasts to vulnerable and marginalized communities to ensure inclusive preparedness.
- Advance the integration of AA into the national social protection system, enabling faster fundraising and quicker delivery of assistance for at-risk populations.
- Pilot the integration of climate risk insurance into AA frameworks, providing financial protection to communities vulnerable to extreme weather events.
- Advocate institutionalizing AA policies in government planning, ensuring sustainable mechanisms for addressing extreme weather events and protecting lives and livelihoods.







TARGET LOCATIONS

Pusat province



#### HAZARDS





#### DONORS

German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), Government of Ireland, European Commission European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM)
- 2. Ministry of Social Affairs, Veteran and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY)
- 3. National Social Protection Council (NSPC)
- 4. National Social Assistance Fund (NSAF)
- 5. Ministry of Environment (MoE)
- 6. Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology (MOWRAM)
- 7. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery (MAFF)
- 8. Ministry of Planning (MoP)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

In 2024, WFP:

- Worked closely with relevant government ministries to design an Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) for floods in Pursat province.
- Developed an AA trigger model for floods in Pursat province, in collaboration with government partners.
- Co-led the Early Warning for All (EW4All) initiative in Cambodia.



#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN CAMBODIA**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 4: "Provide national and subnational authorities and communities with technical support, coordination and evidence generation services relevant to disaster risk management and shock-responsive social protection" of the <u>WFP Cambodia Country</u> <u>Strategic Plan 2024-2028</u>.

Cambodia experiences significant effects from frequent floods and droughts, which threaten the food system. Between 2015 and 2020, these disasters affected a total of 3.7 million people and hindered socioeconomic development across the country. However, the risks do not end there. Compounding shocks – such as rising food and fuel prices and extreme weather events causing crop failure – have pushed many households to the brink of vulnerability and poverty.

In 2024, WFP worked closely with relevant government ministries to advance the AA agenda on two main fronts, (i) strengthening the early warning system and (ii) designing an Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) for floods in Pursat Province, with national and subnational government partners and the communities. These are intended to complement each other and contribute to the Government's efforts to achieve zero hunger through supporting social protection, disaster risk management, and food security and nutrition.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In 2024, WFP collaborated with the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) and technical partners to develop an AAP for floods in Pursat province. This draft AAP for floods was developed to better support the livelihoods and climate adaptation capacities of communities in flood-prone areas, improving their ability to manage potential floods. Aligned with the Early Warning For All (EW4All) initiative, the work included many consultations with communities and relevant government ministries to define how to better integrate anticipatory actions and alert mechanisms to support government agencies and collaborators to implement effective anticipatory actions and help communities better prepare to manage potential risks.

In collaboration with the Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES), WFP has enhanced the forecasting capacities of government partners to ensure the provision and access to essential early warning and climate services information needed to activate the AAP and make informed decisions if a shock is forecasted. These efforts are aligned with the EW4All initiative, and linked with Cambodia's national shock-responsive social protection framework.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

WFP and RIMES, in collaboration with government partners, developed an AA trigger model for floods in Pursat province. The AA trigger model is built on the relationship between the rainfall received over the Pursat basin and the water level at Bak Trakoun Station in the Pursat basin during the historical flood events. This historical assessment helped further to link the rainfall forecast products from the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) with the resulting water level (various return periods: three years, five years and ten years) in Bak Trakoun Station. The model is calibrated for all the historical flood events, and the trigger is captured well for the 2020, 2021, and 2023 flood events in Pursat province with up to seven days lead time for the readiness trigger, and three days for the activation trigger. The trigger model would provide us with three scenarios along with relevant anticipatory action: Scenario 1 is a readiness trigger for three-year return period floods; Scenario 2 is activation trigger for a five-year return period, and Scenario 3 is activation trigger for a ten-year return period. Scenarios 2 and 3 differentiate the magnitude of the event and predicted effects of floods.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

WFP's AAP for floods is a needs-based, preagreed plan that consolidates the key information required to deliver timely action ahead of predicted floods. The AAP was developed in consultation with the Department of Meteorology (DOM), the Department of Hydrology and River Works (DHRW), the NCDM, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery (MAFF), and the district and commune representatives of Kandieng District, Pursat Province.

This AAP classifies households into two levels to align with the Government's classification of poor Level 1 (very poor) and poor Level 2 (poor), respectively, of the Identification of Poor Households Programme (IDPoor). This will ensure that the interventions and resources are allocated to those most in need and align with other complementary assistance.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Continue strengthening the decision-making and operational capacities of the Government of Cambodia on AA for both floods and drought, in coordination with other key collaborators like the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
- Pilot the AAP in a select basin during the 2025 monsoon season and generate the related evidence to measure impact and capture lessons learned.
- Strengthen partnerships with the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology (MoWRAM) and the Ministry of Environment (MoE).

- Continue advocating with the National Social Protection Council (NSPC) and the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) on strengthening synergies between AA and shockresponsive social protection, and AA evidence generation.
- Carry out a comprehensive simulation exercise to strengthen the AA flood-readiness capacities of NCDM, the Provincial Committee for Disaster Management, volunteers, and the community in Kandieng District, Pursat Province.



# INDONESIA





#### TARGET LOCATIONS

East Nusa Tenggara Province, Yogyakarta Province, and West Kalimantan Province.

#### HAZARDS

Drought, floods and cyclones



#### DONORS

Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and Government of Ireland



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA)
- 2. Coordinating Ministry of Human Development and Culture
- 3. National Meteorological Agency, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Village, and Ministry of Home Affairs.
- 4. Provincial Disaster Management Agency
- 5. Provincial Development Planning Office
- 6. Provincial Social Office
- 7. Provincial Public Work and Housing
- 8. Provincial Agriculture Office
- 9. Provincial Village Development Office
- 10. Provincial Meteorological Office
- 11. Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Forum



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

In 2024, WFP:

- Contributed to strengthening the regulatory basis that enables AA, including the issuance of National Disaster Management Regulation 02/2024 on Actions to Respond to Ealy Warning.
- Supported the integration of an anticipatory approach in the Ministry of Village regulation on use of village funds and into provincial mid-term development plans for 2025-2029 in two provinces (East Nusa Tenggara and Yogyakarta).
- Contributed to the integration of AA into a tropical cyclone contingency plan in the Yogyakarta province and drought contingency plan in the East Nusa Tenggara province.
- Supported mainstreaming of anticipatory action into the national 'Climate Field School curriculum' programme.
- Supported the strengthening of impact-based early warning through applied flood forecast model on crops.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN INDONESIA**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 2: "Enhance partnerships, policy engagement and technical assistance to the Government, other partners and communities to reduce risks and the impact of disasters and climate change on food security and nutrition" of the <u>WFP Indonesia Country</u> <u>Strategic Plan (2021-2025)</u>.

In 2024, 1,088 floods and 54 droughts took place, continuing the 2023 trend where these disasters also dominated the country's landscape. Against this backdrop, in 2024, WFP continued to support the Government of Indonesia to integrating AA into existing government-led disaster management mechanisms across three provinces (Nusa Tenggara Timur, West Kalimantan, and Yogyakarta), with emphasis on feasibility, scalability and systemwide application. This was achieved through continued system-building efforts at the subnational level, focusing on the inclusion of AA into drought and tropical cyclone contingency plans and corresponding operational guidelines, as well as the incorporation of AA into flood crop protection mechanisms to prevent loss and damage. Building on WFP's advocacy efforts on AA, joint AA introduction and engagement with the central government - as well as the work conducted at the sub-national level, national AA frameworks were developed.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In 2024, WFP further supported the Government of Indonesia to integrate AA into existing disaster management national and sub-national policies, as well as strengthening the capacity of various institutions to use AA. At the national level, WFP assisted the Government to: (i) issue the National Disaster Management Regulation 02/2024 on Actions to Respond to Early Warning; and (ii) integrate AA into the Ministry of Village regulation on the use of village funds, and into the provincial midterm development plans 2025-2029 of two provinces (East Nusa Tenggara and Yogyakarta Province). Building on WFP's extensive advocacy efforts in the country, systematic integration of AA into various sub-national policies was initiated to ensure its institutionalization into the Government's disaster management system at the sub-national level. This involved the revision of the national contingency technical guideline, which provides instructions for sub-national governments in disaster-prone areas to develop contingency plan documents. WFP also continued to support the consolidation of AA at the sub-national level across three provinces -Yogyakarta, West Kalimantan and Nusa Tenggara Timur - where almost all extreme weather events are of small- to medium-scale and, therefore, fall under the responsibility of the sub-national governments.

In Yogyakarta province, the provincial government has made significant strides in institutionalizing AA into the provincial disaster management framework. Key achievements include the integration of AA into a Tropical Cyclone Contingency Plan, as well as the coming into force of this contingency plan and related operational guidelines, following the endorsement of the Governor. Moreover, advocacy efforts have led Bantul and Gunung Kidul districts to allocate funds to revise flood contingency plans and include AA in their provincial strategies. Additionally, the Provincial Planning Agency embedded AA into its long-term development plan, reinforcing sustainable community ability to offset the worst effects of disasters.

Furthermore, WFP advocacy efforts have had a significant positive impact on government agencies in Yogyakarta, particularly in terms of strengthening their early warning systems. In October 2024, following a seasonal early warning for a high probability of extreme weather during the rainy season, the provincial authorities activated coordination mechanisms among collaborators and arranged the pre-positioning of essential supplies in potentially affected areas, showcasing the practical benefits of AA in mitigating the effects of disasters. In West Kalimantan province, WFP and government counterparts continued to mainstream AA into the national Climate Field School curriculum, a national programme that reaches over 1,000 participants and community facilitators every year. Following the success of this integration, WFP strengthened the capacity of farmers groups to be able to: (i) use climate information and early warnings for planning and adjusting agricultural practices; (ii) implement AA; and (iii) and access funding for climate risk mitigation. In parallel, WFP – in partnership with the Meteorological, Climatological, and Geophysical Agency and the Provincial Crop Protection Unit supported the strengthening of impact-based early warning systems through an applied flood forecast model on crops. This application, already in use by provincial authorities, provides specific information on the potential impact at different phases of crop growth and potential loss and damage. Consequently, it prompts the agricultural officer to take appropriate action to minimize and prevent the predicted negative effects of floods.

In East Nusa Tenggara, drought has persisted and continues to be exacerbated by extreme weather events. In response, WFP and government partners continued to advance the integration of AA into the Provincial Contingency Plan for drought. In 2024, the Contingency Plan was endorsed by the local government and promptly led to the declaration of emergency status because of a prediction of drought in the province covering the period from June to December 2024. For the first time, this enabled the sub-national authorities to access the 'On-call Budget', a financing system in place to support implementation of AA to minimize the effects of predicted drought on vulnerable populations. Additionally, detailed operational guidelines for the three pillars of AA in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) – Risk Assessment, risk Advisory and Capacity Building<sup>4</sup> – were developed, along with a methodology to select districts to integrate these principles into disaster affected programmes.

4. ASEAN-Framework-on-Anticipatory-Action-in-Disaster-Management.pdf

Moreover, WFP is also continuing to support the strengthening of existing coordination structures, such as the Provincial Disaster Management Agency of East Nusa Tenggara, in harmonizing use of AA implementation among various government partners and NGOs through the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Forum (DRR Forum). In addition, WFP actively supported a series of outreach initiatives. Firstly, through its partnership with the AA technical working group (AATWG), in close coordination with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and other international non-governmental organizations, WFP assisted in implementing activities focused on the exchange and learning of AA practices across Indonesia. Secondly, through a Training of Trainers programme, the capacity of land Disaster Risk Reduction practitioners to implement AA was strengthened. Thirdly, during the Twentieth Commemoration of the Aceh Tsunami, the BNPB led a dedicated event featuring AA, where WFP and the AATWG members shared best practices, challenges and opportunities for implementing AA in Indonesia. Finally, WFP paved the way for a National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) representative to participate at the Global Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Action.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

In 2024, WFP supported the NDMA to strengthen its drought early warning systems as part of WFP's commitment to advance the NDMA's capacity to implement AA. WFP also supported the Meteorological, Climatological, and Geophysical Agency to strengthen its capacity for impactbased flood forecasting. In 2024, WFP conducted a comprehensive review of the Meteorological, Climatological, and Geophysical Agency's impact-based forecasting platform, SIGNATURE, and identified areas for improvement in flood forecasting. This includes using the "Model of Models," an ensemble flood forecasting framework tailored to the Indonesian context. Enhancing the accuracy and reliability of SIGNATURE will also benefit the NDMA, as its forecasts are integrated into the NDMA's Prevention Dashboard, a multihazard monitoring platform that is already operationalized.

In addition to these national-level efforts, WFP also provided technical support to sub-national governments to develop operational early warning information. Key progress has been made in supporting sub-national government forecasting and trigger development systems, particularly in the context of tropical cyclone management in Yogyakarta. The operational guide for early warning and AA integrates forecast-based risk assessments, defining clear triggers and thresholds for action based on meteorological data such as wind speed, rainfall intensity, and atmospheric pressure. WFP strengthened the collaboration between disaster management authorities and meteorological, climatological, and geophysical agencies to ensure continuous monitoring and the issuance of tropical cyclone bulletins, which guide provincial and district authorities in assessing potential effects and fundraising.

Moreover, a multi-stage early warning framework for cyclones – spanning Normal, Watch, Alert, and Warning levels – was developed in 2024 and ensures that government agencies and communities are informed at every step of a cyclone's progression. Clear thresholds for activation – such as wind speeds exceeding 40 knots or rainfall above 200 mm/day – allow for timely implementation of anticipatory actions. This systematic approach supports proactive decisionmaking and strengthens disaster preparedness, particularly for vulnerable populations across Yogyakarta province.

Furthermore, WFP assisted the West Kalimantan Meteorological, Climatological, and Geophysical Agency Climate Station to develop flood modelling for rice plantations. The model overlays this agency's rainfall index and flood forecast visualization with the Ministry of Agriculture's rice growth monitoring system, which projects better visualization of the potential flood areas on top of rice planting areas. The model is intended to provide more detailed early warning information to inform the planning process to determine the threshold and trigger and, later, the decisionmaking process to implement anticipatory action.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

WFP is providing technical support to government partners to design their AA frameworks/plans.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Develop a Flood Contingency Plan and operational guidelines in Yogyakarta province and align AA with provincial and district contingency plans for drought and tropical cyclones in East Nusa Tenggara Province and Yogyakarta Province.
- Use experience of AA at the sub-national level to inform scalable and system-wide application of AA through national-level mechanisms.
- Support the development of national technical guidelines for integrating AA into the Disaster Affected Village Programme (known in Bahasa Indonesia as Desa Tangguh Bencana or DESTANA).
- Develop a technical guideline for integrating drought early warning systems into the NDMA's Prevention Dashboard.
- Develop national guidelines for operational drought early warning systems for sub-national governments.

# **KYRGYZ REPUBLIC**





#### TARGET LOCATIONS

High mountain municipalities of Naryn Oblast (province): (i) Naryn district: Min-Bulak, Dobolu; Chet-Nura; Jerge-Tal; (ii) At-Bashi district: Bash-Kaindy; and iii) Naryn town.



#### HAZARDS

Heavy snowfall



#### PEOPLE COVERED

4,000



## **PEOPLE REACHED WITH ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS** 3,561



#### **US\$ FUNDS DISBURSED FOR ACTIVATIONS**

88,731

# <u>\$</u>

#### DONORS

German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. The Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic (MES KR)
- 2. Local NGO "Alternativa"
- 3. State Administration of Naryn Oblast
- 4. State Administration of Naryn and At-Bashi Districts
- 5. Local government in Min-Bulak (Naryn district) and Bash-Kaindy (At-Bashy District) rural municipalities.



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

In 2024, WFP:

- Paved the way for the establishment of a consultative interministerial technical working group (ITWG).
- Worked closely with the Kyrgyz Hydrometeorological Service (Kyrgyz Hydromet) under the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic (MES KR), using their forecasts and alerts to monitor and trigger AA for severe winter events.
- Carried out a project funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to improve Kyrgyz Hydromet's service quality and availability.
- Initiated feed distribution to pastoralists in need, prioritizing socially vulnerable families on reaching an activation trigger.

#### OVERVIEW OF AA IN KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

Anticipatory Action (AA) is included in Activity 3: "Provide resource transfers, knowledge and technical assistance to the most vulnerable and the Government to enhance climate change adaptation and disaster risk management capacity at the central and local levels" of the <u>WFP Kyrgyz Republic</u> <u>Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)</u>.

The Kyrgyz Republic is the third most vulnerable country to the vulnerable to extreme weather events in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, with its mountainous terrain making it particularly prone to extreme weather events.<sup>5</sup> Since 2012, these disasters have surged by 1.5 times,<sup>6</sup> causing an annual economic loss of US\$70 million. In 2024, mudflows due to excess rainfall led to material damage over three times greater than the total recorded in 2023.<sup>7</sup>

In 2024, WFP paved the way for the strengthening of government support for AA by providing extensive advocacy, knowledge exchange, and technical support. These efforts contributed to the Government's recognition of AA and its commitment to institutionalizing it within existing structures. The AA piloting commenced in a remote mountainous province through the government system, including early warning actions and direct distribution of fodder. Preparation for the next winter season (2024-2025) is underway through a revolving fodder fund, allowing for sustainable feed prepositioning and distribution for the most severe winter conditions.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

At the policy level, WFP paved the way for the establishment of a consultative interministerial technical working group (ITWG), led by the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic (MES KR) and the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction of the Kyrgyz Republic to pilot and promote AA as a component of national disaster risk management (DRM) protocols.

The ITWG convened multiple consultative meetings and two workshops with representatives from all relevant national government agencies and local self-governments in the pilot area. These sessions focused on developing an annual work plan for AA piloting, identifying mechanisms, and defining protocols for AA interventions. This work plan served as the foundation for a series of orders from MES KR and local governments to guide the preparation and implementation of AA activities. The project's full cycle - including an evaluation of the revolving fodder fund mechanism - will conclude at the end of 2024. Following this, WFP, MES KR, and the ITWG will conduct in-depth analysis of the effectiveness of AA measures and the tested procedures. This analysis will inform a strategy for scaling up, replicating, and integrating AA practices into the DRM, civil and social protection protocols of local authorities and relevant ministries.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

WFP continues to work closely with the Kyrgyz Hydromet under MES KR, using its forecasts and alerts to monitor and trigger AA for severe winter events, including heavy snowfall and extremely low temperatures.

Following the prepositioning of feedstocks in strategically located community warehouses, Kyrgyz Hydrometeorological Service (Kyrgyz

United Nations in the Kyrgyz Republic Common Country Analysis, 2023 Update, <u>https://kyrgyzstan.un.org/en/264791-common-country-analysisun-kyrgyzstan</u>.

<sup>6.</sup> United Nations in the Kyrgyz Republic Common Country Analysis, 2024 Update, <u>https://kyrgyzstan.un.org/en/285730-common-country-analysis-2024-un-kyrgyzstan</u>.

<sup>7.</sup> WFP Price Monitoring Bulletin # 84, DataViz - Kyrgyzstan.

Hydromet) forecasts and alerts initiate action under agreed protocols to rapidly transport and distribute feed to high-mountain pastures. This approach ensures that resources reach vulnerable livestock areas during harsh winter conditions.

Additionally, WFP is implementing a project funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to improve Kyrgyz Hydromet's service quality and availability. The North Eurasian Climate Centre trained Kyrgyz Hydromet staff on a numerical weather prediction model to improve the reliability of its operational forecast products. This project complements AA efforts by building national skills for climate services, strengthening early warning systems, and enhancing community ability to offset the worst effects of disasters. Together, these initiatives support a more robust, climate-responsive disaster management framework in the Kyrgyz Republic.

#### **ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS**

In the mountainous Kyrgyz Republic – where geological and geophysical hazards such as landslides, mudflows, and earthquakes are prevalent and complex to model or forecast – the AA approach has its limitations. However, for certain weatherdependent hazards, the AA model has proven effective in reducing potential losses and enhancing DRM efforts. WFP's AA pilot demonstrates this success by targeting hazards directly affected by severe winter conditions.

Through participation in the Anticipation Hub Platform and the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR), WFP has gained valuable insights into the application of AA in other countries. Drawing on this knowledge, WFP developed a pilot project intended to protect highland pastoralists from winter-related risks, which led to the creation of the ITWG. This group developed the project's concept and implementation plan. Key project phases – including fodder prepositioning and distribution to vulnerable pastoralists – were successfully completed, significantly reducing potential losses and protecting livelihoods and income sources. Following these initial successes, the project advanced to the constant fodder revolving phase, with preparations for AA activities to mitigate risks related to heavy snowfalls on highmountainous pasture lands (during winter).

The pilot's outcomes are being closely evaluated by local authorities and the MES KR to guide the integration and scaling up of these practices within local DRM standards and coordination protocols. The aggregated results of this analysis will inform the next stage of the AA project, developed in collaboration with local authorities and relevant ministries under MES KR's overall coordination.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

In February 2024, forecasts and warnings from Kyrgyz Hydromet indicated that the pre-defined trigger for heavy snowfall had been reached. In collaboration with local authorities and MES KR, WFP provided fodder assistance to 3,561 individuals three days before the day of the heavy snowfall forecasted across six remote, mountainous municipalities in Naryn Oblast: Min-Bulak, Dobolu, Chet-Nura, Jerge-Tal, Bash-Kaindy, and Naryn town. By distributing feed directly to pastoralists, WFP enabled them to prepare for harsh winter conditions by ensuring that their livestock on high-mountain pastures received adequate feed, reducing the potential impact of extreme weather and safeguarding livestock nutrition during critical periods.

Given that this time WFP was implementing AA to reduce risk and losses from the negative impact of harsh winters in remote, mountain areas of the Kyrgyz Republic, the AA procedures were only being piloted and were not yet part of approved local authority and MES KR mechanisms. Ongoing monitoring identified that this caused some difficulties in accurately targeting participants and applying efficient feed-distribution mechanisms. Subsequently, monitoring funding was analysed in more detail jointly with experts from local authorities and the MES KR, after which several steps were taken to improve practices and develop standard procedures for the corresponding AA actions.

Feed distribution was coordinated through requests submitted by residents to local authorities, enabling the efficient allocation of prepositioned feedstocks from community warehouses. This initial activation phase offered valuable lessons, leading to enhancements in local civil and social protection mechanisms, as well as improvements in delivery, warehousing, and preparedness efforts by WFP, local self-governments, and the MES KR.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Continue to strengthen the link between AA and civil and social protection, including when geographically expanding harsh winter AA to other remote, mountainous areas of the country and enhancing meteorological monitoring and preparedness.
- Assess the feasibility of AA for drought, given the substantial risk of extreme drought and the related effects on food and nutritional security.
- Engage in advocacy to ensure AA is considered in the actions and plans of local self-governments, the MES KR, the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Migration (MLSSM) and other decision-making spaces at the national level.
- Strengthen the capacity and the quality of forecast products of Kyrgyz Hydromet and in parallel projects and activities (with Green Climate Fund and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation funding).



# LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (PDR)





#### TARGET LOCATIONS

Work initiated at the national level.



#### HAZARDS Drought and floods



#### DONORS

Government of Ireland



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MLSW)
- 2. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
- 3. Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF)
- 4. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 5. United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)
- 6. Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

In 2024, WFP:

- Undertook an AA feasibility study to evaluate potential for implementing an AA system to address floods and droughts in five southern provinces
- Initiated a National Perception Survey on Early Warning Systems in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, together with the ADPC.
- Contributed to the development of the Lao People's Democratic Republic AA Plan of Action 2024-2025.

#### OVERVIEW OF AA IN LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (PDR)

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 3 "Provide assistance and technical support to targeted communities and government entities to build communities' resilience to extreme weather events through strengthened capacity in disaster and climate risk management and social protection" of <u>WFP Lao's Country Strategic Plan</u> <u>2022-2026</u>.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic is highly vulnerable to extreme weather events given its varied topography, climate characteristics, high reliance on natural resources and agriculture and limited adaptive capacity. Floods and drought are the most common and significant threats for households that rely on agriculture for their livelihoods and food. In 2024, the Lao People's Democratic Republic faced increasing humanitarian needs due to widespread floods, which caused damage to homes, infrastructure, livelihoods, and crops. The situation worsened in September 2024 when Typhoon Yagi brought heavy rains, causing additional floods and landslides in the northern provinces of Louangnamtha, Phongsaly, Oudomxai, Luang Prabang and Bokeo.

The increasing severity, frequency and impact of these events highlight the need for improved processes and skills to anticipate disasters in the Lao People's Democratic Republic. While AA is still an emerging area of work in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 2024 saw some important developments. Through support from the Government of Ireland, WFP has continued advancing the AA agenda in 2024, with a focus on assessing the feasibility of AA in the country and supporting the institutionalization of AA in the Government's disaster risk management system.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In 2024, WFP, in partnership with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MLSW) and the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC), undertook a feasibility study for implementing an AA system to address floods and droughts in five southern provinces of Savannakhet, Saravane, Sekong, Champassak, and Attapeu. The study examined three key pillars: (i) forecasting and early warning; (ii) planning and operationalizing; and (iii) pre-arranged financing, in order to understand the current capacities and enabling environment for such actions.

While the study found that the Lao People's Democratic Republic is currently at a low level of readiness to implement anticipatory actions, it also highlights some opportunities. Actions like evacuation strategies, distribution of first aid kits, and community awareness programmes are deemed highly feasible due to existing support mechanisms. Conversely, more resource-intensive actions require substantial planning and fundraising strategies. The findings also highlight ongoing developments in AA frameworks, with increased global engagement and the need for local partners in the Lao People's Democratic Republic to bolster their disaster preparedness skills and processes. Importantly, the study establishes a strategic roadmap for enhancing AA in the country, underscoring the need for collaboration among governmental and sectoral institutions. Emphasizing education, advocacy, and improved system capabilities are crucial for fostering an environment conducive to proactive disaster management measures, ultimately contributing to overall ability to offset the worst effects of disasters of communities.

WFP, in partnership with MLSW and ADPC, analysed vulnerability to floods and drought at the district level across the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The analysis produced detailed vulnerability maps and a vulnerability index for floods and droughts in the country, with the objective of guiding preparedness and contingency planning, supporting impact-based forecasting and AA efforts, as well as raising awareness among key decision-makers in the country.

In support of the Early Warning for All Roadmap, WFP – in partnership with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, World Meteorological Organization, WFP and ADPC – initiated a National Perception Survey on Early Warning Systems in the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The overall objective of the study is to gain a better understanding of how people from various target groups – such as people with disabilities, women, elderly individuals, and children – receive, perceive, and react to weather forecasts and early warning messages in the country.

In 2024, WFP continued to participate in the AA technical working group co-chaired by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and the MLSW, and contributed to the development of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Include Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) of Action 2024-2025.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

WFP did not directly support the development of AA forecast and triggers in 2024.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

Through the AA feasibility study and to support the development of future AAPs, WFP and ADPC made recommendations for AAP for drought and floods. For drought, AAPs should emphasize early warning systems and impact-based forecasting through enhanced data collection and satellite monitoring of meteorological patterns. These systems should trigger predefined actions such as the prepositioning of water/food supplies, distribution of drought-resistant seeds, and water conservation measures in vulnerable communities. For floods, AAPs should rely on advanced hydrological models and real-time river flow monitoring to predict flood events accurately. Anticipatory actions include pre-emptive evacuations (of people and livestock) and providing flood-proof shelters and essential supplies.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Support the operationalization of the Early Warning for All Roadmap, supporting the completion of the early warning perception survey.
- Continue to strengthen the capacities of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare and the National Disaster Management Committee in disaster risk management, including AA and shock-responsive social protection.
- Advocate the inclusion of AA in disaster risk management strategies, policies and plans, considering the recommendations from the AA feasibility study.







#### TARGET LOCATIONS

Panchthar, Jhapa, Sunsari, Saptari, Banke, Bardiya and Kailali districts.



#### HAZARDS

Floods



#### PEOPLE COVERED

156,315



# **PEOPLE REACHED WITH ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS** 23,550



# **PEOPLE REACHED WITH EARLY WARNING MESSAGES** 111,940



#### **US\$ FUNDS DISBURSED FOR ACTIVATIONS**

1,4 million

# \$

#### DONORS

United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and Government of Ireland.



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO)
- 2. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- 3. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
- 4. United Nations Population Fund
- 5. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- 6. Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM)
- 7. National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority
- 8. Provincial and local governments
- 9. District Administration Office
- 10. Social Empowerment and Building Accessibility Centre (SEBAC Nepal)
- 11. NEEDS Nepal



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

In 2024, WFP:

- Focused on institutionalizing anticipatory action across local governments to improve state capacity to implement anticipatory action.
- Provided technical support to the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM) to improve its impact-based forecasting capacities.
- Supported the Government of Nepal to integrate AA as part of its Water and Weather Science Policy, to minimize weather-induced disasters.
- Supported the monitoring of potential flood events in 112 rainfall stations across five river basins, using long-term historical annual extreme rainfall data.
- Provided cash transfers of NPR 15,000 to 23,550 individuals and disseminated early warning messages to 111,940 individuals during the activation.
# **OVERVIEW OF AA IN NEPAL**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Strategic Outcome 1, Activity 2: "Provide capacity strengthening and coordination support to the Government, communities and humanitarian actors for evidence-based emergency preparedness and effective response" of <u>WFP Nepal Country Strategic</u> <u>Plan 2024-2028</u>.

The 2024 monsoon season in Nepal, marked by El Niño conditions, brought heavier rainfall and increased likelihood of flooding, particularly from July. By 30 September, Nepal had received 15 percent above-normal rainfall, leading to an AA activation in the East Basin of Nepal.

This AA activation, coordinated by Nepal's Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), was guided by the United Nations Central Emergency Relief Fund (CERF) framework for monsoon floods. As part of this coordinated activation, WFP disseminated lastmile early warning information in Saptari and Sunsari districts to inform households about the impending flood, allowing them to make informed decisions and minimize the effects on their lives and livelihoods. WFP also distributed multi-purpose anticipatory cash assistance (NPR 15,000, equivalent to US\$113.30), enabling at-risk households to meet their immediate needs.

In 2024, WFP focused on institutionalizing anticipatory action across local governments to strengthen public capacity to implement AA. In parallel, WFP provided technical support to the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM) to improve its impact-based forecasting capacities.

# INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

To improve the Government's AA capacity, WFP developed a demonstration tool for impactbased forecasting and warning services (IBFWS), integrating forecast-driven risk analytics. This innovative tool is designed to assist policymakers and disaster managers in proactive planning, AA programming, and fundraising for targeted interventions by providing access to detailed impact analyses and estimation of individuals and critical infrastructure at risk. WFP supported the DHM to access forecasts from the National Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting and integrate them into this IBFWS platform.

In parallel, WFP has focused on institutionalizing anticipatory action across local governments by enhancing their readiness capacities and standardized procedures, building on the experience and lessons learned with the CERFfunded AA Framework. WFP supported Palikas (municipalities) to develop specific AA standard operating procedures with pre-designed messages, decision-making processes and the specific roles of various collaborators in risk communication and management. Additionally, WFP partnered with the local government and the Armed Police Force to draft an integrated training manual on anticipatory action and response at the Palika level to provide training to relevant collaborators, in order to equip first responders with the skills needed to carry out search and evacuation operations, as well as to create rescue tools using locally available and sustainable materials. WFP, jointly with DHM and emergency operation centres, arranged training for Palikas on the pre-disaster risk assessment tool used to estimate impact- and needs-based assistance. This tool was built to assist local governments to estimate the support required when potential flooding is predicted, in order to enable prepositioning of resources and logistical capability and use of AA.

WFP, as co-lead of the Provincial Community of Practice on AA in Sudurpaschim Province supported the government and disaster risk reduction agencies to mainstream AA in provincial planning and programming of humanitarian actions. WFP co-designed a draft AA teacher's guide with the Jhapa Rural Municipality, as well as curriculum workbooks, simulation and materials for students and teachers in order to equip students with the skills to act as agents of change, communicate early warnings and take proactive measures. With WFP's technical assistance, the Government of Nepal integrated AA into the Water and Weather Science Policy (2024) to minimize weather-induced disasters. The policy outlines the process of defining thresholds by using extended forecast lead times to develop and operationalize a multi-hazard early warning system.

# FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

In 2024, WFP provided significant support to strengthen government forecasting and trigger development capabilities in Nepal. Collaborating with the DHM, WFP revised rainfall thresholds for major river basins in project areas. These thresholds have now been integrated into the Google Earth Engine-based Extreme Rainfall Monitoring System, enabling impact projections using available forecasts. WFP also identified the need to revise river-level thresholds, which was hindered by the lack of updated geospatial data on embankments, reservoirs and dams. To address this, WFP developed critical infrastructure mapping manuals, which will assist the digitizing of existing assets. This initiative will pave the way for the scientific simulation and analysis required to define more accurate triggers. Additionally, WFP has begun working with localized weather research and forecasting models and has conducted further testing and validation against the ground data to improve localized forecasting precision and trigger robustness.

In partnership with the DHM, WFP supported the monitoring of potential flood events in 112 rainfall stations across five river basins, using long-term historical annual extreme rainfall data, which accounted for lead times varying from one hour to seven days, enhancing the precision and effectiveness of flood forecasting.

# ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

WFP – jointly with the RCO, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) – coordinated with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority to agree on the various technical elements of the CERF-funded Anticipatory Action Framework in Nepal.

The household targeting process was co-designed with local Palikas, using household identification data gathered by local enumerators. This approach was validated and endorsed by all 20 Palikas in May, ensuring that the targeting process was both accurate and inclusive. A detailed distribution plan was developed with the active involvement of financial service providers, ensuring smooth and efficient distribution ahead of disaster events.

Efforts were made to strengthen communication channels to ensure that timely warnings reached vulnerable populations, including persons with disabilities, pregnant and breastfeeding women, elderly persons and children. Special attention was given to ensuring that these groups receive the information they need to take protective actions in advance of potential hazards.

In addition to regular readiness actions conducted by the local communities, this year's preparedness efforts went further by encouraging the community to create handmade life-saving tools – such as life jackets and stretchers – using locally available materials. This initiative enhanced the community's preparedness and fostered a sense of ownership and ability to offset the worst effects of disasters among the local population.

# **AA ACTIVATIONS**

In October 2024, the CERF-based Anticipatory Action Framework for floods was activated following severe floods in the Koshi basin, which affected vulnerable communities in Saptari and Sunsari districts. WFP provided cash transfers of NPR 15,000 to 23,550 individuals and providing early warning messages to 111,940 individuals. This activation was intended to improve community ability to offset the worst effects of disasters by addressing the immediate needs of vulnerable households while mitigating the longerterm effects of economic disruption arising from the floods. No preliminary activation results or lessons learned are yet available.

# **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

- Establish an operational agreement with the Government of Nepal to align with the Government's Shock-Responsive Social Protection and Relief Standard 2024 to allow anticipatory cash by vertically expanding an existing national social protection programme.
- Institutionalize impact-based forecasting and warning services within the Government's BIPAD portal to improve the design of preemptive actions and pave the way for efficient planning and fundraising across three levels of government.



# PACIFIC MULTI-COUNTRY OFFICE (MCO)





#### **TARGET LOCATIONS** Provinces/districts in Fiji.



HAZARDS Cyclones



**PEOPLE COVERED** 75,000



# DONORS

United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and Government of Ireland



# **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- 2. Fiji Met Services
- 3. Fiji Natural Disaster Management Office
- 4. Fiji Ministry of Finance
- 5. Fiji Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection (MWCSP)



# **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Supported the establishment of an AA framework for cyclones in Fiji.
- Worked closely with the Government and United Nations partner agencies to ensure that anticipatory cash transfers could be sent through Fiji's existing social protection system.
- Signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Government of Fiji to provide a legal framework for the anticipatory cash reimbursement scheme.
- Continued supporting MWCSP to improve its work on AA in Fiji.

# OVERVIEW OF AA IN PACIFIC MULTI-COUNTRY OFFICE (MCO)

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 2: "Governments and regional stakeholders in the Pacific region have access to common services and platforms for rapid, effective and coordinated responses during and in the aftermath of shocks and disasters" of the WFP Pacific Multi-country Strategic Plan (2023-2027).

The small island developing states in the Pacific are some of the world's most vulnerable countries to extreme weather events. Fiji has a particularly high exposure to tropical cyclones, which usually occur during the November-April wet season and frequently result in loss of life and agriculture-based livelihoods, and economic damage. Innovative approaches like AA have been tailored to assist people who receive social protection to manage cyclone risk more proactively.

Recognizing the potential benefits of AA, the Government of Fiji, the United Nations, and other key national and regional development partners have set up an AA framework for cyclones in Fiji. As the larger framework developed, WFP worked closely with the Government and United Nations partner agencies to ensure that anticipatory cash transfers could be sent through the country's existing social protection system. In addition, WFP has been exploring scaling up AA through official government exchange visits and, as a result, plans were discussed to develop AA in Tonga.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In 2024, WFP signed an MoU with the Government of Fiji to provide a legal framework for the anticipatory cash reimbursement scheme. Collaboration between the Government and WFP technical experts continued in 2024 to improve overall AA capacity through: (i) a simulation tabletop exercise with realtime scenarios to further strengthen the standard operating procedures for the entire process; and (ii) training on AA monitoring and evaluation.

With the endorsement of the tripartite MoU, WFP continued supporting Fiji's Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection (MWCSP) by enhancing its processes of AA targeting, payment processing, messaging to people who receive support and establishing a complaints and feedback mechanism by developing a standard operating procedure for the ministry.

WFP further provided training to Fiji's government staff on methodologies to monitor and evaluate AA. The training included baseline and postdistribution monitoring aspects as well as design of the questionnaires and training staff to use the Kobo Toolbox for those surveys.

WFP organized a tabletop simulation for MWCSP staff involved with AA payouts in December 2024. The exercise took place to refresh all staff on the concept of AA and undertake a targeting exercise based on various practical scenarios. Community sensitization messaging was prepared with MWCSP on anticipatory cash for those supported, to be delivered through various messaging platforms once the trigger has been reached.

A government official and WFP staff travelled to few Pacific Island countries to advocate through workshops and share experiences on AA partnership and expertise on designing an AA pilot in Fiji. Following the workshop in Tonga, the Government expressed interest in also piloting AA, linking it to the country's social protection system.

# FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

The AA pilot uses cyclone forecasts generated by Fiji Meteorological Services. The AA framework is triggered by a forecast of a tropical cyclone with a windspeed Category 4 and stronger within 250 km of Fiji's exclusive economic zone or category 3 and above making landfall in Fiji.

# ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

A household targeting criterion has been established by MWCSP and WFP under the MoU to geographically target people who receive social protection from within the existing MWCSP social protection registry. Under the AA pilot project in Fiji, 15,000 households (around 15 percent of all people who receive social protection in the country) are to be assisted under four key schemes targeting – in order of priority – persons with disabilities, proxy means-tested poverty, vulnerable children, and elderly persons. WFP worked with MWCSP to determine the specific criteria based on the two following scenarios:

- If the number of target households in the anticipated locations during the activation trigger is less than 15,000, the cash assistance is provided to all those assisted.
- However, if the numbers of people receiving assistance exceed 15,000 households, then a prioritization exercise of the various government schemes will be conducted, based on vulnerability.

This exercise would be carried out jointly between WFP and MWCSP through a Targeting Committee once the trigger is activated. Once the payment list of households is finalized, the Permanent Secretary for MWCSP will approve the one-off payment of FJD 200 to the identified persons through the existing government rules and the social protection payment system.

# **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

# **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

- Continue to strengthen the link between AA and adaptive social protection across the rest of the Pacific islands.
- Expand multi-purpose cash AA to other countries in the Pacific, commencing with Tonga, followed by feasibility assessments in the Marshall Islands, Kiribati and Samoa.
- Explore expanding hazard coverage from just cyclones to include floods in Fiji, given the association between the two hazards that directly affect food and nutrition security.
- Support the MWCSP to develop and introduce an effective complaint and feedback mechanism in Fiji.
- Engage with the Government of Fiji to ensure continuation of the AA pilot project in the 2024-2025 cyclone season and beyond if the trigger is not met.









# TARGET LOCATIONS

Sindh (Dadu and Khairpur), KP (Nowshera, Charsadda, DIKhan, Shangla and Buner), Balochistan (Nushki).



HAZARDS Floods and drought



# DONORS

Green Climate Fund (GCF), European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) and Life for Guardian's Foundation (LGF).



# **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)
- 2. Provincial disaster management authorities (PDMAs)
- 3. District disaster management authorities (DDMAs)
- 4. Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD)
- 5. Provincial Irrigation Department
- 6. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 7. Red Cross Red Crescent movement



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Supported the establishment of a government-led National Coordination Forum (NCF) on AA.
- Contributed to the development of an AA strategy that will be integrated into existing disaster risk reduction (DRR) policy.
- Engaged in federal-level consultations as part of the Global Shield against Climate Risks, and advocated access to money.

# **OVERVIEW OF AA IN PAKISTAN**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 1: "Provide capacity support for the Government's emergency preparedness and response infrastructure, systems and services to enable communities at higher risk of vulnerability to disasters to meet their food, nutrition and basic needs)" of the <u>WFP Pakistan Country Strategic Plan</u> (2023-2027).

Pakistan continues to face significant humanitarian challenges, including the aftermath of the 2022 devastating floods (that affected over 33 million people); ongoing food insecurity (with 25 percent of the population facing acute hunger); and escalating displacement (with more than 3.7 million people displaced due to conflict and weather hazards). The country continues to struggle with economic instability, while vulnerable populations remain severely affected by recurrent extreme weather events, particularly flooding and heatwaves, exacerbating the need for international humanitarian assistance.

In 2024, WFP supported the establishment of the government-led NCF on AA, in which WFP co-leads the thematic sub-committee on Policy, Financing and Institutionalization. Initial steps include defining the scope and role through terms of reference, and the need to harmonize existing AA frameworks into a national AA strategy with a pool of trained staff in AA. A key milestone for cash-related AA readiness in Pakistan was reached in collaboration between WFP and FAO under the Cash Working Group to strengthen processes for AA-related humanitarian cash assistance. Key actions include establishing an AA cash transfer value, using a joint price market system for localized price monitoring, and analysing commodity prices in AA target areas to assess cash feasibility without existing price monitoring.

# INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In 2024, the government-led National Coordination Forum (NCF) on AA was established by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) with WFP, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the German Red Cross, and Welthungerhilfe (WHH). WFP was appointed as co-lead with NDMA of the Thematic Sub-Committee (TSC) on Policy, Financing, and Institutionalization. Under this TSC, WFP is supporting the Government to develop an AA strategy, which will be integrated into existing DRR policy. A total of 14 United Nations, Red Cross Red Crescent movement and international NGO partners are involved in AA, with nine AA frameworks focusing on three main hazards; riverine and rainfed floods, drought, and heatwaves. NDMA is leading the AA implementation at the national level, and for the first time, it included the development of AA frameworks in its 2024 National Disaster Management Plan.

Disaster risk financing and adaptive social protection (ASP), with its link to AA, has gained traction in Pakistan this year. The interlay of national social protection agencies for integrated hazard mapping with national disaster management agencies and improving standard operating procedures (SOPs) for shock-responsive social protection is being assessed. The Global Shield against Climate Risks process has finally kicked off in the country, with WFP as a key participant in a roundtable discussion. WFP is engaged in federal-level consultations organized by the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as part of the Global Shield and advocates quick mobilization of and access to financial resources in advance of disasters, especially those vulnerable to extreme weather events.

WFP, along with the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GiZ), convened the first ASP TSC group meeting under the Cash Transfer Coordination Group, attended by NDMA, the National Disaster Risk Management Fund (NDRMF), donors, international financial institutions, and United Nations agencies. The members discussed using the platform and ASP model for AA cash payout, and enhanced coordination among various Working Groups (WGs).

WFP, along with FAO, has supported the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) (which is the think tank of NDMA) to lead the AA training module. Through two training sessions held at the national level and in Sindh, 142 government officials and other humanitarian partners were trained on AA. Participants were from National, provincial and selected district management authorities, hazard forecasting and MET departments, social protection, irrigation departments, UN agencies, the Red Cross and other key humanitarian partners.

# FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

WFP has collaborated with the PMD and installed six automatic weather stations at the district level to improve forecasting and early warning for AA. This will improve the coverage of rainfall, temperature, and soil moisture data, in order to better monitor flooding and drought. This will ultimately enhance the PMD's ability to provide accurate and timely early warnings for all the collaborators.

WFP, along with PMD and the Provincial Irrigation Departments of Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, developed two triggers on the river Indus, based on medium-high and very-high flooding. These hydrological triggers have been validated by the partners through a consultative process.

# ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

WFP drafted two Anticipatory Action Plans (AAPs) on riverine flooding along the Indus River based on numerous focus group discussions with the communities and interviews with relevant departments at the national and subnational levels. Validation workshops took place to review the triggers and the actions with all the involved collaborators.

WFP tested the flood AA protocols through a simulation scenario using Kabul River and Indus River flooding; this involved with community participation as well as Provincial disaster management authorities (PDMAs) and district disaster management authorities (DDMAs). The exercise tested the end-to-end functionality of flood forecasting mechanisms, early warning dissemination, cash disbursement processes, and evacuation logistics. The key lessons were to diversify early warning dissemination methods, address privacy and hygiene concerns by creating gender-segregated spaces, conduct awareness sessions for the people receiving support to address technical issues related to mobile wallets and account management, and clearly define roles and responsibilities to avoid overlaps and improve coordination during activation.

Moreover, WFP supported the expansion of the Pakistan Red Crescent Early Action Protocol (EAP) on the Kabul River at Nowshera and Charsadda, which now covers 3,000 more people. WFP conducted readiness activities including identification of people to support, registration, financial service providers' readiness to transfer funds in 48 hours, and the pre-positioning of funds for activation.

# **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

# **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

- Develop a pool of key government officials through training of trainers to ensure that key officials at the national, provincial, and district levels are consistently equipped with up-to-date skills and knowledge.
- Support the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to develop provincial guidelines on Multi-Hazard Vulnerability and Risk Assessment (MHVRA), with the goal of enhancing the risk assessment capacities of PDMAs and DDMAs.
- Support PMD to enhance early warning systems by equipping automatic weather stations and providing additional equipment for soil moisture monitoring for drought.
- Improve preparedness for anticipatory cash assistance to better prepare for emergencies including standard operating procedures, and integration with social protection plans.
- Develop AAPs for flood and drought in collaboration with FAO and partners, integrate the AA protocol into four district contingency plans for sustainability, and support the NDMA to draft a national implementation strategy on AA.







TARGET LOCATIONS



HAZARDS Floods



DONORS

N/A



# **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Disaster Management Centre
- 2. Department of Meteorology (DoM)
- 3. Sri Lanka Red Cross Society
- 4. World Vision Lanka
- 5. International Water Management Institute (IWMI)



# **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Contributed to the development of a national harmonized Anticipatory Action Plan for the upcoming years.
- Supported the formation of subgroups under the technical working group (TWG), each with designated co-leads focusing on specific aspects of AA.
- Co-organized the South Asia Dialogue Platform (SADP) and the Sri Lanka Dialogue Platform.
- Collaborated with United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), IWMI and the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) to deliver national AA training programmes for key government and humanitarian partners.



# **OVERVIEW OF AA IN SRI LANKA**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Outcome 3 "By 2027, communities in Sri Lanka have strengthened resilience and reduced vulnerability to weather hazards, climate change and other risks with improved sustainability of livelihoods" of the <u>WFP Sri</u> Lanka Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027).

Sri Lanka faces significant challenges in managing disasters. The 2021 United Nations Common Country Analysis noted that while the country's average temperature increases are aligned with regional trends, the effects of extreme weather events on livelihoods in Sri Lanka are projected to be among the most severe in South Asia. This is primarily due to the high vulnerability of households in "hotspot" areas.

In this context, AA has emerged as a key approach, enabling the government and communities to adopt a proactive approach to addressing predictable extreme weather events before they fully unfold. For WFP, 2024 has been a foundational year for advancing AA. WFP has undertaken numerous initiatives, including consultations, dialogue platforms, and research/scoping studies, setting the stage for enhanced use of AA implementation in upcoming years.

### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

To foster collective action and prevent duplication of efforts, an AA technical working group (TWG was established in February 2024, comprising 23 humanitarian agencies operating in Sri Lanka. Cochaired by WFP, the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society, World Vision Lanka, and the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), the TWG serves as a forum for collaboration and alignment. Through these efforts, AA is gaining momentum as an innovative disaster management strategy in Sri Lanka, empowering humanitarian and development actors to mitigate the effects of predictable crises. As co-chair of the core group, WFP has been leading dialogue among interested agencies to agree on key actions to implement AA and explore ways to institutionalize it. A harmonized AA plan for upcoming years was developed by several humanitarian agencies, establishing a clear way forward. To operationalize this plan, four subgroups were formed under the TWG, each with designated co-leads focusing on specific aspects of AA. WFP leads the Pre-Financing Subgroup of the AA TWG, which is dedicated to strengthening systems and processes for accessing pre-financing mechanisms for AA.

To further advance the AA agenda, the Sri Lanka AA TWG (SL-AATWG) co-chaired a meeting with key government agencies<sup>8</sup> to secure government participation in the TWG and endorse its consolidated activity plan. The government agencies endorsed the TWG, and appointed focal points from each respective agency to collaborate with the group. This development was a significant step towards institutionalizing AA within government systems and procedures.

Additionally, WFP significantly contributed to the AA agenda through experience sharing and knowledge enhancement on AA through dialogue platforms and training programmes. WFP coorganized the South Asia Dialogue Platform (SADP) and the Sri Lanka Dialogue Platform (SLDP) on AA both held in Sri Lanka in September 2024, with participants from seven countries. The purpose of these events was to build common understanding of AA among key actors in Sri Lanka, and foster collaboration for institutionalizing AA at the national level. WFP, as the lead of the Pre-financing Subgroup of the SL AA-TWG, arranged a session on pre-arranged financing, which explored innovative financing mechanisms for AA and highlighted key opportunities to operationalize these.

Participants were from the Disaster Management Division of the Ministry of Defence, the Disaster Management Centre, the National Disaster Relief Services, the National Building Research Organization, the Meteorological Department, and the Irrigation Department.

WFP collaborated with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), IWMI and Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) to deliver national AA training programmes for key government and humanitarian partners. WFP led the integration of a Social Protection module into the AA training programme and delivered the session at the training event. In parallel, WFP conducted a few studies to support the institutionalization of AA in the disaster risk management, social protection, and food security sectors. WFP has started a feasibility study to explore how anticipatory actions can be linked to social protection systems. This effort also informed the development of a Social Protection Strategy for WFP, integrating AA as a key component.

# FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

In 2024, WFP has not been directly involved in developing forecasting and trigger mechanisms, but it has collaborated closely with key government agencies to strengthen their capacities for forecasting and early warning systems, especially that of the Department of Meteorology (DoM). WFP has made a significant contribution to strengthening its technical infrastructure, including upgrading essential equipment for delivering forecasts and disseminating early warning messages through various platforms, including the Monsoon Forums, the official platform for sharing seasonal forecasts with national collaborators during the Southwestern and Northeastern monsoon seasons.

# ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

In 2024, WFP has not yet worked on developing an AA Plan, but the various exchanges, assessments and consultations will be the foundation for a discussion on developing a government-led AA Plan for floods.

# **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

- Support the government to develop a comprehensive five-year national AA roadmap, in collaboration with the DMC, other disaster management agencies, and the AA TWG.
- Complete the feasibility study that is intended to strengthen the integration between AA, disaster response and social protection mechanisms.
- Develop a policy brief for the government, focusing on opportunities for pre-financing mechanisms.
- Support the government to strengthen early warning systems and protocols (thresholds, triggers, essential needs analysis) for highly flood/landslide-prone districts.
- Assist the AA TWG to enhance collaboration among key AA collaborators, ensuring stronger coordination within the group.



# THE PHILIPPINES



# TARGET LOCATIONS

32 municipalities in Albay, Catanduanes, Sorsogon, Southern Leyte, and Surigao del Norte; and 4 municipalities in Cagayan, Albay, Leyte, and Davao De Oro.



# HAZARDS

Cyclones



# PEOPLE COVERED

124,540



# DONORS

United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and Green Climate Fund (GCF).



# **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Office of Civil Defense (OCD)
- 2. The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA)
- 3. Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)
- 4. Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)
- 5. Department of Budget and Management (DBM)
- 6. Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- 7. Mines and Geosciences Bureau
- 8. Land Bank of the Philippines
- 9. Provincial and local government units (LGUs)
- 10. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- 11. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 12. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- 13. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- 14. International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- 15. Philippine Red Cross
- 16. German Red Cross
- 17. Start Network
- 18. Oxfam
- 19. Catholic Relief Services
- 20. Community Family Services International (CFSI)



# **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Supported submission of the Declaration of State of Imminent Disaster bill to the Philippines Congress and Senate.
- Coordinated the participation of key government officials in the Global Dialogue Platform.
- Completed a Resilience and Risk Perception Study, and developed a specialized AA training module.
- Conducted a learning exchange focused on AA and shock-responsive social protection programmes.

# **OVERVIEW OF AA IN THE PHILIPPINES**

The Philippines Country Office (PHCO) includes AA under the following activities of the <u>WFP Philippines</u> <u>Country Strategic Plan (2024-2028)</u>.

- Activity 1: "Providing nutrition-sensitive emergency food assistance and restoring assets, either directly or through government social protection programs or partners, alongside appropriate supply chain and emergency telecommunications services to crisis-affected communities".
- Activity 3: "Delivering integrated resiliencebuilding activities for targeted communities and supporting the Government in managing extreme weather events, and economic and conflictrelated risks, while enhancing food value chains".

The 2024 World Risk Index (WRI) report ranked the Philippines as the most at-risk country for three consecutive years, scoring 46.91 per cent. The report assessed exposure, vulnerability, and limited coping/ adaptive capacities to crises, including disasters and extreme weather events. Consistent with these findings, the Philippines faced an exceptionally severe tropical cyclone (TC) season in 2024, with storms reaching unprecedented frequency and intensity. In a span of 25 days (in October and November), six consecutive destructive cyclones made landfall: in October, severe tropical storm Kristine (Trami), super typhoon Leon (Kong-Rey), and TC Marce (Yinxing), and in November, TC Nika (Taraji), super typhoon Ofel (Usagi), super typhoon Pepito (Man-Yi). Local authorities faced significant challenges balancing crisis response and rescue operations.

A significant milestone for the Policy, Financing, and Institutionalization thematic sub-working group (PFI-TSG) in 2024 was the transmission of the Declaration of State of Imminent Disaster Bill to the Philippine Congress and Senate. The Bill is sponsored by four legislators in the House of Representatives and one senator in the Senate and is now under deliberation. As co-chair of the PFI-TSG, WFP was invited to serve as a resource speaker in both legislative chambers to support the bill's progress.

## INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

WFP continued to co-chair the AA PFI-TSG in 2024, achieving significant progress on the draft Declaration of State of Imminent Disaster Bill. In February, the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) transmitted the bill to Congress, highlighting the collective efforts of the PFI-TSG in advancing the Bill. The legislation is intended to establish a legislative foundation for adopting AA within the Philippines' disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) framework, enabling Provincial and Local Government Units (LGUs) to allocate funds for AA before disasters occur. Following the Bill's transmission to Congress, WFP and OCD, in collaboration with the AA National TWG core group (FAO, Philippine Red Cross, Start Network, and WFP), organized advocacy meetings with the House of Representatives and Senate. This advocacy resulted in the Bill being filed in both legislative houses, positioning the Philippines as one of the first countries globally to propose making AA a law. WFP represented the PFI-TSG as a resource speaker during congressional deliberations in both houses.

Furthermore, WFP and OCD convened a series of PFI-TSG meetings to harmonize the proposed AA bills - sponsored by four legislators in the House of Representatives and one in the Senate - and strategize a policy and advocacy approach to support the Bill's passage. WFP also drafted a joint United Nations position paper, consolidating inputs from other United Nations agencies (FAO, IOM, OCHA, UNFPA and UNICEF), and submitted it to the Senate and House of Representatives in support of the Bill. The AA Bill was recognized as one of the priorities for enactment by the current administration, as highlighted in the President's report to the Filipino people. WFP arranged the participation of key government officials in the Global Dialogue Platform, enhancing their exposure to international experience and best practice, while increasing the visibility of the achievements of the Government of the Philippines in AA. FAO, OCHA,

UNFPA and WFP co-organized an event entitled "From the Ground Up: Prototyping Anticipatory Action from a Community and Grassroots Perspective in the Philippines" during the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR).

WFP completed a Resilience and Risk Perception Study, and developed a specialized AA training module, contextualized based on the Asia-Pacific Regional AA TWG's minimum training package. This module was delivered to 40 AA practitioners and 60 policymakers.

WFP also hosted a learning exchange on AA and shock-responsive social protection programmes between the governments of Bangladesh and the Philippines through the South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) framework. A high-level delegation from the Government of Bangladesh, led by the Secretary of Coordination and Reform, Cabinet Division (representing the Prime Minister's executive office), alongside representatives from the Cabinet Division, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, and Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, engaged with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), OCD, and the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA). The delegation also travelled to Bangsamoro Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao to observe the use of shock-responsive social protection programmes by the local authorities. This visit provided an opportunity to share valuable insights and best practices for improving the adaptiveness and shock responsiveness of Bangladesh's social protection programmes.

# FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

Due to increasing cases of rapid intensification of storms before landfall in the Philippines, the United Nations agencies that implement AA through the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) submitted a proposal to revise the triggers for the framework in 2024. The AA trigger group is continuing to work with the Government to fine-tune CERF AA triggers and thresholds, while triggers for the Green Climate Fund (GCF) project are still being developed (in collaboration with the Government).

# **ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS**

In 2024, WFP continued its preparedness activities for effective use of CERF-funded AA in Bicol, Eastern Visayas and Caraga regions, ahead of the typhoon season. These activities included updating target households' data, supporting the integration of AA into local plans of covered municipalities, piloting community cash grants to protect critical livelihood assets, and exploring other options to improve transfer delivery mechanisms.

WFP worked with local cooperating partners to re-sensitize and update the data of 43,984 households (219,920 people). This process involved (i) re-evaluating whether the households still met the targeting criteria; and (ii) ensuring eligible households could access anticipatory cash and early warning information in case of a trigger. The transfer value (TV) was updated in 2024 based on a multi-agency decision to use a third of the minimum expenditure basket as a better representation of the AA needs to be covered. The updated transfer value can also be topped up with a transportation allowance to assist those requiring support in remote areas without access to financial service providers to claim their cash assistance. To improve the transfer delivery mechanism, WFP expanded its financial service providers to cooperatives, collected e-wallet and bank details from target households (with consent, and where applicable), and assessed the feasibility of enrolling target households in island municipalities into the banking system to use the WFP PlugPay system.

As the provincial lead for Albay and Surigao Del Norte, WFP conducted core group meetings to (i) harmonize use of CERF AA, (ii) re-sensitize LGUs on AA; and (iii) secure their support for the project. Additionally, WFP organized a CERF AA LGU standard operating procedures (SOPs) workshop to update the SOPs developed for LGUs in 2022, reflecting AA development and advocating integration into local plans. Of the 32 municipalities covered under the CERF AA project, 21 municipalities updated their AA SOPs and were oriented on developing contextual AA plans to sustain the project at the sub-national level. The other 11 municipalities plan to update their AA SOPs in 2025.

Lastly, WFP conducted a simulation exercise under Scenario 2, under which 175 households received anticipatory cash as part of WFP's annual AA simulation exercise. This exercise was intended to improve WFP's AA SOP and ensure effective use if triggers are activated (social media reel).

# **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activation triggers were reached in 2024. However, the CERF AA readiness trigger was activated ahead of super typhoon Pepito (Man-Yi) on 13 November 2024, in Scenario 1 (Bicol Region). However, by 14 November 2024, Pepito still had maximum sustained winds of 85 km/h, moving at 25 km/h, with an estimated 8,000 totally damaged houses and a 67 percent probability, which was below the 85 percent probability threshold needed to activate the CERF AA. With the cut-off time of 12 pm on 14 November for the 72-hour window, the activation of CERF AA for Scenario 1 was no longer feasible.

As Pepito approached the Philippines landmass, it intensified to Typhoon Category 5 (super typhoon) and made its first landfall in Catanduanes Province, one of the areas of CERF AA Scenario 1. The typhoon caused significant damage to livelihoods, lifelines, and properties.

In the days following Pepito's landfall, the CERF AA United Nations implementing agencies appealed to transition CERF AA funds into rapid response, which coincided with WFP's CERF AA proposal for Scenario 1. CERF approved this appeal, allowing WFP to use US\$2.27 million from the CERF AA proposal to cover the affected CERF AA areas and other regions significantly affected by Super Typhoon Pepito in November.

An estimated 24,951 households (or 124,755 people) were provided with direct access to information on extreme weather events through face-to-face communication channels. This was done by disseminating last-mile lifesaving early warning messages through partner LGUs and cooperating partners in the CERF AA Scenario 1 area when the readiness trigger was activated. The findings from the readiness activations will be determined once post-distribution monitoring is completed of the cash assistance for the redeployment to rapid response.

# **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

- Recalibrate the WFP internal AA SOP using a shock-responsive approach to the Government's social protection programme, based on the lessons learned during the 2024 typhoon response, ensuring increased operational readiness for the next phase of the CERF AA project.
- Expand AA's geographical coverage beyond CERF areas and collaborate with the government to develop multi-hazard triggers and thresholds, using cost-effective forecasting equipment and local forecasting capacity, as well as making existing social protection programmes increasingly shock-responsive.
- Continue policy and advocacy efforts to support passage of the AA Bill, including strengthening partnerships with the relevant legislative branches (Senate and Congress).
- Support the Government to develop AAPs, co-producing early warning messages, and information, education, and communication materials on AA, and other deliverables under the five-year GCF project on the Multi-Hazard Impact-Based Forecasting and Early Warning System.

# EASTERN AFRICA





# TARGET LOCATIONS AND HAZARDS

# **KEY INFORMATION**

171,423



-\$

PEOPLE COVERED **2,175,174** 

**PEOPLE REACHED WITH** 

**ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS** 



# DONORS

Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), Google. org, Government of Ireland, International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).

# **REGIONAL PARTNERS**



United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC), IGAD Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development (ICPALD), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), International Research Institute for Climate and Society of Columbia University (IRI), United Nations University (UNU), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), University of Oxford, University of Sussex.



PEOPLE REACHED WITH EARLY WARNING MESSAGES **2.425.314** 



US\$ FUNDS PRE-ARRANGED FOR ACTIVATIONS 10 MILLION all from WFP Trust Fund

\$

US\$ FUNDS DISBURSED FOR ACTIVATIONS 6.6 MILLION

# **Regional highlights**

In Eastern Africa, rains driven by El Niño October-November-December (OND) season 2023 and March to May (MAM) season 2024 brought partial recovery to a region that had been suffering the effects of severe drought over the preceding three years. However, these rains also caused severe localized flooding in countries such as Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia, while exacerbating the protracted flood situation in South Sudan. The flooding led to devastating consequences, including loss of life and livestock, the displacement of hundreds of thousands of people, and widespread destruction of farmland and essential infrastructure.

Following the El Niño conditions earlier in the year, predictions of La Niña late in 2024 were expected to again reverse climatic patterns, favouring belowaverage rainfall in the eastern Horn. This rapid shift, compounded by ongoing conflict and macroeconomic shocks, underscores the need to continue investing in and strengthening anticipatory action (AA) systems in the region.

Within this context, two AA activations took place in the region in 2024. In Somalia – based on forecasts for heavy rainfall during the March-April-May season – WFP reached almost 80,000 people with anticipatory cash transfers and almost 1.9 million people with early warning messages through various channels, including radio, community gatherings, and mobile phones. Based on predictions of drought in Ethiopia's Somali region during OND 2024 season, WFP assisted 64,000 people with anticipatory transfers and over half a million people with early warning messages.

WFP expanded its AA operations through the finalization of Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) in Kenya (for drought) and Somalia (for floods). Significant progress was also made in Uganda and Djibouti (both for drought); these plans are expected to be approved in 2025. WFP's partnership with national meteorological and hydrological services (NMHSs) and disaster risk management (DRM) agencies in the region, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC) and the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) of Columbia University were instrumental for this, especially for trigger development and enhancing forecasting capacity.

In addition, WFP's key strategic activities towards reducing humanitarian needs, costs, and strengthening the ability to offset the worst effects of disasters of people, livelihoods, and systems included:

- A regional workshop that brought together eight WFP Country Offices, the Regional Bureau and HQ to exchange experiences and establish a commonly agreed approach to the technical and operational aspects of AA in the region.
- Inauguration of the Eastern Africa Dialogue Platform (EADP) on AA, together with IGAD, FAO, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Start Network, Save the Children, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and other partners. To improve government engagement in the region, the EADP hosted more than 30 government officials who contributed to key discussions on scaling up AA, implementing AA in fragile and protracted crisis contexts, expanding the financing base, and integrating AA into government disaster risk management systems, including social protection frameworks. Participants also defined key priorities for AA in the ten countries<sup>9</sup> covered by ICPAC. The result was the EADP Declaration,<sup>10</sup> which outlines shared commitments to strengthening disaster risk management through AA in the region.

Additional support from donor partners was secured to support WFP's AA work in the region, aligned to the Eastern Africa AA Roadmap. A regional project – supported by the Government of Korea – was launched, focusing on strengthening a combination of early warning and AA, climate

<sup>9.</sup> Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania, Rwanda, and Uganda.

<sup>10.</sup> EADP declaration <u>https://www.icpac.net/publications/declaration-from-the-first-eastern-africa-dialogue-platform-on-anticipatory-action/</u>.

risk insurance, and support for smallholder farmers and livestock holders. A second project, supported by Denmark, uses artificial intelligence to develop high-resolution and reliable forecasts for activating AA and pre-emptive climate risk insurance, thereby enhancing actions across the risk continuum. A joint programme was also launched with FAO, IFRC, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), and ICPAC, with support from ECHO. The project is intended to agree a coordinated, harmonized, multi-hazard, and conflict-sensitive AA approach to protect the most vulnerable from the compounding effects of extreme weather events, conflict, and displacement.

WFP arranged a peer-to-peer learning exchange on drought trigger development between the Ethiopia Meteorological Institute (EMI) and the Djibouti National Meteorological Agency (known in French as the Agence National de Météorologie de Djibouti or ANMD). The visit not only strengthened collaboration between the two meteorological agencies, but also fostered a growing regional network of experts equipped to tailor forecasts to AA needs across Eastern Africa. The strengthening Early Warning Systems for Anticipatory Action (SEWAA) project in the Greater Horn of Africa region is using machine learning techniques to improve traditional forecasting methods to deliver timelier and high-resolution forecasts. With technical support from the University of Oxford and ICPAC, the Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD) and EMI began producing seven-day forecasts using a machine learning model. They also initiated evaluations to compare the performance of these forecasts against existing systems, with results expected in 2025. Looking ahead, the project's 2025 focus will be on operationalizing machine learning-based forecasts in Kenya and Ethiopia, and exploring their potential to improve AA triggers. The growing interest in this approach has already secured additional donor support to expand the project to Rwanda and Uganda.







# TARGET LOCATIONS

Kirundo, Rumonge, Bujumbura, Bubanza, Rutana provinces.



HAZARDS Floods and drought



PEOPLE COVERED



# PEOPLE REACHED WITH ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS

27,825



# **US\$ FUNDS DISBURSED FOR ACTIVATIONS**

435,773<sup>11</sup>



# DONORS

European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) and World Bank.



# KEY PARTNERS

- 1. Meteorological Institute of Burundi (known in French as the Institute Géographique du Burundi or IGEBU)
- 2. National Disaster Risk Management Platform (DRM)
- 3. Burundian Red Cross (BRC)
- 4. Finnish Red Cross
- 5. Concern Worldwide
- 6. Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC)
- 7. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- 8. United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)



# **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Supported the Government of Burundi to develop and adopt a roadmap for the operationalization of a multi-hazard Early Warning System for All, and set up a Situation Room.
- Assisted IGEBU to conduct a needs assessment; some of the identified gaps were addressed through technical support by ICPAC on enhancing forecast models, including weather research and forecasting.
- Supported the BRC to develop a draft Early Action Protocol (EAP) for flooding related to the rise of Lake Tanganyika, with technical support from the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre.
- Assisted the BRC to conduct training for community disaster risk reduction committees.
- Provided cash transfers to 21,710 people, allowing them to use preparedness measures against the lake's rise and cash transfers to 6,115 people living in drought-affected zones to mitigate the impact in the first 2025 cropping season.

<sup>11.</sup> While not directly linked to anticipatory action plans (AAPs), which are still being developed, assistance was provided ahead of shock impacts based on a thorough risk and context analysis that incorporated meteorological forecasts and other types of information.





# **OVERVIEW OF AA IN BURUNDI**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 8: "Provide systems-strengthening support on the cocreation, design and implementation of effective food and nutrition assistance programmes, including for supply chains, social protection, school meals, sustainable food systems and early warning and emergency preparedness systems" of the <u>WFP</u> <u>Burundi Country Strategic Plan (2024 2027</u>).

Burundi continues to face a concerning humanitarian situation. The country, which ranks among the poorest in the world, suffers from high levels of vulnerability stemming from limited capacity to manage devastating extreme weather events, such as floods and droughts, combined with high levels of chronic and acute malnutrition, and inadequate social safety nets. Climatic shocks frequently occur between March and June, often bringing heavy rains and flooding. In 2024, such an event caused Lake Tanganyika and nearby rivers to overflow, resulting in crop losses, destruction of homes, damaged infrastructure, and the displacement of communities. The repeated occurrence of such shocks underscores the urgent need for robust AA and early warning mechanisms to protect vulnerable populations.

WFP collaborated closely with the Government of Burundi and other partners to develop a roadmap to establish a functional multi-hazard early warning system for all. This included establishing a situation/monitoring room by providing essential equipment and technical skills. In addition to its work on early warning systems, WFP also expanded its collaboration with the BRC to advance the AA approach. This included strengthening the national society's capacity to prepare for, anticipate, and respond to multi-hazard emergencies. Furthermore, WFP supported the capacity of the Meteorological Institute of Burundi (known in French as the Institute Géographique du Burundi or IGEBU), in collaboration with the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC), to produce skilful forecasts.

WFP provided cash transfers to 21,710 individuals ahead of predicted flooding due to an anticipated rise of Lake Tanganyika, and to 6,115 individuals ahead of a possible drought shock in water-scarce areas.

### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

WFP and ICPAC assisted the Government of Burundi to conduct a needs assessment for drought and flood management. The assessment revealed that Burundi currently lacks an operational early warning system for either shock. However, efforts are underway to establish a multistakeholder system aligned with the Early Warning for All Initiative. Collaborators emphasized the importance of monitoring lake levels and defining key thresholds to implement proactive action plans tailored to varying risk categories. Regarding drought, a shock that primarily affects the northern regions, the assessment found that the IGEBU still lacks the capacity to provide impact-based forecasts due to insufficient risk data and limited technical expertise.

To address these challenges, WFP arranged three national workshops, bringing together government representatives from key ministries, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, and civil society organizations active in the humanitarian sector, that led to the development and validation of a roadmap for the development of the multihazard early warning system.

WFP is also providing technical and financial support to the government through the National Platform for Risk Prevention and Disaster Management. This initiative focuses on establishing and operationalizing a situation room to improve the effectiveness of risk prevention and disaster management efforts. The project benefits from the expertise of technicians from Madagascar's National Office for Risk and Disaster Management, which has drawn on its extensive experience in disaster risk management within the African Union and the Southern African Development Community (SADC), as well as its expertise in early warning systems. WFP also provided training to IGEBU, using ICPAC expertise on weather research and forecasting models.

# FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

In 2024, collaboration between WFP and ICPAC continued to be a critical element of enhancing the capacity of IGEBU. Through specialized training in weather research and forecasting, IGEBU staff were equipped to deliver accurate weather forecasts that span daily to decadal timescales. By providing vital information on extreme rainfall, among other information, these forecasts improve the government and humanitarian organizations' ability to prepare for and mitigate the risks associated with flash flooding. Additional sessions to develop skills focused on addressing persistent issues with drought and floods. For instance, using the expertise of ICPAC from other countries, drought-focused sessions were held to create effective triggers related to water deficits, while initial training sessions on hydrological forecasting models positioned IGEBU to develop precise forecasts for lakes and rivers in the coming months, ultimately contributing to better disaster preparedness and resource management in Burundi.

# ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

Based on El Niño predictions from national and international meteorological services, the National Disaster Risk Management Platform, in coordination with OCHA, held discussions with the humanitarian cluster to develop a riskinformed early action plan. Participants used existing multi-hazard mapping, the Humanitarian Implementation Plan, and the Displacement Tracking Matrix tools to identify the communes most at risk of flooding, assess potential effects, and design risk-informed AAs. Community consultations played a crucial role in enhancing this plan. The data collected from these consultations were triangulated with information from past post-distribution monitoring (PDM) reports to determine valuable AAs, including setting a suitable cash transfer value to help those receiving it proactively address flooding resulting from an anticipated rise in the lake's levels. Strong collaboration between the Government and the United Nations led to a joint communiqué regarding the rising levels of Lake Tanganyika, which initiated the implementation of pre-emptive actions, even without the existence of a formal AAP, which continues to be under development.

# AA ACTIVATIONS

National monitoring of Lake Tanganyika in February 2024 indicated that water levels could reach unprecedented heights in Burundi by the end of May. Weather forecasts for the March-April-May 2024 season predicted wetter-than-usual conditions. This was partly attributed to the El Niño phenomenon, which was expected to further contribute to the rise in the lake's water levels. According to forecasts from the IGEBU, the rising water levels were projected to cause significant damage along the entire shoreline, which would result in mass displacement. Following these warnings, the Government of Burundi and the United Nations system issued a joint communiqué regarding the rising lake waters and the effects of El Niño.

Despite the absence of pre-agreed thresholds, applying AA principles and acting on forecasts, WFP distributed cash assistance to 21,710 people ahead of peak effects in early May. In addition to the cash transfers, the government and key collaborators collaborated to define early warning messages, which were disseminated by WFP in partnership with the BRC across all areas identified as at risk. According to the May 2024 PDM report:

- 87 percent of households supported reported receiving an early warning.
- Cash transfers were primarily used to reinforce homes (57.54 percent), to move family members to safe areas (21.48 percent), or to address other needs (39.64 percent).

At the end of July 2024, following the severe El Niño episode of 2023/2024, most weather forecasting centres, including ICPAC and IGEBU, predicted below-normal rainfall in the coming months. Forecasting centres anticipated the emergence of a La Niña episode between October and December, a critical period for Burundi's first cropping season of 2025.

According to IGEBU's seasonal forecasts at the time, the northern region, particularly Kirundo province, was expected to experience normal rainfall, although with a tendency toward deficits. In some communes, rainfall was projected to be as much as 60 percent below normal, which would significantly disrupt the agricultural calendar because of long dry spells at both the beginning and the end of the growing season. The water stress resulting from such a disruption was projected to significantly hinder the vegetative development of crops and their various stages of maturity, adversely affecting agricultural production. Recognizing these emerging risks, WFP provided AA through cash transfers to 6,115 people.

# **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

- Review and develop consensus on the triggers for activating AAs based on the current flood AAP and continue to support the Government through IGEBU to develop triggers in response to the rising Lake Tanganyika.
- Continue supporting the government to operationalize the monitoring room by providing equipment and technical skills and developing standard operating procedures.
- Assess the readiness of IGEBU for adopting machine learning in strengthening early warning systems for AA.
- Explore integration opportunities for AA across social protection, and food for assets/ public works (climate-smart asset creation) programmes.









# TARGET LOCATIONS

Ali Sabieh, Arta, Dikhil and Djibouti regions.



# HAZARDS

Drought

# DONORS

Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA)



# **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Ethiopian Meteorological Institute (EMI)
- 2. International Research Institute for Climate and Society of Columbia University (IRI)
- 3. National Agency of Meteorology of Djibouti (known in French as Agence Nationale de la Météorologie de Djibouti or ANMD)
- 4. Executive Secretariat for Risk and Disaster Management (known in French as Secrétariat Exécutif de Gestion des Risques et des Catastrophes or SEGRC)
- 5. Ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarity (known in French as Ministère des Affaires Sociales et de la Solidarité or MASS)
- 6. Ministry of Health (known in French as Ministère de la Santé or MS)
- Ministry of Agriculture, Water, Fisheries and Livestock in charge of Fishery Resources (known in French as Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Eau, de la Pêche, et de l'Elevage chargé des Ressources Halieutiques or MAEPE-RH)
- 8. Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (known in French as Ministère de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable or MEDD)
- 9. Djiboutian Centre for Studies and Research (known in French as Centre d'Etudes et de Recherche de Djibouti (CERD)
- 10. Djiboutian Red Cross (known in French as Rouge de Djibouti or CRD)
- 11. Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD).



# **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Finalized the Drought Anticipatory Action Plan and submitted it for review by WFP's Regional Bureau for Eastern Africa.
- Conducted specific training for ANMD on meteorological forecast data analysis, as part of an experience-sharing initiative with EMI.
- Enhanced the capacity of ANMD by installing meteorological equipment, in order to improve the quality of forecasting.

# **OVERVIEW OF AA IN DJIBOUTI**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 2, Strategic Outcome 1: "Strengthen government capacity and support national responses for shockaffected populations through a contingency plan" of the <u>WFP Djibouti Country Strategic Plan (2020-2024)</u>.

Djibouti, with its arid climate and low annual rainfall of around 150 mm, faces growing humanitarian needs due to recurrent droughts and scarce water resources. Over the past two decades, the intensity and frequency of droughts have increased, amplifying pressure on communities and livelihoods.

To mitigate these effects, WFP and its national partners - including the National Agency of Meteorology of Djibouti (known in French as Agence Nationale de la Météorologie de Djibouti or ANMD), the Executive Secretariat for Risk and Disaster Management (known in French as Secrétariat Exécutif de Gestion des Risques et des Catastrophes or SEGRC), the Ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarity (known in French as Ministère des Affaires Sociales et de la Solidarité or MASS) and the Ministry of Health (known in French as Ministère de la Santé or MS), are developing an Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) for drought, in collaboration with other humanitarian collaborators in the country. In 2024, WFP strengthened ANMD's capacity through workshops, training, and the installation of meteorological equipment, with the intention of improving the quality of forecasting to guide effective decisions and actions in the face of shocks.

### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

WFP supported ANMD to improve overall seasonal forecasting capacities and to support the development of drought triggers for the July-August-September (JAS) season. Activities contributed to the progressive integration of AA into national climate risk management systems. WFP also arranged the installation of meteorological equipment to improve the quality of forecast data and guide decision-making and actions in the face of future extreme weather events.

A series of training events were conducted with technical support from the International Research Institute (IRI) of Columbia University, including a regional exchange with the Ethiopian Meteorological Institute (EMI). These enabled ANMD forecasters to acquire essential skills in forecasting and trigger development. The training focused on the use of tools such as the Python Interface to the Climate Predictability Tool (PyCPT) to refine climate analysis, and inform triggers for anticipating drought in Djibouti.

The AA work is part of an approach coordinated by SEGRC through a technical working group (TWG) that brings together various government actors and national partners. This government-led structure enables ANMD to play a central role in drought risk monitoring, enabling the production of more accurate forecasts to inform the coordinated activation of AA. The TWG played a key role in validating forecast thresholds for AA based on up-to-date climate analyses tailored to the local context. These efforts are critical steps towards institutionalizing a proactive approach within government disaster risk management systems, enhancing preparedness for extreme weather events and strengthening the ability to offset the worst effects of disasters of vulnerable communities.

# FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

Drought triggers were developed for the Ali Sabieh, Arta, Dikhil and Djibouti regions. Readiness and activation triggers were defined for the moderate drought scenario, based on historical and updated data and analysis. In collaboration with ANMD and IRI, these triggers were then reviewed and improved, with a particular focus on the JAS season.

Two technical workshops were organized with ANMD to strengthen the capacity of five

forecasters to translate forecasts into early warning information. These workshops improved the communication of relevant information to vulnerable communities, ensuring they are alerted in an anticipatory manner and receive timely support when a climate hazard is forecasted. In addition, WFP supported the installation of four meteorological stations and ten rain gauges to improve the quality and reliability of climate data, which will, in turn, improve forecasts for climatic hazards.

# ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

As part of the continued AAP development process, WFP – through in-depth consultations with collaborators, including ANMD, SEGRC, MS, MASS, local authorities and cooperatives in target regions – identified suitable AAs based on the specific vulnerabilities and needs of the populations in the targeted regions.

The proposed AAs include cash transfers, targeted in-kind food assistance, blanket supplementary feeding, and dissemination of early warning messages to inform communities about preparedness actions ahead of extreme weather events. As part of the AAP development process, WFP further helped collaborators define targeting criteria, estimate the potential number of targeted people, establish a monitoring and evaluation framework, and conduct community awareness sessions to foster understanding and support for the initiative. The AAP is currently being finalized for internal WFP review to ensure actions are aligned with identified needs and available operational capacities.

# **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

# **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

- Work closely with ANMD to refine the accuracy of drought forecasts, particularly in northern regions where the current model does not perform well.
- Progressively transfer responsibility to operate and make decisions on trigger results over to ANMD.
- Increase the coverage of the AAP to include other types of hazards, in coordination with key collaborators in identified vulnerable regions.
- Support the development of a roadmap for integrating the AA approach into national policy frameworks to foster better institutional preparedness and community ability to offset the worst effects of disasters.







TARGET LOCATIONS

Somali region

HAZARDS Drought



**PEOPLE COVERED** 1,670,326



# **PEOPLE REACHED WITH ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS** 64,086



**PEOPLE REACHED WITH EARLY WARNING MESSAGES** 525,714



# **US\$ FUNDS DISBURSED FOR ACTIVATIONS**

4.8 million

# DONORS

Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), United Kingdom Foreign and Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).



# **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Commission (EDRMC)
- 2. Somali Region Disaster Risk Management Commission
- 3. Ethiopian Meteorology Institute (EMI)
- 4. International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) at the University of Columbia.
- 5. Vets without Borders Switzerland (known in French as Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Suisse or VSF)
- 6. Mercy Corps
- 7. Organization for Welfare Development in Action (OWDA)
- 8. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)



# **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Supported at-risk individuals with early warning messages, anticipatory multi-purpose cash transfers, rangeland management and fodder production and restoration of existing water structures for livestock and agriculture ahead of the drought.
- Supported the development of a tailored drought forecast model for activating AA, which is now being operationally produced by EMI, with technical support from IRI and WFP.
- Assisted in the development of a National Common Framework on Drought Anticipatory Action under the leadership of the Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Commission (EDRMC), with OCHA and the Ethiopia Red Cross Society.
- Established the South Ethiopian AA technical working group (AA TWG), with the South Ethiopia Region Disaster Risk Management Commission.
- Advocated the adoption of the EMI-generated forecasts as part of the harmonized National Common Framework.



# **OVERVIEW OF AA IN ETHIOPIA**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Strategic Outcome 3, Activity 5: "Provide nutrition-sensitive social protection, climate risk management services and capacity strengthening support for smallholder farmers, pastoralists, refugees and returnees most vulnerable to climate shocks", of the <u>WFP Ethiopia</u> <u>Country Strategic Plan (CSP 2020-2024)</u>.

Early predictions for the October-November-December (OND) 2024 rainy season indicated that below-average rainfall would further worsen already precarious conditions in southern and southeastern Ethiopia. According to the OCHA, the forecasted drought conditions could leave up to 19 million people hungry, including many still recovering from the prolonged drought of 2020-2022 – the worst in modern history in the Horn of Africa.

WFP continued to strengthen the capacity of the Ethiopian Meteorology Institute (EMI) to provide seasonal forecasts, and assisted the Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Commission (EDRMC) to develop the National Common Framework on Drought Anticipatory Action. Moreover, WFP supported the establishment of the South Ethiopian AA technical working group (AA TWG), with the South Ethiopia Region Disaster Risk Management Commission. In September, AAs were activated in Somali region based on predictions of drought. WFP implemented complementary AAs in consultation with the Somali Region TWG, including disseminating early warning messages to 525,714 people and delivering anticipatory transfers, including anticipatory cash, support with rangeland management and fodder production, to 64,086 people were supported through the restoration of existing water structures for livestock and agriculture.

# INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In July 2024, EMI – with technical support from the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) at the University of Columbia and WFP - finalized the development of a tailored drought forecast model for activating AA, which is now operationally produced by EMI. This was achieved through a five-day technical training event for EMI experts, delivered by IRI, on generating tailored seasonal forecasts and continuously updating and monitoring the AA decision-making tool. The training was intended to integrate such tailored forecasts into EMI's operational forecasting processes. The AA decision making tool developed to support this process, including its dissemination portal, was then officially handed over to the Government of Ethiopia through EMI.

In addition, progress has been made on the development of a National Common Framework on Drought Anticipatory Action under EDRMC leadership, with support from OCHA, WFP and the Ethiopia Red Cross Society. This framework is intended to enable key actors to harmonize the various drought triggers in use across the country. To date, WFP has played a pivotal role in the framework's development process, using technical expertise to guide discussions on harmonized triggers.

Additionally, WFP, in collaboration with the South Ethiopia Region Disaster Risk Management Commission, established the South Ethiopia AA TWG. This is an important step toward enhancing government engagement and expanding the AA approach to additional regions in the country.

# FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

As part of its AA capacity strengthening efforts, WFP, through its technical service provider IRI, conducted four rounds of training for EMI experts to develop tailored seasonal drought forecasts. Training sessions included configuring technical settings to select and run global forecasting models best suited to Ethiopia's climate. The global forecasts selected included those from the North America Multi-Model Ensemble (NMME) and Copernicus suite of models. The output from these forecasts was integrated into the AA trigger tool, with analysis conducted to determine whether thresholds for activating AA had been met. This multi-year capacity strengthening effort culminated in the full handover of the AA trigger system to EMI in July 2024.

As a result of this capacity strengthening, EMI, with close guidance and support from IRI, developed and released the trigger forecasts for the OND 2024 rainfall season. The forecasts (as well as the underlying work to generate them) are a core component of the Somali drought Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) and has informed AA activations in southern and southeastern parts of the country.

In addition, WFP advocated the inclusion of the EMI-generated forecasts in the harmonized National Common Framework, as the EMI forecasts have already been used by other agencies to trigger AA for OND 2024.

# **ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS**

In 2024, following extensive consultations within the Somali Region TWG (RTWG), the drought AAP for Somali Region was completed. The plan was subsequently reviewed validated by the respective WFP teams at regional bureau and headquarters level and approved, enabling WFP to access funding for agreed activities to cover up to 1,670,326 people in case of an AAP activation. In addition to the AAP for Somali region, WFP is also involved in the development of another AAP targeting the southern parts of Oromia region. While actions have already been defined by collaborators and the trigger section has been developed by EMI with support from IRI, other sections of the AAP are yet to be completed. The AAP is expected to be finalized in 2025.

# **AA ACTIVATIONS**

In mid-July 2024, EMI issued a trigger forecast indicating that the readiness phase threshold had been met in south and southeastern parts of the country. The forecast for mid-August confirmed that woredas in the Somali region had reached the pre-agreed threshold for moderate and severe drought scenarios.

Following the activation of the readiness phase, the RTWG convened to prioritize AAs from the preapproved AAP. The selected priority actions were intended to minimize adverse effects on the most vulnerable populations and included:

- Dissemination of early warning messages and advisories.
- Provision of multi-purpose cash (MPC).
- Rangeland management activities.
- Restoration of existing water structures.

The RTWG also outlined the roles of government sectoral offices in these actions, including monitoring progress and the activities of cooperating partners.

To determine target geographical areas for use of AA, a composite analysis incorporating nine indicators was conducted to prioritize woredas for support. In these prioritized woredas, household targeting was carried out using existing vulnerabilitybased targeting (VBT) database to identify eligible households for AA support. Cooperating partners validated the household targeting results, thus finalizing the caseload for the AA support. In mid-August 2024, the activation trigger was met and later confirmed in mid-September 2024. Following this confirmation, US\$4.8 million was disbursed from the WFP trust fund for four prioritized activities in Somali Region. While allocations and activities in Oromia region were not yet linked to an AAP, they were initiated in the window of opportunity for AA, with a clear focus on mitigating the effects of drought.

By the end of 2024, WFP and partners had managed to reach people with early warning messages and advisories in 15 prioritized woredas of Somali region. Additionally, WFP disbursed multipurpose cash to reach at-risk individuals in Ayun, DoloBay and Bokh woredas of Somali region.

# **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

- Develop a Drought AAP for South Ethiopia region, with the same rainfall seasonality as Somali and Oromia regions, namely OND and March-April-May (MAM) season.
- Finalize the Oromia AAP for approval to access global WFP AA activation funding.
- Work with EMI and the Ministry of Water and Energy to develop a tailored flood forecasting model for AA in southern Ethiopia.
- Continue to advocate for harmonized AAPs at national level.











# HAZARDS

Drought



# PEOPLE COVERED 259,044



# DONORS

Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) and Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)



# **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Marsabit and Wajir County governments
- 2. Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD)
- 3. National Drought Management Authority (NDMA)
- 4. National Disaster Operations Centre (NDOC)
- 5. Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC)
- 6. Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS)
- 7. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)



# **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Supported the finalization and launch of the Kenya National Anticipatory Action Roadmap and Implementation Plan (2024-2029).
- Finalized the drought Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) for Marsabit and Wajir Counties, codeveloped with collaborators.
- Consolidated the United Nations advocacy brief used to sensitize National Assembly members to consider integrating AA in disaster risk management (DRM) Legislation.
- Provided support to the KMD's successful hosting of the Eighth National Climate Outlook Forum in August, where forecasts and advisories were issued for the 2024 October-November-December (OND) season.

# **OVERVIEW OF AA IN KENYA**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 4: "Provide integrated climate-adaptive support to enable communities at risk, including smallholder producers and other value chain actors, to produce, aggregate, add value, access markets, reduce food losses and consume safe and healthy food" of the WFP Kenya Country Strategic Plan (CSP 2023-2027).

Kenya is continuing to grapple with the effects of the extreme weather events, particularly in the arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs), where recurrent extreme weather events undermine livelihoods and food security. Following a prolonged drought from 2020 to 2023, the March-April-May (MAM) 2024 long rains brought above-average rainfall across the country, especially in ASAL counties, resulting in notable improvements in food security compared to 2023. However, recovery remains slow. From July to September 2024, approximately a million people (5 percent of the ASAL population) faced acute hunger, including 895,000 people in Phase 3 (Crisis) and about 43,000 people in Phase 4 (Emergency) of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC).<sup>12</sup> These figures highlight the urgent need for AA in Kenya's ASAL regions.

AA is gaining increasing prominence on Kenya's national disaster risk management (DRM) agenda. WFP is advancing this approach at both policy and operational levels. In 2024, WFP supported the national AA technical working group (TWG), led by the NDOC and the KRCS, to finalize and launch the Kenya Anticipatory Action Roadmap (2024 to 2029).<sup>13</sup> The Roadmap provides a comprehensive strategy for integrating the AA approach into Kenya's national DRM system. In addition, WFP successfully finalized its drought AAP, which was co-developed with collaborators, marking a significant milestone for proactive DRM in the country.

### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

At the policy level, WFP contributed to the United Nations' consolidated advocacy brief on the Disaster Risk Management Bill No. 24 of 2023, and provided technical and financial support to the National Disaster Operations Centre (NDOC) to convene a sensitization session for members of the National Assembly Departmental Committee on Regional Development. This session enhanced members' understanding of AA and helped emphasize the urgency of integrating it into the DRM Bill. The Bill was subsequently transmitted to the Senate for concurrence and – once enacted – will enable rapid implementation of AA as part of its provisions.

WFP and officials from the Government of Kenya also participated in the first Eastern Africa Dialogue Platform (EADP) on AA, held in Mombasa. WFP shared insights on integrating AA and social protection, highlighting how the country's Hunger Safety Net Programme (HSNP) is already linked to the government's Drought Early Warning System (DEWS). As a key social protection partner, WFP is advancing advocacy efforts to influence policymakers to include AA in government-financed social protection schemes and relevant legislation, such as the 2023 Kenya Social Protection Bill.

Additionally, WFP – in collaboration with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) – hosted a workshop side event at the EADP entitled "Navigating a Protracted Crises: Experience of the humanitarian actors from the 2020-2024 drought to flood cycle and space for Anticipatory Actions in East Africa". Participants examined crisis timelines based on a detailed analysis of early warning projections for Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia. A key takeaway from the workshop was that AA plays an essential role even in protracted crises, but must be part of a broader resilience-building framework and cannot replace emergency response.

<sup>12.</sup> IPC Acute Food Insecurity And Acute Malnutrition Analysis July 2024 – January 2025 Published on 5 September 2024.

<sup>13.</sup> The Kenya Anticipatory Action Roadmap (2024-2029).

# FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

With support from WFP and partners, the Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD) convened the Eighth and Ninth National Climate Outlook Forum (NCOF8/9) and arranged action planning for Kenya's MAM and OND rainfall seasons, respectively. The NCOF in relation to OND was held in August 2024 and brought together forecasting institutions and users of climate information services to evaluate available seasonal predictions and develop consensus-based climate outlooks for various sectors. This collaboration has been valuable as KMD, thereafter, shared national forecasts, including monthly updates of the OND season, with KRCS, NDMA and WFP. These updates also provided the basis for monitoring whether triggers of the collaboratively developed AAP, focusing on two ASAL counties, were reached.

The trigger mechanism for the Kenya drought AAP was developed by KMD with support from the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC), WFP and KRCS, incorporating inputs from the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) and county collaborators. Thresholds were defined based on drought scenarios identified in the national drought early warning system (DEWS), with the standardized precipitation index (SPI) selected as the primary indicator. SPI was deemed effective for drought monitoring and forecasting, particularly during the OND rainfall season.

In collaboration with ICPAC, the Government of Kenya (KMD and NDMA) conducted a workshop, held in September, to support the development of a National Drought Watch System. This system will provide real-time data and analysis on drought conditions, complementing the existing drought early warning system. The workshop also engaged participants to review and work towards harmonizing the various drought triggers and thresholds developed by ICPAC, WFP, FAO, KRCS, NDOC, KMD and NDMA. A comprehensive action plan was agreed, outlining steps, responsibilities, and timelines for the development and implementation of the Kenya Drought Watch System, which will help further develop and refine drought triggers for AA in the country.

Through the regional project on Strengthening Early Warning System for Anticipatory Actions (SEWAA), WFP and ICPAC are building the skills of KMD staff to run a machine learning model for improved forecasting. KMD is using the model to generate daily forecasts and compare them with outputs from traditional models. This is expected to improve forecasts for extreme weather events, and provide greater confidence in triggers that will inform AAs before weather hazards escalate into humanitarian crises.

# ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

Ahead of the 2024 OND season – which, according to long-lead forecasts, indicated a high likelihood of below-average rainfall – WFP, in collaboration with ICPAC, the NDMA, KMD, and the KRCS supported the county governments for Marsabit and Wajir to finalize an AAP to mitigate the effects of drought.

The multi-stakeholder AAP outlines a total of ten activities, all selected through a consultative process involving members of the AA TWG from Marsabit and Wajir counties as well as representatives from partner organizations. Activities include anticipatory cash transfers, dissemination of early warning information, water access and nutrition-related interventions.

In case of an activation, WFP and partners will engage in the relevant set out in the AAP with their respective funds.

# **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

# **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

- Work on revising and improving the drought AAP and expanding it to cover additional counties.
- Develop an AAP for floods for target counties along the Tana River to address food and nutritional security risks during floods.
- Strengthen KMD and NDMA's capacity to use improved prediction tools and models, including development of impact-based forecasting for AA.
- Use artificial intelligence and machine learning technology to strengthen the development of AA triggers.
- Support the activities set out in the Kenya AA roadmap (2024 to 2029).









# TARGET LOCATIONS

Western and Northern provinces



# HAZARDS

Floods and drought



# DONORS

Government of Ireland and European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO).



# **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Ministry in Charge of Emergency Management (MINEMA)
- 2. Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI)
- 3. Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN)
- 4. Ministry of Local Government (MINALOC)
- 5. Rwanda Transport Development Agency
- 6. Rwanda Water Resources Board (RWB)
- 7. Rwanda Meteorology Agency (Meteo Rwanda)
- 8. Rwanda Space Agency
- 9. University of Rwanda
- 10. United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)
- 11. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
- 12. Rwanda Red Cross (RRC)



# **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Advocated that AA be recognized as a priority by the Government of Rwanda, positioning AA at the forefront of disaster management strategies.
- Secured MINEMA's commitment to support AA implementation in the country.
- Finalized a feasibility study report, providing a robust foundation for designing and implementing AA.
- Completed an in-depth national hydro-meteorological hazards risk assessment report.
- Developed a detailed strategic cluster-based AA roadmap for 2024-2027 to guide future actions.
- Established a government-led AA technical working group (TWG), ensuring expert guidance and oversight.
- Delivered specialized training for AA TWG members on foundational AA practices and flood trigger development.
- Successfully disseminated and validated key findings from AA feasibility studies and the roadmap.
#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN RWANDA**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 2 Strategic Outcome 2: Support the design, implementation and expansion of national food security and nutrition-sensitive social protection programmes" of the <u>WFP Rwanda Country Strategic</u> <u>Plan (2019-2024)</u>.

Rwanda faces increasing challenges due to extreme weather events, such as drought, floods and landslides. The country's varied topography exacerbates soil erosion and the effects of disasters, particularly affecting vulnerable populations. The increased frequency of weather hazards underscores the need for AA, a proactive approach to disaster management intended to mitigate the effects of disasters by targeting the communities most vulnerable to extreme weather events.

In 2024, WFP officially launched efforts to develop AA programmes in Rwanda. This initiative began with a comprehensive feasibility study intended to evaluate how AA could complement the existing traditional disaster and emergency response frameworks.

Through advocacy and learning exchanges, WFP contributed to the Government of Rwanda's recognition of AA as a priority, marking a pivotal shift from reactive disaster management to a more proactive approach that emphasizes risk mitigation. Significant milestones to date include completing a feasibility study report and a detailed national hydro-meteorological hazards risk assessment report. Most importantly, establishing a clusterbased AA roadmap demonstrates the success of these collaborative efforts, setting the stage for enhanced ability to offset the worst effects of disasters. Beside identifying strengths and gaps, the feasibility study enabled the development of a clear roadmap for strategic investments and partnerships, vital for effective disaster risk management in Rwanda.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

The AA feasibility study report was finalized. The report highlights a landscape rich with potential but marked by areas requiring attention. Rwanda's strong national disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) policy framework provides a solid foundation for integrating AA into existing systems, offering clear guidelines, responsibilities, and coordination mechanisms for DRRM. Institutional expertise in early warning systems and governance structures further fosters an environment conducive to proactive DRRM. The study also highlights the need for specific national actions to ensure full delivery of AA work, including strengthening collaboration among key institutions by enhancing data sharing and investments in hydro-meteorological systems, building processes for accurate weather forecasting and early warning messaging in remote areas, and linking financing for AA with the development of a comprehensive national disaster risk financing strategy. Although Rwanda has a strong DRRM policy framework and has implemented a framework including capacitystrengthening actions, the study identifies several key challenges that require attention and offers recommendations to address these.

The establishment of the AA technical working group (TWG) was a significant milestone in addressing the gaps identified in the feasibility study. As an advisory platform, it successfully fostered improved institutional coordination, notably between Meteo Rwanda and the Rwanda Water Resources Board. This collaboration enhanced data sharing and forecast evaluation processes. The AA TWG organized multiple skills-building workshops and training sessions, equipping members with skills in trigger development. These efforts laid a solid foundation for advancing AA initiatives.

WFP also supported the development of a comprehensive roadmap to guide AA capacity-strengthening efforts and – together with the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO),

the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the Rwanda Red Cross (RRC) – helped establish the government-led AA TWG. This collaboration led to the completion of a capacity gaps and needs assessment exercise, including a risk and vulnerability assessment that identified disaster hotspots across 30 districts. Based on the assessment, WFP supported the Ministry in Charge of Emergency Management (MINEMA) to operationalize an online early warning platform that integrates meteorological and river monitoring data with daily weather forecasts to pave the way for the production of flood alerts.

Additionally, WFP supported MINEMA to organize a national DRRM policy conference, fostering dialogue among key collaborators. These efforts reflect WFP's commitment to enhancing Rwanda's capacity for AA, and laying the groundwork for a transformative approach to DRRM – one that prioritizes proactive measures and strengthens abilities to offset the worst effects of disasters.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

WFP conducted a workshop to guide the design of riverine and flash flood triggers. The workshop agenda included defining heavy rainfall thresholds assessing available forecasts and lead times, and identifying improvements needed for forecasts to serve as triggers for AA. The Rwanda Water Resources Board recalibrated riverine level monitoring gauges to align with current levels, and incorporated Meteo Rwanda's flood forecasts to define critical thresholds for various catchments. To complete the flood trigger development process, a regularly updated ten-day forecast bulletin with 83 percent accuracy was issued to complement the defined riverine flood thresholds. These components will guide readiness lead times, early warning message dissemination, and the activation of preagreed anticipatory actions by MINEMA.

Constructive discussions among Meteo Rwanda, the Rwanda Space Agency, University of Rwanda and the Rwanda Water Resources Board emphasized the importance of harmonizing triggers for various flood types. Particular focus was placed on riverine flood events in Rubavu district, where variations in thresholds across catchment areas highlighted the importance of incorporating indigenous knowledge. These discussions underscored that many existing thresholds need updating to accurately predict flooding and better reflect local vulnerabilities.

As agreed by the AA TWG members, the flood trigger prototype developed in a single catchment area will allow focused testing during the forthcoming 2025 March-April-May (MAM) rainy season and gather feedback from users and collaborators to refine the triggers for improved performance and reliability. This phased approach will set the stage for broader application across other catchment areas in the future.

Building on these activities, WFP remains committed to providing the technical assistance required to develop critical triggers for floods, landslides, and drought and develop a government-led Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) to be approved and implemented by the government to save lives and mitigate the effects of disasters.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

WFP, in collaboration with its partners, organized a workshop for the AA TWG to develop a clusterbased AAP for floods and landslides. The focus on these hazards followed recommendations from the feasibility study. Participants conducted assessments to ensure the proposed anticipatory actions meet critical criteria, including policy alignment, evidence of effectiveness, capacity, feasibility, and social acceptability.

Some of the proposed AAs are:

- Distribution of flood-proof storage equipment and evacuating communities at risk to safer areas with sandbags provided to build protective dykes (to be carried out by the Human Settlements and Shelter Cluster).
- Distribution of nutrition-sensitive food, cash

assistance for food and medical needs, temporary relocation of vulnerable businesses to ensure access to essential services, and rapid response medical teams, to be deployed alongside mobile medical camps in key areas.

The AA TWG members reached a consensus to pilot the AAP in the North and Western provinces, which are particularly vulnerable to floods and landslides. However, detailed disaggregated data are still missing of the households reached, and plans are underway to gather those data.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

- Establish clearly defined flood and landslide trigger thresholds with specific metrics, such as rainfall intensity and river levels.
- Provide technical support to Meteo Rwanda to develop tailored forecasts that can trigger AA ahead of floods and landslides.
- Engage and collaborate with relevant actors to provide comprehensive feedback, incorporate indigenous knowledge and ensure community buy-in and development of people-centric AAP.
- Organize regular meetings to develop and finalize the AAP for floods and landslides.
- Develop possible scenarios based on the risk assessment report, and conduct drills and simulations to evaluate and refine the effectiveness of the triggers developed, based on the simulation result.









#### TARGET LOCATIONS

Luuq, Baardhere, Jowhar and Beledweyne cities.



HAZARDS Floods



#### PEOPLE COVERED

227,804



# **PEOPLE REACHED WITH ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS** 79,512



## **PEOPLE REACHED WITH EARLY WARNING MESSAGES** 1,899,600



#### **US\$ FUNDS DISBURSED FOR ACTIVATIONS**

1.4 million



#### DONORS

Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) and German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO).



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Somalia Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA)
- 2. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM)
- 3. Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC)
- 4. Serving Together for Social development (STS)
- 5. World Vision International
- 6. Polish Humanitarian Action (PAH)
- 7. Cooperazione Internazionale (CCOPI)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Established a national AA technical working group (AA TWG) with the government to improve collaboration among collaborators.
- Reached almost 1.9 million individuals with timely early warning messages regarding flood risks.
- Delivered anticipatory cash transfers to 79,512 vulnerable individuals (66 percent women), to support pre-flood preparations.
- Prepositioned 14 boats across four flood-prone districts to enable emergency evacuations.
- Enhanced government capacity in flood forecasting through the development of a reliable flood trigger system, using real-time river gauge data.
- Introduced community-based early warning systems with a focus on gender inclusivity to strengthen local ability to offset the worst effects of disasters.
- Laid the groundwork for integrating AA into national disaster risk reduction policies and strategies, fostering long-term sustainability in humanitarian response efforts.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN SOMALIA**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 4 Strategic Outcome 3: "Provide an integrated package of livelihood support activities, services, skills, assets and infrastructure to households and communities to strengthen their resilience and food systems" of the <u>WFP Somalia Country Strategic</u> <u>Plan (2022-2025)</u>.

Somalia is continuing to grapple with complex humanitarian challenges. In 2024, the effects of extreme weather events – compounded by recurrent conflict and economic shocks – continued to drive widespread hunger and displacement, underscoring the need to invest in expanding AA systems that can help to mitigate crises. As in 2023, the value of such systems was on display during the 2024 March-April-May (MAM) rainy season, when WFP activated its AA Plan (AAP) to mitigate the effects of predicted floods.

For the activation, WFP, in close collaboration with Somalia Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA), used forecasts from the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM) platform to guide the AAP activation. This coordinated effort, involving various partner organizations, ensured timely and effective delivery of support to communities. As a result, WFP reached almost 1.9 million people with early warning messages, provided anticipatory cashbased transfers to 79,512 individuals (66 percent of whom were women), and prepositioned 14 boats across four districts in flood prone areas, demonstrating how a proactive approach to predictable climate risks can work in protracted, conflict-affected settings.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In collaboration with SoDMA and key partners, WFP spearheaded efforts to strengthen Somalia's capacity for delivering AA. By co-establishing the national AA technical working group (TWG), WFP created an enabling environment for knowledge sharing and collaborative planning among government agencies, United Nations entities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). As part of these efforts, WFP co-led two pivotal meetings where partners assessed progress made on AA in the country and outlined concrete steps for its future implementation, laying the groundwork for incorporating AA into national disaster risk reduction policies and strategies.

WFP is also building Somalia's skills and processes to predict and prepare for extreme weather events. Following a capacity needs assessment, two SoDMA staff members are receiving specialized training at ICPAC to strengthen their forecasting skills. Additionally, to promote collaboration and sustain momentum for AA in the country, WFP is advocating the establishment of a national dialogue platform on AA. This platform will unite AA actors in Somalia to exchange knowledge and reflect on lessons learned, ultimately improving collective capacities to prepare and act the capacities of national institutions to the responsiveness and preparedness of local communities in anticipation of extreme weather events.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

WFP made significant progress in enhancing the government's capacity for riverine flood forecasting. In collaboration with SoDMA, WFP developed a flood trigger for the October-November-December (OND) 2023 rainy season. This effort used existing river gauge data from FAO's SWALIM flood risk management platform, which provides daily realtime river level data from points along the Shabelle and Jubba rivers. By combining this data with forecasts from ICPAC, WFP and SoDMA established a reliable trigger to guide an AAP activation.

The same trigger mechanism was employed for the subsequent AAP activation during the 2024 MAM season. While the trigger proved effective in some areas, it faced challenges in Buloburte and in Jalalaqsi, where it failed to accurately predict flood risks, resulting in missed opportunities for anticipatory action implementation. This highlights the need for a more robust and reliable trigger mechanism in 2025.

#### **ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS**

Ahead of the anticipated flooding during the MAM 2024 rainy season in Somalia, WFP revised and updated the AAP that had been pre-approved for the 2023 OND activation, ensuring that only the activities best suited to reduce the potential adverse effects of floods on communities were maintained.

Consultations with SoDMA paved the way for the refinement of the planned AAs. As a result, consensus was reached to retain three primary actions: the dissemination of early warning messages, anticipatory cash transfers, and the prepositioning of boats for emergency evacuations to the targeted communities at risk of flooding. The remaining sections of the AAP were adjusted to align with these changes, and the modified plan was preapproved specifically for the MAM 2024 season.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

In March 2024, SODMA issued a riverine flood AAP activation alert to collaborators after the agreed trigger thresholds were met. Based on the alert, WFP started implementing three AAs: dissemination of last-mile early warning information, anticipatory cash transfers, and the prepositioning of boats. Through a partnership with the telecommunication company Homud, early warning messages were disseminated to almost 1.9 million individuals across the target areas of Beledweyne, Jowhar, Baardheere, and Luuq. These messages provided critical information about anticipated flood risks and recommended safety measures to follow before, during and after the floods.

In April 2024, WFP delivered anticipatory cash transfers to 79,512 vulnerable individuals (66 percent of whom were women) in the same districts, ahead of the floods. The cash transfers, designed to help the people assisted to meet essential needs, were distributed as mobile money and vouchers to ensure easy access. A total of US\$1.4 million of anticipatory funding was disbursed.

An endline survey was conducted following use of the AAP implementation during the MAM 2024 season. Analysis of the survey results revealed the following:

#### 1. Last-mile early warning information:

- 73 percent of people receiving early warning messages reported that they were timely and helpful in guiding their actions.
- 89 percent of individuals indicated that the information helped them make decisions related to flood preparedness, including when buying food items.

#### 2. Anticipatory cash transfers:

- 98 percent of those assisted successfully accessed their money transfers through mobile platforms.
- 80 percent of those receiving money used it to purchase food, water, and other essential supplies in anticipation of the floods.
- The money transfers significantly reduced reliance on negative coping strategies; only 15 percent of those supported with AA reported resorting to extreme coping measures, compared to 35 percent of those who did not receive AA support.

In addition to the endline survey, WFP conducted a comprehensive and multilateral assessment at the household level for three groups of people: (i) households that benefitted from AA; (ii) households that received assistance in flooding response (FR); and (iii) households that did not receive any assistance, serving as the control group (CG). The assessment was intended to compare the effectiveness of AA, regular post-shock response, and no response in reducing the effect of flooding on vulnerable households. The key results from this assessment included:

- Food Consumption Score (FCS): Households supported by AA reported the highest acceptable FSC (46 percent), compared to the FR households (42 percent) and CG households (18 percent).
- Livelihood Coping Strategies for Food Security (LCS-FS): Only 22 percent of AAsupported households applied LCS-FS, compared to 29 percent of FR households and 27 percent of CG households.
- Low to No Coping Strategies: Most (63.4 percent) of AA-supported households engaged in low-to-no coping strategies, compared to 50 percent of CG households and 49.4 percent of FR households. This indicates that AA-supported households were less likely to adopt practices that could negatively affect their livelihoods during floods.
- **Emergency Coping Strategies:** AA-supported reported the lowest use of emergency coping strategies (22 percent), such as mortgaging, begging, or engaging in socially degrading, high-risk, exploitive, or life-threatening work.

#### OUTLOOK FOR 2025

- Improve the accuracy and reliability of riverine flood forecasting systems by jointly developing tailored models informed by lessons learned from previous activations with government institutions.
- Co-develop robust forecast models for drought and flash floods to strengthen AA across multiple hazards with government institutions.
- Co-host a national dialogue platform to bring together collaborators to share insights, align strategies, and harmonize the delivery of AA across Somalia.
- Initiate the implementation of communitybased early warning systems that incorporate gender perspectives for greater inclusivity in our AA programme.
- Build federal and state government skills and processes to forecast weather hazards and implement AA independently, fostering local capability for more sustainable AA programming.



# SOUTH SUDAN





#### **TARGET LOCATIONS**

Kapoeta North and Budi Counties in Eastern Equatoria.



#### HAZARDS

Drought and floods



#### DONORS

Government of Ireland and Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MHADM)
- 2. South Sudan Meteorological Services (SSMS)
- 3. Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MoAFS)
- 4. Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation (MWRI)
- 5. Ministry of Environment and Forestry
- 6. Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC)
- 7. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 8. Welthungerhilfe (WHH)
- 9. South Sudan Red Cross (SSRC)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Established a national technical working group (TWG) on AA, that sits within the national disaster risk management governance structure and is chaired by the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MHADM).
- Supported the validation of the Anticipatory Action and Climate Services feasibility assessment report that serves as a basis for AA and climate services programme design.
- Developed the Anticipatory Action and Climate Services Road Map, a strategic document for providing guidance on AA programme design and use.
- Strengthened government capacity in flood preparedness and readiness by donating five speed boats and five canoes.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN SOUTH SUDAN**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 1: "Provide life-saving food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations to support their selfreliance, readiness, and recovery", and Activity 7: "Provide policy support and technical assistance to the Government and partners in the areas of food security, nutrition, social protection, anticipatory action, emergency preparedness and response, climate change adaptation and disaster risk management" of WFP South Sudan Country Strategic Plan (2023-2025).

South Sudan experienced unprecedent flooding in 2024, driven by above-average rainfall within the country and in the Lake Victoria basin. Rising water levels in Lake Victoria led to increased flow in the Nile River and its tributaries, significantly exacerbating flood risks. By November 2024, the estimated peak of the flooding, 1.4 million people had been affected.

While the scale and impact of flooding immediately suggests that the development of flood-focused AA systems should be prioritized, attempts to develop such systems have faced significant technical challenges. Given this, WFP and its partners agreed to initially develop a drought-focused Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP), and to ramp up work on floodfocused AA once adequate forecasting capabilities are available. Regional initiatives – like the Improved Anticipation of Floods on the White Nile (INFLOW) project – will play a critical role in building these processes.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

Following the conclusion of the Anticipatory Action and Climate Services feasibility assessment, the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MHADM), in collaboration with WFP, convened key collaborators to validate the assessment findings. The validation workshop, held in July 2024, fostered productive discussions and led to several key action points:

- Improving forecasting capacities to support AA and broadly disaster risk management.
- Establishing a sustainable financing mechanism for disaster risk reduction.
- Integrating AA into the National Disaster Risk Management Policy (NDRMP) to ensure AA becomes a mandated approach when predicted hazard conditions arise.
- To the extent possible, incorporating indigenous knowledge into the AA systembuilding phase.

In consultation with collaborators – including MHADM, FAO, South Sudan Red Cross (SSRC), and Welthungerhilfe (WHH) – an Anticipatory Action Roadmap for South Sudan was developed. This Roadmap provides strategic guidance for the coordination and implementation of AA and climate services. Its key pillars include:

- A Coordination Framework for AA and Climate Services.
- Coordinated contingency planning.
- Impact-based forecasts and trigger mechanisms for hydro-meteorological hazards.
- Vulnerability analysis.
- A sustainable financing mechanism for AA.
- Gender and protection integration in AA
- AAPs.

The AA Roadmap was validated alongside the findings of the AA and Climate Services Feasibility assessment, solidifying its role as a strategic document for guiding AA efforts in South Sudan.

To enhance coordination on AA and Climate Services, the National technical working group on Anticipatory Action (NTWG-AA) was established as a sub-committee of the National Early Warning technical working group with representatives from key government bodies such as MHADM, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation (MWRI), MoAFS, and South Sudan Meteorological Services (SSMS). It also features members from United Nations agencies, including the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and organizations and institutions such as the SSRC and the University of Juba. The NTWG-AA's primary mandate is to coordinate AA activities and provide technical guidance to both the government and organizations implementing AA in the country. Additionally, it sets the direction for integrating and institutionalizing AA within government systems.

In addition to the NTWG-AA, a Sub-National level Technical Working Committee on AA (TWC-AA) was established in Kapoeta North County, one of the focus areas for drought-related AA. The TWC-AA was set up in the framework of the Disaster Management Committee, a government structure and is intended to coordinate and support implementation of AA and Climate Services activities at the county level.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

WFP is working with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) to provide technical support for developing and testing drought forecast triggers and thresholds. This support is provided to the SSMS in collaboration with relevant collaborators, including MHADM, MoWRI, and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry. This capacity strengthening work builds on ongoing projects in South Sudan, such as Early Warning for ALL (EW4All), Water at Heart of Climate Action (WHCA), the Strengthening the Capacity of Government and Communities in South Sudan to Adapt to Climate Change (SUSTAIN) project, as well as other ongoing work supported by ICPAC.

While WFP is not currently engaged in developing a dedicated AA system for floods, based on projections of significant flooding, WFP bought and donated five speed boats and five canoes for the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC), strengthening its capacity to save lives before, during and after flood events. Additionally, WFP supported MHADM to disseminate actionable messages for risk-informed decision-making to over 205,000 people, warning them of the heightened flood risk. WFP, with support from WFP and headquarters, also delivered a training event for government participants on emergency preparedness, response, and AA. This training was particularly timely, given the extreme flood risk identified for 2024.

#### **ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS**

South Sudan has not developed AAPs. AAP development will start in 2025.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

- Help to strengthen the capacity of SSMS and the MWRI to generate skilful drought forecasts, including developing a trigger mechanism to support AA.
- Assist in the dissemination and communication mechanism to ensure inclusive access, improving the reach of early warning information and climate services to last-mile users.
- Support the development of a risk-informed drought AAP, consolidating the key information required to deliver timely action ahead of a predicted drought.
- Support the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MHADM) to integrate AA into National Disaster Risk Management Policy, and disaster contingency plans, making AA a requirement when weather hazards are forecasted.
- Conduct gender analysis to inform the development of an AAP, including findings on how AA can promote gender equality, reduce specific gender-based vulnerabilities and mitigate risks of gender-based violence (GBV) before and during crises.







#### TARGET LOCATIONS

South-Western and Karamoja regions.



#### HAZARDS

Floods and drought.



#### DONORS

Denmark, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) and Government of Ireland.



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)
- 2. Department of Meteorology
- 3. Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industries and fisheries (MAAIF)
- 4. Ministry of Finance Economic Planning and Development (MOFEPD)
- 5. Ministry of Water and Environment (MOWE)
- 6. Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MOGLSD)
- 7. Ministry of Local Government (MOLG)
- 8. United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)
- 9. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
- 10. Uganda Red Cross Society (UGRS)
- 11. Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Successfully co-organized the Second AA Dialogue, providing a platform for collaborators to take stock of AA activities across the country.
- Finalized the Karamoja Drought Anticipatory Action Plan, submitted for review by the WFP Regional Bureau for Eastern Africa (RBN) and Headquarters.
- Disseminated climate information and advisories to over 600,000 people through diversified media channels in underserved areas of Karamoja region.
- Developed the county's Disaster Risk Financing (DRF) strategy, which was boosted by continued collaboration between WFP, the DRF technical working group (TWG) and the Ministry of Finance.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN UGANDA**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Strategic Outcome (SO) 1: "Refugees and other crisis-affected people have access to adequate nutritious food in times of crisis", Strategic Outcome (SO) 2: "Foodinsecure populations in areas affected by climate shocks have access to adequate and nutritious food all year" and Strategic Outcome 5: "Institutions have increased capacity to coordinate and manage food security and nutrition programmes and respond to shocks" of WFP Uganda Country Strategic Plan (2018-2025).

In the face of significant humanitarian challenges in 2024 stemming from extreme weather events – including floods, droughts and landslides – WFP continued to lead or contribute to country-level initiatives to bolster AA at strategic, operational and policy levels.

In 2024, WFP and other partners, such as the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and the Uganda Red Cross (UGRS), held the second national AA Dialogue Platform to increase awareness and understanding of AA concepts among both government and humanitarian partners in the country. The country office also participated in the drafting of the National Disaster Risk Financing strategy.

WFP supported advocacy and learning exchanges on AA, contributing to the Government of Uganda's recognition of the importance of AA. Efforts are currently underway to push for the establishment of a legal framework for disaster risk management (DRM).

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In collaboration with partners, including FAO and the Red Cross movement, WFP held the second National Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Action. Additionally, the country office played a key role in the development of the National Disaster Risk Financing strategy, an initiative led by the Ministry of Finance and supported by the World Bank and other partners, which has three priority policy objectives: (i) strengthening and diversification of DRF instruments; (ii) ensuring availability and access to reliable data and information for improved decision-making; and (iii) strengthening institutional capacity and coordination at national and sub-national levels. The strategy is intended to reduce and manage the fiscal risks arising from disasters and to improve the management of financial risks related to disasters, emphasizing coordination among key collaborators to conduct activities that will strengthen financial preparedness and improve operational preparedness ahead of disasters.

Despite significant progress throughout the year, challenges remained: accurate forecasting, for instance, continued to be hindered by insufficient capacity and difficulties with downscaling local models. The lack of a legal framework for DRM also led to overreliance on ex-post funding, complicating anticipatory and recovery efforts. A proposed Disaster Bill has been developed to align with a preparednessfocused approach to disaster management, which includes AA. This bill is currently under consideration by the Parliament, with its Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) and guiding principles already presented, and it is currently pending approval by the Parliament.

Despite these challenges, WFP, in collaboration with partners like FAO, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), URCS, and the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), made strides in strengthening AA capacity in Uganda. The AA/DRF technical working group (AA/DRF TWG) has been pivotal in addressing the gaps identified in the country. By serving as a crucial advisory platform, the AA/DRF TWG has paved the way for to develop and implement AA approaches and protocols. This platform has focused on fostering stronger institutional coordination, particularly between government ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) and humanitarian partners. As an active member of the DRF TWG, WFP plays a vital role by providing financial support for the group's meetings and activities.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

In collaboration with ICPAC, WFP supported the Uganda Department of Meteorology to develop triggers for the drought-focused Karamoja Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP). The drought trigger is based on the Standard Precipitation Index (SPI) and is calculated for two distinct phases of the March-to-September rainfall season in the Karamoja sub-region.

In line with WFP's overall aim to empower national governments, Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) are underway to build the skills of Department of Meteorology staff to independently develop, monitor, and communicate tailored drought forecasting triggers. This transfer of responsibility is intended to ensure that the department can review the performance of the forecasts and lead on drought monitoring in the future.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

In the final quarter of 2024, WFP finalized the development of the Karamoja drought AAP which is expected to be endorsed in 2025. Once approved, the AAP will enable WFP to access funding in case of a trigger activation.

The AAP, which was developed in close coordination with collaborators from the Karamoja region, proposes four key activities, to be supported by WFP:

- Dissemination of early warning messages.
- Repair and restoration of water facilities.
- Distribution of drought-tolerant and earlymaturity seeds.
- Provision of multi-purpose cash-based transfers.

In addition to the drought AAP, WFP is supporting ongoing development of AAPs for riverine in the Southwest region and flash flooding (in the Karamoja region).

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

- Define specific flood trigger thresholds and strengthen collaboration between the Department of Meteorology and the Department of Water to ensure their technical assistance for developing these triggers.
- Finalize, validate and simulate AAPs for drought and floods to test and refine triggers and plans.
- Continue advocating a legal framework for DRM in Uganda to support proactive disaster response systems (including the DRM bill and the DRF strategy).
- Collaborate with ICPAC to build impact forecasting capabilities for the Department of Meteorology.
- Review the trigger methodology to improve the resolution of the trigger into smaller administrative units, including analysis of the performance of forecast triggers compared to actual rainfall during the season.



# SOUTHERN AFRICA



### TARGET LOCATIONS AND HAZARDS

Anticipatory actions implementation in Sofal province, Mozambique.

# **KEY INFORMATION**





**PEOPLE COVERED** 1,556,531

**PEOPLE REACHED WITH \$** ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS 407,680



() PEOPLE REACHED WITH **EARLY WARNING MESSAGES** 1,497,480



**US\$ FUNDS PRE-ARRANGED** FOR ACTIVATIONS MILLION 10

all from WFP Trust Fund

**US\$ FUNDS DISBURSED** FOR ACTIVATIONS 9.4 MILLION



#### DONORS

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) Adaptation Fund, European Union (EU), European **Commission Directorate-General for European** Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), Green Climate Fund (GCF), Norwegian Agency for **Development Cooperation (NORAD), Systematic** Observations Financing Facility (SOFF), United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and WFP Changing Lives Transformation Fund (CLTF).

#### **REGIONAL PARTNERS**

Southern African Development Community (SADC) Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Unit and Climate Services Centre (CSC), South African Weather Services (SAWS), African Risk Capacity (ARC), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET), Welthungerhilfe (WHH), Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility (GBV AoR), Oxfam International, Save the Children International, World Vision, University of Cape Town Climate System Analysis Group (UCT CSAG), United Nations University (UNU), Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (known in German as Potsdam-Institut für Klimafolgenforschung or PIK), Centre of Excellence in Indigenous Knowledge Systems (CIKS) of the University of KwaZulu-Natal), University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), Start Network.

# **Regional highlights**

The start of 2024 saw the southern African region battling with the severe drought following the El Niño forecast. Over 60 million people in the region were affected by the drought. Six countries – including Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe and Lesotho – declared a state of emergency due to the severe drought. WFP finalized the largest anticipatory action (AA) activation in the region to date, reaching over 1.4 million people with early warning messages and disbursing US\$9.4 million in prearranged financing to support people we serve to prepare for the drought and mitigate its effects on the lives, livelihoods and food security of the most vulnerable people.

Moving into the 2024/2025 season, severe localized droughts were forecasted, triggering AAs in Zimbabwe, Madagascar and Mozambique. In these 3 countries, people were assisted with early warning messages, anticipatory cash-based transfers, drought-tolerant inputs, short-cycled crops, and livestock and irrigation management. An active and earlier cyclone season began in late 2024 and has seen continued activity in the South-West Indian Ocean Basin into early 2025. AAs were triggered in Mozambique ahead of Cyclone Chido, resulting in 21,205 people receiving early warning messages, and 70 people being evacuated to temporary accommodation centres and supported with the provision of anticipatory food and nutrition assistance.

Alongside <u>these activations</u>, WFP continued to invest in multi-hazard AA systems, and advocating the mainstreaming of AA into national and regional policies. Any advancements in this regard would not have been possible without the support of various donors, including Norway. The activations taking place in the past, as well as the ones ongoing in 2024, have allowed for some much-awaited research to be conducted, and evidence for AA to be produced. Two major studies have been carried out in the southern Africa region in 2024: one on the cost effectiveness of AA and another on the integration of gender, protection and inclusiveness into AA programmes. Both studies will be published externally in 2025 and will provide solid evidence and recommendations on more inclusive, localized and cost-effective AA in the region. These studies are expected to be replicated in other contexts in which WFP works worldwide from 2025.

Throughout the year, the Regional Anticipatory Action Working Group (RAAWG) led by WFP, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), continued to bring together regional collaborators through monthly meetings to foster collaboration in the development, activation and implementation of AA plans (AAPs) across countries in the region. In August 2024, following agency-specific and national-level after-action reviews (AARs) of drought activations induced by El Niño, the RAAWG brought together all regional and some global AA actors - national governments, regional bodies, donors, United Nations agencies and international non-governmental organizations through the Southern Africa Dialogue Platform (SADP) conference to jointly reflect and share experiences from the largest-ever El Niño drought activation in the region. Hosted by the Anticipation Hub in Johannesburg, with WFP as one of the key co-organizers, alongside the IFRC, FAO and Southern African Development Community (SADC), the central theme of the SADP conference was 'El Niño insight: southern Africa anticipation after action review', and practitioners and policy-makers from Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambigue, Zambia and Zimbabwe shared their experiences on El Niño AA activations in their countries.

As the only humanitarian Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF) implementing entity, WFP has continued to support efforts to improve weather forecasts, early warning systems, and climate information services in Mozambique, Zambia, and recently the Democratic Republic of Congo. In Mozambique, the initial focus of the SOFF project has been on assessing the existing upper stations and the Automatic Weather Stations (AWS). Progress thus far includes the launch of the Investment Phase, completion of all four assessments of the upper-air stations, a site visit to the peer advisors (Southern African Weather Stations or SAWS) upper air station and the AWS in Durban, as well as the developing checklists and carrying out AWS assessments. Information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure has been mapped, data transmission to the Global Transmission System is being worked on, and community sensitization materials and maintenance standard operating procedures (SOPs) and schedules maintained. The SOFF project in Zambia, with the United Kingdom Meteorological Office as a peer advisor, has completed the Readiness Phase in 2024 with a recent submission for the next phase, the Investment Phase. In October 2024, WFP attended the Early Warning for All (EW4All) multi-stakeholder forum in Windhoek (Namibia) and participated in a panel discussion on investments in strengthening national systems for AA delivery to build longer-term sustainability. Early investment efforts in Namibia and the Democratic

Republic of the Congo will come to fruition in 2025, and longer-term funding is expected to be secured for Lesotho in 2025.

The year has seen the scaling up of many existing AA systems to incorporate new hazards, and larger geographical scope within each country. The addition of Zambia to the AA portfolio will mean that this additional country is ready to act in anticipation of forecasted droughts and floods in 2025. Due to the sizeable growth of the AA portfolio in Southern Africa in recent years, the support team has also grown from one regional coordinator in early 2024 to an additional three staff focused on forecasting, monitoring and evaluation and learning, and climate services, respectively. The regional team is primed for a successful 2025, with AA programmes in at least 7 countries<sup>14</sup> each covering at least one type of extreme weather event.

<sup>14.</sup> Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe



# LESOTHO



#### TARGET LOCATIONS

Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek, Quthing and Thaba-Tseka districts.



#### HAZARDS Drought



### **PEOPLE COVERED** 41,000



## **PEOPLE REACHED WITH ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS** 52,000



#### **PEOPLE REACHED WITH EARLY WARNING MESSAGES** 828,101



#### DONORS

Adaptation Fund (AF) and Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD).

#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Office of the Prime Minister
- 2. Disaster Management Authority (DMA)
- 3. Ministry of Environment and Forestry
- 4. Lesotho Meteorological Services (LMS)
- 5. Ministry of Social Development (MOSD)
- 6. Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security
- 7. Food Security and Nutrition (MoAFS)
- 8. Ministry of Water Department of Rural Water Supply (DRWS)
- 9. World Bank Group
- 10. Lesotho Red Cross Society (LRCS)
- 11. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 12. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- 13. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- 14. National University of Lesotho (NUL)
- 15. Water and Sewage Company (WASCO)
- 16. Lesotho Red Cross Society
- 17. World Vision



#### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Established a national AA technical working group (AA TWG) with the government to improve collaboration among collaborators.
- Reached approximately 1.9 million individuals with timely early warning messages regarding flood risks.
- Delivered anticipatory cash transfers to 79,512 vulnerable individuals (66 percent women), to support pre-flood preparations.
- Prepositioned 14 boats across four flood-prone districts to enable emergency evacuations.
- Enhanced government capacity in flood forecasting through the development of a reliable flood trigger system, using real-time river gauge data.
- Introduced community-based early warning systems with a focus on gender inclusivity to strengthen local ability to offset the worst effects of disasters.
- Laid the groundwork for integrating AA into national disaster risk reduction policies and strategies, fostering long-term sustainability in humanitarian response efforts.



#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN LESOTHO**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in activity 2 "Support the Government in implementing effective, targeted and inclusive early warning systems, anticipatory action, disaster risk reduction, crisis response interventions and shock-responsive social protection" of <u>WFP Lesotho Country Strategic Plan</u> (2024-2029).

The increased frequency of extreme weather events in Lesotho – such as droughts, accelerated rates of soil erosion and desertification – had had significant consequences on livelihoods, incomes, food security and nutrition.

The Government of Lesotho leads the implementation of the Anticipatory Action programme, in collaboration with WFP, the Lesotho Red Cross Society and World Vision. Activities are carried out through the Office of the Prime Minister under the DMA and supported by all relevant line ministries and development partners, such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry.

WFP's work in 2024 entailed completing the 2023-24 AA drought activation, which extended to June 2024, to support people with anticipatory cash transfers, drought-tolerant seeds, access to safe water, and early warning messages. Lesotho did not activate its drought Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) for the end of 2024 and early 2025 seasons, as the set triggers were not reached.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In 2024, WFP strengthened government capacities to lead early warning systems and to enable the implementation of the AA programme. WFP, in partnership with the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI), strengthened capacities of the Lesotho Meteorological Services (LMS) on maintenance and monitoring of climate services tools, including for drought AA thresholds and triggers. The partnership with IRI also strengthened the capacities of DMA technical personnel and operational committees on vulnerability data management and monitoring of vulnerability indicators on a web-based Forecast Based Financing Decision Map tool, used to make decisions on activations, based on forecasts with historical data.

Following advocacy and technical support from WFP, the Government of Lesotho, through the DMA, also revised key legal disaster risk management (DRM) frameworks and the annual contingency plans to clearly reference AA as an ex-ante risk management tool. WFP also engaged in a capacity needs mapping exercise in December 2024, to enable the development of overarching capacity strengthening strategy to support AA institutionalization.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

WFP, with technical support from IRI, improved the capacity of LMS to generate specialized subseasonal to seasonal (S2S) forecasts, initially focusing on precipitation. In 2024, LMS was able to combine data from ground stations and satellite estimates from IRI's Climate Data Tool to produce high-resolution climate data.

Following improvements in data capabilities, the focus turned to improving forecasting tools, enabling LMS to use the Python Climate Predictability Tool (PyCPT) to generate seasonal precipitation forecasts with up to six months of lead time and with improved resolution and accuracy. WFP's partnership with the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) also led to the buying and, in 2024, installation of 76 automatic weather stations, significantly enhancing LMS's analytical capabilities and allowing LMS to run customized models. For example, LMS can now run its own numerical prediction system for forecasting needs.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

The Lesotho AAP was successfully implemented as part of the 2023-24 drought activation, which was the priority focus for the year and entailed continuous monitoring of activities and regular update meetings with all collaborators to track progress. The AAP will be adapted to incorporate lessons from activations.

#### AA ACTIVATIONS

The year began with the continuing 2023-24 drought AA activation in four districts – Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek, Quthing and Thaba-Tseka – which were forecasted to be at risk of severe drought and belownormal rainfall. In January to July 2024, WFP provided 52,000 people with anticipatory cash transfers, drought-tolerant seeds, and support to access safe water. In addition, early warning messages reached 828,101 people through multiple channels, including radio, television and face-to-face.

Endline analysis and a national after-action review (AAR) highlighted the following results:

• AA assistance reduced the proportion of those receiving support who reported poor food consumption by 8 percentage points.

- AA assistance increased the proportion of people supported who did not have to adopt livelihood coping strategies by 12 percentage points.
- 80 percent of those receiving early warning information reported that the messages were timely and clear.
- The cost-effectiveness analysis study found that every US\$1 invested in AA accrued the same quantity of benefits as US\$1.28 dollar in postshock response.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

- Update AAPs, including to incorporate feedback from activations.
- Expand AA for drought to the remaining six districts of Lesotho.
- Strengthen links between AA, urban preparedness, and social protection.
- Continue to strengthen meteorological monitoring and preparedness.
- Advocate to incorporate AA into the plans of the Ministry of Finance and Planning and of the Office of the Prime Minister.



# MADAGASCAR





#### TARGET LOCATIONS

Betroka, Betioky and Tsihombe districts.



HAZARDS Drought and cyclones



**PEOPLE COVERED** 313,501



## **PEOPLE REACHED WITH ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS** 271,810



**PEOPLE REACHED WITH EARLY WARNING MESSAGES** 252,111



#### **US\$ FUNDS DISBURSED FOR ACTIVATIONS**

1.2 million



#### DONORS

Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) and United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. National Office of Disaster Risk Management (known in French as the Bureau National de la Gestion des Risques des Catastrophes or BNGRC)
- 2. General Directorate of Meteorology (known in French as the Direction Générale de la Météorologie or DGM)
- 3. Regional Directorate of Agriculture and Livestock (known in French as the Direction Régionale de l'Agriculture et de l'Elevage)
- 4. Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) NGO
- 5. Mahavotse (NGO)
- 6. Tompy (NGO)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Activated its Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) for drought in the southern region: 271,810 people received anticipatory cash transfers and short-cycle seeds in three districts (Betioky, Betroka, and Tsihombe); and 252,111 people were reached with early warning messages.
- Updated the AA framework document and strengthened the capacity of the BNGRC to ensure its leadership, along with the DGM's capacity to improve seasonal forecasts and manage the AA activation tool.
- Expanded AA for cyclone onset and developed the framework with the CERF.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN MADAGASCAR**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 1: "Provide food assistance, nutrition and livelihood support to people in anticipation of and in response to seasonal or other shocks, leveraging national social protection systems and improving emergency preparedness" of <u>WFP Madagascar Country Strategic</u> <u>Plan (2024-2028)</u>.

In 2024, extreme hunger in Madagascar continued to escalate, driven by droughts induced by El Niño and extreme weather events such as cyclones. The combined effects of Cyclone Gamane in March 2024 and El Niño-induced drought resulted in 1.2 million people in 36 districts projected as being in extreme hunger between May and September 2024 (Integrated Food Security Phase Classification analysis).

In 2024, WFP, under the leadership of the government, completed the 2023-24 drought activation. Ahead of the 2024-2025 season, a subsequent activation took place. These activations took place while ongoing capacity strengthening efforts continued the building, maintenance and improvement of drought and cyclone AA systems.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

At the institutional level, WFP has continued to strengthen the capacities of the National Office of Disaster Risk Management (known in French as the Bureau National de la Gestion des Risques des Catastrophes or BNGRC) in its role as leader of disaster risk management in Madagascar, particularly in coordinating activities in the field and integrating AA into the long-term DRM system. Following continuous advocacy and technical support by WFP and other collaborators, the government demonstrated its commitment to AA as part of disaster risk preparedness and response, such as by working closely with the AA technical working group (TWG), and by integrating AA into the national strategy of the General Directorate of Meteorology (known in French as the Direction Générale de la Météorologie or DGM) and the national humanitarian response plan. The government's collaboration with the AA TWG also led to a clear AA TWG workplan being developed for 2024/2025, which provides an institutional commitment to AA, operational tools, and links AA to risk reduction strategies to enable effective coordination and carrying out of activities.

WFP also supported the Government's participation in regional and international forums, such as the AA Southern Africa Dialogue Platform and the Global Dialogue Platform, which are crucial for enhancing Madagascar's visibility and promoting exchanges of experience with other countries working on AA.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

WFP continued to strengthen the capacities of the DGM for seasonal and sub-seasonal forecasting, such as through a training course dedicated to DGM technical staff with IRI support.

In May, a workshop was organized by WFP and the DGM with other collaborators to evaluate the performance of AA drought triggers and make necessary adjustments. Partner discussions focused on reviewing the content and format of the monthly bulletin produced from July onwards for the October-November-December (OND) period, refining triggers, and revising the selection of districts for activation and early warning message dissemination channels for effective communication.

WFP also provided the DGM with computer equipment and meteorological stations to strengthen the DGM's observation networks and enable them to improve sub-seasonal forecasting. WFP purchased five weather stations, which will be installed in localities proposed by the DGM. The information collected from these stations will be used by the DGM and WFP for improved climate services, forecasting and therefore effective anticipatory action to be taken.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

The drought AAP, first developed in 2022, was updated in 2024, incorporating lessons learned from previous activations and after-action reviews. While for the 2023-2024 activation, four activities were carried out, for the 2024-2025 activation, the activities were reduced to two (anticipatory cash and early warning messages), as these were deemed most effective in the available timeframe.

Ahead of the 2024-2025 cyclone season, WFP is, for the first time in Madagascar, co-developing an interagency AA framework for tropical cyclones that can be used to access funding from the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). The process began in September and is expected to finish in 2025.

A gender, protection, and inclusion analysis was conducted in three districts – Betioky, Betroka, and Tsihombe – to identify the needs, obstacles, and risks faced by various populations ahead of extreme weather events. The intention is to formulate recommendations for WFP to design and implement anticipatory actions adapted to the realities of communities facing these extreme weather events.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

The 2023-24 drought activation in Betroka, Betioky and Tsihombe districts was finalized in April 2024. WFP reached 271,810 people with anticipatory cash transfers and distribution of short-cycle seeds, while 252,111 people were reached in this period with early warning messages, including broadcasts on radio stations and translations into local dialects. WFP also supported the restoration of community water facilities, such as the construction and restoration of 11 boreholes. The endline analysis and After-Action Review (AAR) highlighted the following findings:

 AA assistance decreased the consumptionbased coping strategy index (rCSI) by 34 percent (7 points), which means those assisted had to adopt strategies to meet their food needs on a less frequent and/or less severe basis than the control group who did not receive AA assistance.

- AA assistance improved food consumption scores by approximately 12 percent (3 points), compared to the control group who did not receive AA assistance.
- 77 percent of surveyed persons receiving assistance reported that the assistance arrived in time to help them cope with or mitigate the effects of the drought on their household or on their main income-generating activity.
- 78 percent of households who received WFP support planted crops adopting climate-smart agricultural practices compared with only 60 percent of households in the control group.
- A cost effectiveness study found AA to be cost effective compared to post-shock response. The study estimated that every US\$1.0 in anticipatory action yields same benefits as US\$1.23 in postshock response, thus an additional 23 percent of the total programme cost.

In September 2024, the AA thresholds were also reached for a moderate drought scenario for the 2024-2025 drought season for the District of Tsihombe. US\$1,156,000 was disbursed<sup>15</sup> to reach a total of 57,500 people with anticipatory cash transfers and early warning information. The activation will be reported on in the next annual report, as it will end in March 2025.

 The US\$1,156,000 was provided by Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD).



#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

- Continue and expand AA for drought, by integrating the recommendations from the AA Gender Analysis for drought.
- Strengthen the link between AA and social protection, such as through ongoing support for establishing a single social register and participate in analyses on how to integrate AA into the social protection system.
- Extend AA to rapid-onset events, with a first pilot based on the CERF Framework for AA Cyclone, and advocating additional funding to enable more vulnerable households to be reached.
- Initiate discussions with the Government and partners towards the design of a framework for flooding.
- Ensure government leadership through skills and process building to enable the sustainability and effectiveness of AA initiatives.









### TARGET LOCATIONS

Phalombe and Blantyre districts



#### HAZARDS Drought and floods



#### DONORS

Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) and European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO).



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA)
- 2. Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services (DCCMS)
- 3. Department of Water Resources (DWR)
- 4. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 5. Danish Red Cross (DRC)
- 6. Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS)
- 7. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- 8. Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Supported government partners to integrate AA into the Disaster Risk Management Policy and Strategy.
- Supported the integration of AA into the National Multi-hazard Contingency Plan for the 2024/2025 season.
- With the DCCMS, Ministry of Agriculture, and DoDMA, disseminated local-level weather forecasts and key messages to farmers and the general public in four districts (Blantyre, Nsanje, Machinga and Balaka)
- Raised funds for government systems, building on AA through the five-year Multi-Country Programme for Food Security funded by NORAD.
- With FAO and the Danish Red Cross and Malawi Red Cross Society Red Cross, raised funds to advance joint action towards inter-agency AA coordination mechanisms and frameworks through DG ECHO (WFP, FAO, Danish Red Cross and Malawi Red Cross).

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN MALAWI**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 7: "Provide technical expertise and targeted systems and capacities to national and local actors involved in food and nutrition security, social protection, education, health, disaster risk management, anticipatory action, and emergency preparedness and response intended to build government-led sustainable and scalable national systems" of the WFP Malawi Country Strategic Plan (2024-2028).

Malawi experienced El Niño conditions during the 2023/2024 growing season, which delayed rains, causing dry spells, and led to significant crop losses in the southern and central regions. The country recorded a 27 percent drop in maize production in 2024 compared to 2023. The Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services (DCCMS) also forecast La Niña during the 2024/2025 growing season, with normal to above-normal rainfall expected from January to March 2025, This calls on WFP to anticipate the occurrence of shocks such as floods and drought that might affect vulnerable people.

WFP's AA programme is implemented in close coordination with the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) with the additional involvement of the Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services (DCCMS), the Department of Water Resources (DWR), the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Danish Red Cross (DRC), and the Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS). The collaboration builds on the Anticipatory Action Roadmap for Malawi developed in October 2022, and the official launch of the programme in 2023.

In 2024, WFP mapped forecasting capacity gaps to be addressed, supported the integration of AA into the 2024/2025 National Contingency Plan, conducted an AA Gender Study, supported the dissemination of localized weather forecasts, and assessed market support to potentially shock-affected populations through a retailer survey.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In December 2024, WFP supported the Government (through the DoDMA) to lead the second National Anticipatory Action Dialogue Platform, in follow-up to the first occurrence in 2022. This marked a milestone in the institutionalization of AA activities in Malawi, and resulted in the updating of the national roadmap for AA to support further AA institutionalization across the DRM system.

WFP, in collaboration with FAO, the DRC and the MRCS, also supported the establishment of a Malawi National AA technical working group (MNAA-TWG). Chaired by DoDMA, and co-chaired by the FAO, the MNAA-TWG has members including WFP, DCCMS, DWR, WFP, the United Nations Office for



the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), DRC, MRCS, Save the Children, and the Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST) among others. The intention is to allow for coordination and harmonization and offer technical support for designing, implementation, monitoring, and evaluating AA initiatives in Malawi. Furthermore, WFP supported the establishment of an AA Trigger subcommittee to coordinate trigger development and provide a forum for all AA partners to monitor forecasts and make recommendations to MNAA-TWG when triggers are met to support decision-making. Additionally, WFP paved the way for integration of AA into the 2024-2025 National Multi-hazard Contingency Plan, by influencing clusters to identify relevant AA activities in the document.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

WFP, through the AA trigger sub-committee, is working with DCCMS, DoDMA and other partners, such as FAO, DRC and MRCS, to review the existing AA triggers developed previously under the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) AA Framework and identify pathways for model adjustments. Led by OCHA, the OCHA-CERF AA was developed by United Nations organizations such as WFP, FAO, UNICEF, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), focusing on dry spells since 2021-2022 season, but never triggered. The triggers set were not sensitive enough to trigger AA. and hence required further review to be of use in future projects.

As part of this capacity strengthening work, WFP conducted consultations with DCCMS and the DWR to determine their capacity to develop and monitor forecast-based drought and flood triggers and to assess their forecast products. Further, WFP is also engaging the DWR to initiate the development of riverine flood triggers, which will be integrated at later stages of the project. Following these consultations, WFP is currently co-developing a multi-year plan with the Government to strengthen the capacities of the Government's hydro-met departments, such as the DCCMS and DWR, on hazard forecasting and monitoring AA triggers in the country. For example, the plan would set out activities to enable government departments to create weather forecasts at the district level, targeting the disaster-prone districts mostly in the southern region of the country.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

WFP Malawi only began developing an AA system towards the end of 2023, and it is yet to be finalized.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

- Develop the drought and flooding Anticipatory Action Plans (AAPs) under the coordination of DoDMA and in collaboration with other government institutions and other key partners.
- Operationalize the Trigger Development subcommittee under government leadership through DCCMS, and develop AA triggers for appropriate monitoring.
- Strengthen the Government's capacity to coordinate AA through the DoDMA at the national and local levels, including sensitizing DDRM members on AA.
- Strengthen the capacity of the NMS to provide timely, granular and accurate seasonal monitoring and early information on extreme weather events.
- Invigorate the capacity of riverine flood monitoring for the DWR and build community leader skills for early warning activities on riverine flooding.

# MOZAMBIQUE





#### TARGET LOCATIONS

The provinces of Gaza (Chibuto, Guija and Mabalane districts), Inhambane (Funhalouro and Mabote districts), Sofala (Caia, Chemba and Machanga districts), Tete (Changara district), and Nampula (Mogincual district).



#### HAZARDS Drought and cyclones



**PEOPLE COVERED** 300,000



### **PEOPLE REACHED WITH ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS** 58,950



### **PEOPLE REACHED WITH EARLY WARNING MESSAGES** 270,000



#### **US\$ FUNDS DISBURSED FOR ACTIVATIONS**

7.7 million



#### DONORS

Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), United Kingdom Foreign and Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. National Institute of Disaster Risk Management and Reduction (known in Portuguese as Instituto Nacional de Gestão e Redução do Risco de Desastres or INGD)
- 2. National Institute of Meteorology (known in Portuguese as Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia or INAM)
- 3. Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (known in Portuguese as Ministério da Agricultura e Desenvolvimento Rural or MADER)
- 4. National Directorate of Water Resources Management (known in Portuguese as Direcção Nacional de Gestão de Recursos Hídricos or DNGRH)
- 5. National Institute of Social Action (known in Portuguese as Instituto Nacional da Acção Social or INAS)
- 6. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- 7. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 8. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- 9. International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- 10. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- 11. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- 12. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
- 13. University of Eduardo Mondlane (UEM)
- 14. Save The Children International



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

#### In 2024, WFP:

- Activated its cyclone AA plan (AAP) for the first time in one district (Mogincual) ahead of cyclone Chido, reaching around 21,205 people with early warning messages and 70 people with food and nutritional packages.
- Enabled successful activation of drought AAPs in nine districts during the first El Niño-induced drought of the 2023/2024 season, reaching 58,880 people through various complementary anticipatory actions, such as asset creation and cash-based transfers, and 248,795 people with early warning messages.
- Promoted the integration of adaptive social protection programmes into the disaster risk reduction framework through the drought AAs, with lessons learned in the 2023/2024 season being tested and acted on since the fourth quarter of 2024, alongside the latest drought AAP activations, including climate vulnerability-based geographical targeting of households.
- Strengthened the national disaster risk management system through technical and financial support to the INAM as well as the INGD, which have now led to considerable improvements in drought forecasting and AAs in the contingency planning framework.
- Supported the launch of the National Roadmap of the Early Warning for All Initiative (EW4ALL) as well as the Investment Phase of the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF).

#### OVERVIEW OF AA IN MOZAMBIQUE

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 4: "Support national and government actors in preparing for, responding to and recovering from natural and man-made disasters" of the <u>WFP</u> <u>Mozambique Country Strategic Plan 2022-2026</u>.

In 2024, El Niño induced rainfall shortage and above average temperatures have resulted in drought in central and southern provinces of Mozambique, affecting agricultural production for vulnerable communities. As a result, around 2.8 million people were facing food insecurity (IPC 3+) between April and September 2024, and 3.3 million people were projected to face food insecurity during the lean season of October 2024 to March 2025.<sup>16</sup>

In 2024, WFP continued to collaborate with government institutions to establish a multi-hazard early warning system and supporting mechanisms for drought, floods and cyclones, including the finalization of a cyclone Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP). The 2023/2024 drought activation was finalized in nine districts, two of them under a "no regret approach" reaching around 58,880 people with anticipatory cash transfers and 248,795 people with early warning messages. In 2024, new activations for drought AAPs were confirmed in nine districts,<sup>17</sup> including three new districts from Inhambane and Sofala, and the same set of anticipatory actions has been implemented since then. Mozambique also conducted its first cyclone activation in December 2024, reaching with early warning messages and early evacuation 21,205 people in Mogincual and over 400,000 people in other affected districts.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In 2024, WFP continued working in close partnership with the Government of Mozambique, supporting the coordination of regular AA technical working group meetings under the leadership of the National

<sup>16.</sup> WFP Mozambique Situation Report, 26 August 2024: <u>WFP Mozambique</u> <u>- Situation Report #1 (26 August 2024) - Mozambique | ReliefWeb</u>.

Massingir, Mapai, Mabalane, Chibuto, Guija, Caia, Chemba, Marara and Charanga.

Institute of Disaster Risk Management and Reduction (known in Portuguese as Instituto Nacional de Gestão e Redução do Risco de Desastres or INGD). Through continuous AA advocacy, INGD continued to incorporate AA into the methodology for designing the National Contingency Plan 2024-2025, continuing the country's progressive ownership of the AA workstream. With the first ever activation of drought triggers for the 2023-24 season, WFP paved the way for the coordination between the INGD and INAS to deliver anticipatory cash-based assistance through the national social protection system, assisting almost 59,000 individuals.

WFP also co-developed an interagency tropical cyclone AA framework eligible for funding from the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) under the leadership of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). This framework uses the same trigger model and protocols as the Government's national AA framework.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

WFP continued to support the National Institute of Meteorology (known in Portuguese as Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia or INAM) on drought and cyclone anticipatory action triggers. WFP supported INAM with a comprehensive analysis of the 2023/2024 rainy season, including drought trigger performance. Given the strong effect of El Niño during the season, INAM decided to use crisis drought triggers for the 2024/2025 season. In addition, cyclone AA triggers were finalized and officially approved by the Government, and fully operational for the 2024/2025 season. Both drought and cyclone AAs are now monitored through the Platform for Real-Time Impact and Situation Monitoring (PRISM), which has been successfully handed over to INAM, with technical support from WFP as needed.

Mozambique was also selected as one of the first countries to benefit from the Systematic Observation Financing Facility (SOFF), a United Nations initiative to strengthen climate observation networks, receiving support through INAM with WFP as the implementing entity and the South African Weather Service (SAWS) as a technical peer advisor. Since August 2024, WFP and SAWS have assessed weather stations to prepare to construct and restore 4 upper-air stations and 21 automated weather stations. These upgrades are intended to improve Mozambique's weather and climate observation capacity, ensuring more accurate forecasts to support early warning and inform anticipatory actions for droughts, cyclones, and other hazards.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

For the 2024/2025 season, the WFP drought AAP was updated based on lessons learned from the 2023/2024 activation, following an After-Action Review led by the INGD in coordination with the National Institute of Social Action (known in Portuguese as Instituto Nacional da Acção Social or INAS). Key improvements included increasing coverage from six to ten districts. WFP provided technical support to INGD and INAS to develop a climate vulnerability geographical targeting strategy, with the objective to harmonize targeting strategies used by various institutions involved in AA implementation. During the readiness phase for 2024/2025 activations, lists of those receiving support were updated, and agreements were pre-arranged with partners and service providers to enable timely implementation.

In parallel, WFP supported the Government to expand AA action for floods and cyclones. The support resulted in the development of ten district-level AAPs and a national standard operating procedures manual for flood and cyclone AAs, all approved by the AA TWG and the Technical Council for Disaster Management. A consultative process was held through workshops in four pilot provinces, involving community leaders, disaster committees, and emergency responders. Following these consultations, five key anticipatory actions for floods and cyclones were prioritized and approved, including disseminating early warnings, evacuation, and providing water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), shelter, and food assistance. In November 2024, a national simulation in Zambezia Province tested the standard operating procedures

with national, provincial, district and community-level partners, resulting in the alignment of readiness and activation triggers with the pre-existing alert levels.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

The 2023-24 drought activation was completed in 9 districts<sup>18</sup>, where 248,795 people received early warning messages, and 58,880 individuals received anticipatory cash-based transfers from the horizontal expansion of the national social protection programme. The endline analysis highlighted the following results:

- There was an improvement of food consumption scores (FCS), from baseline to endline for the households receiving anticipatory support in the three provinces: the proportion of acceptable FCS increased from 27 percent to 34 percent, and the proportion of poor FCS fell from 20 percent to 3 percent. Meanwhile, there was a slight worsening of FCS from baseline to endline in all provinces for people who did not participate in the programme, with the proportion of acceptable FCS decreasing from 27 percent to 21 percent.
- Households receiving AA have better results for the consumption-based coping strategy index (rCSI) in all the three provinces compared to those who did not receive this support. The rCSI for households receiving anticipatory assistance was 6.1 and for households not receiving the assistance was 10.5. This means that households applied consumption-based coping strategies less frequently and/or less severely.
- A cost effectiveness study estimated that every US\$1 spent on AA generates a 23 percent benefit in overall programme costs. This means US\$1.23 would be needed to generate same quantity of benefits in a traditional post-disaster response as US\$1 in AA.

In September 2024, drought forecast triggers for the 2024/2025 season were hit, and the Government

18. Massingir, Mapai, Mabalane, Chibuto, Guija, Caia, Chemba, Marara and

formally activated drought AA in 6 districts.<sup>19</sup> In November 2024, WFP transferred funds to INGD to implement government-led district AAPs, including agricultural and water management activities. In 2024, WFP coordinated with INGD and radio providers to disseminate early warning information to vulnerable people through community radios, while coordinating with INAS to expand the social protection programme to assist 150,000 people with cash-based transfers. A total of US\$6.6 million<sup>20</sup> was disbursed to cover the needs of the people before the effects of the drought materialized.

In December 2024, Mozambique also activated its AAP for cyclones for the first time in one district, Mogincual 72 hours before the landfall of Cyclone Chido. Early warning messages and voluntary evacuation reached over 21,205 people in the activated district, and 70 people were reached with food and nutritional packages in other affected districts through community radio. Food assistance was also delivered at small scale in Mojicual.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Complete the ongoing rolling out of drought AAPs and conduct an endline data analysis and an afteraction review.
- Continue improving the flood AAP and design a forecast-based triggering mechanism.
- Continue the rolling out of the SOFF implementation phase with INAM and SAWS, installing Automatic Weather Stations (AWS), ensuring data compliance with standard requirements, and operationalizing upper-air stations.
- Officially hand over the PRISM platform to INAM, as part of the broader work to increase the technical and material capacity of all the levels of government and other key partners.

Changara.

<sup>19.</sup> Changara, Mabalane, Chibuto, Guija, Caia and Chemba.

<sup>20.</sup> A US2.6 million contribution from NORAD and a US\$4 million contribution from FCDO.







#### TARGET LOCATIONS

Longido, Monduli, Kiteto, Simanjiro, Handeni, Same, Mkalama, Kondoa, Meatu, Micheweni districts.



#### HAZARDS Drought and floods



#### DONORS

Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) and WFP Changing Lives Transformation Fund (CLTF)



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Prime Minister's Office Disaster Management Department (PMO-DMD)
- 2. Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA)
- 3. Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Initiated the process for integration of AA into the Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN III) to strengthen the shock-responsive features of the nationwide social protection programme.
- Supported the integration of AA into disaster risk management (DRM) policy.
- Supported the integration of AA into the Humanitarian Cash Guidelines.

#### OVERVIEW OF AA IN UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 2: "Provide capacity strengthening for data analysis and people-centred disaster risk management to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of relevant government institutions to monitor and respond to stressors and crises at the national and subnational levels" of the Tanzania <u>WFP Country Strategic Plan</u> <u>2022–2027</u>.

The United Republic of Tanzania faced significant extreme weather events in 2024, with heavy rains triggered by El Niño and Cyclone Hidaya causing widespread flooding during the Masika (long rain) season, and La Niña conditions in the Vuli (short rain) season, leading to below-average rainfall in some areas. These events severely affected lives, livelihoods, and key sectors such as agriculture, livestock, and fisheries.

In 2024, WFP's AA programme, introduced in late 2023, expanded its foundational efforts to strengthen disaster risk management (DRM) and social protection systems across the country. In collaboration with the Prime Minister's Office Disaster Management Department (DMD), Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF), and the Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA), WFP focused on embedding AA principles into national frameworks and highlighting the role of AA in enhancing the adaptability and shock-responsiveness of the social protection system. AA planning workshops were conducted for ten districts, setting the stage for the finalization of district-level Anticipatory Action Plans (AAPs) in the first quarter of 2025.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

WFP took significant foundational steps toward embedding AA into the United Republic of Tanzania's DRM and social protection frameworks. Through a series of technical discussions and awareness-raising sessions, WFP enhanced understanding among key collaborators of the potential for AA to strengthen the anticipatory element of the DRM and social protection systems.

With WFP's advocacy and technical advisory support, the design team for the Government's Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN) recommended integrating AA into the programme's next phase, scheduled for 2025. Additionally, WFP provided guidance on embedding AA into the new DRM policy and the Humanitarian Cash Guidelines. Furthermore, a WFP-led workshop session resulted in key recommendations to incorporate AA into the roles and responsibilities of DRM governance structures at all levels. This was a significant step toward institutionalizing AA within the United Republic of Tanzania's national disaster response and social protection frameworks.

Additionally, WFP engaged in a series of technical dialogues with TMA to explore opportunities for incorporating AA trigger monitoring into the country's forecasting systems. These discussions are intended to establish a robust mechanism for AA based on accurate and timely climate predictions.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

In 2024, WFP and TMA held a series of technical dialogues to explore opportunities for strategic engagement on strengthening national forecasting capabilities, climate services, and early warning systems. The two organizations reviewed operational experiences and lessons learned from other countries, including Mozambique and Zimbabwe. These discussions were tailored to align with TMA's specific requirements and capacity, while exploring technical approaches to develop, validate, and monitor thresholds and triggers for anticipatory action. The result of these discussions will be a memorandum of understanding (MoU), operational from 2025, that formalizes collaboration and ensures coordinated AA.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

In 2024, WFP arranged planning workshops for ten target districts, initiating the development of a national AAP, tailored to local needs and contexts. These workshops fostered inclusive decision-making by integrating perspectives from community consultations and technical guidance from district and national authorities, as well as humanitarian and development partners, including the Tanzania Red Cross and UNICEF.

The plans outline key AA, including disseminating early warning information, cash-based transfers, skills-building in sustainable farming and livestock management practices, and health and nutrition awareness campaigns. These plans will align closely with the United Republic of Tanzania's national disaster management priorities and strengthen ability to offset the worst effects of disasters at the community level. Scheduled for finalization in the first quarter of 2025, these plans will be crucial in any activation in 2025.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

- Support the review of the DRM policy and development of a new Disaster Risk Financing Framework, advocating the integration of AA.
- Finalize and operationalize AAPs across ten districts to ensure readiness for activation in October-November-December (OND) 2025.
- Support TASAF to pilot AA integration within the PSSN framework.
- Carry out the MoU with TMA, advancing forecasting and trigger mechanisms for drought AA.
- Expand skills-building initiatives for government and community collaborators on AA readiness.









TARGET LOCATIONS



HAZARDS Drought and floods



#### DONORS

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Zambia Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU)
- 2. Zambia Meteorological Department (ZMD)
- 3. Ministry of Agriculture
- 4. Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Strengthened the coordination of the AA technical working group (TWG) under the leadership of the DMMU by providing training on AA programming approaches.
- Assessed the Zambia ZMD's in-country capacities to improve its early warning and forecasting capabilities.
- Created a workplan to guide and support the provision of technical assistance to the Government for anticipatory action programming in Zambia.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN ZAMBIA**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 5: "Provide technical assistance, including through South–South and triangular cooperation, to national institutions to strengthen national capacity and systems for emergency preparedness, anticipatory action and early response, social protection, food and nutrition security and sustainable food systems" of the <u>WFP Zambia</u> <u>Country Strategic Plan (2023-2028)</u>.

In 2024, Zambia faced a severe humanitarian crisis, driven by the effects of an extended drought induced by El Niño. Indeed, the President declared the drought a national disaster and emergency in February 2024. Over 2 million people were already facing severe food insecurity between October 2023 and March 2024 (Integrated Food Security Phase Classification analysis). Exacerbating this situation, the drought affected 1 million of the 2.2 million hectares cultivated in the 2023-24 season, and more than 60 percent of Zambia's food production.

WFP initiated an AA programme with national collaborators to support vulnerable populations who may be affected by these shocks. In 2024, WFP focused on supporting Zambia Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU) to revitalize the AA technical working group to strengthen government leadership and coordination of AA programming in Zambia.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In 2024, WFP's AA programming focused on assessing the in-country capacities of key institutions, such as the Zambia Meteorological Department (ZMD) to generate and process data for improved early warning and forecasting, as well as assessing the coordination structure. Specific support included WFP and the Government collaboratively developing a workplan as a framework to guide AA efforts, as well as providing orientation for the technical working group on AA programming approaches.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

Following technical advice and advocacy from WFP, the DMMU recognized that the lack of harmonized thresholds and triggers for floods and droughts in Zambia hinders the effective development and carrying out of Anticipatory Actions (AAPs). Collaborators, including government agencies in the technical working group, have agreed on the need to develop a harmonized system of thresholds and triggers to improve preparedness, early warning systems, and coordinated action. The harmonization of thresholds and triggers will be the key focus in 2025.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

AA programming in Zambia is still in its nascent stage, with much of the foundational work in progress. While there have been efforts to build the necessary frameworks, tangible outputs resulting in positive results are expected to take full shape following the development of harmonized thresholds and triggers in 2025.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

- Develop impact-based thresholds and forecast triggers for drought.
- Strengthen the capacity of the ZMD to collect, manage and process observation data in a timely manner, resulting in the generation of quality, agrometeorological information to inform partner design of anticipatory actions.
- Strengthen overall government coordination and collaborative partnerships, such as through training on AA programming for government and implementing partner staff.







#### TARGET LOCATIONS

Mudzi, Mbire, Chiredzi, Mwenezi, Hwange, Beitbridge, Gwanda, Bikita, Matobo, Masvingo, Rushinga and Binga districts.



#### HAZARDS

Drought and floods



#### PEOPLE COVERED

902,030



# **PEOPLE REACHED WITH ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS** 24,920



**PEOPLE REACHED WITH EARLY WARNING MESSAGES** 147,268



#### **US\$ FUNDS DISBURSED FOR ACTIVATIONS**

500,000



#### DONORS

Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO).



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment Promotion
- 2. Departments of Civil Protection (DCP) of the Government of Zimbabwe
- 3. Zimbabwe Meteorological Service Department (MSD)
- 4. Agricultural Extension Services department (Agritex) of the Government of Zimbabwe
- 5. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 6. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
- 7. Start Network



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- In collaboration with government and AA community of practice members, developed an AA Roadmap and Implementation Framework for Zimbabwe.
- Supported vulnerable people with access to water by drilling 36 boreholes, and reached 147,268 people with early warning information during the 2023/2024 AA activation.
- Trained district-level AA technical working groups on AA concepts in all 12 target districts.
- Reached at-risk individuals with drought-tolerant inputs and early warning messages and climate services for the 2024/2025 activation in Chiredzi district.
- Began the process of expanding to flood hazards by training government departments in flood model development.
#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN ZIMBABWE**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 5: "provide technical assistance to national and subnational social protection and emergency preparedness and response institutions in order to improve social and humanitarian assistance preparedness, planning and response" of the <u>WFP</u>. <u>Zimbabwe Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026)</u>.

Zimbabwe is continuing to face the long-term severe effects of the drought induced by El Niño, with prolonged dry spells and high temperatures devastating crop yields and livestock, and pushing millions into food insecurity. According to the WFP Food Security and Markets Monitoring report, 36 percent of the population (5.7 million people) were estimated to be food insecure in November 2024.<sup>21</sup>

In 2024, WFP continued institutionalizing AA into Zimbabwe's humanitarian system by co-developing an AA roadmap and implementation framework with the Government and other partners. In 2024, WFP completed the 2023/2024 drought activation, with interventions including drought-tolerant inputs, support for the provision of water, and dissemination of climate information; it also began the implementation for a second drought activation in November for the 2024/2025 season.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In 2024, WFP collaborated with the Government and AA community of practice members to develop an AA roadmap and implementation framework for Zimbabwe. The roadmap sets the vision for AA coordination, harmonization of trigger methodologies, financing mechanisms and evidence generation, while the implementation framework provides guidance for operationalizing the roadmap. The Government also accepted a proposal put forward by WFP and AA community of practice members - including the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and Start Network - to set up an AA subcommittee within the civil protection committee. This was intended to ensure that AA issues are discussed during key disaster risk management (DRM) meetings, mainstreaming AA into the DRM system by advocating the creation of laws, policies, regulations, and coordination systems to introduce and expand AA. WFP also continues to advocate the inclusion of AA in the national disaster risk financing strategy, which is currently being developed under the leadership of the Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment Promotion, to enable greater national financing for AA in the future.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

WFP continued to improve the capacity of the Zimbabwe Meteorological Service Department (MSD) to produce seasonal drought forecasts, such as by revising rainfall performance and the trigger levels from the 2023/2024 rainy season. Advanced training in Python for trigger monitoring was also provided, and monthly monitoring bulletins have been co-produced by MSD and WFP since May on a rolling basis. Trigger statuses for likely droughtaffected districts are also now visualized in a new dashboard on the Platform for Real-Time Impact and Situation Monitoring (PRISM), providing realtime, user-friendly alerts for swift decision-making.

Flood AA was also added to the portfolio of hazards monitored and is due to be operational for the 2025/2026 rainy season in Zimbabwe (October – March). This year has seen the development of Python scripts for threshold and trigger calculation, determination of districts/ river basins for piloting flood AA and the first technical in-person training with key partners such as Zimbabwe National Water Authority (ZINWA), MSD, WFP, the University of Zimbabwe

<sup>21.</sup> World Food Programme Zimbabwe. November 2024. *Food security and markets monitoring report,* 

and the Ministry of Agriculture. From this training, participants now understand the concept and methodology behind flood AA, and can download and process hydrological model data and run the verification parts of the Python scripts to calculate the thresholds and triggers at each hydrological gauging station.

WFP also provided MSD with four Agromet Automated Weather Stations and one Synoptic Automated Weather Station to improve the availability of station data; this will eventually improve the quality of weather forecasts and enable assistance to be delivered in a timelier manner.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

WFP has a current national AA Plan (AAP) which was developed in 2023, drawing from district-specific AAPs and covering a total of 12 districts. The AAP was developed using a bottom-up approach, with national and sub-national level AA consultations and validations, including at the community level. The national AAP was formally validated within the Zimbabwe AA community of practice and internally within WFP, enabling WFP to access anticipatory finance ahead of the 2024/2025 agricultural season. WFP is now reviewing the AAP, considering the lessons learned during 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 activations and district-level discussions conducted in 2024 and also the gender, disability and inclusion assessment that was conducted in 2024.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

The 2023/2024 drought activation was completed in April 2024. WFP supported vulnerable people with access to water through drilling of 36 boreholes and reached at-risk individuals with early warning information. The endline analysis in July and After-Action Review with the Government and other AA actors highlighted the following findings:

- Early warning messages were widely received, with 71 percent of people receiving anticipatory support and 68 percent of the control group and were largely perceived as timely, clear, and helpful.
- Programme contributions towards food security outcomes were limited, in the context of the severe drought and given that the activation did not include in-kind nor cash assistance.
- Key opportunities for enhancing the implementation process include developing streamlined procurement processes and providing weather updates in local languages.

In November, WFP Zimbabwe activated for the 2024/2025 drought season in Chiredzi. In 2024, under this activation, at-risk individuals received drought-tolerant inputs and early warning information in their local language.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Revise the AAP in consultation with communities, government and key partners and based on lessons from previous activations (2023-24 and 2024/2025).
- Continue efforts to institutionalize AA into the DRM system through establishing AA subcommittees as part of the civil protection committee.
- Advocate for inclusion of AA into the national disaster risk financing strategy.
- Strengthen links between AA and longterm resilience-building initiatives to ensure sustainability.

# **WESTERN AFRICA**



TARGET LOCATIONS AND HAZARDS



#### A man supported by WFP's AA programme, Niger.

# **KEY INFORMATION**

151,312



-\$

PEOPLE COVERED **342,101** 

**PEOPLE REACHED WITH** 

ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS



#### DONORS

Government of Austria, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF)



PEOPLE REACHED WITH EARLY WARNING MESSAGES **2,577,524** 



#### us\$ funds pre-arranged for activations 17.2 MILLION

of which **US\$10.8 MILLION** from CERF and **US\$6.4 MILLION** from WFP Trust Fund



US\$ FUNDS DISBURSED FOR ACTIVATIONS **2.7 MILLION** 



#### **REGIONAL PARTNERS**

Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

## **Regional highlights**

In 2024, extreme rainfall caused flooding in Chad, northern Nigeria, the Niger, Mali, Senegal, and Guinea which devastated crops, and livelihoods. In other parts of the Sahel, particularly in Nigeria and Burkina Faso, above-average rainfall in the 2024 rainy season led to positive effects on food systems. The November 2024 Cadre Harmonisé (CH) analysis for Western Africa, covering 15 countries in the Sahel and West Africa, estimated that 40.3 million people were food insecure (Phase 3 or more), including 2 million people in Emergency (Phase 4), in the period October-December 2024.

In this context, WFP confirms its commitment to acting before a hazard occurs with the view of reducing its humanitarian effects and therefore the costs of post-disaster interventions. WFP successfully secured funding to support the expansion of its Anticipatory Action (AA) programmes in the West Africa region. The AA portfolio in the region now includes five Sahel countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and the Niger) covering both droughts and floods.

In 2024, three drought United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) inter-agency AA frameworks were endorsed in Burkina Faso, Chad and the Niger. Additionally, CERF AA frameworks for floods were approved and triggered interventions in Chad and the Niger in 2024 ahead of the flood peak impact. In Chad, WFP provided cash transfers to 93,142 individuals and disseminated early warning (EW) messages to 2,000,000 people to avoid the catastrophic effects of the floods on vulnerable populations in Ndjamena. In the Niger, WFP provided cash transfers to 49,910 individuals and EW messages to 577,524 individuals ahead of the floods. In Chad, Mali and Mauritania WFP secured new multi-year funding from Austria (2024-2028); this comes in addition to multi-year AA funding from NORAD (2023-2028) in Burkina Faso and the Niger, and the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) financial support that enabled AA to start in Chad, Mali, and Mauritania in 2023.

There is also a growing interest and support to EW systems (EWS) in the region, with confirmed contribution from the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF) which started in Chad in 2024. This programme will strengthen the work conducted to institutionalize AA, and enable the production and analysis of climate and early warning information and its distribution to last-mile vulnerable populations in the country. The regional team is engaging conversations with governments and other Early Warning For All (EW4A) partners to expand EWS support in additional countries such as Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea.

Finally, a community of practice for multi-sectoral AA has been launched by WFP, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) to strengthen learning and exchange around AA efforts in the region. In April 2024, WFP successfully organized its first regional AA workshop, gathering over 60 actors from the region. The Dakar Regional Bureau held its first regional information and exchange workshop on Anticipatory Action in the West African region. In-depth discussions were held on AA coordination requirements at the political, operational, technical and financial levels, crucial for establishing efficient anticipatory systems.



# **BURKINA FASO**





#### TARGET LOCATIONS

Boucle de Mouhoun, Centre-North, Sahel, and North regions.



#### HAZARDS

Drought and floods



#### PEOPLE COVERED

97,000



#### DONORS

Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD).



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Executive Secretariat of the National Food Security Council (known in French as Secrétariat Exécutif du Conseil National de sécurité Alimentaire or SE/CNSA)
- 2. National Meteorology Agency of Burkina Faso (known in French as Agence Nationale de la Météorologie du Burkina Faso or ANAM)
- 3. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- 4. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 5. Oxfam International



#### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2024, WFP:

- Carried out a targeted advocacy strategy on AA with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the Government.
- Co-organized a joint national technical workshop with the Executive Secretariat of the National Council for Food Security (SE-CNSA), OCHA and FAO.
- Co-organized a series of comprehensive training sessions to deepen understanding and effective use of agro-climatic and meteorological products, in partnership with National Meteorology Agency of Burkina Faso.
- Is in the progress of scaling up the existing Interagency Drought AA Framework for CERF financing to additional regions (Boucle de Mouhoun, Centre-North, Sahel, and North regions), for both drought and flood risks.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN BURKINA FASO**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 6 "Provide capacity-strengthening support to national institutions and partners for such things as emergency response, early warning systems, the supply chain (including food fortification), national P4P, weather insurance and nutrition-sensitive social safety net data collection and management" of the <u>WFP Burkina Faso Country Strategic Plan</u> (2019-2025).

Burkina Faso's multidimensional and prolonged crisis is continuing to cause new and protracted displacement, disrupting livelihoods, depriving the population of basic social services, and exacerbating social tensions. Communities surrounded by conflict cannot reach their fields and grazing areas without risking their lives, making agricultural and pastoral activities difficult and leading to production deficits. Over 2 million people are internally displaced, most of whom (80 percent) were children and women. According to the last Cadre Harmonisé analysis (March 2024), over 2.7 million people (or 12 percent of the population) were acutely food insecure (Phases 3-4) during the June-August lean season. Additionally, findings from the February 2024 Rapid SMART nutrition survey in 12 hard-to-reach communes across four conflict-affected regions revealed a worrying malnutrition situation among children aged 6-59 months.

In 2024, WFP officially launched its AA programme. The year saw the growth of the AA position into a wider Climate Team of three staff members working specifically on integrating, mainstreaming and amplifying the AA programme nationally. Thanks to the added manpower and continued engagement with key institutions (see below) the drought CERF framework was successfully finalized in early 2024, marking a critical step toward strengthening the country's capacity to anticipate and prepare for extreme weather events.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

WFP supported AA institutionalization efforts in the country by building on an existing working group led by OCHA, which provided a good avenue to ensure consistency and synergy between government institutional and humanitarian actors.

A targeted advocacy strategy was carried out with United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the Government, leading to clear consensus and commitment to advancing AA in the framework of national priorities. This process resulted in the transformation of the AA technical group, now led by the Executive Secretariat of the National Food Security Council (known in French as Secrétariat Exécutif du Conseil National de sécurité Alimentaire or SE/CNSA) with strategic support from WFP, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and OCHA. The group meets every month.

To further anchor anticipatory action at the national level, a joint national technical workshop was coorganized by the Executive Secretariat of the National Council for Food Security (SE-CNSA), OCHA, WFP, and FAO. The workshop provided a platform to discuss and explore best practices in AA, as well as how to sustainably integrate it into national climate risk management policies and strategies. The discussions contributed to a strategic revision of the 2025 workplan of the AA technical working group (TWG), with the institutionalization of AA now recognized as a central priority for strengthening anticipation of extreme weather events. Additionally, at the regional level, WFP has actively raised awareness about AA as part of its ongoing efforts to improve preparedness and ability to offset the worst effects of food security crises. In collaboration with SE-CNSA, WFP organized a series of regional workshops across five key regions (Centre Nord, Plateau Central, Boucle du Mouhoun, l'Est, le Nord). Each workshop engaged over 30 collaborators, including local authorities, technical services, civil society organizations, and representatives of agro-pastoral communities.

These workshops were intended to highlight the importance of anticipatory approaches to disaster management, focusing on proactive measures that can reduce the effect of food security shocks before they occur. By bringing together such a diverse group of collaborators, the workshops fostered cross-sectoral dialogue and strengthened local capacities to carry out anticipatory actions.

One of the key strategic outcomes was formalizing the partnership with the National Meteorology Agency of Burkina Faso (known in French as Agence Nationale de la Météorologie du Burkina Faso or ANAM) and Columbia University International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) to strengthen the quality of national climate data, improve the accuracy of climate forecasts that can be used for AA, and promote the dissemination of climate information to agricultural producers.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

In partnership with ANAM, a series of comprehensive training sessions were organized to deepen understanding and effective use of agro-climatic and meteorological products. These sessions were intended to equip a diverse group of collaborators – including agricultural producers, media communicators, and technical agents from decentralized state structures responsible for agriculture – with the knowledge and tools they need to better respond to extreme weather events. These training sessions were designed not only to raise awareness but also to build lasting skills at the local level, fostering a more climate-resilient agricultural community.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

WFP is in the progress of scaling up the existing Interagency Drought AA Framework for CERF financing to additional regions (Boucle de Mouhoun, Centre-North, Sahel, and North regions), for both drought and flood risks. The readiness trigger statement, which is a key component of the plan, is currently under development in close collaboration with IRI, ensuring that the triggers are based on reliable and accurate climate data. This collaborative effort is intended to improve the timeliness and effectiveness of the anticipatory actions.

Moreover, honouring the MoU with ANAM, and in order to build skills ahead of future activations, a pilot of climate information dissemination took place. Critical weather advisories were systematically disseminated to agricultural producers by community radio, in a timely and accessible manner. This effort reached an estimated 669,961 listeners, including 336,610 men and 333,357 women, enabling them to make informed decisions based on the latest weather forecasts.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Continue to strengthen the capacity of the Government to develop policies and procedures for AA ahead of climate-related hazards, ensuring that AA becomes a core component of the Government's approach to ability to offset the worst effects of extreme weather events and disaster risk management.
- Engage in advocacy to ensure AA is considered in national climate adaptation strategies, disaster risk reduction policies, and development planning.
- Support the development of a Drought EWS application in the framework of the Hydrology and Meteorology project funded by the World Bank, to provide accurate and accessible drought forecasts, enhancing preparedness and reducing the effect of droughts on vulnerable communities.
- Support ANAM to develop AA trigger thresholds to allow for timely and effective implementation of AA ahead of predicted droughts and other extreme weather events in the 2025 seasons.







#### TARGET LOCATIONS

The provinces of N'Djamena, Wayi (Lac region), Kanem (Kanem region) and Barh-El-Gazel Sud (Barh-El-Gazel region).



#### HAZARDS

Floods and drought



#### **PEOPLE COVERED**

148,683



#### **PEOPLE REACHED WITH ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS** 93,142



### **PEOPLE REACHED WITH EARLY WARNING MESSAGES** 2,000,000



#### **US\$ FUNDS DISBURSED FOR ACTIVATIONS**

1.5 million (CERF)



#### DONORS

Government of Austria, Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF), Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO)



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. National Meteorological Agency (known in French as L'Agence Nationale de la Météorologie or ANAM)
- 2. The Water Resources Directorate (known in French as La Direction des Ressources en Eau or DRE)
- 3. The Ministry of Social Action and Solidarity (known in French as Le Ministère de l'Action Sociale and de la Solidarité)
- 4. National and Humanitarian Affairs (known in French as Nationale et des Affaires Humanitaires or MASSNAH)
- 5. The General Directorate of Civil Protection (known in French as La Direction Générale de la Protection Civile or DGPC)
- 6. The Food Security and Early Warning Information System in Chad (known in French as le Système d'Informations sur la Sécurité Alimentaire et l'Alerte Précoce au Tchad or SISAAP)
- 7. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- 8. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 9. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

In 2024, WFP:

- Delivered anticipatory cash transfers to 93,142 people and disseminated early warning messages to 2,000,000 people ahead of floods.
- Contributed to the development of the Interagency AA Framework for Flooding, the first CERF AA framework to trigger for fluvial flooding in Africa.
- Began tailored capacity strengthening for National Meteorological Agency (ANAM) and the Water Resources Directorate (known in French as La Direction des Resources en Eau or DRE).
- Was selected as the SOFF-implementing entity with SOFF Peer Advisor GeoSphere Austria.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN CHAD**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 1 & Activity 5 of the <u>WFP Chad Country Strategic Plan</u> (<u>CSP</u>) (2024-2028) "Provide packages of food and nutrition assistance to people affected by crises or shocks, including anticipatory action and support for activities that build self-reliance" and Activity 5: "Provide technical assistance and capacity strengthening for national institutions, enabling them to develop effective and gender-sensitive food and nutrition security, social protection and early warning systems".

Current humanitarian needs in Chad are high; according to the March 2024 Cadre Harmonisé assessment about 3.4 million people in Chad were projected to be food insecure (Phase 3 and above) during the lean season, and the country hosts 1.3 million refugees, in addition to 223,000 Chadian returnees. Chad also experienced severe extreme weather events in 2024, including record-high temperatures in April and June, as well as heavy rainfall causing flooding in all 23 provinces, which affected nearly 2 million people. The situation is worsening as Chad is gearing up for a sixth consecutive year of severe food insecurity in 2025, as 3.7 million people will be in severe food insecurity between June and August, more than triple the figure in 2020. In this context, WFP is taking a systems-building approach to AA, focused on technical support and capacity strengthening to the Government of Chad. This is intended to lay the foundations for a robust, scalable, and sustainable

AA system that is government-led, integrated into existing WFP programmes, and part of a wider disaster risk management strategy.

In 2024, WFP delivered anticipatory cash transfers to 93,142 people for flood risk. The five-year Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF) project was also approved to strengthen Chad's meteorological observations network in collaboration with ANAM, which, in turn, will improve the quality of early warning systems and triggers for AA. In addition, WFP has collaborated closely with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to support the development of the Early Warnings for All proposal to the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

As part of its work with the AA technical working group (AA TWG), WFP contributed to the development of the Interagency AA Framework for Flooding, which was validated and triggered in September 2024, marking the first AA trigger of this kind in Chad and the first United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) AA framework to trigger for fluvial flooding in Africa. The framework is coordinated by OCHA, and brings together various United Nations agencies, including WFP, the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Health Organization (WHO), FAO and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The city of N'Djamena was selected as the target location due to its vulnerability to flooding according to historical data, and the trigger mechanism is based on the Global Flood Awareness System (GloFAS) forecasts, which provide probabilistic forecasts for fluvial flooding. In collaboration with FAO and OCHA, WFP organized a lessons learned workshop for this activation, with participation from key government partners, including ANAM, the General Directorate of Civil Protection (known in French as La Direction Générale de la Protection Civile or DGPC) and the Food Security and Early Warning Information System in Chad (known in French as le Système d'Informations sur la Sécurité Alimentaire et l'Alerte Précoce au Tchad or SISAAP). The key takeaways from this workshop focus on enhancing coordination and collaboration among United Nations agencies, state technical services, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and improving operational readiness for AA, to ensure more effective flood management.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

In 2024, WFP began tailored capacity strengthening for ANAM and the Water Resources Directorate (known in French as La Direction des Ressources en Eau or DRE), finalizing the terms of reference for the five-year project intended to develop national forecasting capacity and nationally determined AA triggers for flooding and for drought. The project will focus on forecast generation, AA trigger system development and monitoring, and system handover to the Government. In addition, WFP and ANAM are now jointly producing ten-day bulletins during the rainy season (from May to September), which provide information about flood risk based on indicators including regional forecasts and observed rainfall and river levels.

Building on the ongoing climate services components of its AA programme, WFP was selected as the SOFF-implementing entity with SOFF Peer Advisor GeoSphere Austria. The project will provide technical assistance for the sustained collection and international exchange of surface-based weather and climate observations, in accordance with global minimum compliance standards. On completion of the SOFF readiness phase, ANAM, WFP, and GeoSphere Austria began a five-year investment phase intended to achieve Global Basic Observing Network (GBON) compliance for ANAM.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

When the CERF AA framework for fluvial flooding triggered for N'Djamena, WFP decided to carry out vulnerability-based targeting in an urban area for the first time. As there is no existing comprehensive social registry for the ninth arrondissement, data was collected at the household level in 10<sup>22</sup> out of 11 districts in the ninth arrondissement of the capital. This arrondissement was selected based on analysis of the effects of flooding in previous years and the number of inhabitants identified as exposed to flooding, as well as the levels of food insecurity. Households were then prioritized according to WFP's vulnerability criteria.

This database can now serve as a basis for future interventions and will be updated and re-used to enable faster and more efficient AA and response targeting and implementation, including as part of the preselection of households for the Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP). In addition, permission was requested during the registration of prioritized households to share household data with selected partners, supporting the establishment of a government-owned social registry and enabling the sharing of this data across United Nations partners for more coherent AA at the national level.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

The CERF AA framework for fluvial flooding in N'Djamena was activated in September 2024. WFP reached 93,142 people with cash transfers of XAF

<sup>22.</sup> Toukra Arabe, Toukra Massa, Toukra Dassa, Toukra Mousgoum, Ngueli, Ndingangali, Walia, Ngonba, Ngoumna and Gardolé Djedid.

48 000 (US\$77) a household for one month, and 2 million people with actionable warning messages. Messages were disseminated in radio spots shared twice a day on the Frequency Modulation (FM) Liberté station, and included actionable advice on how to prepare for and cope with flooding. Under the CERF framework activation, communities also received critical support from other United Nations agencies, including emergency shelters, latrines, showers, mobile reproductive health units, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) kits, dignity kits, and essential household items. Lessons learned from the activation will inform improvements to the delivery mechanisms as well as WFP and government preparation.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

• Strengthen the national meteorological network in Chad through the SOFF project and improve

the national forecast generating capacity by enhancing the skills and capabilities of the national meteorological services.

- Expand drought and flood-related Anticipatory Action, building on existing structures to the maximum possible extent while working closely with the Government to ensure AA systems are government-led.
- Engage in advocacy to ensure AA is considered in the actions and plans of the Ministry of Solidarity, Social Action and Humanitarian Affairs and the General Directorate of Civil Protection.
- Collaborate with the CERF working group and other key AA actors to strengthen and re-validate the AA framework for drought and to ensure coherence in strategy and implementation of AA at the national level.
- Continue to strengthen the integration of AA with existing WFP programmes, including disaster preparedness, social protection, and resilience.









#### TARGET LOCATIONS

Bamako, Bougouni, Asongo, Mopti, Tenenkou, Sikasso, Dire, Niafunke, Tenenkou, Kolokani, Nara, Dire, Goundam, Rharous, Nianfunke, Gao, Borem, Asongo and Almoustrat.



#### HAZARDS

Floods and drought



#### DONORS

German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) and the Government of Austria.



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Directorate for Civil Protection (known in French as the Direction Generale de la Protection Civile or DGPC)
- 2. Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (known in French as the Plateforme Nationale pour la Reduction des Risques et des Catastrophes or PNRRC)
- 3. National Meteorological Agency of Mali (known in French as Agence Nationale de la Metereologie Mali-Meteo)
- 4. United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR)
- 5. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- 6. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- 7. Malian Red Cross
- 8. ANSODE (local NGO)
- 9. United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

In 2024, WFP:

- Launched its AA programme with the Government as its key partner.
- Supported the Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (known in French as the Plateforme Nationale pour la Reduction des Risques et des Catastrophes or PNRRC) to integrate AA into the national strategy for disaster risk reduction.
- Organized the kick-off workshop for the development of AA plans for drought and flooding, under Directorate for Civil Protection (known in French as the Direction Generale de la Protection Civile or DGPC) leadership.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN MALI**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 6 "Provide a package of capacity-strengthening support to national institutions and entities on analysis and planning; coordination; policy coherence; implementation; and monitoring, evaluation, evidence creation and knowledge management in support of decision making" of the WFP Mali Country Strategic Plan (2020-2026).

Like other Sahelian countries, Mali is very vulnerable to the effects of extreme weather events. The difficult economic situation of most of the Malian population caused by armed conflicts, political instability and intercommunal violence was exacerbated in 2024 by severe floods across the territory. Faced with this situation, the Government of Mali declared a state of disaster. In total, 370,576 affected people were recorded, significantly increasing the need for humanitarian assistance in the country.

In 2024, WFP launched its AA programme with the Government as its key partner. Familiarity and awareness of AA were low, leading to two priority workstreams for 2024 which were to: (i) support the Government to institutionalize an AA approach; and (ii) establish the foundations of AA systems for flood and drought risks.

Thanks to the dynamic and effective collaboration with the Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (known in French as the Plateforme Nationale pour la Reduction des Risques et des Catastrophes or PNRRC) and the commitment of the General Directorate of Civil Protection, the various collaborators are now aware of the importance of AA, and AA has been addressed in the Government's speeches on disaster risk management.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

WFP supported the PNRRC to integrate AA into the national strategy for disaster risk reduction in Mali. The strategy was then validated in a workshop in June 2024, formalizing AA as part of the Government's disaster risk management approach. An assessment of national capacities for the institutionalization and large-scale implementation of anticipatory actions and a capacity strengthening plan were developed as part of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Mali. This forms the basis of a roadmap and of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between WFP and the PNRRC to pave the way for AA institutionalization in Mali.

The Directorate for Civil Protection (known in French as the Direction Generale de la Protection Civile or DGPC), with WFP support, set up a technical working group (TWG) on AA within the PNRRC. This TWG comprises government technical services, development partners, national and international humanitarian organizations, research institutions, multilateral and bilateral donors, financial institutions, and relevant existing platforms. The TWG's overall objective is to create a framework for joint decision-making while providing technical support for the design and implementation of AA protocols in Mali. The group's terms of reference (ToR) have been developed and validated, and a roadmap has also been developed by all partners. Meetings are held every month under DGPC leadership.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

In May 2024, a diagnosis was carried out on the National Agency Mali-Météo, revealing areas for improvement in its capacity to produce the forecasts, which are essential for AA. As the availability of accurate forecasts within the required timeframes is a prerequisite for an effective AA system, the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) has been identified to strengthen the capacities of the Mali-Météo agency for generating quality flood and drought forecasts. In the first instance, this will entail the identification and validation of adequate thresholds and triggers for drought AA. The year 2024 saw the detailing of an agreement with IRI, which has been finalized with a view to designing, agreeing and producing forecasts in the first quarter of 2025.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

In October 2024, the kick-off workshop for the development of AA plans for drought and flooding was organized under DGPC leadership. This enabled the provisional geographical targeting of areas vulnerable to floods and drought in Mali. Targeting will be finalized following community consultations in early 2025. In addition, crisis calendars for the risks of drought and flooding were drawn up during the same workshop, with active participation of members of the TWG (government technical services, the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), OCHA, the Malian Red Cross, and local civil society organization ANSODE). These crisis calendars outline which windows of opportunity exist for AA to be delivered (and therefore what type of assistance would be most appropriate in the regions targeted).

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Continue to strengthen the capacities of the national platform for disaster risk reduction for sustainable consideration of AA in risk and disaster management in Mali.
- Develop systems for triggering AA for drought and for floods.
- Develop and validate a national Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) for drought and one for floods.
- Organize a national dialogue workshop on AA in Mali.
- Continue advocacy with the Government to include anticipatory actions in the national budget.
- Organize a round table on the financing of anticipatory actions in Mali.



# MAURITANIA





#### TARGET LOCATIONS

Departments of Guidimakha (Ould Yengué, Sélibaby and Wompou) and Assaba (Kankossa and Barkéol).



HAZARDS Drought

DONORS



The Government of Austria

AND A

#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. National Meteorological Office (known in French as Office National de la Météorologie or ONM)
- 2. Food Safety Commission (known in French as Commissariat à la Sécurité Alimentaire or CSA)
- 3. International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

In 2024, WFP:

- Organized a national workshop to launch the AA programme, with the participation of about 40 people, from government structures, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, donors and WFP cooperating partners in May 2024.
- Organized several meetings with the National Meteorological Office (known in French as Office National de la Météorologie or ONM) prior to the signature of an MoU in September and designed joint workplans for the year.
- Provided coordination support, formalizing its collaboration with key partners the ONM and the CSA to develop an AAP in Mauritania.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN MAURITANIA**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 4 "Provide technical support to improve the capacity of government institutions to build a social protection system that adequately addresses food security, nutrition and shock response" of <u>WFP</u> <u>Mauritania Country Strategic Plan (2024-2028)</u>.

Mauritania, a Sahelian country with a population of less than five million, is extremely vulnerable to extreme weather events, particularly cyclical droughts and flooding, which affect the food security and livelihoods of rural and transhumant populations. Over the past 20 years, Mauritania has experienced six major droughts that have had significant effects on agricultural and pastoral activities. In 2024, the country faced major humanitarian challenges: growing food insecurity, malnutrition and water shortages, exacerbated by the influx of Malian refugees. This situation has led to climatic, agricultural and hydrological droughts, with notable repercussions on reduced production and grazing in most localities.

WFP launched its AA programme in January 2024, to be able to act ahead of moderate and severe droughts, in collaboration with government structures and other partners such as United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Among the highlights of 2024 were the establishment of an AA technical working group (AA TWG), the launch of the AA programme at the national level, the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the National Meteorological Office and the start of the Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) development process to better anticipate and mitigate the effects of extreme weather events.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

WFP set up a series of awareness raising and planning sessions with government structures to

present the AA approach, and to map partners and points of collaboration with key government players within the AA framework. WFP proposed the designation of one focal point per department to join the AA TWG. This group was formed from the existing Specialized Technical Committee on Food Security (known in French as the Comité Technique Spécialisé - Sécurité Alimentaire or CTS-SA). Joint Terms of Reference (ToR) for AA and Africa Risk Capacity (ARC) were drafted and validated by the AA/ARC TWG.

The Food Safety Commission (known in French as Commissariat à la Sécurité Alimentaire or CSA) Director of Emergency Aid co-facilitated a panel on integrating the AA approach into natural disaster risk management in a regional workshop in Dakar, with WFP support. This participation marked the Government's early intervention and fostered exchanges with other countries.

In May 2024, under CSA leadership, WFP organized a national workshop to launch the AA programme, with the participation of about 40 people, from government structures, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, donors and WFP cooperating partners. The workshop raised the objectives of the programme and strengthened collaborators' knowledge of the approach. The AA TWG successfully held two meetings in 2024: the first, to gather information to develop the forecasting model in Mauritania, and the second to validate the geographic targeting of the programme. In 2025 the TWG meeting will focus on readiness ahead of the rainfall season.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

WFP organized several meetings with the National Meteorological Office (known in French as Office National de la Météorologie or ONM) prior to the signature of an MoU in September and designed joint workplans for the year. The agreement is intended to strengthen ONM's capacity to design reliable climate information systems and a forecasting model for anticipatory action. In 2024, a skills-building action plan was designed for ONM. An agreement is underway with the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) to support the ONM and the Food Security Observatory (known in French as Observatoire de la Sécurité Alimentaire or OSA) to design triggers, integrating improved seasonal forecasts into visualization tools that display different sources of information and assisting the ONM in monitoring triggers as the rainy season approaches, until they have fully mastered the monitoring process.

#### **ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS**

In 2024, WFP provided coordination support, formalizing its collaboration with key partners – the ONM and the CSA – to develop an AAP for two regions of Mauritania. The latter of these will enable WFP to be ready to activate, in case of a predicted droughts ahead of the 2025 lean season (October-December). Anticipatory activities have been identified and tailored at the sub-national (regional) level, in order to ensure that populations can limit the damage of specific, predicted drought by building on existing localized practices and coping strategies.

Different collaborators were involved in developing the AAP, including local authorities and local technical services, other United Nations agencies, civil society, and producers 'and breeders' organizations in the localities concerned. The AAP development process has several stages:

- Geographic targeting, with the choice five 5 departments in two regions: Guidimakha (Selibaby, Wompou and Ould Yenge) and Assaba (Barkeol and Kankossa). In total, 100,000 vulnerable people will be included in the five-year average of the population in phases 3 to 5 of the harmonized framework in these 2 regions. This choice was validated by the AA/ARC TWG and confirmed at the local level. Households will then be targeted through the social registry.
- Regional workshops were conducted to collect essential data in the two targeted regions.

These identified priority effects of the drought, adaptation strategies, actions to be taken and necessary preparedness measures.

- A workshop to validate priority actions and preparedness measures (including the dissemination of early warnings, food assistance using cash and input distribution, distribution of drought-resistant seeds, as well as soil restoration, and soil and water conservation).
- A discussion of the trigger proposed by IRI, with these actions in mind, to gather consensus from collaborators.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Support the ONM to improve seasonal monitoring and preparedness to strengthen the early warning system.
- Develop the national AAP for drought, given the substantial risk of extreme drought and its effects on food and nutritional security.
- Engage in advocacy with government structures to ensure that AA is integrated in the policies, strategies and plans at the national and regional level by strengthening government ownership.
- Strengthen links between AA and other climate risk financing mechanisms (ARC and agricultural microinsurance) and social protection to improve WFP's management of extreme weather events.
- Continue partnerships with structures involved in AA, notably the Mauritanian Red Cross and probably with UNDP, FAO, International Organization for Migration (IOM), and so on by updating the map of structures linked to AA and focal points, especially in the event of activation.







#### TARGET LOCATIONS

Karma, Liboré, N'Dounga, Kourthèye, Namaro, Gaya, Tanda and Tounouga.



#### HAZARDS Floods



#### PEOPLE COVERED 96.418



### **PEOPLE REACHED WITH ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS** 49,910



## **PEOPLE REACHED WITH EARLY WARNING MESSAGES** 577,524



#### US\$ FUNDS DISBURSED FOR ACTIVATIONS

1,200,000



#### DONORS

Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) and United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Ministry of Humanitarian Action and Disaster Management (known in French as the Ministère de l'Action Humanitaire et de la Gestion des Catastrophes or MAH/GC)
- 2. National Food Crisis Prevention and Management System (known in French as the Dispositif National de Gestion et Prévention des Crises Alimentaires or DNPGCA)
- 3. Early Warning System Coordination Unit (known in French as the Cellule de Coordination du Système d'Alerte Précoce or CC/SAP) of the DNPGCA
- 4. National Meteorology Directorate (known in French as the Direction Nationale de la Météorologie National Directorate of Meteorology or DNM)
- 5. Niger Basin Authority (known in French as the Autorité du bassin du Niger or ABN)
- 6. Decentralized technical services at the communal, departmental and regional levels of the National Food Crisis Prevention and Management Cell of the DNPGCA
- 7. United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)
- 8. KARKARA non-governmental organization (NGO)
- 9. GARKUA NGO
- 10. AREN NGO
- 11. Capital Finance financial service partner
- 12. Rafik Photography communications partner



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

#### In 2024, WFP:

- Supported a training event conducted by the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) of Columbia University to continue strengthening the DMN's capacity for trigger monitoring.
- Supported the National Meteorology Directorate to develop and disseminate weather forecast messages.
- Activated its AAP and assisted 49,910 people with anticipatory transfers and 577,524 people with early warning messages over ten days (in the localities of Gaya, Tanda and Tounouga, in Dosso province) and 29 days (in Karma, N'Dounga, Kourthèye, Namaro and Liboré, in Tillaberi province) before the flooding reached its peak.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN NIGER**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Strategic Outcome 5 "National institutions and other partners have strengthened capacities to design and manage integrated, gender-responsive and shock-responsive food security, nutrition, social protection policies and programmes by 2025" of the Niger Country Strategic Plan (2020-2025).

The Niger is the third most vulnerable country to the extreme weather events in the world, according to the Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative (ND GAIN, 2024). The year 2024 saw staggering needs in the Niger: nearly 20 percent of the country's population or 4.5 million people required humanitarian assistance due to food insecurity, protracted conflicts and extreme weather events (mainly droughts and floods). In 2024, the Niger experienced the largest pluvial floods of that last five years. The Guinean flood (resulting from waters coming from the upstream part of the Niger River basin in Guinea and Mali) also caused flooding in riverside localities between November 2024 and February 2025.

In 2024, WFP was able to continue and grow its AA programme, which saw its first flood activation. WFP delivered anticipatory transfers to 49,910 people, days ahead of the peak flooding. In addition, 577,524 people were reached with early warning messages.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

WFP provided in-depth advocacy and technical support to contribute to the Government's efforts on AA. This has been done through collaboration with technical services, to ultimately improve climate services and early warning. WFP's key partnership with the National Directorate of Meteorology (known in French as the Direction Nationale de la Météorologie National Directorate of Meteorology or DNM) has improved the capacity of rural communities to use weather and climate information. With WFP support, the National Meteorology Directorate (known in French as the Direction Nationale de la Météorologie National Directorate of Meteorology or DNM) carried out missions to:

- Assess access to climate services during the dry season.
- Collect, analyse and process rainfall heights and other information on crops.
- Develop and disseminate weather forecast messages and ten-day agro-climatic bulletins in French and local languages (Hausa and Zarma),
- Mobilize WhatsApp groups, technical services and community radios for dissemination.
- Produce thematic bulletins by the technical groups of the National Framework for Climate Services (known in French as the Cadre National pour les Services Climatiques or CNSC) in the Niger, to assist with climate-related decision making.

This partnership and ensuing efforts were crucial in the effective delivery of AA later in the year, when a flood was predicted and would have been key to get ahead of a drought too, had this been triggered.

Two other key partnerships have been key to the growth of the AA programme in the Niger: that with the National Council for the Environment and Sustainable Development (known in French as Conseil National de l'Environnement pour un Développement Durable or CNEDD) and that with the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and Disaster Management (known in French as the Ministère de l'Action Humanitaire et de la Gestion des Catastrophes or MAH/GC). The latter, in particular, will contribute to better coordination during any future activations. In wider climate coordination efforts, WFP participated in the Eighth meeting of the Joint Working Group of the Climate Commission (known in French as the Commission Climat pour la Région du Sahel or CCRS) for the Sahel held in Niamey in October 2024. This event led to the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) in early 2025 between the CCRS and WFP that will strengthen advocacy and evidence sharing of WFP's sustainable climate risk management and resilience solutions. This will contribute to improving WFP's visibility and fundraising.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

In July 2024, WFP supported a training event conducted by the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) of Columbia University to continue strengthening the DMN's capacity for trigger monitoring. More specifically, this training enabled its managers to acquire the skills needed to run the drought trigger model established to monitor triggers for two critical windows for AA.

One training course was carried out for experts from the DMN, SAP/DNPGCA, and hydrology services, equipping them with the skills they needed to operate the trigger model adopted for decision-making (Maproom) – the primary source of forecasts and thresholds used to trigger AA. Alongside the partnership with IRI, WFP has grown its partnership with the Agriculture, Hydrology, Meteorology Regional Centre (known in French as the Centre Régional Agriculture, Hydrologie, Météorologie or CRA). Through this alliance, in 2024, WFP actively participated in the training on forecasts organized by the AGHRYMET Regional Centre, as well as in a training on the Harmonized Framework (CH), contributing to the exchange of relevant analyses and reports. Moreover, WFP also assisted in the setup of the AA Task Force, with the intention of expanding AA at the regional level, with the technical coordination of AGRHYMET.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

In 2024, the Interagency AA Framework for Floods was endorsed for CERF funding. WFP committed to scaling it up this with its own activation funds to cover more at-risk populations with early warning information and anticipatory cash transfers. In November 2024, WFP significantly contributed to the revision and adoption of the inter-agency AA Framework for Drought, and a CERF envelope of US\$10 million is available over two years (2025-2027). Additionally, in 2024, WFP also contributed to managing the Maproom, the model chosen by the Inter-agency Framework to monitor triggers. WFP will capitalize on this model to develop its own Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) and will continue monitoring the Maproom to activate its AAP in the event of triggering.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

On 28 November, the pre-defined flood forecast thresholds were reached, disbursing a total of U\$1,2 million. WFP assisted vulnerable people over ten days (in the localities of Gaya, Tanda and Tounouga, in Dosso province) and 29 days (in Karma, N'Dounga, Kourthèye, Namaro and Liboré, in Tillaberi province) before the flooding reached its peak. Assistance included cash transfers and early warning messaging delivered through community radios (in local languages). The messages warned that "the flood could have a significant effect on community life and the security of property and people" and called on residents living along the Niger River to be vigilant, by monitoring its level, protecting themselves and their essential assets, and by complying with any instructions from local authorities and emergency services. An After-Action Review will be conducted in early 2025 to draw learnings from the activation, which will also include assessment and eventual revision of the triggering mechanism.

Alongside exposure and vulnerability, the following three criteria were used to prioritize the municipalities for selection as pilots: access (security and logistics), the response capacity of partners, and a judgment by technical experts from the Niger Basin Authority (known in French as Autorité du Bassin du Niger or ABN), Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP), and the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO). This proactive approach ensured timely support for vulnerable populations ahead of the partial flooding of the region, which only occurred in the following weeks, when response efforts then began.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Continue the implementation of drought and flood AA by extending the geographical target to mitigate the effects of extreme weather events and further assist vulnerable people.
- Conduct an After-Action Review of the 2024 flood activation, with concrete recommendations for any future flood activations in the Niger.
- Invest in readiness ahead of the next flood and drought season to enable WFP and partners to act even earlier ahead of these hazards in future.
- Strengthen the partnership with various technical structures (DMN, SAP/DNPGCA, AGRHYMET, ABN, IRI, and so on) providing information to improve weather monitoring and preparation.
- Continue advocacy for expanding and institutionalizing AA by strengthening the partnership with strategic structures of the state (CNEDD, DNPGCA, CCRS, MAH/GC and so on).
- Continue to strengthen the link between AA and social protection to enable rapid, scalable, and integrated AA in future years.



# MIDDLE EAST



WFP and Yemen Met Office staff in Aden, Yemen, discussing methodologies for AA triggers and forecasting for flash floods.



### TARGET LOCATIONS AND HAZARDS

# **KEY INFORMATION**



#### DONORS

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)



#### **REGIONAL PARTNERS**

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), British Red Cross (BRC), Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre (RCCC), United Kingdom Meteorological Office (UK Met)

## **Regional highlights**

In 2024, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region continued to face escalating humanitarian challenges driven by the compounding effects of conflict, extreme weather events and economic instability. While the immense suffering that resulted from violent conflict in contexts such as Lebanon, Gaza (State of Palestine) and Yemen attracted significant global attention, the effects of the extreme weather events, though less frequently discussed, contributed significantly to suffering across the region. For example, erratic rainfall and flash floods in Algeria and Yemen caused widespread damage, while prolonged dry spells in Iraq and Syria disrupted agricultural cycles and strained water resources. Such examples illustrate how extreme weather events can compound crises in a region where over 59.2 million people already require assistance, including more than 16.2 million internally displaced.23

Against this backdrop, WFP continued its efforts in the region to promote more proactive approaches to disaster risk management. These efforts focused on building skills and processes at the regional and country levels for the development of anticipatory action plans (AAPs), improve early warning systems (EWSs), and enable the provision of climate services. Through targeted financial and technical support, WFP made significant progress in building systems to mitigate the effects of predictable disasters and strengthen community ability to offset the worst effects of disasters across the MENA region.

At the regional level, WFP partnered with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to organize the first MENA Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Action (MDP). Supported by the Weather and Climate

23. UN OCHA Global Humanitarian Overview 2025, Full Report.

Services (WISER) Istibaq project, an initiative by the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), this landmark event brought together nearly 500 participants, both in person and online, to discuss how increased investments in and collaboration on AA could address specific dimensions of the complex humanitarian challenges in the region. The threeday MDP also marked the launch of a co-led process by WFP and (IFRC) to develop the first MENA AA Roadmap 2024-2029,<sup>24</sup> which will set out a collective vision and specific milestones for the advancement of AA in the region. The Roadmap will be finalized in 2025 by the MENA AA Regional Community of Practice, a forum co-facilitated by WFP and IFRC for practitioners to strategize and coordinate on matters such as fundraising, advocacy, and capacity strengthening.

Ahead of the MDP, WFP's Regional Office for the Middle East, Northern Africa and Eastern Europe (RBC) arranged an in-person workshop for participants from six WFP country offices (Egypt, Irag, Lebanon, the State of Palestine, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen) to (re-)familiarize colleagues with the AA concept, discuss ongoing progress in Yemen and Iraq, and explore how AA could be integrated into other country offices' (COs') programming. The workshop identified future entry points for expanding AA and EWS. For example, in the coming year, the Egypt CO intends to expand a climate EWS project currently targeting smallholder farmers in five districts to the national level while Lebanon is exploring whether climate information, delivered through strengthened EWS, could be used to add an anticipatory dimension to ongoing cash operations, which could eventually be linked to social protection programming.

<sup>24. 1</sup>st Middle East and North Africa Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Humanitarian Action report (see AA roadmap on pp. 25-29): <u>https://www.anticipation-hub.org/Documents/Dialogue\_Platforms/1st\_MENA\_Dialogue\_Platform\_report\_2024.pdf</u>.

At the country level, WFP continued to provide technical capacity to operations in Yemen and Iraq. With funding from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and FCDO, both country offices began developing AA programmes in 2023, achieving important progress in 2024.

In Yemen, WFP arranged a multi-stakeholder workshop intended to foster collaboration between the Government, United Nations agencies and other national partners on AA planning and implementation. The workshop produced key recommendations to improve preparedness and response strategies and guide future AA programming. Following the workshop, WFP further arranged technical consultations with the Civil Aviation and Meteorology Authority (CAMA) to assess national capacities and start building a collaboration strategy intended to establish a functioning early warning and triggering system in 2025, focusing initially on floods. WFP also supported the CO to organize a training workshop for the Benevolence Coalition for Humanitarian

Relief (BCHR). The national non-profit organization was contracted in 2024 to support key aspects of WFP's AA development work, including conducting community consultations.

In Iraq, WFP supported a workshop entitled "Building Resilience: Anticipatory Action Planning for Disaster Risk Reduction in Iraq," organized by the Ministry of Environment and facilitated by WFP and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR). Held in Baghdad, the workshop provided participants with an opportunity to deepen their understanding of AA, EWS, contingency planning, and other key aspects of proactive disaster risk management. Participants further explored challenges, shared best practices, and collaborated on plans to strengthen Iraq's ability to offset the worst effects of extreme weather events. For instance, impediments to data sharing between partners, fragmented decisionmaking, and limited high-level government engagement were identified as key areas of improvement for the future.









#### **TARGET LOCATIONS**

Tal Afar, Sinjar and Al Baaj districts (Nineveh Governate); Al Sharqat, Balad and Tikrit (Salah al-Din); Al Khalis, Mandali and Baldrouz (Diyala Governate); Al Rumaitha, Al Warka and Al Khader (Al Muthanna Governorate); Al Kahlaa, Al Majar Al Kabir and Ali Al Gharbi (Maysan Governorate); Shatt Al Arab, Al Faw and Al Mdina (Basrah Governorate).



#### **HAZARDS** Drought and floods



#### DONORS

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).



- 1. Federal Ministry of Environment (MoE)
- 2. Kurdistan Government Board of Environment and Climate Change
- 3. Ministry of Transport- Iraq Meteorological organization and Seismology
- 4. Ministry of Agriculture Agro-Meteorological Centre
- 5. Ministry of Water Resources
- 6. United Kingdom Meteorological Office (UK Met Office)
- 7. Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre
- 8. United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRRR)
- 9. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

In 2024, WFP:

- Enhanced technical capacities for early warning and climate risk monitoring across ministries.
- Institutionalized community-driven adaptation planning using the Locally led Adaptation and Anticipatory Action Plan (LAAAP) model.
- Ensured stronger integration of AA within Iraq's National Adaptation Plan (NAP), providing longterm sustainability and policy alignment.
- Improved coordination between humanitarian, development, and government actors, ensuring a seamless bridge between early warning and AA.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN IRAQ**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Strategic Outcome (SO) 2 "Targeted communities, including farmers, have enhanced livelihoods and increased resilience to shocks" of the <u>WFP Iraq Country</u> <u>Strategic Plan (2020-2025).</u>

In Iraq, decades of prolonged conflict have exacerbated the fragility of communities in targeted governorates,<sup>25</sup> where intersecting vulnerabilities – including limited access to natural resources, weak communal and social governance and degraded infrastructure – compound the risks posed by extreme weather events, which are growing in frequency and intensity. Consequently, Iraq is increasingly vulnerable to the effects of extreme weather events, including extreme heatwaves, prolonged droughts, intense flooding, and rising seawater intrusion. These climatic stressors have significantly reduced water availability, compromised agricultural productivity, and destabilized food security and livelihoods, particularly among vulnerable rural and urban communities.

The increasing recurrence of multi-hazard events necessitates a shift from a reactive to a proactive approach to risk management, to reduce and mitigate the effects of predictable weather hazards on at-risk groups in highly vulnerable and exposed governorates. Recognizing the urgent need for a robust, well-coordinated, and collaborative approach, WFP has partnered with the Ministry of Environment (MoE) to embed AA planning within Iraq's National Adaptation Plan (NAP) to strengthen multi-hazard early warning systems (MHEWSs), ensure localized adaptation planning through cross-sectoral coordination, and strengthen fundraising by improving collaboration with government, United Nations agencies, and development partners.

By embedding AA into Iraq's National Adaptation Plan, WFP and the MoE are collaborating on an integrated, multi-hazard approach with the intention of ensuring that communities, policymakers, and humanitarian actors are equipped with the necessary knowledge, tools, and funding to anticipate, prepare for, and mitigate the effects of extreme weather events, ultimately reducing humanitarian needs, safeguarding food security, and enhancing long-term ability to offset the worst effects of disasters in Iraq.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In 2024, WFP successfully laid the foundation for a structured and government-led AA framework. Through its advocacy efforts, WFP Iraq has positioned AA as a central pillar of Iraq's climate resilience agenda. Significant advancements in integrating AA into national governance and humanitarian frameworks began with the building the skills of Iraq's national inter-ministerial technical working group (TWG) on climate information, which WFP brought together in 2023.

Collaborating with key national partners, WFP co-led the coordination and training of the TWG through a structured and systematic bi-weekly online technical training programme. This initiative focused on enhancing national technical capacities for providing user-centric climate advisory services and drought early warnings, covering understanding of climate and weather modelling principles and their applications in AA, practical exposure to climate and drought monitoring tools, and other topics.

Due to siloed ministerial operations, a major challenge in Iraq's climate-related programmes has been limited data-sharing and lack of crosssectoral integration. To address this gap, as part of our AA programme, WFP arranged inter-ministerial data blending exercises, where national sectoral climate datasets were integrated with satellitebased datasets (Climate Hazards Group InfraRed Precipitation with Station: CHIRPS) to develop

<sup>25.</sup> Nineveh, Salah al-Din, Diyala, Al-Muthanna, Maysan and Basrah.

historical and future climate projections. In addition, WFP overlayed sectoral mapping, enabling ministries to develop integrated risk maps combining agriculture, water, health, and migration datasets. Moreover, WFP enhanced the interoperability of national climate data systems, fostering greater collaboration between meteorological, agricultural, and disaster risk management ministries. These initiatives have established a strong technical foundation for a more coordinated, evidencebased AA framework, ensuring that Iraq's National Adaptation Plan (NAP) is equipped with proactive measures to mitigate climate risks before they lead to humanitarian crisis.

To ensure community-driven and locally contextualized climate adaptation, WFP, in collaboration with the MoE, rolled out the Locally led Adaptation and Anticipatory Action Plan (LAAAP) across 18 districts in Six governorates (three districts per governorate). This led to the formation of Governorate-Level LAAAP Teams, bringing together different collaborators, including local government representatives and United Nations agencies.

To equip LAAAP teams with the skills to assess community climate vulnerabilities, a Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop was conducted through locally led Community Perception Surveys. These surveys identified: i) key extreme weather events at the district level, including drought, flooding, salinity intrusion, desertification, and extreme heat events; ii) most at-risk and vulnerable groups, iii) historical trends of extreme weather events and their socioeconomic effects, providing data for localized early warning systems approach. The findings from these community-based assessments directly fed into Iraq's National Adaptation Plan (NAP) under the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Anticipatory Action (AA) chapter, ensuring that locally informed climate adaptation and AA priorities were reflected in national Adaptation policy frameworks.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk

Reduction (UNDRRR), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), WFP organized a high-level national workshop titled: "Building Resilience: Anticipatory Action Planning for Disaster Risk Reduction in Iraq." This workshop brought together different ministries and other national and sub-national collaborators, including humanitarian and development actors.

The key results of the workshop included i) stocktaking of national climate adaptation and efforts, including mapping of key actors contributing to Iraq's National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and identification of gaps in national disaster preparedness, anticipatory and early action frameworks; ii) embedding AA into key sectorial adaption plans, ensuring that AA principles are mainstreamed within sectorial policies, particularly in water resource management, agricultural planning, public health systems and migration and displacement management; iii) validation of National multi-hazard risks maps for drought, flooding, heatwaves and earthquakes, linking these hazards with their potential on food security, agricultural productivity and displacement patterns; and iv) awareness raising on Anticipatory Action Financing mechanism, exploring financing options for disaster risk reduction and AA, including Government budget allocations, international finance mechanism and public private partnership for investment in ability to offset the worst effects of disasters.

Towards the end of 2024, WFP convened the firstever LAAAP review workshop, bringing together the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Committee and LAAAP committees from all six governorates. Key results of the review workshop included: i) the evaluation of the LAAAP climate vulnerability assessments from each governorate; and ii) the development of draft adaptation options and anticipatory action preparedness plans. The results of the LAAAP review process provided concrete recommendations for the integration of AA into the final iteration of Iraq's National Adaptation Plan, ensuring that community-driven AA were fully incorporated into national climate governance.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

In 2024, WFP, in collaboration with UNDP, initiated a strategic effort to strengthen forecasting capacities and establish scientifically validated triggers for the anticipatory action and early warning systems. This initiative focused on strengthening Iraq's agrometeorological and meteorological monitoring systems to support data-driven, early warning-based anticipatory action planning. A key component of this initiative is building the technical skills of relevant government entities (for example, the Ministry of Agriculture [MoA], Agrometeorological Network and Ministry of Transport, Iraq Meteorological Organization and Seismology). These ministries play a critical role in collecting, analysing, and operationalizing climate and weather data for early warning and risk-informed decision-making in Iraq. Recognizing Iraq's limited historical climate datasets and dilapidated monitoring infrastructure, WFP prioritized the restoration of Meteorological stations, collation of station-level meteorological data from multiple ministries to improve forecasting accuracy and the installation and integration of software and analytical tools for data logging.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

In 2024, WFP began the development of six localized adaptation and Anticipatory Action plans (AAPs) that will be integrated into the National Adaptation Plan (NAP). The six AAPs will look to address the key selected hazards in the six governorates. These AA plans are being developed proactively during the LAAAP exercise and will overall feed into the broader of the NAP, thus providing opportunity for government budgeting and planning.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Launch targeted AA sessions, together with UNDRR and the United Kingdom Meteorological Office, to build the skills of the government technical team, focused on developing and operationalizing localized triggers for drought, heatwaves, and floods for the targeted governorates.
- Organize sessions covering downscaling seasonal forecasts using high-resolution climate models, integrating station-based and satellite meteorological data, applying probabilistic forecasting for drought, floods, and heatwaves, and strengthening forecast interpretation for advisory services in agriculture, water management, and disaster preparedness.
- Establish and operationalize localized triggers for drought, heatwaves, and floods at the governorate level, ensuring their integration into climate response frameworks.
- Define climate risk thresholds (such as meteorological and surface water drought triggers, heatwave days exceeding 48°C, and flood triggers), downscaling these thresholds to the governorate level, and developing hazardspecific early action triggers.
- Review and endorse the thresholds, ensuring national ownership, integration into the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), and long-term inclusion of forecast-based AA within ministerial adaptation plans.







#### TARGET LOCATIONS

Southern Yemen Governorates of Marib and Hadramout.



#### HAZARDS

Floods and cyclones



#### DONORS

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Fish Wealth (MoAIFW)
- 2. Ministry of Water and Environment (MoWE)
- 3. Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC)
- 4. Civil Aviation and Meteorology Authority (CAMA)
- 5. United Kingdom Meteorological Office (UK Met Office)
- 6. Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre (RCCC)
- 7. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- 8. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 9. Benevolence Coalition for Humanitarian Relief (BCHR)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

In 2024, WFP:

- Co-developed a roadmap for strengthening early warning systems, including the design of triggers and thresholds for AA targeting flash floods.
- Organized a multi-stakeholder workshop to ensure conceptual alignment with key actors and build consensus for establishing an AA technical working group (TWG) in southern Yemen.
- Was developing two Anticipatory Action Plans (AAPs), one focused on flash floods in internal displacement settings in Marib while the other targets rural populations in coastal areas of Hadhramaut, as part of its collaboration under the FCDO-funded Weather and Climate Services (WISER) Istibaq project.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN YEMEN**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Strategic Outcome (SO) 3 "Food insecure households and communities in targeted areas across Yemen, including those affected by extreme weather events, benefit from more resilient livelihoods and food systems throughout the year", of the <u>WFP Yemen</u> <u>Country Strategic Plan (2023-2025)</u>.

In a country that has been suffering from more than a decade of civil conflict, the regular occurrence of extreme weather events has exacerbated humanitarian suffering. Historically, seasonal, raininduced flooding has had particularly devastating consequences, causing loss of life and livelihoods, extensive infrastructure damage, and other types of disruption. In coastal areas, storms and cyclones have added to the humanitarian toll, intensifying the challenges faced by already vulnerable communities. In 2024, as in previous years, unprecedented floods and winds severely affected over half a million people, exacerbating food insecurity and other needs.

Against this backdrop, WFP made significant progress on designing AA plans (AAPs) and early warning systems (EWSs), intended to mitigate the effect of future extreme weather events (such as flash floods). By arranging discussions involving the national meteorological agency, relevant line ministries, United Nations partners, technical experts, and other collaborators, WFP played a key role in flash floods being collectively identified as the primary hazard for AA planning. In line with this decision, WFP has now identified two particularly flood-prone governorates - Hadhramaut and Marib - as focus areas for the development of Anticipatory Action Plans (AAPs) that specify triggers, financing arrangements and actions to guide decision-making. In Marib, the focus is on camps hosting internally displaced populations, while in Hadhramaut, rural and coastal areas are targeted. The intention is to develop tailored AAPs for both areas in 2025, along with a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation plan.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In 2024, WFP organized a multi-stakeholder workshop to ensure conceptual alignment with key actors and build consensus for establishing an AA technical working group (TWG) in southern Yemen. Participants included representatives from the MoAIFW, MoWE, and MOPIC, as well as the CAMA. United Nations agencies such as FAO, OCHA, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS were also involved, alongside international organizations, including the United Kingdom Meteorological Office (UK Met Office), the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre (RCCC), the International Committee of the Red Cross, and several national non-governmental organizations.

Additionally, WFP, in collaboration with the UK Met Office, arranged a working session with the Civil Aviation and Meteorology Authority (CAMA) to assess its current forecasting capacity for various weather hazards. Building on this assessment, WFP co-developed a roadmap for strengthening early warning systems, including the design of triggers and thresholds for AA targeting flash floods. Based on this roadmap, WFP is providing support to ensure that CAMA can eventually own and independently operate its EWS: this entails producing and analysing forecast data, issuing early warning messages, and monitoring trigger performance for AA across a range of climate hazards, including flash floods, cyclones, and frost.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

In collaboration with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), RCCC, the UK Met Office, and CAMA, WFP started developing impact-based thresholds and triggers for flood-related AA. The model, currently under review, integrates climate and impact data to establish accurate and context-specific thresholds tailored to Marib and Hadhramaut governorates, where flash flood risks are most prevalent. The goal is to create triggers that are responsive to both the predicted severity of floods and their potential effect on local communities, including highly vulnerable families living in internally displaced camps, providing an effective signal for AA ahead of the 2025 rainy season.

#### **ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS**

As part of its collaboration under the FCDOfunded Weather and Climate Services (WISER) Istibaq project – a regional initiative intended to strengthen ability to offset the worst effects of extreme weather events among internally displaced persons, refugee populations, and host communities through anticipatory action – WFP is developing two AA plans (AAPs). One focuses on flash floods in internal displacement settings in Marib while the other targets rural populations in coastal areas of Hadhramaut. For 2025, the goal is to have at least two districts in each governorate operationally ready for a potential small-scale pilot activation ahead of the June rainy season.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Conduct in-depth consultations at the district and community levels to assess local contexts, livelihoods and vulnerabilities; collaboratively design effective AA; identify key collaborators; and establish AA implementation frameworks.
- Officially establish the AA technical working group (TWG) which, under the leadership of the Internationally Recognized Government (IRG), will proceed with pilot AA activation in the southern regions.
- Develop AA forecast trigger thresholds by combining technical climate data analysis, expert input from collaborators, and the outputs from community consultations on priority sectors for intervention in at least two districts.
- Strengthen integration within government structures to ensure long-term sustainability through regular TWG meetings.

# LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN



### TARGET LOCATIONS AND HAZARDS



# **KEY INFORMATION**



people covered **702,580** 

5,000

**PEOPLE REACHED WITH** 

ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS



#### DONORS

Government of Ireland, Government of Sweden, Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO).



#### **REGIONAL PARTNERS**

National governments, Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America and the Dominican Republic (known in Spanish as Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de Desastres en América Central y República Dominicana, or **CEPREDENAC)**, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Red Cross Climate Centre, German Red Cross and national red cross societies.

(S)E

us\$ funds pre-arranged for activations 12.2 MILLION

of which **US\$6.6 MILLION** from CERF and **US\$5.6 MILLION** from WFP Trust Fund



US\$ FUNDS DISBURSED FOR ACTIVATIONS **150,000** 

## **Regional highlights**

At the beginning of the year, the effects of El Niño from the previous year were still present, with hot and dry conditions for example in Central America, parts of Colombia and the Plurinational State of Bolivia. While not officially declared, the second half of 2024 saw La Niña-like conditions, resulting in flooding in Central America, Colombia and Venezuela. High sea surface temperatures and La Niña-like conditions also resulted in an aboveaverage active hurricane season, with Hurricane Beryl breaking records as the earliest ever recorded Category 5 hurricane developed in July, causing havoc across various Caribbean states.

In this context, WFP and partners expanded Anticipatory Action (AA) programming: WFP, together with partners such as the Honduran Red Cross and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), activated ahead of tropical storm Sara's flood impacts in November, allowing the country team to preposition items, and deploy funds (including from the Government of Sweden) and introduce AA alongside traditional emergency preparedness and response.

In addition, the first regional CERF-financed AA framework was finalized, protecting communities at risk in the Dry Corridor of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua from the effects of drought once early warning triggers are reached. WFP significantly expanded its potential reach for AA to 500,000 people and co-led the development of an interagency CERF-funded hurricane AA framework. Ecuador finalized its coastal flood Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) in Guayas and Peru is near completion of its riverine flood plan in the Amazonas and San Martin regions, exploring how to expand AA through social protection programmes in the future. With technical support from WFP, the Government of Saint Lucia now has an AA hurricane mechanism in place, allowing implementation of AA through social protection

systems if triggers are reached. In the Dominican Republic, for the first time, WFP has received funding from a government, which has taken ownership to develop the AA capacity of the social protection system to act ahead of cyclones in 2025. In 2024, two additional WFP country offices, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Cuba, started to develop drought AAPs in collaboration with government partners.

To ensure inclusiveness and allow the most vulnerable population groups without existing bank accounts or identification documents to protect themselves from the effects of hazards, an innovative form of cash transfers using a Visa card (a so-called rescue card) was tested through simulations and integrated into AA programming, for example in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Peru and the Dominican Republic.

In October, WFP and the Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America and the Dominican Republic (known in Spanish as Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de Desastres en América Central y República Dominicana, or CEPREDENAC) signed a memorandum of understanding during the 7th consultative forum of the Central American Policy for Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management (known in Spanish as Política Centroamericana para la Gestión Integral del Riesgo de Desastres or PCGIR). The several priority areas for collaboration include joining efforts and acting ahead of projected extreme weather events across Latin America and the Caribbean through AA.

Following the <u>Mitch+25 declaration</u>, where CEPREDENAC announced 2024 as the Year of Anticipatory Action and the inclusion of the AA concept in <u>CEPREDENAC's Regional Disaster Risk</u>. <u>Management Plan 2024-2030</u>, the newly formed regional technical working group on Anticipatory Action (TWG AA) comprising WFP, FAO, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and the German Red Cross), organized a side event to support a common understanding of the concept of AA and its implementation in the region. With technical support from the TWG AA, CEPREDENAC is currently developing its AA strategy, which is expected to be finalized in early 2025 and provide guidance on integration of AA for its member states.

As the only humanitarian implementing entity of the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF),

WFP supported the rolling out of SOFF pilots in several small island developing states (SIDS) in the Caribbean, specifically in Dominica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia and the Dominican Republic, supporting governments through improved weather forecasts and climate information services in order to save lives and protect livelihoods. In addition, closer links to the Early Warning for All (EW4All) initiative were established and WFP officially joined the Regional EW4All Coordination Mechanism.



Two community members from the rural areas of the Samborondón Municipality in Ecuador, where WFP is implementing an AA programme.

# CARIBBEAN MULTI-COUNTRY OFFICE (MCO)





Saint Lucia (nationwide); Belize (Corozal, Orange Walk, Cayo).



#### HAZARDS

Cyclones (Saint Lucia), drought (Belize)



#### **PEOPLE COVERED**

5,800



#### DONORS

Government of Ireland, Global Affairs Canada and European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO).



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

#### Belize

- 1. Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Enterprise (MAFSE)
- 2. Ministry of Human Development
- 3. National Meteorological Service of Belize (NMS)
- 4. National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO)

#### Saint Lucia

- 1. Ministry of Equity, Social Justice and Empowerment (Ministry of Equity)
- 2. Saint Lucia Meteorological Services

#### Regional

- 1. Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)
- 2. Caribbean Institute on Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH)
- 3. Caribbean Meteorological Organization (CMO)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

#### In 2024, WFP:

- Finalized hurricane AA Standard Operating procedures (SOPs) ready for activation through the social protection system in Saint Lucia.
- Advanced on identifying AA triggers and actions to be implemented by the Government before severe droughts in Belize.
- Organised and co-facilitated, together with GeoSphere Austria, a Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF) kick-off workshop to support national meteorological services in Saint Lucia, Dominica, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

#### OVERVIEW OF AA IN CARIBBEAN MULTI-COUNTRY OFFICE (MCO)

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 1: "Provide technical assistance and capacity strengthening to national governments and regional institutions in areas of WFP's expertise" of WFP Caribbean's Multi-Country Strategic Plan (2023-2026).

Even though the forecast projected an aboveaverage active Atlantic hurricane season, the season has fortunately not developed as anticipated. However, Hurricane Beryl brought destruction to Grenada, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Jamaica. Dry conditions in Belize in May 2024 resulted in unprecedented wildfires in southern parts of the country and extreme rainfall later in the year caused flooding.

The year 2024 saw an acceleration in uptake of AA activities by various governments with WFP support in the Caribbean. In Saint Lucia, the Government made tremendous efforts to finalize the AA mechanism for hurricanes and develop AA standard operating procedures (SOPs). In Belize, strong partnerships have been forged with the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Meteorological Service to work on drought forecasting and climate services for farmers.

The work has resulted in a signed AA cash agreement, SOPs and communication products in Saint Lucia, and a livelihoods assessment for drought AA and a draft action plan to act ahead of the effects of drought in Belize. Other highlights included the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF) kick-off workshop with the national meteorological services of Saint Lucia, Dominica and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and the decision of the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) to include AA in its upcoming 2025-2030 strategy.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

WFP is supporting government-led AA approaches through technical assistance to ministry counterparts and building on solid engagements with social protection ministries in the region.

#### Saint Lucia: AA for Hurricanes

Over the course of 2024, WFP provided technical assistance to the Government of Saint Lucia on developing an AA mechanism for hurricanes. WFP, in collaboration with the Ministry of Equity, Social Justice and Empowerment (Ministry of Equity), defined anticipatory actions delivery mechanisms (such as cash and vouchers) and communication channels; pre-identified vulnerable persons based on their social registry; and worked on developing standard operating procedures for activation of the mechanism. A key component was the transition from manual to electronic fund transfers for social protection payments, enabling faster and more efficient distribution of anticipatory cash and vouchers before a hurricane affects the island.

#### **Belize: Anticipatory Action for Drought**

Following a request from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Enterprise (MAFSE), WFP has been supporting the development of an AA mechanism for drought in Belize. Over the course of 2024, workshops and consultations have been held with a variety of national collaborators, among them the disaster management agency, Belize Red Cross, Ministry of Finance, and district agricultural coordinators, to define elements of such a mechanism, using the Government's farmers registry and digital payment solutions. Discussions with farmers were held in three drought-affected districts (Corozal, Orange Walk and Cayo) to discuss planting cycles for various crops, critical precipitation periods and effects of drought conditions on livelihoods. The consultations were held jointly with the National Meteorological Service of Belize (NMS) and feed into the definition of triggers.
#### Supporting national meteorological agencies in the Caribbean under the World Meteorological Organization's SOFF initiative

As part of the Readiness Phase which began in 2023, WFP and GeoSphere Austria hosted a joint kick-off workshop with the national meteorological services of Dominica, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in February 2024 to strengthen their early warning and observation capacities. The ensuing in-country missions created better understanding of the context and the national meteorological services' capacities, and laid the foundation for the development of a national Global Basic Observing Network (GBON) Gap Analysis, a Country Hydromet Diagnostic, and a GBON National Contribution Plan for each of the three countries. Based on the analysis, a multiyear project proposal will be developed in 2025 to support the meteorological services to address those gaps and take a leading role in setting up AA systems in the countries.

# Institutionalization within regional entities

The CDEMA is interested in advocating and including AA in its upcoming 2025-2030 strategy. CDEMA took a leading role in a session on AA during the 13th Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management, which was organized jointly by WFP and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR). The session showcased various examples and experiences of key elements of the AA approach in the region and globally, and generated much positive feedback and interest from participants.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

In **Belize**, triggers for drought AA were developed in close collaboration with the National Meteorological Service of Belize (NMS). Several training sessions were conducted with key NMS staff to improve forecasting skills and update the systems used for seasonal forecasting. The training enabled NMS staff to analyse predictive skill and produce more accurate seasonal forecasts, enabling more confidence in taking AAs ahead of droughts. Trigger levels will be determined based on water requirements of priority crops over certain periods of time.

As part of the AA mechanism for hurricanes in **Saint Lucia**, WFP analysed past storms and hurricanes affecting the island, including a qualitative analysis of 14 storm events over the past 60 years, highlighting important findings on formation and lead times, wind speed and distance of passing. A 120-hour (five-day) Readiness Trigger and a 72-hour (threeday) Activation Trigger were set to be activated if a Category 1 or higher hurricane (more than 119 km/h) is forecast to affect Saint Lucia within the given lead times. Triggers were set jointly with the Saint Lucia Meteorological Services, which are responsible for monitoring and alerting collaborators in case of an activation.

### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

In Saint Lucia, AAs were identified during several workshops with government actors and ministry staff at various levels (including field officers). Inputs by social workers and field officers was especially helpful in defining actions, as they know the communities and will pave the way for sensitization, communication and voucher delivery to pre-identified vulnerable persons. The Ministry of Equity opted for a mixed approach of cash and voucher assistance to include persons without bank accounts. To enable timely bank transfers within 24 hours, the Ministry of Equity transitioned 1,000 persons from a manual to an electronic funds transfer system. This included verification of individual bank accounts, and close collaboration with banking institutions and several departments of the Ministry of Finance. An interministerial working group was set up to allow for smooth communication if a trigger is reached.

In **Belize**, consultations and workshops included the Ministry of Agriculture, the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO), the NMS, the Ministry of Human Development, Belize Red Cross, the Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB) and the Ministry of Finance to support the Ministry of Agriculture in fleshing out the details of an AA mechanism for drought. Farmers in drought-affected states Corozal, Orange Walk and Cayo were consulted on planting cycles for different crops, critical precipitation periods and the effects of drought conditions on their livelihoods. The consultations were held jointly with the NMS which presented on forecast products and data available to the farmers for better decisionmaking. More in-depth discussions with the Ministry of Agriculture and District Agricultural Coordinators concluded that digital cash would be the most effective and efficient action to take, and defined how to pre-identify and target vulnerable farmers using the Government's farmer registry, and how to reach out and communicate with them. Participants also discussed government internal cash flow processes, and how to ensure actions can be carried out with no delay due to budget processes.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Test and fine tune the AA SOP for hurricanes in Saint Lucia through a simulation, and generate lessons learned to identify potential bottlenecks to be addressed before the start of the 2025 Atlantic Hurricane Season.
- Finalize the AAP for drought in Belize.
- Arrange South-South cooperation between Belize and Guatemala on setting up Technical Agroclimatic Committees in Belize to strengthen dissemination of climate information and enable farmers to take better-informed decisions.
- Pave the way for creation of a regional community of practice or working group to improve exchange, collaboration and coherence among various actors working on AA in the region.

#### AA ACTIVATIONS

No activations took place in 2024.









Being defined, initially identified 15 priority municipalities of the Pacific region, departments Chocó, Cauca and Nariño.



#### HAZARDS

Floods

#### DONORS

Government of Ireland



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Institute of Hydrology
- 2. Meteorology and Environmental Studies (known in Spanish as Instituto de Hidrología, Meteorología y Estudios Ambientales or IDEAM)
- 3. National Department of Social Prosperity (known in Spanish as Departamento de la Prosperidad Social or DPS)
- 4. National Planning Department (known in Spanish as Departamento Nacional de Planeación or DNP)
- 5. National Unit for Disaster Risk Management (known in Spanish as the Unidad Nacional para la Gestión de Riesgo de Desastres or UNGRD)
- 6. Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Cluster



### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Established inter-institutional links with key government entities to integrate anticipatory action into national policies.
- Promoted meetings and workshops of inter-agency coordination to build an anticipatory planning system.
- Signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between UNGRD and WFP to improve preparedness and resilience capacities.
- Supported the organization of the sixth regional dialogue platform on AA, held in Cartagena, increased visibility and fostered new partnerships for future initiatives.
- Developed an Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) for flood risks on the Pacific coast in collaboration with government institutions and humanitarian partners.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN COLOMBIA**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 1: "Food-insecure and crisis-affected populations in Colombia meet their urgent food, nutrition and other essential needs and have the capacity and resources to prepare for, anticipate, respond to and recover from shocks by 2028", of the <u>WFP Colombia</u> <u>Country Strategic Plan 2025-2028</u>.

Colombia is experiencing a severe humanitarian crisis, with 7.3 million people requiring food and nutrition assistance in 2024 and 4.3 million Venezuelan migrants in need of food assistance, according to the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RMRP). This crisis is driven by internal violence, forced displacement, illegal armed groups, a complex migration crisis, and extreme weather events, which exacerbate vulnerabilities, particularly among migrants, 52 percent of whom face moderate or severe food insecurity. Environmental challenges - including deforestation, biodiversity loss, and Colombia's high vulnerability to extreme weather events - further intensify the situation. Ranked fifth in the 2023 Global Risk Index, the country faces significant risks from weather hazards. Against this backdrop, WFP is developing an AA plan to address flood risks at the Pacific coast, working with key government institutions and humanitarian partners to integrate AA into national policies and systems.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

Inter-institutional links are being established with the National Department of Social Prosperity (known in Spanish as Departamento de la Prosperidad Social or DPS), the National Planning Department (known in Spanish as Departamento Nacional de Planeación or DNP), and the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management (known in Spanish as the Unidad Nacional para la Gestión de Riesgo de Desastres or UNGRD), to support the integration of AA into national policies. As a result of the joint effort by the international community (mainly WFP, Colombia Red Cross and the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) to develop an AA approach in the country, Circular 070 of 2024, published in September, provides guidance to all actors within the National Risk Management System on the "Scope and implementation of the concept of 'Anticipatory Actions' in the framework of Law 1523 of 2012, establishing a legal framework that enables the Government to carry out AA.

The groundwork for an anticipatory planning system addressing climate and humanitarian risks is being established through meetings and workshops that promote inter-agency coordination and collaboration with humanitarian actors. A significant milestone was achieved in November with the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the UNGRD and WFP, in order to coordinate efforts to address the needs of crisis-affected populations while enhancing their preparedness, anticipation, recovery, and ability to offset the worst effects of disasters.

Dialogues with the DPS and key government institutions have integrated AA elements into governmental climate event emergency response protocols. A workshop conducted in November 2024 for the Social Protection Working Group brought together the Meteorology and Environmental Studies (known in Spanish as Instituto de Hidrología, Meteorología y Estudios Ambientales or IDEAM), UNGRD, DNP, and the DPS. The session successfully disseminated key AA concepts, identified institutional strengths and gaps, and enhanced understanding of the AA mechanism within social protection frameworks. These efforts strengthened links between social protection systems and disaster risk management, to pave the way for effective AA in Colombia. Hosting the sixth regional dialogue platform on AA in Colombia elevated the visibility of this approach among government counterparts, humanitarian teams, and other collaborators. This event has sparked increased interest and fostered new partnerships for advancing AA initiatives, positioning the country for continued progress in 2025.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

WFP is working with the IDEAM to define flood forecast triggers for the prioritized geographic zones. WFP analysed the available government tools for capturing and transmitting climate data, including platforms and instruments available to IDEAM for issuing early warning bulletins.

Dialogues with the DPS and key government institutions have integrated AA elements into extreme weather events response protocols. A workshop conducted in November 2024 for the Social Protection Working Group brought together IDEAM, UNGRD, DNP, and the DPS. The session was conducted to disseminate key AA concepts, identify institutional strengths and gaps, and improve understanding of the AA mechanism within social protection frameworks. These efforts are intended to strengthen links between social protection systems and disaster risk management to allow for effective AAs in Colombia.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

The development of the Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) is in its initial stages, focusing on identifying risk zones for a pilot project, establishing preagreed triggers, targeting vulnerable populations, and defining operationally feasible standard operating procedures (SOPs). Consultations with technical groups, government partners, and humanitarian actors, such as FAO, the Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Cluster, and the Colombian Red Cross, have guided initial decisions. These efforts included an information exchange session to assess the current AA landscape in Colombia and explore synergies for joint actions. Progress includes the pre-selection of 45 priority municipalities at risk of flooding, along with the hiring and training of a team to advance preparatory work in 2025.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Finalize and validate WFP's AAP for floods with key government agencies, such as the DPS, the UNGRD and IDEAM.
- Perform a simulation exercise of the plan or, if triggers are reached, lead an activation in 2025 for population identified through social protection registries, supported with WFP funds.
- Strengthen IDEAM's capacities to issue forecasts and user-friendly early warning bulletins that pave the way for decision making within the framework of AA.
- Strengthen the Government's rapid response capacity by integrating AA into national operational plans.
- Develop and implement a comprehensive work plan in coordination with FSN Cluster partners to ensure effective partner collaboration, including the development of SOPs for activation and coordination mechanisms.









Granma, Las Tunas, and other high-risk regions for droughts and hydrometeorological events.



# HAZARDS

Drought, tropical cyclones



#### DONORS

N/A



#### KEY PARTNERS

- 1. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 2. Cuban Red Cross
- 3. Institute of Meteorology (known in Spanish as Instituto de Meteorología or INSMET)
- 4. National Institute of Hydraulic Resources (known in Spanish as Instituto Nacional de Recursos Hidráulicos or INRH)
- 5. National Civil Defence (known in Spanish as Estado Mayor Nacional de la Defensa Civil or EMNDC)
- 6. Ministry of Agriculture (known in Spanish as Ministerio de la Agricultura or MINAG)
- 7. Ministry of Labour (known in Spanish as Ministerio de Trabajo y Seguridad or MTSS)
- 8. National Danger, Vulnerability and Risk Group (known in Spanish as Grupo Nacional de Peligro, Vulnerabilidad y Riesgos or PVR)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Initiated the design for a drought Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) in Las Tunas, including trigger development.
- Held workshops to sensitize government and humanitarian partners and discuss AA in the context of Cuba.
- Organised a South-South cooperation exchange, allowing government partners to learn from the experience of linking AA and social protection in the Dominican Republic.
- Supported a delegation from the National Civil Defence Staff to participate in the AA Regional Platform in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, and develop a Roadmap based on lessons learned in the region.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN CUBA**

Anticipatory Action (AA) is expected to be integrated under Strategic Outcome (SO) 1 in Cuba's next CSP 2025-2029.

Cuba faces significant socioeconomic challenges and recurrent extreme weather events, such as tropical cyclones and droughts. In October and November 2024, hurricanes Oscar and Rafael affected the country, which already faces a severe socioeconomic crisis with island-wide power grid failures and shortages of food, fuel and medicine.

AAs are part of government strategies for the prevention and preparedness stage of disaster risk reduction, however, there is yet to be an activation framework for humanitarian actors and other organizations to be linked to them. With the advances in 2024, Cuba increasingly recognizes the term AA as a prelude to the response and, therefore, is finding ways to support actions that are carried out in preparedness and that can be taken as anticipatory.

WFP's overall approach focused on building national skills and processes for AA through collaboration with government institutions and international organizations such as United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Cuban Red Cross. Highlights included the ongoing development of an AA framework for drought and South-South cooperation exchange with the Dominican Republic.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In 2024, significant strides were made towards integrating AA into Cuba's disaster risk management (DRM) systems. A workshop involving key agencies, including the Institute of Meteorology (known in Spanish as Instituto de Meteorología or INSMET), the National Institute of Hydraulic Resources (known in Spanish as Instituto Nacional de Recursos Hidráulicos or INRH), and National Civil Defence (known in Spanish as Estado Mayor Nacional de la Defensa Civil or EMNDC) was held to identify gaps and opportunities in AA integration. Results included enhanced awareness and steps to align AA with Cuba's Social Protection Networks (SPNs).

In addition, a draft Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) is being developed, focusing on protecting smallholder farmers from forecasted effects of drought in Las Tunas. This process involved consultations with multiple ministries, although validation was delayed due to concurrent disaster events.

WFP arranged a visit to the Dominican Republic by technical staff from the EMNDC and the INSMET, and the Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Labor and Social Security, to learn about the mechanisms for the activation of AA and its links with social protection. This exchange reinforced regional collaboration and knowledge sharing, as well as the Government's interest in adopting a similar module linking AA and social protection as that which has been developed in the Dominican Republic.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

Building on previous work, WFP worked to improve early warning systems (EWSs) and make progress in the development of drought, tropical cyclones and torrential rains forecasts based on strategies promoted by the INSMET.

Furthermore, workshops were held with INSMET and INRH to refine drought triggers using the three-month Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI3) and other climate models. The workshops defined joint strategies for hydrometeorological monitoring, issuance of bulletins and early warning, based on the compatibility of databases and protocols for drought activation in its three dimensions: meteorological, agricultural and hydrological drought. In addition, information dissemination through localized bulletins tailored for agricultural producers was strengthened. Climate bulletins are issued every month for long-term forecasts and every day in the event of a probable extreme event. On the other hand, Agrometeorological bulletins are issued every ten days. This has changed the decision-making process for producers and government officials, providing them with more accurate information and enabling them to act proactively.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

A draft AA plan is being developed, focusing on protecting smallholder farmers from forecasted effects of drought in Las Tunas. This process involved consultations with multiple ministries on shortlisting AAs based on their effectiveness and operational feasibility, building on existing good practices and lessons learned from government partners already implementing AA.

WFP and partners updated DRR plans and Hazard, Vulnerability, and Risk (HVR) studies with a forwardlooking approach, incorporating climate variability and change. Proposed aspects will be validated with the Government to reinforce operational preparedness, identify potential participants in the programme and align the Social Protection Networks to function as mechanisms for the activation of AAP.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Finalize and validate the AA plan for drought with government partners.
- Develop an AAP for cyclones, in collaboration with partners.
- Support the Government in integrating AA into national DRR strategies and legal frameworks.
- Develop locally tailored triggers for extreme events, focusing on droughts and tropical cyclones.
- Strengthen community-based dissemination systems for early warnings based on user needs.
- Arrange additional South-South cooperation exchanges to integrate lessons learned and strengthen regional AA capacities.



# **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**





## TARGET LOCATIONS

Monte Cristi and Valverde Province



#### HAZARDS

Floods



# PEOPLE COVERED

19,565



# DONORS

Government of Ireland and European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO).



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Dominican Institute of Meteorology (known in Spanish as the Instituto Dominicano de Meteorología or INDOMET)
- 2. Dominican Civil Defence
- 3. Sistema Único de Beneficiarios (Siuben)
- 4. Ministry of Agriculture
- 5. Dominican Institute of Hydraulic Resources (known in Spanish as the Instituto Dominicano de Recursos Hidráulicos or INDHRI)
- 6. Supérate Programme



### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Carried out hydrological modelling to support AA trigger design in two regions of the country, the Yaque del Sur Basin and the Bajo Yuna Basin.
- Reactivated the AA drought technical working group with government and humanitarian partners with the intention of finalizing a common AA drought activation plan by 2025.
- Designed an AA initiative for the Supérate Social Protection Programme, with government funds to be implemented in 2025.
- Expanded the Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) for floods in Yaque del Norte basin to now cover almost 20,000 individuals at risk with an increased available budget.

#### OVERVIEW OF AA IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 1: "Provide humanitarian assistance to affected populations and people most vulnerable to disasters, emergencies and prolonged crises while strengthening social protection systems with a gender and protection approach", and Activity 4: "Provide technical skills and strengthen the institutional capacities at the national and local levels, to improve advocacy, policies, strategies, and programmes related to food security and nutrition, with a gender-transformative, protection and climate resilience approach"; of <u>WFP Dominican</u> <u>Republic Country Strategic Plan 2024-2028</u>.

In 2024, the Dominican Republic experienced a series of hydro-meteorological events that have tested the ability of its communities and national infrastructure to offset the worst effects of disasters. Notably, Hurricane Beryl in July affected 146,469 people, and caused damage to 18 drinking water supply systems and 55 homes. Multiple floods throughout the year – especially those in May, June and November – led to communities being cut off from communication, destroyed or damaged homes, and inaccessibility to potable water services affecting 400,000 people per event. Additionally, several roads and bridges were also impacted.

Migration from Haiti to the Dominican Republic increased steadily, with increased insecurity risks linked to mass deportations. Many of the migrant settlements are in areas of high vulnerability to extreme weather events.

In this context, WFP expanded the AA plan for floods in Yaque del Norte basin to now cover almost 20,000 individuals at risk. WFP also reactivated the AA drought technical working group with government and humanitarian partners to finalize a common AA drought activation plan by 2025. Moreover, WFP carried out hydrological modelling to support AA trigger design in two regions of the country, the Yaque del Sur Basin and the Bajo Yuna Basin and designed an AA initiative for the Supérate Social Protection Programme, with government funds to be implemented in 2025.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

As part of expanding AA beyond floods, WFP held three sessions with the drought working group to engage on AA and decision-making processes regarding drought-related issues. The sessions were participated in actively by members of the Dominican Institute of Meteorology (known in Spanish as the Instituto Dominicano de Meteorología or INDOMET), the Ministry of Agriculture, the Dominican Agrarian Institute, the Dominican Institute of Hydraulic Resources (known in Spanish as the Instituto Dominicano de Recursos Hidráulicos or INDHRI), the Ministry of the Environment, the National Emergency Commission and the Emergency Operations Centre. Through these sessions, the drought committee terms of reference were drafted; once validated they will create the first official governance structure to manage drought risk in the country.

The institutionalization and expansion of AA in the Dominican Republic are being developed through the social protection system. Technical and community trainers' teams for the Superate Programme were trained in risk management and AA, including early warning message simulation for floods. Additionally, AA was included in the update of the Technical Guide for the Emergency Voucher (a cash transfer mechanism activated in times of crisis) making it available to respond not only after the effects of a shock but also beforehand, based on forecasts. Discussions were held with the Ministry of Finance and Economics to discuss the financing opportunities and funding flows for an AA activation led by social protection.

Additionally, the Country Office secured funding from the Government to develop the AA capacity of the social protection system to be ready to act ahead of cyclones in 2025. This marks the first time WFP received funding from a host government to develop its AA capacity, a clear sign of ownership and sustainability. With this funding WFP will develop the governance and technical details for the social protection system to respond ahead of cyclones, protecting people's lives and food security. The programme is expected to last two years with a scalable approach whereby in the firstyear capacities are developed to cover one province ahead of cyclones and in the second-year capacities are developed to expand to national coverage for cyclones and to one province for floods. WFP will complement the Government's actions, covering vulnerable households that are not eligible for social protection programmes.

South-South cooperation exchanges with Cuba and Colombia were held, with the participation of government social protection officials. The experiences of the Dominican Republic in AA, and the challenges and opportunities faced by the other countries were shared and addressed.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

To increase AA programming in the Dominican Republic and expand to new geographic areas, hydrological modelling was carried out in two regions with high incidence of floods and hurricane shocks: the Yaque del Sur Basin and the Bajo Yuna Basin. The study identified over 100,000 buildings at high and very high risk of flooding in the Bajo Yuna. This information will be used to establish the triggers for flood management in the area.

During 2024, permanent monitoring of forecasts was carried out through INDOMET, in collaboration with WFP. Collaborative efforts were made to strengthen meteorological observation capacities through a workshop for 100 observers nationwide, which addressed AA and weather forecasting issues to anticipate the events.

WFP, through the AA initiative, supported the maintenance and transmission of data from the network of weather stations in the Yaque del Norte Basin, where at-risk population and households targeted for AA live.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

The Flood AA Plan (AAP) was updated in 2024, extending to the province of Valverde and including 2,000 households in the coverage, for a total of 4,000 households (19,565 individuals). The triggers and the region of intervention were maintained. Readiness activities for activation included in this AAP were carried out, including the modelling and testing of a new cash redemption mechanism: a digital wallet that allows the targeted migrant population without documents to be reached. Although the activation triggers designed were not reached in 2024, early warning messages and other aspects of the operational procedures with the social protection system were simulated, as a way to raise awareness and train 35 local-level actors on of the Supérate Social Protection Programme.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Target the population vulnerable to floods in Bajo Yuna Region and define triggers for this area in case of hurricanes and floods.
- Develop an AAP for drought in coordination with FAO and the Dominican Red Cross.
- Implement an AA initiative for the Supérate Social Protection Programme, with the intention of strengthening capacities and activating AA ahead of various extreme weather events, with funds from the Government of the Dominican Republic.
- Create an AA working group to promote interinstitutional coordination between humanitarian social protection system partners.
- Strengthen the capacity of the regional climate observation network by supporting the use of SOFF funds.









Municipality of Guayaquil (Samanes); and Municipality of Samborondón (Quevedo and Los Espinos).



#### HAZARDS

Floods



#### **PEOPLE COVERED** 7,300



# DONORS

Government of Ireland



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. National Risk Management Secretariat (known in Spanish as Secretaría Nacional de Gestión de Riesgos or SGR)
- 2. Municipalities of Guayaquil and Samborondón
- 3. Communities/neighbourhoods: Samanes; Los Espinos and Quevedo
- 4. National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology (known in Spanish as Instituto Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología or INAMHI)
- 5. Litoral Polytechnic High School (known in Spanish as Escuela Superior Politécnica del Litoral or ESPOL)
- 6. Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Finalized two Anticipatory Action Plans (AAPs) in Guayas, targeting rural and urban communities.
- Conducted two simulation exercises with local government and communities to test readiness for activation and integrate lessons learned.
- Supported the pre-targeting and registration of community members of the WFP corporative system, to ensure preparedness in case of activation of the AAPs.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN ECUADOR**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Strategic Outcome (SO) 1: "WFP meet essential needs and build and strengthen their livelihoods before, during and immediately after emergencies, disasters and prolonged crises" of the <u>WFP Ecuador country</u> <u>strategic plan (2023-2027)</u>.

Ecuador is vulnerable to climate variability and extreme weather events, prone to weather hazards, and faces environmental degradation, all of which threaten food systems and increased malnutrition and poverty rates across the country. In 2024, Ecuador faced daily energy cuts as the hydroelectric power grid has been affected by a severe drought. At the same time, coastal flooding remains a high risk in the country. The two localities targeted by WFP for AA programming are exposed to seasonal flooding, with predictable patterns of heavy rainfall and water accumulation affecting the livelihoods and lives of the local communities.

In 2024, WFP finalized Anticipatory Action Plans (AAPs) for Guayaquil and Samborondón, refining governance models and enhancing readiness through collaboration with communities and authorities. WFP is currently pre-registering targeted populations through a cooperating partner, which will ensure the smooth delivery of the cash if the trigger is reached. Training sessions strengthened capacities in flood alert management, and WFP, with partners, is now installing small-scale rainfall gauges, boosting community capacity to anticipate possible flooding.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In April, the first meeting of the National Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Actions was held in Quito. Organized by the Ecuadorian Red Cross with the support of the National Risk Management Secretariat (known in Spanish as Secretaría Nacional de Gestión de Riesgos or SGR), Anticipation Hub, German Red Cross, WFP, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Practical Action, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, and the Metropolitan District of Quito.

A major result of <u>the event</u> was the development of initial inputs to shape a national roadmap for AA in Ecuador. Through participatory exercises, attendees proposed strategies for establishing a structured approach to AA, including the formation of an advisory group on AA. This informal group, comprising WFP, the Ecuadorian Red Cross, FAO and Practical Action, was created to provide guidance and support to the national Government to foster a policy environment conducive to AA.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

During 2024, efforts were made to define the triggers and thresholds of the AAPs in Ecuador. The analysis indicated that the selected areas do not experience river flooding, but rather are floodplains that can exceed their capacity. It was decided to establish ranges, with three levels of alert, to act within a 3-to-5-day period. Considering the lead time required for operations, WFP can activate anticipatory action if a yellow alert level is issued by the National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology (known in Spanish as Instituto Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología or INAMHI), linked to a threshold for a range of accumulated rainfall between 50 and 80 mm per day.

In addition, small-scale rainfall gauges were installed. These devices will enable direct monitoring of rainfall by the community, keeping them informed and fostering their engagement and ownership of the initiative. Six training sessions were held, engaging 180 participants, including community members, local government representatives from Guayaquil and Samborondón, and institutions such as INAMHI, Ecuadoran Oceanographic Institute of the Naval Forces (known in Spanish as the Instituto Oceanografico de la Armada or INOCAR), the fire department, the Ministry of Public Health, the Prefecture, and the Secretariat for Risk Management. These sessions focused on the proper use and maintenance of rain gauges, highlighting their role in supporting localized rainfall monitoring and ensuring community involvement in the process.

Although the rain gauges will assist with localized monitoring, INAMHI forecasts will remain the sole official source for activating the AA flood plan. WFP and its partners are ensuring proper installation and building community skills and processes to collect and use rainfall data. The exercises were designed to test the process of an activation defined in the AAP. Local government actors collaborated with community leaders to test early warning systems and communication channels. In addition, members of the community committees for disaster risk reduction (DRR) were engaged, with over 30 people supporting the simulation, along with representatives from local police, firefighters and the unit of DRR from local municipalities. The activities highlighted critical gaps in preparedness, such as the need for faster information sharing, better logistical planning, and enhanced technical capacities for response teams.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

# OUTLOOK FOR 2025

In 2025, WFP will:

- Formalize the existing advisory group through legal recognition by the Secretariat for Disaster Risk Reduction.
- Provide technical assistance to the government partners in the provinces of Guayas and Santa Elena to develop their preparedness and response plans as part of its DRR programme.
- Design an AAP for droughts in highly affected and vulnerable areas, linked to grassroots and activities to offset the worst effects of disasters.

#### **ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS**

In 2024, WFP finalized flood AAPs in the community of Samanes I (located in an urban area of Guayaquil) and Recinto Quevedo and Los Espinos (located in a rural part of Samborondón). If triggers are reached, AA led by WFP includes early warning messages and unconditional cash transfers, as agreed upon with communities at risk and government partners. This would be complemented by actions taken by the government partners, such as the cleaning of drainage canals to mitigate the effects of flooding.

Two simulation exercises were conducted in the target locations to strengthen the readiness and effectiveness of AA while refining the governance model. These simulations served as practical, hands-on opportunities for communities, local governments, and institutions to test and improve their respective roles and coordination mechanisms.







Tecoluca, San Vicente Department.



### HAZARDS

Drought



# PEOPLE COVERED



#### DONORS

Government of Ireland, European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO).



#### KEY PARTNERS

- 1. Directorate General of Hazards and Natural Resources Observatory under the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (known in Spanish as the Dirección General de Observatorio de Amenazas y Recursos Naturales/ Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales or DOA/MARN)
- 2. General Directorate of Civil Protection (known in Spanish as Dirección General de Protección Civil, Prevención y Mitigación de Desastres or DGPC)
- 3. Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (known in Spanish as the Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería or MAG)
- 4. National Centre for Agricultural and Forestry Technology (known in Spanish as the Centro Nacional de Tecnología Agropecuaria y Forestal "Enrique Álvarez Córdova" or CENTA)
- 5. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 6. Salvadorean Red Cross



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Strengthened the capacity for AA of 30 government employees from four institutions (DOA/ MARN, DGPC, MAG, and CENTA).
- Boosted the AA Task Force (AATF) with FAO and the Salvadorean Red Cross to harmonize approaches and jointly support government efforts to integrate AA into normative frameworks.
- Finalized the inter-agency drought AA framework among WFP, OCHA, FAO, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), considering the baseline survey results conducted among 180 families with essential grain production in the municipality of Tecoluca in the Dry Corridor.
- Purchased technological inputs for operating a departmental crisis room in San Vicente to strengthen climate risk monitoring.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN EL SALVADOR**

Activities related to the creation of the AA system are included in activity 2 of "Strategic Outcome 1: Crisisaffected communities and people in conditions of vulnerability, with an emphasis on women, at-risk young people, and returnees, meet their food and nutrition needs at all times, enhancing their wellbeing and social cohesion" of the <u>WFP El Salvador</u> <u>Country Strategic Plan (2022 - 2027)</u>.

El Salvador is frequently affected by weather hazards such as drought and floods. In 2024, El Salvador was affected by climate variability, specifically by the La Niña-like conditions during the second half of the year, which caused major flooding in both rural and urban areas.

In 2024, WFP finalized the inter-agency drought plan in coordination with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). Moreover – together with FAO and other partners – WFP supported the General Directorate of Civil Protection (known in Spanish as Dirección General de Protección Civil, Prevención y Mitigación de Desastres or DGPC) to update the National Drought Contingency Plan. WFP also supported the DGPC by buying technological inputs for the departmental Crisis Room of San Vicente.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In 2024, WFP made progress in positioning the concept of AA with the Government and other international organizations and agencies, such as FAO, UNICEF, PAHO, OCHA, the Directorate General of Hazards and Natural Resources Observatory and Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (known in Spanish as the Dirección General de Observatorio de Amenazas y Recursos Naturales/ Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales or DOA/MARN), the National Centre for Agricultural and Forestry Technology (known in Spanish as the Centro Nacional de Tecnología Agropecuaria y Forestal "Enrique Álvarez Córdova" or CENTA), and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (known in Spanish as the Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería or MAG). Thanks to the General Directorate of Civil Protection's involvement, the AA concept has become part of institutional priorities. This integration allows WFP to continue advocating for AA initiatives in the country, with DGPC endorsement.

WFP mapped AA actors, including government bodies, United Nations agencies, the National Red Cross Society, and academia. Moreover, the DGPC updated the National Drought Contingency Plan with technical and financial support from WFP, FAO and other partners. Twelve workshops took place with various government institutions and nongovernmental organizations from the National Civil Protection System.

WFP, FAO, and the Salvadoran Red Cross have prompted the establishment of the AA Task Force (AATF), to coordinate AA initiatives in the country, such as the development of AA plans for droughts and tropical cyclones.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

WFP supported the DGPC by buying technological inputs for the departmental Crisis Room of San Vicente, which uses the latest-generation technological equipment to receive information on risks and emergencies in the department. The room also allows for the analysis of data and decision-making on disaster risk management, to improve response before and after shocks, increasing efficiency and safeguarding people's lives and livelihoods.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

In 2024, WFP finalized the inter-agency drought plan in coordination with OCHA, FAO, UNICEF and PAHO. The plan for tropical cyclones is at an early stage and has not yet defined the activation thresholds. WFP conducted a baseline survey in the Municipality of Tecoluca, in the Department of San Vicente, with a sample of 180 smallholder farmers' households whose main livelihood is the production of basic grains. These farmers were significantly affected by the extreme weather events and suffered losses due to the effects of drought at the beginning of 2024. The results helped the institutions involved prepare for a possible activation through an AA framework once triggers are reached.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Support the integration of AA into government contingency plans at the national and municipal levels.
- Update the AA Plan and standard operating procedures in preparation for potential activation depending on the 2025 seasonal forecast.
- Strengthen the AATF and support the expansion of a current national-level roundtable led by the Civil Protection to local AA roundtables, with increased local actors' participation and tailored advice.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.



# GUATEMALA





# TARGET LOCATIONS

Chiquimula, Zacapa, El Progreso, Alta Verapaz and Izabal.



# HAZARDS

Drought and floods



#### **PEOPLE COVERED**

37,080



#### DONORS

European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO).



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. Agroclimatic Technical Tables (known in Spanish as Mesas Técnicas Agroclimáticas or MTAs)
- 2. National Institute of Seismology, Volcanology, Meteorology, and Hydrology (known in Spanish as Instituto Nacional de Sismología, Vulcanología, Meteorología e Hidrología or INSIVUMEH)
- 3. Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Food (known in Spanish as Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación or MAGA)
- 4. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 5. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- 6. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- 7. Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
- 8. Guatemalan Red Cross
- 9. International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) of Columbia Climate School
- 10. Independent Advisors and Insurance Brokers S.A. (ASISA)
- 11. Municipal authorities and local communities



#### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Together with OCHA, FAO, UNICEF and PAHO, finalized the interagency drought AA plan with thresholds designed to activate ahead of the Primera or Postrera planting season.
- Initiated the development of a flood Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) for high-risk areas in the Alta Verapaz and Izabel departments.
- Advanced the development of an innovative index-based forecast insurance model.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN GUATEMALA**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Strategic Outcome 4: "Rural vulnerable populations and local institutions engage in nutrition and gender sensitive, sustainable and climate resilient food systems throughout the year" of the <u>WFP Guatemala Country</u> <u>Strategic Plan (2021-2024)</u>.

In 2024, Guatemala experienced a shift from the El Niño climate phenomenon to conditions like La Niña, characterized by intense rainfall and high likelihood of tropical storms and hurricanes, particularly affecting vulnerable regions.

Under the framework funded by the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), an AA strategy for drought was finalized in Chiquimula, in coordination with United Nations actors and the Government. Simultaneously, an Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) for floods in Izabal was designed and implemented. Additionally, a scalable AA strategy was developed for Alta Verapaz and the Dry Corridor at the community level, along with ongoing development of an index-based forecast insurance mechanism.

Although AAs for droughts were not activated in Chiquimula, in Izabal and Alta Verapaz over 30,000 early warning messages were sent to inform communities at risk ahead of flood forecasts. Participatory plans and thresholds were also developed to activate AA ahead of drought in Zacapa and El Progreso.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

As part of integrating AA into the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Food (known in Spanish as Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación or MAGA) Institutional Response Plan (known in Spanish as Plan Institutional de Respuesta or PIR) and the Government's inter-institutional National Response Plan (known in Spanish as Plan Nacional de Respuesta or PNR), a National Technical Advisory Group on AA was established, a collaboration among WFP, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Guatemalan Red Cross. The group is intended to strengthen the capacities of government actors and other institutions to ensure effective implementation of AA nationwide. Its members include the National Institute of Seismology, Volcanology, Meteorology, and Hydrology (Known in Spanish as Instituto Nacional de Sismología, Vulcanología, Meteorología e Hidrología or INSIVUMEH; MAGA, the National Coordination for Disaster Reduction (known in Spanish as Coordinadora Nacional para la Reducción de Desastres or CONRED), non-governmental organizations, and other collaborators.

A key result of this effort was the organization of participatory workshops with representatives from the municipalities, the Agroclimatic Technical Tables (known in Spanish as Mesas Técnicas Agroclimáticas or MTAs), INSIVUMEH and MAGA. These workshops focused on developing AA activation protocols for droughts in 2025, clearly defining the concept of AA, designing thresholds and triggers for different departments, including those based on crop water requirement, depending on the department involved, as well as specifying the roles and activities each organization will undertake during an activation for rainfall deficits or surpluses.

As part of skills-building efforts, the exchange of experiences among government actors was promoted, paving the way for INSIVUMEH's participation in the Regional Anticipatory Action Dialogue Platform in Colombia.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

With technical support from the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) of Columbia Climate School and Independent Advisors and Insurance Brokers S.A. (ASISA), drought-related AA triggers were developed for Zacapa and El Progreso, based on the water requirements of corn, with the intention that they will be adopted by MAGA and INSIVUMEH.

For floods, the trigger designed by the Guatemalan Red Cross has been adapted to align and harmonize AA programming. The threshold is supported by hurricane incidence forecasts in the Caribbean basin and their probability of making landfall, combined with the Global Flood Awareness System (GloFAS) model for assessing the effects of flooding.

These triggers and thresholds were validated through participatory workshops involving governmental and non-governmental actors, local communities, and producers. The participation of all collaborators ensured the integration of local perspectives and historical data on extreme weather events impacts, essential for the precision and acceptance of the triggers and thresholds. This work has also contributed to the ongoing development of the firstever index-based forecast insurance in the country, to expand the financing mechanisms for AA.

In 2024, 50 additional sensors – which provide real-time data on precipitation, temperature, humidity, wind, evapotranspiration, and vegetation index to the MTAs and local producers – were acquired to expand the already existing network of 28 agroclimatic sensors in areas vulnerable to flooding (Izabal and Alta Verapaz), with installation planned for 2025. These sensors will contribute to monitoring precipitation accumulation in periods prior to and during the hurricane and flood season, as well as providing data for the monitoring cold waves through wind speed, direction and temperature data.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

In 2024, WFP and partners finalized the drought AAP. Actions and triggers were developed in collaboration with international organizations, such as the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), using their expertise in food security; agriculture; nutrition; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), and health. Historical analyses of climate impacts and 2024 forecasts, supported by MAGA and INSIVUMEH, were used to guide planning. The plan covers up to 37,080 people receiving support from WFP if triggers are reached.



In 2024, the flood AAP was developed, and decisions on the design and implementation of AAs were made in collaboration with local actors through departmental AA committees. These committees contributed to the development of plans, forecast analyses, and the targeting of vulnerable communities based on climatic, socioeconomic, and nutritional indicators, as well as the implementation of complementary community-led actions in case of an activation.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activation triggers were reached in 2024. Instead, a readiness trigger was activated in October due to the incidence of hurricanes in the Caribbean basin and the forecast of flooding in the departments of Izabal and Alta Verapaz, with the dissemination of 30,050 early warning messages, benefiting 14,735 people (69 percent women). Following the readiness trigger and the sending of early warning messages based on a no-regrets approach, some localized floods occurred, but no AA activation trigger was reached.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Expand the AAP for drought in the departments of Chiquimula, Zacapa, and El Progreso, and finalize the AAP for flooding in the departments of Izabal and Alta Verapaz.
- Involve governmental actors to contribute to the integration of nutrition-focused objectives into the drought AAP.
- Encourage and support the inclusion of flood triggers in the regional AA framework funded by the CERF, allowing for multi-hazard coverage if either drought or flood triggers are reached.
- Strengthen the capacities of government actors at the regional, departmental and municipal levels to adopt AA in their inter-institutional risk management plans or formulate their participatory plans for the activation of AA in 2025.
- Finalize and pilot Index-Based Forecasting Insurance for AA financing, in collaboration with the government and municipalities.









Country-wide



#### HAZARDS

Floods and hurricanes



# **PEOPLE COVERED** 595,835



#### DONORS

German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) and Government of Ireland, United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. National Hydrometeorological Service (known in French as the Unité Hydro-Météorologique d'Haïti or UHM)
- 2. Directorate-General of Civil Protection (known in French as the Direction Générale de la Protection Civile or DGPC)
- 3. Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour (known in French as the Ministère des Affaires Sociales et du Travail or MAST)
- 4. Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development (known in French as the Ministère de l'Agriculture des Ressources Naturelles et du Développement Rural or MARNDR)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Increased geographical and targeting coverage of its Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) to nearly 600,000 people countrywide, enabling them to protect themselves with anticipatory cash transfers and early warning information messages.
- Worked with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), government partners, and civil society to jointly design a collective framework for AA against storms.
- Paved the way for the integration of AA into the national shock-responsive social protection and disaster risk management systems, including through a simulation exercise to test trigger mechanisms and strengthen the operational readiness of Haiti's Disaster Risk Management System (known in French as the Système national de gestion des risques de désastre or SNGRD).
- Reinforced capacities at the central and sub-national levels to design and disseminate climate and weather information, for informed decision-making.
- Supported the humanitarian community in Haiti to integrate AA into humanitarian response and national risk management frameworks.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN HAITI**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Strategic Outcome (SO) 1, Activity 1: "Provide emergency assistance to vulnerable crisis-affected Haitians, including nutrition assistance to targeted groups, before, during, and after emergencies, and SO 4 Activity 6: Provide capacity strengthening and delivery systems support to national stakeholders (for early warning and capacity development)" of WFP Haiti Country Strategic Plan 2024-2028.

In 2024, Haiti's escalating challenges were exacerbated by political instability, worsening violence, and coordinated armed group attacks, which forced over 750,000 people to flee their homes and livelihoods. The widespread violence also led to prolonged closures of ports and airports, severely restricting economic activity and access to essential services. These growing humanitarian needs underline the importance of proactive, integrated approaches. In a year marked by deepening crises, WFP expanded its Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) to allow nearly 600,000 Haitians to protect themselves ahead of hurricanes or floods. Using social protection systems and key multisectoral partnerships, WFP intensified its efforts to be ready to introduce AA at scale.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

WFP prioritized capacity strengthening of national institutions in 2024, using tailored activities to build operational readiness and integrate AA into existing frameworks. A major milestone was the July simulation exercise, conducted in collaboration with the Directorate-General of Civil Protection (known in French as the Direction Générale de la Protection Civile or DGPC) and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour (known in French as the Ministère des Affaires Sociales et du Travail or MAST), funded by the World Bank. This exercise, part of Haiti's Disaster Risk Management System (known in French as the Système national de gestion des risques de désastre or SNGRD), simulated a cyclone's arrival to test procedures outlined in the national manual for shock-responsive social protection, testing trigger mechanisms and alerts, clarifying decision-making roles and enhancing preparedness.

To further institutionalize AA, WFP delivered dedicated training sessions to strengthen the capacities of DGPC and the National Hydrometeorological Service (known in French as the Unité Hydro-Météorologique d'Haïti or UHM), enabling them to assume leadership roles in AA design and coordination. Additionally, WFP worked to mainstream AA across humanitarian platforms, such as hosting sessions for the cash working group to improve understanding of AA and its integration into national systems.

Recognizing the importance of collaboration to reach scale and cover multi-sectoral needs, WFP supported the development of a collective AA framework for United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) funding, alongside the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and other partners. This joint effort resulted in the approval of a plan granting US\$4 million to United Nations partners (including US\$2 million for WFP) for cyclone-related anticipatory actions.

WFP's contributions extended beyond Haiti's borders, as DGPC and MAST representatives participated in the Global Dialogue Platform (Berlin, Germany) and the Latin America and Caribbean Regional Dialogue Platform (Cartagena, Colombia), showcasing Haiti's advancements introducing AA in a fragile setting. Haiti's innovative use of social protection systems to deliver AA was widely acknowledged.

Finally, WFP published the "Linking Anticipatory Action and Social Protection in Fragile and Conflict-Affected Settings: The Case of Haiti" case study. This document highlights the country's first-ever AA activation in November 2023, which used social protection systems to deliver cash assistance and early warning messages to populations at risk of flooding.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

In 2024, WFP refined its trigger mechanisms to improve the accuracy and timeliness of anticipatory actions for cyclones and floods. This included a collaborative effort with other United Nations agencies to revise the triggers for cyclones, introducing a three-tiered approach: preparation, activation, and an observational trigger to ensure flexibility for rapid response. The triggers for cyclone are based on three criteria: (i) distance from Haiti (230 km); (ii) wind speed (64 knots for preparation/activation; 50 knots for observation); and (iii) average precipitation over the national territory over 48h (42 mm for preparation/activation; 70 mm for observation).

The trigger mechanism is supported by data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Hurricane Center (NOAA NHC), the Climate Hazards Group InfraRed Precipitation with Station data - Global Ensemble Forecast System (CHIRPS-GEFS), and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Integrated Multi-Satellite Retrievals for GPM (NASA IMERG).

The observational trigger allows early response when the preparation and AA activation thresholds are not fully met, ensuring no delays in protecting at-risk populations. This tailored solution recognizes that AA is not a stand-alone solution, but can closely link to and pave the way for response efforts, which aligns with WFP's commitment to adaptive approaches in Haiti's complex and rapidly evolving context.

Thanks to the collaboration with the Centre for Humanitarian Data, an automated monitoring system was set up to track evolving weather patterns, sending real-time email alerts to AA focal points, including notification in case of triggering any phase. These advancements strengthen situational awareness and support timely decisionmaking.

The flood trigger remained valid for the Grand'Anse department in 2024, providing a reliable mechanism for AA. Plans to adjust and expand the flood triggers to additional departments are set for 2025, ensuring broader coverage and adaptability to regional variations.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

WFP's AA plans in Haiti continue to focus on scalable, impactful interventions to mitigate the effects of extreme weather events on vulnerable populations. These plans prioritize cash-based transfers delivered through the country's two primary service providers, Digicel and Western Union, ensuring swift and efficient support.

Building on lessons from previous activations, WFP also strengthened its collaboration with the DGPC to amplify early warning messaging. Through largescale SMS campaigns, WFP complements DGPC-led communication efforts, providing timely, actionable information to communities at risk.

In 2024, WFP refined its operational readiness by updating workflows and coordination mechanisms, pre-arranged contracts and funds, ensuring alignment between AA and the national disaster risk management framework. This includes optimizing processes for integrating AA into the national shock-responsive social protection system, using the national social registry (SIMAST) to improve targeting and response efficiency.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Strengthen coordination and assess the feasibility of developing AA for slow-onset disasters such as droughts.
- Assist DGPC in creating a harmonized information and training package on AA, including a training of trainers programme to strengthen ownership and dissemination from the central to the decentralized level.
- Strengthen links between AA and climate information services, the Early Warning for All initiative, and social protection programmes, including programmatic synergies with support for smallholder farmers to improve the ability to offset the worst effects of disasters of Haitian value chains.









Choluteca and Cortes



HAZARDS Drought and floods



#### **PEOPLE COVERED** 650



# **PEOPLE REACHED WITH ANTICIPATORY TRANSFERS** 5,000



# **US\$ FUNDS DISBURSED FOR ACTIVATIONS**

150,000



#### DONORS

Government of Ireland, Government of Sweden and European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO).



#### KEY PARTNERS

- 1. Ministry of Risk Management and National Contingencies (known in Spanish as Comisión Permanente de Contingencias or COPECO)
- 2. Honduran Red Cross
- 3. Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
- 4. Ministry of Social Development
- 5. The Municipal Emergency Committees (known in Spanish as Comité de Emergencia Municipal or CODEM)
- 6. Local Emergency Committees (known in Spanish as Comité de Emergencia Local or CODELs)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Used AA to mitigate the effects of expected flooding caused by Tropical Storm Sara in the coastal zones of Cortés and Choluteca in collaboration with partners.
- Finalized the inter-agency CERF-funded drought framework in collaboration with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), with triggers based on tailored rainfall thresholds ahead of the Primera and Postrera agricultural seasons.
- Carried out a simulation exercise to act ahead of floods in collaboration with partners.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN HONDURAS**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 2: "Strengthen the climate-smart emergency preparedness, planning and response capacity, including capacity for anticipatory action and recovery, of vulnerable and risk-prone communities and local actors, through a gender-sensitive approach, laying the foundations for resilience building" of the WFP Honduras Country Strategic Plan 2023-2027.

Honduras is experiencing a complex crisis driven by interrelated social, economic, political and environmental factors. The Trinational Acute Food Insecurity Reports show that 1.9 million people in Honduras are in crisis and at emergency levels of food insecurity. In addition, in November 2024 Tropical Storm Sara and related severe flooding affected 250,000 people in 200 municipalities across eight departments, exacerbating the already precarious situation.

WFP is supporting the Government and local nongovernmental organizations to mainstream AA into the disaster risk management plans, through the development of harmonized standard operating procedures (SOPs) for floods and droughts in collaboration with the AA technical working group (AA TWG). This initiative enhanced coordination, improved response mechanisms, and ensured more effective and timely support to people at risk. At the community level, WFP provided skills and process building in preparedness and AA directed to municipal emergency committees, local emergency committees, and community leaders, with special emphasis on school emergency committees.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In collaboration with the Ministry of Risk Management and National Contingencies (known in Spanish as Comisión Permanente de Contingencias or COPECO) and the Ministry of Social Protection (known in Spanish as Secretaría de Desarrollo Social or SEDESOL), WFP is developing a shockresponsive social protection (SRSP) programme in Honduras. This initiative is intended to integrate AA triggers and protocols for drought and floods with one of the country's largest safety net programmes - the Red Solidaria, and also potentially with the Small Farmer Network of Suppliers of the School Feeding Programme - WFP is also engaged in a capacity strengthening initiative for national and local government institutions in climate information management and forecasting; the establishment of local committees for the Early Warning System monitoring for droughts and floods in collaboration with COPECO and the National Centre for Oceanographic and Seismic Studies (known in Spanish as Centro Nacional de Estudios Atmosféricos, Oceanográficos y Sísmicos or CENAOS) is essential. This initiative is intended to pave the way for the coordination and dissemination of alert bulletins at both the national and the regional level. It enhances the accuracy of forecasts and enables the activation of decisionmaking protocols and response strategies.

The consolidation of the AA TWG, with broad participation of the United Nations, the Government, and local collaborators, enabled harmonization of trigger criteria and thresholds for drought and flood and the coordination of the selected AAs according to severity, region, and local capacities.

As part of local-level capacity strengthening for implementing AA, local governments in the central region of Honduras were trained to carry out AA-based contingency plans through local weather monitoring systems, assessment of road networks, pre-stockpiling of food and non-food items, early warning communication at the school level, and the identification of evacuations and assistance distribution sites/points before the emergency, and their alignment with their own early warning systems. A school curriculum was developed targeting lower secondary students with information on access to early warnings and AA protocols at the household level. Simulations for better understanding and skills followed this to undertake pre-emptive actions.

The participation of COPECO and WFP Honduras in the Regional Dialogue Platform for Anticipatory Actions 2024 in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, increased the visibility of the country office's actions at the regional level and allowed for the exchange of experiences among the participants. WFP reinforced its commitment to continue supporting COPECO to introduce and expand anticipatory action to foster a preventive culture, with vulnerable people and communities at the centre of all the work.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

In 2024, the interagency drought framework funded by the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) was finalized, with triggers based on tailored rainfall thresholds ahead of the Primera and Postrera agricultural seasons. WFP provides support in strengthening climate information generation, analysis, and the operational and decision-making capacity of COPECO. A website/ web application) fed by field data generated by meteorological stations, now supports the adjustment of current triggers and thresholds for drought in the four departments of the dry corridor of Honduras to generate more reliable forecasts. For floods, an alignment to an already existing trigger developed by the Honduran Red Cross was discussed ahead of the hurricane season, which was also the basis for the joint simulation exercise. On 14 November, the Honduran Red Cross (CENAOS/COPECO or NOAA) communicated a forecast with a 60 percent probability that a tropical storm (34 knots) or higher would reach the alert zone with a lead time of between three and five days. In addition, COPECO's early warning information and WFP's ADAM flood forecast was considered, and a small-scale AA activation was initiated.

#### **ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS**

Extensive consultations and coordination between the Government, communities, and United Nations agencies took place to define the multi-sectoral actions within the AA drought framework, led by the Government through the drought working group and aligned with the cluster coordination system. The set of drought triggers was not met, and activation was not declared in 2024. The threshold and prioritization of areas will be revised in 2025.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

WFP and partners activated AA ahead of the expected flooding effects of Tropical Storm Sara. In line with the AA TWG work plan, WFP collaborated closely with COPECO, SEDESOL, and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) to prepare for and response to Tropical Storm Sara. This engagement enabled effective coordination between WFP and its partners, ensuring that anticipatory life-saving support was provided to 5,000 people in hard-to-reach areas in Cortés and Choluteca before the floods took place. This allowed families to protect their food security, meet their basic needs and purchase any assets needed to protect their houses or valuables ahead of the floods.

Two local partners, World Vision Honduras and Sur en Acción, were contracted to assist with the identification, registration, and logistical support for delivering assistance. Additionally, arrangements were made with COPECO and local municipalities to address logistical needs, access information, and establish distribution points. Around 5,000 of the most vulnerable households were identified and prioritized for immediate action, trigger-based action, and food insecurity response. The targeted households were supported with commodity and value vouchers. Individuals were selected through extensive consultations with communities, local governments, local committees (known in Spanish as Comités de Emergencia Local or CODELs) and civil organizations. Targeting prioritized people with disabilities, poverty levels, households with vulnerable children, and then the elderly in areas historically affected by floods.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

 Finalize and launch the Honduras Anticipatory Action Strategy and Roadmap, to provide a guiding framework to integrate AA in development plans and strategies.

- Promote accessible climate information services to targeted small-holder farmers and define a set of AA approaches relevant to protecting assets and livelihoods.
- Assess the feasibility of linking AA with microinsurance services and shock-responsive social protection.
- Jointly with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Honduran Red Cross, develop a pilot for a shared database in drought/flood-prone areas.
- Work jointly with partners to develop a multihazard framework that considers compounding risks, including floods, droughts, storms, and conflict, where feasible.









Municipality of San Dionisio in Matagalpa; Municipality of San Rafael del Norte in Jinotega; Municipality of El Cuá in Jinotega; and Municipality of La Concordia in Jinotega.



#### HAZARDS

Drought, floods and cyclones



# **PEOPLE COVERED** 30,500



# DONORS

Government of Ireland



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. National System for Disaster Prevention, Mitigation, and Response (known in Spanish as Sistema Nacional para la Prevención, Mitigación y Atención de Desastres or SINAPRED)
- 2. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 3. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- 4. Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
- 5. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- 6. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Finalized an inter-agency drought Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) in collaboration with partners such as OCHA, FAO, UNICEF and PAHO.
- Strengthened the capacities on AA and led co-design of AA options with agricultural cooperatives in Jinotega and Matagalpa.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN NICARAGUA**

Anticipatory action (AA) is included in Activity 1: "Populations affected by or exposed to crises in Nicaragua meet their food, nutrition and other urgent essential needs in an inclusive way during shocks, stressors and protracted crises, and benefit from the strengthening of capacities and systems for integrated disaster risk management by 2029" of the <u>WFP Nicaragua Country Strategic</u> <u>Plan (2024-2029)</u>.

Nicaragua is constantly exposed to extreme weather events, such as droughts, floods and hurricanes. During the first half of 2024, Nicaragua experienced extremely high temperatures due to El Niño, reaching up to 45°C in some areas of the Pacific and North. In the second half of 2024, Nicaragua experienced intense and frequent rains due to La Niña-like conditions, causing flooding in vulnerable areas. Since August, high sea temperatures and La Niña increased the frequency and intensity of storms and hurricanes, mainly affecting Chinandega, León and Managua. Although the hurricane season was less intense than expected, in November Tropical Storm Sara caused heavy rains and damage on the northern Caribbean coast.

These events highlighted the need to anticipate extreme weather events. In 2024, WFP and the National System for Disaster Prevention, Mitigation, and Response (known in Spanish as Sistema Nacional para la Prevención, Mitigación y Atención de Desastres or SINAPRED) have been strategic partners, working together to provide technical assistance to government institutions for disaster risk reduction, including the integration and institutionalization of Anticipatory Action (AA).

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

In 2024, WFP Nicaragua focused on strengthening capacity with farmers organizations in Jinotega and Matagalpa, assisting them in building AA systems that link early warnings with pre-agreed anticipatory actions and pre-arranged funding, better protecting people from the impacts of predictable climate-related hazards before they turn into humanitarian disasters.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

In 2024, WFP assisted the development of thresholds and triggers for AA ahead of El Niñoinduced droughts and floods. More specifically, WFP supported the finalization of the interagency AA framework funded by the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to be ready to implement anticipatory action ahead of predicted droughts. WFP also supported the development of the flood trigger, using a rainfall threshold combined with a global flood model (GLoFAS).

#### **ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS**

In 2024, WFP collaborated with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to finalize the CERF-funded AA Framework for droughts in Nicaragua. This framework allows for the activation of funds to expand vertically the school meal programme in the Dry Corridor of Nicaragua by providing a second hot meals to schoolchildren (shock-responsive social protection system), provide agro-climatic information, and technical assistance to small producers, as part of an anticipatory approach to droughts, allowing 30,000 people to protect their food security and livelihoods. Additionally, AA is now part of any interagency emergency response designed by the United Nations Country Team. WFP is currently designing its Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) for floods to expand to a multi-hazard approach and is constantly monitoring natural phenomena that may affect the country. Additionally, coordination with other United Nations agencies and government institutions is ongoing to ensure coordinated actions before an emergency occurs.

In 2024, WFP provided training and technical advice to smallholder farmers organized in cooperatives in the Dry Corridor of Nicaragua to design community AAPs and develop their risk scenario assessments, threats, and local capacities to face extreme weather events. The goal is to ensure that, in the face of extreme weather events, crops and production of basic grains intended for the school feeding programme are protected. These smallholder farmers are part of WFP's roster of suppliers and are fundamental to the organization's local and inclusive procurement strategy. As part of these results, 929 small producers (671 men and 258 women) have been reached through training processes. The producers have identified strategies and anticipatory measures to protect agricultural production and their assets against droughts, landslides, and floods. The training has directly benefited 84 communities in the municipalities of San Dionisio (Matagalpa), San Rafael del Norte El Cuá (Jinotega), and La Concordia (Jinotega). These communities host the small producer organizations that play a crucial role in supporting local farmers and promoting agricultural products for school meals and local food security.

# AA ACTIVATIONS

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Strengthen community Early Warning Systems (EWS) at the meso-level with smallholder organizations for multiple hazard events, including support for the definition of thresholds and triggers for AA that facilitate the generation of agroclimatic forecasts and information.
- Strengthen smallholder organizations with early warning systems, climate information and development of their AA plans.
- Support smallholder organizations in Nicaragua's dry corridor by disseminating forecasts, early warnings, and climate outlook issued by national institutions.
- Explore with the Ministry of Education (MINED) the possibility to include AA through Social and Behaviour Change Communication as part of its Risk Management plan for a better understanding of multi-hazard risks.
- Present the multi-risk AA Action Plan, designed and validated jointly with smallholder organizations, communities, and partners, using the previously designed AA triggers.







Northeastern area of Peru (jungle zone), specifically in rural communities of Jamalca district in Amazonas region and Atumplaya district in San Martín region.



HAZARDS

Floods

**PEOPLE COVERED** 1.000



# DONORS

Government of Ireland



#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- 1. National Institute of Civil Defence (known in Spanish as Instituto Nacional de Defensa Civil or INDECI)
- 2. Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion (known in Spanish as Ministerio de Desarrollo e Inclusión Social or MIDIS)
- 3. National Meteorology and Hydrology Service of Peru (known in Spanish as Servicio Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología del Perú or SENAHMI)
- 4. National Centre for Disaster Risk Estimation, Prevention and Reduction (known in Spanish as Centro Nacional de Estimación, Prevención y Reducción de Riesgos de Desastres or CENEPRED)
- 5. Municipalities of Moyobamba, Utcubamba and Jamalca
- 6. Regional Governments of Amazonas and San Martín
- 7. Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre (RCCC)



#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Provided technical advice for the now approved Legislative Decree 1654, a legal framework for the early delivery of social protection services in emergency situations, which will allow the development of anticipatory action mechanisms in Peru.
- Conducted a hydrological study with the RCCC for the Amazonas and San Martín regions, that identified flood triggers for anticipatory action.
- Drafted a final version of a riverine flood AA plan, with communities at risk and government actors, ready to be activated when trigger thresholds are reached.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AA IN PERU**

The AA programme in Peru falls under Strategic Outcome 3: "By 2026, indigenous people and other populations that are vulnerable to climate change in Peru are better adapted to climate change, more resilient to climate-related disasters and part of more sustainable, inclusive and equitable food systems" of the <u>WFP Peru Country Strategic Plan</u> <u>2023-2026</u>.

Food security in Peru is affected by the extreme weather events, such as floods, droughts, and cold waves. In the last five years in Perú, multiple emergencies occurred due to climatic phenomena and weather hazards, such as El Niño-Costeroinduced floods in 2017 and Cyclone Yaku 2023, which have exacerbated poverty and food insecurity in the country.

In 2024, flood Anticipatory Action Plans (AAPs) were developed for the San Martín and Amazonas regions in collaboration with the National Institute of Civil Defence (known in Spanish as Instituto Nacional de Defensa Civil or INDECI) and the Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion (known in Spanish as Ministerio de Desarrollo e Inclusión Social or MIDIS), aligning with their strategies and management tools. Local governments act as operators of risk management and social protection policies, carrying out on-the-ground activities.

#### INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT OR HUMANITARIAN SYSTEMS

Through WFP's advocacy and technical assistance, the Government of Peru approved Legislative Decree 1654, a landmark regulation that enables the adaptation of public social protection programmes to emergency situations. This decree establishes the legal framework for implementing AA through social protection systems ahead of emergencies across Peru. WFP is providing technical advice for an operational regulation to guide the provision of goods and services in situations of imminent danger. This framework underpins the approved AAP that involves monetary transfers through social programmes, including JUNTOS, CONTIGO, and Pension 65. With this decree, Peru is one of the first countries in Latin America and the Caribbean to have a dedicated legal framework for AA in emergencies.

#### FORECASTS AND TRIGGERS

WFP, in collaboration with the RCCC, established thresholds and triggers for AA in targeted communities by conducting hydrological studies of rivers prone to flooding. These studies identified the critical water levels that signal the need for action and is closely aligned to flood early warning system dashboard of the National Meteorology and Hydrology Service of Peru (known in Spanish as Servicio Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología del Perú or SENAHMI. Two distinct phases guide AA: (i) Readiness Phase: The first threshold initiates preparedness activities and administrative processes for anticipatory cash transfers and initiates the early warning messages; and (ii) Activation Phase: The second trigger activates cash transfers, allowing an additional 72-hour window before the floods are expected.

As a result, MIDIS's National Security and Defence Office now monitors and activates these thresholds with SENAMHI, which provides real-time hydrometeorological data. The MIDIS Emergency Operations Centre coordinates flood preparedness, anticipation, and response, ensuring efficient AA.

#### ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLANS

In 2024, WFP Peru developed an AAP for floods, aligned with the country's social protection system and coordinated within WFP technical units and government actors. MIDIS, as the lead agency for social protection, supports the plan by providing targeting systems, monitoring activation thresholds, managing communication channels, and coordinating early warnings for its programmes and field entities. At the local level, INDECI and municipal governments train local authorities and community leaders on early warning systems and foster territorial coordination.

This AAP includes a two-stage trigger, including a readiness and an activation phase, standard operating protocols, trained and equipped authorities and communities, and allocated resources and budgets. In its current pilot phase, the pre-arranged finance is provided by WFP, but as evidence is increasing, a delivery mechanism through social protection programmes is being explored.

In early 2024, a joint operation between MIDIS and municipal local registration units registered at-risk families and provided technical assistance for banking inclusion. This process identified 791 at-risk households (2,392 individuals), of which 345 households (992 people) are highly vulnerable and eligible for advance cash transfers. This initiative highlights the feasibility of low-cost early registration in high-risk areas, supporting financial inclusion and preparedness for emergencies. The AA mechanism for floods is ready for activation during the 2024/2025 rainy season. Key elements are in place, including: (i) an early warning system and flood trigger thresholds, (ii) early registration of at-risk and highly vulnerable families with local authorities, and (iii) a predefined monetary transfer mechanism.

Two simulation exercises for AA activation were conducted in high flood-risk communities, Hatumplaya (San Martín) and Puerto Naranjito (Amazonas). With WFP's technical support, 60 community leaders and officials participated in these exercises and, as a result, they strengthened their capacity to validate protocols and implement AA. These exercises helped refine procedures and improve readiness for future emergencies.

#### **AA ACTIVATIONS**

No activations took place in 2024.

#### **OUTLOOK FOR 2025**

In 2025, WFP will:

- Expand towards a multi-hazard AA approach and develop AAPs for drought and cold waves, allowing more at-risk communities to protect themselves and their livelihoods from predictable natural hazard.
- Provide technical support to MIDIS to systematize and develop specific standards for AA to be included in social protection systems.
- Strengthen early warning information and improve accuracy in the Amazonas and San Martín regions, with support from hydrometeorological stations, as well as strengthen alert communications from SENAMHI, INDECI, and MIDIS.

# Acronyms

AA	Anticipatory Action
AAP	Anticipatory action plan
AAR	After-action review
AATF	Anticipatory Action Task Force
ABN	Autorité du bassin du Niger (Niger Basin Authority)
ADPC	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center
ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AF	Adaptation Fund
Agritex	Zimbabwe Agricultural Extension Services department
ANAM	Agence Nationale de la Météorologie du Burkina Faso (National Meteorology Agency of Burkina Faso)
	Chad Agence Nationale de la Météorologie (National Meteorology Agency)
ANMD	Agence National de Météorologie de Djibouti (Djibouti National Meteorological Agency)
AoR	Area of Responsibility
APMCDRR	Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction
ARC	African Risk Capacity
ASAL	Arid and semi-arid lands
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASP	Adaptive social protection
AWS	Automatic weather stations
BCHR	Benevolence Coalition for Humanitarian Relief
BDRCS	Bangladesh Red Cross and Red Crescent Society
BMD	Bangladesh Meteorological Department
BNGRC	Burundi Bureau National de la Gestion des Risques des Catastrophes (National Office of Disaster Risk Management)
BRC	British Red Cross Burundian Red Cross
CAMA	Civil Aviation and Meteorology Authority
CC/SAP	The Niger Cellule de Coordination du Système d'Alerte Précoce (Early Warning System Coordination Unit)
CCRS	Commission Climat pour la Région du Sahel (Climate Commission for the Sahel)
CDEMA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency
CENAOS	Honduras Centro Nacional de Estudios Atmosféricos, Oceanográficos y Sísmicos (National Centre for Oceanographic and Seismic Studies)
CENEPRED	Peru Centro Nacional de Estimación, Prevención y Reducción de Riesgos de Desastres (National Centre for Disaster Risk Estimation, Prevention and Reduction)

CENTA	El Salvador Centro Nacional de Tecnología Agropecuaria y Forestal "Enrique Álvarez Córdova" (National Centre for Agricultural and Forestry Technology)
CEPREDENAC	Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de Desastres en América Central República Dominicana (Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America and the Dominican Republic)
CERD	Centre d'Etudes et de Recherche de Djibouti (Djiboutian Centre for Studies and Research)
CERF	United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund
CG	Control group
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
СН	Cadre Harmonisé
CHIRPS-GEFS	Climate Hazards Group InfraRed Precipitation with Station data - Global Ensemble Forecast System
CILSS	Comité permanent inter-État de lutte contre la sécheresse au Sahel (Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel)
CIMH	Caribbean Institute on Meteorology and Hydrology
CLTF	World Food Programme Changing Lives Transformation Fund
СМО	Caribbean Meteorological Organization
CNEDD	The Niger Conseil National de l'Environnement pour un Développement Durable (National Council for the Environment and Sustainable Development)
CNSC	The Niger Cadre National pour les Services Climatiques (National Framework for Climate Services)
СО	Country office
CODEL	Comité de Emergencia Local (Local Emergency Committee)
CODEM	Comité de Emergencia Municipal (Municipal Emergency Committee)
COOPI	Cooperazione Internazionale
COPECO	Honduras Comisión Permanente de Contingencias (Ministry of Risk Management and National Contingencies)
CRA	Centre Régional Agriculture, Hydrologie, Météorologie (Agriculture, Hydrology, Meteorology Regional Centre)
CRD	Croix-Rouge de Djibouti (Djiboutian Red Cross)
CREWS	Climate Risk and Early Warning System
CSA	Mauritania Commissariat à la Sécurité Alimentaire (Food Safety Commission)
CSC	Southern African Development Community Climate Services Centre
CTS-SA	Comité Technique Spécialisé - Sécurité Alimentaire (Specialized Technical Committee on Food Security)
DANIDA	Danish International Development Agency
DBM	Philippines Department of Budget and Management
DCCMS	Malawi Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services
DCP	Zimbabwe Department of Civil Protection
DDM	Bangladesh Department of Disaster Management

DDMA	District disaster management authority
DESTANA	Desa Tangguh Bencana (Disaster Affected Village Programme)
DEWS	Drought Early Warning System
DFAT	Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
DG ECHO	European Commission Directorate - General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
DGM	Burundi Direction Générale de la Météorologie (General Directorate of Meteorology)
DGPC	Chad Direction Générale de la Protection Civile (General Directorate of Civil Protection) El Salvador Dirección General de Protección Civil, Prevención y Mitigación de Desastres (General Directorate of Civil Protection)
	Haiti Direction Générale de la Protection Civile (Directorate-General of Civil Protection) Mali Direction Générale de la Protection Civile (General Directorate of Civil Protection)
DHM	Nepal Department of Hydrology and Meteorology
DHRW	Cambodia Department of Hydrology and River Works
DILG	Philippines Department of the Interior and Local Government
DMA	Lesotho Disaster Management Authority
DMMU	Zambia Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit
DNGRH	Mozambique Direcção Nacional de Gestão de Recursos Hídricos (National Directorate of Water Resources Management)
DNM	The Niger Direction Nationale de la Météorologie (National Meteorology Directorate)
DNP	Colombia Departamento Nacional de Planeación (National Planning Department
DNPGCA	The Niger Dispositif National de Gestion et Prévention des Crises Alimentaires (National Food Crisis Prevention and Management System)
DOA/MARN	El Salvador Dirección General de Observatorio de Amenazas y Recursos Naturales Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (Directorate General of Hazards and Natural Resources Observatory under the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources)
DoDMA	Malawi Department of Disaster Management Affairs
DoM	Sri Lanka Department of Meteorology
DOM	Cambodia Department of Meteorology
DPS	Colombia Departamento de la Prosperidad Social (Department of Social Prosperity)
DRC	Danish Refugee Council
DRF	Disaster risk financing
DRM	Disaster risk management
DRR	Disaster risk reduction
DRRM	Disaster risk reduction and management
DRWS	Lesotho Ministry of Water Department of Rural Water Supply
DSWD	Philippines Department of Social Welfare and Development
DWR	Malawi Department of Water Resources
EADP	Eastern Africa Dialogue Platform
EAP	Early Action Protocol

ECMWF	European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts
EDRMC	Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Commission
EMI	Ethiopian Meteorological Institute
EMNDC	Cuba Estado Mayor Nacional de la Defensa Civil (National Civil Defence Staff)
ESPOL	Escuela Superior Politécnica del Litoral (Litoral Polytechnic High School)
EU	European Union
EW	Early warning
EW4ALL	Early Warnings for All
EWS	Early warning system(s)
FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
FCDO	United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
FCS	Food Consumption Score
FEWSNET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
FFWC	Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre
FJD	Fijian Dollar
FM	Frequency Modulation
FSN	Food security and nutrition
GBON	Global Basic Observing Network
GBV	Gender-based violence
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GFFO	German Federal Foreign Office
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Corporation for International Cooperation)
GloFAS	Global Flood Awareness System
НСТ	Humanitarian Country Team
HNO	Humanitarian Needs Overview
HSNP	Hunger Safety Net Programme
HVR	Hazard, vulnerability and risk
IBFWS	Impact-based forecasting and warning services
ICPAC	Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre
ICPALD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development (ICPALD)
ICT	Information and communications technology
IDEAM	Instituto de Hidrología, Meteorología y Estudios Ambientales (Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies)
IDPoor	Identification of Poor Households Programme
IDRC	International Development Research Centre
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IGEBU	Institute Géographique du Burundi (Meteorological Institute of Burundi)
INAM	
INAMHI	Mozambique Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia (National Institute of Meteorology) Ecuador Instituto Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología (National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology)
INAS	Mozambique Instituto Nacional da Acção Social (National Institute of Social Action)
INDECI	Instituto Nacional de Defensa Civil (National Institute of Civil Defence)
INDHR	Instituto Dominicano de Recursos Hidráulicos or INDHRI
	(Dominican Institute of Hydraulic Resources)
INDOMET	Instituto Dominicano de Meteorología (Dominican Institute of Meteorology)
INETER	Instituto Nicaragüense de Estudios Territoriales (Nicaraguan Institute of Territorial Studies)
INFLOW	Improved Anticipation of Floods on the White Nile
INGD	Mozambique Instituto Nacional de Gestão e Redução do Risco de Desastres (National Institute of Disaster Risk Management and Reduction)
INOCAR	Ecuador Instituto Oceanografico de la Armada (Oceanographic Institute of the Naval Forces)
INRH	Cuba Instituto Nacional de Recursos Hidráulicos (National Institute of Hydraulic Resources)
INSIVUMEH	Guatemala Instituto Nacional de Sismología, Vulcanología, Meteorología e Hidrología (National Institute of Seismology, Volcanology, Meteorology, and Hydrology)
INSMET	Cuba Instituto de Meteorología (Institute of Meteorology)
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
IRG	Yemen Internationally Recognized Government
IRI	International Research Institute for Climate and Society of Columbia University
ITWG	Interministerial technical working group
IWMI	International Water Management Institute
JAS	July-August-September
KMD	Kenya Meteorological Department
KOICA	Korea International Cooperation Agency
KRCS	Kenya Red Cross Society
Kyrgyz Hydromet	Kyrgyz Hydrometeorological Service
LAAAP	Locally led Adaptation and Anticipatory Action Plan
LCS-FS	Livelihood Coping Strategies for Food Security
LGF	Life for Guardian's Foundation
LGUs	Provincial and local government units
LMS	Lesotho Meteorological Services
LRCS	Lesotho Red Cross Society
MAAIF	Uganda Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries

MADER	Mozambique Ministério da Agricultura e Desenvolvimento Rural (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development)
MAEPE-RH	Djibouti Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Eau, de la Pêche, et de l'Elevage chargé des Ressources Halieutiques (Ministry of Agriculture, Water, Fisheries and Livestock in charge of Fishery Resources)
MAF	Lao PDR Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
MAFSE	Belize Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Enterprise
MAG	El Salvador Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería (Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock)
MAGA	Guatemala Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación (Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Food)
MAH-GC	The Niger Ministère de l'Action Humanitaire et de la Gestion des Catastrophes (Ministry of Humanitarian Action and Disaster Management
MAM	March-April-May
MARNDR	Haiti Ministère de l'Agriculture des Ressources Naturelles et du Développement Rural (Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development)
MASS	Djibouti Ministère des Affaires Sociales et de la Solidarité (Ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarity)
MASSNAH	Chad Ministère de L'action Sociale, de La Solidarité Nationale et des Affaires Humanitaires (Ministry of Social Action, National Solidarity and Humanitarian Affairs)
MAST	Haiti Ministère des Affaires Sociales et du Travail (Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour)
МСО	Multi Country Office
MDAs	Ministries, departments and agencies
MDP	Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Action
MEDD	Djibouti Ministère de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable (Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development)
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
MES KR	Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic
Meteo Rwanda	Rwanda Meteorology Agency
MHADM	South Sudan Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management
MHEW	Multi-hazard early warning system
MHVRA	Multi-Hazard Vulnerability and Risk Assessment
MIDIS	Ministerio de Desarrollo e Inclusión Social (Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion)
MINAG	Cuba Ministerio de la Agricultura (Ministry of Agriculture)
MINAGRI	Rwanda Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources
MINALOC	Rwanda Ministry of Local Government
MINECOFIN	Rwanda Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
MINEMA	Rwanda Ministry in Charge of Emergency Management
Ministry of Equity	Saint Lucia Ministry of Equity, Social Justice and Empowerment
MLSSM	Kyrgyz Republic Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Migration
MLSW	Lao PDR Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare
MNAA-TWG	Malawi National AA Technical Working Group

MoAFS	Lesotho Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition South Sudan Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security
MoAIFW	Yemen Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Fish Wealth
MoDMR	Bangladesh Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief
MoE	Iraq Federal Ministry of Environment
MOFEPD	Ministry of Finance Economic Planning and Development
MOGLSD	Uganda Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development
MOLG	Uganda Ministry of Local Government
MoPIC	Yemen Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
MOSD	Lesotho Ministry of Social Development
MoU	Memorandum of understanding
MoWCA	Bangladesh Ministry of Women and Children Affairs
MoWE	Yemen Ministry of Water and Environment
MOWE	Uganda Ministry of Water and Environment
MPC	Multi-purpose cash
MRCS	Malawi Red Cross Society
MS	Djibouti Ministère de la Santé (Ministry of Health)
MSD	Zimbabwe Meteorological Service Department
MTAs	Mesas Técnicas Agroclimáticas (Agroclimatic Technical Tables)
MTSS	Cuba Ministerio de Trabajo y Seguridad (Ministry of Labour and Security)
MUST	Malawi University of Science and Technology
MWCSP	Fiji Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection
MWRI	South Sudan Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NASA IMERG	United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Integrated Multi-satellite Retrievals for GPM
NCDM	Cambodia National Committee for Disaster Management
NCF	Pakistan National Coordination Forum
NCOF	Kenya National Climate Outlook Forum
ND Gain	Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative
NDMA	Indonesia National Disaster Management Agency Pakistan National Disaster Management Agency
NDOC	Kenya National Disaster Operations Centre
NDRMF	Pakistan National Disaster Risk Management Fund
NDRMP	South Sudan National Disaster Risk Management Policy
NEMO	Belize National Emergency Management Organization
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NIDM	National Institute of Disaster Management
NMHS	National meteorological and hydrological service
NMS	National Meteorological Service of Belize

NOAA NHC	United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Hurricane Center
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
NPR	Nepalese rupee
NTWG-AA	National technical working group on anticipatory action
NUL	National University of Lesotho
OCD	Philippines Office of Civil Defense (OCD)
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OND	October-November-December
ONM	Mauritania Office National de la Météorologie or ONM (National Meteorological Office)
OPM	Uganda Office of the Prime Minister
OWDA	Organization for Welfare Development in Actionn
PAGASA	Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration
PAH	Polska Akcja Humanitarna (Polish Humanitarian Action)
PCGIR	Política Centroamericana para la Gestión Integral del Riesgo de Desastres (Central American Policy for Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management)
PDMA	Provincial disaster management authority
PFI-TSG	Policy, Financing, and Institutionalization thematic sub-working group
РІК	Potsdam-Institut für Klimafolgenforschung (Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research)
PMD	Pakistan Meteorological Department
PMO-DMD	United Republic of Tanzania Prime Minister's Office Disaster Management Department
PNNRC	Mali Plateforme Nationale pour la Reduction des Risques et des Catastrophes (National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction)
PRISM	Platform for Real-Time Impact and Situation Monitoring
PSSN	Productive Social Safety Net
PVR	Cuba Grupo Nacional de Peligro, Vulnerabilidad y Riesgos (National Danger, Vulnerability and Risk Group)
РуСРТ	Python Interface to the Climate Predictability Tool
RAAWG	Regional Anticipatory Action Working Group
RCCC	Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre
RIA	Regulatory Impact Assessment
RIMES	Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System
RMRP	Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan
RRC	Rwanda Red Cross South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission
RTDA	Rwanda Transport Development Agency
RTWG	Regional technical working group
RWB	Rwanda Water Resources Board
S2S	Sub-seasonal to seasonal
SADC	Southern African Development Community

SADP	Southern Africa Dialogue Platform South Asia Dialogue Platform
SAP	Structural Adjustment Programme
SAWS	South African Weather Services
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SE/CNSA	Burkina Faso Secrétariat Exécutif du Conseil National de sécurité Alimentaire (Executive Secretariat of the National Food Security Council)
SEBAC	Social Empowerment and Building Accessibility Centre
SEDESOL	Honduras Secretaría de Desarrollo Social (Ministry of Social Protection)
SEGRC	Djibouti Secrétariat Exécutif de Gestion des Risques et des Catastrophes (Executive Secretariat for Risk and Disaster Management)
SENAHMI	Servicio Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología del Perú (National Meteorology and Hydrology Service of Peru)
SEWAA	Strengthening Early Warning Systems for Anticipatory Action
SGR	Ecuador Secretaría Nacional de Gestión de Riesgos (National Risk Management Secretariat)
SIB	Statistical Institute of Belize
SIDS	Small island developing states
SINAPRED	Nicaragua Sistema Nacional para la Prevención, Mitigación y Atención de Desastres (National System for Disaster Prevention, Mitigation, and Response)
SISAAP	Système d'Informations sur la Sécurité Alimentaire et l'Alerte Précoce au Tchad (Food Security and Early Warning Information System in Chad)
Siuben	Dominican Republic Sistema Único de Beneficiarios (Single Beneficiary System
SL-AATWG	Sri Lanka Anticipatory Action technical working group
SLDP	Sri Lanka Dialogue Platform
SNGRD	Haiti Système national de gestion des risques de désastre or SNGRD (Disaster Risk Management System)
SO	Strategic Outcome
SoDMA	Somalia Disaster Management Agency
SOFF	Systematic Observations Financing Facility
SOPs	Standard operating procedures
SPI	Standard Precipitation Index
SPN	Cuba Social Protection Networks
SRSP	Shock-responsive social protection
SSMS	South Sudan Meteorological Services
SSRC	South Sudan Red Cross
SSTC	South-South and triangular cooperation
STS	Serving Together for Social development
SUSTAIN	Strengthening the Capacity of Government and Communities in South Sudan to Adapt to Climate Change
SWALIM	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization Somalia Water and Land Information Management

TASAF	Tanzania Social Action Fund
тс	Tropical cyclone
ТМА	Tanzania Meteorological Authority
TV	Transfer value
TWC-AA	Technical Working Committee on AA
TWG	Technical working group
UCT CSAG	University of Cape Town Climate System Analysis Group
UEM	University of Eduardo Mondlane
UGRS	Uganda Red Cross Society
UHM	Haiti Unité Hydro-Météorologique d'Haïti (National Hydrometeorological Service)
UK Met	United Kingdom Meteorological Office
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNGRD	Colombia Unidad Nacional para la Gestión de Riesgo de Desastres (National Unit for Disaster Risk Management)
UNHCR	United Nations Refugee Agency
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNRCO	United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office
UNU	United Nations University
USAID BHA	United States Agency for International Development Bureau of Humanitarian Affairs
US\$	United States dollar
VBT	Vulnerability-based targeting
VSF	Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Suisse (Vets without Borders Switzerland)
WASCO	Water and Sewage Company
WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WG	Working group
WHCA	Water at Heart of Climate Action
WHH	Welthungerhilfe
WISER	Weather and Climate Information Services
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WRI	World Risk Index
ZMD	Zambia Meteorological Department

# Photo credits

#### Cover:

Left: WFP/Michael Tewelde; WFP/Gonzalo Ruiz. Center left: WFP/Saikat Mojumder; WFP/Michael Tewelde; WFP/Mehedi Rahman. Center right: WFP/Saikat Mojumder; WFP/Gabriela Vivacqua; WFP/Michael Tewelde. Right: WFP/Michael Tewelde; WFP/Ali Adan; WFP/Mehedi Rahman. Weather map: British Crown copyright, Met Office. Page 4: WFP/Ali Adan Page 5: WFP/Michael Tewelde Page 8: WFP/Alison Cassells Page 9: WFP/Ali Adan Page 11: WFP/Angelo Mendoza Page 14: WFP/Mehedi Rahman Page 16: WFP/Rio Augusta Page 20: WFP/Mehedi Rahman Page 23: WFP Cambodia Page 31: WFP Kyrgyzstan Page 38: WFP/Shrawan Kumar Shrestha Page 41: WFP Fiji Page 45: Pakistan Red Crescent Society Page 48: WFP Sri Lanka Page 53: WFP/Michael Tewelde Page 55: WFP/Michael Tewelde Page 59: WFP/Irenee Nduwayezu Page 62: WFP/Mark Arango Page 66: WFP/Michael Te Page 70: WFP/Fredrik Lerneryd Page 74: WFP/Chamunoda Zambuko Page 78: WFP/Utaama Mahamud Page 84: WFP/John Cliff Wamala Page 85: WFP/Gabriela Vivacqua Page 87: WFP/KB Mpofu Page 90: WFP/Gabriela Vivacqua Page 93: WFP/Gabriela Vivacqua Page 94: WFP/Gabriela Vivacqua Page 96: WFP/Francis Thawani Page 104: WFP/Gabriela Vivacqua Page 110: Rafik Photographie/Mahamadou Dandare Page 111: Rafik Photographie/Mahamadou Dandare Page 118: WFP/Mireilla Cooper Page 121: WFP/Mariam Kone Page 128: Rafik Photographie/Mahamadou Dandare Page 129: Civil Aviation and Meteorology Authority (CAMA) Page 131: WFP Iraq Page 139: WFP/Luisa Paredes Page 141: WFP/Gonzalo Ruiz Page 145: WFP/Greta Aubke Page 148: WFP/Juan Amaru Page 151: WFP/WFP Cuba Page 160: WFP/Citric Media Page 163: WFP Guatemala Page 164: WFP/Luisa Paredes Page 168: WFP/Luc Junior Segur Page 172: WFP/Ana Lam

#### With support from



#### **World Food Programme**

Climate and Resilience Service Programme, Policy and Guidance Division - PPGR

Via Cesare Giulio Viola 68/70, 00148 Rome, Italy - T +39 06 65131 wfp.org/anticipatory-actions