



Anticipatory Action Activation

Bangladesh



Anticipatory Action to mitigate the impacts of floods in Bangladesh

In 2025, the World Food Programme (WFP), in collaboration with the government of Bangladesh, successfully implemented an anticipatory action (AA) activation ahead of predicted flash floods to mitigate the expected impacts on the lives and livelihoods of highly vulnerable people in Teknaf, Cox’s Bazar District, in southern Bangladesh.

On 28 May, the activation trigger was reached after the Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD), which had been closely monitoring forecasts across the country, issued a forecast of heavy rainfall likely to exceed a cumulative 150 mm in 72 hours, with an expected impact on more than 10 per cent of the population due to flash flooding.

On 29 May, WFP, in collaboration with the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR), BMD, and local authorities at the Upazila and Union Parishads levels, began providing anticipatory assistance to Rohingya host communities in Teknaf identified at risk, based on vulnerability assessments and mapping analysis.

As part of this activation, the following AAs were implemented two days before the floods:

1) Dissemination of early warning (EW) messages. Local volunteers and members of the Disaster Management Committee (DMC) used loudspeakers to disseminate EW messages. These messages, delivered to at-risk individuals, provided information about the predicted flood and guidance on how to reduce its impact on their lives, livelihoods, and food security.

Key facts

Location: Teknaf, Cox’s Bazar district	
Number of people supported with early warning messages	55,000
Number of people supported with anticipatory cash transfer	6,385

2) Distribution of anticipatory cash transfers. Ahead of the heavy rainfall-induced flash floods, families received BDT 5,000 (approximately US\$43) via mobile wallets. This pre-emptive support enabled families to purchase essential food items, such as rice, lentils, oil, dry snacks, and children's food supplies. Some households used part of the funds to buy materials like tarpaulin or bamboo to repair damaged roofs or walls, while others purchased medicine to meet basic medical needs. The cash assistance provided timely and flexible support to vulnerable families.

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

This activation has been made possible through US\$50,000 in fuel funding from the Government of Belgium as well as complementary systems-building investments in by the Governments of Germany, Ireland, and the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).

WFP, the Government of Bangladesh and partners will continue to monitor forecasts throughout the monsoon season and remain ready to preemptively protect at-risk populations in the event of additional floods or cyclones.



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