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Programme

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Anticipatory Action Activation

The Philippines



Anticipatory Action to mitigate the impacts of Super Typhoon Uwan in the Philippines

In November 2025, the World Food Programme (WFP), in collaboration with the Government of the Philippines, successfully implemented an anticipatory action (AA) activation ahead of Super Typhoon Uwan (also known as Fung-Wong), the strongest typhoon predicted to threaten the Philippines in recent years. This activation aimed to mitigate the expected impacts on the lives and livelihoods of highly vulnerable populations in Aurora, Cagayan, and Isabela provinces—areas most exposed in Regions II (Cagayan Valley) and III (Central Luzon).

WFP intervened in Regions II and III, which are outside the coverage of the AA Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) framework for typhoons (covering Regions V, VIII, and XIII). Given WFP's operational readiness, the in-country AA community agreed that WFP would be the sole agency delivering anticipatory assistance in these regions, following the trigger mechanism established by the CERF framework.

On 5 November, the CERF readiness trigger for Typhoon Uwan was met, with the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) forecasting landfall on 10 November and wind speed of 185 kph near the landfall point in Region 2 – exceeding the readiness threshold of 177km/h and providing a five-day lead time.

On 6 November, four days before predicted landfall, the activation trigger was met. WFP immediately activated anticipatory assistance. The activation trigger is determined based on the 510 model, which predicts building damage using windspeed and forecasts from the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF).

AA Activation—November 2025

Key facts

Location: Aurora, Cagayan, and Isabela provinces in the northern parts of Luzon along the eastern seaboard (Regions II and III)

Number of people reached with anticipatory cash transfers

210,000

As part of this activation, WFP implemented the following AA:

- **Anticipatory cash transfers distribution.** On the day the activation trigger was reached, WFP began distributing cash transfers to at-risk populations in Aurora, Cagayan, and Isabela provinces. Each family received USD73 directly into their bank accounts via the national protection registry (4Ps programme). The cash enabled families to meet immediate needs, support evacuation costs, safeguard homes and assets, and purchase food ahead of the typhoon.

In parallel to cash transfers, WFP supported the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in preparing and disseminating early warning messages, evacuation alerts, and sensitization materials through multiple channels, including Municipal Links, family development sessions, and Viber channels.

Immediately after landfall, WFP and DSWD conducted needs and impact assessment, transitioning to early response interventions.

This AA activation occurred in the context of significant and historical progress in institutionalizing AA within Philippines Government systems. In September 2025, the 'Declaration of State of Imminent Disaster Act' ("AA Bill") was enacted, enabling national and local governments to declare a state of imminent disaster and release anticipatory funding. WFP played a central role in this collective effort together with the national technical working group, and lessons from this activation will inform further operationalization of the Bill.

This activation was made possible through USD 3.1 million in pre-arranged funding from the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), and capacity strengthening funding support from the Government of Ireland. These contributions provided critical resources to enable the most vulnerable to protect themselves from the harmful impacts of the predicted typhoon.



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