



Anticipatory Action Activation

Belize



Anticipatory Action to mitigate the impacts of drought in Belize

In April 2026, WFP and Government of Belize, activated the Anticipatory Action (AA) mechanism in the Cayo, Orange Walk and Corozal Districts, ahead of predicted drought. This activation aimed at supporting smallholder farmers to maintain agricultural production and food security throughout the drought period.

On 7 April, the National Meteorological Service issued a seasonal rainfall outlook indicating a ≥ 70 percent probability of below-normal precipitation during the June–July–August season, reaching the agreed activation trigger.

The Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) activated was developed by WFP in coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and New Growth Industries (MAFSNGI), National Meteorological Service (NMS) and local extension officers and communities in Cayo, Corozal and Orange Walk Districts, frequently affected by drought. Farmers targeted were identified through the Belize Agricultural Information Management System (BAIMS) which is the government’s country-wide farmer registry. This activation enabled the rapid delivery of the following anticipatory actions before the planting season started:

- Dissemination of Early Warning Messages:** Messages about the projected below average rainfall conditions were disseminated to households via SMS, extension networks, and the Belize Weather App. By ensuring that households and agricultural extension officers receive clear, localized and timely climate information, the intervention strengthened preparedness, supported climate-informed decision-making, and enhances the ability of communities to anticipate and respond to drought conditions.

Key facts

Location: Cayo, Corozal and Orange Walk Districts	
Number of people reached with early warning messages	1,620
Number of people supported with anticipatory unconditional multipurpose cash transfers	1,620

- Distribution of anticipatory unconditional multipurpose cash transfers:** Individuals identified as at-risk received USD 200 through Western Union. Through anticipatory cash transfers provided before the June–July–August dry window, farmers were able to invest in essential measures, such as securing water storage, preserving livestock feed, or protecting crop growth, thereby reducing expected production losses and stabilizing household income and food availability during the drought.

These efforts are geared toward preventing the escalation of food insecurity into emergency situations, thereby promoting stability and well-being for farming communities at risk in Belize.

This activation was made possible through USD 137,000 in funding from the German Foreign Federal Office (GFFO) and complementary capacity strengthening funds for developing the AA plan from the Government of Ireland, Global Affairs Canada, the Government of the United States and the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations Department (DG ECHO). This support has been crucial to ensuring communities receive humanitarian assistance before drought impacts materialize.

