



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

Scaling up anticipatory actions for food security

Anticipatory Action Year in Focus 2023

April 2024

Cover:

Cash was distributed to people to improve their agricultural activities ahead of droughts in the Ebelo commune, as part of WFP's anticipatory action programme in Madagascar.

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The activation of the AAP in Guatemala resulted in distribution of drought-resistant seeds and cash-based transfers to thousands of smallholder farmers in the Dry Corridor, Guatemala.



Foreword

Humanity has been measuring the climate for 174 years. 2023 was the hottest year on record.

Human-induced climate change – catalysed by the onset of El Niño conditions – brought unprecedented heatwaves and wildfires, widespread drought, and severe floods caused by melting snowpacks, erratic monsoons, and tropical storms. Analysis clearly shows that these hazards are becoming more frequent and more intense.

At the same time, there is a widening gap between the amount of support that the global humanitarian system can provide to people whose lives are turned upside down by climate shocks, and the level of support required. So it is more important than ever that humanitarian actors adopt proactive strategies that prevent predictable climate shocks from turning into costly emergencies.

I am proud to say that the World Food Programme is playing a global leadership role in the expansion of these strategies, by scaling up anticipatory action throughout its operations. In 2023, WFP covered 4.1 million people across 36 countries with anticipatory assistance and “last-mile” early warning information systems, triggering forecast-based support to 2.1 million people. All done in close collaboration with local communities, national governments, and regional and humanitarian partners.

Anticipatory Action is especially important to protect people from El Niño, a cyclical climate phenomenon that reverses typical warming and cooling patterns in the Pacific Ocean and causes global temperature and precipitation anomalies. Between 2014-2016, extreme weather caused by El Niño conditions left over 60 million people globally in need of humanitarian assistance.

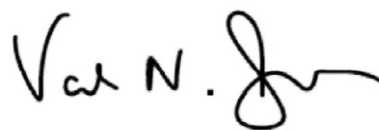
In contrast, WFP anticipated the effects of the 2023 El Niño season as soon as predictions were released in early 2023. In the Horn of Africa – where El Niño was expected to bring excess rainfall – WFP fast-tracked its flood anticipatory action plans and early warning messages, reaching 442,209 people in Somalia several days before some areas were hit by the deadliest floods in decades. Similarly, by layering El Niño impact predictions with country-specific data, WFP was able to activate anticipatory action and early warning systems in Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, releasing US\$14 million to protect the food security and livelihoods of 1,245,577 people from predicted drought effects.

These are just two examples from the 2023 Annual Report for Anticipatory Action that illustrate how WFP and partners are helping to build a more forward-looking global humanitarian system. I hope you find the contents informative and a valuable insight into our plans to create new levels of protection for the world’s most vulnerable people – in 2024 and beyond.

The innovative work described in this report was made possible by our partners and donors. I am deeply grateful for their steadfast and generous support.

Valerie Guarnieri

*Assistant Executive Director
Programme Operations Department
World Food Programme*



“ **Anticipatory action** is defined as acting ahead of predicted hazards to prevent or reduce acute humanitarian impacts before they fully unfold.

This requires pre-agreed plans that identify partners and activities, reliable early warning information, and pre-agreed financing, released predictably and rapidly when an agreed trigger-point is reached.

”

(Definition included in the G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement)

Anticipatory cash transfers to people in need ahead of predicted floods, Burundi.



Executive Summary

2023 was the hottest year ever recorded. A natural El Niño cycle added to the rising trend of global warming, resulting in more frequent and intense droughts, floods, and tropical cyclones. To mitigate these risks, WFP activated Anticipatory Actions (AA) in countries in which the impact of El Niño was predicted to be especially severe.

WFP's global AA portfolio amounted to US\$70.75 million, including US\$61.5 million of prearranged financing for forecast-based activations. This scale up was possible thanks to the support from donor partners such as Australia, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Norway, Republic of South Korea, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), the European Union, the Adaptation Fund, Google.org and the Green Climate Fund.

SCALING UP

WFP scaled up its Anticipatory Action (AA) operations from covering 3.2 million people in 28 countries in 2022 to covering 4.1 million people in 36 countries in 2023. Additional countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean are now able to reach more people with AA to reduce the effects of increasingly recurrent extreme weather events, including: Fiji, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Pakistan, Malawi, the United Republic of Tanzania, Rwanda and South Sudan.

During COP28, WFP endorsed the "[Getting Ahead of Disasters](#)" Charter and the [COP28 Declaration on Climate, Relief, Recovery and Peace](#). This included a commitment to scale up prearranged funds for anticipatory action programmes, provide support to national governments and local actors to protect the most vulnerable populations from climate shocks and prevent further losses and damages to lives and livelihoods.

TABLE 1
AA activations in 2023

Country with AA activation in 2023	Hazard Triggered	People reached through anticipatory transfers	People reached with early warning information	Prearranged funds disbursed (US\$)
Bangladesh	Cyclone	28,045	41,053	210,017
Bangladesh	Floods	26,715	0	200,057
Burundi	Floods	9,350	0	162,000
Guatemala	Drought	5,095	10,220	281,793
Haiti	Floods	18,775	562,470	1,429,866
Lesotho	Drought	21,260	792,877	3,192,466
Madagascar	Drought	101,701	107,700	3,258,627
Mozambique	Drought	41,600	270,000	2,548,972
Somalia	Floods	218,718	442,209	3,991,033
Zimbabwe	Drought	66,000	75,000	5,000,000
TOTAL		638,960	2,301,529	20,274,831

ACTIVATIONS

In 2023, Anticipatory Actions (AAs) were activated in Bangladesh, Burundi, Guatemala, Haiti, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, Somalia and Zimbabwe. Over US\$20.2 million was rapidly disbursed for the activations, resulting in 638,960 people receiving anticipatory cash transfers and over 2.3 million people receiving early warning information to protect their lives, food security and livelihoods ahead of predicted flood, cyclone or drought events. The findings of the monitoring and evaluation of the activations will be available in 2024.

EVIDENCE GENERATION

In 2023, WFP continued to collect new evidence on AA based on past interventions. Findings from the impact evaluation of the Nepal 2022 floods indicate an overall net gain in food security, coping strategies and psychological wellbeing for people who received AA compared to post-shock transfers. In Madagascar, people who received AAs ahead of predicted drought during the 2022/23 season consumed more food and more diverse food (such as more vegetables, protein and lipid-rich foods) and had higher resilience capacity than for the control group. In Somalia, findings from the 2022 drought activation show that despite the severity of the drought, households who received AA were less likely to resort to 'crisis' coping strategies.

WFP also conducted a regional assessment of its investment in building government-owned AA systems in southern Africa. The assessment indicates that significant progress has been made in improving government early warning systems, AA planning and operational readiness across Madagascar, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, with financing- particularly national allocations and disbursement processes- as the key gap to be prioritized moving forward.

INSTITUTIONALIZATION WITHIN GOVERNMENT SYSTEMS

In 2023, WFP intensified its support to government systems in disaster-prone regions. In Somalia, WFP assisted in formulating a national flood AA framework, empowering the Government, led by the Somalia Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA), to effectively

coordinate multi-actor AAs ahead of El Niño-induced floods. In Bangladesh, Fiji, Haiti, Lesotho and Mozambique, WFP supported government-led AA including through the national social protection programmes, using innovative approaches in fragile and conflict-affected settings. WFP facilitated two south-south AA cooperation exchanges between the Governments of Indonesia and the Philippines and between the governments of the Dominican Republic and Mozambique to learn about integration of AA principles in policy and financial frameworks.

WFP also played a pivotal role in bolstering regional institutions capacity for AA. Collaborating closely with entities like the Centre for Coordination of Disaster Preparedness in Central America (known in Spanish as Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de los Desastres en América Central or CEPREDENAC) in Central America, WFP facilitated the signing of the Declaration of the Mitch+25 Forum, marking a significant commitment to integrating AA into regional risk management systems. In eastern Africa, WFP partnered with the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) to develop the IGAD Regional Roadmap for AA, enhancing coordination among member states like Ethiopia, Somalia, and South Sudan. In western Africa, the Regional AA for Food Security Task Force was launched together with a regional strategy for AA for food security.

KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND LEARNING

As AA approaches continue to be mainstreamed in government, development, and humanitarian systems it has become increasingly necessary to strengthen the foundations of knowledge management and learning. In 2023, WFP shared case studies, advocacy documents, fact sheets, impact evaluations, and experiences from the field in numerous external fora, including WFP's AA website, the REAP and the Anticipation Hub. Internally, WFP continued the webinar series focusing on field operations, government-led AA systems and corporate reporting processes. WFP's AA resource space continued to be updated with onboarding packages for new WFP staff, as well as with corporate guidance on accessing AA funds, communicating AA progress and results to external audiences, and linkages to complementary WFP programmes.

People WFP supports in the host community, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.





A woman crosses the Brahmaputra river with the firewood she has collected from Nearby chars (Islands) in Bangladesh, a country severely affected by floods.

Vision, Goals, Targets

VISION

In a world ravaged by an ever-growing number of climate shocks, WFP has committed, as part of the REAP, to making one billion people safer from disasters by 2025. As part of this ambition, WFP will work with partners to expand early action financing significantly, improve early warning systems, and grow capacity to act on pre-identified risks.

For WFP, anticipatory action is critical for protecting people's food security, lives and livelihoods from the impacts of predictable climate hazards. The mindset of how we respond to predictable emergencies is changing, and WFP remains committed to innovation,

to implement AA and financing at scale, to promote a sustainable anchoring of forecast-based protocols across humanitarian and development institutions, and to support partners in developing capacities to achieve this paradigm shift.

As the largest humanitarian agency worldwide, WFP is a well-positioned partner to deliver on these commitments. Leveraging its deep field presence, knowledge of local contexts and expertise working within the immediate food security needs – increased resilience continuum, WFP works with government and humanitarian partners to drive a systemic shift from reactive to proactive risk-management solutions.

GOALS

WFP aims to prevent or reduce the impact of predictable climate hazards on vulnerable populations by:

1. Strengthening national and local capacities to anticipate future emergencies more effectively and reach the increasing number of food insecure people that are exposed to recurrent and predictable climate hazards. Indeed, integrating AA in government disaster management or social protection systems presents opportunities for scale, impact and sustainability.
2. Directly delivering anticipatory action at scale on behalf of, or in coordination with national governments and partners. The availability of prearranged financing to implement AA where and whenever needs arise, is instrumental in reaching scale and generating the necessary evidence to further institutionalize the approach.

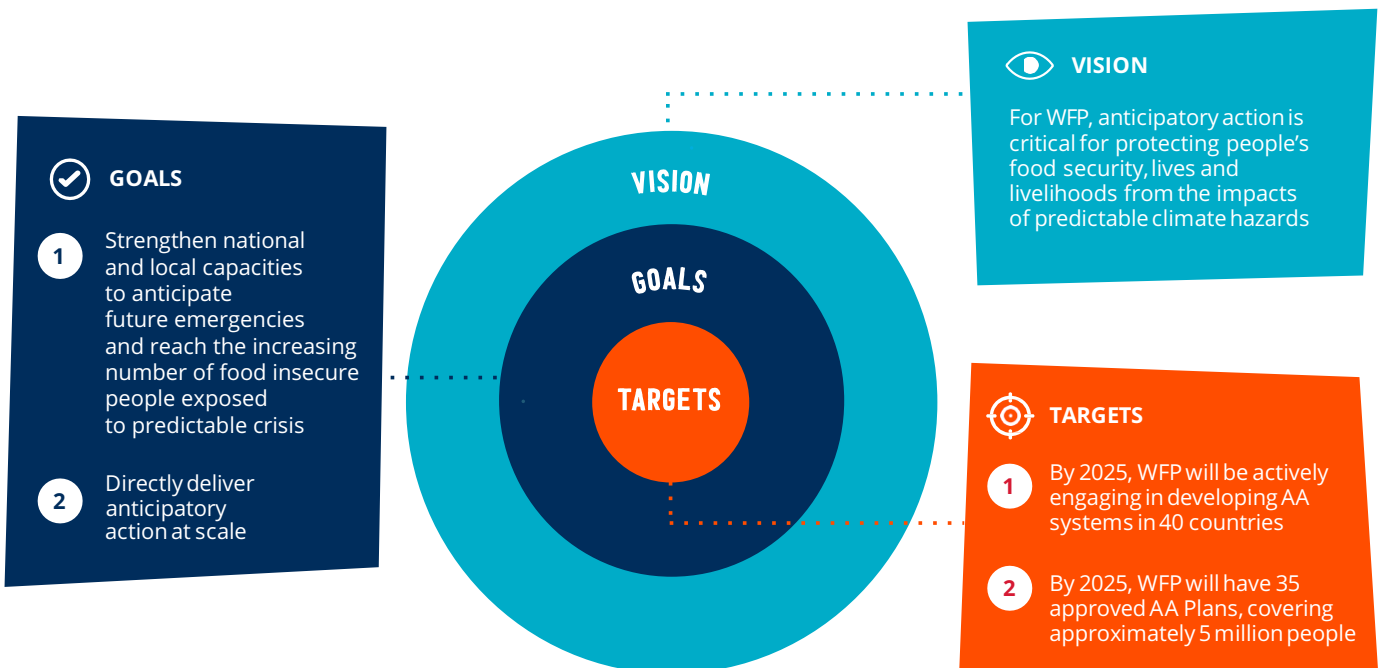
TARGETS

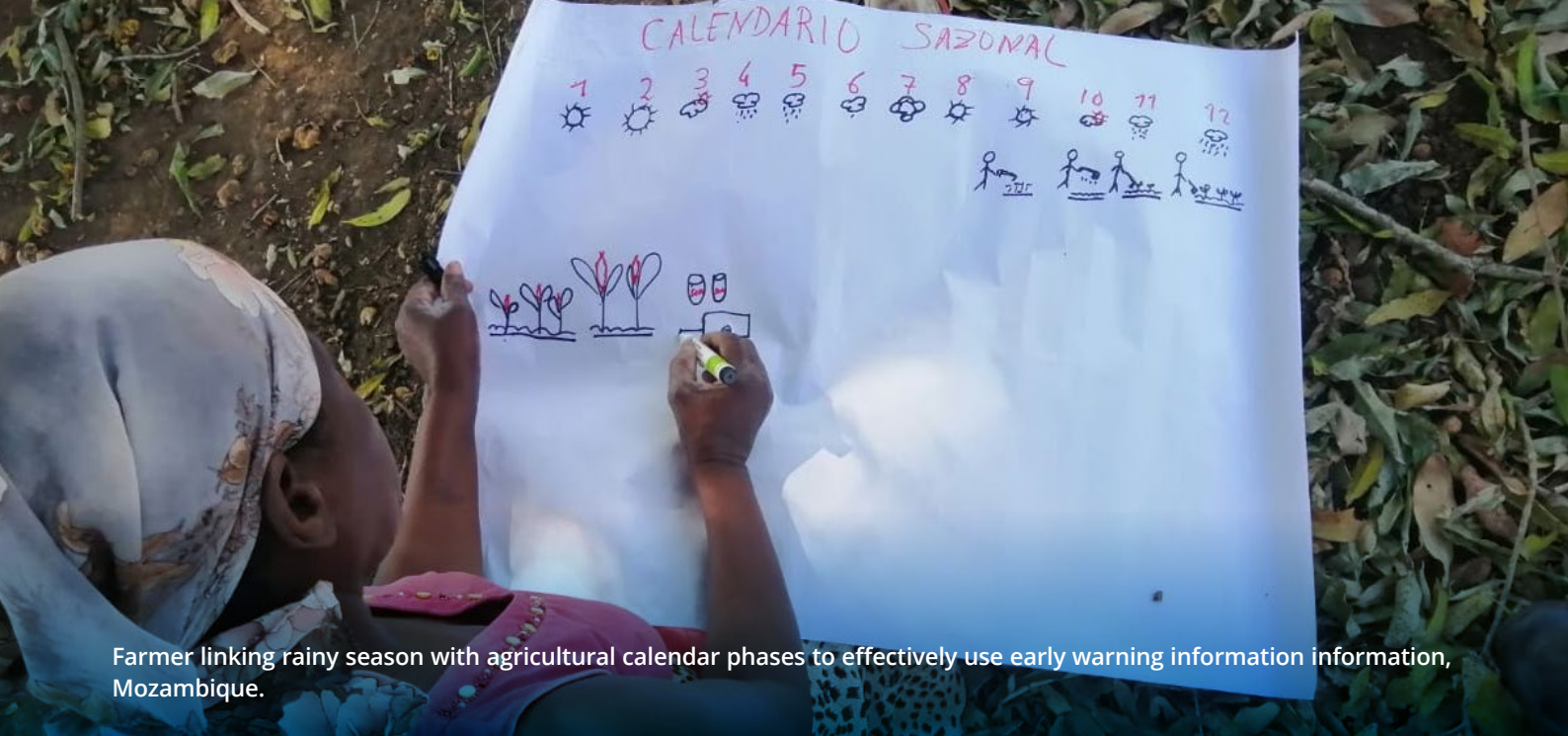
Target 1. By 2025, WFP will be actively engaging in developing AA systems in 40 countries.

Target 2. By 2025, WFP will have 35 approved AA Plans, covering approximately 5 million people.



A simulation exercise organized by the anticipatory action team at the school level, where students are trained to access early warning information and household-level anticipatory actions, Nepal.





Farmer linking rainy season with agricultural calendar phases to effectively use early warning information, Mozambique.

WFP's Approach to Anticipatory Action

BACKGROUND

The climate crisis poses a significant risk to food systems, disproportionately affecting the most food insecure people around the world. Climate variability and extreme weather events also interact with other main drivers of hunger and malnutrition, including conflict and economic shocks (now exacerbated by the lasting impacts of the COVID-19 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 a changing climate. 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.

ANTICIPATORY ACTION FOR EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS

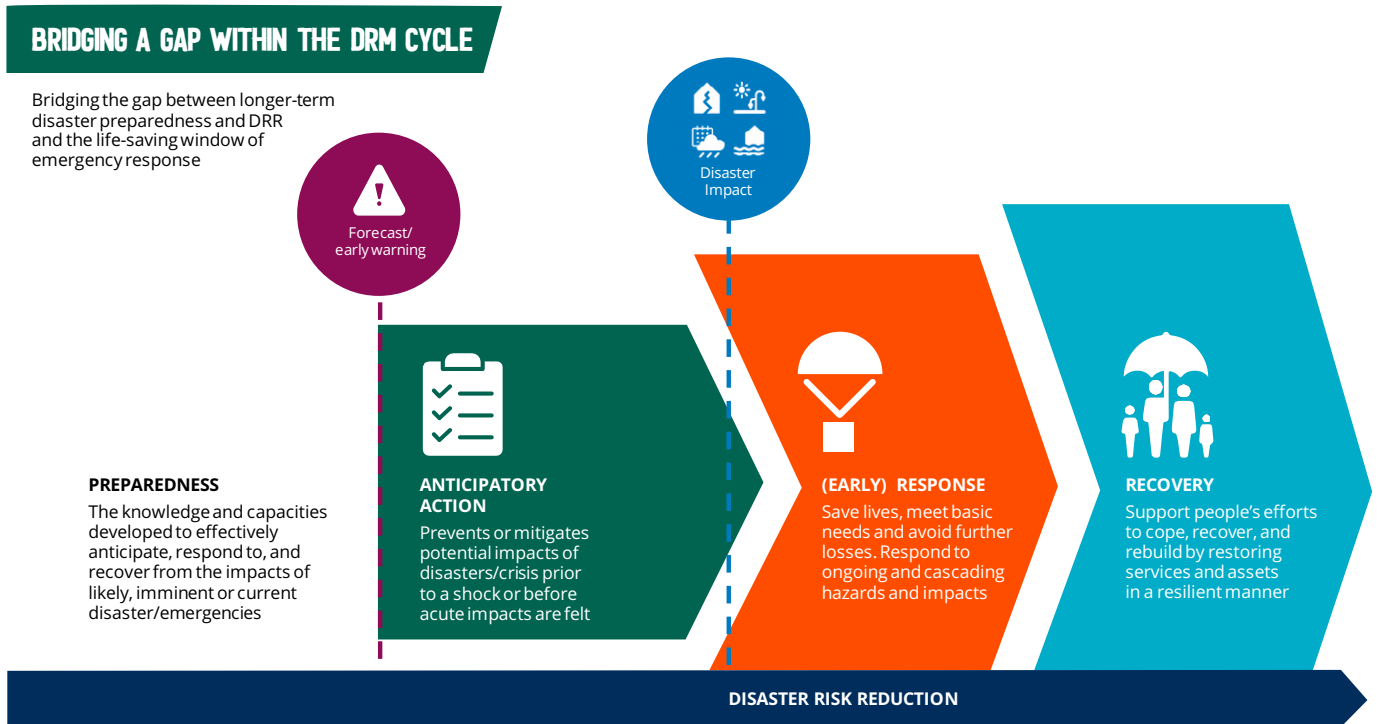
Anticipatory Actions (AAs) are “predefined actions taken ahead of predicted hazards to prevent or reduce acute

humanitarian impacts before they fully unfold”.¹ 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 Risk-informed 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.

1. [G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement on Strengthening Anticipatory Action in Humanitarian Assistance - Federal Foreign Office \(auswaertiges-amt.de\)](#)

FIGURE 1



Source: WFP.

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. A study in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia suggests potential cost savings of US\$1.6 billion over 15 years if action to reduce drought impacts is taken prior to price increases and people resorting to negative coping strategies. 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.

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.

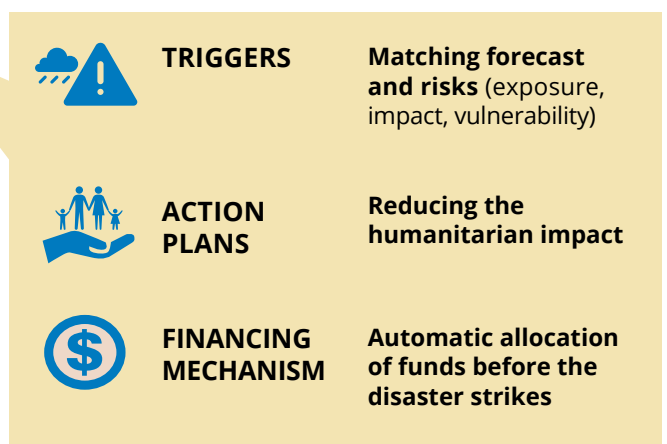
CORE COMPONENTS OF ANTICIPATORY ACTION

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

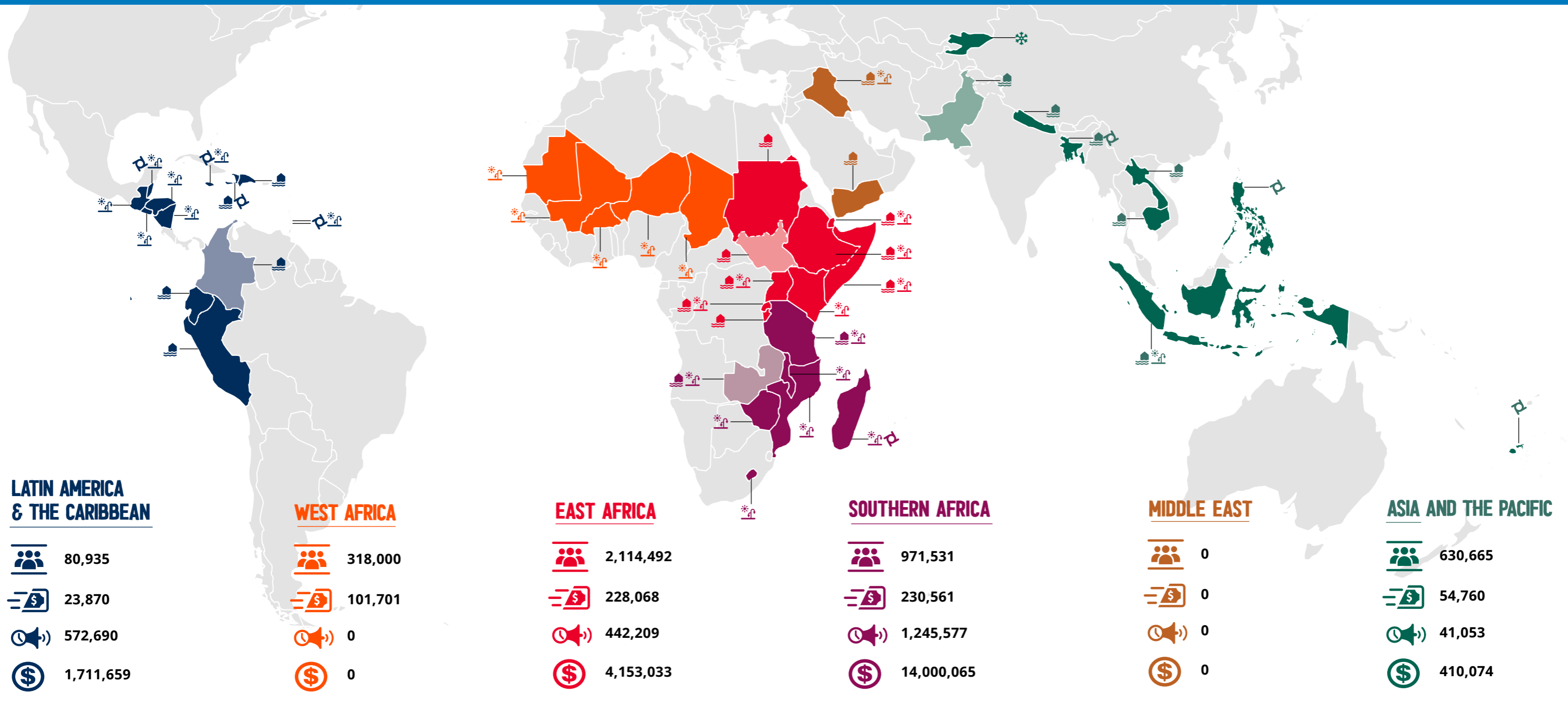
- **Forecast triggers:** Triggers are used to decide when to act. In the case of AA, triggers usually consist of weather or impact-based forecasts stating that an imminent extreme weather event (and its associated impacts) will likely exceed a specific threshold. Once received, this forecast triggers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

FIGURE 2

Core components of anticipatory action



2023 KEY HIGHLIGHTS



LEGEND

- People covered
- People reached with anticipatory transfers
- People reached with early warning messages
- US\$ Funds Disbursed
- Flood
- Drought
- Cyclone
- Snow Frost
- Current countries
- Expansion countries

WFP is supporting governments and communities to manage growing climate risks through anticipatory action and early warning information in **36 countries** covering over **4.1 million people** with **US\$61.5 million** prearranged finance across Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

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ASIA AND THE PACIFIC




People WFP supports receiving anticipatory cash in The Philippines.

KEY INFORMATION


 **People covered**
630,665

 **People reached with anticipatory transfers**
54,760

 **People reached with early warning messages**
41,053

 **US\$ funds disbursed**
410,074

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

 **Regional Partners**

1. Regional technical working group on AA (TWG-AA: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and others)
2. United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)
3. Technical agencies: Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC), Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia (RIMES)

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

In 2023, the Asia-Pacific region continued to witness significant climate challenges. These include continued cyclone activity, with notable events including Cyclone Mocha in Myanmar and Bangladesh in May affecting approximately 3.4 million people, and back-to-back cyclones in Vanuatu between March and October, affecting more than 80 percent of the population. Additionally, monsoon rains in Bangladesh resulted in flash floods in July, and El Niño conditions from July onwards exacerbated drought conditions in Southeast Asia, particularly affecting Indonesia. Where deployed for these events, Anticipatory Action (AA) proved effective, highlighting its positive effects and need for further scale up and expansion, which continued throughout 2023.

Recognizing the positive impact, WFP in Asia and the Pacific scaled up AA programming across the region, covering more people, new hazards, and new geographical areas. WFP has included an additional 195,000 people under its Anticipatory Action Plans, and currently has the capacity to cover over a million people in Bangladesh, Nepal, the Philippines and Fiji

prior to floods and cyclones. The new geographical areas in which WFP began AA work in 2023 include Fiji (with a new United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) Framework approved), and Pakistan (with the foundational elements of a robust AA system). Fiji has developed the first AA CERF framework, in which anticipatory cash will be fully channelled through the Government's social protection system. Pakistan on its side conducted an assessment to define the geographical targeting of AA and its feasibility, and also extended support to the Pakistan Red Crescent to scale up its recently approved AAP for floods to additional locations and people. WFP Kyrgyzstan has continued its work on AA in strong collaboration with the Government and has brought in a new hazard as it is developing an AAP to mitigate the effects of cold waves and heavy snow fall on livelihoods and food security in remote mountain communities.

This year, WFP activated twice against cyclones and flash floods in the region, both times in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. In May, WFP reached 41,053 people with early warning messages and 28,045 people with anticipatory cash, a day ahead of Cyclone Mocha. The triggers were activated again during

the heavy rainfall-induced flash floods in August, when WFP distributed cash assistance to 26,715 individuals. Under the broader objective of strengthening AA systems, WFP continued to work closely with disaster management authorities, hydrometeorological agencies and social protection ministries to strengthen government capacities to understand and integrate AA into national systems.

In 2023, WFP facilitated its first AA south-south cooperation exchange between the Governments of Indonesia and the Philippines to learn about the policy framework in the pre-impact context, impact-based early warning, institutionalized governance, coordination structures, and the legal basis for pre-impact funding. Additionally, in the Philippines, WFP supported the Office of Civil Defence to draft the policy on “Declaration of State of Imminent Disaster” that will enable national and local government authorities to access funds to implement AA. In Indonesia, in anticipation of El Niño, WFP supported the integration of AA into local contingency plans; this will be implemented through national budgets if triggers are met. In Bangladesh, in coordination with the social protection and disaster management ministries, WFP linked AA triggers to two social safety net programmes to support households ahead of floods.

Regarding evidence generation, WFP in Asia Pacific has developed the first impact evaluation on AA based on the activation in Nepal in October 2022, using a randomized control trial methodology to measure the impact of anticipatory cash compared to later post-shock transfers. The results indicate

an overall net gain from providing cash prior to the impact in terms of food security, coping strategies and mental health. The final report will be publicly available in 2024.

Improving early warning systems remains a priority for improving the accuracy and timeliness of the forecasts on which AA is based. As such, WFP worked with partners to support the development of national roadmaps under the Early Warnings for All (EW4ALL) initiative in Nepal, Bangladesh, Cambodia and Lao People’s Democratic Republic. In Nepal, WFP continued to support the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology to improve the reliability of forecast products, refine flood thresholds and the EWS to improve decision making around AA at national and sub-national levels. In Cambodia, WFP leveraged its partnership 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 and streamlined multiple donor initiatives to support the Ministry of Water Resource Management and the National Committee for Disaster Management to strengthen the flood EWS and AA.

WFP, through the Regional Anticipatory Action Technical Working Group (AA-TWG), contributed to key strategic and guiding documents, including the technical standards on AA; the technical note on anticipatory cash for rapid onsets; and the joint AA regional roadmap, which identifies key priorities for the next five years around trigger development, financing, evidence generation and policy advocacy.



A committee comprised representatives from marginalized households exposed to regular floods, who are trained on a set of anticipatory actions needed at the community level (e.g., clearing of sewage and maintenance of safe houses) in Nepal.



Target location

Jamuna River basin (Kurigram, Gaibandha, Sirajganj, Jamalpur and Bogura districts); Padma River basin (Madaripur, Shariatpur and Manikganj districts); cyclone-prone coastal districts (Khulna, Shatkhaira, Potuakhali and Barguna districts) and Teknaf in Cox's Bazar.



Donors

United Nations Central Emergency Response, German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), and European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) and United States Agency for International Development Bureau of Humanitarian Affairs (USAID BHA).



Key Partners

1. Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS)
2. German Red Cross (GRC)
3. Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR)
4. Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA)
5. Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC)
6. Department of Disaster Management (DDM)
7. Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD)
8. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
9. Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
10. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)



Hazards

Floods and cyclones



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Bangladesh:

- Scaled up to new hazards and coverage to include flood-prone districts in the Padma River basin and cyclone-prone districts in the south-west region, covering in total over 260,000 people. Reached 60,000 people with early warning information and 28,045 people with anticipatory cash in Teknaf, Cox's Bazar, ahead of Cyclone Mocha.
- Distributed cash assistance to 26,715 individuals when the triggers were activated again during the heavy rainfall-induced flash floods in August.
- Designed a shock-responsive social protection programme which links Anticipatory Action (AA) to major safety nets.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN BANGLADESH

Thanks to funding from the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), the European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) and United States Agency for International Development Bureau of Humanitarian Affairs (USAID BHA). WFP Bangladesh is able to develop its AA portfolio, which is embedded in [WFP Bangladesh Country Strategic Plan \(2017-2021\) Activity 8](#), which is intended to “create evidence related to innovative approaches to enhance resilience of food-insecure households exposed to climate-related shocks and stresses”.

WFP Bangladesh has been collaborating with the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), the German Red Cross (GRC), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC's) Red Cross Climate Centre, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), partner United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to implement AA and support vulnerable populations ahead of forecast hazards. This joint work, which began in 2020, has expanded to cover a wider geographic area and more hazards, now including flood-prone districts along the Jamuna River and Padma River and cyclone-prone districts in the southern region.

In 2023, Bangladesh made significant strides in integrating AA into its national disaster management framework. At the start of the year, the AA Technical Working Group (AA-TWG), led by the BDRCS, was formally included in the Humanitarian Coordination Task Team. Along with GRC and IFRC, WFP supports the BDRCS in overall coordination on AA. Collaborating with the Taskforce on Forecast-based Financing and Action (AA) and the AA-TWG led by the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR), WFP supported the development of government-owned harmonized Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for riverine floods and cyclones. Furthermore, WFP designed a shock-responsive social protection programme which links AA to major social safety net programmes. WFP aims to reach a million people through these initiatives, and by adopting decentralized triggers for specific disaster-prone areas. This reflects progress in country capacity strengthening, contributing to a more coordinated and effective disaster response in Bangladesh.

WFP expanded its AA programme in Bangladesh to provide timely and effective support to over 260,000 people.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

WFP is supporting the Government to mainstream AA into the national disaster management system, through the development of harmonized SOPs for floods and cyclones in collaboration with the AA-TWG and the Taskforce on AA. This initiative has been enhancing coordination, improving response mechanisms, and ensuring more effective and timely support to people at risk.

In collaboration with MoDMR and the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA), WFP designed a shock-responsive social protection programme in Bangladesh, linking AA triggers and protocols to two of the largest safety net programmes in Bangladesh, namely the Emergency Grievance Redress and the Mother and Child Benefit Programme.

WFP Bangladesh produced a case study on how the different components of an AA system (namely policy, science, finance, and implementation) have been strengthened by the national AA community and how to continue this work in the future to further support the institutionalization and implementation of AA. Overall, the study recognized significant progress made on the policy aspects, particularly on the inclusion of AA at the policy level in the Government's Standing Orders on Disasters, and the development of government-led harmonized protocols for cyclones and floods. Areas which need further support include access to disaster risk financing for implementation of AA, and capacity strengthening of other relevant ministries – responsible for issues such as agriculture and public health – moving towards a cross-sectoral and whole-of-society approach to ensure sustainable integration of AA.

WFP continues its lead support to overall coordination and capacity strengthening, through the government-led AA Taskforce and the TWG-AA, with the intention of enhancing readiness and coordination for effective implementation of Anticipatory Action in the country.

Forecasts and triggers

As part of the scaling up of the CERF AA framework into cyclone-prone regions, United Nations agencies have developed a trigger mechanism, based on the nationally led harmonized SOPs. This is now included in the CERF AA framework for Bangladesh. WFP has also supported the design of decentralized trigger mechanisms for riverine floods in Kurigram District, and for Haor flash floods in Sylhet District in order to support localized AA activation.

The Government of Bangladesh has appointed a focal point in the MoDMR to coordinate with ministries, and EW4All has been aligned with TWG-AA. WFP, along with IFRC, is leading this initiative in Bangladesh. Supported by the United Nations, Bangladesh has conducted stakeholder mapping and national consultations for the development of a roadmap, which was presented at COP28 in November.

Anticipatory actions

In 2023, WFP Bangladesh focused primarily on further expansion of the Common Beneficiary Database in three flood-prone districts, two cyclone-prone districts, and two districts susceptible to Haor flash floods in the north-east region. The AA Common Database now incorporates information on 350,000 of the most vulnerable households, which facilitates targeting and quick support to at-risk people before disasters occur.

AA activations

In 2023, WFP activated twice against cyclones and flash floods in Teknaf, Cox's Bazar. WFP reached 41,053 people with early warning messages, and 28,045 people with anticipatory cash, a day ahead of [Cyclone Mocha](#) in May. The triggers were activated again during the heavy rainfall-induced [flash floods](#) in August, when WFP distributed cash assistance to 26,715 individuals. Families received BDT 4,100 (US\$37) 12 hours prior to the onset of the flood, enabling them to prepare for the heavy monsoon rains and flash floods.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Bangladesh will:

- Continue the expansion of Anticipatory Action. WFP aims to further expand its AA initiatives in Bangladesh, reaching additional disaster-prone areas, and increasing the coverage of the Common Database to enhance targeted assistance. WFP will focus on further enhancing the AA Common Database, and refining data collection and analysis processes to include additional vulnerable households in disaster-prone regions.
- Integrate with National Disaster Response. Building on the progress made in 2023, WFP will continue to work closely with the Government, technical groups, and key ministries to integrate AA into Bangladesh's national disaster response system, strengthening coordination and response mechanisms.
- Enhance shock-responsive social protection programmes in collaboration with the MoDMR and the MoWCA, and aim to focus on the implementation of shock-responsive social protection programmes, linking AA to major safety net initiatives in the country.
- Make advances in early warning systems. WFP will actively contribute to the EW4All global initiative, continuing its leadership role in strengthening early warning systems in Bangladesh. This involves ongoing collaboration with relevant ministries, the development of decentralized trigger mechanisms, and alignment with the EW4All roadmap.



Women working on the pumpkin cultivation site on the sandbank in Kurigram, where WFP supports Bangladeshis in adapting to the increasing climate risk.



Target location
Work initiated at national level

Donors
European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Operations (DG ECHO) and German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO).

Key Partners

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

Hazards
Floods

Key Achievements
In 2023, WFP Cambodia:

- Kicked off the preparations for the development of an AA Plan focusing on floods.
- Discussed with the Government to have a pilot ready for the monsoon season 2024, with the objective of demonstrating AA in line with the Government's Disaster Risk Management (DRM) system, the social protection policy and institutional framework.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN CAMBODIA

Thanks to funding from the European Commission European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) and the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), WFP Cambodia has been able to develop an AA programme which falls under Activity 2 of the [WFP Cambodia Country Strategic Plan \(CSP 2019-2023\)](#): "Provide technical support and backstopping to national stakeholders engaged in shock preparedness and response mechanisms and risk information coordination". This activity is intended to complement and contribute to the Government's efforts to achieve zero hunger through supporting social protection, climate and DRM, as well as food security and nutrition.

In 2023, WFP Cambodia contracted the Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia (RIMES) to support with the development of an anticipatory action plan for floods, with expected completion by April 2024.

In 2023, WFP Cambodia continued to refine its trigger definition and develop an enabling policy environment for AA, by focusing on risk analysis for decision making and for implementation of AA through the social protection system.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

WFP organized an inception meeting with key government counterparts and development partners to formally kick-start the AAP development process. Stakeholder validation workshops and related training are planned for the first quarter of 2024.

As part of raising awareness on AA and its links to the shock-responsive social protection systems (SRSP), WFP facilitated the participation of government staff from the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) and the General Secretariat for the National Social Protection Council (GS-NSPC) in the Regional Dialogue Platform for AA in Kathmandu, Nepal, and the Regional Social Protection Week in Indonesia, Bali. In both forums, representatives of NCDM and GS-NSPC engaged in policy discussions on AA and SRSP in the context of Cambodia and regionally.

Forecasts and triggers

WFP and RIMES initiated the development of forecast models and trigger mechanisms under the ongoing AA programme. Trigger testing simulations are planned for the first quarter of 2024, and WFP anticipates that the mechanism will be ready for piloting by the next peak monsoon period in September-November.

Anticipatory actions

As part of the AAP development process, priority anticipatory actions were developed through community consultations and key stakeholder contributions. WFP Cambodia will seek to prioritize a cash approach, with early alerts through Cambodia's official early warning systems. The actions will be validated during the consultation workshops in early 2024 and piloted during the 2024 monsoon.

AA activations

No activations took place in 2023.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Cambodia will:

- Develop the AAP for floods by April 2024.
- Deliver AA training sessions, jointly with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), to strengthen national capacities on AA following the methodology developed by the regional TWG. Engage in further development of AA across all key areas, including strengthening partnerships with the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology (MoWRAM) and the Ministry of the Environment (MoE), data and risk analysis, and continued policy advocacy with GS-NSPC and NCDM on strengthening AA-SRSP synergies.



House flooded a few days after any days of heavy rain in November 2023, Kampong Chhnang Province, Cambodia.



Target location

Work initiated at national level with dynamic targeting approach at local level.



Donors

United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO).



Key Partners

1. Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection (MWCSPP)
2. Ministry of Finance (MoF)
3. National Disaster Management Office (NDMO)
4. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)



Hazards

Cyclones



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Fiji:

- Developed the first Anticipatory Action (AA) project funded by the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to provide multi-purpose anticipatory cash to 15,000 social protection households in the event of a cyclone.
- Along with United Nations agencies, co-organized the first Pacific Week of Anticipatory Action Conference with all Pacific countries represented.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN FIJI

Thanks to the funding from CERF and the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), WFP Fiji has developed an AA programme, which falls under Activity 2 of the [Pacific Multi-Country Strategic Plan \(2023-2027\)](#). Activity 2 sets out WFP's intention to "work with governments and regional stakeholders to strengthen their capacity to understand, anticipate, mitigate and reduce the impact of disasters and long-term climate change on the food and nutrition security of the most vulnerable populations". Overall, this AA activity contributes to strengthening the systems and capacity of governments and regional stakeholders to reduce vulnerability to food insecurity and malnutrition.

In 2023, WFP Pacific Multi Country Office (PMCO) focused on building awareness and understanding on AA among fourteen small island developing states (SIDS). Along with United Nations agencies (United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and others, the PMCO supported the first orientation workshop with government DRM officials and set up the first CERF AA pilot project in the Pacific. WFP's project under the CERF AA framework for Fiji is arranged to deliver anticipatory cash through the Government's social protection system.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) between WFP, MoF and MWCSPP guides the implementation process.

Forecasts and triggers

The forecasting and triggers for the CERF AA framework were designed by Fiji MetService and the OCHA Humanitarian Data Hub through deep analysis of climate data and historical impacts, and extensive consultation with key stakeholders and communities. WFP PMCO provided training to MWCSPP, including science and trigger interpretation; implementation elements regarding targeting and prioritization complaints; and feedback mechanisms, messaging, and post-distribution monitoring.

Anticipatory actions

The Interagency AA Framework for Cyclones for CERF funding has been endorsed by the National Disaster Management Council and is due to be approved by cabinet in early 2024. Extensive consultations and coordination between the Government, communities and United Nations agencies took place to define the multi-sectoral actions that will take place under

the AA framework, led respectively by each ministry and United Nations agency aligned to the cluster-coordination logic. Under this holistic approach, WFP PMCO will provide an anticipatory cash package of FJD 200 (US\$88) to an estimated 15,000 social protection households in the projected pathway of the cyclone once the trigger is met. Geographic prioritization will occur, and if the total number of eligible social protection beneficiaries is above 15,000, then prioritization will be conducted between social protection programmes. This prioritizes disability, followed by proxy-means tested poverty, households with vulnerable children, and then the elderly.

AA activations

No activations took place in 2023.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP PMCO will:

- Continue developing the SOPs and ensure the MoU is signed by all government parties.
- Continue to conduct tabletop exercises to ensure all MWCSP staff are aware of the processes required for rapid disbursement. In addition, further training will be provided with MWCSP on messaging and targeting.
- Continue to strengthen Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM) methodologies.



Anticipatory action workshop with staff members of Fiji's Social Protection department.



Target location

Kalimantan Barat, Nusa Tenggara Timur (NTT) and Yogyakarta provinces.



Donors

Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO).



Key Partners

1. Coordinating Ministry for Human Development and Cultural Affairs (known in Bahasa Indonesia as Kementerian Koordinator Bidang Pembangunan Manusia dan Kebudayaan or PMK)
2. Meteorological, Climatological and Geophysical Agency (known in Bahasa Indonesia as Badan Meteorologi, Klimatologi, dan Geofisika or BMKG)
3. National and Provincial Disaster Management Agency (known in Bahasa Indonesia as Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana or BNPB)



Hazards

Drought and floods



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Indonesia:

- Organized policy dialogues, strategic engagement with the Government at national and sub-national level, and knowledge exchange; and provided technical advice.
- Achieved government recognition of the importance of Anticipatory Action (AA) and commitment to systematic implementation thereof, through the development of a national guideline on AA that will guide its implementation, and formalization of the WFP-led AA technical working group.
- Piloted AA through sub-national governments and provided support to the Government with readiness activities for the drought response (“Siaga Darurat”), activated upon issuance of the El Niño early warning in the East Nusa Tenggara province through food assistance and a drought operation plan.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN INDONESIA

Thanks to the funding from the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and the European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), WFP started its anticipatory action work in Indonesia aligned to Activity 2 of its [Country Strategic Plan \(CSP\) 2021 – 2025](#), “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”. This began through a systems-building approach focusing on advocacy, policy and technical support. These are crucial elements that WFP seeks to strengthen first to lay the foundations for a robust, scalable and sustainable AA system led by the Government of Indonesia.

In 2023, WFP Indonesia provided extensive advocacy, learning exchange, and technical support to contribute to the Government’s recognition of AA and its commitment to systematic implementation of AA through existing structures. Piloting of anticipatory action through the government system has been initiated across three provinces, using both a system building approach and support with Government readiness activities for the 2023 El Niño drought early warning.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

As part of the conceptualization processes to build understanding on AA, WFP facilitated a learning exchange through south-south cooperation between Indonesia and the Philippines. Representatives from the Coordinating Ministry for Human Development and Cultural Affairs (Kemenko PMK), the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), BMKG, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Village Development, the Ministry of Home Affairs, and BNPB visited the Philippines’ Office of Civil Defence, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and also attended the National Dialogue Platform. The aim of this exchange was to learn about the policy framework in the pre-impact context, understandable impact-based early warning, institutionalized governance, the coordination structure, and the legal basis for pre-impact funding.

WFP consolidated findings from the AA policy mapping and scoping study, developing a research brief that informed and was used as an input for the Government’s policy for the national-level long-term Development Plan 2026-2045 and the Presidential Decree on Multi-hazard Early Warning.

The extensive advocacy efforts and policy engagement implemented in 2023 resulted in the Government making a commitment to integrate AA into its systems. In Indonesia's first National Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Action, organized jointly by the Government and WFP in September 2023, the Government committed to developing national-level guideline for AA, and to formalizing the AA - Technical Working Group (AA-TWG) under the cluster system.

Forecasts and triggers

WFP has contributed to improved data and analysis for climate risk management and food security in Indonesia through technical assistance, facilitating engagement with international experts, and capacity strengthening. WFP has been supporting the government partners to improve early warning, risk information systems, and methodologies, especially focusing on hydrometeorological hazards. As a part of this effort, a review of the flood monitoring and early warnings systems identified key gaps and opportunities for strengthening the existing systems, in order to generate quality evidence to support the anticipatory approach.

At sub-national level, as a part of development of the contingency plans and the operation plans, WFP supported the government of East Nusa Tenggara province to develop a trigger mechanism and a corresponding activation protocol for drought.

In Kalimantan Barat, BMKG – with the technical unit of implementation for crop protection – has developed flood models for agriculture areas, overlaying the climate forecast and real-time satellite imagery of crop-growth monitoring.

Anticipatory actions

In 2023, WFP initiated piloting of AA implementation through the government system in three provinces - Kalimantan Barat, Nusa Tenggara Timur (NTT), and Daerah Istimewa Yogyakarta (DIY). While the effort to develop a provincial contingency plan in DIY is still in early stages, in NTT province WFP has supported the revision of the contingency plan for drought by embedding AA principles and food security components. The contingency plan has been tested through a simulation exercise, and was submitted for legalization by the provincial government in December 2023.

Additionally, following the issuance of EL Niño / drought early warnings, WFP worked with the government of NTT province to develop a drought operational plan. WFP's efforts contributed to the inclusion and systematic integration of anticipatory action approaches into the operational plans, and the government's activation of food assistance for vulnerable groups in areas in which emergency status was declared.

In Kalimantan Barat, WFP has supported the modification of national's Climate Field School² curriculum to specify AA mechanisms tailored for specific needs of the farmers.

AA activations

No activations took place in 2023.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Indonesia will:

- Co-develop operational AA guidelines across all three AA components (early warning, early action, and funding) for existing tools at provincial level, such as contingency plans, climate field schools, and weather field schools.³
- Develop lessons learned, utilizing extracts of models and system-level implication and guidelines that can be integrated at national level and replicated in multiple provinces, districts and local governments.
- Develop the national-level guidelines for AA, using the lessons learned and models from the sub-national level, in line with the government regulation for pre-impact disaster management.
- Support the setting up and strengthening of the emerging AA coordination structure at the national level, under the inter-cluster technical working group.
- Strengthen the National Meteorological Agency's impact-based forecasting system for floods, with improved methodology and dissemination mechanisms.

2. Climate Field School is a climate literacy activity carried out by BMKG in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, regional governments and other community organizations to increase farmers' and agricultural extension officers' understanding of climate data and information and their use of this information to manage agricultural activities. For more (in Bahasa Indonesia), see <https://iklim.bmkg.go.id/SLI/main/>.

3. Weather Field School is an awareness programme for Indonesian people on how to receive, interpret and respond to weather information from the Bureau of Meteorology and Geophysics. For more, see <https://signature.bmkg.go.id/site/mosaic/>.



Target location

Remote mountain villages in livestock-intensive and low-density population areas in Naryn province (such as At-Bashi, Naryn and Ak-Talaa Districts).



Donors

German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO)



Key Partners

1. Ministry of Emergency Situations (MoES)
2. Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Migration (MLSSM)
3. Local Self-Governance and Local State Administration bodies of Naryn province
4. NGO "Alternativa" (cooperating partner)



Hazards

Snow Frost



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Kyrgyz Republic:

- Focused on building awareness on Anticipatory Action (AA) and community engagement by organizing workshops with the Government at national, sub-national and local levels.
- WFP led a feasibility assessment and actions to develop an AA pilot focusing on extreme cold and heavy snow in remote mountainous areas of Naryn province.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

With funding from the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), WFP Kyrgyz Republic has been able to carry out work on AA. Its AA falls under Strategic Outcome 3 of the [WFP Kyrgyz Republic Country Strategic Plan \(2023-2027\)](#): "by 2027, vulnerable communities in the Kyrgyz Republic exposed to the impacts of climate variability and change are better able to cope with shocks and benefit from more resilient food systems". WFP intends to provide resource transfers, knowledge and technical assistance to the most vulnerable, as well as the Government, in order to enhance climate change adaptation and disaster risk management capacity at the central and local levels.

In 2023, WFP Kyrgyz Republic selected locations for an AA pilot that will be designed to support farmers to reduce losses in livestock during heavy snowfall, which affects the food security of vulnerable households and communities. The pilot will specifically pre-position a livestock fodder reserve against a potential seasonal feeding crisis in early 2024, and primarily aims to protect an estimated 960 vulnerable pastoralist households and their herd of over 13,000 heads of livestock.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

The development of the AAP, focused on livelihoods protection against heavy snowfall, is a complementary measure to the weather index insurance against drought for vulnerable pastoralists piloted in Naryn province, which is characterized by high mountain conditions, low population density, strong dependence on the livestock sector and a high level of food insecurity. The Ministry of Emergency Situations (MoES) is highly interested in improving communities' winter preparedness with the aim of eventually reducing the burden of its emergency response contribution with logistical support. The MoES is further expected to support the inclusion of AA in the Kyrgyz Republic's laws on disaster risk management (DRM) / disaster risk reduction (DRR), budgeting, local self-governance and local state administration. The Ministry of Agriculture is closely following from the perspective of reducing livestock deaths, as livestock is a major income source, and MLSSM to address the vulnerabilities of remote, mountainous communities.

Forecasts and triggers

In 2023, WFP initiated efforts to develop triggers for AA with the MoES, based on national storm alerts, to determine when to release pre-positioned fodder reserves.

Anticipatory actions

In 2023, WFP initiated consultations with communities in locations at high risk of cold-waves and heavy snowstorms to determine Anticipatory Actions (AAs) that are relevant to protect assets and livelihoods. The anticipatory actions identified included distributing fodder to protect livestock in harsh conditions when communication and access to markets are limited.

AA activations

No activations took place in 2023.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Kyrgyz Republic will:


- Continue preparations for a potential AA activation of its Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP).
- Strengthen the capacity of the Government on AA at local and national levels; specifically the MoES, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and the Crisis Management Centre on forecasting, alerting and dispatching through training, software, and infrastructure support.




Hay and mixed fodder handover from WFP to communities in remote high-mountain communities of Kyrgyzstan to ensure anticipatory actions can be implemented if there is an activation.

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (PDR)




 **Target location**
Work initiated at national level

 **Donors**
Government of Ireland

 **Key Partners**

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

 **Hazards**
Drought and floods

 **Key Achievements**

In 2023, WFP Lao People's Democratic Republic:

- Advanced the awareness and understanding of Anticipatory Action (AA) principles and practices in Lao PDR by supporting government participation in national and regional AA dialogues and establishing the National AA Technical Working Group.
- Supported the Government of Lao PDR to test the Social Protection Emergency Rice Reserve Standard Operating Procedure to see AA entry points in design and implementation, to be activated based on forecasts.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

With funding from Ireland, WFP Lao PDR has advanced its work on AA. In this country, anticipatory action falls under Strategic Outcome (SO) 3 and Activity 3 [WFP Lao People's Democratic Republic's Country Strategic Plan \(2022-2026\)](#), which aims to: "Provide assistance and technical support to targeted communities and government entities to build communities' resilience to climate and other shocks through strengthened capacities in disaster and climate risk management and social protection".

WFP Lao PDR has been working closely with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MLSW), which is responsible for coordinating the Government's DRM activities, as well as the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF). The work focuses on how to institutionalize and strengthen national capacities on AA, within the country's climate and disaster risk management strategies and frameworks.

In 2023, WFP Lao PDR continued to coordinate closely with key ministries and partners engaged in AA capacity strengthening, contributing to early warning system capacity assessments and national action planning, and also commencing a feasibility study on AA in Southern Laos for droughts and floods.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

WFP Lao PDR has focused on strengthening the capacity and understanding of government counterparts in AA, and also shock-responsive social protection principles and approaches through joint participation in national and regional dialogues. WFP Lao PDR contributed to the establishment of the Lao PDR AA Technical Working Group, co-chaired by the MLSW and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and assisted in the drafting of the terms of reference, partnership mapping, and priority setting for 2024-2025.

WFP Lao PDR has also played an active role in the development of the Lao PDRs' Early Warning System 4 All Roadmap (EW4A), coordinating and contributing to the capacity assessment and action planning process in partnership with government and United Nations Country Team partners.

Additionally, WFP supported the attendance of a Government of Lao PDR representative at the Asian Development Bank Social Protection Week, which showcased evidence on how social protection can build anticipatory capacity by linking social safety nets with mechanisms to prepare and plan for climate extremes and disasters.

Forecasts and triggers

Limited historical data and forecasting capacities remains a barrier to accurate and downscaled trigger development in Lao PDR. WFP Lao PDR continues to coordinate with the MOLSW, the MONRE, and FAO to develop and test nascent drought and flood triggers in Luang Prabang and Savannakhet provinces by contributing to data sharing and capacity assessments.

Anticipatory actions

In addition to flood forecasting and trigger design, WFP Lao PDR, in partnership with the MLSW and the Lao Red Cross, activated the Emergency Rice Reserve Standard Operating Procedure, which is based on the anticipated lean season period food insecurity risks as identified by the WFP high-frequency food security monitoring established under the Global 4Fs (food, fuel, fertilizers, and feed) Crisis Lean Season Response. This has highlighted the potential for a 'no regrets – early warning early action' approach in Lao PDR, and can be used as a practical case-study for expanding AA principles into national shock-responsive safety nets.

AA activations

No activations took place in 2023.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Lao PDR will:

- Complete a feasibility study for flood and drought AA, with a specific focus on last-mile end users at heightened risk of disasters in southern Laos. In addition, WFP will develop a national vulnerability index for flood and drought risks.
- Support the development of a national action plan to strengthen capacity for impact-based forecasting and early warning.
- Continue to strengthen community skills in early warning, and AA practices – including the development of community-based early warning systems.
- Identify concrete linkages to integrate national social protection programmes and AA.



Target location

21 flood-prone municipalities in Sudur Paschim, Lumbini, Madhesh and Koshi provinces.



Donors

German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), Government of Ireland, Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and United States Agency for International Development Bureau of Humanitarian Affairs (USAID BHA).



Key Partners

1. Nepal Red Cross Society
2. National Cash Working Group
3. United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office (UNRCO)
4. District Disaster Management Committees
5. Municipalities (called Palikas)
6. Department of Hydrology and Meteorology
7. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Centre for Humanitarian Data



Hazards

Floods and landslides



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Nepal:

- Institutionalized Anticipatory Action (AA)-based contingency plans and beneficiary targeting guidelines across local governments by localizing Logistics Capacity Assessments and thus pre-defined triggers.
- Reviewed triggers and thresholds for floods to improve accuracy of forecasts.
- Undertook an impact evaluation, indicating that anticipatory cash transfers contributed to avoiding negative coping strategies and improved food consumption, compared to post-shock recipients.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN NEPAL

Thanks to funding from the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), Government of Ireland, Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), and United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and United States Agency for International Development Bureau of Humanitarian Affairs (USAID BHA), WFP Nepal has developed its AA programme. Nepal's AA programme fell under Activity 7 of [WFP Nepal Country Strategic Plan \(2019-2023\)](#), which aims to "provide technical assistance to the Government to strengthen the food security monitoring, analysis and early-warning system and align it with the federal governance structure." Anticipatory action is one of the focus areas in the [Nepal Country Strategic Plan \(2024-2028\)](#) under Strategic Outcome 1: "Affected and at-risk populations in Nepal meet their food, nutrition and other essential needs before, during and after shocks and other stressors".

With multi-year support from Germany and DFAT, WFP Nepal continued to scale up its systems-building approach and delivery of AA at the national and sub-national levels. The AA programme extended its multi-hazard approach to include landslides, through a geographical targeting approach, and in close collaboration with the Nepal Red Cross Society and the national Cash Working Group, the United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office (UNRCO), district disaster management committees, municipalities (called Palikas), NGOs and disaster risk reduction (DRR) stakeholders.

WFP Nepal finalized the three rounds of data collection for the impact evaluation using a randomized control trial. The data analysed showed the results of providing anticipatory cash transfer compared to later post-shock transfers: households receiving anticipatory cash transfers consume more food (especially animal protein), avoid food insecurity, avoid negative coping strategies (13 percent fewer households relied on less preferred food, 14 percent fewer households borrowed food from other and 15 percent fewer households reduced meal portions) and have better mental health compared to the post-shock group.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

In 2023, WFP Nepal made crucial progress on institutionalizing AA at local levels through several actions. First, the beneficiary targeting guidelines – with criteria for the selection of households at highest risk, including clear roles and responsibilities of selection committees – were endorsed across local governments to facilitate the community-based targeting approach. Second, AA-based contingency plans were endorsed across local governments through localization of the Logistics Capacity Assessment and discussions on the

pre-defined triggers. Similarly, provincial monsoon preparedness and response plans were revised to integrate AA Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for effective formulation and actions.

Forecasts and triggers

To strengthen the early warning systems, WFP reviewed current local thresholds and triggers for floods; this is being validated with historical flood events for effective monitoring and improved detection of potential hazards. Similarly, rainfall thresholds based on Climate Hazards Group InfraRed Precipitation with Station (CHIRPS) data, have been developed to integrate grid-based approaches in regions without rainfall monitoring stations, and thus future application is planned of coupled in situ and satellite rainfall estimate-based thresholds in weather forecasts.

In locations where the AA framework is operational, landslides associated with heavy rainfall are also a high risk. This is why WFP's long-term objective is to scale up to include landslide triggers and protocols. This year, WFP conducted landslide susceptibility mapping along with an analysis of rainfall thresholds in technical collaboration with Tribhuvan University for landslide-based AA initiatives.

Anticipatory actions

To strengthen the operational readiness of the CERF AA framework, the SOPs were further downscaled to community disaster management committees, including guidelines for enhancing roles and responsibilities of different task forces aligned with readiness and activation triggers. Furthermore, a communication channel has been set up connecting local emergency operation centres with communities under last-mile early warning communication through messenger groups.

As part of local-level capacity strengthening for implementing AA, local governments were trained to implement AA-based contingency plans through local market monitoring, accessing road networks, the pre-stockpiling of food and non-food items, early warning communication, and search and evacuation. A school curriculum was developed targeting lower secondary students with information on access to early warnings and AA SOPs at household level; this was followed by simulations for better understanding and skills to undertake pre-emptive actions.

Needs and gaps assessments for potential interventions of forecast-based anticipatory farming were conducted across local farmers, the National Agricultural Research Centre, the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology, local governments and the Agriculture Knowledge Centre. Weather indices were identified towards informed decision making of farmers, and further consultations on the historical impacts of extreme events including coping mechanisms were surveyed in an endeavour towards delivery of impact-based forecasts.

AA activations

No activations took place in 2023.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Nepal will:

- Develop monsoon-specific numerical weather prediction models for improved reliability of weather forecasts for overall Department of Hydrology and Meteorology system strengthening.
- Develop cluster-specific impact-based forecasting for testing and validation across local governments.
- Prepare for testing a multi-hazard AA framework, covering floods, drought and landslides.

THE PHILIPPINES



Target location

32 municipalities covered under the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) AA project in five provinces (Albay, Catanduanes, Sorsogon, Southern Leyte and Surigao Del Norte). Four municipalities (Tuguegarao, Legazpi, Palo and New Bataan) covered by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) project.



Donors

German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Green Climate Fund (GCF).



Key Partners

1. Office of Civil Defense (OCD)
2. 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 – Mines and Geosciences Bureau (DENR-MGB)
7. Land Bank of the Philippines
8. Provincial and local government units (LGUs)

9. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
10. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
11. Philippines Red Cross (PRC)
12. German Red Cross (GRC)
13. Start Network



Hazards

Cyclones, landslides, floods, severe winds and storm surges.



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP The Philippines:

- Run an Anticipatory Action (AA) simulation exercise, testing WFP's revised AA SOP, with a generation of internal reports with lessons learned and recommendations for improved programme design.
- Advanced the Philippines' draft legislation on "Declaration of State of Imminent Disaster" to enable the institutionalization of AA within the national DRM framework.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN THE PHILIPPINES

With support from Germany, the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF), WFP Philippines has been able to develop its AA programme. This AA programme falls under the [WFP Philippines' Country Strategic Plan \(2018-2023\)](#), Activity 4 (Strategic Outcome 4): "support national and local capacities for disaster risk reduction and management and climate change adaptation" through: (1) the provision of technical support for the development of multi-hazard impact-based forecasting and early warning systems; (2) the provision of technical support to operationalize and institutionalize Anticipatory Action (AA) systems; and (3) evidence generation to better understand climate-related vulnerabilities and risks to livelihoods, food security, and nutrition.

In 2023, WFP Philippines continued implementation of the 2021–2024 CERF AA project for typhoons. WFP was appointed as co-lead, with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), of the newly created AA working group under the Philippines Humanitarian Country Team (HCT). WFP began implementing the five-year Green Climate Fund Project on multi-hazard impact-based forecasting and early warning system in the Philippines, led by PAGASA, with WFP as an implementing partner. A key achievement has been the development of a draft policy on the "Declaration of State of Imminent Disaster" by the Office of Civil Defense (OCD), with support from WFP. This will enable national and local government authorities to access funding to implement AA, in order to mitigate the effect of extreme weather events on the most vulnerable populations.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

On the policy level, together with the OCD and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), WFP continued co-leading the AA "Policy, Financing, and Institutionalization" thematic working group. WFP and the OCD co-organized two workshops attended by all relevant national government agencies, United Nations and civil society organizations, which focused on designing an annual workplan for the TWG, addressing pending questions and refining the latest draft of the "Declaration of State of Imminent Disaster" Bill. The workshops resulted in a revised text for the proposed bill, and provided crucial impetus to institutionalize AA within the national DRR management system. This was a key achievement, with the proposed legislation enabling national and local government authorities to access government funding to implement AA based on projected impacts severe enough to require funding to supplement national and local resources to prevent or alleviate damage and losses. The current draft bill was planned for transmission to Congress by the end of 2023.

Finally, WFP and FAO were appointed as co-leads of the newly created AA working group under the Philippines Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), a key objective of which was supporting the integration of AA within the Humanitarian Programme Cycle. The HCT AA WG developed its TOR, supported the mapping of AA initiatives in the

Philippines, and sustained coordination and linkages with the National AA TWG and sub-thematic groups.

Forecasts and triggers

There were no changes to the trigger methodology for the CERF AA project in the Philippines, given that the trigger model was already reviewed and adjusted in 2022.

Anticipatory actions

WFP resumed its preparedness activities for effective implementation of CERF AA interventions in Regions V, VIII, and XIII in preparation for the typhoon season in June–January. This included the development of contextualized sensitization materials, the updating of beneficiary data, coordination with local government, beneficiary sensitization on AA including through distribution of 45,000 sensitization materials to the target beneficiaries, and the updating of the country office’s AA Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Under the CERF AA framework, WFP covers a total of 220,565 people across five provinces under the two scenarios,⁴ who will be assisted with life-saving early warning messages and multi-purpose cash before a typhoon hits.

One modification in the design of the AA programme this year was a review of the transfer value of the multi-purpose cash under the CERF AA pilot due to the high inflation rates and the creation of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB), endorsed by the Cash Working Group at the HCT.⁵

WFP and the World Bank designed an impact evaluation of the AA programme to assess the impact on household-level welfare of providing humanitarian assistance in the form of unconditional cash transfers before and after a typhoon. WFP worked on the preparatory activities for the impact evaluation, such as the feasibility study and research design, sampling approach, approval from local government authorities, signing of a tripartite MoU, contracting of a research partner and other related activities.

4. The Philippines CERF AA framework has two scenarios and, depending on which is activated first, regions in that scenario will get the bulk of support. WFP can reach 24,994 households (124,970 people) in Scenario 1 and 19,119 households (95,595 people) in Scenario 2.

5. All United Nations agencies implementing AA agreed to revise the cash transfer value to PHP 3250, calculated as a third of the minimum expenditure basket (MEB) transfer value.

AA activations

The triggers of the CERF AA project were not met; hence there was no AA activation in 2023.

WFP conducted a simulation exercise to assess WFP’s and cooperating partners’ operational capacities to deliver timely AA at scale. As part of the simulation exercise, a total of 292 households from 2 barangays in the municipality of Dapa, Surigao Del Norte, were sensitized on AA and the activation procedures and received money transfer control numbers (MTCNs) with a transfer value of PHP 1,000 (US\$17.7) per household. Overall, the simulation exercise was successful and demonstrated the country office’s readiness and capacity on the ground for a potential AA activation. It also confirmed the functionality of WFP’s new SMS platform (Amazon SNS) to be used to disseminate early warning advisories and the MTCN code through SMS, and allowed WFP Philippines to gain valuable experience by troubleshooting and eventually resolving incidents on the platform. Additional areas for improvement have been identified and will be captured in a report currently under preparation, and integrated into the AA SOP.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Philippines will:

- Update the AA SOP, building on the lessons learned and recommendations from the simulation exercise.
- Finalize the design and operational requirements for the impact evaluation.
- Pilot the new WFP global tool plugPAY, which enables direct transfers to multiple payment instruments based on the preferences of beneficiaries (bank or mobile wallet); this can save valuable time given the short lead time for typhoons.
- Provide technical support and advocacy for the approval by the Congress of the proposed OCD policy on the “Declaration of Imminent Disaster” and the development of related operational guidelines.
- Support relevant national and local government partners to identify existing policies and government funds that can be temporarily used to implement AA while the law is being scrutinized.
- Conduct community consultations to co-produce early warning messages and information channels and co-develop local AA SOPs with a gender-sensitive and inclusive approach.


EAST AFRICA




Woman in Bukoyar village (Ethiopia) receiving a plastic wallet to withdraw money from her account as part of the integrated early warning programme to help manage the risks posed by climate hazards to food security.

KEY INFORMATION

 **People covered**
2,114,492

 **People reached with anticipatory transfers**
228,068

 **People reached with early warning messages**
442,209

 **US\$ funds disbursed**
4,153,033

 **Donors**
Adaptation Fund, Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), European Union (EU), European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), European Commission Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA), German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), Google.org, Government of Ireland, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), and United States Agency for International Development Bureau of Humanitarian Affairs (USAID BHA).

 **Regional Partners**

1. Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC)
2. IGAD Centre For Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development (ICPALD)
3. University of Sussex
4. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
5. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
6. United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)
7. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
8. International Research Institute for Climate and Society of Columbia University (IRI)

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

East Africa is a region that faces multiple and successive hazards with no time to recover in between. In 2023, the region was coming out of the prolonged drought that had left 23.4 million people acutely food insecure, 5.1 million children acutely malnourished, and an estimated 2.7 million people displaced by July 2023.⁶ However, despite the improved rains during the March to May (MAM) 2023 rainfall season, the effects of the drought were likely to persist for a long time.

In June 2023, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) officially declared the El Niño phenomenon for the

2023/2024 season. This phenomenon tends to bring wetter than average rainfall conditions in the region. While this was favourable to crop and pasture development, a more severe El Niño can bring heavy rainfall and floods that can slow down efforts to recover from the drought. Between November and December 2023, heavy flooding was indeed experienced in parts of Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda. This led to more than 5.2 million people being affected, with nearly two million people displaced. The flooding destroyed homes, schools, hospitals, markets, and other key infrastructure. Crops and livestock were washed away or inundated, and there was heightened risk of pests and diseases due to persistent moisture conditions.⁷

6. WFP Drought in the Horn of Africa. Situation Update, July 2023.

7. OCHA. Eastern Africa: El Niño Impact Snapshot. December 2023.

By mid-2023, WFP had prepositioned US\$12 million to support the implementation of Anticipatory Action (AA) in the region. In July 2023, following the El Niño declaration, WFP Ethiopia, Somalia and Uganda country offices quickly shifted attention to developing anticipatory action plans ahead of the floods. However, a lot had to be done to have AA systems in place for floods, and only WFP Somalia was able to complete an Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP), activate it and implement it in advance of the floods. Other actors in the region also planned for and implemented anticipatory actions. For example, the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement also implemented AA actions in Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. While it was positive to see many actors taking up AA, work still needs to be done to coordinate efforts to optimize AA being delivered at scale across countries.

In 2023, WFP's Regional Bureau for Eastern Africa (RBN) supported the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) to develop the IGAD Regional Roadmap for Anticipatory Action, in partnership with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and the European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO). The roadmap was launched at COP28, in an event that involved IGAD member states represented by Ethiopia, Somalia and South Sudan. WFP shared experiences of its work with governments and partners in the region, which has informed the focus areas in the roadmap. The vision in the roadmap is for "a regional Anticipatory Action approach that is harmonized and integrated into national policies, strategies, and systems, to enhance delivery of AA at scale to promote the resilience of communities". It is expected to guide coordination of AA across actors and initiatives, with enhanced leadership by governments in the region. The roadmap will form a critical part of WFP's AA work in the region going forward.

RBN provided technical support and coordination to country offices to develop the following drought and flood AAPs:

- The AAP for drought covering the Somali region in Ethiopia has been finalized, and the AAP for drought is being drafted.
- The AAP for drought covering Somalia has been finalized.
- The AAP for drought covering Kenya is being drafted.
- The AAP for drought and floods covering Uganda is being drafted and is to be finalized in 2024.

Somalia activated its AAP for floods in 2023 upon reaching the agreed forecast threshold. This was the first flood activation for WFP in Africa, and lessons learned from this will be published in 2024. The flood triggers and thresholds for the Ethiopia and Somalia AAPs were developed and selected in collaboration with key DRM institutions, national meteorological and hydrological services, and established multi-sectoral technical working groups on AA, with technical support from ICPAC and IRI.

Much needs to be done to improve or develop triggers for AA across these countries, and capacity strengthening activities are scheduled with various national meteorological and hydrological services, DRM agencies and technical working groups for 2024.

In 2023, WFP scaled up its AA programme to additional countries in the region, including South Sudan and Rwanda, with feasibility studies conducted in collaboration with governments, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Red Cross to inform AA programming in these countries. In the WFP Regional Bureau for Eastern Africa, the AA team was expanded from one to four staff to cover the increasing need from country offices for AA technical support, strategic direction, and oversight. The staff deliver coordinated AA in the region, each focusing on operational support, technical support on forecasting and early warning systems and implementation of the Google.org-funded Strengthening Early Warning Systems for Anticipatory Action (SEWSAA) project.

In May 2023, WFP – in collaboration with the IGAD ICPAC, the Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD), the Ethiopia Meteorology Institute (EMI), the University of Oxford, and the European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecast (ECMWF) – began implementation of the SEWSAA Project. The project's objective is to leverage the collective partners' expertise in the fields of artificial intelligence, weather prediction, early warning systems, and emergency response to safeguard lives and protect livelihoods across the Greater Horn of Africa. This collaboration is a joint commitment to enhancing the region's resilience to climate-related challenges through the use of cutting-edge technology and strategic interventions. The project will continue its impactful work until May 2026.



Woman who received WFP assistance as part of our anticipatory action programme, Burundi.



Target location

Kirundo, Rutana, Rumonge and Bujumbura communes



Donors

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



Key Partners

1. National Disaster Risk Management Platform (DRM)
2. Burundian Red Cross (BRC)
3. Geographical Institute of Burundi (known in French as Institut Géographique du Burundi or IGEBU)
4. Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (known in French as Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Élevage or MINEAGRIE in French)
5. Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC)
6. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
7. International Organization for Migration (IOM)
8. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
9. United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)
10. Finnish Red Cross



Hazards

Drought and floods



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Burundi:

- Activated its Anticipatory Action (AA) programme, using weekly early warning forecast bulletins, reaching approximately 9,350 people (or 1,780 households) exposed to the risk of flooding, each household received AA cash of BIF 230,000 (US\$80).
- Supported the development and update of 40 community AA plans.
- Initiated a national dialogue on AA for water deficits and developed a draft drought Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP).
- Strengthened the forecasting capacity of key staff of the Geographical Institute of Burundi (known in French as Institut Géographique du Burundi or IGEBU), including a one-month in-depth training programme by the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC).

OVERVIEW OF AA IN BURUNDI

Thanks to funding from the European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), WFP Burundi is further developing its AA programme. Anticipatory actions are integrated into the [WFP Interim Strategic Plan for Burundi \(2022-2024\)](#) in Strategic Outcome 1: “Shock-affected populations in targeted areas, Burundi returnees, internally displaced persons and refugees in camps can meet their basic food needs all year round” and Strategic Outcome 4: “Government and national actors in Burundi have strengthened capacities, systems and services by 2024.” In addition, in Chapter III of the National Development Plan currently under review (2023-2027), the government has integrated support for enhancing the reliability of hydrometeorological forecasts through an effective and sustainable early warning mechanism, for the anticipation of climate risks faced by people, communities and fragile ecosystems.

WFP is strengthening its collaboration with the Burundian Red Cross, which has a good operational presence, to ensure implementation of anticipatory actions in communities exposed to climate risk. Also, the Geographical Institute of Burundi (IGEBU), the government entity in charge of providing hydrometeorological services, benefits from continuous

support to regularly share weekly weather forecasts to anticipate the risks of heavy rainfall that may lead to flooding, and also risks of below-average rainfall that may cause water deficits. All these actions and support given by WFP strengthen IGEBU’s visibility as a key and essential player for AA implementation, and, in turn, enhance the operational capacity of the Government to manage climate disasters in Burundi. Moving forward, WFP Burundi will further strengthen its collaboration with various actors to design AA for water deficit.

In 2023, WFP Burundi has widened the scope of its AA project, to include forging new partnerships, expanding geographical coverage and more targeted support for national actors.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

In 2023, WFP Burundi’s AA project gained momentum and visibility alongside partner agencies and the Government. As the focus on early warning systems strengthening is increasingly becoming a priority for Burundi, continuous dialogue has occurred between

WFP and the DRM authorities on systems needed to inform anticipatory action. The case of Burundi was co-presented by the DRM and WFP at the 5th Africa Dialogue Platform for AA in Johannesburg. The feasibility study on water deficits also looked at how AA could be embedded into the current institutional framework for drought management.

WFP has also made strides to institutionalize the AA framework with the Government through capacity building of IGEBU staff, and sensitization of both administrative authorities and the national disaster risk management platform on AA. Additionally, following successful implementation of anticipatory action, the approach and its operational aspects were presented to government actors who understood its relevance and added value. WFP remains the leading actor on AA and has positioned itself as a key player to support intersectoral development of the anticipatory action plan for the 2023-2024 rainy season (linked to the evolution of the El Niño phenomenon in Burundi).

Forecasts and triggers

The capacity building provided to IGEBU by ICPAC with WFP support enabled development and access to real-time seasonal (three-monthly) and weekly forecasts for monitoring and communication of status of the pre-agreed AA triggers for heavy rainfall that may lead to flooding. These triggers had been developed in 2022, with technical support from the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre and WFP. The trigger comprises the regional rainfall forecast from ICPAC as a readiness trigger, and the IGEBU heavy rainfall forecast as the activation trigger.

All scientific models studied by IGEBU in 2023 indicated that ocean surface temperatures would remain above El Niño thresholds until at least the end of February 2024. The El Niño phenomenon generally increases the likelihood of above-average precipitation in the country. This information was reinforced by the seasonal forecast which accurately indicated heavy rainfall in excess of 200 mm in the target project areas. AAs for floods were thus activated, based on this information and the weekly forecasts from IGEBU.

Anticipatory actions

The successful AA implementation was due to concerted efforts by all WFP units (including programme, logistics and finance) and collaboration with state and implementation partners to ensure operational readiness. The partnership agreement with the financial service provider (Ecobank) was signed on time. Geographical and community targeting were based on criteria of exposure of areas to risk and vulnerability of households, and the cash transfer value per household was also revised. In general, WFP Burundi made progress in risk anticipation and readiness measures to enable timely distribution before the flood affected the target areas.

AA activations

Based on weekly weather forecast data communicated by IGEBU in collaboration with ICPAC, and attainment of the pre-agreed triggers, the Burundi Red Cross Early Action Protocol (EAP) was activated in the first week of November 2023. Implementation of the EAP was supported by WFP Burundi, as part of a coordinated approach. The anticipatory actions targeted populations at risk of flooding in the communes of Rumonge and Muhuta. Actions implemented included the provision of early warning information, and cash transfers to 9,350 people (or 1,780 households), each household receiving BIF 230,000 (US\$80), in order to undertake actions to mitigate the anticipated effects of flooding due to the forecast heavy rains.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Burundi will:

- Strengthen communication among government and humanitarian actors to institutionalize AA.
- Provide material support and capacity building to stakeholders to make the WFP AA programme in Burundi more efficient.
- Recruit partners to support implementation of AA for water deficit or drought.
- Conduct consultations with beneficiary households in water-deficient zones to facilitate identification of anticipatory actions and geographical target areas.

DJIBOUTI



Target location

Dikhil, Tadjoura and Obock regions



Donors

Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA).



Key Partners

1. Ministry of Agriculture, Water, Fisheries and Livestock (known in French as Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Eau, de la Pêche et de l'Élevage or MAEM)
2. Rural Hydraulics Service (known in French as Direction de l'Hydraulique Rural or DHR)
3. Executive Secretary for Risk and Disaster Management (known in French as Secrétariat Exécutif de Gestion des Risques et des Catastrophes or SEGRC)
4. Environment and Sustainable Development Department (known in French as Direction de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable or DEDD)
5. State Secretariat for Decentralization (known in French as Secrétariat d'État à la Décentralisation or SED)
6. Djibouti Centre of Studies and Research (known in French as Centre d'Etude et de Recherche de Djibouti CERD)
7. Djibouti National Meteorological Agency (DNMA)
8. Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC)
9. Columbia Climate School International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI)
10. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
11. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)



Hazards

Drought



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Djibouti:

- Extensively advocated enhanced early warning systems, including integration in the National Response plan for the Food Security Crisis.
- Developed a comprehensive capacity building plan with Djibouti National Meteorological Agency (DNMA), the national key partner, with technical support from Columbia Climate School International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI).

OVERVIEW OF AA IN DJIBOUTI

Thanks to multi-year funding from the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), WFP Djibouti has been able to develop its Anticipatory Action (AA) programme. Djibouti's AA programme falls under SO1 of [WFP Djibouti Country Strategic Plan \(2020-2024\)](#): "Strengthen government capacity and support national responses for shock-affected populations through a contingency plan".

WFP Djibouti is working closely with government actors such as the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Livestock, the Rural Hydraulics Service (known in French as Direction de l'Hydraulique Rurale or DHR), the Executive Secretary for Risk and Disaster Management (known in French as Secrétariat Exécutif pour la Gestion des Risques et des catastrophes or SEGRC), the Environment and Sustainable Development Department (known in French as Département de l'Environnement et du Développement durable or DEDD), the State Secretariat for Decentralization (known in French as Secrétariat d'État à la Décentralisation or SED), Djibouti's Centre of Studies and Research (known in French as Centre d'Etudes et de Recherche de Djibouti or CERD), Djibouti National Meteorological Agency (DNMA), United Nations agencies (Food and Agriculture Organization

(FAO) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), NGOs and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) to develop a drought AA system that is linked to the national disaster risk management system, including integrating the drought Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) into the national contingency plan.

In 2023, WFP Djibouti remained committed to its initiatives to strengthen national capacities in relation to early warning and AA.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

The persistent severe drought conditions extended into 2023, affecting both people and livestock across the entire country. WFP maintained its commitment to providing humanitarian assistance and engaged in advocacy with national stakeholders, emphasizing the urgency of developing and implementing strong early warning systems, and adopting AA as an integral component of the country's National Response plan for Food Security Crisis and Disaster Risk Management (DRM).

Forecasts and triggers

Building upon the achievements of 2022, WFP – in close collaboration with key partners DNMA and IRI – sustained efforts to develop forecasts and triggers. The initial AA triggers focused on the July to September rainy season only. The strategic effort in 2023 therefore aimed to provide coverage of triggers, thresholds and forecasts for the entire year, which is deemed more appropriate to the context.

A comprehensive capacity-strengthening plan was developed with the DNMA, with technical support from IRI. This included enhancing mapping tools by integrating additional vulnerability criteria with the objective of facilitating regular monitoring of forecasts and triggers before and during the season, in order to better inform activation of readiness and anticipatory actions.

Anticipatory actions

WFP Djibouti developed a draft AAP for drought that is prioritized for finalization in 2024.

AA activations

No activations took place in 2023.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024


In 2024, WFP Djibouti will:

- Develop forecasts, triggers, and AAs to cover all rainy seasons and validate them with stakeholders.
- Continue advocacy efforts to: enhance awareness on AA, secure government support, and attract financial resources.
- Provide support to DNMA and SEGRC to establish instruments for drought monitoring and forecasting.
- Provide material and learning support to DNMA to establish instruments for drought monitoring and forecasting across the country.



WFP supports drought affected communities in Djibouti.




 **Target location**
Somali and Oromia regions

 **Donors**
Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA).

 **Key Partners**

1. Ethiopian Meteorological Institute (EMI)
2. Somali Region Disaster Risk Management Bureau (SDRMB)
3. Oromia Region Disaster Risk Management Commission (ODRMC)
4. Columbia Climate School International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI)

 **Hazards**
Drought and floods

 **Key Achievements**

In 2023, WFP Ethiopia:

- Finalized the drought Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) document for Somali region, which was reviewed and approved by WFP Regional Bureau Nairobi (RBN) and headquarters. It is due to be finalized in the first quarter of 2024 ahead of the March-April-May (MAM) season.
- Finalized the flood AAP document for Somali region, which was reviewed and approved by RBN and headquarters.
- Strengthened the capacity of Ethiopian Meteorological Institute (EMI) a government partner, as part of the institutionalization of an Anticipatory Action (AA) system.
- Strengthened the capacity of Regional Technical Working Group (RTWG) members on AA, resulting in the building of a physical flood protection structure as part of flood AAP, with support from Save the Children.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN ETHIOPIA

Thanks to Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) funds, WFP Ethiopia has continued its work on AA. The AA portfolio in Ethiopia is embedded in [WFP Ethiopia Country Strategic Plan –2020 – 2025](#) Strategic Outcome 2 “Vulnerable and food-insecure populations in targeted areas have increased resilience to shocks” and Strategic Outcome 4 “Federal and regional government institutions, the private sector and local non-governmental organizations benefit from capacity strengthening in the areas of early warning and emergency preparedness systems, safety nets programme design and implementation and supply chain management.”

WFP Ethiopia is working with EMI, Somali Region Disaster Risk Management Bureau (SDRMB), and various partners such as Columbia Climate School International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) to set up the AA system in Somali region.

In 2023, WFP Ethiopia finalized the drought and flood AAPs for Somali region, in addition to continued capacity strengthening activities to support the institutionalization of AA and the capacitation of RTWG members.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

Since 2021, WFP Ethiopia, in partnership with IRI, has been working to strengthen the capacity of EMI experts to generate tailored seasonal forecasts and monitor the developed AA Maproom. In 2023, WFP supported three forms of training:

1. A technical training programme for two experts from Somali region meteorological service centre, aiming to integrate the developed AA Maproom into the EMI system as part of institutionalization. This included introducing cutting-edge technologies in weather and climate prediction for EMI technical experts to apply to seasonal forecasting.
2. Stakeholders’ engagement for scaling up of AA to Oromia region where the following points were agreed on: criteria for geographical targeting, drought triggers and thresholds, priority impacts, anticipatory actions, approximate number of beneficiaries and associated costs; defined roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders and beneficiary selection criteria that fed into the draft drought AAP for the region. A total of 26 participants (21 male and 5 female) attended the workshop.

3. A workshop to create awareness of general concepts of AA, as part of institutionalization of AA at zonal level, covering a briefing on the drought AAP document, WFP AA experience, and lessons from previous activation for 50 participants (45 male and 5 female) from zonal DRMB, the livestock office, the agriculture office and the water office.

WFP Ethiopia conducted internal and external lessons learned workshops to review the performance of AA during the 2022 October-November-December (OND) season, and to also discuss monitoring findings, and identifying recommendations for improvements to actions, tools, processes, and strategies. The monitoring findings demonstrated that AA was pivotal in reducing excessive livestock mortality and safeguarding beneficiaries from severe food insecurity.

Learnings from the activations included:

- A need to explore opportunities to link short-term AA with long-term community resilience-building interventions, aligned to the changing lives agenda.
- A consideration to review internal processes that are crucial to the timely implementation of AA, and evidence generation in the region.
- A need to enhance Government ownership of AA action through integration and institutionalization of the AAP and Maproom.
- AA gains accrued thus far, and a demonstrated need for continued evidence-driven advocacy and resource mobilization to facilitate scaling up.



Community mobilization on Beneficiary targeting and registration in preparation of October-December 2023 flood season, Ethiopia.

Forecasts and triggers

IRI provided technical support to enhance the capacity of EMI to develop tailored drought forecasts for Somali and Oromia regions, for both MAM and October-November-December (OND) seasons. EMI staff were trained to use a new model to forecast various kinds of drought indicators, such as soil moisture, in addition to rainfall forecasts. The definition of triggers for Somali region was revised to include consideration of performance in the previous season, which affects the level of vulnerability to a subsequent season of below-average rains. The drought map-tool was improved to enable real-time monitoring of the AA trigger status,⁸ as well as monitoring progress in the current season.

Following regional forecast prediction of exceptionally above-average rainfall in the south and south-east of the country for the 2023 OND season, WFP Ethiopia and the Somali RTWG held a five-day workshop to develop a flood AAP. Given the short timeline for AAP finalization, and the need to develop a flood trigger mechanism to inform AA activation, the RTWG agreed to adopt the existing trigger mechanism in the Early Action Protocol (EAP), which had been developed by the AA National Technical Working Group (NTWG).

Anticipatory actions

In addition to the planned after-action reviews for the 2022 activation, as well as the planned expansion of the drought AAP to Oromia region, the country office collaborated with the national and regional technical working groups to develop a flood AAP for Somali region to prevent the negative effects of El Niño floods on the lives and livelihoods of vulnerable communities in the targeted locations. The stakeholders identified the AAs and agreed to adopt the trigger in the Red Cross EAP. Successful community engagement facilitated a smooth targeting and registration exercise in one Woreda (Kefalo) and baseline data collection.

AA activations

The El Niño phenomenon brought heavy rainfall and flooding to southern parts of Ethiopia, including Somali region. Based on this information, and the seasonal forecast from EMI that indicated a heightened chance of above-average rains, WFP Ethiopia quickly shifted attention to developing an AAP to reduce the risk of flooding affecting vulnerable communities. The flood AAP for Somali region built on the information contained in the national Early Action Protocol developed by the Ethiopia Red Cross Society (ERCS). This included information on the trigger, which was based on the Global Flood Awareness System (GloFAS). The trigger was continually monitored by ERCS together with the NTWG, through the IBF portal. However, GloFAS was not able to detect that flooding had occurred in the target area along Shebelle River, and this was therefore a missed flood event, for which WFP and partners did not activate flood AAs.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Ethiopia will:

- Develop a tailored flood forecast model for Shebelle and Genalle river basins in the Somali region, with learning from the 2023 fail-to-act scenario.
- Work to strengthen the AA implementation capacity of regional stakeholders.
- Scale up AA into Oromia region (that is, finalizing the drought AAP document and preparing for implementation in OND 2024).
- Provide capacity strengthening support to institutionalize AA in the Oromia DRM framework through provision of hardware and soft skills.
- Finalize the Oromia AA Maproom, capacity strengthening training for EMI Oromia region experts on forecast generation, and a handover of Somali region AA Maproom, with associated map tools, to EMI.
- Strengthen alignment with the NTWG on AA systems.
- Conduct a WFP internal lesson learning workshop to capture and document learnings from the “FAIL to ACT” flood activation of OND 2023 season in Somali region.

8. The trigger monitoring page can be found here: https://fist.iri.columbia.edu/publications/docs/ethiopia_aa_index/.

**Target location**

Marsabit and Wajir counties.

**Donors**

Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA).

**Key Partners**

1. National Disaster Operations Centre (NDOC)
2. Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS)
3. Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC)
4. Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD)
5. National Drought Management Agency (NDMA)

**Hazards**

Drought

**Key Achievements**

In 2023, WFP Kenya:

- Supported the establishment of a government-led multisectoral-stakeholders Anticipatory Action (AA) technical working group (TWG).
- Integrated AA into governmental plans and strategies, such as the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Act for Marsabit, and integrated AA into the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP 2023-2027) for Wajir County.
- Drafted a drought Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) that was endorsed by County Steering Groups (CSGs) for accountability and co-ownership.
- Agreed and validated forecast thresholds and triggers for activating AA, with key stakeholders, as part of the AAP.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN KENYA

Thanks to the multi-year funding from the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), WFP Kenya further developed its AA programme, which is embedded in [WFP Kenya Country Strategic Plan \(2018–2023\)](#): Strategic Outcome 3: “National and county institutions in Kenya have strengthened capacity and systems to assist food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations”; and Strategic Outcome: “Targeted smallholder producers and food-insecure, vulnerable populations benefit from more sustainable, inclusive food systems and increased resilience to climate shocks enabling them to meet their food and nutrition needs.”

WFP Kenya is collaborating with various actors in the national AA Technical Working Group, established by the Kenya Red Cross Society, to develop a drought AA system in Kenya. WFP is focusing on arid and semi-arid counties, including Marsabit and Wajir. These two counties were selected based on the Integrated Context Analysis, and WFP and partners’ operational capacity to manage drought.

In 2023, WFP Kenya – through the partnerships with the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC), the Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD), the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) and key county and national stakeholders – strengthened the TWG’s capacity to develop tools and processes to implement AA. Subsequently, they co-developed drought impact-based forecast thresholds and triggers and the AAP.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

Operationalization of the Kenya AA Strategy is captured in the Third National Climate Change Action Plan 2023-2027. Through the AA TWG, WFP provided technical and financial support to finalize the draft AA strategy through a participatory process, in partnership with the KMD, the NDMA, the National Disaster Operations Centre (NDOC) and the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS). Collaboration also occurred with other actors in the national and county AA TWGs. The draft AA strategy was technically validated in the last quarter of 2023 and, when finalized, will provide a guiding framework for both national and county governments and other actors to integrate AA in their development plans.

WFP, working with other United Nations partners (United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) supported the Government to develop the national DRR strategy for 2022-2027 which, when approved, will ensure alignment with the Sendai Framework, as well as other national priorities.

The lack of a national-level legal and institutional framework for disaster risk reduction and management, however, continues to undermine the Government's commitment to allocating predictable budgets for AA and drought and disaster risk management. Working with other partners, WFP, through the national platform for disaster risk reduction, advocated for the national government to speed up enacting the National Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Bill, 2023, through a joint communiqué prepared during the national symposium and the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Forecasts and triggers

ICPAC provided technical support to the KMD and other relevant stakeholders to develop the drought triggers for March-April-May (MAM) and October-November-December (OND) seasons for Marsabit and Wajir counties. The technical support focused on assessing a suitable drought indicator and thus developing a drought forecast based on Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) as a key indicator for drought monitoring. Skill analysis was undertaken for the SPI indicator, and the trigger was defined in collaboration with county stakeholders, including the NDMA.

Anticipatory actions

Several workshops were held for each county to prioritize AAs and target locations. These include:

- Defining criteria for geographic and demographic targeting within the two counties. Geographic targeting was done through the integrated context analysis, which overlays historical trend analysis of food insecurity, natural hazards and shocks at county level, in order to provide an evidence-based

rationale for integrated medium- to longer-term planning and programming. This also included examination of data on intra-annual food insecurity variability, seasonality of natural shocks, livelihood opportunities and population distribution.

- Demographic targeting utilized participatory approaches that combine WFP's Community-Based Participatory Planning (CBPP) and Participatory Disaster Risk Analysis (PDRA) for community-based participatory planning and household targeting.

AA activations

No activations took place in 2023.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Kenya will:

- Finalize the AAPs for Marsabit and Wajir counties with stakeholders at county and national levels.
- Prepare AAPs for climate-resilient food systems hubs.
- Contribute to the finalization and launch of the Kenya Anticipatory Action Strategy and Roadmap, which will provide a guiding framework for national and county governments and actors to integrate AA in their development plans and strategies to enable them leverage on their financing.
- Provide accessible climate information services to targeted small-holder farmers and agro-pastoralists.
- Assess existing national and county-level capacities, strategic and programmatic entry points for AA with government partners, including inventory of existing knowledge.
- Assess the feasibility of micro-insurance services to be linked to AA.



Target location

Western province (floods, landslides and windstorm), northern province (floods, landslides and windstorm) and eastern province (drought).



Donors

German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO).



Key Partners

1. Ministry in charge of Emergency Management (MINEMA)
2. Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI)
3. Ministry of Environment (and Rwanda Meteorological Agency)
4. Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN)
5. Rwanda Red Cross Society (RRC)
6. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
7. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
8. United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)



Hazards

Drought, floods, landslides and windstorms



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Rwanda:

- Held a joint workshop, together with MINEMA and a consortium of non-government stakeholders to agree on the need for establishing anticipatory actions in Rwanda.
- Initiated a sensitization process with key national and subnational stakeholders and other technical working group (TWG) members in order to promote government-owned Anticipatory Action (AA).
- Began the AA feasibility assessment in Rwanda, in coordination with MINEMA.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN RWANDA

The AA portfolio in Rwanda is embedded in [WFP Rwanda Country Strategic Plan \(2019-2024\) Activity 2: “Support the design, implementation, and scale-up of national food security and nutrition-sensitive social protection programmes”](#). This activity is intended to complement and contribute to the Government’s efforts to achieve zero hunger by supporting social protection, climate and disaster risk management (DRM), and food security and nutrition interventions. In 2023, WFP Rwanda and a consortium of partners assessed the feasibility of establishing an anticipatory action framework with Rwanda’s Ministry in charge of Emergency Management (MINEMA). This activity is based on a MINEMA request for technical assistance with rolling out AA in the scope of its ministerial Strategic Plan to promote AA implementation at national level.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

Rwanda initiated a feasibility study on AA that will inform development of a national AA framework, to support implementation of the recently updated National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Policy and the existing strong government-led disaster risk management system.

Forecasts and triggers

Forecasting and trigger methodology for the Anticipatory Action Plans (AAPs) will be developed in 2024, leveraging the findings of the scoping exercise.

Anticipatory actions

Pre-agreed action plans to inform timely action prior to a climate-induced emergency will be developed in collaboration with the technical working group.

AA activations

No activations took place in 2023.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Rwanda will:

- Develop a set of AAPs with defined priority hazards, related impacts, Aas and forecasts; and also develop trigger limits to enable access to prearranged financing to support households and communities at risk of weather-related shocks.
- Finalize and support the endorsement of the AA protocol with identified forecasts and triggers and roll out training and simulation exercises.
- Strengthen the elements of a robust AA system, including risk assessment, thresholds, and triggers, and their links to social protection.
- Support broader policy engagement with the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN) and World Bank Rwanda on disaster risk financing for prearranged finance options.
- Support activation of AA and dissemination of early warning information in the event of a crisis.



Target location

Hiraan region: Belet Weyne, Bullo Bulto and Jalalaqsi; Middle Shabelle region: Jowhar/mahaday; Gedo region: Baardhere and Luuq; and lower Shabelle region: Afgooye.



Donors

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



Key Partners

1. Somalia Disaster Management Agency (SODMA)
2. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
3. Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC)



Hazards

Drought and floods



Key Achievements

In 2022, WFP Somalia:

- Activated the first floods Anticipatory Action (AA) in Africa, reaching 218,718 people with anticipatory cash transfers and 442,209 people with early warning messages.
- In collaboration with other disaster risk reduction (DRR) stakeholders, supported the development of a floods AA framework to guide AA implementation in the country.
- Developed the floods Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) that was reviewed and approved.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN SOMALIA

Thanks to funding from the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) and the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), WFP Somalia is implementing the AA Programme, under the [WFP Somalia Country Strategic Plan \(2022-2025\)](#) Strategic Outcome 1 “Food-insecure and nutrition-insecure people, in disaster-affected areas have access to adequate and nutritious food and specialized nutritious foods that meet their basic food and nutritional needs, during and in the aftermath of shocks” and Strategic Outcome 3: “National institutions, private sector, smallholder farmers, and food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations in Somalia benefit from climate-smart, productive, resilient, inclusive, and nutritious food systems by 2030”.

Since 1990, Somalia has experienced 30 climate-related hazards: 12 extreme droughts and 18 floods, three times the number of climate-related hazards experienced between 1970 and 1990. Somalia’s contribution to climate change and greenhouse emissions is negligible compared to the intense climatic shocks experienced by the country. Five below-average rainy seasons led to a prolonged drought, followed by catastrophic flooding.

As recognized by the Government of Somalia and its humanitarian partners, the impact of repeated disasters could be better managed if weather and climate forecasts and in-depth knowledge of risks are systematically used for forward-looking programming options, such as AA interventions. With the learning from past flood events – and the shift from the prolonged La Niña to the El Niño phenomenon – humanitarian partners and the Government of Somalia have recognized the need to

develop Flood-Specific AA under the leadership of the Somalia Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA).

Somalia has established a countrywide Flood Risk and Response Information Management System, which needs to be coordinated, monitored, evaluated, and integrated into disaster risk management plans at country, state, and local levels. Although considerable progress has been made in forecasting hydro-meteorological hazards and strengthening capacity for timely forecasting and dissemination of weather information, additional investment is needed to advance system building to better manage the increasing climate risks.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

In 2023, WFP supported the Government of Somalia to develop a national flood AA framework under SoDMA leadership. The framework enabled the Government to coordinate AA interventions from multiple actors in flood-prone areas. Building on this framework, WFP developed its first flood anticipatory action plan in Africa, in coordination with SoDMA, United Nations agencies, and other humanitarian actors.

WFP is working with national and sub-national government entities to strengthen their capacity to implement anticipatory mechanisms for multi-hazard disaster mitigation. WFP will continue to work with SoDMA to support national anticipatory action efforts. The Baxnaano safety net programme will continue to be an essential platform, and the national unified social registry will help

to reach those most vulnerable. WFP will also support the development of response capabilities ahead of shocks at local government level, through effective coordination and resource utilization.

Forecasts and triggers

The AAP set trigger thresholds based on river risk levels from 4.5 metres to 7.5 metres, established by the Somalia Water and Land Information Management's Flood and Response Information Management System (SWALIM – FRRIMS). The Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) monitored forecasts daily through the Geospatial Streamflow Forecast Model (GeoSFM), informing AA activation when triggers were met. The GeoSFM used spatially distributed terrain, soil, and land cover data sets for model parameterization, and outputs streamflow and water depth, among other data.

Anticipatory actions

When the global forecast for the Greater Horn of Africa region predicted an El Niño event with associated flooding in Somalia, the Government of Somalia, led by SoDMA, convened actors and expressed the need for an AA programme for floods to assist in the mitigation of potential negative effects. This was followed by consultations that led to the successful development of the national flood AA framework, with support from WFP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and other AA actors in the country. The framework defines the priority flood impacts and respective AAs to prevent and mitigate their effects on the most vulnerable people. It also outlines the roles of various actors in the implementation of AAs, based on their operational presence and mandates.

The development and approval of WFP Somalia's AAP was simplified by the earlier investments on the framework as WFP country office and field office teams leveraged to quickly agree on geographical coverage, priority impacts and AA for floods and implementation arrangements. Sustained collaboration between WFP and SoDMA facilitated smooth community engagement processes on activation of the AAP.

AA activations

In October 2023, as pre-defined AA trigger thresholds were crossed, WFP activated the AAP in four regions in Somalia: Hiraan region (Weyne, Bulo Buldo and Jalalaqsi districts); Middle Shabelle region (Jowhar/mahaday district); Gedo region (Baardhere and Luuq districts, and Lower Shabelle region (Afgooye district). The AAP was activated in coordination with the national framework for flood AA led by SoDMA, in collaboration with other humanitarian actors.

Two weeks before the flood occurred, WFP delivered four AAs; these were dissemination of early warning messages, cash transfers, and pre-positioning of boats and nutrition commodities. Flood early warning messages, disseminated by radio, automated mobile phone messages and community loudspeakers, reached 442,209 people and provided guidance for flood preparation and safe evacuation. Anticipatory cash-based transfers reached 218,718 people living in flood-prone locations (55 percent women), equating to US\$81 delivered per household. Specialized nutritious packages were delivered to 25,000 children under 5 years of age, and pregnant and breastfeeding women suffering from malnutrition. Boats were pre-positioned at strategic points along the Juba and Shabelle rivers to support evacuation and delivery of supplies. WFP, well ahead of many other actors in this space, coordinated to ensure complementarity, and reduce duplication of activations. The country office initiated evidence-generation activities for the activation to measure and demonstrate the added value of AA. The study results will be shared with all stakeholders to inform future AA implementation.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Somalia will:

- Strengthen national and local capacities to anticipate future emergencies more effectively, and reach food-insecure people exposed to recurrent and predictable shocks.
- Integrate AA in government disaster management and social protection systems, presenting opportunities for scale, impact, and sustainability.
- Directly deliver AA at scale on behalf of, or in coordination with, national and state authorities and partners.
- Support the development of a multi-hazard framework that takes into account the interaction and cumulative effects of multiple hazards, including floods, droughts, storms, and – where applicable – conflict.

SOUTH SUDAN



Target location

Jonglei, Unity, and Eastern Equatoria states.



Donors

Government of Ireland



Key Partners

1. Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MHADM)
2. University of Juba
3. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
4. South Sudan Meteorological Department
5. South Sudan Red Cross (SSRC)
6. Ministry of Agriculture
7. Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation



Hazards

Drought, floods



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP South Sudan:

- Convened a workshop with government and humanitarian partners at which participants committed to conducting a multi-partner feasibility assessment that identifies mitigations for climate shocks.
- Initiated a joint Anticipatory Action and Climate Services feasibility assessment, together with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MHADM) and the South Sudan Red Cross (SSRC).
- Secured agreement with the Government to update the terms of reference of the National Early Warning Technical Working Group (NEWTWG) to incorporate Anticipatory Action (AA) coordination.
- Initiated discussions with the Government on integrating Anticipatory Action (AA) into the national Disaster Risk Management Strategy.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN SOUTH SUDAN

Thanks to funding from Ireland, WFP South Sudan has continued its work on AA. The AA portfolio in South Sudan is embedded in [WFP South Sudan Country Strategic Plan \(2023-2025\)](#), Activity 1 under Strategic Outcome 1 which aims to: “Provide life-saving food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected population to support their self-reliance, readiness and recovery”; and Activity 7 under Strategic Outcome 4 which aims to: “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”.

In 2023, WFP South Sudan launched an Anticipatory Action and Climate Services feasibility assessment, in collaboration with the MHADM, FAO and the SSRC. Partners agreed that the assessment should focus on floods and drought as priority climate risks. As areas prone to these shocks are also hampered by conflict, it was agreed that the assessment should incorporate some aspects on conflict-sensitive programming. Based on the assessment findings, which will be available in 2024, WFP and partners aim to collaboratively develop Anticipatory Action and Climate Services programmes, aimed at mitigating the effects of floods and drought.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

In order to ensure effective coordination of Anticipatory Action and Climate Services in the country, WFP initiated discussions with MHADM to establish an Anticipatory Action Technical Working Group. However, given the existence of a National Early Warning Technical Working Group (NEWTWG) in the country, chaired by MHADM, it was agreed to convene a NEWTWG meeting with the purpose of reviewing its terms of reference to accommodate coordination of anticipatory action in the country. MHADM will convene the workshop, with WFP support, in 2024.

To ensure that South Sudan Disaster Risk Management Strategy reflects AA and climate services in the country, preliminary discussions have been held to mainstream anticipatory action in the Disaster Risk Management Strategy. This activity is also planned for 2024.

Forecasts and triggers

In 2023, WFP South Sudan initiated an AA and climate services assessment. Preliminary findings show capacity gaps in forecasting skills and the infrastructure that supports it. Work has not been done to develop an AA trigger methodology. Therefore, improving forecasting skills and developing trigger mechanism are key steps that will be considered in 2024.

Anticipatory actions

Community perspectives on potential flood and drought AAs were captured during field-level assessments. Communities expressed the importance of accessing drought-tolerant seeds and water for irrigation, household use, and livestock. Communities also considered the construction of primary and secondary dykes to keep water away from homes, and to have standby boats that would carry their property and food to safe locations, as well as access to cash in order to buy food and other necessities. Additionally, communities proposed long-term adaptation actions to climatic shocks that included setting up an irrigation system to give communities the opportunity to grow crops more than once per calendar year, and to strengthen communication mechanisms to give communities the opportunity to receive weather and climate information, accompanied by advisories for their livelihood decision-making.

AA activations


No activations took place in 2023.


OUTLOOK FOR 2024


In 2024, WFP South Sudan will:

- Design an AA programme collaboratively with FAO, MHADM, and other stakeholders.
- Develop and submit an Anticipatory Action and Climate Services project proposal.
- Strengthen the capacities of partners to operate AA systems, prioritizing the provision of technical support to South Sudan Meteorological Department for purposes of improving forecasting skills and trigger mechanism development.
- Support the Government to review the Disaster Risk Management Strategy to accommodate requirements for AA and climate services.
- Support the Government to review the NEWTWG terms of reference to accommodate the coordination of AA in the country.





 **Target location**
Sennar State

 **Donors**
Government of Ireland

 **Key Partners**

1. Sudan Meteorological Authority (SMA)
2. Sudan Red Crescent Society (SRC)
3. The Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources (MIWR)
4. Remote Sensing Authority (RSA)
5. National Council for Civil Defence (NCCD)
6. Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC)
7. German Red Cross
8. Save the Children
9. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Chair of Water Resources
10. Central Bureau of Statistics Sudan

 **Hazards**
Floods

 **Key Achievements**

In 2023, WFP Sudan:

- Undertook a feasibility assessment for cash-based transfers (CBTs) in Sennar State, the selected pilot location for Anticipatory Action (AA).
- Drafted an AA theory of change and logical framework.
- Developed and validated the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the AA technical working group, which were adopted.
- Finalized a capacity assessment report and a ToR, and facilitated the procurement of a technical service provider for Sudan Meteorological Authority (SMA) and the Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources (MIWR).

OVERVIEW OF AA IN SUDAN

Thanks to funding from Ireland, WFP Sudan continued to develop, to the extent possible, the AA programme, which falls under SO1 of [WFP Sudan's Country Strategic Plan \(2019-2023\)](#): "People affected by shocks in targeted areas have access to food, nutrition and livelihoods during/after crises."

The conflict that erupted in April has significantly affected WFP's ability to set up AA programming as planned throughout 2023, ultimately resulting in the suspension of AA implementation. However, there were many achievements both prior to, and despite, the security situation unfolding as it did, as described below.

With funding from Ireland, WFP Sudan began rolling out the AA approach in June 2021 with a focus on mitigating flood impacts on exposed and food insecure populations living in Sennar State before the rainfall season (June-October). The AA programme in the country was developed in collaboration with various stakeholders that are members of the Early Warning Early Action Technical Working Group (EWEA TWG), which includes both government bodies, such as SMA, and non-governmental institutions, such as the Sudan Red Crescent Society (SRC). Other stakeholders include government ministries and agencies – including the MIWR, the Remote Sensing Authority, the National Council for Civil Defence

(NCCD), and the Humanitarian Aid Commission – along with community members in flood-prone regions. The programme is also aligned with the Government of Sudan's focus on mitigating the impacts of disasters, such as floods, on its vulnerable population.

In 2023, WFP Sudan undertook a feasibility assessment for cash-based transfers (CBT) as a modality for AA in Sennar State. The assessment looked at various areas, including market functioning, existing financial institutions and their capacity, mobile network coverage and access to markets. The report was developed and reviewed internally and supported by WFP Regional Bureau Nairobi (RBN).

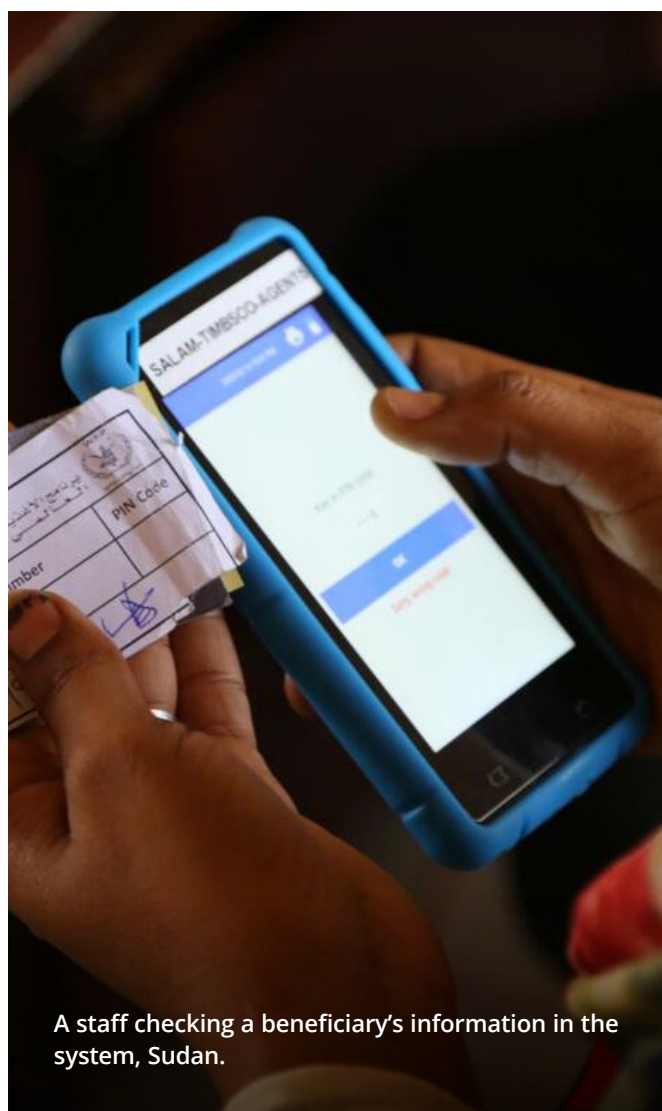
To improve monitoring and evaluation, a draft theory of change and logical framework were developed. In addition, EWEA TWG members developed, validated and adopted the ToR for the AA technical working group.

WFP Sudan finalized the capacity assessment report for SMA and the MIWR, which informed the gaps and existing capacity with respect to developing AA triggers and improving forecasting systems. ToRs were developed to support capacity strengthening of SMA and MIWR, to enhance rainfall and flood forecasting in support of AA implementation. However, the conflict, which began in April 2023, led to the halting of the planned capacity strengthening for SMA and MIWR, and other planned activities focusing on AA.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

WFP Sudan regularly engaged regarding AA work with relevant government stakeholders such as the MIWR, the Ministry of Remote Sensing and Authority, the SMA, the NCCD and more, at both national and local levels. WFP Sudan established the ToR for a specific AA Technical Working Group to support implementation of AA in the country and brought all key partners together. Additionally, the WFP Sudan planned to revamp the EWEA TWG. This inter-agency body examines and creates mitigation measures for contextual hazards that would have operational implications, with floods being a priority hazard discussed in the forum.



A staff checking a beneficiary's information in the system, Sudan.

Forecasts and triggers

WFP Sudan worked closely with key stakeholders, such as the SMA the MIWR, the Remote Sensing Authority, the SRC, the Humanitarian Aid Commission and Save the Children to design and develop a flood threshold for the pilot location in Abu Hajar, Sennar State. A final ToR was developed, to enhance capacity strengthening of the SMA the MIWR to improve forecasting, supported by the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC). The ToR was agreed on by the two institutions and shared with ICPAC for developing a workplan for capacity strengthening work. However, due to the change in the country context, the work was de-prioritized.

Anticipatory actions

Below is a summary of AAs activities that were defined in collaboration with key partners. Prior to the war breaking out in April, the following AAs were considered:

- Dissemination of flood early warning information. This can be done through community groups, mosques, radio and SRC volunteers.
- Distribution of sandbags and digging tools to help create sand walls in water areas.
- Distribution of jerrycans for water and chlorine tablets for storing clean drinking water.
- Distribution of non-food items (NFIs): more specifically tarpaulins to be used in case of evacuation).
- Provision of training on psychosocial support.
- Spraying the environment to prevent snake and other insect bites.

AA activations

No activations took place in 2023.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

AA work is currently on hold until the security situation subsides.



Target location

Abim, Amudat, Kaabong, Karenga, Kotido, Moroto, Nabilatuk, Nakapiripirit and Napak districts in Karamoja sub-region.



Donors

Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) and the European Commission Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA).



Key Partners

1. Office of the Prime Minister (OPM).
2. Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA)
3. District local governments
4. Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC)
5. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)



Hazards

Drought and floods



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Uganda:

- Facilitated a drought Anticipatory Action (AA) tabletop simulation with the Government, to assess the readiness and response capabilities of stakeholders involved, and also to identify the strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement in the Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP).
- Facilitated with the Government the co-development of flood AAPs linked to triggers and thresholds.
- Strengthened the Uganda National Meteorological Authority's (UNMA's) capacity for impact-based forecasting through various capacity strengthening activities, in collaboration with the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC).

OVERVIEW OF AA IN UGANDA

Thanks to funding from Denmark, WFP Uganda is developing its AA programme, which is being implemented under the [WFP Uganda Country Strategic Plan \(2018-2025\)](#) Strategic Outcome 5: "Institutions have increased capacity to coordinate and manage food security and nutrition programmes and respond to shocks by 2030". The country office is supporting the Government of Uganda to create a continuum of early warning, AA, recovery and resilience programming. Through the "Scaling-Up Anticipatory Actions for Food Security" project funded by the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) and the "Pro-Resilience Action" (PRO-ACT) project funded by the European Commission Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA), WFP is supporting the Government and communities to manage growing climate risks through AAs for droughts and floods in all nine districts of Karamoja sub-region.

WFP is implementing these activities in close partnership with the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), UNMA, district local governments, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). WFP also convenes a technical working group on AA with partners including the Red Cross and other humanitarian and development actors implementing disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation programming.

In 2023, WFP Uganda continued to support the Government to institutionalize anticipatory action within the national disaster risk management (DRM) frameworks.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

In 2023, WFP Uganda supported the Government to develop the National Social Protection Strategy (2023 – 2028), which embraces a life cycle approach and integrates shock-responsive social protection. WFP further provided technical advisory support to the design of the shock-responsive mechanisms of the Government's Northern Uganda Social Action Fund (NUSAF), which adopts an AA approach.

Forecasts and triggers

Through a combination of consultations and interactive workshops, WFP, ICPAC and UNMA facilitated the co-development of impact-based thresholds and triggers for flood AA. The model, which is still under review, integrates climate data, impact data and local knowledge to determine thresholds and triggers for AA in targeted areas of Karamoja sub-region.

WFP further supported UNMA's capacity to generate impact-based forecasts through a series of capacity strengthening engagements delivered in partnership with ICPAC. These included providing an opportunity for UNMA staff to undertake a learning assignment with ICPAC in Nairobi, and convening training on generating forecasts of heavy rainfall, floods and drought.

Anticipatory actions

In 2023, WFP Uganda initiated a series of preparedness activities for drought anticipatory actions, in conjunction with the Ministry of Water and Environment. A technical assessment was undertaken that identified the water facilities to be targeted with AA to reduce the impact of water scarcity, thus developing the specifications for materials and civil works, and identifying potential vendors.

WFP also worked with the district local governments in Karamoja to identify, profile, and pre-register households vulnerable to flood risks in the Karamoja single registry. This pre-registration will enable anticipatory support to floods, when triggers are reached.

In parallel, a significant milestone was achieved with the development and delivery of climate services to communities vulnerable to droughts and floods. Leveraging

channels such as schools, community radio, and face-to-face outreach initiatives, monthly bulletins and actionable advisories derived from seasonal forecasts were effectively disseminated to a total of 788,000 people, in partnership with FAO. This initiative empowered communities to take follow-up actions based on the advisories provided.

AA activations

In 2023, WFP and the Government co-facilitated a tabletop simulation exercise intended to evaluate the effectiveness of drought anticipatory action plans in Karamoja sub-region. The exercise simulated potential drought scenarios to assess the readiness and response capabilities of the stakeholders involved. The outcomes provide valuable insights into the strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement in the existing AAPs.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

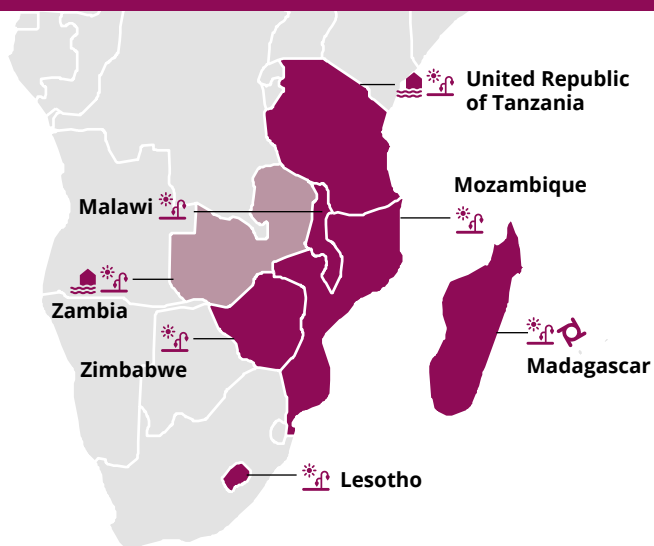
In 2024, WFP Uganda will:

- Support the development of a national framework and guidelines for shock-responsive social protection.
- Implement AA, if triggered.
- Generate evidence on AA in Uganda.



Dissemination of early warning messages in Karamoja, Uganda.

SOUTHERN AFRICA



TARGET LOCATIONS AND HAZARDS



Women holding shade nets and drought-resistant seeds during distribution, Lesotho.

KEY INFORMATION



People covered
971,531



People reached with anticipatory transfers
230,561



People reached with early warning messages
1,245,577



US\$ funds disbursed
14 million



Donors

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

1. Southern African Development Community (SADC) Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Unit and Climate Services Centre (CSC)
2. South African Weather Services (SAWS)
3. African Risk Capacity (ARC)
4. International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
5. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
6. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
7. United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)
8. International Organization for Migration (IOM)
9. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
10. Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET)
11. Welt Hunger Hilfe (WHH)
12. Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility (GBV AoR)
13. Oxfam International
14. Save the Children International
15. World Vision
16. University of Cape Town Climate System Analysis Group (UCT CSAG)
17. United Nations University (UNU)
18. Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (known in German as Potsdam-Institut für Klimafolgenforschung or PIK)
19. Centre of Excellence in Indigenous Knowledge Systems (CIKS) of the University of KwaZulu-Natal

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

The southern Africa region continued to face complex, climate-induced challenges throughout 2023. Hot and dry weather conditions during the 2022/23 agricultural season, coupled with the devastating effect of Cyclone Freddy, resulted in poor harvests across many parts of the region, including southern Zimbabwe, southern Mozambique and southern Malawi. In line with El Niño patterns, the seasonal forecast predicted below-average rainfall and higher-than-usual air temperatures across most of the region over the 2023/24 season, providing a clear signal for the initiation of Anticipatory Action (AA).

Marking the largest disbursement of anticipatory finance to one region for simultaneous AA activations, WFP supported Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe with US\$14 million to reach over 230,561 people with anticipatory cash and other anticipatory actions ahead of the predicted drought impact of El Niño. For the first time, WFP co-financed fully government-led anticipatory action in Mozambique as part of the 2023/24 drought Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) activation, including for cash transfers through the Post-Emergency Direct Social Support Programme (known in Portuguese as Programa Apoio Social Directo – Pós-Emergência or PASD-PE).

WFP also continued working to increase coverage of AA systems in southern Africa with financial support from the Adaptation Fund, the European Union (EU), the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) and the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). WFP continued advocating the harmonization and joint scaling up of AA systems in the region, guiding development of National Anticipatory Action Roadmaps and Inter-Agency Frameworks in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe under the European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) Joint Programme on strengthened early warning and AA in southern Africa. It conducted AA scoping and feasibility assessments in Zambia and the United Republic of Tanzania, prioritizing integration with adaptive social protection and further climate and disaster risk financing instruments (CDFRIs).

WFP conducted a regional assessment of its investment in building government-owned AA systems in southern Africa, providing a comparative analysis highlighting common trends, key best practices, and lessons learned in Madagascar, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. Significant advances have been made in national forecasting capacities, early warning systems, developing AAPs, defining linkages to social protection systems, and establishing and strengthening national communities of practice for AA.

As the only humanitarian Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF) implementing entity, WFP Southern Africa supported the rolling out of SOFF pilots in Mozambique and Zambia, intended to strengthen climate adaptation and resilient development through improved weather forecasts, early warning systems, and climate information services in order to save lives, improve livelihoods, and protect property.

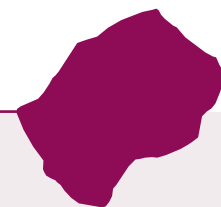
In order to strengthen pan-African and South-South learning on AA, WFP Southern Africa supported the establishment of a Pan-African DRR Action-Research-Network of Excellence to support Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Anticipatory Action in partnership with the United Nations University (UNU), the University of Cape Town (UCT), the African Institute in Indigenous Knowledge Systems (AIKS) and the Disaster Management Training and Education Centre for Africa (DIMTEC).

Also, WFP Southern Africa supported the development of the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) Africa action plan at regional level across all four pillars, and contributed to its rolling out at national level across first mover countries in the region. WFP co-hosted the 6th Africa Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Humanitarian Action with the Anticipation Hub, SADC, IGAD, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Start Network, with 170 people present in person in Johannesburg, and 927 people attending virtually. "Early Warning and Early Action" remained a focus theme of the annual SADC Annual Organizational Meeting, Disaster Preparedness Consultation and the 27th Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF-27), with WFP providing continued technical and strategic guidance.

WFP and NORAD signed a five-year US\$32 million multi-country contribution to scale up AA for food security in Burkina Faso, Niger, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zimbabwe (2024-2028), accelerating the scale-up of AA systems across the southern Africa region. Resource mobilization and scoping efforts are ongoing for expansion of AA to Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Namibia and Zambia in 2024.



Joint Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture (PICSA) and development of early warning messages workshop, Mozambique.



Target location

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



Donors

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



Key Partners

1. Disaster Management Authority (DMA)
2. Lesotho Meteorological Services (LMS)
3. Ministry of Social Development (MOSD)
4. Ministry on Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition (MoAFS)
5. Department of Rural Water Supply (DRWS)
6. Lesotho Red Cross Society (LRCS)
7. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
8. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
9. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
10. National University of Lesotho (NUL)



Hazards

Drought



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Lesotho:

- Developed and formally approved the first government drought Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) (ahead of the 2023/24 agricultural season).
- Released US\$3.2 million in funds to reach 21,260 people ahead of predicted drought impact through anticipatory cash transfers, provision of drought-tolerant inputs and access to sustained water, and a total of 792,877 people through early warning messages.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN LESOTHO

Thanks to funding from the Adaptation Fund (AF) and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), WFP Lesotho developed its AA programme. Under the "improving adaptive capacity of vulnerable and food-insecure populations in Lesotho (IACOV)", WFP Lesotho has been supporting the Government of Lesotho to strengthen climate change adaptation efforts, deploying AA as an innovative tool to protect adaptation gains from the impact of imminent climate shocks. Activities related to AA system-building in Lesotho fall under the [WFP Lesotho Country Strategic Plan \(2019-2024\)](#) Strategic Outcome 2, Activity 3 "Strengthen technical capacity of the Government in early warning, food and nutrition security monitoring and vulnerability assessment and analysis including but not limited to forecast- based financing approaches".

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

The Government of Lesotho – through the Disaster Management Authority (DMA) and Lesotho Meteorological Services (LMS) – developed the country's first National AAP for drought. Through tailored government capacity strengthening at national and sub-national levels, WFP Lesotho finalized the drought trigger

model, participatory AA selection, and developed a joint evidence generation framework. The National Drought AAP covers four pilot districts (Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek, Quthing and Thaba-Tseka), areas selected based on their vulnerability status and historical drought impact.

In light of possible AAP activation, WFP supported DMA and LMS to present AA and the National Drought AAP to the Prime Minister of Lesotho, the Honourable Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, and the Lesotho Cabinet of Ministers to obtain full high-level government ownership. The AAP, and plans to activate it ahead of the 2023/24 agricultural season, were embraced and given clearance by the Prime Minister and his cabinet.

Forecasts and triggers

In 2023, WFP and Columbia Climate School International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) supported LMS to produce historical and ongoing monitoring of Enhancing National Climate Services initiative (ENACTS) climate data with national coverage and local relevance at 4 km spatial resolution. Online mapping services (Climate Data Library and AA Maproom) were also developed to provide user-friendly tools for the analysis, visualization, and downloading of climate information products. WFP further supported LMS to generate a seasonal forecast using ENACTS dataset for Lesotho cropping season, focusing on the OND and DJF seasons with three-month lead times, using the Python Climate Predictability Tool (PyCPT) seasonal notebook.

Three drought activation triggers were developed for mild (three-year return period), moderate (five-year return period) and severe drought (seven-year return period) scenarios. The trigger mechanism, which is mainly based on a seasonal forecast, also incorporates vulnerability data going back as far as 12 years to define severity thresholds for different drought scenarios. This data and calibration of bad years was informed by stakeholders. These stakeholders included: government ministries and relevant departments (such as agriculture and food security, nutrition, water, and forestry); NGOs (Catholic Relief Services, World Vision, Lesotho Red Cross Society (LRCS) and United Nations agencies (Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF). Farmers were also consulted at community level. Furthermore, WFP Lesotho in partnership with the LRCS launched a joint research study on the role of indigenous knowledge systems (IKS) in smallholder farmer decision-making ahead of climate shocks, which will inform the AA system development and iteration in 2024.

Anticipatory actions

In March 2023, the Government of Lesotho with technical support from WFP Lesotho, embarked on the development of its first National Drought AAP. The AAP development was led by relevant national government departments (DMA and LMS) in consultation with other relevant line ministries, and including national, district and community level consultations. The AAP was approved nationally and endorsed by WFP HQ, ensuring eligibility for disbursements ahead of the 2023/24 agricultural season.

After conducting district-level AA consultations and mapping of actions against impacts, the next step was to conduct community consultations at village level through focus group discussions, where communities were asked about the impacts of drought in their context and what the preferred actions would be to mitigate such effects. The feedback was incorporated in the selection of the approved AAP.

WFP is supporting the Government of Lesotho to revise key legal DRM frameworks and the annual contingency plans to clearly reference AA as an ex-ante risk management tool.

AA activations

In July 2023, AAs were triggered for a severe drought scenario (one in seven-year event) in all four districts covered under the National Drought Plan. WFP released US\$3.2 million of prearranged financing to provide direct anticipatory assistance to 21,260 people living in Mafeteng, Mohale’s Hoek, Quthing and Thaba-Tseka, who are at risk of severe drought and below-normal rainfall, during the October-December cropping season. In addition, early warning messages reached a total of 792,877 people. An AAR is planned for 2024 and the results will be shared in the next annual report.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Lesotho will:

- Close out the AA activation by March 2024.
- Facilitate an after-action review informed by activation base- and endline data analysis outputs, informing the revision of the National Drought AAP.
- Conduct a cost-benefit analysis on AA versus conventional emergency response supported by Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)
- Integrate IKS into climate services.



The community constructing a tank slab for water tank installation, Lesotho.



Target location

Androy, Anosy and Atsimo Andrefana regions.



Donors

Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) and United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).



Key Partners

1. National Disaster Management Agency (known in French as Bureau National de Gestion des Risques et des Catastrophes or BNGRC)
2. National Meteorological Agency (known in French as Direction Generale de la Meteorologie or DGM)
3. Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (known in French as Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Elevage et de la Pêche or MAEP)
4. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
5. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
6. International Organization for Migration (IOM)
7. Association Mahavotse
8. Diocesan Development Council (known in French as the Conseil Diocésien de Développement or CDD)
9. Anticipatory Technical Working Group
10. African Risk Capacity (ARC)



Hazards

Drought and cyclones



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Madagascar:

- Disbursed US\$3.2 million to reach 101,701 people with anticipatory transfers in Betioky and Betroka districts ahead of the 2023/2024 drought season. The Anticipatory Actions (AAs) implemented are short-cycle seeds, in cultivation training, cash distribution and the rehabilitation of water points.
- Distributed early warning messages to 107,700 people ahead of the 2023/2024 drought season.
- Conducted an inter-agency after-action review (AAR) of the 2022 activation, during which US\$1.2 million was disbursed to reach 62,210 people.
- Revised and revalidated the national drought Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) with government entities, based on findings from the AAR.
- Continued supporting the National Meteorological Agency (known in French as Direction Generale de la Meteorologie or DGM) in the production of tailored seasonal and sub-seasonal rainfall forecasts for Anosy, Androy and Atsimo Andrefana regions.
- Initiated the setup of a cyclones system for AA partnership with the Government and aligned to existing initiatives like African Risk Capacity (ARC).

OVERVIEW OF AA IN MADAGASCAR

Thanks to funding from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), the European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) and the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), WFP Madagascar continued to develop its AA programme, which falls under [WFP Madagascar Country Strategic Plan \(2019-2024\)](#) outcome (SO) 4 “Improve smallholder farmers’ access to resources that cushion the impact of shocks” (AA system building)”, whereas activities related to an Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) activation fall under SO1 “Crisis-affected populations can meet their basic food and nutrition needs.”

2023 marked the completion of the 2022/23 drought AAP activation (triggered in 2022) followed by a consecutive activation of the drought AAP ahead of predicted El Niño impact in the 2023/24 season. Ahead of this drought, WFP Madagascar disbursed US\$3.2 million to reach 101,701 people with anticipatory transfers in Betioky and Betroka districts.

These anticipatory transfers included short-cycle seeds, cultivation training, cash distribution and the rehabilitation of water points. WFP Madagascar also distributed early warning messages to 107,700 people ahead of the 2023/2024 drought season.

WFP Madagascar works closely with government actors on the development of a national drought framework for AA, primarily the National Disaster Management Agency (known in French as Bureau National de Gestion des Risques et des Catastrophes or BNGRC) and DGM, alongside other national stakeholders involved in disaster risk financing (DRF) initiatives, including Welthungerhilfe (WHH), the Start Network, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the German Development Agency (GIZ). In the subsequent activation, four actions were implemented, including the dissemination of early warning messages, the distribution of short-cycle seeds, the rehabilitation of water points and the distribution of cash.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

In 2023, BNGRC and the members of the AA Technical Working Group (TWG), including WFP Madagascar, put in place the national AA framework. The TWG brings together all the players working in the field of anticipation in Madagascar and is led by the BNGRC as the designated authority on disaster risk management at national level.

Further, the AA Maptool, a climate and vulnerability analysis and forecasting online platform developed by DGM, WFP and Columbia Climate School International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI), was increasingly used as a participatory tool utilized for multi-stakeholder decision-making under the National AA TWG. The aim is to further institutionalize the Maptool towards full government ownership, aiding disaster risk management decision-making beyond AA in 2024.

Forecasts and triggers

With technical support from IRI and WFP, DGM expanded the coverage of the seasonal forecast from October-November-December (OND) to also cover December-January-February (DJF) at national scale, while also supporting the production of sub-seasonal forecasts. WFP organized a series of technical training sessions for the DGMs on how to evaluate thresholds and trigger models, conduct model bias correction, and manage the AA Maptool. Thanks to this training, the capacity of DGM was strengthened.

A trigger performance review was conducted as part of the after-action review on the 2022/23 drought AAP activation. The AA trigger lead time was enhanced by incorporating the June seasonal forecast as a possible trigger forecast, granting more lead time for implementation of readiness actions in the event of activation. Government partners and AA TWG members revalidated the three drought severity risk thresholds, ranging from a mild (three-year return period), to moderate (five-year return period) and severe (seven-year return period) drought trigger.

Anticipatory actions

Based on operational learnings from the 2022/23 Drought AAP activation, WFP supported the revision of the plan in close coordination with BNGRC, DGM and the members of the AA TWG. The activation process had shown a gap in AA readiness between central and decentralized actors, delaying the overall implementation of the actions. Trigger lead times were thus increased, providing WFP and implementing partners with a larger time window for readiness actions. Further, while certain early warning messages were translated into local languages, this was not systematically the case. In the drought AAP revision process, WFP and government counterparts emphasized enhancing the early warning component, ensuring broader reach, while tailoring assistance to different needs.

Additionally, to clarify linkages between early warning and anticipatory cash transfers to recipients, WFP and partners also included local theatre performances that effectively communicated the weather forecasts, and demonstrated how households can utilize the cash assistance to prepare for drought conditions in the revised AAP. By government request, WFP additionally included the implementation of livestock vaccination campaigns as further AA in the revised drought AAP.

AA activations

In July 2023, the revised Drought AAP was triggered in two districts, Betroka and Betsioky, for moderate drought, releasing US\$3.2 million to reach 101,701 people with anticipatory transfers. A set of four actions are being implemented ahead of predicted drought impact: dissemination of early warning messages, seed distribution, cash distribution and water points rehabilitation. WFP Madagascar also distributed early warning messages to 107,700 people ahead of the 2023/2024 drought season.

WFP also finalized its analysis of the 2022/23 drought activation, where it had reached 62,211 people with early warning messages, drought-resistant seeds, and water point rehabilitation. The key results of this analysis are outlined below:

- The assisted populations had a slightly higher “acceptable” food consumption score (FCS) (+4 percentage points) compared to the control group, indicating improved access to food and the ability to meet food and nutrition needs to a greater extent. Conversely, the control group highlighted a higher proportion of individuals facing food insecurity (+5 percentage points in the “poor” category). The intervention positively influenced household food consumption.
- Beneficiary households not only consumed more food, but they also had more diverse diets, with more vegetables, protein and lipid-rich foods (on average, half a day more per week).
- Beneficiaries had a higher resilience capacity than the control group, suggesting that the intervention has improved their ability to anticipate and recover from various shocks. The overall resilience capacity score (RCS) for beneficiaries shows higher levels of resilience, with a larger proportion demonstrating medium or high levels.
- In the beneficiary group, fewer households allocated a significant portion (75 percent) of their total expenses to food, than the control group. This suggests a greater ability to cope with economic shocks such as inflation, as households are able to spread their income more evenly across different needs.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Madagascar will:

- Close out the ongoing drought AAP activation by March 2024, and conduct an endline survey, after-action review, and subsequent revision of the plan based on learnings.
- Hand over the AA Maptool and drought AA trigger model to DGM.
- Develop a cyclone AAP, aligned to the ARC cyclone operational plan.
- Conduct a cost-benefit analysis on AA versus conventional emergency response, supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).
- Finalize a study on feasible sequencing and layering of climate and disaster risk financing instruments (CDRFI), including AA, in partnership with the Centre for Disaster Protection (CDP).



Cash distribution in Betioky town, Atsimo-Andrefana Region, Madagascar.



Target location

Nsanje, Chikwawa, Blantyre, Phalombe, Mulanje, Balaka, Machinga, Mangochi, and Zomba districts



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. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
5. Danish Red Cross and Malawi Red Cross Society
6. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
7. United Nations Office of the Resident Coordinator



Hazards

Drought and floods



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Malawi:

- Supported government partners to integrate Anticipatory Action (AA) into the Disaster Risk Management Policy and Strategy.
- Disseminated (with the Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services (DCCMS) downscaled weather forecasts in Chikwawa, Nsanje, Blantyre and Balaka districts.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN MALAWI

Thanks to funding from Norway and the European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), WFP Malawi launched its AA programme in 2023. Activities related to AA system-building in Malawi fall under [WFP Malawi Country Strategic Plan \(2019-2023\)](#) Outcome 5 (SO5), Activity 6: “Provide capacity strengthening, skills transfer, partnership activities and logistics and procurement services to national and local institutions and private-sector enterprises involved in food security, nutrition, food safety, disaster risk management and emergency response”.

WFP Malawi has worked in close coordination with the Government’s Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA), with the additional involvement of DCCMS and the Department of Water Resources (DWR). Additionally, WFP is working in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Danish Red Cross (DRC) and the Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS). These collaborative efforts are all aligned to the AA roadmap for Malawi, developed in October 2022.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

As part of the inception of the AA programme, in November 2023 WFP worked with DoDMA to integrate AA into the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Policy and Strategy Document. The DRM Policy has since been submitted to the Office of the President and cabinet and is being reviewed for approval. When published, the DRM Policy will provide solid ground for the institutionalization and domestication of AA in the country. Additionally, the Government, through DoDMA and its partners, developed the national AA roadmap during the national AA dialogue platform, marking an important step towards institutionalization of AA activities in the country. Updated in December 2023, the national roadmap provides a clear pathway for further AA institutionalization across the DRM system.

Discussions are underway with the Government to set up a new AA Technical Working Group that would report to the joint technical committee on DRM that further reports to the top-level National Disaster Risk Management Committee in the national DRM policy structure.

Forecasts and triggers

WFP is working with DCCMS to review the existing AA triggers – developed previously under the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Central Emergency Reponse Fund (CERF) AA framework – and to identify pathways for model adjustments. A WFP headquarters mission provided technical support by conducting consultations with DCCMS to determine their capacity for developing and monitoring forecast-based drought triggers and skill assessment for their forecast products. WFP is also engaging the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to initiate the development of riverine flood triggers, for integration at later stages of the project. WFP is currently co-developing a multi-year plan to strengthen the capacities of the Government's hydro-met departments, such as the DCCMS and the DWR, on hazard forecasting and monitoring of the AA triggers in the country. This includes downscaled weather forecasts at district level, targeting the disaster-prone districts mostly in the south of the country.

WFP supported DCCMS, DWR, and DoDMA to disseminate downscaled weather forecasts at district level in four districts of Chikwawa, Nsanje, Blantyre and Balaka. The forecasts provided farmers in the disaster-prone districts with early warnings so that they could better prepare for the anticipated effects of the El Niño conditions that the country experienced in 2023.

Anticipatory actions

In collaboration with government partners (such as DCCMS, DoDMA and DWR) and other key stakeholders (including FAO, and MRCS), WFP has started to develop a drought Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP), consulting with the Government for AA design, with the aim of having the system operational for activation ahead of 2024/25.

AA activations

No activations took place in 2023.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Malawi will:

- Develop the AAP under the coordination of DoDMA, and in collaboration with other government institutions like DCCMS, DWR and other key stakeholders, including FAO, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the Malawi Red Cross Society.
- Establish a national technical working group (TWG) on AA in Malawi, under government leadership.
- Continue to review the existing AA triggers for droughts and floods, and to develop new triggers where necessary to enable high quality AA.
- Strengthen the forecasting process for the drought hazard at national level and continue to refine the downscaled district level early warning system.
- Strengthen the capacities of DCCMS and DWR to operate enhanced early warning systems to deliver AA by procuring essential equipment and training stakeholders on forecasting and trigger monitoring, at both national and district levels.



Communities explain that the climate crisis is a daily struggle for people depending on agriculture in Malawi.



Target location

Gaza province (Guija, Chibuto, Massingir, Mapai and Mabalane); Tete province (Changara and Marara); Sofala province (Caia and Chemba).



Donors

Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), European Union, European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) and Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF).



Key Partners

1. Disaster Risk Management Institute (known in Portuguese as Instituto Nacional de Gestão de Calamidades 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. Water Resources Management Directorate (known in Portuguese as Direção 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. Food Security Cluster in Mozambique
7. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
8. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
9. University of Eduardo Mondlane (UEM)



Hazards

Drought, cyclones and floods.



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Mozambique:

- Activated its Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) for drought for the first time, reaching 41,600 people with anticipatory cash transfers ahead of predicted drought through the Post-Emergency Direct Social Support Programme (known in Portuguese as Programa Apoio Social Directo – Pós-Emergência or PASD-PE), with US\$2.5 million in prearranged finance.
- Partnered with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to reach 3,020 smallholder farmers with drought-tolerant seeds ahead of predicted drought,
- Reached 270,000 people with early warning messages ahead of predicted drought.
- Supported the Government of Mozambique to implement its national anticipatory plan to reach a further 30,000 people with nutrition activities, conservation agriculture techniques and rehabilitation of water supply systems ahead of predicted drought.
- Assessed the feasibility of a multi-hazard approach, including drought, floods and cyclones, and assessed implementation of Anticipatory Action (AA) in conflict-affected areas of northern Mozambique.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN MOZAMBIQUE

Thanks to funding from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), the European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) and the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF), Mozambique was able to further develop its AA programme. AA falls under Strategic Outcome 4 of [WFP Mozambique Country Strategic Plan \(2022-2026\)](#): “By 2030 national and subnational actors have strengthened capacity and systems to protect and improve the human capital of at-risk and shock-affected populations.”

With continued support from Norway and the European Union, WFP continued to collaborate with government institutions at central and decentralized levels to establish a drought early warning system, and supporting mechanisms to enable AA in Gaza, Sofala and Tete provinces. In addition, in 2023, WFP Mozambique initiated systems building for flood and cyclone AA. WFP Mozambique is part of the Joint Programme on

Strengthened Early Warning and Anticipatory Action in southern Africa, implemented by WFP, FAO and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) with DG ECHO funding, and working to enhance inter-agency alignment by producing a multi-stakeholder AA roadmap and inter-agency AA frameworks.

In 2023, WFP Mozambique continued to support the Government to produce forecasts and monitor drought triggers. AA triggers for were reached for the first time for WFP Mozambique, and the AAP was activated in nine districts. In August 2023 (for window 1) and the second trigger in November 2023 (for window 2). The AAP was activated for drought for the first time, reaching 41,600 people with anticipatory cash transfers and 270,000 people with early warning messages ahead of predicted drought. WFP partnered with FAO to reach 3,020 smallholder farmers with drought-tolerant seeds ahead of a predicted drought. In addition, WFP Mozambique supported the Government to implement its national anticipatory plan to reach a further 30,000 people with nutrition activities, conservation agriculture techniques, and a rehabilitation of water supply systems ahead of a predicted drought.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

In 2023, 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 Disaster Risk Management Institute (known in Portuguese as Instituto Nacional de Gestão de Calamidades or INGD). Through continuous AA advocacy, INGD has integrated an AA component as part of the methodology for the design of the National Contingency Plan 2023-2024, displaying a continued strong signal of the country's progressive ownership of the AA workstream. In addition, on the activation of drought triggers, WFP facilitated the coordination between the INGD and the National Institute of Social Action (known in Portuguese as Instituto Nacional da Acção Social or INAS), to implement anticipatory cash-based transfers channelled through a national social protection programme. This coordination has led to the design of a joint workplan with regular meetings and discussions that review which social registries are extant in the INGD assisted locations so that they can be used by INGD and others for targeting.

WFP has also strengthened coordination with the Food Security Cluster, ensuring information flows regarding early warning and anticipatory actions among members of the cluster. As a result, AA system-building was included in the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan. An [impact assessment on WFP's AA systems building investments](#) with the Government of Mozambique in 2023 highlighted stronger disaster risk management (DRM) policies, drought monitoring and forecasting capacities, increased implementation capacities for drought AA, and stronger understanding and awareness for drought AA as the greatest achievements of the WFP-supported AA programme in Mozambique. Mozambique continued to demonstrate strong commitment to establishing and operationalizing a multi-hazard system, and thus contributing towards establishment of a robust African Multi-Hazard Early Warning System, under the mandate of H.E. President Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, the African Union champion for disaster risk reduction.

The year 2023 ended with a South-South triangular cooperation activity (in November) between the governments of Mozambique and the Dominican

Republic, facilitated by WFP. Government representatives from INGD, INAS, MGCAS and WFP visited the Dominican Republic to exchange experience on the effectiveness of delivering anticipated transfers through social protection programmes. One of the main highlights of this mission has been the visible closer collaboration among INGD, INAS and MGCAS in the country, which will be crucial for implementation of anticipated cash-based transfers through the national social registry. Other areas of collaboration are also currently being discussed, such as beneficiary data sharing between government sectors.

Forecasts and triggers

WFP continued with its tailored capacity strengthening for the National Institute of Meteorology (known in Portuguese as Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia or INAM), revising the established drought trigger model to allow trigger monitoring for two critical windows for AA, namely OND as the first window and JFM as the second window. In addition, initial training on the design of downscaled provincial climate bulletins took place, and monthly bulletins are now being used to disseminate AA trigger information. Monthly ECMWF seasonal rainfall forecasts are co-monitored by INAM and WFP from as early as May until February of the subsequent year, on a rolling basis. The system triggers for activation if defined trigger thresholds have been reached in two consecutive months. The trigger status of districts covered by the drought AA system is visualized in a [virtual dashboard](#) on a regular basis, for user-friendly monitoring by decision-makers.

In addition, WFP, INAM and the Water Resources Management Directorate (known in Portuguese as Direcção Nacional de Gestão de Recursos Hídricos or DNGRH) initiated the co-design of a sudden-onset hazard trigger by conducting a skill analysis of available cyclone and flood forecasts for Mozambique.

Building on the ongoing climate services components of its AA programme, WFP was selected as the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF) implementing entity next to SOFF Peer Advisor South African Weather Services (SAWS). Both 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, INAM, WFP

and SAWS were awarded a US\$7.5 million grant for a five-year investment phase aimed at achieving full Global Basic Observing Network (GBON) compliance for INAM. The Mozambique SOFF pilot was launched at the High-Level SOFF Secretariat side event at COP28 in Dubai.

Anticipatory actions

Mozambique is advancing in the preparatory work for the transition to an integrated multi-hazard AA framework. In 2023 the TWG has been officially expanded and endorsed as a Multi-Hazard EWS/AA TWG, moving away from a sole drought focus. Additionally, agreement has been reached within the TWG, to ensure that both all AAPs in place and those in planning stages for drought, floods, cyclones, cholera and in conflict-affected areas are annexes of the Government's National AAP, with specific roles and responsibilities defined per actor and sector to avoid duplication of efforts and maximize government ownership. In 2023, WFP supported district authorities to update six district AAPs, subset to the government-owned national drought AAP across four provinces.

In addition, WFP initiated national to sub-national consultations to co-design cyclone and flood AAPs in four provinces, with local relevant actors, such as local disaster risk reduction committees, local emergency operations centres, community representatives, INGD, INAM, DNGRH and Mozambican Red Cross, leading to a long list of feasible actions, which was further refined during the end-of-year TWG retreat in December 2023. The aim is for flood and cyclone AAPs to be operational ahead of the 2024/25 rainy and cyclone season. In partnership with the University of Eduardo Mondlane (UEM), WFP conducted a scoping assessment on the feasibility of AA in the context of fragility, targeting Mozambique's northern provinces both directly and indirectly affected by ongoing conflict.

AA activations

In 2023, WFP supported the Government of Mozambique to roll out the first implementation of its drought anticipatory actions, upon activation of triggers in August. WFP and the Government are implementing aligned actions targeting seven districts, reaching 41,600 people with anticipatory transfers and 270,000 people with early warning messages through US\$2.5 million of anticipatory finance disbursed. The Government is implementing the AAs included in the national contingency

plan with financial support from WFP, through a total channelling of US\$400,000. These actions include the rehabilitation of local water supply systems and reservoirs, distribution of agricultural inputs and techniques for drought-resilient conservation agriculture, and related training. Alongside the Government, WFP is implementing a three-fold AA package, including dissemination of early warnings, distribution of drought-resistant seeds in partnership with FAO and anticipatory cash transfers delivered through the national social safety net (PASD-PE) through horizontal and vertical expansion. WFP-led actions are complemented by government-led actions, which include community-level nutrition sensitization, promotion of livestock pest and disease control, and also the promotion of drought-tolerant crops and irrigation through solar-power irrigation kits.

WFP has also supported the Government to mobilize additional financing to scale up the ongoing national drought AAP activation, engaging further organizations – such as FAO and Save the Children – to support implementation of the government plan with co-financing and implementation support to expand the scope of AA direct delivery.

WFP Mozambique and the Government will organize a national AA after-action review workshop in May 2024 to analyse all the findings of the intervention, lessons learned, and evidence on the impact of implementing AA.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Mozambique will:

- Close out the implementation of the drought AAP activation and conduct endline data analysis and an after-action review.
- Assess trigger performance and continuously monitor the effects of El Niño.
- Work towards finalization and endorsement of triggers for floods and cyclones, and design and approval of related AAPs.
- Work towards finalization of AAP annexes focused on the AA implementation in conflict-affected settings.
- Continue to build capacity for AA implementation at field level for government, partners and within WFP.
- Roll out the SOFF investment phase in partnership with INAM and South African Weather Service (SAWS) as a peer advisor.

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



Target location

Arusha region (Lonido and Monduli districts), Manyara region (Kiteto and Simanjiro districts), Tanga region (Handeni district), Kilimanjaro (Same district), Singida region (Mkalama district), Dodoma region (Kondoa district), Simiyu region (Mietu district), North Pemba region (Micheweni district).

Donors

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

Key Partners

1. Prime Minister's Office – Disaster Management Department
2. Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA)
3. Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)
4. Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (MoLF)
5. Ministry of Water
6. National Bureau of Statistics
7. Tanzania Red Cross Society (TRCS) and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
8. President's Office (Ministry of) Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG)
9. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
10. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
11. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
12. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

13. World Bank Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF)
14. Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)
15. World Vision
16. Climate Action Network
17. Ardhi University
18. University of Dar es Salaam.

Hazards

Drought and floods

Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP United Republic of Tanzania:

- Kickstarted the programme, through stakeholder sensitization meetings, programme design consultations and development of a five-year Government Anticipatory Action Roadmap.
- Strengthened early warning system capacity targeting the Tanzania Meteorological Authority, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and the Prime Minister's Office – Department of Disaster Management among other key stakeholders.
- Advocated for the Anticipatory Action (AA) conceptual framework to be integrated into the mainland's National Contingency Plan. The AA concept was welcomed and included in the national contingency planning process.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

Thanks to funding from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) and the WFP Changing Lives Transformation Fund (CLTF), WFP Tanzania has kick-started the AA Programme. Activities related to AA system building in Tanzania fall under [WFP United Republic of Tanzania Country Strategic Plan \(2022-2027\)](#) Strategic Outcome (SO) 1 – “Crisis-affected populations in the United Republic of Tanzania can meet their essential food and nutrition needs in anticipation of, during and in the aftermath of shocks and build resilience to shocks and stressors by 2027” – 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”. Most of the actual operational AA activities will, however, be closely linked to SO3's Activities 5 and 7 which are related to smallholder farmers' actions on adapted seeds and livestock; water and resilience asset creation activities linked to food assistance provision. The nutrition-sensitive AAs and exploration of the role of the National Food Reserve Agency will also be co-designed with SO2's Activity 4, emphasizing the cross-linkages with several SOs and Units, including Support Services, Procurement and Innovation Unit within the country office.

In 2023, WFP Tanzania successfully advocated integrating AA into the disaster risk management (DRM) framework, leading to the adoption of the five-year AA roadmap, mainstreaming of AA in Contingency Planning processes and creating demand for AA programme deliverables. The programme has also been expanded to define capacity strengthening outcomes, activities, and indicators for ease of monitoring and determining programme effectiveness.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

Potential AA institutionalization pathways were analysed in detail in 2023 through scoping missions supported by the country office, Regional Bureau, and Headquarters AA teams, engaging key stakeholders in DRM, social protection and early warning, and developing a five-year government AA roadmap. The proposed and current AA governance frameworks in the United Republic of Tanzania place the Government at the centre of AA systems building, prioritizing sustainability and local ownership.

The mandate of the Tanzania DRM Technical Committee (TDRM-TC), with support from WFP, is being widened to encompass coordination of AA systems building and

direct delivery at national level. The broadening of its mandate at national level is being cascaded throughout the DRM architecture to district and village level. TDRM meetings, with AA as a standing agenda item, will be chaired by the relevant government-designated authorities at each level, with WFP in a supporting role.

WFP has supported the inclusion of AA in the contingency planning process, with the Government committing to its integration in subsequent regular revisions on an annual or bi-annual basis (timeline linked to the National Climate Outlook Forum – NACOF). Furthermore, a study has been undertaken to understand institutional capacities for AA direct delivery and map out possible AA implementation arrangements. Complementary programmes have been designed to explore how the World Bank-supported TASAF social protection programme could be capacitated to support vertical and horizontal expansion of beneficiaries in the event of a climate shock forecast, mobilizing further funding to enhance the interlinkage of adaptive social protection with AA over the coming years.

Forecasts and triggers

In 2023, the Tanzania Meteorological Authority's (TMA's) forecasting capacities and available forecast products were assessed, and needs were jointly defined by WFP and key players on EWS (TMA, the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (MoLF) and the Prime Minister's Office Disaster Management Department). The strategy to develop and validate AA forecast trigger thresholds and capacitate TMA to develop and update forecasts at scale was agreed jointly. Preliminary user preferences and requirements related to the AA drought trigger model have been explored in consultation with lead institutions and representative local government authorities ahead of planned district-level consultations in 2024. The forecasts and triggers will balance user needs, and the level of scientific development will be informed by forecast skill and specific area/sector requirements. A Memorandum of Understanding with TMA, currently in draft form, would cement the agreed responsibilities and facilitate support for AA delivery and sustainability.

Anticipatory actions

The AA programme is in its inception phase in the United Republic of Tanzania and, as such, plausible anticipatory actions have so far been elucidated from

limited consultative processes that primarily targeted national stakeholders such as government ministries and departments, and national stakeholders with a limited number of district councils, coupled with literature review and best practices from around the world. Detailed AAs will be designed in a consultative process following a bottom-up approach through an already-agreed process of district stakeholder consultations, community consultations, CO-led designs, and validation processes from 2024.

AA activations

No activations took place in 2023.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP United Republic of Tanzania will:

- Develop the Anticipatory Action Plans (AAPs), with the intention of having at least two districts in operational readiness for a potential first small-scale pilot activation ahead of OND season of 2024.
- Carry out comprehensive district and community level consultations to define area-specific context, livelihoods, vulnerabilities, co-design impactful anticipatory actions, map key players and define implementation arrangements.
- Capacitate TMA, MoA, and MoLF to strengthen the existent early warning system tailored to AA end user needs by supporting priority data rescue and recovery, strategic equipment procurement in alignment with the Tanzania SOFF pilot, training the stakeholders on forecast downscaling and blending with satellite data, and product and enhancing monitoring capacities. Communities in target districts will also be trained to use weather and climate forecast information to complete the climate service value chain.
- Develop AA forecast trigger thresholds, blending both technical climate data analyses, stakeholder expert guidance and community consultations on priority sectors of possible interventions for at least two districts.
- Support improved forecast generation, monitoring agreed forecast trigger indicators, and validating the readiness and activation triggers linked to AA design
- Support enhanced AA coordination and integration in government structures for sustainability through co-convening national and district TWG meetings and Community of Practice meetings.



Target location

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



Donors

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



Key Partners

1. Meteorological Services Department (MSD)
2. Climate Change Management Department (CCMD)
3. Department of Civil Protection (DCP)
4. Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development (MLAFWRD)
5. District Drought Relief Committees (DDRCs)
6. Rural District Councils (RDCs)
7. Department of Social Development (DSD)
8. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
9. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
10. Zimbabwe Red Cross Society (ZRCS)
11. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
12. Start Network
13. Welthungerhilfe (WHH)



Hazards

Drought and floods



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Zimbabwe:

- Developed an umbrella Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) covering 12 districts with government partners and communities, which was validated at national and grassroots levels.
- Implemented Anticipatory Actions (AAs) for the 2023/24 season, reaching 66,000 people with anticipatory transfers and 75,000 people with early warning messages, and covering 761,731 people, in four districts (Binga, Hwange, Masvingo and Chiredzi) in collaboration with government departments, cooperating partners and communities.
- Alongside the Zimbabwe AA Community of Practice members, successfully advocated integration of AA in the national contingency planning process, by engaging with national DRM structures.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN ZIMBABWE

Thanks to funding from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), WFP has further developed its work on AA. In Zimbabwe, AA work streams fall under [WFP Zimbabwe Country Strategic Plan \(CSP \(2022 – 2026\)\)](#) Strategic Outcome (SO) 4, Activity 5: SO4 states that “by 2026, national and subnational institutions in Zimbabwe have strengthened capacities to develop, coordinate and implement well-informed, effective and equitable actions to achieve food and nutrition security”. Activity 5 explains the need to “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”.

WFP Zimbabwe is collaborating with various actors – primarily the Meteorological Services Department (MSD), Climate Change Management Department (CCMD), the Department of Civil Protection (DCP) and other

line ministries, as well as provincial and district-level actors – to continuously improve the robust drought AA mechanism at national and sub-national levels. WFP also collaborates with other AA actors, including the Red Cross and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), through the AA Community of Practice (CoP). WFP Zimbabwe is part of the Joint Programme on Strengthened Early Warning and Anticipatory Action in Southern Africa, implemented by WFP, FAO and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) with DG ECHO funding, geared towards enhanced inter-agency alignment, producing a multi-stakeholder AA roadmap and inter-agency AA frameworks.

In 2023, WFP Zimbabwe has successfully progressed in developing and mainstreaming a proactive risk management approach by enhancing stakeholder capacities to act in anticipation of drought events through defined risk thresholds, pre-identified actions and pre-positioned financing. The AA programme is linked to WFP’s Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) and Lean Season Assistance (LSA) programmes, which enable the delivery of AAs when triggered.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

WFP Zimbabwe, in partnership with AA actors, has made significant strides towards the integration of anticipatory approaches and strategies into government structures, policies, and decision-making processes in 2023. The Government, through the Department of Civil Protection, approved a proposal by the AA Community of Practice to have a sub-committee of AA under the national civil protection committee enabling a fully government-led AA coordination forum next to the existing community of practice support by international humanitarian and development actors. The AA subcommittee will ensure that AA is integrated into Zimbabwe's DRM frameworks by advocating the creation of pertinent laws, policies, regulations, and coordination systems for AA implementation and scale up.

The Government – through the Ministry of Local Government, Rural and Urban Planning's Department of Civil Protection (DCP), alongside government ministries, United Nations Agencies and various non-governmental organizations (NGOs) – updates its National Contingency Plan every year to reflect the evolving risk profiles of the country. In 2023, WFP and IFRC represented the AA Community of Practice in the development of the National Contingency Plan for the 2023/24 season, making a presentation on AA concepts to a wide range of stakeholders, with AA included as an integral part of the National Contingency Plan.

Forecasts and triggers

WFP continued to enhance the drought AA trigger model in partnership with MSD in 2023. This entailed layering existing levels of vulnerability in the AA target districts, looking at recent climate shocks within the rainy season, in combination with agricultural performance information, projected food security outcomes and the rainfall seasonal forecast for the upcoming season. Based on this vulnerability analysis, two menus of triggers can be chosen for a specific district: “non-regret” or “general” triggers. “Non-regret triggers” are used when pilot districts are experiencing high levels of vulnerability whereas “General triggers”, are used when pilot areas are experiencing

normal to low levels of vulnerability. “Non-regret trigger” metrics prioritize the detection of rainfall anomalies, ensuring maximum feasible protection against drought events; while this approach heightens risk of false alarms it minimizes risk of missing events when vulnerability levels are already high.

Anticipatory actions

In 2023, a national umbrella AAP was developed, drawing from district-specific AAPs that has been developed previously, covering a total of 10 districts following a bottom-up approach. National and sub-national AA consultations and validations were carried out to revise existing and develop new district-level AA system components. Two districts were added to the existing 10 districts as part of the GCF-funded programme, bringing the total number of districts to 12. District-level plans for these additional districts will be integrated into the national umbrella AAP in 2024. The national umbrella AAP was formally validated within the Zimbabwe AA Community of Practice and internally within WFP, making WFP Zimbabwe eligible to access anticipatory finance ahead of the 2023/24 agricultural season.

AA activations

The aforementioned umbrella drought AAP was activated for a moderate drought scenario in four districts in the first action window (October-November-December, OND) based on a double confirmatory activation trigger reached in August 2023. The targeted districts are Binga, Hwange, Masvingo and Chiredzi. The ongoing activation targets a total of 75,000 people with early warning messages and 66,000 with the provision of water through solar mechanized boreholes, dissemination of climate information and drought-tolerant crop varieties. Through a complete package of anticipatory assistance, this activation of US\$5 million is intended to strengthen the resilience of smallholder farmers and enhance households' protection against climate-related hazards. WFP Zimbabwe is monitoring activity implementation through its field offices, and will conduct a post-activation study in May.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Zimbabwe will:

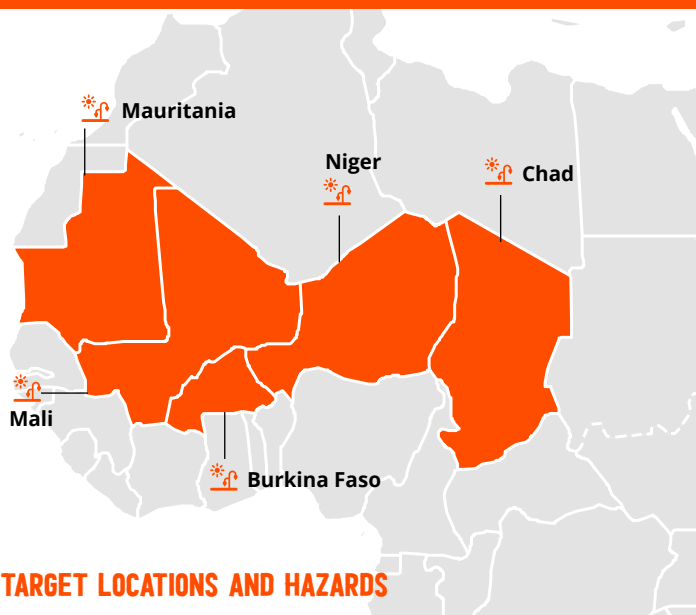
- Continue to work with the Government to institutionalize AA at the national and grassroots levels, in partnership with other AA actors.
- Expand the scope of national and district working groups into multi-hazard AA: including flooding as well as drought.
- Develop an inter-agency AA framework under the Joint Programme on Strengthened Early Warning and Anticipatory Action in Southern Africa.
- Coordinate with AA actors in Zimbabwe to harmonize trigger models to avoid fragmentation or duplication in methodologies and to improve engagement with the Government under the Joint Programme on Strengthened Early Warning and Anticipatory Action in Southern Africa.
- Develop a decision-making tool in the form of PRISM⁹ to enable decision makers to create scenarios, adjust thresholds, and select AAs based on influencing factors for the selected districts.

9. PRISM is a climate risk monitoring system that integrates geospatial data on hazards such as droughts, floods, tropical storms, and earthquakes, along with information on socioeconomic vulnerability, to inform disaster risk reduction and social assistance programmes: [PRISM | WFP Innovation](#)




Julius Siwadi inspects his maize crop for the current 2023-2024 cropping season, Zimbabwe.


WEST AFRICA




TARGET LOCATIONS AND HAZARDS

KEY INFORMATION

 **People covered**
318,000

 **People reached with anticipatory transfers**
101,701

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



Regional Partners

1. Columbia Climate School International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI)
2. Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (known in French as Comité permanent inter-État de Lutte contre la sécheresse au Sahel or CILSS)
3. Agrhyment Regional Centre (known in French as Centre Régional Agrhyment or CRA)
4. Regional AA for Food Security Task Force: Secretariat members include the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), CILSS, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD)
5. Regional multi-sectoral AA Community of Practice co-led with: FAO, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

In 2023 West Africa – and in particular the Sahel region – remained a hotspot for food insecurity, with 36.7 million people¹⁰ indicated to be in Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Phase 3+ in the last quarter of the year. Against this backdrop, continued political instability in many of the countries of the region persisted – most notably the military coup that took place in Niger in July. Climatologically, the region experienced cumulatively adequate rainfall. However, the season was marked by a poor temporal distribution of rain, with

long dry spells especially in Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal leading to below-normal precipitation in localized zones. A total of US\$17.3 million¹¹ was pre-positioned for anticipatory action in the region. However, as no severe droughts were forecasted in Burkina Faso, Chad and Niger, no Anticipatory Action (AA) United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) frameworks or Anticipatory Action Plans (AAPs) were triggered in 2023. This provided WFP with the opportunity to focus on scaling up AA systems building and increasing the visibility and understanding of AA in West Africa.

10. Cadre Harmonise, Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) website: <https://www.ipcinfo.org/ch/>.

11. Of which US\$14.8 million would have been disbursed from CERF and US\$2.5 million from WFP's internal HQ hunger-related climate change trust fund.

With financial support from Switzerland, Germany, Norway and the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), WFP's work on AA in West Africa grew considerably in 2023. The previous edition of this report (*AA – Year in Focus 2022*) reported that a regional pre-feasibility assessment would be conducted, with high-priority countries identified for scaling up AA in future years. Alongside Niger, which had already acquired AA funding in previous years, four additional countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and Mauritania) acquired seed funding from Norway and Germany to develop multi-hazard AA systems (flooding and drought). With this multi-year expansion in view, an AA focal point was recruited in each of the new countries. Some countries, such as Burkina Faso, also chose to organize one-day AA programme launch events, setting the scene for strong integration of AA programmes in 2024. In Burkina Faso, Chad and Niger, CERF-funded United Nations interagency AA Frameworks were updated for drought. In Niger and Chad, work on flood CERF AA Frameworks began: these are expected to be finalized in 2024. With the end goal of enhancing national stakeholders' capacity to use climate forecasts to proactively address flooding and drought risks, a multisectoral AA community of practice was created and formally established in September (co-led with FAO, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). The Regional AA for Food Security Task Force was launched in November. As part of this launch, a strategy for AA for food security, an AA roadmap and a TOR for the Task Force were finalized.

The successes of 2023 will be fertile ground for scaling up AA operations in 2024. Most of the countries mentioned above are expected to be activation-ready in 2024 for at least one hazard, and a few more countries in the region have expressed interest in building AA systems, notably Nigeria and the Gambia. Promising prospects with new, additional donors – such as Austria – are also likely to come to fruition in 2024, and this would catalyse the development and growth of these programmes at national and regional level. The year 2024 will be critical for this region, where several years of sensitization on AA are expected to crystallize into multi-hazard systems that are conflict-sensitive, multi-agency (thanks to the long-standing existence of CERF in West Africa) and integrated with other programmes, such as shock-responsive social protection, insurance, and resilience. In terms of capacity building, there will be a strong focus at national level on giving access and ownership of AA systems to governments, and across regions we aim to prioritize South-South exchanges and learning.



OCHA and WFP staff speaking with people we assist in the town of Ouallam about anticipatory action activities under implementation to reinforce a resilience Market Gardening site, Niger.



Target location

Boucle de Mouhoun, Centre Nord, Sahel, Nord.



Donors

Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD).



Key Partners

1. Executive Secretariat of the National Food Security Council (known in French as the Secrétariat Exécutif du Conseil National de Sécurité Alimentaire or SE-CNSA).
2. Burkinabe Department of Meteorology (DM)
3. Ministry of Transport
4. Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs (especially for floods)
5. Ministry of Agriculture (which incorporates the SE-CNSA mentioned above)
6. African Risk Capacity, African Union
7. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
8. World Bank



Hazards

Drought and floods



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Burkina Faso:

- Facilitated a multi-stakeholder kick off workshop in October 2023 for Anticipatory Action (AA) in country, hosted by the Executive Secretariat of the National Food Security Council (known in French as the Secrétariat Exécutif du Conseil National de Sécurité Alimentaire or SE-CNSA).

OVERVIEW OF AA IN BURKINA FASO

Thanks to funding from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), WFP has launched the AA programme in 2023. The AA portfolio in Burkina Faso, is embedded in [Burkina Faso Country Strategic Plan \(2019–2023\)](#) Strategic Outcome 4 which stresses that “smallholder farmers and communities in targeted areas, including those affected by recurrent climate shocks, have more resilient livelihoods and sustainable food systems by 2023.”

WFP Burkina Faso organized a launch event in October, which brought together partners from across government, NGOs, and United Nations agencies. As funding came only relatively late in the year, it has meant that most of the in-country efforts have been sensitizing internal and external partners on the concept of AA, exploring the feasibility of scaling up this programme, and integrating it into existing efforts in country. Existing efforts on the drought CERF framework development are expected to come to fruition in 2024, with work planned on expansion to floods once this is completed.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

Key government stakeholders that have been part of the launching of the AA programme in Burkina Faso include the ministries of agriculture, environment, humanitarian action, transport, scientific research, and finance. During this workshop, these key stakeholders, as well as partner United Nations agencies, NGOs, implementing partners, and the Red Cross were sensitized on AA and informed of the upcoming work planned by WFP in this regard. Identifying already existing working groups, the group committed to working together on AA.

Forecasts and triggers

As a whole, the ambition to strengthen the National Meteorological Service’s capacity to generate real-time, high-quality climate hazard information remains key to this programme. Crucial to the success of this will be the blending of satellite information with national meteorological station data and enhancing analytical and reporting capacity on climate hazard events, tailored to national stakeholders.

Anticipatory actions

The Burkina Faso Drought CERF framework includes the following anticipatory actions for WFP, should this be triggered in upcoming seasons:

- Dissemination of early warning messages to vulnerable people.
- Conditional and unconditional cash transfers through asset creation and/or social protection. This activity is to be implemented subject to government approval. If this is not done, this activity will be replaced by in-kind food distributions.

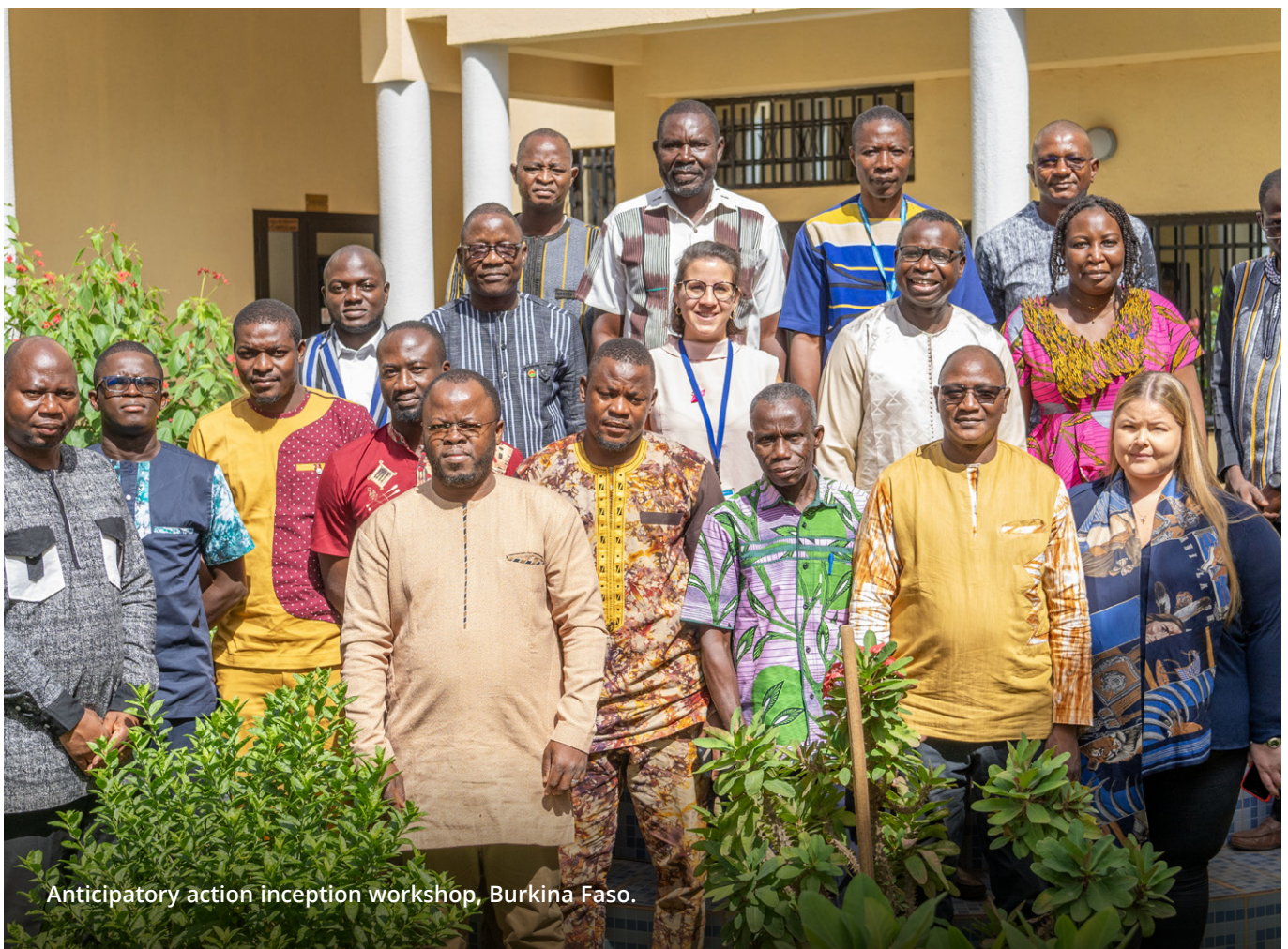
AA activations

There were no activations in 2023.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Burkina Faso will:

- Update the existing drought CERF AA framework (this is planned for early 2024).
- Once the drought system is established, begin system building for floods in low-lying and flood-prone areas. This may be the following year, depending on progress on drought.
- Align where possible AA and insurance, to layer and sequence these programmes in an optimum manner, as part of a wider national risk financing strategy.
- Scope integration with the nascent social protection system, assuming cash interventions will be permitted.
- Develop an institutionalization roadmap with key government partners.





Target location

Tahoua, Tillabery, Dosso, Maradi and Zinder regions and United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) AA Framework national-level trigger regions.



Donors

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



Key Partners

1. National Framework for the Prevention and the Management of Food Crises (known in French as Dispositif National de Prevention et de Gestion des Crises Alimentaires or DNP/GCA)
2. National Meteorological Services (known in French as Direction de la Meteorologie nationale or DMN)
3. Agrhymet Regional Centre (known in French as Centre Régional Agrhymet or CRA)
4. Water Resources Directorate of Niger
5. Columbia Climate School International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI)
6. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
7. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)



Hazards

Drought and floods



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Niger:

- Established a TWG that meets on a fortnightly basis formed by national AA experts and lead by the DMN with technical support from IRI.
- Contributed to the finalization of the CERF AA Framework for drought, which utilizes the trigger model developed by the government with WFP support. US\$5.2 million of anticipatory finance approved for WFP.
- Delivered anticipatory cash transfers, early warning information, drought-tolerant inputs and small-scale water catchments to 162,249 people with US\$2.5 million in pre-arranged funds.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN NIGER

Thanks to funding from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) and CERF, WFP Niger continued to develop its work on AA. The AA portfolio in Niger is embedded in [WFP's Country Strategic Plan \(2020-2024\)](#), under Strategic Outcome 4: "Food-insecure people and communities, including those affected by climate shocks, in targeted areas have more resilient livelihoods that are integrated into sustainable and equitable food systems and ensure access to adequate and nutritious food" and Strategic Outcome 5: "National institutions and other partners have strengthened capacities to design and manage integrated gender-responsive food security, nutrition and shock-responsive social protection policies and programmes".

Since 2019, with financial support from Norway, WFP Niger has been collaborating with government stakeholders such as the National Framework for the Prevention and the Management of Food Crises (known in French as Dispositif National de Prevention et de Gestion des Crises Alimentaires or DNP/GCA), the Agrhymet Regional Centre (known in French as Centre Régional Agrhymet or CRA) and the National Meteorological Services (known in French as Direction de la Meteorologie nationale or DMN) to develop an AA

system for drought. In 2022, progress was also made towards developing a flood AA system. The goal is to increase national stakeholders' capacity to use climate forecasts for a more anticipatory approach to droughts and floods, minimizing damage to local communities and avoiding humanitarian disasters. In 2023, WFP Niger contributed to the development of a successful follow-up proposal to Norway that builds on lessons learned to date, to scale up and diversify the AA system in Niger over the next five years.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

WFP Niger continued supporting the national structures including the National Meteorological Department (DMN) and the Early Warning System Coordination Unit on learning, coordination and awareness raising as part of the institutionalization of AA in the government's risk management system. With co-financing from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (known in German as Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung or BMZ), WFP supported DMN to disseminate climate

information services to an estimated 1,919,143 smallholder farmers while promoting national policies and strategies on climate change with the National Environment Council for Sustainable Development. In March 2023, at the end of the first AA activation which began in 2022, bilateral meetings were held with key government partners to discuss integration, alignment with shock-responsive social protection structures, and strengthening the government's position in AA TWG meetings.

Forecasts and triggers

WFP Niger renewed its partnership with Columbia Climate School International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI), DMN and Agrhymet Regional Centre with a strong focus on structured handover of the AA Decision-making Maptool for drought and the prototyping of a flood forecasting model.

The AA experts taskforce (formally established in 2022), comprises national stakeholders (WFP, DNP-GCA and Agrhymet) and is led by DMN with technical support from IRI. The aim of the group is to facilitate learning and technical inputs to Maptool development. With support from IRI, the AA Task Force was trained to produce the Enhancing National Climate Services initiative (ENACTS) independently, interpret the Maptool tool, and use the new Python Interface to the Climate Predictability Tool (PyCPT2) to generate seasonal forecasts.

One milestone in 2023 was the one-week capacity building workshop for AA expert taskforce members on the AA approach. This workshop was held on 5-9 June 2023 in Niamey at the Agrhymet Regional Centre, jointly by WFP, the IRI and the DMN. One of the results of this training was to strengthen the skills of stakeholders for developing, updating and using the drought forecasting tool (Maproom), making it possible to discuss jointly, examine and define the triggers for anticipatory actions. This workshop brought together, outside the framework of the DMN, United Nations agencies (Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), WFP, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), national structures (Climate Change Adaptation (CCA), Social Safety Net (known in French as Cellule Filets Sociaux or CFS), Early Warning System (known

in French as Système d'Alerte Précoce or SAP), Department of Agricultural Statistics (known in French as Direction des Statistiques Agricoles or DSA) and the Agrhymet Regional Centre). The training was facilitated by four IRI experts and focused on technical and operational sessions (such as use of the PyCPT2 tool for climate forecasts, the installation of forecast tools on the DMN server and the handling of the Maptool by local executives).

In collaboration with the Agrhymet Regional Centre, WFP supported the development of a preliminary version of a flood forecasts model for AA in Niger, based on the regional Operational flood forecasting and warning system in West Africa tool (FANFAR). Based on a technical needs assessment, WFP supported Niger's hydrometric observation network by purchasing and installing 3 PS-Light type automatic hydrometric stations. In consultation with the Water Resources Directorate of Niger, taking into account the insecurity and the relevance of the sites, the stations were installed in Kandadji (Tillabéry region), Telwa (Agadez region) and Nielloua (Maradi region).

Anticipatory actions

The 2022 drought activation, that crossed over into March 2023, included the following activities, funded by CERF:

- Unconditional cash and training on productive assets (such as land restoration, composting and fertilization training, and improved stoves) (reaching 41,516 people)
- Market gardening activities (reaching 9,002 people)

A further 235,000 people benefited from climate information services. Following discussions with the FAO on the complementarity of interventions, WFP shared the list of targeted villages with FAO to enable the latter to complement WFP's package of activities by distributing market garden seeds and pastoral kits.

Post-activation, WFP conducted a lessons-learned and AA Framework revision exercise. This pointed to the need to strengthen early warning messaging and deliver these messages in tandem with the distribution of unconditional cash transfers. Based on these learnings, a list of potential AAs has been developed for the flood framework, including early warning messages and unconditional cash transfers.

In 2023, despite there being no trigger, WFP supported the Government to provide climate information to 1.9 million local stakeholders and farmers during the rainy season through in-person training, community radio and mobile phones, to help them cope with the following agricultural season.

AA activations

The 2022 activation was implemented successfully from October 2022 to March 2023. When these concluded, WFP Niger organized a joint oversight mission with OCHA in three implementation sites, to meet households supported through home gardens and climate information messages, unconditional cash transfers and rehabilitation of water harvesting structures (zai pits and halfmoons).

In 2023, as no severe drought was forecasted, the Drought CERF Framework was not triggered. WFP did not implement any AAs for floods in 2023 as it was still finalizing the flood CERF AA Framework design with the Government and partners. This will be ready in 2024.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Niger will:

- Continue strengthening the institutionalization process of AA for drought, in particular by finalizing the handover to the government partners.
- Finalize a tailored flood forecast model for Niger river basins and finalize an Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) CERF AA framework for floods.
- Increase WFP's own and partners' operational readiness to implement AA in a timely fashion for droughts and floods.
- Explore and operationalize concrete integration with social protection structures.
- Develop new multi-year Memorandum of Understanding with DMN and the Agrhyment Regional Centre.
- Participate in South-South exchanges and share WFP Niger's experience and lessons learned with other countries in the region.



OCHA and WFP staff speaking with people we assist in the town of Ouallam about anticipatory action activities under implementation to reinforce a resilience Market Gardening site, Niger.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA



TARGET LOCATIONS AND HAZARDS



A consultative workshop held to undertake the development of Localized Adaptation Plans through the formation of local anticipatory action committees, Iraq.

KEY INFORMATION



Donors

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



Regional Partners

1. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
2. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
3. British Red Cross (BRC)
4. Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre (RCCC)
5. Overseas Development Institute (ODI)
6. Arab Water Council (AWC)

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

The Middle East and Northern Africa (MENA) region is one of the world's most vulnerable regions to the impacts of climate change. Due to rapidly rising temperatures, the already water-scarce region is suffering from increasingly worse droughts, heat waves and desertification, with significant effects on crop yields and overall food security. In addition, especially in coastal and low-lying areas, storms and floods are increasing in frequency and intensity, exacerbating the needs of extremely vulnerable people. These climatic shocks are adding to the challenges of a region shaped by decades of conflict and political instability, which have left more than 70 million in need of assistance and more than 16 million displaced internally or across borders.¹²

In the face of increasing climate risk, effective climate adaptation programmes have become increasingly critical in averting further losses and suffering. In this context, Anticipatory Action (AA) has gained significant attention in the MENA

12. Daoudy, M. (October 2023). *Climate Change and Regional Instability in the Middle East* (Discussion Paper on Managing Global Disorder No.14). Council on Foreign Relations [Please note: the cited paper was completed before the outbreak of hostilities between Israel and Hamas on 7 October 2023.

region as an opportunity to reduce the effects of predictable climate disasters. Building on the recommendation of a WFP-commissioned 2022 study entitled *Anticipatory Action in the MENA Region: State of Play and Accelerating Action*, in 2023, WFP made significant strides towards setting up the first AA programmes in the region.

Thanks to generous support from both the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, WFP, in collaboration with government, national hydromet offices and other stakeholders, projects initiated in Iraq and Yemen focused on laying the groundwork for the delivery of shock-specific anticipatory action. Both countries were selected for AA programme development based on technical missions by expert staff as well as continuous engagement at headquarters (HQ), regional bureau (RB) and country office (CO) levels.

In Yemen, a country where seasonal rain-induced flooding and coastal storms have historically devastated the lives and livelihoods of internally displaced people and their host communities, WFP is helping to build the capacity of partners to produce and deliver reliable, actionable early warning and climate information services, while also working with local and national government to establish coordination mechanisms for delivering anticipatory assistance.

In Iraq, a country highly affected by water scarcity, WFP is supporting national and subnational institutions to improve their existing short- and medium-range forecasts and information delivery channels with the aim of communicating climate risks – particularly the risks associated with drought and dry spells – earlier, thus capacitating at-risk communities to take action.

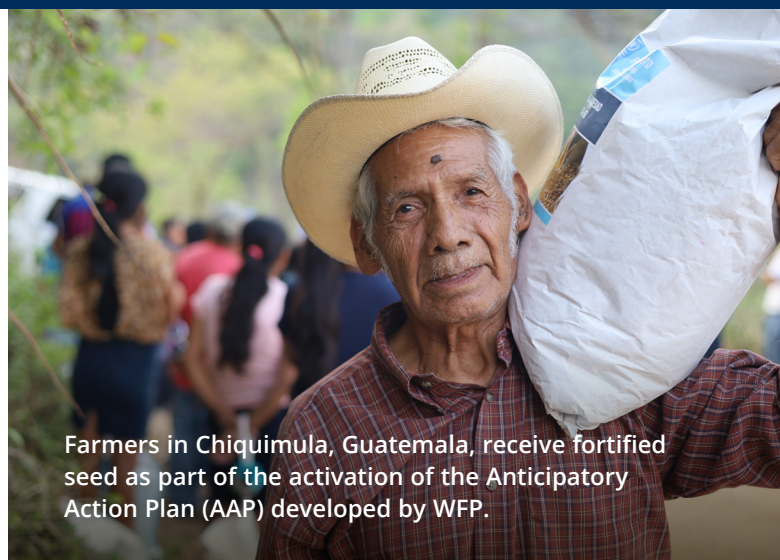
Across both countries, a focus area of WFP's AA-related work is improving the resilience of conflict-affected populations – particularly, refugees, internally displaced people and their host communities – to predictable climate shocks. Specifically, WFP intends to develop shock-specific forecast triggers that enable the delivery of tailored early warning messages and anticipatory assistance in priority high-risk areas that host internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees in Yemen and Iraq.

Beyond its programmes in specific countries, WFP plays a leading role in facilitating discussions among regional humanitarian and development partners. As one of the two co-chairs of the regional AA Community of Practice – together with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies – WFP provides a regular platform to more than 100 practitioners from local and regional institutions for coordination, engagement and exchange on anticipatory action.



A consultative workshop held to undertake the development of Localized Adaptation Plans through the formation of local anticipatory action committees, Iraq.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



Farmers in Chiquimula, Guatemala, receive fortified seed as part of the activation of the Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) developed by WFP.

KEY INFORMATION

People covered
80,935

People reached with anticipatory transfers
23,870

People reached with early warning messages
572,690

US\$ funds disbursed
1,711,659

Donors
European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), Government of Ireland and the United States Agency for International Development Bureau of Humanitarian Affairs (USAID BHA).

Regional Partners

1. National governments
2. Centre for Coordination of Disaster Preparedness in Central America (known in Spanish as Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de los Desastres en América Central or CEPREDENAC)
3. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
4. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
5. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
6. United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)
7. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
8. Red Cross Climate Centre
9. German Red Cross
10. National Red Cross societies

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

The declaration of El Niño in June 2023 and its expected effects in Latin America and the Caribbean increased alertness and incentivized the development of forward-looking risk management strategies. WFP's Anticipatory Action (AA) programme covers nine country offices in Latin America and the Caribbean: Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua and Peru, as well as the Caribbean Multi-Country Office.

WFP Guatemala activated its AA plan in April 2023, supporting 5,095 vulnerable farmers with drought-tolerant seeds, fertilizers, cash-based transfers (CBTs), and training so that farmers could protect themselves and their livelihoods from the effects of predicted drought in Chiquimula, part of the Dry Corridor (see below). In addition, 10,220 households received early warning messages.

In November 2023, WFP Haiti supported more than 562,470 people with early warning messages, and 18,775 people with anticipatory cash delivered through the national social protection system in four districts in the Grand'Anse department, to protect their lives and livelihoods ahead of expected floods.

The first regional multi-sectoral AA framework funded by the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) has been developed to mitigate the effect of drought in the Dry Corridor across El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. The framework will be ready for potential activation from 2024 onwards.

WFP worked closely with national governments to support the institutionalization of AA with regional actors such as the Centre for Coordination of Disaster Preparedness in Central America (known in Spanish as Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de los Desastres en América Central or CEPREDENAC).

As a result, the Declaration of the Mitch +25 forum and the fifth Regional Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Action: “Towards a more local and integrated anticipatory action” was signed by CEPREDENAC; this was its first official commitment to integrating AA in policies, legal frameworks, and contingency plans of the national risk management systems. In the same document, 2024 was declared the year of AA in Central America, and its inclusion in the upcoming 2024–2030 Regional Comprehensive Risk Management Plan has been guaranteed by CEPREDENAC. Support for the regional institutionalization of AA has been made possible by the close partnerships and coordination among the main AA implementing agencies in the region, including WFP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Red Cross.

WFP and its partners successfully secured funding from the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF) to support the capacity-strengthening of hydro-meteorological services in St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Dominica, and the Dominican Republic.

As a national-level example of progress towards institutionalization, in October 2023 the national risk management authority in Colombia (known in Spanish as Unidad

Nacional para la Gestion del Riesgo de Desastres or UNGRD) published its national plan to manage El Niño. The plan features sectoral AA and preparedness measures and considers how AA is closely related to existing laws on prevention and mitigation, a pivotal first step in further institutional work.

In 2023, a knowledge-sharing workshop on AA, climate change adaptation, and disaster risk financing instruments, allowed WFP country offices to share lessons learned, challenges, and opportunities in the region. Further awareness raising and discussions on enhancing AA programming included sessions during the Latin America and the Caribbean Climate Week, the Regional Dialogue Platform in Central America and for the Network of Environmental Funds of Latin America and the Caribbean (known in Spanish as Red de Fondos Ambientales de Latinoamérica y el Caribe or REDLAC).

In 2024 support for institutionalizing AA, including through social protection systems, will remain a priority, as well as strengthening the linkage of AA with micro- and macro-insurance schemes. Given the high interest and potential of scaling up AA in the region, WFP is exploring opportunities to support the development of AA plans and programming in additional countries.





Target location

Belize, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines



Donors

European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), Government of Ireland, and United States Agency for International Development Bureau of Humanitarian Affairs (USAID BHA).



Key Partners

Belize

1. Ministry of Agriculture
2. Ministry of Human Development
3. National Meteorological Service of Belize
4. National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO)

Jamaica

1. Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS)
2. Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM)

Saint Lucia

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

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

1. Ministry of National Mobilization
2. National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO)
3. Meteorological Services Saint Vincent and the Grenadines



Hazards

Cyclones and drought



Key Achievements

In 2023, the Caribbean Multi Country Office (MCO):

- Hosted a two-day multi-country Flagship Event on Anticipatory Action (AA), inviting social protection, disaster management and finance ministries from Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to discuss potential in-country implementation, opportunities, and challenges to an AA system for different hazards.
- Engaged to establish AA mechanisms in four countries – Belize, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines – by conducting stakeholder consultations, providing concept notes, holding presentations and discussions with relevant ministries and stakeholders.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN THE CARIBBEAN

Thanks to the funding from the European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), and the United States Agency for International Development Bureau of Humanitarian Affairs (USAID BHA), WFP Caribbean MCO has developed its AA programme, which falls under Strategic Outcome 1 of [WFP Caribbean's Multi-Country Strategic Plan \(2023-2026\)](#): "National Governments and regional institutions in the Caribbean have strengthened capacity to prepare for, adapt and respond to shocks and climate change".

The increasingly severe effects of climate events and other shocks have forced Caribbean governments to re-evaluate and re-define how they prepare and finance disaster response. To meet this need WFP is supporting government partners to identify, develop and integrate sustainable mechanisms for AA within national frameworks to ensure that vulnerable communities can protect themselves and their livelihoods prior to the impact of a shock. In 2023, WFP Caribbean kick-started its engagement on AA in six Caribbean countries, building on already existing programmes and governmental relationships focusing on strengthening government social protection systems to prepare for, anticipate and respond to shocks.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

Flagship Event on Anticipatory Action

On 15-16 March 2023, the Flagship Event on Anticipatory Action took place in Barbados, gathering about 40 participants from six Caribbean countries to exchange on challenges and opportunities for implementing AA mechanisms in those countries. Representatives from social protection, disaster management and finance ministries from Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, as well as various partners and WFP staff actively engaged in in-depth discussions on multiple country-level hazards and actions, potential funding mechanisms, and how to link anticipatory action to already existing national social protection structures.

The 1.5-day event served to initiate discussions and generate interest in the AA approach and raise awareness of the technical assistance WFP could provide to strengthen national social protection systems. The event successfully kick-started discussions on options for AA within the region, South-South collaboration and paving the way for further actions. It led to concrete engagement with the governments of Belize, Jamaica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Saint Lucia, which is now at an advanced stage of discussions with WFP on a potential AA pilot.

Saint Lucia Anticipatory Action Pilot Design

Based on initial engagement and discussions with representatives of the Government of Saint Lucia during the AA Flagship Event, two-day stakeholder consultations were conducted in Saint Lucia to garner agreement on key elements for an AA pilot. Led and steered by the Ministry of Equity, Social Justice and Empowerment, the discussions centred around which hazard to focus on, potential actions and delivery mechanisms, targeting criteria and transfer value, as well as responsibilities for monitoring and evaluation. Triggers, early warning systems functioning, and capacity gaps were explored with the Saint Lucia Met Services and the Water Resources Management Agency (WRMA) to define the details of the pilot design.

Based on the discussions, the Ministry of Equity decided on the distribution of anticipatory cash or vouchers to 1,000 pre-identified vulnerable households prior to a cyclone affecting the island. Households and individuals are part of various social assistance programmes and have been selected based on several vulnerability criteria. They are given the option to either receive a supermarket voucher or the same amount of digital cash in their digital wallet provider accounts. The triggers are being developed by the Met Services, taking into lead times for storms, probabilities, and wind speed, the impacts of past storms and cyclones, and national storm warning levels. WFP will provide technical assistance for setting up the system and support the AAs financially. The Ministry of Equity is leading implementation of most activities with the vision of eventually making national social assistance programmes more flexible and anticipatory.

Implementation

The implementation of the pilot will enable the Government to strengthen its systems to anticipate and respond to climate shocks, increase coordination among multiple government and non-governmental actors and enable the Ministry of Equity to flexibly advance regular social protection payments when a threat is imminent.

A concept note on a similar pilot and stakeholder consultations was developed and submitted to the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines following strong interest and engagement of the Ministry of National Mobilization and Development.

Supporting national meteorological agencies in the Caribbean under the World Meteorological Organization's SOFF initiative

The Strategic Observation Financing Facility (SOFF) has confirmed WFP and GeoSphere Austria as Implementing Entity and Peer Advisor to support the national Met Services of Dominica, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to strengthen their early warning and observation capacities. For the first six-eight months of 2024, the Peer Advisor (GeoSphere Austria) will lead: 1) a national Global Basic Observing Network (GBON) Gap Analysis, 2) a GBON National Contribution Plan, and 3) a Country Hydromet Diagnostic. Based on this, WFP will take the lead in writing a multi-year project proposal to support the Met Services to improve identified gaps and take a lead role in establishing AA systems in those countries.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Caribbean will:

- Develop two Anticipatory Action Plans (AAPs), one for storms (Saint Lucia) and one for drought (Belize).
- Share best practices and lessons learned for government-led AA implementation through social protection systems.
- Strengthen partnership and collaboration on AA with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), the inter-regional network of independent emergency management agencies in the Caribbean.



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Colombia:

- Integrated Anticipatory Action (AA) into the national plan to manage El Niño, published by the National Unit for the Management of Risk of Disasters (known in Spanish as Unidad Nacional para la Gestión del Riesgo de Desastres or UNGRD).
- Organized the first national AA workshop in Bogota, together with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and with financial support from the global Food Security Cluster, to enhance understanding of the concept of AA and discuss opportunities for its institutionalization in Colombia.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN COLOMBIA

WFP Colombia is in the approval phase of its third Country Office Strategic Plan (forthcoming) in which AA is integrated under Strategic Objective 1: “Providing technical assistance to communities and government institutions for risk preparedness and management, implementing, where necessary, anticipatory and early recovery actions, and providing food and nutrition assistance directly or through social protection systems to populations exposed or affected by crises, integrating a nutrition, protection, gender, and interculturality approach” .

With the arrival of the El Niño phenomenon, WFP Colombia initiated technical work to identify the expected impacts of the phenomenon, identify the areas most likely to be affected, as well as the vulnerable, food and financially insecure populations. With this information, a process of advocacy and dialogue was carried out with government agencies to discuss and validate the analysis and to identify points of articulation for defining, preparing and implementing a national plan for preparedness, anticipatory actions and response to El Niño, from the risk management and social protection systems, with support from WFP and other Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) partners.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

To enhance the prominence and integration of anticipatory measures in governmental and donor institutional frameworks, encompassing disaster risk management, social protection, and climate change adaptation in Colombia, WFP, in partnership with FAO and under the auspices of the Food and Nutrition Security Cluster (FNS), organized the country’s first national AA workshop in Bogotá in December 2023. This initiative was intended to: enhance understanding of AA and how it fits in disaster risk management cycle, complementary to preparedness and response efforts, elevate the visibility of AA, foster inclusivity, and refine the sustainability and efficacy of existing interventions.

The development of the workshop, together with previous approaches, resulted WFP, FAO, and the Colombian Red Cross (CRC) agreeing to work on a joint plan of AA that, in addition to the joint capacity of the three organizations, can serve as a catalyst for the development of such initiatives with the Government during 2024.

Coordination structures were established between WFP and UNGRD to support national efforts for preparedness, anticipation, response, and early recovery to El Niño. In addition, AA was included in the country’s Humanitarian Response Plan 2024, coordinated by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

Forecasts and triggers

The development of the model for analysing the risk and impact of the El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) phenomenon on food security in Colombia made WFP visible to the Government and donors, demonstrating the complexity of the scenarios and current and future needs. In collaboration with the FNS Cluster and the HCT, UNGRD MIDIS were supported in developing the ENSO Management Plan for Colombia.

Anticipatory actions

During 2023, WFP Colombia conducted risk and vulnerability assessments in areas affected by El Niño to identify the most vulnerable populations and plan appropriate responses. As a result, specific contingency plans were updated to address the negative effect of El Niño on livelihoods. WFP worked with local communities to diversify their livelihoods to better prepare for climate change and variability and the effects of El Niño. This included promoting sustainable agricultural practices, promoting alternative income-generating activities such as agrotourism, and strengthening skills and capacities for efficient water management in their production units.

Strategic meetings were convened to reinforce local knowledge, community empowerment, advocacy, and preparedness for El Niño. Topics covered included: community risk management, promotion of resilient agricultural practices, sustainable natural resource management and livelihood adaptation planning.

In addition, a series of training activities was conducted with cooperating partners and WFP field offices to reintroduce the concept of AA and review how it positively affects the communities WFP serves in humanitarian and development contexts.

AA activations

No activations took place in 2023.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Colombia will:

- Strengthen capacity building on AA, both internally within the office and for government institutions and HCT partners. WFP will seek to promote the updating of relevant regulations and laws with the aim of integrating anticipatory actions into government strategies and plans.
- Develop an Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP), in collaboration with institutional partners and the HCT (mainly FAO and CRC), to be implemented in the framework of the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2024 and the flagship initiative. The possibility of developing a joint flood anticipatory action plan in the municipality of Buenaventura, which is part of the flagship initiative, is being explored.
- Assess the feasibility of implementing AA through national social protection systems, building on strong institutions and progress made towards shock-responsive social protection.



Smallholder farmers in Colombia struggle with the daily impacts of the climate crisis, according to local communities.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



Target location

Northern Yaque River (Yaque del Norte)



Donors

Germany, German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) and European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO).



Key Partners

1. National Emergency Commission (known in Spanish as Comision Nacional de Emergencia or CNE)
2. Civil Defence Authority
3. National Meteorological Office (known in Spanish as the Oficina Nacional de Meteorologia or ONAMET)
4. Supérate National Social Protection Programme



Hazards

Floods



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Dominican Republic:

- Signed commitment letters for channelling Anticipatory Action (AA) through the Supérate Monte Cristi social protection programme.
- Scaled up the AA coverage from 6,000 to 19,500 individuals, and with the inclusion of a new geographic area in the Mao Region.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Thanks to funding from the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) and the European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), WFP Dominican Republic has been able to develop its AA programme. The AA programme in the Dominican Republic falls under the Strategic Outcome 3 of [WFP Dominican Republic's Country Strategic Plan \(2019-2023\)](#): "By 2023, national and local systems have strengthened capacities and take coordinated action helping vulnerable populations improve their resilience to shocks, better adapt to climate change and reduce disaster risk".

In 2023, WFP Dominican Republic formalized the piloting of AA with the government, laying the foundations for jointly testing delivery of AA through a social protection system and generating evidence that will lead to institutionalization of AA within the Supérate Programme.

WFP has stepped up its advocacy with main development actors in the Dominican Republic to strengthen and improve weather forecasting and climate information to enable the scaling up of AA in other river basins.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

In 2023, ongoing dialogues with the social protection roundtable led to a significant milestone: a formal agreement with the Dominican Republic's Supérate social protection programme. This collaboration marked the first joint implementation simulation of AA in Yaque del Norte basin, Monte Cristi province, and included cash transfers through social protection mechanisms, including the Single System of Beneficiaries (known in Spanish as Sistema Único de Beneficiarios or SIUBEN), and the Social Subsidies Administrator (known in Spanish as Administradora de Subsidios Sociales or ADESS) managing fund transfers. This enabled testing of the timeliness of AA delivery and lessons to be learned to enhance the operational readiness of the government system within a short lead time. The joint work with provincial, municipal, and community actors was crucial for local institutionalization of AA in local disaster risk management (DRM) structures, such as the Provincial Committee for Prevention, Mitigation, and Response. This initiative is a significant step towards integrated, proactive disaster management in vulnerable regions.

Advocacy with the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development (MEPD) and the Ministry of the Presidency enabled better integration of AA in the new draft of the early warning system policy, to be adopted in 2024 by the Government.

The experience of exploring the linkage of AA with social protection was shared in South-South cooperation with Mozambique. During the exchange, both countries discussed the focus on the tools, documents and procedures used, as well as the challenges and opportunities for collaboration.

Forecasts and triggers

Together with the National Meteorological Office (known in Spanish as the Oficina Nacional de Meteorología or ONAMET), WFP installed a network of eight automatic meteorological stations at strategic points in the Northern Yaque basin (known in Spanish as the Cuenca Yaque del Norte or CYN) for the capture of real-time data. The conventional automatic stations that were available did not provide timely information for early warning and therefore could not be used for AA. During monitoring of Hurricane Franklin, WFP supported ONAMET to design and pilot the first meteorological monitoring bulletin for the CYN, including the data from the newly installed automatic weather stations. The Weatherlink platform is now available to ONAMET, which offers important projections of rainfall volumes over seven days, supporting AA monitoring. The continuing collaboration between WFP and ONAMET was strengthened by the approval of the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF) initiative for the Dominican Republic, in which WFP will support ONAMET to continue improving its services, to achieve increasingly accurate climate information and dissemination.

Anticipatory actions

In 2023, WFP significantly expanded its Anticipatory Action Plans (AAPs) to new hazards, including drought and expanded coverage for floods, from 6,000 people to 19,500 people if triggers are reached. Community work to scale up coverage was also used to sensitize communities to AA, early warning systems and the specific AA included in their local emergency plans.

To address drought risks and be able to act before impacts are felt, multidisciplinary teams from ONAMET, the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources and the National Water Resources Institute (known in Spanish as the Instituto Nacional de Recursos Hidráulicos or INDHRI), were trained by Mapix Areael, specialist private sector consultants, on meteorological, hydrological, and

agricultural drought measurement variables, data capture technologies, remote sensing platforms and other digital tools for drought monitoring. This resulted in the re-activation of the technical drought committee, including identification of suitable AA. ONAMET's monitoring and alerts, especially regarding El Niño, will remain crucial for possible drought anticipation in early 2024.

AA activations

During the 2023 cyclone season, Hurricane Franklin's forecasted intense rainfall prompted a readiness activation for the CYN. However, the storm altered its path, diverting away from areas covered by AA in the Dominican Republic.

Although it was deactivated before the delivery of cash, the entire readiness process for the AAP's first four days was carried out; confirming that actors at all levels are aligned with operational preparedness and the steps in the activation protocol, including beneficiaries' selection and coordination for the transfer through the Supérate social protection programme.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Dominican Republic will:

- Continue to strengthen the link between AA and social protection, including when geographically expanding flood AA to other areas of the country, and enhancing meteorological monitoring and preparedness.
- Develop an APP 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 the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development, the Ministry of the Presidency and other decision-making spaces at national level.
- Conduct a needs assessment and deploy agreements with government partners to explore an AA mechanism for insurance.
- Support the Country Hydromet Diagnostic, in coordination with ONAMET and Spanish State Meteorological Agency (known in Spanish as the Agencia Estatal de Meteorología or AEMET), as part of the SOFF initiative.



Target location

Municipality of Guayaquil (urban neighbourhood of Samanes) and Municipality of Samborondón (rural areas of Quevedo and Los Espinos).



Donors

Government of Ireland.



Key Partners

1. Risk Management Secretariat (known in Spanish as the Secretaría de Gestión de Riesgos or SGR)
2. Communities/neighbourhoods: Samanes; Los Espinos and Quevedo
3. The national meteorological agency of Ecuador (known in Spanish as Instituto Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología or INAMHI)
4. Higher Polytechnic School of Litoral (known in Spanish as La Escuela Superior Politécnica del Litoral or ESPOL)
5. Ecuadorian Red Cross Society



Hazards

Floods



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Ecuador:

- Established Anticipatory Action (AA) thresholds based on a characterization of the effects of floods in the target territories, together with INAMHI, ESPOL and local communities.
- Identified key gaps hindering effective anticipation and flood response in the prioritized municipalities and developed a repository of potential flood AA.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN ECUADOR

Thanks to funding from Ireland, WFP Ecuador was able to work on AA. Activities related to AA system building fall under the Strategic Outcome 1 of [WFP Ecuador country strategic plan \(2023-2027\)](#) which aims to “meet their essential needs and build and strengthen their livelihoods before, during and immediately after emergencies, disasters and prolonged crises”.

In collaboration with local municipalities, the national meteorological agency (known in Spanish as Instituto Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología or INAMHI), and the Higher Polytechnic School of Litoral (known in Spanish as La Escuela Superior Politécnica del Litoral or ESPOL), areas historically prone to flooding have been carefully selected in two municipalities: Guayas and Samborondón, both located in Guayas province. In the former, the focus is on an urban neighbourhood, while in Samborondón, a rural area has been targeted. The goal is to develop tailored Anticipatory Action Plans (AAPs) for both localities by early 2024, along with a robust monitoring and evaluation plan.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

In June, the first national workshop on AA was held in Guayaquil, Ecuador. Forty participants attended the workshop, including government ministry representatives, risk management professionals from national, and local level, structures (Risk Management Secretariat (known in Spanish as the Secretaría de Gestión de Riesgos or SGR), and the municipalities of Guayaquil and Samborondón), technical and hydrometeorological professionals involved in collecting, analysing and disseminating hydrometeorological and climate information from INAMHI and the Navy Oceanographic and Antarctic Institute (known in Spanish as the Instituto Oceanográfico y Antártico de la Armada or INOCAR). Other participants took part from academia (ESPOL), the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and other organizations engaged in AA, such as the Red Cross and the Swiss Development and Cooperation Agency (SDC).

The workshop generated discussions around the topic and captured the attention of key stakeholders such as INAMHI and SGR. It also helped position WFP at the national level on the topic, by sharing good practices and lessons learned among different actors in AA, as well as jointly defining what is meant by AA in the context of Ecuador. The workshop provided a general context of the historical

effects and forecasts of future climate-related risks in the Guayas Province, laying groundwork for developing WFP's work in the target areas of Guayaquil and Samborondón.

Forecasts and triggers

To estimate the thresholds, WFP and partners analysed the probability of flood occurrence using data obtained from meteorological stations across Guayas Province. The values obtained align with 30 years of historical data on flooding effects due to intense rains in the same localities. Our analysis considered rainfall intensity, as it is essential to note that time and intensity ranges can play a pivotal role in the effects of flooding. The three-pronged trigger developed distinguishes the severity of potential flooding based on rainfall and tide level.

The first trigger, considered a yellow alert, will use early warning bulletins issued by INAMHI¹³, the institution responsible for hydrometeorological information in Ecuador. These bulletins are produced by consensus among various technical domains, providing weather forecasts for the upcoming three to five days and outlining trends for the next three months. The projections are based on statistical data derived from a 30-year period, offering region-specific insights for Ecuador. Additionally, a daily quantitative forecast of precipitation is generated for Ecuador through the Weather Research and Forecasting (WRF) model, which provides both spatial and localized predictions. The second and third triggers, respectively categorized as orange and red alerts, are based on localized precipitation and tide levels that may lead to flooding, based on historical data.

Anticipatory actions

The process of identifying AA commenced with workshops held in July and August that involved analysing livelihoods within the selected communities and assessing the potential effects of floods. Separate workshops were held in the two target communities in Guayaquil and Samborondón. Community members, as well as various actors from the municipalities and civil society, such as firefighters and the police, participated. A comprehensive list of actions was developed to safeguard the communities before the onset of emergencies. Given the time constraints

associated with AA for floods, the primary focus was placed on identifying measures to prevent damages and losses to livelihoods, family, and community assets. Concurrently, efforts were directed towards safeguarding and ensuring the food security of vulnerable populations.

AA, such as the dissemination of early warning messages and the delivery of cash-based transfers, was jointly identified and will be implemented in a timely manner by WFP and partners if triggers are reached.

AA activations

In 2023, WFP and key stakeholders focused on developing AAP and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plans for each target location, to be approved by early 2024. These plans outline the roles and responsibilities of all parties involved – including WFP, municipalities and local communities – for implementing actions. Throughout 2024, WFP will diligently monitor the areas and execute the plan defined, in the event of activation of defined triggers and thresholds.

The potential number of homes to be assisted through the AAP if triggers are reached is: 7,100 people, in Samanes (Guayaquil) and approximately 1,200 people in Quevedo and Los Espinos (Samborondón).

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Ecuador will:

- Identify gaps in the quality and quantity of hydrometeorological data collection by INAMHI-meteorological services, local municipalities, and other actors.
- Organize community consultations to map flood-prone areas, understand risk factors and create a community-based early warning system that will monitor the pre-defined forecast triggers.
- Define roles and responsibilities between communities, municipalities, and INAMHI for the monitoring, forecasting and communication of early warning for floods.
- Establish a platform for continuous meetings to inform and advocate for the construction of a disaster risk reduction (DRR) law in Ecuador and the inclusion of AA in the social protection system at national level.

13. Bulletins are available at: inamhi.gob.ec/Front_productos/productos_pronosticos.html.



Target location

Municipalities of Jucuarán and Usulután.



Donors

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



Key Partners

1. Directorate General of the Observatory of Hazards and Natural Resources and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (known in Spanish as Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales or MARN)
2. General Directorate of Civil Protection, Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (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 or CENTA)
5. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
6. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
7. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
8. Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
9. Salvadorean and German Red Cross
10. Catholic Relief Services (CRS)



Hazards

Drought



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP El Salvador:

- Designed a drought activation model considering baseline survey results conducted among 400 households (60 percent of which were headed by women) with high basic grain production in the municipality of Jucuarán in the Dry Corridor.
- Boosted the coordination of the national Anticipatory Action Task Force (AATF) with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Salvadorean Red Cross, advised by the German Red Cross.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN EL SALVADOR

Thanks to funding from Ireland and the European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), WFP El Salvador was able to develop its work on AA. Activities related to development of the AA system are included in the second strategic outcome of the [WFP El Salvador country strategic plan \(2022-2027\)](#): “The Salvadoran population can count on resilient, efficient, equitable and inclusive systems and capacities that support decent work, production, well-functioning markets, local consumption and adaptation to climate change” and a commitment made to “empower food-insecure communities to adopt improved and inclusive climate risk management and adaptation practices, as well as services to enhance production and resilience against shocks and stressors”.

In 2023, WFP El Salvador, with financial support from Ireland, has contributed to improving knowledge of AA for slow-onset emergencies such as drought. With the Government of El Salvador, hydrometeorological analysis was conducted to measure the historical impact of lower-than-average rainfall and build a trigger model for Anticipatory Action Plans (AAPs) in selected drought-affected zones. WFP El Salvador also established the

national AATF with FAO and the Salvadorean Red Cross to collaborate on AA mechanisms and continue to work jointly towards strengthening institutionalization.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

In 2023, WFP El Salvador has been advocating and positioning the AA agenda within the government and has also been working with FAO, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) to develop an AA framework funded by the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to jointly implement AA from 2024 onwards.

WFP mapped AA actors, including government bodies, United Nations agencies, the National Red Cross Society and academia. This effort strengthened the ability of DG ECHO to focus on incorporating AA into government emergency preparedness and risk management plans.

With DG ECHO's participation in the Regional Dialogue Platform in Central America, AA has been positioned in institutional agendas, enabling WFP to continue advocating AA projects in the country, endorsed by the Directorate General of Civil Defence (DGPC).

Forecasts and triggers

WFP El Salvador has worked in parallel with OCHA and United Nations sister agencies to integrate its draft internal AA framework into the multisectoral AA framework funded by CERF. This framework aims to mitigate the effects of drought if forecast triggers are reached.

A potential trigger activation has been segmented into multiple strategic phases that will allow for actions to be carried out prior to the Primera (April-September) and Postrera (August-December) seasons. This phased approach facilitates anticipation, and allows WFP to adapt dynamically to climatic variations, focusing on critical times ahead of the two relevant seasons when water requirements may affect communities and agricultural production.

Anticipatory actions

Considering community needs ahead of a drought, WFP El Salvador has prioritized unconditional cash distribution and grain storage silos as the main activities for the multisectoral AA framework.

WFP selected Jucuarán municipality for its AAP because the National Food Security and Nutrition Assessment (known in Spanish as the Encuesta Nacional de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutrición or NSAN) conducted by WFP in 2022 showed that this locality meets all the prioritization criteria, as an area with high production of basic grains and women producers as heads of household. Jucuarán municipality has many slopes and significant rainfall, so crops are easily affected. It is also one of the municipalities where WFP implements Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) interventions, in conjunction with the local government.

AA activations

There were no activations in El Salvador in 2023. The priority was to establish the technical working group and design the AAP and CERF-funded sub-regional framework, including activation triggers and activities to be implemented if trigger thresholds are reached.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP El Salvador will:

- Finalize the AAP in preparation for a potential activation, considering the declining but continuing forecast of El Niño conditions in 2024.
- Continue to collaborate with OCHA, FAO, UNICEF, and PAHO to finalize the CERF sub-regional drought AA framework, in case of an activation in 2024.
- Support the Government (Directorate General of the Observatory of Hazards and Natural Resources and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (known in Spanish as Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales or MARN); General Directorate of Civil Protection, Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (known in Spanish as Dirección General de Protección Civil, Prevención y Mitigación de Desastres or DGPC); Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (known in Spanish as the Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería or MAG); and the National Centre for Agricultural and Forestry Technology (known in Spanish as the Centro Nacional de Tecnología Agropecuaria y Forestal or CENTA), as well as departmental commissions in the departments of San Vicente and Usulután) to strengthen their risk management and emergency preparedness and response capacity in the territory, including the potential integration of AA into the national risk management plan.
- Ensure there are regular meetings between government entities and partners to monitor weather forecasts and make timely and consensual decisions.
- Provide technical assistance to DGPC for updating the national drought contingency plan and elaborating the national drought management strategy in the framework of the joint work between WFP and FAO, which fosters the integration of AA into public policies.



Target location
Chiquimula Department.

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

- Key Partners**
1. Agroclimatic Technical Tables (Known in Spanish as the Mesas Técnicas Agroclimáticas or MTAs)
 2. National Institute of Seismology, Volcanology, Meteorology and Hydrology (known in Spanish as the Instituto Nacional de Sismología, Vulcanología, Meteorología e Hidrología or INSIVUMEH)
 3. Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (known in Spanish as the Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación or MAGA)
 4. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
 5. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
 6. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
 7. Guatemalan Red Cross
 8. German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ)
 9. Columbia Climate School International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI)
 10. Local municipality authorities and communities

Hazards
Drought

- Key Achievements**
In 2023, WFP Guatemala:
- Implemented Anticipatory Action (AA) for drought in May, reaching 5,095 people (57 percent women) with anticipatory cash, drought-tolerant seeds, fertilizer and training, and 10,220 people with early warning messages, across 12 communities in the municipalities of Camotan, San Juan Ermita, San Jose La Arada and San Jacinto, in Chiquimula Department.
 - Formed a national AA committee to facilitate the decision-making process, including stakeholders from the government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the private sector, academia, community leaders and international organizations.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN GUATEMALA

Thanks to funding from Ireland, European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), WFP Guatemala was able to develop its work on AA. AA is a key component of WFP's resilience strategy in Guatemala. It falls under Strategic Outcome 4 of [WFP Guatemala's Country Strategic Plan \(2021-2024\)](#): "Rural vulnerable populations and local institutions engage in nutrition and gender sensitive, sustainable and climate resilient food systems throughout the year."

In 2023, WFP Guatemala finalized and activated an AA model for prolonged droughts and dry spells, also known as *canículas*. It reached 5,095 people in the Dry Corridor's Chiquimula department through distribution of drought-resistant seeds, capacity development, and cash transfers.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

Government entities were involved in all stages of the design of the AA plan and collaborated in the creation of an AA committee where government ministries and humanitarian organizations played a key role in decision making and territory prioritization. WFP has also been working to strengthen local capacities and support changes to national development plans, government budgets and policies, namely through the integration of climate resilience and nutrition-related AA into existing preparedness and response plans and policies of key government institutions, including Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (known in Spanish as the Coordinadora Nacional para la Reducción de Desastres CONRED), the National Institute of Seismology, Volcanology, Meteorology and Hydrology (known in Spanish as the Instituto Nacional de Sismología, Vulcanología, Meteorología e Hidrología or INSIVUMEH), the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (known in Spanish as the Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación or MAGA), and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (known in Spanish as the Ministerio de Ambiente y Recursos Naturales de Guatemala or MARN). WFP supported the integration of AA as a cornerstone element of institutional response plans and the future National Inter-Institutional Response Plan.

Forecasts and triggers

WFP Guatemala worked closely with government and academic institutions – including collaboration with the national hydrometeorological agency, INSIVUMEH and Columbia Climate School International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) – to develop its forecasts. WFP Guatemala supports a structure of Agroclimatic Technical Tables, or Mesas Técnicas Agroclimáticas (MTAs) that facilitate the process for identifying communities and implementing AA based on a forecast specifically designed for the local AA plan. WFP partners Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Red Cross have also started to implement an AA pilot project based on a national-level forecast and in collaboration with the MTA.

The WFP model is based on a municipal-level forecast, which allows for complementarity in forecast-based decision making while improving government capacities. Beyond designing thresholds and implementing actions, WFP has collaborated with INSIVUMEH to develop a customized AA bulletin under its government capacity strengthening initiatives. The bulletin is published every month by INSIVUMEH and WFP and is reviewed at the end of the month to evaluate forecasts and determine the AA to be implemented if an AA threshold is surpassed. The latter is done through the AA Committee created and led by WFP, which comprises representatives from MAGA, INSIVUMEH, MTA, FAO, Red Cross and GIZ.

The AA pilot was executed based on forecasts issued by INSIVUMEH using the NextGen methodology, which is based on the non-exceedance of the water requirement for a specific crop, developed by WFP Guatemala and the IRI.

Anticipatory actions

A series of AAs were decided jointly with government and other actors through a series of workshops in 2022. The AAs agreed to be most pertinent to mitigate drought effects including capacity strengthening and training, provision of drought-resistant seeds, dissemination of climate information through text messages, deployment of community weather monitors, anticipatory cash transfers and distribution of silos and staple grains. Implementation began following the activation of the trigger in May 2023, which enabled the mitigation of effects during the Primera season starting in May.

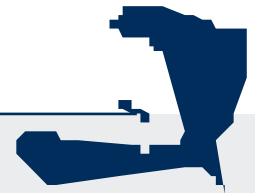
AA activations

All actions under the pilot were activated in May 2023 when the trigger was met, enabling implementation of AAs in 12 communities in four municipalities, benefiting 5,095 people. The low-cost actions – including early warning text messages and drought adaptation training modules – were activated under a forecast of not exceeding 50 percent of normal precipitation levels and the high-cost actions, including distribution of drought-tolerant seeds, training of community climate monitors, cash transfers, and distribution of silos and staple grains, were based on a forecast of not exceeding 614 mm for the maize crop.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Guatemala will:

- Expand the catalogue of AA according to the region of intervention, scaling up the drought Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) to two new departments that make up the expanded Dry Corridor.
- Strengthen indicators, and include actors, to reinforce the integration of nutrition in the current drought AAP.
- Through the regional drought AA framework funded by the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), strengthen partnerships with the Government, as well as with other United Nations agencies and stakeholders, to increase impact through complementary actions.
- Design an industry-first forecast index insurance, which will be piloted in 2024 and field tested within the AA model in 2025.



Target location

Grand'Anse department



Donors

German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO)



Key Partners

1. National Hydrometeorological Service (known in French as Unité Hydro-Météorologique d'Haïti or UHM)
2. Directorate-General of Civil Protection (known in French as Direction Générale de la Protection Civile or DGPC)
3. Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour (known in French as Ministère des Affaires Sociales et du Travail or MAST)
4. The Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development (known in French as Ministère de l'Agriculture des Ressources Naturelles et du Développement Rural or MARNDR)



Hazards

Floods and cyclones



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Haiti:

- Developed an Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) for floods and cyclones, with the participation of Haiti's Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour and the Haitian Civil Protection Agency (DPC) and drafted and validated an operations manual for adaptive social protection with the inclusion of Anticipatory Action (AA).
- Provided early warning messages to over 562,470 people across five departments, and an anticipatory cash transfer top-up to 18,775 social protection beneficiaries of the Adaptive Social Protection for Increased Resilience programme (ASPIRE, known in French as Projet de Protection Sociale Adaptative pour une Résilience Accrue or PSARA) in Grand'Anse department ahead of Tropical Depression 22.
- Organized the first national workshop on AA and promoted a community of practice among the Government of Haiti, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

OVERVIEW OF AA IN HAITI

Thanks to funding from the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), WFP Haiti was able to develop its AA programme. This programme falls under Strategic Outcome 5 of the [WFP Haiti country strategic plan \(2019-2023\)](#): "Centralized and decentralized institutions and national stakeholders have increased capacities to achieve Zero Hunger by 2030" and has synergies with Strategic Objectives 1 (risk reduction and recovery of crisis-affected populations), second (strengthen safety nets), and 4 (climate risk management).

In 2023, WFP Haiti finalized the first AAP for floods and cyclones, which enables the organization to implement early warning messages and anticipatory cash transfers up to 65,000 vulnerable individuals, the latter part of a vertical expansion of the PSARA (ASPIRE) social protection scheme in Grand'Anse. This is a key step to strengthen the link between the national social protection programme, and the disaster risk management system. The plan will remain valid in future years, with updates when required, meaning that WFP Haiti is looking for additional entry points for AA within other country office activities, such as emergency and resilience.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

To prepare to implement AA in Haiti, WFP focused on strengthening advocacy and understanding of the anticipatory approach among government partners, donors, United Nations agencies, civil society and humanitarian partners, as well as within the country office, by reinforcing internal capacity through training and awareness-raising activities. In coordination with Directorate-General for Civil Protection (DGPC) and the National Hydrometeorological Service (known in French as Unité Hydro-Météorologique d'Haïti or UHM), a two-day multistakeholder workshop took place in May 2023 to mainstream AA and ensure the involvement of relevant government institutions. This led to significant interest and involvement among various institutions, including the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development, the national food security and nutrition coordination, the Haitian Red Cross, humanitarian organizations and donors.

WFP supported all civil society organizations that were interested in creating synergies with the existing programme (such as Humanity and Inclusion, and the Catholic Relief Service) as well as other agencies like United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian

Affairs (OCHA). In April, WFP attended the launch of Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH) AA and early action programme in the Great South region, which reinforces the community-based approach around AA.

This collaboration raised the level of interest and dialogue around AA in Haiti, which led to the launch of a Community of Practice of approximately 10 members, among United Nations agencies and humanitarian organizations, that are meeting regularly to foster technical exchanges as well as discussions on possibly preparing a national proposal to the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to create a national AA framework.

In December 2023, the Minister of Social Affairs and Labour (known in French as the Ministère des Affaires Sociales et du Travail, MAST) and the Director General of the DGPC endorsed and signed the Adaptive Social Protection Operations Manual. The manual defines priority actions to respond to emergencies through social protection mechanisms, including use of the social register, electronic monetary transfers and AA to prevent or mitigate the potential impacts of a shock before they are felt by communities. WFP contributed to the drafting of the document and provided its secretariat, ensuring appropriation and institutionalization of the PSARA in Haiti.

Forecasts and triggers

WFP Haiti's AAP covers both the risk of flood and cyclones for the Department of Grand'Anse in the south of the country. WFP conducted a historical analysis of 30 years of climate data and impact to define the thresholds and triggers for both hazards.

Flood risk is assessed via proxy, by an excess of cumulative rainfall over three to five days, while cyclone risk is assessed through the forecast of the cyclone path and expected category at landfall.

Anticipatory actions

On 4-5 May 2023, a [national-level workshop](#) was led by WFP, DGPC and UHM with representatives of further government institutions. The discussions led to validation of selected AAs as well as specific indications of the

transfer value and the integration with Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP).

The planned AAs take into account the short lead time of sudden-onset hazards and include implementation of:

- Early warning messages and information; and
- Unconditional anticipatory cash assistance.

AA Activations

In August, the SMS delivery of early warning messages was tested. Three SMS were sent to 45,825 individuals before Tropical Storm Franklin, summarizing the main early warning and safety information in Haitian Creole. Lessons learned from the test informed improvements to the delivery mechanisms as well as WFP and government preparation.

In November, in collaboration with the Government of Haiti, WFP activated the AA plan and assisted 18,775 people with cash assistance two days ahead of a predicted flood in four districts of Grand'Anse department (Beaumont, Corail, Pestel, Roseaux). Cash transfers were delivered using the existing social protection delivery systems (e-money mobile wallets), minimizing any additional challenges for the recipients.

WFP also delivered early warning messages to 562,470 individuals across five departments: Sud, Grand'Anse, Nippes, Nord, and Nord'Ouest. The messages outlined the impending rainfall and providing recommendations, including following official communication sources, safeguarding valuables and legal documents, stocking up on medicines and potable water, and evacuation of those residing in flood-prone areas.

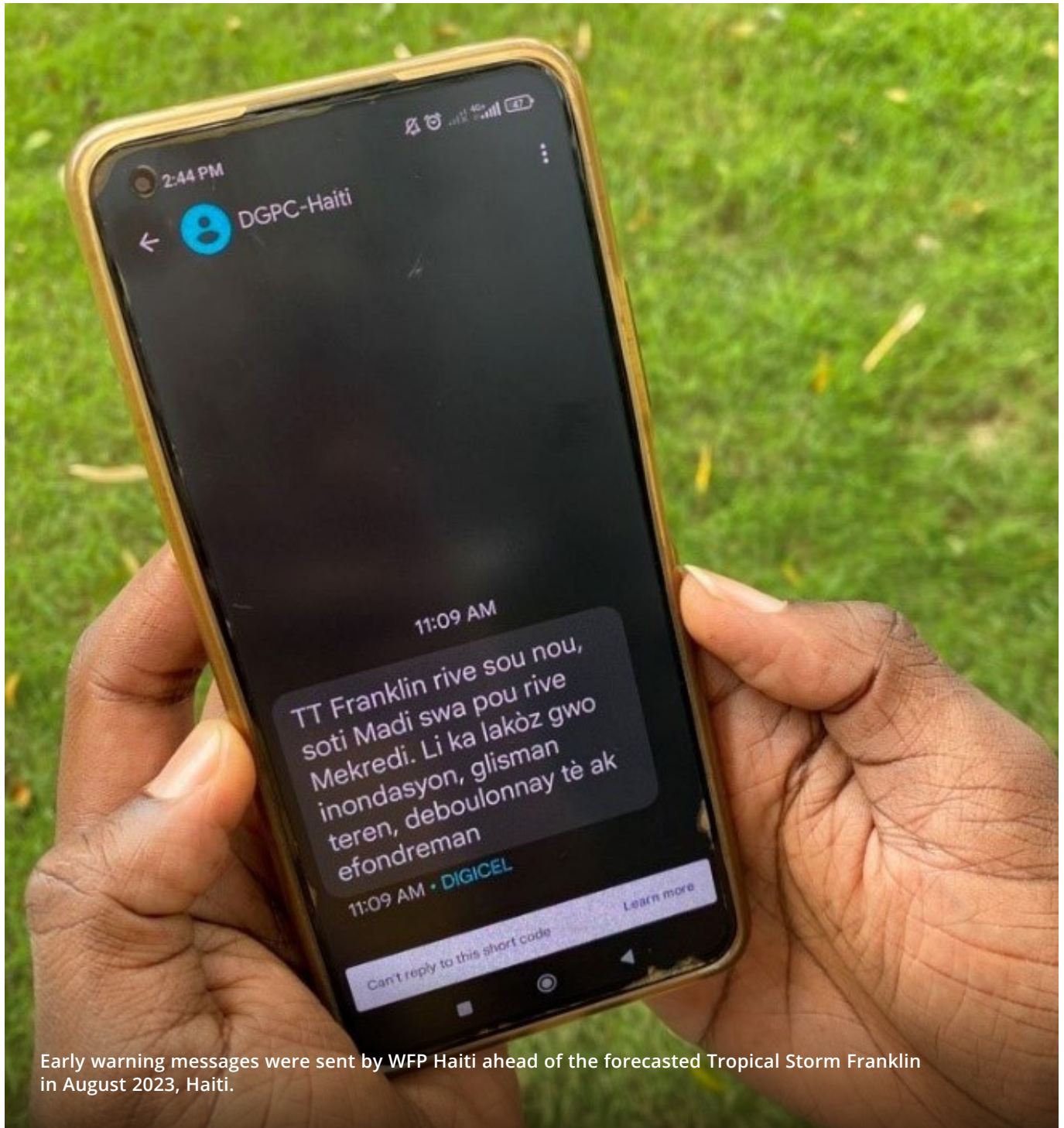
Findings from the post-distribution monitoring highlight that:

- 99 percent of respondents reported being able to withdraw cash from their digital account.
- 84 percent of beneficiaries said they understood that the objective of this anticipated cash transfer was to better prepare them for the arrival of the storm.
- 97 percent of e-money beneficiaries reported they spent the money received in preparation for the rains.
- 36 percent of respondents say they purchased food and medicine in preparation for the storm.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Haiti will:

- Focus on implementing AA through the social protection system;
- Finalize elements for the Anticipatory Action Plan for cyclones and flooding;
- Strengthen climate services to support the early warning system; and
- Work on digital financial inclusion and mobile cash solutions.



Early warning messages were sent by WFP Haiti ahead of the forecasted Tropical Storm Franklin in August 2023, Haiti.



Target location
Choluteca Department

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

Key Partners

1. Permanent Contingency Committee of Honduras (known in Spanish as Comité Permanente de Contingencias or COPECO)
2. Ministry for Development and Social Inclusion (known in Spanish as Secretaría de Desarrollo Social or SEDESOL)
3. Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (known in Spanish as Secretaría de Agricultura y Ganadería or SAG)
4. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (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. Honduran and German Red Cross

Hazards
Drought

Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Honduras:

- Established the technical advisory group for Anticipatory Actions (AAs) in Honduras made up of 20 organizations, including the Permanent Contingency Committee of Honduras (known in Spanish as Comité Permanente de Contingencias or COPECO), the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (known in Spanish as Secretaría de Agricultura y Ganadería or SAG), and the Ministry for Development and Social Inclusion (known in Spanish as Secretaría de Desarrollo Social or SEDESOL), United Nations sister agencies (Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and NGOs.
- Bolstered the national early warning systems by installing 30 meteorological stations, with the aim of improving forecasting and implementation through access to more timely and accurate climate information.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN HONDURAS

Thanks to funding from Ireland and the European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), WFP Honduras has developed its AA programme, which falls under the Strategic Outcome 1 of the [WFP Honduras country strategic plan \(2023–2027\)](#): “Crisis-affected populations meet their basic food security and nutrition needs before, during and in the aftermath of emergencies and strengthen their resilience and capacity to respond to future climate shocks and other crises, reducing their vulnerability”, and Strategic Outcome 4: “The Government of Honduras further builds and strengthens its national social protection systems and its capacity to design, implement, monitor and evaluate inclusive nutrition- and gender-sensitive shock-responsive social protection policies and programmes, boosting people’s trust in public institutions”.

To ensure preparation for and implementation of AAs, in 2023 WFP supported the establishment of the technical working group on AA (known in Spanish as El Grupo Técnico Asesor en Acciones Anticipatorias or GTA-AA) and started installing meteorological stations to enhance climate information. Furthermore, WFP facilitated discussions between national counterparts (COPECO

and SEDESOL) about use of the social protection system during emergency responses, which could be tailored to anticipatory social protection payouts in the future.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

During 2023, WFP advanced the institutionalization of AA within both the national government and the humanitarian system, by promoting the creation of a multi-stakeholder inter-institutional AA working group, known as the GTA-AA, co-led by WFP, FAO, and the Red Cross. The group is intended to bolster national capacity for AA and includes civil society actors, United Nations agencies and funds, and government actors. Thanks to the establishment of the GTA-AA, WFP had the opportunity to work collaboratively with other actors around AA and readiness activities, with a focus on drought management. Furthermore, in 2023 discussions were initiated with multiple members of the GTA-AA – including the Red Cross and FAO – regarding the 2024 vision for collaborative work on multi-hazard AA frameworks, including drought, floods, and migration.

This was made possible by five workshops held between May and December, with an average of 35 participants per workshop. The workshops established the scope of the GTA-AA and supported the mapping of stakeholders and knowledge sharing on risk models, climate forecasts, and AA. The series of workshops included a joint site visit to the municipalities where WFP, FAO and the Red Cross implemented actions related to an AA plan related to El Niño forecasts. Finally, a closing workshop was held in November 2023, intended to foster discussions around challenges and objectives for a joint 2024 Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP).

Forecasts and triggers

WFP's participation in the National Interinstitutional Committee on Climate Change was key to determining the alerts and targeting of vulnerable communities. WFP worked to strengthen the Government's capacities to define and disseminate forecast alerts and target at-risk populations. WFP collaborated with FAO and the Red Cross on the trigger development process.

WFP Honduras is also part of the sub-regional AA framework for drought, with OCHA, FAO, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), funded by the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). The framework has also improved coordination with technical actors on trigger development, based on multiple forecast sources at international and national levels.

Additionally, WFP installed 30 meteorological stations to strengthen forecast accuracy, contributing to the enhancement of forecast generation already being conducted by the COPECO's Centre for Atmospheric, Oceanographic and Seismic Studies (known in Spanish as Centro de Estudios Atmosféricos, Oceanográficos y Sísmicos or CENAOS).

Anticipatory actions

Through community and stakeholder consultations, WFP Honduras defined its AA, including anticipatory cash transfers and early warning messages for future activations. In collaboration with FAO and Red Cross, WFP piloted simulation of an anticipatory cash distribution, enabling WFP to test its operational readiness following a trigger.

AA Activations

A pilot AA simulation was triggered by seasonal forecasts for El Niño ahead of the Postrera season in Cholutca, part of the Dry Corridor of Honduras. In collaboration with FAO and Red Cross, WFP Honduras tested operational readiness and improved its response time ahead of drought impacts. Under this simulation, WFP distributed cash transfers to 2,500 vulnerable people in Choluteca department, starting in October 2023.

During post-simulation field visits, beneficiaries reported that cash assistance was essential for ensuring food reserves and maintaining acceptable consumption patterns for their families. Most beneficiaries used the cash to buy food and other key inputs ahead of the next planting season.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Honduras will:

- Continue to consolidate the capacities and knowledge of various humanitarian, government, and local actors in AA through the GTA-AA, and further collaborate with inter-agency and multisectoral spaces to bolster development and activation of the CERF-funded AA framework.
- Integrate AA into the national emergency response architecture, by promoting the connection between COPECO and SEDESOL, and formalizing a roadmap and protocols for emergency response and AA through shock-responsive social protection.
- Advocate inclusion of the concept of anticipatory action in the update of the law on the National Risk Management System's (known in Spanish as Sistema Nacional de Gestión de Riesgo or SINAGER) planned for 2024.
- Improve evidence generation and evidence-based decision making through an improved monitoring and evaluation framework for anticipatory cash transfers, and a partnership with national academic institutions to enhance forecast information and improve timely analysis of the meteorological stations' data, strengthening CENAOS forecast capacities.



Target location

Dry Corridor, specifically Madriz, Nueva Segovia, Estelí and Matagalpa departments.



Donors

Government of Ireland.



Key Partners

1. Nicaraguan Institute of Territorial Studies (known in Spanish as Instituto Nicaragüense de Estudios Territoriales or INETER)
2. National System for the Prevention and Mitigation of Disasters (known in Spanish as Servicio Nacional de Prevención y Respuesta ante Desastres or SINAPRED)
3. Agrometeorological System (AGROMET),
4. National System of Production, Consumption and Trade (known in Spanish as Sistema Nacional de Producción, Consumo y Comercio or SNPCC)
5. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
6. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
7. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
8. Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)



Hazards

Drought



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Nicaragua:

- Collaborated with the Government to strengthen capacity to provide agroclimatic information to 17,993 small-scale farmers. Complementary training was provided to 224 smallholder farmers to mitigate potential yield reductions.
- Supported the co-creation of 59 agrometeorological bulletins that were disseminated through WhatsApp groups to small-scale producers and field technicians from cooperatives, institutions, and governmental ministries.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN NICARAGUA

With funding from Ireland, WFP Nicaragua developed the anticipatory action (AA) programme, which falls under Strategic Outcome 2 of [WFP Nicaragua country strategic plan \(2019-2023\)](#): “Producers living in vulnerable communities in selected areas benefit from sustainable food systems to withstand various impacts, climate change, and natural phenomena”.

In 2023, WFP Nicaragua collaborated with the Government, successfully implementing an early warning system for drought in the Dry Corridor, benefiting 17,993 small-scale farmers with climate information and achieving progress in supporting institutionalization of AA within government systems. Notable achievements included improving operational capacities at the Nicaraguan Institute of Territorial Studies (known in Spanish as Instituto Nicaragüense de Estudios Territoriales or INETER), providing advanced agroclimatic guidance, and collaborating on a sub-regional AA framework with United Nations partner agencies, funded by the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

In 2023, WFP Nicaragua, and its partners, achieved significant progress in introducing the AA approach to the Government of Nicaragua. WFP successfully positioned the anticipatory approach within the National System of Production, Consumption and Trade (SNPCC) institutions and among relevant stakeholders, such as the National System for the Prevention, Mitigation and Attention to Disasters (known in Spanish as Sistema Nacional de Producción, Consumo y Comercio or SNPCC), which, by 2024, will implement, alongside INETER, the surveillance and AA programme. The objective of this programme will be to introduce AA to the Municipal Units of Integral Risk Management (known in Spanish as Unidades Municipales de Gestión Integral de Riesgos or UMGIR), integrate AA into disaster risk management plans, and finalize the definition thresholds and triggers for a more robust early warning system that can be used for AA activations.

WFP Nicaragua also made advances in collaboration with United Nations sister agencies, FAO, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), PAHO, and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), on a sub-regional CERF-funded AA framework ahead of drought impacts.

Forecasts and triggers

WFP provided specialized technical support to INETER to define climate threat scenarios, and establish thresholds, parameters, and triggers that form part of the drought early warning system and are close to finalization. This information will enable INETER, the National System for the Prevention, Mitigation and Attention to Disasters (known in Spanish as Servicio Nacional de Prevención y Respuesta ante Desastres or SINAPRED), and SNPCC to promptly identify the timing for implementing AA. This support also involved assisting INETER with computing equipment such as servers, computer hardware, and spare parts for the restoration of meteorological stations to enhance the management of climate data. This helped to link web servers to INETER Meteorological, Hydrological, and Climatic Software (KRONOS) and to connect this data to the drought early warning platform (known in Spanish as Sistema de Alerta Temprana or SAT).

WFP Nicaragua has also contributed to strengthening the national network of meteorological stations to improve climate information used in forecast generation. The management of data from 110 meteorological stations, located in 24 cooperatives, supported by WFP in Nicaragua's Dry Corridor, was handed over to INETER.

Anticipatory actions

In 2023, WFP Nicaragua worked on preparations linked to frameworks for multi-hazard AA, primarily focusing on the risk of drought. During the first planting cycle, agroclimatic information was provided to small-scale producers in the Dry Corridor through bulletins and messages through WhatsApp groups. Additionally, during the planting cycle, technical recommendations were provided by INETER and AGROMET to prevent crop yield reduction in dry conditions by enhancing productive practices and post-harvest management (such as waiting for initial rains and planting seeds in moist soil to facilitate germination).

For its anticipatory action plan (AAP) development and for inclusion in the inter-agency CERF-funded framework, WFP Nicaragua prioritizes early warning messaging with the provision of agroclimatic information and recommendations to smallholder farmers, as well as anticipatory cash transfers, to enable vulnerable households to protect their food security and livelihoods in case of reduced rainfall.

AA Activations

No activations took place in 2023.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Nicaragua will:

- Continue working with government partners to further strengthen the capacities of institutions to integrate the AA approach at all levels.
- Strengthen early warning systems (EWS) with a multi-hazard approach for droughts, floods, and tropical cyclones; supporting the definition of thresholds and forecast triggers accompanied by climate information. This will involve expanding the drought EWS into 10 new municipalities within the Dry Corridor of Nicaragua.
- Design an AAP that is integrated into municipal-level multi-hazard response plans, existing social protection systems, and socio-productive systems. The approach will consider gender, food and nutritional security, and social protection.
- Integrate the AA approach into the SINAPRED communication strategy, disseminating forecasts, early warning notices, and climate perspectives with support from INETER and WFP.



Target location

North-eastern zone of Peru (jungle zone), specifically in rural communities of Jamalca district in Amazon region and in Atumplaya district of San Martín region.



Donors

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



Key Partners

1. National Institute of Civil Defence (known in Spanish as Instituto Nacional de Defensa Civil or INDECI)
2. Ministry of Social Inclusion and Development (known in Spanish as Ministerio de Desarrollo e Inclusión Social or MIDIS)
3. National programmes: Juntos, Pensión 65, Contigo, Foncodes, Cuna Mas, QALI WARMA, PAÍS, Food Complementation Program (known in Spanish as Programa de Complementación Alimentaria or PCA)
4. National Services for Meteorology and Hydrology of Peru (known in Spanish as Servicio Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología del Perú or SENAMHI)
5. National Centre for the Estimation, Prevention and Reduction of Disaster Risk (known in Spanish as Centro Nacional para la Estimación, Prevención y Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres or CENEPRED).
6. Municipal governments of Moyobamba, Utcubamba and Jamalca
7. Red Cross Crescent Climate Centre (RCCC)



Hazards

Floods



Key Achievements

In 2023, WFP Peru:

- Supported the Ministry of Social Inclusion and Development (known in Spanish as Ministerio de Desarrollo e Inclusión Social or MIDIS) to approve the emergency response protocols, featuring anticipatory cash transfers, of seven social programmes, including Juntos, Pension 65 and Contigo in Amazon and San Martín regions.
- Strengthened the readiness of local anticipatory action (AA) working groups in early warning systems in Amazon and San Martín through the development of work plans and scenario planning for before, during and after emergencies.
- In collaboration with MIDIS and local authorities, registered potential beneficiaries in one of the two targeting communities for a potential activation in 2024. The target communities are in high-risk areas and have experienced flooding in the past.

OVERVIEW OF AA IN NICARAGUA

The AA programme in Peru is funded by Ireland and complemented by an initiative funded by the European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) to strengthen preparation and response to social protection emergencies in the country. The AA programme in Peru falls under the Strategic Outcome 3 of the [WFP Peru country strategic plan \(CSP 2023-2026\)](#): “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”.

In 2023, WFP Peru initiated the first phase of the project, which lays the groundwork for implementing AA, including the formation of working groups, preparation of plans, capacity building and equipping of early warning systems, development of a feasibility study for the delivery mechanism, early registration of potential beneficiaries, three protocols for anticipatory cash transfers, and the development of terms of reference for a study to identify the factors that indicate and trigger floods.

PROGRESS

Institutionalization within government or humanitarian systems

WFP Peru has been promoting the creation of AA working groups with representatives of government entities of humanitarian response (the National Institute of Civil Defence (known in Spanish as Instituto Nacional de Defensa Civil or INDECI), regional government, municipal government, the National Centre for the Estimation, Prevention and Reduction of Disaster Risk (known in Spanish as Centro Nacional para la Estimación, Prevención y Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres or CENEPRED) and the National Services for Meteorology and Hydrology of Peru (known in Spanish as Servicio Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología del Perú or SENAMHI) and social protection (Ministry of Social Inclusion and Development (known in Spanish as Ministerio de Desarrollo e Inclusión Social or MISDIS) and social programmes in the regions) to support incorporation of AA in the preparation and response agendas of these systems at national and regional level.

Representatives of MIDIS social programmes play an active role in these AA working groups. Seven social programmes, including Juntos, Pension 65 and Contigo, approved their emergency response protocols with technical assistance from WFP in Amazonas and San Martín regions, including anticipatory cash transfers if forecast triggers are reached.

Forecasts and triggers

With SENAMHI support, terms of reference were prepared for a hydrological and hydraulic study of the basins and sub-basins of the areas targeted by the project, to enable identification of flood triggers. WFP is working with the Red Cross Crescent Climate Centre (RCCC) to support the analysis, with the results expected in the first half of 2024.

The early warning capacities of relevant local stakeholders and communities in the Amazon and San Martín were strengthened through knowledge sharing, scenario planning and the development of work plans for before, during and after emergencies.

Anticipatory actions

The AA mechanisms in Peru are planned to be implemented in a complementary and articulated manner to the shock-responsive social protection roadmap defined by the country office. As part of the financial strategy for the AA mechanisms, MIDIS is being supported to design so-called budget chains, which are used by the Government to programme and assign economic resources to public entities for their operations, including traditional emergency response and AA.

WFP Peru, in collaboration with its local partners and social protection actors in the country, is considering anticipatory cash assistance as an AA. Needs and operational readiness will be further analysed to finalize the repository of AAs offered under Peru's future anticipatory action plan (AAP).

AA Activations

No activations took place in 2023.

OUTLOOK FOR 2024

In 2024, WFP Peru will:

- Carry out a climate risk study that will identify triggers for flooding in the targeted areas.
- Complete an AAP and be ready to activate if triggers are reached, creating links with social protection entities in Peru for inclusion of AA in national policies.
- Develop specific protocols for AA to be delivered through social protection systems.
- Promote changes in the regulations for Imminent Emergency Decree, to introduce AA as an effective implementation modality, including delivery through social protection systems.
- Conduct simulation exercises and explore whether delivery of hydrometric equipment is required to enhance the accuracy and lead time for AA, to strengthen readiness capacities.



Women participating in a workshop on anticipatory action, emergency preparedness, and social protection in the Amazonas and San Martín regions of Peru where the development of an AAP is underway.



Smallholder farmers in Madagascar struggle with the daily impacts of the climate crisis.

Acronyms

3PA	Three-pronged approach
AA	Anticipatory Action
AAP	Anticipatory Action Plan
AAR	After-Action Review
AA-TWG	Anticipatory Action-Technical Working Group
ADESS	Social Subsidies Administrator
ADPC	Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre
ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AEMET	Spanish State Meteorological Agency
AF	Adaptation Fund
AIKS	African Institute in Indigenous Knowledge Systems
ARC	African Risk Capacity
AWC	Arab Water Council
BDRCS	Bangladesh Red Crescent Society
BHA	USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance
BMD	Bangladesh Meteorological Department
BMKG	Meteorological, Climatological and Geophysical Agency of Indonesia
BNGRC	National Disaster Management Agency of Madagascar
BNPB	National and Provincial Disaster Management of Indonesia
BRC	British Red Cross
BRDC	Burundi Red Cross
CAS	Corporate Alert System
CBPP	WFP's Community-Based Participatory Planning
CBT	Cash-based transfers
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CCMD	Climate Change Management Department
CCRIF	Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility Segregated Portfolio Company
CDD	Madagascar's Diocesan Development Council
CDD	Diocesan Development Council
CDEMA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency
CDP	Centre for Disaster Protection
CDRFI	Climate and disaster risk financing instruments
CENAOS	COPECO's Center for Atmospheric, Oceanographic and Seismic Studies
CENEPRED	National Center for Disaster Risk Estimating, Reduction and Prevention of Peru
CENTA	National Centre for Agricultural and Forestry Technology of El Salvador
CERD	Djibouti Centre of Studies and Research
CEPRENAC	Center for Coordination of Disaster Preparedness in Central America and the Dominican Republic
CERF	United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund
CFS	Social Safety Net of Niger
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
CHF	Swiss Franc
CHIRPS	Climate Hazards Group InfraRed Precipitation with Station data
CIKS	Centre of Excellence in Indigenous Knowledge Systems
CILSS	Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CLTF	WFP Changing Lives Transformation Fund
CNE	National Emergency Commission of the Dominican Republic
CO	Country Office
CONRED	National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction

CONRED	Directorate General of Hazards and Natural Resources Observatory and Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
COP	Conference of the Parties
COPECO	Ministry for Contingency and Risk Management of Honduras
COSUDE	Swiss Development Cooperation
CP	Cooperating partner
CPU	Civil Protection Unit of Zimbabwe
CRA	Agrhymet Regional Centre
CRC	Colombian Red Cross
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
CRWES	Climate Risk and Early Warning System
CSC	Climate Services Centre
CSG	Kenyan County Steering Group
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
CSP	Country Strategic Plan
CYN	Northern Yaque Basin
DAFM	Irish Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
DANIDA	Danish International Development Agency
DBM	Department of Budget and Management
DCCMS	Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services of Malawi
DCP	Department of Civil Protection
DDM	Department of Disaster Management
DDRCs	District Drought Relief Committees
DEDD	Djiboutian Environment and Sustainable Development Department
DENR-MGB	Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Mines and Geosciences Bureau
DEVCO	European Commission's Directorate-General for International Development and Cooperation
DFAT	Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
DG-ECHO	Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
DGM	National Meteorological Agency of Madagascar
DGPC	General Directorate of Civil Protection, Disaster Prevention and Mitigation
DHR	Djiboutian Rural Hydraulics Service
DILG	Department of the Interior and Local Government
DJF	December/January/February
DKH	Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe
DLG	District Local Governments
DM	Department of Meteorology
DMA	Disaster Management Authority
DMD	Disaster Management Department
DMN	Niger National Meteorological Agency
DMTEC	Disaster Management Training and Education Centre for Africa
DNGRH	Water Resources Management Directorate of Mozambique
DNMA	Djibouti National Meteorological Agency
DNPGCA	National Framework for the Prevention and the Management of Food Crises
DOA/MARN	National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction
DoDMA	Department of Disaster Management Affairs of Malawi
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
DRC	Danish Red Cross
DREF	Disaster Response Emergency Fund
DRF	Disaster Risk Financing
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DRRM	Disaster Risk Reduction Management
DRWS	Department of Rural Water Supply
DSD	Department of Social Development

DSWD	Department of Social Welfare and Development
DWR	Department of Water Resources
EAP	Early Action Protocol
ECHO	European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection departmentz
ECMWF	European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts
EMI	Ethiopian Meteorological Institute
ENACTS	Enhancing National Climate Services
ENSAN	Food Security and Nutrition Survey of El Salvador
ENSO	El Niño/Southern Oscillation
EPCI	Emergency Preparedness Capacity Index
EPR	Emergency Preparedness and Response
ERCS	Ethiopia Red Cross Society
ESPOL	Litoral Polytechnic High School
EU DG INTPA	EU Directorate-General for International Partnerships
EWS	Early warning systems
EW4ALL	Early Warnings for All Initiative
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCDO	British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
FEWSNET	Famine, Early Warning Systems Network
FFA	Food assistance for assets
FFWC	Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre
FRC	Finnish Red Cross
FSC	Food Security Cluster
FSP	Financial service provider
GBON	Global Basic Observing Network
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GFFO	Government of Mozambique
GIZ	German Development Agency
GloFAS	Global Flood Awareness System
GoL	Government of Lesotho
GoM	German Federal Foreign Office
GRC	German Red Cross
GS-NSPC	General Secretariat for National Social Protection Council
GTA-AA	Technical Working Group on AA
HAC	Humanitarian Aid Commission
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
HHs	Households
HQ	Headquarters
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan
IACOV	Improving adaptive capacity of vulnerable and food-insecure populations in Lesotho
ICPAC	Climate Prediction and Applications Center
ICPALD	Centre For Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development
IE	Impact Evaluation
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IGEBU	Geographical Institute of Burundi
IKS	Indigenous Knowledge Systems
INAM	National Institute of Meteorology of Mozambique
INAMHI	National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology
INAS	National Social Action Institute
INDECI	National Institute of Civil Defence
INDHRI	National Institute of Hydraulic Resources

INETER	Nicaraguan Institute of Territorial Studies
INGD	National Institute of Disaster Risk Management and Reduction
INSIVUMEH	National Weather Agency of Guatemala
INGD	Disaster Risk Management Institute
INOCAR	Navy Oceanographic and Antarctic Institute
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
IRA	Immediate response account
IRI	Columbia Climate School International Research Institute for Climate and Society
JAS	July-August-September (season)
Kemenko PMK	Indonesian Ministry for Human Development and Cultural Affairs
KMD	Kenya Meteorological Department
KOICA	Korea International Cooperation Agency
KRCS	Kenya Red Cross Society
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
LGUs	Local government units
LL	Lessons Learnt
LMS	Lesotho Meteorological Services
LRCS	Lesotho Red-Cross Society
LSA	Lean season assistance
MADER	Ministry of Agriculture of Mozambique
MAEM	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries of Madagascar
MAEP	Djiboutian Ministry of Agriculture, Water, Fisheries and Livestock
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery
MAG	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
MAGA	Ministry of Agriculture
MAM	March-April-May (rainfall)
MARN	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Guatemala
MARNDR	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development of Haiti
MAST	Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour
MCO	Multi-Country Office
MEB	Minimum Expenditure Basket
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
MES	Ministry of Emergencies Situations
MEPYD	Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development
MGCAS	Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Action
MHDAM	Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management
MIDIS	Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion
MINAGRI	Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources
MINEAGRIE	Burundian Ministry of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock
MINECOFIN	Ministry in charge of Emergency Management
MINEMA	Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources
MIWR	Ministry of Labor Social Security and Migration
MLAFWRD	Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development
MLSS	Ministry of Labour and Social Security
MLSSM	Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare
MLSW	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MNRE	Memorandum of Agreement
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoAFS	Ministry on Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition
MoDMR	Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoLF	Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries

MOSD	Ministry of Social Development
MoSVY	Ministry of Social Affairs, Veteran and Youth Rehabilitation
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MoWCA	Ministry of Women and Children Affairs
MOWRAM	Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology
MRCS	Malawi Red Cross Society
MSD	Meteorological Services Department
MTA	Agroclimatic Discussion Tables
MWCSP	Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection
M&E	Monitoring and evaluation
NACOF	National Climate Outlook Forum
NCCD	National Council for Civil Defence
NCDM	National Committee for Disaster Management
NDMA	National Disaster Management Agency
NDMO	National Disaster Management Office
NDOC	National Disaster Operations Centre
NDVI	Normalized Difference Vegetation Index
NEMO	National Emergency Management Organization
NEWTWG	National Early Warning Technical Working Group
NextGen	Next generation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NHMS	National Hydro-Meteorological Services
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
NPR	Nepalese Rupee
NSAF	National Social Assistance Fund
NUL	National University of Lesotho
OCD	Office of Civil Defense
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
ODI	Overseas Development Institute
ODPEM	Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management of Jamaica
ONAMET	Oficina Nacional de Meteorologia
OND	October-November-December (season)
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
ORDMC	Oromia Region Disaster Risk Management Commission
PAGASA	Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
PASD-PE	Mozambique's Direct Social Support Programme
PCA	Food Complementation Program
PDRA	WFP's Participatory Disaster Risk Analysis
PIK	Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research
PMO-DMD	Prime Minister's Office – Disaster Management Department
PO-RALG	President's Office (Ministry of) Regional Administration and Local Government
PRC	Philippines Red Cross
PSARA	Adaptive Social Protection for Increased Resilience programme
PyCPT	Python Interface to the Climate Predictability Tool
RAM	Research, Analysis and Mapping (WFP Unit)
RB	Regional Bureau
RCCC	Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre
RCS	Resilience capacity score
RDCs	Rural District Councils
REAP	Risk-informed Early Action Partnership
REDLAC	Network of Environmental Funds of Latin America and the Caribbean
RIMES	Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia
RRC	Rwanda Red Cross Society

RSA	Sudanese Remote Sensing Authority
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
SAG	State Secretariat for Decentralization
SARCOF-27	27 th Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum
SAWS	South African Weather Services
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SDRMB	Somali Region Disaster Risk Management Bureau
SE-CNSA	Executive Secretariat of the National Food Security Council
SED	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Honduras
SEDESOL	Ministry of Social Development of Honduras
SEGRC	Djiboutian Executive Secretary for Risk and Disaster Management
SENAHMI	National Services for Meteorological and Hydrological of Peru
SGR	Risk Management Secretary of Ecuador
SINAGER	National Risk Management System of Honduras
SINAPRED	National System for the Prevention, Mitigation and Attention to Disasters of Nicaragua
SIUBEN	Single Beneficiary System
SMA	Sudan Meteorological Authority
SNPCC	National System of Production Consumption and Trade
SO	Strategic Outcome
SoDMA	Somali Disaster Management Agency
SOFF	Systematic Observations Financing Facility
SP	Social Protection
SPI	Standard Precipitation Index
SRC	Sudan Red Cross
SSRC	South Sudan Red Cross
SWALIM-FRIMMS	Somalia Water and Land Information Management's Flood and Response Information Management System
SWESSA	Google.org-funded Strengthening Early Warning Systems for Anticipatory Action
TASAF	Tanzania Social Action Fund
TDRM-TC	Tanzania DRM Technical Committee
TMA	Tanzania Meteorological Authority
TORs	Terms of reference
TWG	Technical working group
UCT CSAG	University of Cape Town Climate System Analysis Group
UEM	Eduardo Mondlane University
UHM	National Hydrometeorological Service
UMGIR	Municipal Units of Risk Management of Nicaragua
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNGRD	National risk management authority of Colombia
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNMA	Uganda National Meteorological Authority
UNRCO	United Nations Resident Coordinator Office
UNU	United Nations University
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	United States dollars
WHH	Welthungerhilfe
WFP	World Food Programme
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WRF	Weather Research & Forecasting
WRMA	Water Resources Management Agency
ZRCS	Zimbabwe Red Cross Society

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