

Anticipatory Action in Latin America and the Caribbean

Bolstering nationally owned anticipatory systems to reduce climate impacts on food security



Climate extremes are a key driver of food insecurity.

At the same time, the climate crisis is intersecting and compounding other drivers of hunger, including conflict and economic downturns. To successfully manage these interlocking problems and avert cascading humanitarian disasters, traditional **humanitarian response systems need to evolve from crisis response to forward-looking risk management.** Recognizing the urgency of the problem, WFP works with governments around the world that are investing in early warning systems to better anticipate and respond to hazards. Leveraging these investments, **Anticipatory Action (AA) offers an innovative approach that enables the implementation and financing of actions triggered by weather forecasts,** and before an extreme weather event has occurred. These anticipatory actions aim to prevent and mitigate – to the extent possible – the effects of extreme weather on the food security and nutrition of highly vulnerable people.

Latin America and the Caribbean is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate.

Climate events are impacting food security and livelihoods, as dramatically demonstrated by the devastating impacts of Hurricanes Eta and Iota (2020), the droughts of 2015-2016 associated with an intense El Niño cycle, and record-breaking fires across South America triggered by unprecedented heat and dryness. The financial cost of these events can be catastrophic. For instance, Hurricanes Eta and Iota resulted in losses of more than \$7 billion dollars across Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala (approximately 5% of the gross domestic product in the Central American countries) and where more than 8 million people required humanitarian assistance. The impact on food security and livelihoods is significant: rising temperatures and changing rainfall patterns decimate agricultural production across the region.

WFP's approach to anticipatory action in Latin America and the Caribbean

Social protection

Disaster management

Disaster risk finance



WFP's objective is to create nationally owned systems that incorporate AA to protect the region's most at-risk populations.

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