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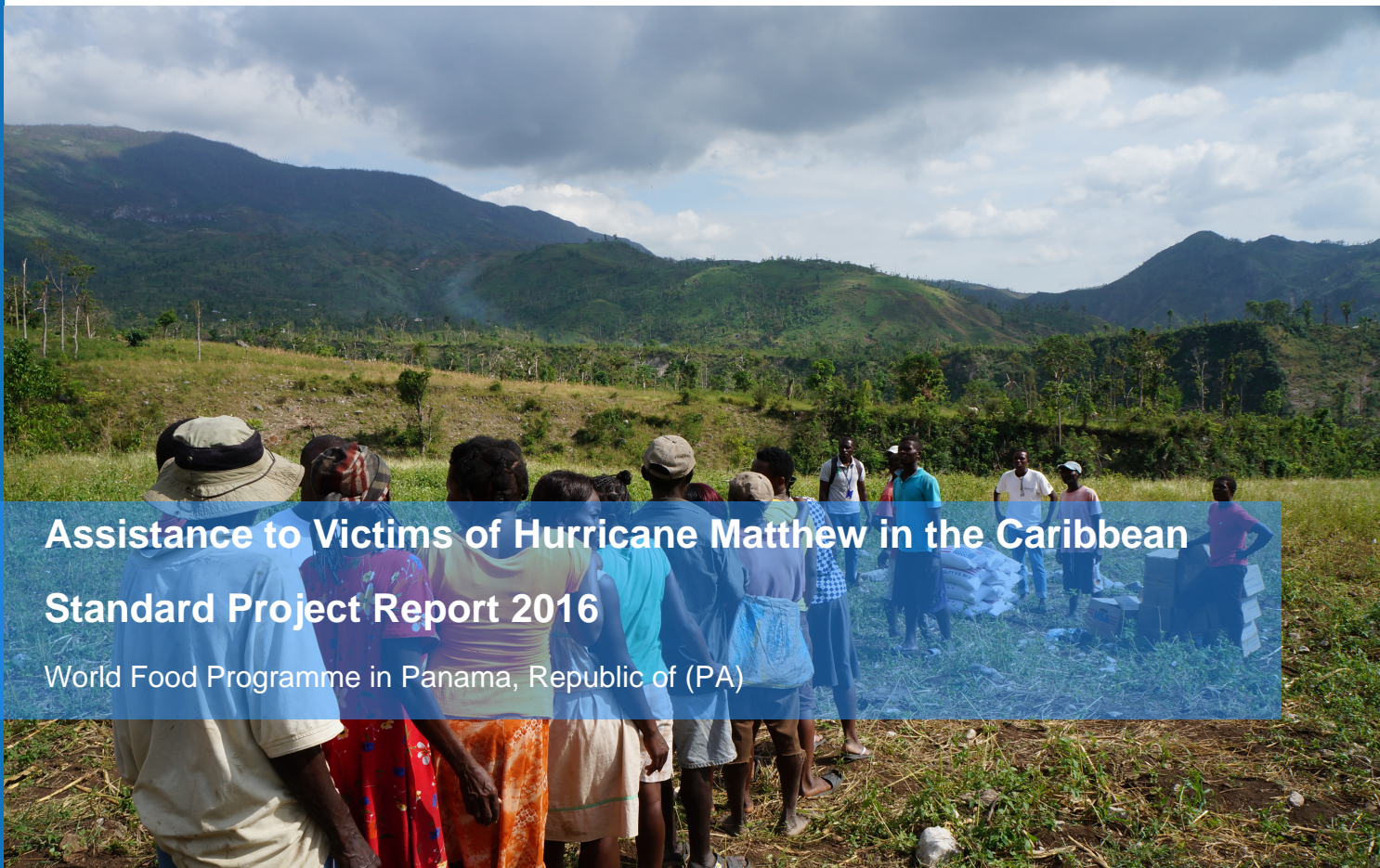
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**Further Information**

<http://www.wfp.org/countries>

**SPR Reading Guidance**



**Assistance to Victims of Hurricane Matthew in the Caribbean**

**Standard Project Report 2016**

World Food Programme in Panama, Republic of (PA)



**World Food Programme**

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## Regional Context

The Caribbean countries historically experience powerful and frequent natural disasters. They share the so-called “Hurricane Corridor” whereby tropical storms—usually moving from east to west— often end up affecting more than one country at the same time. High impact earthquakes, droughts and landslides are also known to cause serious damages in these countries, making them highly vulnerable.

Hurricane Matthew was formed near the Windward Islands on 28 September 2016. As a tropical storm, Matthew impacted Barbados, Dominica, Saint Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. On 30 September, Matthew turned into a powerful category 4 hurricane, heading towards the various islands of the Caribbean, including Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti and Jamaica.

Hurricane Matthew made landfall in Haiti on 4 October, severely affecting the southern peninsula, especially the departments of Grand-Anse and South. According to official sources, 2.1 million people were affected [1].

Hurricane Matthew hit Cuba during eight hours from late afternoon of 4 October until the early morning of 5 October, severely affecting the eastern part of the country (mainly the provinces of Guantanamo and Holguin). Significant damages to housing and crops were reported. According to official sources, the total losses in Guantanamo province amounted to 1,584 million Cuban pesos [2].

[1] Source: WFP Haiti Situation Report #35, 19 January 2017.

[2] Source: UN Cuba Situation Report #18, 4 November, 2016.

# Project Objectives and Results

## Project Objectives

The Immediate Response Emergency Operation (IR-EMOP) 201030 pursued two objectives in line with WFP Strategic Objective 1 “Save Lives and Protect Livelihoods in Emergencies”:

- Meet immediate food needs of hurricane-affected vulnerable populations;
- Provide assistance to WFP country offices in Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti, as well as to the national governments (including Jamaica, where WFP has no presence), by deploying staff and non-food items to meet humanitarian needs in the aftermath of the disaster.

Eventually, the hurricane impact on Dominican Republic was lower than expected and the Jamaican Government did not request WFP support. Thus, WFP assistance under the IR-EMOP focused on Cuba and Haiti.



## Approved Budget for Project Duration (USD)

Cost Category	
Capacity Dev.t and Augmentation	316,282
Direct Support Costs	151,111
Food and Related Costs	414,890
Indirect Support Costs	61,760
<b>Total</b>	<b>944,043</b>

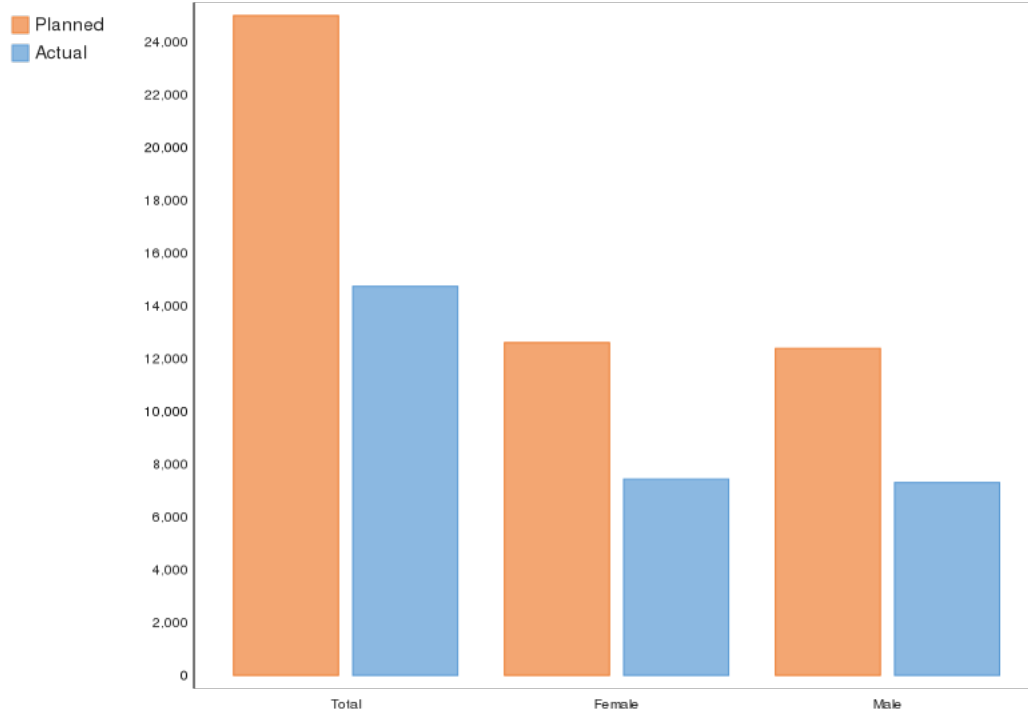
## Project Activities

The project duration -originally planned for one month- was extended by two months, as security issues delayed operations in Haiti. Therefore, project activities were carried out over three months.

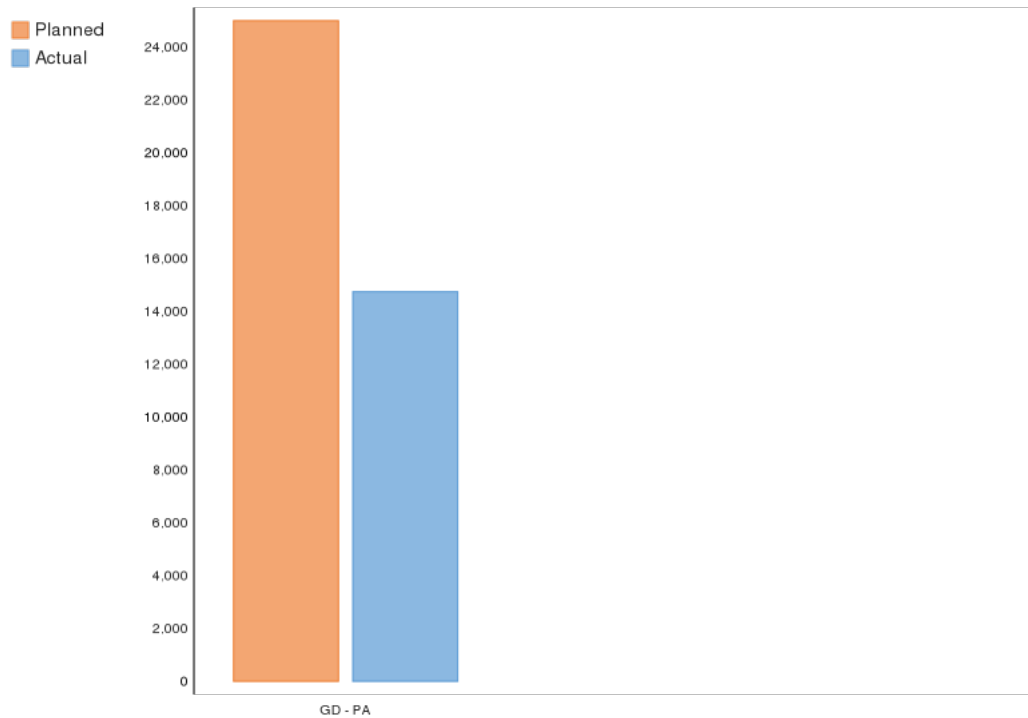
- **In Haiti**, WFP deployed an emergency surge team composed of staff from the WFP Regional Bureau. High-Energy Biscuits (HEBs) were airlifted from WFP's Dubai Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) to be further distributed to very remote areas inaccessible by road. Moreover, WFP dispatched fully equipped accommodation units, tarpaulins and visibility material from the Panama UNHRD in support of WFP staff on the ground. WFP also used the services of Flowminder — a non-profit organization that provides data analysis to improve public health and welfare in low and middle-income countries — to track population movements and mobile phone usage in Haiti's most affected areas.
- **Cuba** also received support. WFP dispatched mobile storage units from the Panama UNHRD to the most affected municipalities in the province of Guantanamo. Several field missions were carried out to support national authorities during the assistance planning and food distribution.
- At the outset of the emergency, the WFP Regional Bureau also purchased satellite phones, ICT devices and beneficiary registration kits (SCOPE [1]) to provide further assistance to the hurricane-affected countries.

[1] SCOPE is an innovative digital platform for beneficiary registration recently launched by WFP.

Annual Project Beneficiaries

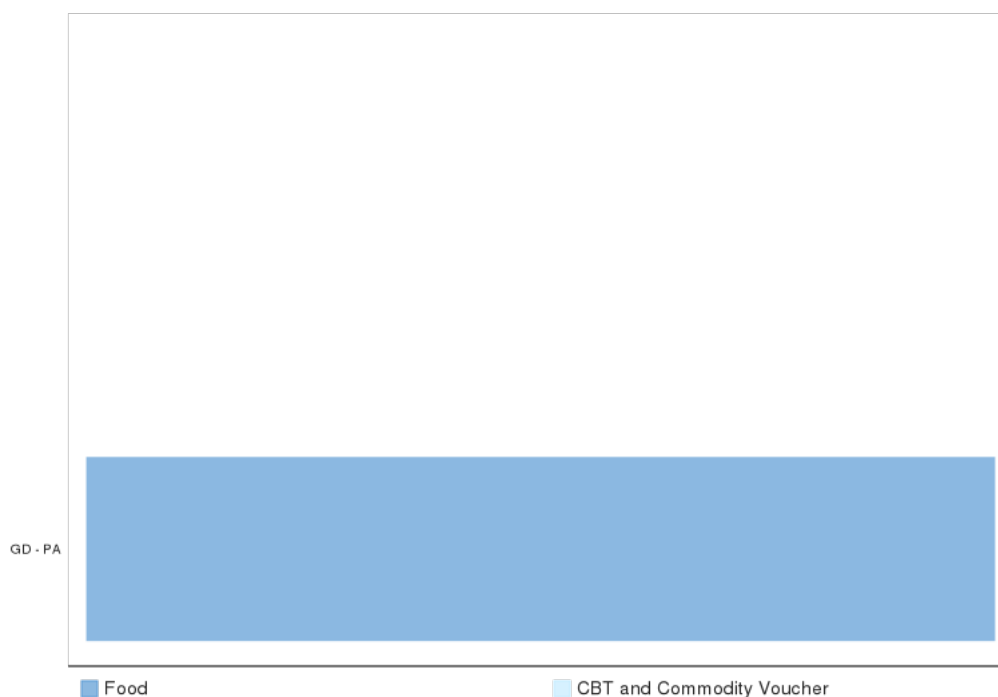


Annual Project Beneficiaries by Activity



GD: General Distribution (GD)

Modality of Transfer by Activity



GD: General Distribution (GD)



## Annual Project Food Distribution

Commodity	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual v. Planned
<b>Food Transfer-Panama</b>			
High Energy Biscuits	30	30	100.0%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## Operational Partnerships

Under the WFP private sector partnership with the United Parcel Service (UPS) to support operations worldwide, UPS provided free air transportation for 30 mt of High Energy Biscuits, which were airlifted from the WFP's Dubai Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) to Haiti. UPS support greatly benefited the overall emergency response, allowing for a more efficient use of funds and for a swift replenishment of the Immediate Response Account (IRA).

In **Cuba**, WFP worked in close collaboration with the Government, complementing the national emergency assistance. This allowed to quickly reach affected people and address their basic needs. The mobile storage units provided by WFP were key in ensuring the storage of food, medicines and other essential products of the emergency response, since the great majority of warehouses were destroyed. In addition, WFP worked jointly with the Cuban Government to conduct field visits to the most affected areas, providing technical support during the food assistance planning and distribution.

The services provided by UNHRD ensured a rapid mobilization of non-food items to both Cuba and Haiti, allowing WFP to provide prompt logistical support to governments and other humanitarian actors. In Cuba, the UNHRD air cargo that dispatched the mobile storage units was also used to transport water and sanitation materials donated by UNICEF for the emergency response. This was a successful example of UN inter-agency collaboration.

## Results/Outcomes

Despite the challenges of coordinating a multi-country emergency, WFP succeeded in providing swift assistance to populations affected by Hurricane Matthew in Haiti and Cuba.

- In **Haiti**, WFP deployed an emergency surge team composed of ten experts from the Panama Regional Bureau that provided key support to the country office in coordinating the emergency response, including food assistance management, supply chain processes and collaboration with other humanitarian actors. The team was equipped with ICT devices to ensure regular information flow among staff deployed to the field and with the Panama Regional Bureau. WFP distributed thirty mt of High-Energy Biscuits (HEBs) to over 2,900 affected households, mainly by helicopter, prioritising the very remote areas of South and Grande Anse departments where road access was interrupted. In order to ensure assistance to the most affected populations, the HEB ration was increased from three to five days, complementing the relief provided by WFP under the PRRO. Hence, the number of beneficiaries reached was lower than expected. The work of WFP staff deployed to Haiti was supported with two accommodation units - fully equipped with ancillaries, generators and lighting - as well as tarpaulins and visibility materials, allowing them to provide adequate assistance to the Government and other humanitarian actors. The infrastructural damages caused by Hurricane Matthew posed serious challenges to information gathering, especially in Haiti. Hence, the services provided by the non-profit organisation Flowminder were key in tracking the population movements that took place after the hurricane, informing WFP programmatic decisions and identifying the most appropriate assistance mechanisms.
- In **Cuba**, WFP dispatched five mobile storage units to the municipalities of Baracoa and Maisi in Guantanamo province. These items enabled local authorities to store food coming from damaged government warehouses, as well as WFP donations, ensuring adequate protection to these commodities. Staff from the Cuba country office carried out several missions to the field in coordination with national and local authorities to accompany the operation start-up phase, providing logistic assistance and support on planning food distribution.
- The purchase of other non-food items (SCOPE registration kits, satellite phones and ICT devices) by the Regional Bureau provided valuable support to the country offices in planning their emergency response.

## Supply Chain

As the thirty mt of High-Energy Biscuits for Haiti were purchased and dispatched from stocks of the WFP Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) in Dubai, no further procurement of food commodities was needed. The purchase of non-food items (mobile storage units, accommodation units and other accessories) was also carried through the Panama UNHRD, reducing costs and transactions. Finally, the ICT equipment -including SCOPE registration kits and communication devices- provided to the WFP emergency surge team, were purchased from local, regional and international suppliers.

## Annual Global Commodity Management Facility Purchases Received for the Project (mt)

Commodity	Total
High Energy Biscuits	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>

## Implementation of Evaluation Recommendations and Lessons Learned

No external or internal evaluations were conducted on this operation. However, various lessons learned were identified.

- The deployment of WFP staff (on a no-regrets basis) to climate shock-affected countries was key in supporting country offices at the onset of the emergency. Country offices could benefit from immediate technical expertise in programme management and logistics, enhancing response effectiveness.
- The presence of the WFP Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) in Panama constitutes an added value for the region, as it ensures swift dispatch of non-food items to Latin American and Caribbean countries. WFP should periodically review available UNHRD stocks to be better equipped in the event of an emergency.
- The decision-making process on the type of assistance to be provided (food or non-food) should be conducted within the first week after the emergency (also on a no-regrets basis), to ensure adequate time is allocated to logistical arrangements and to contribute to a more effective response.

## Innovative population movement tracking system in Haiti

As the passage of Hurricane Matthew caused severe damages to infrastructures, access to information was difficult in Haiti. The non-profit organisation Flowminder - which had already collaborated with WFP on previous occasions - provided its services to WFP to estimate the number of beneficiaries in need of assistance. Moreover, Flowminder identified those areas with high concentration of displaced people. With this information, WFP was able to swiftly acknowledge that approximately 260,500 people had been displaced in Grande Anse, Sud and Nippes. This analysis provided crucial support to WFP in the beneficiary targeting process for the emergency response.

Further reports shared by Flowminder provided an estimated figure of mobile phone usage in the affected areas -before and after the hurricane. This strongly supported WFP in choosing the most appropriate transfer mechanism.

The information provided by Flowminder during the hurricane proved to be valuable not only during the emergency response but also for future activities, including the feasibility assessment of implementing mobile beneficiary feedback mechanisms and its multiple scenarios (i.e. sms, smartphone, interactive voice response).



# Figures and Indicators

## Data Notes

**Cover page photo: High Energy Biscuits distribution in Village Rampart.**

*Village Rampart, Chardonnières (South Department, Haiti).* Hurricane-affected vulnerable populations are receiving High Energy Biscuits (HEB), wheat-based biscuits, fortified in vitamin and minerals, which provide a quick solution to improve the level of nutrition. HEBs have been transported by helicopter to this remote area of the country.

Photo: ©WFP/ Irene Pazzano

## Overview of Project Beneficiary Information

**Table 1: Overview of Project Beneficiary Information**

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Total Beneficiaries	12,390	12,610	25,000	7,305	7,435	14,740	59.0%	59.0%	59.0%
Total Beneficiaries (Food Transfer-Panama)	12,390	12,610	25,000	7,305	7,435	14,740	59.0%	59.0%	59.0%
<b>Food Transfer-Panama</b>									
<b>By Age-group:</b>									
Children (under 5 years)	1,500	1,445	2,945	884	852	1,736	58.9%	59.0%	58.9%
Children (5-18 years)	4,115	4,000	8,115	2,426	2,358	4,784	59.0%	59.0%	59.0%
Adults (18 years plus)	6,775	7,165	13,940	3,995	4,225	8,220	59.0%	59.0%	59.0%
<b>By Residence status:</b>									
Residents	12,390	12,610	25,000	7,305	7,435	14,740	59.0%	59.0%	59.0%

## Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity and Modality

**Table 2: Beneficiaries by Activity and Modality**

Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
<b>Food Transfer-Panama</b>									
General Distribution (GD)	25,000	-	25,000	14,740	-	14,740	59.0%	-	59.0%

## Annex: Participants by Activity and Modality

Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
<b>Food Transfer-Panama</b>									
General Distribution (GD)	5,000	-	5,000	2,948	-	2,948	59.0%	-	59.0%

## Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity (excluding nutrition)

**Table 3: Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity (excluding nutrition)**

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
<b>Food Transfer-Panama</b>									
<b>General Distribution (GD)</b>									
People participating in general distributions	2,480	2,520	5,000	1,462	1,486	2,948	59.0%	59.0%	59.0%
Total participants	2,480	2,520	5,000	1,462	1,486	2,948	59.0%	59.0%	59.0%
Total beneficiaries	12,390	12,610	25,000	7,305	7,435	14,740	59.0%	59.0%	59.0%

## Resource Inputs from Donors

### Resource Inputs from Donors

Donor	Cont. Ref. No.	Commodity	Purchased in 2016 (mt)	
			In-Kind	Cash
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	High Energy Biscuits	-	30
		<b>Total</b>	-	<b>30</b>