

**COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN REVISION FOR APPROVAL BY ED**

**TRANSMITTAL SLIP – FOR SIGNATURES**

**Central African Republic Interim Country Strategic Plan 2018-2020, Revision N°2**

7) To:	Division	Room	Approval and Date
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. David M. Beasley Executive Director <input type="checkbox"/> OIC	OED	6G30	
6) Released for Approval:	Division	Room	Signature and Date
Mr. Amir Abdulla Deputy Executive Director	DED	6G60	
5) Through:	Division	Room	Signature and Date
Mr. Rehan Asad Chief of Staff	CS	6G36	
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Ms. Elisabeth Rasmusson Assistant Executive Director	PG	6G72	
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2) Through:	Division	Room	Signature and Date
Ms. Valerie Guarnieri Assistant Executive Director	OS	6G62	
1) From:	Regional Bureau	Signature and Date	
Mr. Abdou Dieng Regional Director	RBD		
I have reviewed the revised ICSP/Emergency Addendum and confirm that it meets the required standard, including appropriate response to the internal review process. I recommend approval of this revision.			

**Changes**

<u>Strategic Outcome</u>	<u>Focus Area</u>	<u>Modality</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Addition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crisis Response	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transfer Value
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Resilience Building	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CBT	<input type="checkbox"/> Revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transfer Cost
<input type="checkbox"/> Deletion	<input type="checkbox"/> Root causes	<input type="checkbox"/> CS	<input type="checkbox"/> Deletion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implementation Cost
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SD		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adjusted DSC

## REVISION – FOR APPROVAL

### Central African Republic Interim Country Strategic Plan 2018-2020, Revision N°2

Gender marker code: 2A | as per EB-approved ICSP

	Current	Change	Revised
<b>Duration</b>	<i>01/01/2018 – 31/12/2020</i>	<i>1/4/2018 – 31/12/2018</i>	<i>01/01/2018 – 31/12/2020</i>
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	<b>1 287 082</b>	<b>373 000</b>	<b>1 660 082</b>
<b>Total Cost (USD)</b>	<b>287 449 863</b>	<b>47 416 412</b>	<b>334 866 275</b>
Transfer	228 067 469	36 766 519	264 833 988
Implementation	27 573 510	4 785 068	32 358 578
Adjusted direct support costs	14 264 996	2 970 865	17 235 861
Subtotal	269 905 974	44 522 452	314 428 427
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)	17 543 888	2 893 959	20 437 848

## 1. RATIONALE

1. Central African Republic (CAR) has been facing an upsurge of violence since April 2017 in the central-eastern and eastern provinces of Haute-Kotto, Basse-Kotto, Mbomou and Haut-Mbomou. Recently the conflicts have also continued to spread in the northwest regions of Ouham and Ouham-Pendé, which had previously been spared from bloodshed. Competition between rival armed groups for domination of natural resources, transhumance routes and supply corridors has resulted in further destabilisation of regions that had previously been relatively calm.
2. In the absence of the state and its services, the security situation has been progressively deteriorating, resulting in waves of internally displaced persons (IDPs) seeking protection and assistance. Women and other vulnerable groups remain highly exposed to various forms of violence. According to the 2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview,<sup>1</sup> insecurity and poor living conditions in IDP sites have exacerbated the risks of gender-based violence (GBV). Between July and August 2017, 10 percent of registered GBV incidents occurred in IDP sites. This is a 50 percent increase compared to the average of the six preceding months.
3. To date, the crisis has led to the displacement of 700,000 people, of which 55 percent are women and girls, across the country<sup>2</sup> and to a further 535,000 CAR refugees, of which 52 percent are women and girls, in neighboring countries.<sup>3</sup> WFP will continue analyzing gender dynamics through food security assessments to provide tailored assistance to specific targeted groups, including women and girls. Furthermore, beneficiary selection for activities under the present ICSP is informed by gender analyses. Women and children – and households headed by women – represent the majority of beneficiaries. Programmes also include activities targeted towards specific groups; for example, assistance that aims to enhance women's capacities and skills through trainings and FFA activities.
4. Compared to January 2017, there is an increase of 73 percent in the total number of IDPs. The influx of new IDPs continues to put additional strain on host communities who are already living in very poor conditions and increases tensions between communities due to the pressure on limited available resources. There is also a huge presence of factors aggravating malnutrition in the remote rural localities where the IDPs and host populations are living.<sup>4</sup> Livelihood opportunities are almost inexistent for the targeted populations, who are fully relying on WFP's assistance to meet their basic food needs.

<sup>1</sup> OCHA; 2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview, November 2017.

<sup>2</sup> *Commission Mouvement de Population*, January 2018.

<sup>3</sup> Inter-agency information portal for the regional response to the Central African Republic refugee crisis. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). 2017.

<sup>4</sup> Ministry of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation, OCHA, PAM, UNICEF, UNHCR; Humanitarian Needs Overview; January 2018.

5. The preliminary results of the National Food Security Assessment carried out in December 2017 informed that 45 percent (2 million) of the population is food insecure, including 10 percent facing severe food insecurity compared to 6 percent in 2016. The assessment also noted that 68 percent of IDP households and 39 percent of host community households have poor or borderline food consumption. Women-headed households in rural localities (57 percent) are more exposed to food insecurity.
6. IDPs' livelihoods are severely affected by insecurity due to the loss of productive assets and limited access to agricultural land in displacement zones (63 percent do not have access to agricultural land). 90 percent of IDPs do not own livestock compared to 74 percent of host populations. Furthermore, IDP households are seeking refuge in temporary structures with limited access to essential public services, which increases the likelihood that vulnerable displaced populations are resorting to crisis or emergency coping strategies (currently at 54 percent).
7. According to the localized SMART evaluations conducted in Zemio and Obo (Haut Mbomou prefecture) in July and August 2017, respectively, the prevalence of Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) among children aged 6 to 59 months was at 7.2 in Zemio and 7 percent in Obo.<sup>5</sup> The prevalence of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) was at 5.4 percent in both localities. In addition, the limited availability of basic services (e.g. health and potable water) and adequate sanitation and hygiene in the IDP sites and in the host communities constitutes a major risk to the nutritional situation among the most vulnerable groups, including children 6 to 23 months, pregnant and lactating women and girls, and people with disability.

## 2. CHANGES

8. The proposed budget revision, which covers only 2018, aims to increase the resources needed to respond efficiently and rapidly to the additional humanitarian needs resulting from the resurgence of armed conflicts in many hotspots across the country (including Bria, Alindao, Bangassou, Zemio, and more recently in Paoua). The response will be channelled primarily through the augmentation of Activity 1 (provision of general food distributions, nutritious food and/or cash transfers to refugees, IDPs, returnees and crisis-affected host communities), as well as Activity 3 (Blanket Supplementary Feeding (BSF) for children aged 6 to 23 months).
9. The revision also includes a new activity (Activity 12 under Strategic Outcome 5) for the provision of logistics services to the Global Fund's Malaria, Tuberculosis and HIV Programmes. This high-profile operation is in line with key global initiatives, such as 'The Grand Bargain,' 'Delivering as One' and the 'SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals.' The service is provided under the umbrella of the WFP-Global Fund Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

### Strategic orientation

10. WFP's strategic orientation remains unchanged as per the approved Interim Country Strategic Plan 2018-2020. WFP will continue to support the implementation of the National Peace and Recovery Plan (RCPCA) 2017-2021, to work toward Zero Hunger by providing technical support to strengthen the national capacities on social protection, and to closely collaborate with partners (UN agencies, NGOs and communities) around the five interlinked strategic outcomes of the ICSP 2018-2020:
  - Strategic Outcome 1: *Crisis-affected households and communities in targeted areas can meet their basic food and nutrition needs both during and in the aftermath of crises;*
  - Strategic Outcome 2: *Vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, children, pregnant and lactating women and girls, and malnourished ART patients living in target regions, have an improved nutritional status in line with national targets by 2020;*

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<sup>5</sup> MSF Holland; *Evaluation nutritionnelle rapide à Zemio*; July 2017

- Strategic Outcome 3: *Food-insecure women and men living in targeted areas have enhanced livelihoods to support the food security and nutrition needs of their households and communities by 2020;*
  - Strategic Outcome 4: *National and subnational institutions have strengthened capacities to establish an adequate social protection system and manage food security and nutrition policies and programmes by 2020; and*
  - Strategic Outcome 5: *Humanitarian community (partners and donors) have enhanced capacity to reach and operate in areas of humanitarian crisis all year-round.*
11. WFP has five field offices (Bouar, Paoua, Bossangoa, Kaga Bandoro and Bambari) covering the geographical band from West to Centre-North. With the objective of providing timely delivery of food assistance and of being much closer to the theatre of central-east operations, WFP is also opening a new field office in Bria (Haute-Kotto).
  12. Surge teams of international professional and national staff will be based in field offices in order to strengthen delivery capacities in the functional areas of logistics, security and operations. To attract international staff, WFP has significantly improved the living and working conditions at field level by reconstructing or renewing its offices and guest house premises.
  13. WFP has also established a ready-to-intervene WFP Food Distribution Team, an agile and mobile structure capable of intervening in sites with conflict dynamics where the cooperating partners are unable to provide the needed capacity. The team is composed of WFP staff (Food Aid Monitors and Programme Assistants) and based in Bangui, to be deployed to all localities across the country as necessary.
  14. Warehousing capacity will be increased at the field level in order to timely and regularly pre-position the required quantity of foods. An additional corridor from Kampala (Uganda) has been opened to supply the south-east provinces in Central African Republic.
  15. In addition, WFP will support the Ministry of Health through a Logistics Service Provision which will ensure the management of the Global Fund's health supply chain, including the reception, warehousing/storage and the delivery of pharmaceutical products to more than 800 distribution points across the country (new Activity 12).

### **Beneficiary analysis**

16. Through this budget revision, in 2018, WFP will gradually increase the number of beneficiaries under Activity 1 (unconditional resource transfers) from 241,000 to 614,000 (60 percent increase). It will also increase the number of children aged 6 to 23 months from 25,000 to 62,300. These are targeted under Activity 3 to receive Blanket Supplementary Feeding in localities where the risk of malnutrition remains high among targeted children due to a lack of basic social services and poor living conditions. These additional vulnerable people have been identified through various assessments conducted by the Government (Ministry of Humanitarian Action), UN agencies and NGOs in the conflict-affected localities.<sup>6</sup> These increases are reported each month by the *Commission Mouvement de Population*, a government-chaired structure.

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<sup>6</sup> Ministry of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation, OCHA, PAM, UNICEF, UNHCR; Humanitarian needs overview; op. cite.

Strategic Outcome	Activity	Current			Increase / Decrease			Revised		
		Boys / Men	Girls / Women	Total	Boys / Men	Girls / Women	Total	Boys / Men	Girls / Women	Total
Strategic Outcome 1	Activity 1	341 634	385 247	726 881	175 531	197 469	373 000	517 165	582 716	1 099 881
	Activity 2	113 748	128 271	242 019				113 748	128 271	242 019
Strategic Outcome 2	Activity 3	16 997	19 167	36 163	17 553	19 747	37 300	34 550	38 914	73 464
	Activity 4	19 911	61 335	81 247				19 911	61 335	81 247
	Activity 5									
	Activity 6	17 127	19 311	36 438				17 127	19 311	36 438
Strategic Outcome 3	Activity 7	130 308	146 943	277 252				130 308	146 943	277 252
Strategic Outcome 4	Activity 8									
	Activity									
Strategic Outcome 5	Activity 10									
	Activity 11									
	Activity 12									
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>639 726</b>	<b>760 274</b>	<b>1 400 000</b>	<b>193 084</b>	<b>217 216</b>	<b>410 300</b>	<b>832 810</b>	<b>977 490</b>	<b>1 810 300</b>
<b>Total (without overlap)</b>		<b>588 128</b>	<b>698 954</b>	<b>1 287 082</b>	<b>175 531</b>	<b>197 469</b>	<b>373 000</b>	<b>763 659</b>	<b>896 423</b>	<b>1 660 082</b>

### Transfers

17. The ration scales for in-kind food transfers and the voucher value will remain the same as per the approved ICSP. However, due to the deterioration of the security situation in and around many localities, trading and market capacities have also been negatively affected. In 2018, WFP will therefore not be in a position to expand the CBT modality at the pace initially planned, and the CBT planned budget has been reduced accordingly in this Budget Revision. WFP will continue prioritizing in-kind food assistance in Bambari, Zemio and Paoua.

Food type / cash-based transfer	Current Budget		Increase		Revised Budget	
	Total (mt)	Total (US\$)	Total (mt)	Total (US\$)	Total (mt)	Total (US\$)
Cereals	57,241.86	21,005,471	20,947.50	9,269,000	78,189.36	30,274,471
Pulses	16,000.52	9,079,205	5,386.50	3,477,425	21,387.02	12,556,630
Oil and Fats	6,045.03	5,183,501	2,094.75	2,257,945	8,139.78	7,441,445
Mixed and Blended Foods	11,053.08	8,126,005	5,216.54	3,748,352	16,269.62	11,874,357
Other	1,040.00	168,495	299.25	55,452	1,339.25	223,947
<b>TOTAL (food)</b>	<b>91,380.58</b>	<b>43,562,677</b>	<b>33,944.54</b>	<b>18,808,173</b>	<b>125,325.03</b>	<b>62,370,850</b>
Cash-Based Transfers (US\$)		57,415,006		3,236,760		54,178,246
<b>TOTAL (food and CBT value – US\$)</b>	<b>91,380.58</b>	<b>100,977,683</b>	<b>33,944.54</b>	<b>15,571,413</b>	<b>125,325.03</b>	<b>116,549,096</b>

## Supply Chain

18. To increase the supply chain capacities and ensure a scaled-up response, the Country Office is taking a series of measures:
- WFP will advocate with the MINUSCA Force and increase its coordination efforts within the CIMCOORD to augment the provision of security escorts for food convoys across the country.
  - WFP will explore the possibility of maximising the use of the Global Commodity Management Facility (GCMF) stocks and regional purchases, including GCMF, to achieve leverage over traders in Cameroon to receive Long Term Food Supply Agreements with them, thereby shortening the lead time its supply line. All actors throughout the Douala corridor, including Transit Agents and Customs Officers, will be further mobilised to reach an optimal transit time of four weeks (from the Douala port/Cameroon sourcing location to the CAR warehouses).
  - In-country purchases will also be prioritized, particularly in the western regions (Nana Mambere and Ouham Pendé). WFP will purchase from women's agricultural production groups in order to increase their financial capacity and enhance their participation in the decision-making process both at community and household levels. A reviewed purchasing strategy will also be made available to explore the expansion of commercial opportunities.
  - To align the transport capacity with the increased food tonnage to deliver country-wide, WFP will continue working on the local transport market to identify new operators and will evaluate new international private companies willing to establish operations in CAR. A reconfiguration of WFP's truck fleet is also envisaged through the addition of heavy duty 6X6 or 8X8 trucks, suitable to CAR conditions, and by dismissing the old 6X4 trucks.
  - WFP will adopt the air transport modality as the last resort to cover hard-to-reach areas (hotspots). The pre-positioning strategy will be reviewed to augment local storage capacity (at least a two-month food pre-positioning) in each sub office and in key identified hotspots where security and partner capacity permit. WFP mobile storage units will be expanded in Kaga-Bandoro, Bambari and Bouar, or they will be set up in the locations of Obo, Alindao and Bangassou. Partners' logistic capacity will be reinforced through targeted trainings on food storage procedures and handling.
  - In relation to the new activity 12 (Global Fund's health supply chain service), dedicated solutions will be devised for the temperature-controlled transport and storage of health commodities. The creation of dedicated storage infrastructure and the recruitment of a dedicated/skilled supply chain team are the current first steps of this new project. The operational assessment phase has already started and a dedicated team will develop the operational plan for this service provision project.

## Other considerations

19. The rapid increase in the number of IDPs, particularly in Paoua (prefecture of Ouham Pendé), where resilience activities were being implemented by WFP, has jeopardized initial planning figures. In this context, WFP is forced to reallocate resources planned for longer-term development activities, such as school meals and resilience programmes, to now provide emergency assistance to 614,000 people. Despite this, WFP started 2018 with rations reduced to 50 percent, in an effort to reach every internally displaced person with the scant resources available. Further reductions are foreseen up to March.
20. Considering the volatile context in CAR and in line with WFP's capacity strengthening strategy defined in the ICSP 2018-2020, WFP had started to reinforce its footprint in remote and hard-to reach localities. WFP established strong partnerships with NGOs demonstrating adequate capacities (experienced staff, storage capacity, complementary resources) and has,

to the extent possible, ensured, through the cluster coordination mechanism, that its activities are implemented in complementarity with other stakeholders' interventions.

21. A data collection system using mobile phones (mVAM) was established to monitor food security trends in some of the remote localities through food prices, the perception of key informants on the progress of agricultural activities, access to markets, admission trends in nutritional structures and the challenges to access food. This further provides indications on potential risks and shows the need for further in-depth assessments in order to timely intervene and/or adjust ongoing interventions.
22. Insecurity remains the main challenge for the implementation of the activities. To mitigate this situation, WFP continues to update its risk assessment matrix and related Minimum and Advanced Preparedness Actions. WFP also fully complies with the United Nations Department for Security and Safety (UNDSS) recommendations.
23. The evidence-based programming approach using information drawn from gender-responsive monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems will be maintained. WFP will also continue to improve its monitoring tools by increasing the number of monitors and by expanding the use of smartphones for data collection to enhance reporting processes. The monitoring tools are being progressively digitalized.

### 3. COST BREAKDOWN

24. The proposed budget increase for 2018 totals USD 47,416,412. Changes relate to two existing activities and the addition of one new activity. The two existing activities are Activity 1 under Strategic Outcome 1 (Unconditional Resources Transfers) and Activity 3 under Strategic Outcome 2 (Blanket Supplementary Feeding). The new activity called for by the Global Fund project (activity 12, under Strategic Outcome 5) is already fully funded through a dedicated budget of almost 2.7 million USD.

COST BREAKDOWN OF THE REVISION VALUE ONLY (US\$)						
WFP Strategic Results / SDG Targets	SR 1	SR 2	SR 3	SR 5	SR 8	TOTAL
WFP Strategic Outcomes	Strategic Outcome 1	Strategic Outcome 2	Strategic Outcome 3	Strategic Outcome 4	Strategic Outcome 5	
Forcus Area	CRISIS RESPONSE	RESILIENCE BUILDING	RESILIENCE BUILDING	ROOT CAUSES	CRISIS RESPONSE	
<b>Transfer</b>	33,082,508	2,194,286	- 815,028	-	2,304,753	36,766,519
<b>Implementation</b>	3,536,841	532,552	-	-	715,675	4,785,068
<b>Adjusted DSC</b>						2,970,865
<b>Sub-total</b>						44,522,452
<b>ISC</b>						2,893,959
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>47,416,412</b>

25. Overall, an increase of USD 47,416,412 to activities 1, 3 and 12 covers the implementation and transfer cost component of those activities. This reflects an increased food requirement of 33,944 mt (mainly for activity 1). Furthermore, USD 2,970,865 has been budgeted to support the operational scale-up in staffing requirements and implementation. USD 2,893,959 has been added as ISC.

<b>OVERALL CSP COST BREAKDOWN, FOLLOWING THE REVISION (US\$)</b>						
<b>WFP Strategic Results / SDG Targets</b>	<b>SR 1</b>	<b>SR 2</b>	<b>SR 3</b>	<b>SR 5</b>	<b>SR 8</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>WFP Strategic Outcomes</b>	<b>Strategic Outcome 1</b>	<b>Strategic Outcome 2</b>	<b>Strategic Outcome 3</b>	<b>Strategic Outcome 4</b>	<b>Strategic Outcome 5</b>	
<b>Focus Area</b>	<b>CRISIS RESPONSE</b>	<b>RESILIENCE BUILDING</b>	<b>RESILIENCE BUILDING</b>	<b>ROOT CAUSES</b>	<b>CRISIS RESPONSE</b>	
<b>Transfer</b>	161,735,128	19,449,067	37,059,388	1,269,774	45,320,632	264,833,988
<b>Implementation</b>	20,410,432	3,496,364	69,338	18,000	8,364,444	32,358,578
<b>Adjusted DSC (%)</b>	10,612,193	1,321,445	2,127,422	74,580	3,100,220	17,235,861
<b>Sub-total</b>	192,757,753	24,266,876	39,256,148	1,362,354	56,785,296	314,428,427
<b>ISC</b>	12,529,254	1,577,347	2,551,650	88,553	3,691,044	20,437,848
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>205,287,007</b>	<b>25,844,223</b>	<b>41,807,798</b>	<b>1,450,907</b>	<b>60,476,340</b>	<b>334,866,275</b>

26. The current ICSP budget requires 98 million USD for 2018. It is currently funded for a total of USD 37.8 million for the programmatic activities (activities 1-7 under SDG2) and at USD 4.3 million for the service-related activities (activities 10-11 SDG17).

27. Currently high forecast pledges for 2018 total USD 9.8 million. Those include:

- For GFD: USD 1 million from Switzerland; USD 1.8 million from ECHO
- For P4P: USD 1.2 million from DEVCO
- For UNHAS air services: USD 3 million from USA (OFDA); USD 1 million from USA (PRM); and USD 1.8 million from ECHO.

28. The new Activity 12 for the provision of health supply chain services is fully-funded by the Global Fund for the value of USD 2.7 million.

29. WFP will continue to proactively engage and renew its partnerships with existing donors to gain the needed support for the proposed scale-up intervention. In February WFP traditional key donors such as USAID and ECHO were approached.

30. A detailed donor and partner mapping exercise will be undertaken with the Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator to explore new opportunities. An appeal letter was circulated among the extensive network of CAR donors in February 2018.

31. A dedicated IR-BR loan of USD 1.5 million has been recently requested to address the specific emergency situation in Paoua Ouham Pendé.

**APPROVED BY**

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 David M. Beasley  
 Executive Director, WFP

Date: .....