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Operational matters – Projects approved by correspondence
For information

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Revision of Ethiopia protracted relief and recovery operation 200712 and budget increase

	Current	Increase	Revised
Duration	36 months (Jul 2015– Jun 2018)	6-month extension (Jul–Dec 2018)	42 months (Jul 2015– Dec 2018)
Beneficiaries	14 363 227	7 269 960	14 480 392
(USD)			
Total cost	1 354 263 236	226 218 680	1 580 481 916
Transfer	1 131 076 180	189 440 930	1 320 517 110
Implementation	23 952 603	4 868 099	28 820 702
Adjusted direct support costs	111 350 984	18 102 877	129 453 861
Subtotal	1 266 379 767	212 411 906	1 478 791 673
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)	87 883 469	13 806 774	101 690 243

Gender and age marker* 2A

* <http://gender.manuals.wfp.org/en/gender-toolkit/gender-in-programming/gender-and-age-marker/>

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Decision

The Board approved by correspondence the revision of Ethiopia protracted relief and recovery operation 200712, "Responding to humanitarian crises and transitioning food-insecure groups to more resilient strategies", to, inter alia, extend its end date by six months, from July to 31 December 2018, and approved a corresponding increase in the operation's budget in the amount of USD 226,218,680.

29 June 2018

Rationale

1. This revision of Ethiopia protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 200712, "Responding to humanitarian crises and transitioning food-insecure groups to more resilient strategies", will enhance the relief response under the operation in 2018 in view of persistent drought conditions and extend the operation through the end of December 2018 to allow time for the completion of a national zero hunger strategic review and the preparation of a country strategic plan with implementation due to start in January 2019.
2. PRRO 200712 contributes to government programmes that address emergency food needs, transitory and structural food insecurity and malnutrition. It does so by:
 - providing short-term food assistance for households in acute emergencies;
 - addressing moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) among children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls;
 - supporting the Government's current productive safety net programme and supporting long-term beneficiaries of "chronic relief" as they shift to a new productive safety net programme (PSNP 4);
 - implementing activities to prevent MAM, chronic malnutrition and stunting among children aged 6–23 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls;
 - implementing crop and livestock insurance programmes through the insurance for assets mechanism with a view to strengthening resilience to climate-change-related shocks in communities and rural households; and
 - supporting the supply chain management capacity of the Government and the private sector in order to facilitate better preparation for and response to future emergencies.

Changes

3. Ethiopia continues to face severe drought conditions: half of the country is still affected by protracted drought, especially in the southern belt and eastern areas. The southern and southeastern parts of the country are expected to receive below normal rains during the *belg* season, with increased likelihood of dry spells and poor rainfall distribution. As a result, the *belg* season, which is the main season in these areas, will bring lower than normal crop harvests and reduced water and pastures for livestock.

4. According to the 2018 humanitarian and disaster resilience plan (HDRP),¹ 7.9 million people – 49 percent of whom are men and boys, and 51 percent women and girls – in ten regions will need emergency food assistance in 2018,² particularly in southern and southeastern parts of the country, where household livelihood sources were heavily affected by previous droughts.
5. Since the last quarter of 2017, the humanitarian situation in Ethiopia has been exacerbated by an upsurge in conflict in the border areas of Somali and Oromia regions. The conflict has resulted in the internal displacement of hundreds of thousands of people, many of whom are in areas where drought-related humanitarian needs are already high. According to the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) and the displacement tracking matrix of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), between 857,000 and 1.1 million people have been displaced, the majority of whom are women and children. These numbers are updated monthly.
6. The nutrition situation in Ethiopia is likely to deteriorate in 2018. According to the “hotspot classification” of January 2018, there are 229 “priority 1 hotspot” *woredas*, 83 of which are in Somali Region. The 2018 HDRP projects that a total of approximately 3.4 million children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls will need treatment for MAM and approximately 350,000 children will need treatment for severe acute malnutrition (SAM). In 99 *woredas* of Somali Region alone, approximately 90,000 children aged 6–59 months will need SAM treatment and 441,000 children aged 6–59 months and 332,000 pregnant and lactating women and girls will need MAM treatment. In addition, the border conflict between Oromia and Somali regions increases the risk of malnutrition and food insecurity. Increased admissions to SAM and MAM treatment services were already registered in late 2017 in some of the *woredas* hosting large numbers of internally displaced persons in Somali and Oromia regions.
7. It is likely that the supply chain systems for delivering large-scale public assistance programmes in Ethiopia will be under further stress in 2018.

Purpose of the PRRO revision and corresponding budget increase

8. In line with the 2018 HDRP, in 2018 WFP will increase the planned number of beneficiaries of the relief intervention under the operation from the current 1.2 million³ to 1.8 million, with Somali Region accounting for all of the increase. WFP also plans to provide food assistance to 300,000 people who have been internally displaced by the Somali-Oromia conflict, increasing the number of assisted beneficiaries to 2.1 million. NDRMC and the Joint Emergency Operation Programme, which is managed by non-governmental organizations, will continue to cover the remaining part of the country in accordance with the 2018 HDRP. It is envisioned that relief interventions will gradually shift from unconditional to conditional assistance, depending on the assessed capacities of affected households to cover at least part of their food needs or on households’ participation in community-based asset creation. Women will be encouraged to join community relief committees and to play central roles in beneficiary targeting and food assistance activities.

¹ <https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/ethiopia-2018-humanitarian-and-disaster-resilience-plan>

² Afar, Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Dire Dawa, Gambela, Harari, Oromiya, Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region, Somali and Tigray.

³ revision number 4 to PRRO 200712 increased the number of relief beneficiaries from 628,000 to 1.2 million for the period from January to June 2018. This revision of the PRRO increases the number further, from 1.2 to 1.8 million, for the period from January to June 2018 and extends the duration of assistance for 1.8 million people from July to December 2018.

9. The Government of Ethiopia through NDRMC, WFP and the Joint Emergency Operation Programme are the three main partners providing food assistance, which contributes to three main humanitarian objectives (“pillars”): prevention and mitigation of emergencies; emergency preparedness and response ; and recovery and national systems strengthening.
10. The Government anticipates that it will have limited resources with which to serve PSNP beneficiaries in Somali and Afar regions. WFP will therefore increase its coverage from 600,000 people to 2.54 million in 2018. Transfer modalities will include in-kind food and cash-based transfers where local markets are functioning.
11. The country office has developed and committed to implementing a four-year country gender action plan to guide staff in implementing the WFP Gender Policy (2015–2020) and meeting WFP’s commitments to fostering gender equality and the empowerment of women. WFP will conduct a gender and age analysis in the third quarter of 2018 in consultation with other actors; findings and recommendations from the analysis will be incorporated into broader analyses of the overall humanitarian context in Ethiopia and the food and nutrition situation in order to provide better insight into the specific needs, roles, vulnerabilities, access to resources, coping strategies and capacities of women, men, girls and boys. Existing quantitative and qualitative information will be processed, analysed and packaged in ways that help programme officers to make informed programme decisions.
12. In 2018, the country office will start piloting the use of its complaint and feedback mechanism in selected projects and locations. A standard operating procedure for the mechanism was developed in December 2017 with the aim of supporting WFP operations in Ethiopia and ensuring accountability to affected populations. The pilot complaint and feedback mechanism comprises a hotline, community outreach agents and volunteers, a helpdesk and a database. Consideration of inequalities related to gender and age has been integrated into its design. The system will be used to assess and adjust targeting and ensure that WFP’s distribution and other systems are culturally appropriate and respectful in enabling equal access to and participation in assistance. It will also support the country office in decision making and addressing the grievances expressed by women, girls, men and boys.

Conflict-affected internally displaced persons

13. The latest report from IOM’s displacement tracking matrix shows that in Somali region approximately 461,000 people have been displaced by the conflict there, an increase of 21 percent since the previous report. These people will face food deficits resulting from their limited access to markets, land for cultivation, income generating activities and food. Most of the internally displaced persons live in precarious conditions and will be fully dependent on humanitarian assistance for the first half of 2018 at least. WFP will continue to provide general food distributions – 500 g of cereals, 50 g of pulses and 15 g of vegetable oil per person per day – to internally displaced persons in Somali region and nutrition support of 100 g of SuperCereal Plus per person per day to children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls in Oromia region. Emergency food and nutrition support for these people is likely to continue until they either return voluntarily to their areas of origin or are resettled in other areas within or outside the regions covered by WFP. NDRMC will continue to provide general food rations and cash-based assistance to internally displaced persons in Oromia region.
14. WFP plans to provide general food assistance to about 300,000 internally displaced persons in Somali region throughout 2018 because some households are reported to have lost all their assets, food stocks and livestock. Cash-based transfers will be considered where local markets are functioning.

Prevention of acute and chronic malnutrition

15. The Government of Somali Region, the United Nations Children's fund (UNICEF), the national Emergency Coordination Nutrition Unit and other nutrition partners have requested WFP to scale up or reprioritize the blanket supplementary feeding programme in priority 1 hotspot *woredas* in order to mitigate the alarming malnutrition situation in the region, where high numbers of SAM cases have been recorded in Dollo, Shebelle, Jarar, Afder, Korahey and Shabelle.
16. WFP plans to assist about 253,000 children aged 6–59 months and 123,000 pregnant and lactating women and girls in 45 priority 1 hotspot *woredas* in Somali region by providing them with SuperCereal Plus from January to March 2018. The blanket supplementary feeding programme provides an excellent platform for the dissemination of core messages related to hand-washing, exclusive breastfeeding, preparation and storage of SuperCereal Plus and mother-and-child care practices, including health seeking behaviour, and for monitoring mid-upper arm circumference among children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls, in close collaboration with UNICEF, the United Nations Population Fund and the Federal Ministry of Health. This activity will be complemented by other interventions provided through humanitarian clusters – for health, food security, protection and water, sanitation and hygiene – and aiming to address the underlying causes of malnutrition.
17. WFP also plans to assist 11,000 households – representing an estimated total of 47,300 people – through cash-based transfers with the aim of reducing chronic malnutrition by targeting children aged 6–23 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls. The scale and activities of the programme will remain the same as provided for under the previous PRRO revision. Planned activities include, but are not limited to, the provision of nutrition education on infant and young child feeding practices, healthy diets and reproductive health, and social and behaviour change communication.

Targeted supplementary feeding programme

18. Of the 3.4⁴ million children and pregnant and lactating women and girls in priority hotspot *woredas*, WFP will cover the needs of 2.2 million.⁵
19. WFP-supported MAM treatment is implemented through various channels and partners, the main one of which is NDPPC and its Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureau. WFP is currently working with the Federal Ministry of Health, NDPPC, UNICEF and other partners with a view to integrating the management of acute malnutrition into the health extension system. The integrated management of acute malnutrition refers to the routine provision of services that treat both MAM and SAM through the health system. Once integrated into the same health facilities as the outpatient therapeutic programme, the targeted supplementary feeding programme will provide routine nutrition screening with admission to malnutrition treatment when needed, specialized nutritious foods and monthly follow-up visits to monitor progress. In addition, community mobilization, social and behaviour change communication and the promotion of optimal infant and young child feeding

⁴ In Ethiopia, the number of SAM and MAM cases is calculated on the basis of seasonal food and nutrition security assessments conducted twice a year using secondary data. The prioritization of hotspots is also based on the findings of these assessments. Nutrition surveys, using for example the standardized monitoring and assessment of relief and transition (SMART) methodology, are not undertaken.

⁵ Internally displaced persons are not included in this figure, which refers to the beneficiaries of regular targeted supplementary feeding programmes. In addition, WFP will provide nutrition assistance to 554,769 internally displaced children and pregnant and lactating women and girls receiving MAM treatment, 375,000 beneficiaries of blanket supplementary feeding and 47,300 beneficiaries of the fresh food voucher programme.

practices will be critical components of the integrated management of malnutrition programme that WFP plans to implement in 140 *woredas* in 2018.

Supply chain

20. The supply chain-related challenges that the Government of Ethiopia, WFP and other actors faced in delivering food and cash-based transfers in 2017 revealed a clear need for continued augmentation of the capacities of the national supply chain and logistics systems. The PRRO revision includes the continuation of capacity building activities to facilitate the development of a cost-efficient and effective national supply chain that can respond to future large-scale emergencies.

TABLE 1: BENEFICIARIES BY ACTIVITY										
Activity	Beneficiary category	Current (July 2015–June 2018)			Increase			Revised (July 2015–December 2018)		
		Boys and men	Girls and women	Total	Boys and men	Girls and women	Total	Boys and men	Girls and women	Total
Productive safety net programme (PSNP)	Chronically food-insecure	1 295 826	1 250 184	2 546 010	1 295 826	1 250 184	2 546 010	1 295 826	1 250 184	2 546 010
Food		1 071 291	1 032 548	2 103 839	1 071 291	1 032 548	2 103 839	1 071 291	1 032 548	2 103 839
Cash-based transfers		224 535	217 636	442 171	224 535	217 636	442 171	224 535	217 636	442 171
Relief*	Acutely food-insecure	4 456 149	4 374 951	8 831 100	1 066 902	1 033 098	2 100 000	4 456 149	4 374 951	8 831 100
Food		3 825 411	3 755 689	7 581 100	717 975	694 313	1 412 288	3 825 411	3 755 689	7 581 100
Cash-based transfers		630 738	619 262	1 250 000	348 927	338 785	687 712	630 738	619 262	1 250 000
Nutrition assistance	Nutrition-insecure	1 305 105	2 380 575	3 685 680	1 187 177	1 990 771	3 177 948	1 349 379	2 490 466	3 839 845
Treatment of MAM – targeted supplementary feeding		985 897	1 614 707	2 600 604	1 030 171	1 724 598	2 754 769	1 030 171	1 724 598	2 754 769
Prevention of MAM – blanket supplementary feeding		250 000	495 000	745 000	139 075	236 804	375 879	250 000	495 000	745 000
Prevention of chronic malnutrition (stunting) – cash-based transfers		69 208	270 868	340 076	17 932	29 368	47 300	69 208	270 868	340 076
Climate change										
Insurance for assets/climate solutions		92 500	92 500	185 000	92 500	92 500	185 000	92 500	92 500	185 000
Total with overlaps		7 149 580	8 098 210	15 247 790	3 642 405	4 366 553	8 008 958	7 193 854	8 208 101	15 401 955
Total without overlaps**		6 836 355	7 526 872	14 363 227	3 383 458	3 886 502	7 269 960	6 870 003	7 610 389	14 480 392

* Figures include 300,000 internally displaced persons in Somali region who are covered by relief assistance, 150,000 children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls covered by targeted supplementary feeding.

** Excluding the overlap of 24 percent of nutrition beneficiaries who also benefit from relief assistance or the PSNP.

	Relief – conflict-affected internally displaced persons	Targeted supplementary feeding – children under 5	PSNP		Stunting prevention – fresh food vouchers
			Current	Revised	
Cereals	500				
Pulses	50				
Oil	15				
Ready-to-use supplementary food		100			
Cash-based transfers (USD/person/day)			0.33	0.6	0.82 with meat or 0.38 without meat
Total kcal/day	2 113	535			
% kcal from protein	10	10.5			
% kcal from fat	14.3	59			
Number of feeding days per year	360	90	360	360	360

Cost

Activity	Cash-based transfers (USD)	Food (mt)		
		Current	Increase	Revised total
Relief	6 316 797	1 185 340	154 444	1 339 784
PSNP	8 621 113	345 014	61 553	406 567
Nutrition – targeted supplementary feeding	853 644	102 476	38 573	141 048
Blanket supplementary feeding		13 496	4 511	18 007
Climate insurance	80 000	-	-	
Total	15 871 554	1 646 326	259 080	1 905 406

Hazard/risk assessment and preparedness planning

21. Ethiopia will probably continue to experience pockets of anti-government protest and outbreaks of inter-community violence. The ongoing drought is likely to exacerbate the conflict as resources become scarcer.
22. The country office will explore the use of an immediate-response preparedness and response enhancement programme and related funds in order to ensure regular updating of its minimum preparedness actions, enhance its emergency preparedness capacity and increase its support to regional and local authorities in areas such as emergency supply chain management, humanitarian needs assessment and community-based early warning systems.

ANNEX I-A

PROJECT COST BREAKDOWN			
	Quantity (<i>mt</i>)	Value (<i>USD</i>)	Value (<i>USD</i>)
Food	-	-	
Cereals	199 489	39 675 447	
Pulses	11 300	6 144 416	
Oil and fats	5 208	4 520 568	
Mixed and blended food	43 083	48 671 900	
Total food	259 080	99 012 332	
External transport		20 438 247	
Landside transport, storage and handling		42 874 226	
Other direct operational costs – food		4 296 712	
Food and related costs¹			166 621 517
Cash-based transfers		15 871 554	
Related costs		571 387	
Cash-based transfers and related costs			16 442 941
Capacity development and augmentation			11 244 571
Direct operational costs			194 309 029
Direct support costs (see Annex I-B) ²			18 102 877
Total direct project costs			212 411 906
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent) ³			13 806 774
Total WFP costs			226 218 680

¹ This is a notional food basket for budgeting and approval. The contents may vary.

² Indicative figure for information purposes. The direct support cost allotment is reviewed annually.

³ The indirect support cost rate may be amended by the Board during the project.

ANNEX I-B

DIRECT SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS (USD)	
WFP staff and staff-related	
Professional staff	5 934 604
General service staff	4 963 175
Danger pay and local allowances	75 289
Subtotal	10 973 068
Recurring and other	1 519 255
Capital equipment	1 250 000
Security	805 955
Travel and transportation	3 049 600
Assessments, evaluations and monitoring¹	505 000
Total direct support costs	18 102 877

¹ This figure reflects estimated costs when these activities are performed by third parties.

Acronyms used in the document

HDRP	humanitarian and disaster resilience plan
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MAM	moderate acute malnutrition
NDRMC	National Disaster Risk Management Commission
PRRO	protracted relief and recovery operation
PSNP	Productive Safety Net Programme
SAM	severe acute malnutrition
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund