

COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN REVISION
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REVISION – FOR APPROVAL**Lesotho Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan, Revision 03**

Gender and age marker code: 2A

BUDGET OVERVIEW			
	Current	Change	Revised
Duration	January 2018 – June 2019	N/A	January 2018 – June 2019
Beneficiaries	278,250	64,035	342,285
TOTAL COST (USD)	20,104,752	4,112,269	24,217,021
Transfer	15,508,107	3,711,997	19,220,104
Implementation	1,676,743	149,288	1,826,031
Direct Support Costs	1,692,852	0	1,692,852
Sub-total	18,877,701	3,861,285	22,738,987
Indirect Support Costs	1,227,051	250,984	1,478,034

Lesotho Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan, Revision 03**1. RATIONALE**

- 1.1. Revision three to the Lesotho Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (T-ICSP) seeks to add a crisis response Strategic Outcome (SO) to enable WFP to meet the life-saving food and nutrition needs of the most vulnerable and affected households between January and June 2019.
- 1.2. WFP will provide cash-based transfers through a take-home ration modality to the most at risk orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) and their host families, in Mohale's Hoek and Quthing districts that are among the highest adversely affected by food insecurity reaching an estimated 49,000 people.
- 1.3. Food Assistance for Asset (FFA) activities will be expanded horizontally in the same districts targeted for the emergency response under SO1 "Households in chronically food insecure areas are able to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements throughout the year, including in times of shock" during the lean season.
- 1.4. According to the latest Integrated food security Phase Classification (IPC) update conducted in November 2018, an estimated 141,600 people are in phase three and 132,000 people are in phase four and require urgent action to meet their basic food and nutrition needs and protect their livelihoods in the 2018/19 lean season.
- 1.5. For the 2018/19 season, Lesotho has been affected by delayed and erratic onset of rains, as well as a mid-season dry spell in parts of the country. Despite improved rainfall in February 2019, overall seasonal rainfall performance has been poor (approximately 30 percent below average). Delayed rainfall could potentially postpone

the harvest season and extend the lean season by a month, thus WFP emergency and FFA assistance is planned for three months beyond the lean season (April to June).

- 1.6. The 2016 population and housing Census (PHC) indicates that an estimated 210,712 children are orphaned in Lesotho. The highest percentage of orphan-hood in the Southern districts of Maseru, Quthing, Mafeteng and Qacha's Nek, who are also facing IPC phase 3 except Mafeteng. By targeting the most at risk OVC, pre-primary and primary schools will be leveraged as a platform to reach food insecure households.

2. CHANGES

Strategic orientation

- 2.1. This revision seeks to introduce a crisis response SO. The revision will enable WFP to mobilize resources and respond to the acute food insecurity situation that is emerging in the country. The proposed revision enables WFP to support the Government emergency response, while at the same time continuing efforts on addressing longer-term vulnerabilities through shock-responsive resilience approaches, and transitioning to less direct implementation over time.
- 2.2. This revision will enable WFP to increase the number of FFA beneficiaries by 14,955 from 16,000 to 30,955 during the lean season to scale-up FFA activities in targeted agro-ecological zones facing adverse food insecurity challenges and environmental degradation.
- 2.3. The proposed emergency response will leverage and be implemented through existing government social protection programmes such as the national school feeding programme. Schools in which WFP is already providing technical and implementation support to the government will be used as a platform for delivery of the emergency response. The public works programme will be leveraged as the platform for the scale-up of resilience activities. It is anticipated that by using existing platforms to respond to the crisis, this will create a pathway for transition to recovery and resilience post the emergency.

Strategic outcomes

- 2.4. The proposed SO is in line with the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) response to the current crisis through the UN Disaster Management Team. The priorities for the response are food security/agriculture, health/nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), and protection. Whilst the Government has not yet declared a food security emergency an official declaration of severe shortfalls in the national budget has been made.
- 2.5. WFP will target an estimated 9,800 vulnerable OVC host families representing 49,000 people through primary and pre-primary schools. An estimated 31,000 people will be supported for lean season assistance through FFA. WFP will work with the Ministry of Social Development, Disaster Management Authority, and Ministry of Education and Training to identify affected households hosting vulnerable OVCs and coordinate and

implement the emergency response. The Ministry of Forestry will support the scale-up of the implementation of the FFA lean season support intervention.

- 2.6. The National Information System for Social Assistance (NISSA) under the Ministry of Social Development will be used to identify most at risk OVC and eligible households for assistance. Specific vulnerability criteria will be households with low purchasing power. Where necessary, NISSA will be complemented using community-based participatory targeting approaches and will be followed by verification once vulnerable households have been selected.
- 2.7. The design of the response is informed by lessons learned, evaluations, consultations and focus group discussions with partners and different socio-economic groups in communities. A “cash plus” approach will be implemented based on Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) reports and lessons learned that highlight that cash alone can compromise the intended objective of addressing food insecurity.
- 2.8. The emergency response will provide an avenue for WFP to support the government in addressing chronic health and nutrition challenges facing people in targeted areas through social behaviour change communication (SBCC) and education. In collaboration with other UN agencies, (WHO, UNICEF, IOM), assisted people will benefit from improved knowledge of nutrition, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), HIV/AIDs, climate change, health, hygiene and other care practices that contribute to improved food consumption and nutrition. FAO will provide garden kits to assisted households under the emergency response to support sustained crop production at household level after the emergency response.
- 2.9. In Lesotho, a large proportion of female-headed households are poor and extremely vulnerable to shocks because they lack assets due to discriminatory customary laws and socio-cultural practices, as well as low awareness of their legal rights. A gender lens will be applied to guide the emergency response and resilience activities to equally meet the needs of women, girls, boys and men as well as people living with disability. In partnership with UNFPA, Gender Based Violence (GBV) advocacy sessions will be integrated to ensure that targeted OVCs (boys and girls) and their host households are not exposed to risks related to WFP assistance.
- 2.10. Preliminary findings from the WFP retailer assessment¹ conducted in Mohale’s Hoek and Quthing, highlight that the retailers assessed have adequate capacity to meet the increased demand as a result of the emergency response and transfer mobile money to WFP beneficiaries. Lessons learned from past interventions highlighted that food alone restricts households from diversifying the diet and accessing other needs. The use of the cash modality will enable households access to staple foods, and purchase complementary commodities such as fresh fruits and vegetables and meet other requirements. WFP and government will engage in a private public partnership with the retail sector to support learning on nutrition and the roll-out of a fortification agenda in the country.

¹ January 2019.

- 2.11. To support the emergency response and scaled up resilience support, WFP will augment staff capacity in key areas, including: Monitoring and Evaluation, Supply Chain and Finance/Admin.
- 2.12. Vodacom M-Pesa via a network of mobile money agents will provide cash directly to targeted OVC host families. WFP has leveraged the regional long term agreement with Vodacom to enable rapid response and WFP and Vodacom will develop a schedule for funds disbursements to the agents to ensure timely disbursement for assisted people. Participants in FFA activities will be provided with cash through Standard Lesotho Bank.
- 2.13. Distances between mobile money agents and possible distribution points will be assessed and other risks such as inconsistent connectivity and/or merchants not having enough cash floats to cater to increased liquidity demands. Vodacom will be working closely with WFP in merchant identification, merchant capacity assessment, training and augmentation; and in beneficiary registration and sensitization on the use of M-Pesa.
- 2.14. Performance of the emergency response will be measured against the performance indicators in line with WFP corporate results-based management framework. Outcome, output and process indicators will be disaggregated by sex and age. Cross-cutting results will be tracked to measure gender, protection and accountability measures. Baselines will be established in the month of response through primary data collection or the use of secondary data. PDM surveys will be conducted in April and June 2019. An after action review will be undertaken at the end of the operation to inform future emergency responses.
- 2.15. Non-compliance with contractual obligations by partners and service providers; long distances to be travelled to reach distribution points and protection challenges especially for women and girls are potential risks to the disbursement of cash transfers to targeted OVC host households. These risks will be mitigated by ensuring clarity of responsibilities in contracts with merchants and Vodacom; sensitizing agents/merchants on security issues and informing community policing committees. To ensure accountability to the affected people, the current toll-free complaint and feedback mechanism (CFM) administered by WFP and the National University of Lesotho, will be scaled up across all sectors and community councils. This complaint and feedback mechanism will also incorporate protection risks including GBV and child protection.

Beneficiary analysis

TABLE 1: DIRECT BENEFICIARIES BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME, ACTIVITY & MODALITY							
Strategic Outcome	Activity ²	Period	Women (18+ years)	Men (18+ years)	Girls (0-18 years)	Boys (0-18 years)	Total
Strategic Outcome 1	1	Current	9,600	6,400	-	-	16,000
		Increase/decrease	8,973	5,982			14,955
		Revised					
	2	Current					
		Increase/decrease					
		Revised	18,573	12,382			30,955
Strategic Outcome 2	3	Current	-	-	122,400	117,600	240,000
		Increase/decrease					
		Revised					
	4	Current					
		Increase/decrease					
		Revised	-	-			
Strategic Outcome 3	5	Current	2,950	-	3,650	3,650	10,250
		Increase/decrease					
		Revised					
	6	Current	6,720	5,280	-	-	12,000
		Increase/decrease					
		Revised					
Strategic Outcome 4	7	Current					
		Increase/decrease					
		Revised					
	8	Current					
		Increase/decrease	20,418	18,846	4,908	4,908	49,080
		Revised	20,418	18,846	4,908	4,908	49,080
TOTAL (without overlap)		Current	19,270	11,680	126,050	121,250	278,250
		Increase/decrease	29,391	24,828	4,908	4,908	64,035
		Revised Total	48,661	36,508	130,958	126,158	342,285

Transfers

- 2.16. For the emergency response, WFP will implement cash-based transfers through take-home ration to host households of at risk OVCs. In addition, under SO1 WFP will target more beneficiaries in existing FFA project sites using the current approach of cash transfers. The cash transfer value used is the standard rate set by the government of Lesotho for unconditional emergency response and for conditional, resilience based activities.

² Indicate whether transfer is in the form of in-kind, CBT or capacity strengthening. If more than one modality per activity, duplicate the rows.

Strategic Outcome	Strategic Outcome 1	Strategic Outcome 2		Strategic Outcome 3			Strategic Outcome 4
Activity	Activity 1	Activity 2		Activity 3		Activity 4	Activity 5
Beneficiary type	Chronically food insecure	Pre-school children (ECCD)	Primary School children	Children 6-23 months	PLW/G	Vulnerable households of ART & TB DOT clients	Support to Population in Crisis Response
Modality	Cash	Food in kind	Food in kind	Food in kind	Food in kind	Food in kind	Cash
Cereals		120	150			200	
Pulses		25	30			60	
Oil		15	10			20	
Salt			3				
Sugar			10				
Super cereal					250		
Super cereal plus		60		200			
Micronutrient powder							
Total kcal/day		893	778	787	950	1113	
% kcal from protein		11.4	9.9	16.6	14.0	10.9	
Cash (USD/person/day)	0.52						0.30
Number of feeding days	180	180	180	360	360	360	180

Food type / cash-based transfer	Current Budget		Increase/Decrease		Revised Budget	
	Total (MT)	Total (USD)	Total (MT)	Total (USD)	Total (MT)	Total (USD)
Cereals	10,058	3,889,235	0	0	10,058	3,889,235
Pulses	2,069	1,235,555	0	0	2,069	1,235,555
Oil and Fats	783	711,338	0	0	783	711,338
Mixed and Blended	2,024	1,702,270	0	0	2,024	1,702,270
Others	689	318,325	0	0	689	318,325
TOTAL (Food)	15,621	7,856,723	0	0	15,621	7,856,723
Cash Based Transfer & Comm. Vouchers		2,246,400		3,350,214		5,596,614
TOTAL (Food and CBT value - USD)	15,621	10,103,123	0	3,350,214	15,621	13,453,337

3. COST BREAKDOWN

The increase of USD 4.1 million associated with this revision, pertains to costs associated with the addition of the new SO for the crisis response activity and the increase of FFA beneficiaries under SO1. An estimated USD 117,000 will be used for capacity building and increase support to designing and implementing SBCC messages particularly on food security, health and WASH.

WFP Strategic Results/ SDG Targets	Total	SR 01	SR 01	SR 01	SR 02
WFP Strategic Outcomes		Strategic Outcome 01	Strategic Outcome 02	Strategic Outcome 04	Strategic Outcome 03
Focus Area		Resilience	Root causes	Root causes	Crisis Response
Transfer	3,711,997	712,717	0	2,999,280	0
Implementation	149,288	18,194	0	131,094	0
Direct Support Costs	0				
Sub-total	3,861,285				
Indirect Support Costs	250,984				
TOTAL	4,112,269				

WFP Strategic Results	Total	SR 01	SR 01	SR 01	SR 02
WFP Strategic Outcomes		Strategic Outcome 01	Strategic Outcome 02	Strategic Outcome 04	Strategic Outcome 03
Focus Area		Resilience	Root causes	Root causes	Crisis Response
TOTAL	24,217,021	4,670,912	13,061,726	3,532,021	2,952,362
Transfer	19,220,104	3,635,774	10,526,000	2,999,280	2,059,050
Implementation	1,826,031	421,243	779,398	131,094	494,296
Direct Support Cost	1,692,852	328,815	959,134	186,078	218,825
Sub-total	22,738,987	4,385,832	12,264,532	3,316,452	2,772,171
Indirect Support Costs	1,478,034	285,079	797,195	215,569	180,191

Annex 1: Revised Line of Sight

- *Attach the LoS and indicate changes made in this revision in bold.*