COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN REVISION

REVISION

Benin country strategic plan, revision 2

Gender and age marker code: 3

	Current	Change	Revised
Duration	July 2019 – December 2023	No change	July 2019 – December 2023
Beneficiaries	1,018,869	25,000	1,043,869
Total cost (USD)	137 655 458	1 023 571	138 679 029
Transfer	95 438 516	779 519	96 218 035
Implementation	27 198 127	170 080	27 368 207
Direct support costs	6 617 308	11 500	6 628 808
Subtotal	129 253 951	961 099	130 215 050
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)	8 401 507	62 471	8 463 978

Benin country strategic plan, revision number 2

1. RATIONALE

- 1. This revision is an extension of the existing Strategic Outcome 4 with a focus on the 'Crisis response' that was introduced by the first budget revision conducted in December 2019.
- 2. The initial revision made in 2019 was to address natural disaster and explicitly focused on recurrent floods affecting the country. In addition to the heavy rains and flooding forecasted for 2020, the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020 COVID has changed the humanitarian landscape in the country, requiring WFP to address other types of needs, including the socioeconomic impact of COVID-19.
- 3. VAM projections done in June 2020 to integrate COVID-19 impact to the CH results estimated that 951,226 persons are affected by food insecurity in addition to the 14,578 planned by the March *Cadre harmonisé*. In addition, 318,000 people who were victims of the 2019 floods and who were unable to rebuild their livelihoods remain in need of assistance. It is then projected approximately 1.4 million people would need food assistance.
- 4. Furthermore, BR1 did not include sufficient nutritional education and SBCC. The implementation revealed this gap that this budget revision (BR2) will fill by adding Output 4.4 on nutritional education and SBCC.
- 5. BR1 geographic target is based on the request made by the government following 2019 floods, limiting interventions to the 5 communes affected by floods in the south. The current assessments¹ reveals greater humanitarian needs across the entire country with varied shocks beyond flood threats. WFP has already received a contribution to support food and nutritional assistance projected in vulnerable communes in the northern department.
- 6. The extension covers the duration of the 2019-2023 Benin CSP.

¹ Source: WFP post distribution monitoring report; socioeconomic impact of COVID (UN, Government, to be released end September); WFP security monitoring report; WFP COVID impact projection

2. CHANGES

Strategic orientation

- 7. BR2 to the Benin Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2019-2023 does not involve any change to the strategic orientation of the Benin CSP.
- 8. Activity 4 allowed the Benin CO to implement an emergency food and nutrition assistance to 50,000 flood-affected victims in the five most affected municipalities of Benin for a period of three months. The BR2 expands the emergency response to the entire country and increases the number of beneficiaries for activity 4.

Strategic outcomes

9. A new Output 4.4 is introduced in the Strategic Objective 4: "Targeted populations benefit from nutrition education and social behavioural change communication activities in order to improve their nutritional status and health". This output is essential to achieve nutrition outcome as many studies indicate poor hygiene practices and cultural norms hamper proper use or expected impact of nutritious products distributed to children during emergencies.

Beneficiaries targeting

- 10. WFP's food assistance will focus on the most nutritionally vulnerable and/or affected households country-wide in the municipalities highly exposed to various risks, including floods, COVID-19 socioeconomic impacts, severe food insecurity and risks related to insecurity in the border communes. For 2020, WFP assistance aims to cover about 75,000 people (50,000 for flood response, 25,000 for COVID-19 impact response, 10,000 people for SBCC). For 2021 and onward, the caseload for contingency plan remains 50,000 people for multi risk response. The response package consists of GFD, mixed flour distribution to 6-59 children, PLWG and PLHIV, nutritional education. In-kind and CBT modalities will be combined to propose the best of option that fits the context.
- 11. The change to the targeting approach relies on WFP's strategic objective to leverage the social protection programme of the Government (ARCH project). The geographical targeting will be built on the criteria mentioned above, the national social protection scheme and WFP's food security and nutrition indicators. As much as possible, WFP will ensure community-level validation for household targeting. The CO will closely coordinate with the secretariat of the ARCH project to contribute to the national unique poverty registry.
- 12. Regarding nutrition interventions, mass screening of children 6-59 months will be undertaken in the targeted zones to identify MAM children for treatment. PLWG and PLHIV/TB will also be targeted. Fathers, mothers and community leaders will be involved in the nutritional education sessions.
- 13. BR2 will apply the same gender analysis and focus on PLWG as indicated in the BR1. Women will be considered as head of households and recipients of the assistance.

Transfer modalities

14. The project will take a dynamic approach consisting of delivering assistance through cash-based transfers where markets are functioning and direct food transfers in locations where there are market accessibility issues. Vouchers will be used for the supplementary feeding programme in order to procure locally manufactured enriched flour.

Partnerships

15. Efficient coordination among stakeholders is essential to ensure effective and rapid responses, using an appropriate modality, to meet the needs of the most vulnerable people and avoid duplication, etc. To this effect, WFP will implement its emergency response in close collaboration with the local focal points of the Government's Civil Protection National Agency (ANPC). WFP is also leading the Food Security Working Group (FSWG) and will seek out synergies with other partners' interventions. Interventions in the department of Alibori would require a strong collaboration with a wide range of development agencies and NGOs operating in the food security and nutrition sectors.

Country office capacity

16. To implement this complementary targets, additional staff will be recruited, including one Emergency Coordinator and three project assistants. These positions have been budgeted in ongoing project and will also be included in the upcoming emergency funding opportunities.

Supply chain challenges

17. Food to be procured for the GFD will be purchased in the local market, except oil which will be procured through GCMF or through loan from the school feeding program. Specialised nutritious food will be procured locally through a voucher scheme that will be put in place using an enriched-flour producer already identified in a previous project.

M&E

- 18. Following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the CO has set up a mVAM system to support the regular food security analysis. mVAM data will be essential to adjust the implementation of this Activity and shed light on new needs and trends.
- 19. Dedicated M&E staff will be recruited to monitor the emergency activity. The CO will use this opportunity to collect data using the SCOPE key categories allowing accurate monitoring and reporting.
- 20. A baseline survey will be conducted within the first three months of the project inception while a Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) survey will be undertaken after every distribution cycle.

Accountability to affected populations, protection risks, restrictions of gender and disabilities

- 21. At the inception phase of the project, a beneficiary complaint and response mechanism (CRM) will be put in place to address targeting, delivery, security and programme participants' protection issues. The project team will ensure women will take part in the CRM committees.
- 22. Necessary measures will be taken to ensure that the operations do not contribute to the spread of COVID-19 and to protect the beneficiaries and partners from any harm in line with WFP distribution SOPs.
- 23. Data protection will be ensured through the SCOPE requirements.

Proposed transition/handover strategy

24. The CO hand-over strategy envisages to continue the capacity-building of key national agencies and stakeholders involved in civil protection and emergencies, including the ANPC, the Red Cross, and Communes' focal points for emergency responses. WFP will also collaborate with other stakeholders to build community resilience to shocks and food insecurity by addressing root causes of food insecurity.

Risk Management

- 25. The slow but steadily increasing presence of non-state armed groups in the Sahel (including Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso) poses a clear threat to Benin. WFP will strengthen its preparedness level to minimize the potential effects of this risk on its operations. Attention will be paid to risks related to security and access negotiation, as well as increases in food assistance caseload due to deteriorating security conditions.
- 26. The main operational risks are related to COVID 19 spread and the insecurity to which the beneficiaries may be exposed (e.g. beneficiaries being assaulted while in route to/from distribution points, tensions between beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries, and the theft or poor storage of food commodities). As mitigation measures, WFP will apply its distribution SOP related to COVID 19 prevention and take steps to ensure safety at distribution points, close process monitoring, as well as training to cooperating partners on the humanitarian nature of WFP programmes, among others. Effective control measures against the diversion of food commodities, fraud and abuse against beneficiaries will also be introduced.
- 27. If the COVID-19 pandemic worsens, supply chains may be disrupted and programme implementation delayed. The project team will closely monitor the evolution of the COVID-19 situation and will adopt the necessary mitigation measures.

Beneficiary analysis

TABLE 1: DIRECT BENEFICIARIES BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME, ACTIVITY & MODALITY Women Men Girls **Boys** Strategic Activity Modality Total (18 +(18 +(0-18)(0-18)Outcome years) vears) vears) years) Period 334,691 425,971 760,662 Current Provide integrated, Food inclusive and Increase/decrease gender responsive school meals Strategic Revised 334,691 425,971 760,662 Outcome programmes in targeted 90,570 115,272 205,842 Current communities in a way that relies on CBT and stimulates Increase/decrease local production Revised 90,570 115,272 205,842 Provide <u>5</u>,044 1,850 4,656 Current 11,550 specialized nutritious food to Food children and Increase/decrease PLWGs to treat malnutrition and Revised 1,850 4,656 5,044 11,550 Strategic prevent risk of Outcome stunting and Current support Benin health services on CBT nutrition education and gender Increase/decrease transformative behaviour change Revised 27,843 16,000 Provide food and Current 2,880 3,120 49,843 nutrition assistance to crisis-affected Strategic Food 9.000 6.000 15.000 populations and Outcome Increase/decrease strengthen the 4^2 capacity of national Revised 36,843 22,000 2,880 3,120 64,843 partners on emergency CBT Current 9,000 6,000 15,000

¹ The current figures for SO4 differ from what was approved in BR1. This is due to the initial project design erroneously including 3,843 PLWG and 6,000 MAM children among the targeted GFD beneficiaries. In fact, there was specific targeting for MAM and PLWG and the commodity was also different for each group of beneficiaries. Therefore, while there was some overlap with GFD beneficiaries, these 9,843 beneficiaries are distinct.

	response and coordination	Increase/decrease	3,000	2,000	2,400	2,600	10,000
TOTAL (without overlap)		Revised	12,000	8,000	2,400	2,600	25,000
		Current	22,915	5,050	437,178	553,726	1,018,869
		Increase/decrease	12,000	8,000	2,400	2,600	25,000
		Revised	34,915	13,050	439,578	556,326	1,043,869

Transfers

TABI	E 2: F(OOD	RATIO				CASH-BAS				LUE (US	D/person	/day) BY	7
	Strate	gic out	tcome				Strategic outcome 3			Strategic outcome 4				
	Activity 1			Activity 2			Activity 3			Activity 4				
Beneficiary type		Primary oolchild		Childre n 6–23 months	Childr en 6–59 month s	PL WG	Adolesce nts	Vuln erabl e hous ehol ds	Local institut ions	Nati onal instit ution s	Vulnerable Households		Child ren 6–59 mont hs	PLW G
Modality	Food	C B T	CS		Fo	ood		Capac	ity strengt	hening	Food CBT		MA M preve ntion	MAM preve ntion
Maize	75						450				450			
Rice	75													
Pulses	15						60				60			
Split peas	15													
Oil	10					25	25				25			
Salt	3						5				5			
Super Cereal (with sugar)						250	50							250
Super Cereal Plus				200									200	
Plumpy'Sup					100									
Total kcal/day	745			787	500	939	2 234				2 100		787	939
% kcal from protein	12%			17%	10%	16%	10.6%				12%		17%	16%
Cash-based transfers (USD/person /day)		0.0 99										0,2021		
Number of feeding days per year	175			180	90	270	15				90		90	

TABLE 3: TOTAL FOOD/CASH-BASED TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS											
AND VALUE											
Food type / cash-based	Curren	t Budget	Inci	rease	Revised Budget						
transfer	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)					
Cereals	81 683	43 496 056	506	202 500	82 189	43 698 556					
Pulses	15 982	13 036 371	68	74 250	16 050	13 110 621					
Oil and Fats	5 445	5 832 249	28	25 172	5 473	5 857 421					
Mixed and blended foods	2 550	2 863 381	0	0	2 550	2 863 381					
Other	1 586	264 801	6	973	1 592	265 774					
TOTAL (food)	107 247	65 492 858	608	302 895	107 855	65 795 753					
Cash-Based Transfers (USD)		7 165 148		270 823		7 435 971					
TOTAL (food and CBT value – USD)	107 247	72 658 006	608	573 718	107 855	73 231 724					

3. COST BREAKDOWN

TABLE 4: COST BREAKDOWN OF THE REVISION ONLY (USD)								
	Strategic Result 1 / SDG Target 2.1	Strategic Result 2 / SDG Target 2.2	Strategic Result 5 / SDG Target 17.9	Strategic Result 1 / SDG Target 2.1	TOTAL			
Strategic outcome	01	02	03	04				
Focus Area	Root Causes	Root Causes	Root Causes	Crisis Response				
Transfer	0	0	0	779 519	779 519			
Implementation	0	0	0	170 080	170 080			
Direct support costs					11 500			
Subtotal					961 099			
Indirect support costs					62 471			
TOTAL					1 023 571			

TABLE 5: OVERALL CSP COST BREAKDOWN, FOLLOWING THE REVISION (USD)									
	Strategic Result 1 / SDG Target 2.1	Strategic Result 2 / SDG Target 2.2	Strategic Result 5 / SDG Target 17.9	Strategic Result 1 / SDG Target 2.1	TOTAL				
Strategic outcome	01	02	03	04					
Focus Area	Root Causes	Root Causes	Root Causes	Crisis Response					
Transfer	84 151 007	2 789 965	1 532 020	7 745 043	96 218 035				
Implementation	25 294 958	698 537	570 000	804 712	27 368 207				
Direct support costs	5 878 119	187 707	112 919	450 062	6 628 808				
Subtotal	115 324 084	3 676 210	2 214 939	8 999 817	130 215 050				
Indirect support costs	7 496 065	238 954	143 971	584 988	8 463 978				
TOTAL	122 820 150	3 915 163	2 358 910	9 584 805	138 679 029				

Annex 1: Revised Line of Sight

BENIN CSP 2019-2023 LINE OF SIGHT

SR 1 – Everyone has access to food (SDG Target 2.1)

CRISIS RESPONSE

BUDGET SO 4: USD 9 584 805

OUTPUTS

- 4.1 Individuals affected by shocks (Tier 1 beneficiaries) receive timely and adequate nutritious food and/or cash-based transfers (CBTs) in order to meet their immediate food and nutrition needs. [(output category A1, B1 (SDG2)]
- (2002)]
 (24.2 Crisis-affected populations (Tier 3) benefit from strengthened emergency preparedness and response capacity of national institutions and partners to meet their food and nutrition requirements. [(output category C) (SDG2)]
- 4.3 Crisis-affected Children aged 6–59 months, pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) and other nutritionally vulnerable populations affected by crises (Tier 1) receive specialized nutritious food. [(output category 8) (SDG2)]
- 4.4 Targeted populations benefit from nutrition education and social behavioral change communication activities in order to improve their nutritional status and health [(output category E*) (SDG2)]

ACTIVITY 4

Provide food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations and strengthen the capacity of national partners on emergency response and coordination
Activity category 4; modalities: Food, CBT, CS)

ROOT CAUSES

Vulnerable populations including school aged children in Benin have adequate access to safe, nutritious food and basic social services all year round

BUDGET SO 1: USD 122 820 150

OUTPUTS:

- 1.1 Targeted school children (girls/boys) receive nutritious meals (Tier 1) every school day, including food produced by smallholder farmers, in order to meet their basic food and nutrition needs and improve school enrollment and retention [(output category A1) (SDG4)]
- 1.2 Smallholders (men and women) (Tier 1.2 Smallholders (men and worker) (her 2) have improved access to markets and information (output category C) in relation to integrated school feeding, to improve their livelihood (SDG3)
- 1.3 School children, their families and local communities (Tier 2) benefit from gender sensitive capacity strengthening on integrated school meals management committees, in order to improve nutrition. health and hygiene outcome [(output category C) (SDG3)]

ACTIVITY 1: Provide integrated and inclusive school meals programmes in targeted communities in a way that relies on and stimulates local production

(Activity category 4; modalities: Food, CBT, CS)

(SDG Target 2.2)

ROOT CAUSES

Inerable populations, including childrer der 5 and PLWGs in targeted areas have proved their nutritional status in line with national targets by 2023

BUDGET SO 2: USD 3 915 163

OUTPUTS:

- 2.1 Targeted children 6-59 (girls and boys) and PLWGs (Tier 1) receive specialized nutritious food in order to treat moderate acute (output category B) (SDG 3)
- 2.2 Targeted children 6-23 (Tier 1) receive nutritious food in order to prevent stunting (output category B) (SDG3)
- 2.3 Targeted populations (women and men) (Tier 2) benefit from enhanced capacities from the Government for nutrition education and behavioural change communications activities in order to improve their nutritional status and health

[(output category E) (SDG3)]

ACTIVITY 2:

Provide specialized nutritious food to children and PLWGs to treat malnutrition and prevent risk of stunting and support Benin health services on nutrition education and gender sensitive behaviour change

(Activity category 6; modalities: Food, CS)

SR 5 - Countries strengthened capacities (SDG Target 17.9)

ROOT CAUSES

BUDGET SO 3: USD 2 358 910

OUTPUTS

- 3.1 School children (Tier 2) benefit from strengthened capacity provided to national institutions for effective implementation of a sustainable and inclusive scaled-up, cost-effective National Integrated School Meals Programme, in order to ensure access to food (output category C)
- 3.2 School children (Tier 2) benefit from support provided to national institutions to develop school feeding legislation (output category J) in order to meet their basic food and nutrition needs
- 3.3 Vulnerable populations (women and men) (Tier 3) benefit from enhanced national and local government capacity to manage early warning and food security and monitoring systems, in order to improve their access to food and their resilience (output category C)

ACTIVITY 3:

Provide technical assistance and policy support, including through South-South cooperation, to local and national institutions in the areas of gender sensitive school feeding, food security, and emergency preparedness and response

(Activity category: 9; Modality: CS)