

COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN REVISION

REVISION

El Salvador country strategic plan, revision 2

Gender and age marker code: 3

Transmittal Slip Table - BUDGET OVERVIEW			
	Current	Change	Revised
Duration	1 Apr 2017-31 Dec 2021		1 Apr 2017-31 Dec 2021
Beneficiaries	793,224	41,316	834,539
Total cost (USD)	88 481 754	10 813 034	99 294 788
Transfer	69 007 345	8 147 828	77 155 173
Implementation	11 137 650	455 793	11 593 442
Direct Support Costs	2 856 434	1 549 463	4 405 897
Sub-total	83 001 429	10 153 084	93 154 513
Indirect Support Costs	5 480 325	659 950	6 140 275

1. RATIONALE

Following the impact of multiple severe emergencies in 2020, this revision seeks to address the immediate relief as well as recovery needs of those affected. The former are valued at over 200% of the crisis response requirements for the 2020 Need-Based Plan, while the latter represent an additional modest increase in smallholder farmer support in the areas of resilience and climate change adaptation in 2021 following the impact of weather systems on the harvests.

In El Salvador, over 40,345 cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in 2020, overwhelming the health system during peak outbreaks and causing shortages of hospital beds and care facilities. An unprecedented drain on the country's resources, the pandemic and the response plan – through mandatory quarantines and restrictive measures – have exacerbated the capacities of individuals, communities, and governments to cope with economic crises, population displacement, repeated climate crises, socio-political instability, and conflict. Indeed - valued at 21% of GDP in 2019¹ - a 40% decrease in monthly remittances (April 2019-April 2020), the overall economic contraction and the need for widespread temporary assistance have strained already overloaded social programs and services. With movement restrictions having disrupted essential services targeting vulnerable populations, including school meals, community kitchens, and livelihood support activities, trends indicate increasing food shortages in families that have lost their income or seen it reduced, especially in rural female headed households with young children².

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, Tropical Storm (TS) Amanda hit El Salvador on May 31st, causing catastrophic damage and loss of human life nationwide. This situation worsened when on 5 June a new tropical storm called Cristóbal formed in Mexico and continued to cause heavy rains over El Salvador. During the night between October 29th and 30th a strong storm hit and lead to a devastating landslide that traveled 4 km carrying mud, rocks, logs and debris, affecting the Angelitos I, Angelitos II y San Antonio communities in the municipality of Nejapa, Department of San Salvador. In November, the Hurricanes Eta and Iota caused more heavy rains over El Salvador, jeopardizing the “postrera” harvest and last opportunity for many households to replenish their critical food stocks (71% of people surveyed reported using phase 2 or 3 negative coping strategies).³

The deterioration caused by the storms combined with the on-going impact the COVID-19 emergency and the pre-existing effects of climate shocks, poverty and violence, has generated a complex humanitarian crisis,

¹ World Bank Data, 2020 - <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/BX.TRF.PWKR.DT.GD.ZS?locations=SV>

² ENSAN follow up 2020 (Since July to November)

³ EFSA 72hrs, November 2020

exacerbating food insecurity in the country. With a 29% increase from December 2019, as many as 47% of households were food insecure at the peak of the crisis in June (11% in severe food insecurity + 36% in moderate food insecurity). Despite a limited downward trend from July onwards, 35.7% of households remained food insecure in November during the impacts of hurricane Eta/Iota, including 5% in severe food insecurity (422,614 people).⁴

2. CHANGES

Strategic orientation

- There is no change in strategic orientation.
- The only previous revision was a technical adjustment to the logframe modifying activity from “URT” to the “ACL” activity category with no budgetary implications.

Strategic outcomes

This BR does not imply any change in the SO structure, but foresees adjustments to the number of beneficiaries and rations, for the following components:

- SO3: “Targeted population and communities in most food insecure areas have increased resilience to climate change by 2021”
 - Activity 7: “Empower smallholder farmers to adapt improved sustainable agricultural practices”
- SO4 “Food insecure people affected by rapid and slow on set disasters have access to food all year long”
 - Activity 9: “Complement government transfer to the most vulnerable household affected by disasters to facilitate relief and early recovery”

In line with the increased needs caused by a series of emergencies occurring in 2020 (COVID-19, TS Amanda, Eta/Iota, etc), WFP will expand its food assistance to the most vulnerable populations. This increase in beneficiaries takes into consideration the findings of the latest national surveys on food security and nutrition (ENSAN), including the effects of these climatic and pandemic-related economic shocks on both urban and rural population and their livelihoods. In collaboration with national and local authorities, WFP targeting factors the level of impact across departments, poverty indicators and at risk livelihood strategies, as well as the Government’s response and reach in the most vulnerable areas (authorities reportedly reached approximately two thirds of people in need either via in-kind and cash-based modalities, but faced budgetary limitations, particularly in some of the most hard to reach areas).

In line with its CSP and recent response experiences, WFP will maintain existing transfer modalities and continue to prioritize the use of cash-based transfers to attend populations for immediate relief, increasing the proportion of beneficiaries expected to receive CBT (additional 40,185, for a total of 123,000 people in 2020), but maintaining some contingency planning for in-kind assistance as required (reduction of 13,204 for a total of 7,500 in 2020). As for recovery activities, WFP will also continue to prioritize CBT, along with capacity strengthening, focused on the development of sustainable livelihoods (predominantly rural), including asset creation, conservation of natural resources, reduction of post-harvest losses as well as access to markets (including via digital platforms) and organization of cooperatives. Across both activities, CBT values have been increased from USD 0.50 per day to USD 0.66667 per day, in line with analyses of food price increases overtime and as a result of the emergency (CSP originally designed in 2016)⁵.

⁴ ENSAN, 17 November 2020

⁵ An analysis of the basic food basket revealed an increase of 8 percent between the 2014 and 2019. The sources considered for this analysis were: (1) basic food basket prices by DIGESTYC, (2) consumer’s price index by World Bank and (3) Staple grains prices by Ministry of Agriculture and livestock (MAG).

Beneficiary analysis

Strategic Outcome	Activity	CSP	Women (18+ years)	Men (18+ years)	Girls (0-18 years)	Boys (0-18 years)	Total
1	2	Current	23,760		37,899	28,341	90,000
		Increase/decrease	0		0	0	0
		Revised	23,760		37,899	28,341	90,000
	3	Current	27,596	25,769	6,484	6,651	66,500
		Increase/decrease	0	0	0	0	0
		Revised	27,596	25,769	6,484	6,651	66,500
3	7	Current	19,880	16,566	9,387	9,387	55,220
		Increase/decrease	2,700	2,250	1,275	1,275	7,500
		Revised	22,580	18,816	10,662	10,662	62,720
4	9	Current	209,343	174,451	98,855	98,855	581,504
		Increase/decrease	12,174	10,145	5,748	5,748	33,815
		Revised total	221,515	184,596	104,604	104,604	615,319
TOTAL <i>(without overlap)</i>		Current	280,580	216,786	152,625	143,233	793,224
		Increase/decrease	14,873	12,395	7,024	7,024	41,315
		Revised	295,451	229,181	159,649	150,258	834,539

Transfers

Strategic outcome	3	4	
Activity	7	9	
Beneficiary type			
Modality (indicate food or CBT)	CBT	FOOD	CBT
Cereals		400	
Pulses		60	
Oil		25	
Salt		5	
Sugar			
Supercereal		60	
Supercereal Plus			
micronutrient powder			
total kcal/day (to be completed for food and cash modalities)		2129	1900
% kcal from protein		205	
Cash-based transfers (USD/person/day; use average as needed)	0.66666667		0.66666667
Number of feeding days per year	90	90	90

Table 4 COST BREAKDOWN OF THE REVISION ONLY (USD)			
	Strategic Result 4 / SDG Target 2.4	Strategic Result 1 / SDG Target 2.1	TOTAL
Strategic outcome	03	04	
Focus Area	Resilience Building	Crisis Response	
Transfer	471 298	7 676 530	8 147 828
Implementation	- 354 290	810 083	455 793
Direct support costs			1 549 463
Subtotal			10 153 084
Indirect support costs			659 950
TOTAL			10 813 034

TABLE 3: TOTAL FOOD/CASH-BASED TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS AND VALUE						
Food type / cash-based transfer	Current Budget		Increase		Revised Budget	
	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)
Cereals	4 187	2 867 985	- 786	- 482 783	3 401	2 385 203
Pulses	628	992 272	- 118	- 143 047	510	849 225
Oil and Fats	262	519 415	- 49	- 96 469	213	422 946
Mixed and blended foods	938	929 834	- 118	- 90 563	820	839 271
Other	52	16 222	- 10	- 2 144	43	14 079
TOTAL (food)	6 067	5 325 729	- 1 081	- 815 006	4 986	4 510 724
Cash-Based Transfers (USD)		41 275 035		6 509 340		47 784 375
TOTAL (food and CBT value – USD)	6 067	46 600 764	- 1 081	5 694 334	4 986	52 295 099

Although current market conditions are favourable for using the cash transfer modality to energize the economy, it is not ruled out that a crisis could occur that would cause the collapse of the markets due to the vulnerability that has been evidenced during the multiple emergencies faced this year where in kind modality would be the unique option to assist affected population.

3. COST BREAKDOWN

OVERALL CSP COST BREAKDOWN, FOLLOWING THE REVISION (USD)						
	Strategic Result 2 / SDG Target 2.2	Strategic Result 3 / SDG Target 2.3	Strategic Result 4 / SDG Target 2.4	Strategic Result 1 / SDG Target 2.1	Strategic Result 5 / SDG Target 17.9	TOTAL
Strategic outcome	01	02	03	04	05	
Focus Area	Root Causes	Resilience Building	Resilience Building	Crisis Response	Root Causes	
Transfer	21 262 746	3 618 178	13 965 328	37 989 970	318 951	77 155 173
Implementation	2 928 032	885 955	3 321 458	4 355 197	102 800	11 593 442
Direct support costs	1 013 884	233 169	718 994	2 421 643	18 208	4 405 897
Subtotal	25 204 662	4 737 303	18 005 780	44 766 809	439 958	93 154 513
Indirect support costs	1 664 018	310 647	1 186 192	2 950 415	29 003	6 140 275
TOTAL	26 868 680	5 047 950	19 191 972	47 717 224	468 961	99 294 788