

Crisis response revision of Guinea interim country strategic plan (2019–2022) and corresponding budget increase

	Current	Change	Revised
Duration	July 2019–June 2022	No change	No change
Beneficiaries	690 023	149 580	839 603
	<i>(USD)</i>		
Total cost	61 365 773	16 524 760	77 890 533
Transfers	46 878 539	14 394 235	61 272 774
Implementation	7 336 593	991 246	8 327 839
Adjusted direct support costs	3 461 524	130 000	3 591 524
Subtotal	57 676 656	15 515 480	73 192 137
Indirect support costs <i>(6.5 percent)</i>	3 689 117	1 009 280	4 698 397

Gender and age marker code:* 3

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

Rationale

1. The present budget revision seeks to introduce technical adjustments under strategic outcome 2, expand strategic outcome 4 by increasing the budget ceiling, and reflect the supply chain matrix actual costs. There are three factors triggering this budget revision:
2. **With regards to strategic outcome 2:** Budget revision 1 increased significantly the budget under strategic outcome 2 to enable WFP's COVID-19 response, using cash-based transfers (CBTs) as the exclusive crisis response modality in 2021 and 2022 for a limited caseload.
3. Guinea suffers from increasing food insecurity, limited and unequal access to basic social services and recurrent shocks. Women and adolescent girls, and poor households with no access to productive assets are particularly affected. In March 2021, the preliminary results of the Cadre harmonisé projected that over 683,000 persons will be food insecure (IPC phase 3) during the lean season from June to August. This represents a 156 percent increase compared to the 2020 lean season. High food prices and the socioeconomic impact of COVID-19 are the key drivers in the deterioration of food security among rural households.
4. The recent Ebola virus disease (EVD) outbreak exacerbated these challenges. On 14 February 2021, the Government of Guinea announced the resurgence of EVD in N'Zérékoré, south-eastern forest region of Guinea, bordering with Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Côte d'Ivoire. This is the first outbreak in Guinea since the last crisis of 2013–2015 which killed over 2,500 people.



5. Given its epidemical nature, the length of the EVD outbreak is unpredictable. With the current EVD emergency state, the demands for food, nutrition, and livelihoods are continuously increasing due to movement restrictions, market closure and food price inflation. This is compounded by a projected increase in food insecurity. Although the availability of local food is acceptable and can cover household demand, it is worth noting that the restrictive measures due to the health emergency declared by the Government following the outbreak of the COVID epidemic have had an impact on the supply of imported basic commodities and on household purchasing power. The prices of staple food have increased compared to the last five years average, particularly for imported cereals and vegetable oil. It should also be noted that during the lean season (July to September), household food reserves get depleted, their supply and variety on the markets become scarce, and prices increase. The combination of all these factors makes it difficult for households to access food.
6. Responding to the worrisome rise in food insecurity and against a backdrop of increasing food prices and limited availability in markets following the COVID-19 pandemic and its socioeconomic impact in Guinea, WFP has decided to reintroduce in-kind assistance and thereby increase the planned caseload.¹ In 2021 and 2022, WFP will thus provide both in-kind and cash-based assistance to food-insecure populations.
7. **With regard to strategic outcome 4:** Since the inception of the interim country strategic plan (ICSP) (July 2019-June 2022), the Guinea country office's integrated resilience approach has been successfully scaled up to cover more communities with the volume of CBTs under strategic outcome 4 increasing by 162 percent in 2020 compared to 2019. This was achieved despite the current context of COVID-19 and restrictions on movements and gatherings. The country office's approach is based on building local capacities for integrated resilience programming, strengthening institutional support to technical services at national, regional and local levels and documenting best practices. To allow for the continued scale-up of WFP's resilience portfolio in Guinea this budget revision will increase the caseload under strategic outcome 4 for 2021 and 2022.
8. **With regard to the supply chain matrix:** Freight rates in Guinea have been increasing amid macroeconomic instability and a weakening local currency and the transport rates in the supply chain matrix need to be updated to reflect actual costs.

Changes

Strategic orientation

9. There is no change in strategic orientation.

Strategic outcomes

10. **Strategic outcome 2.** Budget revision 3 reflects an adjustment in the assistance provided to beneficiaries under this strategic outcome. Through the provision of CBTs, WFP will provide a level of liquidity in rural communities providing households with purchasing power to buy essential food commodities. CBTs will target 50,000 persons in both 2021 and 2022. However, due to the increasing levels of food insecurity and the high food prices, WFP will also distribute in-kind food commodities to 244,105 food-insecure persons in 2021 and 155,052 in 2022. Accordingly, in-kind assistance under strategic outcome 2 will be reintroduced after having been left out in budget revision 1. Blanket supplementary feeding

¹WFP price monitoring revealed a 9.2 percent increase for rice between February and March 2021.



for pregnant and lactating women and children under 2 years will be integrated into in-kind assistance.

11. **Strategic outcome 4.** Guinea country office will increase the number of beneficiaries from 19,524 to 50,000. This will allow the country office to reinforce the integrated resilience programme in five selected “zero hunger communities” connecting school feeding, smallholder agriculture market support, food assistance for assets creation, and institutional capacity strengthening.
12. Moreover, beneficiary numbers were adjusted for strategic outcomes 2 and 4 based on the latest data. Modality costs were adjusted for strategic outcomes 1, 3 and 5.

Targeting approach and beneficiary analysis

13. WFP will target areas with elevated levels of food insecurity, with the highest proportions of persons in IPC phase 3, as per the March 2021 edition of the Cadre harmonisé for unconditional assistance during the lean season. Other stress factors, such as the resurgence of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact will be given consideration. The poorest and most food-insecure households will be targeted based on vulnerability criteria and in collaboration with communities, cooperating partners and local authorities. For resilience building activities, the country office will continue to use the three-pronged approach with the support of the Regional Bureau for Western Africa resilience team.

Transfer modalities

14. In addition to regular price monitoring, WFP will conduct a Market Functionality Index assessment and other assessments in selected locations to determine the appropriateness and effectiveness of cash-based or food modalities for the response. This will contribute to a holistic understanding of broader food systems issues required to inform potential future interventions during crises and build sustainability in the long term.

Partnerships

15. WFP has established excellent relationships with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Environment, Water and Forestry, and works closely with government technical decentralized services. WFP will work with the Regional Centre of Excellence against Hunger and Malnutrition (CERFAM) on enhancing the rice value chain with a particular focus on post-harvest losses that reach 30 to 40 percent for fruits and vegetables and 10 to 20 percent for rice.
16. Engagement with international financial institutions, notably the World Bank and the African Development Bank, is actively ongoing, mainly through the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Social Action, Women’s Empowerment and Childhood. International financial institutions are considered as relatively new donors for the country office and may offer opportunities to open new funding streams. Strong outreach to traditional government donors is likewise ongoing.

Monitoring and evaluation

17. WFP will continue with the monitoring and evaluation arrangements as per the ICSP document with no amendment of the planned decentralized evaluation. In order to enhance monitoring and evaluation of asset creation activities, the country office will put in place geospatial data collection through the Asset Impact Monitoring System . To minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission, remote data collection will be used.
18. A provision of USD 130,000 will be included for a decentralized evaluation on country capacity strengthening.



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

19. There will be no change in the strategy related to accountability to affected populations, gender, disability and protection throughout the programme cycle. However, the country office will request the Regional Bureau for Western Africa support for the design and roll-out of a gender analysis that will enable a more nuanced approach to be followed in terms of targeting and prioritizing beneficiaries looking at assessing vulnerabilities on the basis of sex, age and whenever possible, disability. WFP has also recently rolled out a mechanism that will further incorporate beneficiaries' feedback into design, monitoring and implementation.

Risk management

20. The security context in Guinea remains stable; however, the country office will monitor potential risks and is also looking to strengthen its security team through a temporary duty assignment deployment of an experienced security associate. In zones affected by the current EVD outbreak significant community resistance towards the health response has been observed and this could potentially affect WFP activities and the security of personnel. WFP is relying on best practices learned from previous EVD outbreaks with regard to community acceptance and is seeking to strengthen the capacity in-country of the security team, including through ongoing temporary duty assignments.
21. Continued consultations will be held with the relevant stakeholders including the Global Commodity Management Facility, the Government and other actors to minimize potential supply chain disruptions.

Beneficiary analysis

Strategic outcome	Activity and modality	Period	Women (18+ years)	Men (18+ years)	Girls (0-18 years)	Boys (0-18 years)	Total
1	1 (food)	Current (no change)	-	-	92 927	88 758	181 685
	1 (CBTs)	Current (no change)	-	-	7 350	7 650	15 000
2	2 (food)	Current	24 190	44 710	27 860	28 240	125 000
		Increase/(decrease)	23 049	42 601	26 546	26 908	119 104
		Revised	47 239	87 311	54 406	55 148	244 104
2 (CBTs)	Current (no change)	49 400	43 700	53 200	43 700	190 000	
3	3 (food)	Current (no change)	43 156	37 204	34 227	34 227	148 814
	3 (CBTs)	Current (no change)	-	-	5 100	4 900	10 000
4	4 (CBTs/capacity strengthening)	Current	11 324	8 200	-	-	19 524
		Increase/(decrease)	17 676	12 800	-	-	30 476
		Revised	29 000	21 000	-	-	50 000
Total (without overlap)		Current*	128 070	133 814	220 664	207 475	690 023
		Increase/(decrease)	40 725	55 401	26 546	26 908	149 580
		Revised	168 795	189 215	247 210	234 383	839 603

* This total does not represent the "revised total" of budget revision 1 as there was an error under strategic outcome 2.



Transfers

TABLE 2: FOOD RATION (g/person/day) AND CASH-BASED TRANSFER VALUE (USD/person/day) BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME AND ACTIVITY							
	Strategic outcome 2						Strategic outcome 4
	Activity 2						Activity 4
Beneficiary type	GFD	BSF-children	BSF-PLWG	MAM children under 5	MAM PLWG	Beneficiaries/ CBTs	Beneficiaries/ CBTs
Modality	Food and CBT	Food	Food	Food	Food	CBT	CBT
Cereals	400						
Pulses	60						
Oil	25		25		25		
Salt	5						
Sugar							
Super Cereal			200		200		
Super Cereal Plus				200			
Plumpy'Doz		50					
Plumpy'Sup							
Micronutrient powder							
Total kcal/day	1 710		984	787	984		
% kcal from protein	6.9		12.6	16.7	12.6		
Cash-based transfers (USD/person/day)	0.21						0.51
Number of feeding days per year	90	90	90	60	180		180

Abbreviations: BSF = blanket supplementary feeding; GFD = general food distribution; MAM = moderate acute malnutrition; PLWG = pregnant and lactating women and girls



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	23 184	10 407 881	11 372	4 985 845	34 556	15 393 725
Pulses	4 139	2 787 768	1 706	1 093 118	5 845	3 880 886
Oil and fats	2 101	1 508 386	711	1 004 611	2 812	2 512 997
Mixed and blended foods	3 139	3 001 874	0	0	3 139	3 001 874
Other	267	134 008	142	27 483	409	161 491
Total (food)	32 830	17 839 917	13 930	7 111 056	46 760	24 950 973
Cash-based transfers		10 860 917		(344 611)		10 516 306
Total (food and CBT value)	32 830	28 700 834	13 930	6 766 445	46 760	35 467 279

Cost breakdown

TABLE 4: COST BREAKDOWN OF THE REVISION ONLY (USD)

	Strategic Result 1/ SDG Target 2.1	Strategic Result 1/ SDG Target 2.1	Strategic Result 2/ SDG Target 2.2	Strategic Result 4/ SDG Target 2.4	Strategic Result 5/ SDG Target 17.9	Strategic Result 8/ SDG Target 17.16	Total
	Strategic outcome 1	Strategic outcome 2	Strategic outcome 3	Strategic outcome 4	Strategic outcome 5	Strategic outcome 6	
Focus area	Resilience building	Crisis response	Root causes	Resilience building	Resilience building	Crisis response	
Transfers	266 259	10 288 396	518 534	3 321 046			14 394 235
Implementation		508 623		508 623	(26 000)		991 246
Adjusted direct support costs							130 000
Subtotal							15 515 480
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)							1 009 280
Total							16 524 760

Abbreviations: SDG = Sustainable Development Goal.



TABLE 5: OVERALL ICSP COST BREAKDOWN, AFTER REVISION (USD)

	Strategic Result 1/ SDG Target 2.1	Strategic Result 1/ SDG Target 2.1	Strategic Result 2/ SDG Target 2.2	Strategic Result 4/ SDG Target 2.4	Strategic Result 5/ SDG Target 17.9	Strategic Result 8/ SDG Target 17.16	Total
	Strategic outcome 1	Strategic outcome 2	Strategic outcome 3	Strategic outcome 4	Strategic outcome 5	Strategic outcome 6	
Focus area	Resilience building	Crisis response	Root causes	Resilience building	Resilience building	Crisis response	
Transfers	14 831 709	27 009 432	7 203 211	6 995 407	635 903	4 597 111	61 272 774
Implementation	3 934 985	646 493	1 900 818	1 563 310	242 533	39 700	8 327 839
Adjusted direct support costs	1 007 086	1 399 996	524 485	411 660	54 240	194 057	3 591 524
Subtotal	19 773 780	29 055 922	9 628 513	8 970 377	932 676	4 830 869	73 192 137
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)	1 285 296	1 888 635	625 853	583 075	60 624	254 914	4 698 397
Total	21 059 076	30 944 556	10 254 367	9 553 452	993 300	5 085 783	77 890 533