

COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN REVISION

REVISION

Caribbean interim multi-country strategic plan (2020–2021), revision 3

Gender and age marker code: 4

BUDGET OVERVIEW			
	Current	Change	Revised
Duration	January 2020 – December 2021	January 2022 – February 2022	January 2020 – February 2022
Beneficiaries	80,000	No Change	80,000
Total cost (USD)	28 073 900	5 873 560	33 947 460
Transfer	21 958 709	4 603 298	26 562 007
Implementation	3 017 347	655 225	3 672 572
Direct Support Costs	1 384 413	256 557	1 640 970
Sub-total	26 360 469	5 515 080	31 875 549
Indirect Support Costs	1 713 431	358 480	2 071 911

1. RATIONALE

1. The English and Dutch Caribbean supported under the 2020-2021 Interim Multi-Country Strategic Plan (IMCSP) is comprised of mostly small island developing states and territories,¹ largely classified as upper middle-income and high-income economies. During the period of implementation of the IMCSP, the vulnerability to and impact of shocks have significantly increased as countries and territories face the compounding effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate risks and volcanic activity.
2. Lessons learned from WFP’s previous and current crisis responses highlight the positive impact of preparedness actions on sudden-onset emergencies and the opportunity for more to be done in response to compound risks, based on the combined impact of economic, pandemic and climate shocks, amongst others. The ability to respond to the needs of those most affected in a crisis is challenged by the extent to which the region is able to manage logistics and distribution mechanisms, tracking of humanitarian cargo, the design and planning of relief supply distributions, availability of qualified and experienced human capital, and coordination of humanitarian actors. With all countries supported under the IMCSP using social protection systems to address the socio-economic impact of COVID-19, the ability to expand coverage swiftly and efficiently requires adjustments in information management, beneficiary targeting, delivery mechanisms, coordination of actors and financing.
3. In response, WFP has expanded its operations through its preparedness investments and the number of countries² directly supported by the multi-country office. Over the last year, WFP has expanded its direct support to additional governments to provide tailored packages of technical assistance, adopting a hands-on approach to scale up national

¹ Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Curaçao, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sint Maarten, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and Caicos Islands.

² British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

social protection in the areas of vulnerability analysis and mapping, information management, delivery mechanisms and targeting. WFP is also engaging in innovative approaches around climate risk financing and its linkages to financing government social protection responses.

4. Linked to increasing food insecurity in the region, and building on the technical assistance provided in 2020, WFP is also increasing its work on food security assessments. WFP also engages in other innovative projects, such as support to increase access to digital finance for women's economic empowerment in Dominica, which is linked to WFP's support to the Government of Dominica's Social Cash Transfer programme in response to the economic impacts of COVID-19.
5. More recent developments have identified the critical investment requirements to establish stronger intra-regional coordinated response capacities for the Caribbean and plans are in place to establish a Regional Logistics Hub and Centre of Excellence on the island of Barbados. The Regional Logistics Hub will serve as a centralized location for coordinating responses and downstream transport solutions in an emergency. This includes a state-of-the-art warehouse facility to store prepositioned stock, further expanding the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency's (CDEMA) storage capacity. The Centre of Excellence will provide a space for supply chain professionals to gain hands-on experience in warehouse operations and practical training exercises. This will ensure that relief material and response personnel can be rapidly mobilized to shock-affected nations in times of emergencies.
6. Further, WFP has mounted an emergency response in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines following the explosive eruption of the La Soufriere volcano. The eruption caused extensive physical damage to the surrounding communities, displacing 20,000 men, women, boys and girls, representing up to 20 percent of the population of the main island. The disaster is exacerbating existing vulnerabilities, including high poverty levels (36 percent) among those living in the evacuated areas and the ongoing adverse socio-economic effects of COVID-19. The eruption has affected major areas for fishing and agriculture, as well as main trade sectors with neighbouring islands.
7. WFP's support to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines works through the government-led emergency response programme to facilitate the implementation of a cash transfer programme to persons who have been displaced and otherwise significantly impacted, as well as support to CDEMA and the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) for common services and logistics coordination. In this regard, WFP supports the government-led emergency response with temporary warehousing, management and transport of relief items that are provided at no cost to the user.
8. The Atlantic hurricane season commenced in June 2021 and the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicts above-average activity, further complicated by the continued challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic in the region.
9. The above developments have attracted increased resources to support Capacity Strengthening efforts under strategic outcome (SO) 1, as well as Capacity Strengthening and Service Delivery for the La Soufriere volcano response and hurricane preparedness and response efforts under SO3.
10. Finally, the 2017-2021 United Nations Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework (UN MSDF), with which WFP is aligned, has been extended through February 2022 to accommodate the process of developing the next MSDF. As such,

there is a need to extend the current WFP Caribbean IMCSP by two months to align with this development and the schedule for submission of the five-year WFP Multi-Country Strategic Plan (MCSP) in February 2022.

2. CHANGES

Strategic orientation

11. This revision will not result in any change to the strategic orientation of the IMCSP but rather accommodates increased levels of support to regional entities and national government counterparts through increases in the budget allocation for SO1 and SO3.
12. Previous budget revisions to the 2020-2021 IMCSP have included:
 - An expansion of the coverage of all three strategic outcomes as a crisis response to increased needs related to COVID-19 (USD 17 million, July 2020).
 - An adjustment of all three strategic outcomes as a crisis response to increased needs related to COVID-19 (USD 2 million, January 2021).

Strategic outcomes

13. The revision augments the budget allocation for SO1 to be able to accommodate increasing levels of resources for planned activities.
14. The revision also augments the budget allocation for SO3 due to increased requirements for the La Soufriere volcano response in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and in anticipation of the 2021 Atlantic hurricane season.
15. The amendment additionally provides an extension of the IMCSP's project end date until 28 February 2022 to ensure alignment with the next MSDF, and in line with the schedule for submission of the five-year WFP MCSP in February 2022.
16. No changes are planned for SO2.

Beneficiary analysis

17. This revision does not anticipate changes in beneficiary numbers, since the overall Caribbean focus is on strengthening national and local preparedness and response capacities in the Caribbean. SO1 continues to build the capacity of CDEMA, national disaster management offices and ministries responsible for social protection. SO3 continues to act, upon request, as a contingency for hurricane response and other crisis response. SO3 directly supports the efforts of CDEMA, national governments, and the broader regional and international humanitarian community in crisis response. This revision reflects the support being offered under the La Soufriere volcano response on the island of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, which fell outside of previous planning figures.

Transfers

18. There are no changes to the size or composition of food or cash-based transfers under SO2.
19. Capacity Strengthening under SO1 and SO3 has been increased to include technical assistance and capacity augmentation towards the government and key partners.

Service Delivery under SO3 has been increased to include emergency activities in response to the La Soufriere Volcano eruption in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines as well as the construction of the Regional Logistics Hub and Centre of Excellence and preparedness activities.

20. Under SO1, the increase includes supporting the development of protocols for managing shelters, distribution points and emergency operations centers, considering social distancing and supplying/transporting critical personal protective equipment for this purpose, enabling national and other responders to operate with limited contact/reduced risks. WFP will also partner with CDEMA to host a regional flagship event on (a) end-to-end supply chain management for emergency response and (b) shock-responsive social protection. The event will bring together major actors around supply chain in the Caribbean to discuss key issues related to investment requirements for enhanced supply chain management in an emergency response. WFP will also support CDEMA on data preparedness so that data is in place to better predict the impacts of hurricanes and other events and organize additional surveys to capture data on food security, livelihoods and access to markets, which provide analysis to inform responses. In addition, WFP will coordinate and provide technical assistance in six priority countries,³ which has expanded the operations of the office over the last year. The revision also takes into consideration planned costs for the extension of the IMCSP for SO1 implementation by two additional months.
21. Increases to SO3 relate to the budget requirements to support Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in line with the La Soufriere Volcano response. While the IMCSP accommodates for hurricane response, the response in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines represents an increase in resources to SO3 to address surge capacity requirements and the purchase and use of logistics assets for the emergency. Plans to establish the Regional Logistics Hub and Centre of Excellence also require procuring professional services for the planning and construction of the facility, acquisition of building materials, and related technology and other logistics assets to ensure the facility is fully functional.
22. The revision does not change the food requirements but rather costs associated with the delivery of the services.

TABLE 1: 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	596	482 991	0	0	596	482 991
Pulses	171	369 297	0	0	171	369 297
Oil and Fats	74	138 840	0	0	74	138 840
Mixed and blended foods	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	12	22 058	0	0	12	22 058
TOTAL (food)	852	1 013 185	0	0	852	1 013 185

³ British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Cash-Based Transfers (USD)		9 825 000		0		9 825 000
TOTAL (food and CBT value – USD)	852	10 838 185	0	0	852	10 838 185

3. COST BREAKDOWN

23. The revised budget considers additional forecasts and confirmed contributions, as well as an increase in needs for technical assistance activities under Capacity Strengthening transfers under both SO1 and SO3 as well as Service Provision under SO3.

	Strategic Result 5 / SDG Target 17.9	Strategic Result 1 / SDG Target 2.1	Strategic Result 8 / SDG Target 17.16	TOTAL
Strategic Outcome	01	02	03	
Focus Area	Resilience Building	Crisis Response	Crisis Response	
Transfer	3 184 462	0	1 418 837	4 603 298
Implementation	442 804	0	212 421	655 225
Direct support costs				256 557
Subtotal				5 515 080
Indirect support costs (6.5%)				358 480
TOTAL				5 873 560

	Strategic Result 5 / SDG Target 17.9	Strategic Result 1 / SDG Target 2.1	Strategic Result 8 / SDG Target 17.16	TOTAL
Strategic outcome	01	02	03	
Focus Area	Resilience Building	Crisis Response	Crisis Response	
Transfer	8 735 824	13 004 176	4 822 007	26 562 007
Implementation	1 352 766	1 387 303	932 503	3 672 572
Direct support costs	538 378	789 977	312 615	1 640 970
Subtotal	10 626 968	15 181 456	6 067 125	31 875 549
Indirect support costs	690 753	986 795	394 363	2 071 911
TOTAL	11 317 721	16 168 250	6 461 488	33 947 460