

COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN REVISION

REVISION

The Gambia country strategic plan, revision 4

	Current	Change	Revised
Duration	<i>1st January 2019- 31 December 2022</i>	<i>1st January 2023 - 29 February 2024</i>	<i>1st January 2019- 29 February 2024</i>
Beneficiaries	790 646	5 340	796 986
Total cost (USD)	66 546 187	17 152 853	83 699 040
Transfer	55 922 273	14 286 583	70 208 857
Implementation	3 591 894	875 953	4 467 847
Direct support costs	2 970 515	943 428	3 913 944
Subtotal	62 484 683	16 105 965	78 590 648
Indirect support costs	4 061 504	1 046 888	5 108 392

1. RATIONALE

1. WFP The Gambia CO is seeking a fourth budget revision to its CSP (2019-2022) to extend operations for one additional year and two months (01 January 2023 – 29 February 2024). This extension in time will allow the Country Office to align with United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF 2023-2027) and the Government of The Gambia National Development Plan (NDP 2023-2027). The design of the NDP has been delayed by the 2021 national elections and extended for one year, prompting the UNSDCF 2019-2022 to be extended for the same duration.
2. The revision will also reflect response to the current food security situation generated by the global crisis and informed by the latest data from the November 2021 Cadre Harmonisé (CH), the August 2022 mVAM, the October 2022 National Food Security Survey (NFSS) and the latest market monitoring data. It will also provide adequate preparation for WFP to design its next CSP.
3. The economic downturn generated by the COVID-19 pandemic is now overlapping with negative impact of the Russia-Ukraine crisis, worsening the food and nutrition security in The Gambia, a predominantly food-importer. Inflation of goods and services has increased from 8.2 percent in March 2022 to 12.9 percent in August 2022, while food inflation increased from 8.8 percent to 14.9 percent in the same period. Furthermore, the recent WFP and Government market price data survey (July 2022) also indicates that 11.4 percent increase in the price of imported rice compared to July 2021 and 24.4 percent compared to the five (5) year average have been recorded. Specifically, the price of millet has increased by 32.4 percent compared to 2021. Oil prices have also increased by 50.5 percent also compared with July 2021 Beyond the daily household feeding burden, the price of fertilizer has tripled from GMD 700 to GMD 2000 which may likely have contributed to low production in some Regions

during the 2022-2023 cropping season. According to the ECOWAS/WFP/FAO June 2022¹ assessment, it is expected that The Gambia will face a deficit of inorganic fertilizer for the 2022 cropping season, which will inevitably affect food crop production, especially of groundnut, cowpea and cereals and resulting in a record deficit of -10 percent.

4. The Gambia, along with other countries in the West Africa sub region, is experiencing a looming food crisis, the worst in a decade. The CH findings of November 2021 (prior to the crisis in Ukraine) indicated that in The Gambia, the number of people in “crisis” (IPC3) and “emergency” (IPC4) have doubled compared to previous years and was estimated to reach 207,000 people in the 2022 lean season. This represents an increase of 81.77 percent compared to 2021 and 101.1 percent compared to the past 5 years. Furthermore, the 2021 Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment (CFSVA) also reveals the higher level of food insecurity in The Gambia during the past 10 years (CFSVA 2011: 5%; CFSVA 2016: 8%; CFSVA 2021: 13.4%). High level of Global Acute Malnutrition has been recorded in 3 out of 6 regions: Central River Region North (11.7%), Lower River Region (11.3%), Upper River Region (10.2%), with stunting prevalence of 25 percent, 17.8 percent and 21.5 percent respectively. Furthermore, the armed conflicts in Casamance, Senegal triggered the displacement of more than 15,000 people (refugees and IDPs and host communities)² adding heavy pressure on host communities in The Gambia.
5. The latest August 2022 mVAM results indicated that shocks such as the price hikes, floods, low agricultural production are perceived as the main amplifiers of food insecurity in The Gambia. The food consumption patterns of the households continue to deteriorate exponentially while undermining the coping capacity of the population. Over 22.3 percent of the interviewed households reported poor food consumption at the peak of the lean season, while 42.7 percent are at “borderline”. Almost 1 out of 2 households interviewed used one or more coping strategies to meet their food needs due to insufficient access to food or affordability. The preliminary findings of the October 2022 NFSS showed that despite the ongoing harvest, severe and moderate food insecurity still remain very high in the same areas identified by the 2021 CFSVA (Kuntaur, Janjanbureh and Mansakoko).
6. The Gambia was granted in 2022 “The Gambia Agriculture and Food Security project (GAFSp)” which is a five-year US\$16-million project, funded by the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP). The GAFSp aims at increasing food and nutritional security, and household incomes, particularly for vulnerable households through increased agricultural production and productivity, post-harvest management and commercialization, linking smallholders to assured institutional markets, such as home-grown school feeding (HGSP), and active private sector participation. The first component of the GAFSp will improve smallholder’s productivity, post-harvest management, market access and resilience for identified food chains while the second component will focus on promoting the social safety net through Home Grown School Feeding, and complementary nutrition initiatives. The supervising entity is African Development Bank whereas the Executing Agency is the Ministry of Agriculture and WFP is its technical support / implementing partner. Some US\$ 7 million out of US\$16 million will be transferred to WFP for most of the component 2 and part of the component 1. The present BR will also accommodate part of the enhanced programmatic activities implemented by the GAFSp.

¹ Assessment of the risks and impact of the Russian-Ukrainian agricultural production in the ECOWAS region, June 2022.

² March 2022, National Disaster Management Agency

2. CHANGES

Strategic orientation

7. The BR foresees no change in the strategic orientation. It maintains the same strategic priorities while strengthening WFP's operational capacities. WFP's strategic priorities in The Gambia remain focused on supporting The Gambia Government's national development priorities to close the gaps in nutrition, health, education and food security.

Strategic outcomes

In this context, the BR4 to the CSP will entail the following programmatic changes:

8. SO1:

Activity 1 "Provide food assistance and SBCC training for crisis-affected populations and strengthen the capacity of national partners to respond to crises": WFP will maintain the targeted beneficiaries with in-kind representing 75 percent of the total beneficiaries.

9. SO2:

Activity 2 "Provide school meals for pre-school and primary school children vulnerable to food insecurity during the school year and strengthen the capacity of local governments to manage school meals programmes as a

national safety net" will accommodate the enhanced support to schools through capacity strengthening as part of the GAFSp

10. SO3:

Activity 3 "Provide comprehensive nutrition programming including nutritious foods for pregnant or lactating women and girls and children under 5 to prevent or treat acute and chronic malnutrition, complemented by support for the Government in the management of nutrition programmes" will have its capacity strengthening activities increased to accommodate the fortification of cereal for pregnant and lactating women and girls to be implemented under the GAFSp.

11. SO4:

Activity 4 "Provide supply chain and market support (including for home-grown school meals) for farmers to increase productivity and access to markets, complemented by community asset creation through FFA activities" will accommodate the enhanced support to smallholder farmers and the communities through capacity strengthening to be implemented under the GAFSp.

Targeting approach and beneficiary analysis

12. Considering the evolving context characterized by different scenarios of crises such as food and nutrition crisis, climate change impacts and conflicts; WFP expects to provide support to the following groups: population in food and nutrition crisis particularly during the lean season; people affected by either climate change, conflicts, or other crisis.
13. The targeting approach primarily includes the geographical level targeting characterized not only by a geospatial analysis but also based on the previous vulnerability assessments such as the CFSVA, the Integrated Food Security Classification (IPC) and the Sentinel Surveillance Survey. The scale of seasonal assistance will depend on different scenarios resulting from different analysis such as the CH. The seasonal assistance is expected to be scaled up. Besides,

data driven targeting, community participation, and gender sensitive targeting and programming will constitute the basis in prioritising the quality of WFP’s assistance.

Transfer modalities

14. The hybrid ration will be not applied under this BR4. During the design process of the BR, the CBT transfer values were recalculated in order to follow an essential needs approach. The essential needs approach is based upon the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) that take into consideration additional expenditures other than food. Incorporated within the MEB is an expenditure of 2,100 Kcal per person. With the new environment created the Minimum Expenditure Basket and the CBT value have been adjusted to reflect the food inflation rate which has reached 15 percent. The new transfer value has been estimated at USD 0.28/day for 30 days (USD 8.48/month) per person and (USD 50.87/month) for a family of 6 persons. The same daily transfer value has been applied to FFA activities. The new transfer value for 20 days is (USD 8.48 /month) per person and (USD 50.87 /month) for a family of 6 persons. The Transfer value for the school meals programme has been reviewed to reflect the value of the in-kind food basket. It was estimated that each child shall receive 0.12 per day. The new rate has now been adjusted to USD 0.08/day.

Beneficiary analysis

All the beneficiary caseload for all strategic outcomes remains the same with an increase only within Activity 4 (food assistance to crisis affected populations).

TABLE 1: DIRECT BENEFICIARIES BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME, ACTIVITY AND MODALITY								
Strategic outcome	Activity	Modality	Period	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
				(18+ years)	(18+ years)	(0–18 years)	(0–18 years)	
1	1	Food	Current	152,755	145,588	233,652	205,573	737,568
		CBT	Current	151,864	144,739	232,289	204,374	733,266
2	2	Food	Current	1,237	-	61,287	56,928	119,452
		CBT	Current	979	-	63,447	54,048	118,474
3	3	Food	Current	24,072	312	53,777	51,668	129,829
4	4	CBT	current	15,624	10,416	-	-	26,040
			increase	2,617	2,723	-	-	5,340
			Revised	18,241	13,139	-	-	31,380
Total (without overlap)			Current	164,432	151,915	255,004	219,295	790,646
			Increase/decrease	2,617	2,723	-	-	5,340
			Revised	167,049	154,638	255,004	219,295	795,986

	Strategic outcome 1		Strategic outcome 2		Strategic outcome 3				Strategic outcome 4
	Activity 1		Activity 2		Activity 3				Activity 4
Beneficiary type	Households		Children		Children (TSF)	Children (BSF)	PLWG (TSF)	PLWG (BSF)	Smallholder farmers (household)
Modality	Food	CBT	Food	CBTs	Food				CBTs
Cereals	300		100						
Pulses	60		30						
Oil	25		12				25	25	
Salt	5		3						
Sugar									
Super Cereal							200	200	
Super Cereal Plus					200	200			
Micronutrient powder									
Total kcal/day	1501	1501	566	566	787	787	984	984	1 501
% Kcal from protein	34	34	14	14	33	33	31	31	34
Cash-based transfers (USD/person/day)		0.28		0.08					0.28
Number of feeding days per year	90	180	196	196	90	90	90	90	120

15. COST BREAKDOWN

Food type / cash-based transfer	Current Budget		Increase		Revised Budget	
	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)
Cereals	30 667	16 316 210	4 389	2 845 227	35 057	19 161 436
Pulses	495	402 927	924	1 610 174	1 419	2 013 101
Oil and Fats	434	486 460	432	690 837	866	1 177 297
Mixed and blended foods	6 133	10 648 034	1 194	1 430 186	7 327	12 078 220
Other	219	35 738	81	14 890	300	50 628
TOTAL (food)	37 949	27 889 368	7 020	6 591 314	44 969	34 480 682
Cash-Based Transfers (USD)		15 417 019		3 627 468		19 044 487
TOTAL (food and CBT value - USD)	37 949	43 306 387	7 020	10 218 781	44 969	53 525 169

COST BREAKDOWN OF THE REVISION ONLY (USD)						
Strategic Result / SDG Target	Strategic Result 1 / SDG Target 2.1	Strategic Result 1 / SDG Target 2.1	Strategic Result 2 / SDG Target 2.2	Strategic Result 3 / SDG Target 2.3	Strategic Result 5 / SDG Target 17.9	TOTAL
Strategic Outcome	01	02	03	04	05	
Focus Area	Crisis Response	Resilience Building	Resilience Building	Resilience Building	Root Causes	
Transfer	6 471 883	3 048 431	2 281 507	1 674 916	809 847	14 286 583
Implementation	125 736	198 291	151 750	318 004	82 173	875 953
Direct support costs						943 428
Subtotal						16 105 965
Indirect support costs						1 046 888
TOTAL						17 152853

OVERALL CSP COST BREAKDOWN, FOLLOWING THE REVISION (USD)						
Strategic Result / SDG Target	Strategic Result 1 / SDG Target 2.1	Strategic Result 1 / SDG Target 2.1	Strategic Result 2 / SDG Target 2.2	Strategic Result 3 / SDG Target 2.3	Strategic Result 5 / SDG Target 17.9	TOTAL
Strategic Outcome	01	02	03	04	05	
Focus Area	Crisis Response	Resilience Building	Resilience Building	Resilience Building	Root Causes	
Transfer	29 065 598	16 482 489	16 305 942	5 579 899	2 774 927	70 208 857
Implementation	711 350	1 208 667	1 099 091	1 004 202	444 538	4 467 847
Direct support costs	1 537 422	965 376	890 675	349 627	170 844	3 913 944
Subtotal	31 314 371	18 656 532	18 295 708	6 933 728	3 390 309	78 590 648
Indirect support costs	2 035 434	1 212 675	1 189 221	450 692	220 370	5 108 392
TOTAL	33 349 805	19 869 207	19 484 929	7 384 420	3 610 679	83 699 040