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Programme  
Alimentaire  
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World  
Food  
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Programa  
Mundial  
de Alimentos

**Executive Board  
First Regular Session**

**Rome, 13–15 February 2012**

# REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 10

*For information\**



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## DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY–31 DECEMBER 2011) – CAPE VERDE 200283

### Capacity Development and Support to the National School Feeding Programme

Duration of project	2 years (July 2011–June 2013)
WFP food tonnage	Not applicable
<b>Cost (United States dollars)</b>	
Total cost to WFP	1,977,767

\* In accordance with the Executive Board's decisions on governance, approved at the Annual and Third Regular Sessions, 2000, items for information should not be discussed unless a Board member specifically requests it, well in advance of the meeting, and the Chair accepts the request on the grounds that it is a proper use of the Board's time.

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## NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

**This document is submitted to the Executive Board for information**

The Secretariat invites members of the Board who may have questions of a technical nature with regard to this document to contact the WFP staff focal points indicated below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting.

Regional Director, ODD\*: Mr T. Yanga tel.: 066513-2792

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Should you have any questions regarding availability of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact Ms I. Carpitella, Senior Administrative Assistant, Conference Servicing Unit (tel.: 066513-2645).

\* Regional Bureau Dakar (West Africa)

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## ABSTRACT

1. In September 2010, after 30 years of WFP assistance to the school feeding programme in Cape Verde, the Government took over funding and management of WFP's school feeding assistance, making it the first nationally-owned school feeding programme in West Africa. School feeding has been in place in Cape Verde since 1979 and currently covers all primary schools and public kindergartens. The programme has largely contributed to the high enrolment rates in primary schools (reported at 92 percent for the 2007/2008 school year), while supporting the food security and nutrition of students and providing social protection to the most vulnerable families.
2. Cape Verde's economic development and good governance have created the conditions for a sustainable programme that is integrated into the essential package for the national education plan. Current global economic and financial trends combined with high international food and oil prices present, though, a long-term risk that could jeopardize the sustainability and efficiency of the national school feeding programme. Aware of these risks and convinced of the need to maintain an efficient programme, the Government of Cape Verde has requested the 'One UN' joint office in Praia to provide technical support in specific areas aimed at consolidating and strengthening the gains already made to secure continuity of the programme.
3. Through the United Nations joint office, WFP has been called to continue providing capacity development assistance to Cape Verde. The United Nations joint programme is a four-year programme which brings together WFP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization, and the United Nations Children's Fund, to support the transitional phase of the new government-managed national school feeding programme and has the following objectives:
  - i) Contribute to securing primary schoolchildren's access to a balanced food basket through an efficient and cost-effective school meals programme.
  - ii) Identify and promote opportunities to diversify school meals with local produce and to generate economic opportunities for local producers.
  - iii) Enhance the knowledge and skills of primary school students in food production and the environment through the use and expansion of school gardens.
  - iv) Reinforce the knowledge and skills of students and staff in nutrition and food hygiene through the integration of nutrition into school curricula.
4. The purpose of this development project is to allow WFP to provide the necessary support in line with these objectives, as well as to share the experience of school feeding hand-over with other country offices in the region. WFP will be responsible for objective i) and involved to a lesser extent in objective ii).
5. This development project aims at achieving Strategic Objective 5<sup>1</sup> of the WFP Strategic Plan and is in line with Millennium Development Goals 2 and 3.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Strategic Objective 5 – Strengthen the capacities of countries to reduce hunger, including through hand-over strategies and local purchase.

<sup>2</sup> Millennium Development Goals: 2 – Achieve universal primary education; 3 – Promote gender equality and empower women.