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REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 9

For information



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DEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY—30 JUNE 2000)— UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA 5975.01

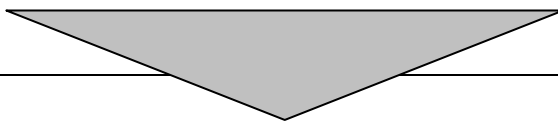
Support to Food Security in Drought-prone Areas through Self-help Schemes

Number of beneficiaries	20,790
Women	10,395
Men	10,395
Year 1	12,400 (women: 6,200 men: 6,200)
Year 2	8,390 (women: 4,195 men: 4,195)
Duration of project	Two years

Cost (United States dollars)

Total cost to WFP	1,717,646
Total food cost	781,200
Total project cost	2,523,646

Note to the Executive Board



This document is submitted for information to the Executive Board.

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.

Director, Africa Region (OSA): Mr M. Zejjari tel.: 066513-2201

Development Adviser, OSA: Ms. C. Berthaud tel.: 066513-2370

Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact the Supervisor, Meeting Servicing and Distribution Unit (tel.: 066513-2328).



1. Tanzania is classified as a least developed (LDC) and, low-income, food-deficit country (LIFDC). It is also a heavily indebted poor country. Declining per capita staple food production, malfunctioning markets and poor infrastructure in rural areas are among the causes of worsening food security and increasing vulnerability to economic and climatic shocks.
2. In accordance with decision 1999/EB.A/2 of the Executive Board, WFP focuses its development activities on five objectives. This project will focus primarily on objectives 3 and 4: make it possible for poor families to gain and preserve assets; and mitigate the effects of natural disasters in areas vulnerable to recurring crises of this kind.
3. The long-term objective of the project is to support the Government's strategies to improve household food security and livelihoods of the hungry poor, particularly women and children, in drought-prone regions. The immediate objectives of the project are to:
 - a) improve the food security of resource-poor farming households through increased farm productivity and land resource conservation;
 - b) increase communities' access to clean water and improve access roads to irrigation schemes;
 - c) enhance the skills and knowledge of project participants through various training packages.
4. The project targets areas identified through the recent Household Food Economy assessments in Arusha, Dodoma and Singida regions as having concentrations of acutely food-insecure families. These areas have suffered from a low level and poor distribution of rainfall in the last four years and, as a consequence, have received emergency food aid from the Government and WFP on several occasions.
5. The project will be implemented through the district governments, IFAD (Dodoma and Singida) and the NGO implementing partners such as Norwegian People's Aid (Dodoma), Caritas Internationalis (Arusha and Kilimanjaro) and Africare (Dodoma and Zanzibar).
6. WFP and the Government convened a workshop in February, prior to approval of the project, inviting all the implementing NGOs and the relevant district government officials to discuss the project strategy in the context of WFP's new policy on Enabling Development.
7. The project was officially approved in July 2000. WFP is currently preparing the plan of operations and the Memorandum of Understanding for signature with the Planning Commission and the implementing NGOs, respectively. The district governments have indicated great interest in food-for-work activities and some of them have already secured funding to support the activities.
8. It is anticipated that the activities implemented under this development project will attract increased donor co-funding to facilitate expansion of activities under the WFP Country Programme (2002-2006), which is currently under preparation.