

برنامج
الأغذية
العالمي



Programme
Alimentaire
Mondial

World
Food
Programme

Programa
Mundial
de Alimentos

Executive Board
Second Regular Session

Rome, 13 - 14 May 1999

REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 6



Distribution: GENERAL
WFP/EB.2/99/6-C/7

13 April 1999
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

BASIC ACTIVITY WITHIN A COUNTRY PROGRAMME APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JULY–31 DECEMBER 1998)— ZAMBIA 4756.01

Urban food for work

ABSTRACT

In September 1997 the Executive Board approved the Country Programme for Zambia, 1998–2002. A total of 28.6 million dollars was thereby endorsed for the implementation of basic activities and 3.3 million dollars for the implementation of supplementary activities, in light of urgent food needs in the country. This abstract refers to Basic Activity 1: “Urban food for work”, approved in June 1998 following technical appraisal at the country level and subsequent budget approval at headquarters.

The activity targets low-income unplanned urban settlements in 14 urban districts. It offers a social safety net for low-income urban residents by providing food as an incentive to mitigate food insecurity, and to improve the nutritional and living conditions of poor households through skills training, labour-based infrastructure construction and environmental improvement works.

Food will be provided as an incentive and income transfer to enable vulnerable groups and low-income food-insecure urban households to take part in labour-intensive works with a view to improving their living conditions and upgrading their settlements. The initiative also aims at contributing to the promotion of the quality of life of vulnerable groups in unplanned settlements by enhancing their coping abilities through vocational skills and entrepreneurship training. Capacity-building programmes for community-based organizations will be facilitated. Support will be provided to the establishment of former food for work participants as small-scale contractors for road maintenance and disposal collection. Close coordination is foreseen with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the International Labour Organization (ILO).

By the end of the activity, 45,000 food-insecure, low-income residents in 42 unplanned settlements will have participated for an average of six months in labour-intensive works in order to improve their living conditions. At least one small-scale maintenance contractor will be established in each settlement. In addition, some 1,050 km of community roads will be built, and 378 latrines and 45 compost production sites will be set up.

The approved budget includes food costs for an amount of 5.3 million dollars and total costs of 10.2 million dollars, comprising direct support costs of 1.9 million dollars. Some 17,500 tons of food commodities, including maize meal, pulses, vegetable oil and salt, will be distributed to targeted beneficiaries in selected settlements.

NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

This document is submitted for information to the Executive Board.

Pursuant to the decisions taken on the methods of work by the Executive Board at its First Regular Session of 1996, the documentation prepared by the Secretariat for the Board has been kept brief and decision-oriented. The meetings of the Executive Board are to be conducted in a business-like manner, with increased dialogue and exchanges between delegations and the Secretariat. Efforts to promote these guiding principles will continue to be pursued by the Secretariat.

The Secretariat therefore invites members of the Board who may have questions of a technical nature with regard to this document, to contact the WFP staff member(s) listed below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting. This procedure is designed to facilitate the Board's consideration of the document in the plenary.

The WFP focal points for this document are:

Regional Director: M. Zejjari tel.: 066513-2201

Programme Coordinator: O. Bula Escobar tel.: 066513-2735

Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact the Documentation and Meetings Clerk (tel.: 066513-2641).

