

Decision

The Board approved by correspondence the revision of the Sao Tome and Principe transitional interim country strategic plan to, inter alia, extended its end date by four months, from 1 March to 30 June 2019, as outlined in the present document.

20 November 2018

Rationale

1. Following the completion and launch of the national zero hunger strategic review in Sao Tome and Principe in April 2018, the WFP country office has been engaging in discussions with the Government on the way forward for WFP's presence in the country, in accordance with the recommendations derived from the strategic review. During a visit by the WFP Regional Director in June 2018, the Prime Minister of Sao Tome and Principe, on behalf of the Government, committed to contributing USD 1 million to the implementation of activities under the upcoming country strategic plan (CSP). In view of these ongoing exchanges and following a recommendation made at the strategic programme review process meeting held on 26 July 2018, the submission of the CSP has been shifted from the Board's 2019 first regular session to the 2019 annual session, allowing more time for finalization of the CSP and resulting in the need for a four-month extension of the current transitional interim country strategic plan (T-ICSP) for Sao Tome and Principe, from 1 March to 30 June 2019. Implementation of the T-ICSP began in January 2018 for 14 months. The T-ICSP provides the framework within which WFP is contributing to the achievement of zero hunger (Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2) in the country by enhancing the capacity of the Government to implement nationwide safety nets focused on food security and nutrition.

Changes

2. No changes are foreseen in the approach or the implementation strategy. WFP will continue to provide the Government with support in addressing the main recommendations derived from a Systems Approach for Better Education Results workshop held in October 2016 regarding the school meals programme. In addition, a small number of activities that were planned for 2018 but are unlikely to be implemented this year will be reprogrammed during the four-month extension without any budget increase. These activities will enable WFP to:
 - strengthen government capacities through South-South cooperation with a multi-sector study trip to Brazil for decision makers of relevant ministries in Sao Tome and Principe, with support from WFP's Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil;
 - improve the working conditions and training of cooks and other personnel in school canteens through the provision of support for hygiene and food handling practices and school gardens; and
 - provide technical and financial assistance for the national school feeding and health programme in order to increase and strengthen the process for procuring local produce from smallholder farmers.
3. No changes to beneficiary numbers, rations or costs to WFP are foreseen.

Cost breakdown (no change)

TABLE 1: OVERALL T-ICSP COST BREAKDOWN (USD)	
	Strategic Result 5, SDG Target 17.9
	Strategic outcome 1
Focus area	Root causes
Transfer	182 578
Implementation	101 489
Adjusted direct support costs	28 648
Subtotal	312 716
Indirect support costs (6.5%)	20 327
Total	333 042