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Agenda item 9

For approval



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DEVELOPMENT PROJECT— LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN REGION CAPACITY-BUILDING PROJECT 10411.0

Capacity-Building in Support of Food-Based Social-Protection Programmes

Duration of project	Four years
Cost (United States dollars)	
Total cost to WFP	7,660,000

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NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

This document is submitted for approval by 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.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Latin America and Caribbean region is diverse in terms of geography, language, customs and prosperity. Consequently, eradicating malnutrition¹ and hunger requires country-specific strategies. There has been progress in reducing hunger and malnutrition, but gains have not been proportionately reflected among countries and within countries.

Through this capacity-building project, WFP will continue to generate a knowledge system that elevates the profile of hunger and malnutrition, emphasizing the high social cost in comparison to the cost of reduction measures. WFP will work to place hunger on the social agendas of governments in the region, promote dialogue, advocate for strategies to address hunger and malnutrition, and bring together practitioners with best practices to influence policy and programme development. WFP will facilitate a dynamic process combined with technical support that will allow countries in the region to strengthen national food-based social programmes with the aim of reducing hunger and malnutrition for all.

DRAFT DECISION*

The Board approves Development Project — Latin America and Caribbean Region Capacity-Building Project 10411.0, “Capacity-Building in Support of Food-Based Social-Protection Programmes”. (WFP/EB.A/2005/9-A/1).

¹ For this project, malnutrition refers specifically to chronic malnutrition and underweight. Information and knowledge sharing related to vitamin/mineral deficiency will be addressed, but another initiative will focus on providing technical support.

* This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Board, please refer to the Decisions and Recommendations document issued at the end of the session.



PROBLEM ANALYSIS

1. In the last three decades, governments in the Latin America and Caribbean region have made commitments and positioned resources to alleviate hunger and poverty, supported by international financial institutions (IFIs), bilateral donors and multilateral agencies. Governments support various social protection and social welfare programmes; hunger issues are increasingly part of social policy and political agendas. The region has achieved high levels of per capita social spending relative to other regions.
2. Irrespective of their diverse objectives and implementation mechanisms, social programmes are making progress in narrowing the gap between rich and poor and in addressing under-nutrition and malnutrition. Nonetheless, 53 million people are undernourished, and 200 million live in poverty.

Inequalities and Hunger

3. Inequality in the region has persisted for decades, with only minor improvement. National averages mask large disparities between urban and rural areas, remote and accessible regions and indigenous and other populations. This inequality, largely associated with wage differentials, is influenced by quantity and quality of schooling, gender and ethnic bias, access to employment and differences in urban and rural incomes. Economic development, rapid urbanization and a history of volatility contribute to inequality. Whatever the direct cause, inequality in access to income, food, health, education and employment weakens social progress.
4. In most countries, incomes are increasingly concentrated: according to household surveys, the richest 10 percent receive 40–47 percent of total income in most Latin American societies; the poorest 20 percent receive 2–4 percent. This concentration of income at the top of the distribution is the most distinctive attribute of Latin American income inequality. By comparison, the richest 10 percent in the United States receive 31 percent of total income.² The average Gini index³ for per capita income in 13 Latin American countries has recently increased to a weighted measure of 54 in 1998; Brazil (60.7) and Nicaragua (60.3) rank highest.
5. Poverty indices in the Latin America and Caribbean region are not always an adequate proxy for hunger and malnutrition. Disparities in access to food remain among the highest in the world and will determine whether countries in the region achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Inequalities in access to food increased during the 1990s despite the decrease in extreme poverty, partly as a result of the high level of income disparity.

Chronic Malnutrition

6. Problems of hunger and malnutrition largely result from insufficient access to food, a consequence of low incomes. High levels of chronic malnutrition and relapses to acute malnutrition as a consequence of climatic and economic shocks are of particular concern. In 2003, 8.9 million children under 5 were chronically malnourished.

² World Bank. 2004. *Inequalities in Latin America and the Caribbean: Breaking the History*. Washington DC.

³ The Gini index measures inequality over the distribution of income or consumption. A value of 0 represents perfect equality, a value of 100 perfect inequality.



7. Countries with high levels of chronic malnutrition among children under 5 (height for age <-2 standard deviation) include: Guatemala, 49 percent; Honduras, 29 percent; Bolivia, 27 percent; Ecuador, 26 percent; Peru, 25 percent; Haiti, 23 percent; Nicaragua, 20 percent; and El Salvador, 19 percent.⁴
8. National averages do not reflect extreme variations among groups and geographical areas. For example, chronic malnutrition in Guatemala can be 80 percent in rural indigenous communities; in the Andean region, which has 190 ethnic groups, children from indigenous communities have twice the probability of becoming stunted compared to regional averages. The region faces increasing incidence of HIV, a cause and an effect of poverty. Malnutrition negatively affects HIV treatment and is a factor in increased prevalence of HIV/AIDS.
9. Inequality, poverty and malnutrition converge in a complex socio-economic situation that must be thoroughly analysed if the underlying causal relationships are to be reflected in policies and programmes. Poverty-based analyses and vulnerability analysis and mapping (VAM) studies do not consistently distinguish causal factors leading to malnutrition or identify the people most vulnerable to nutritional decline. The extreme variations in malnutrition demonstrate the importance of improving understanding of the social and geographical patterns of hunger. More in-depth analyses would improve identification of pockets of hunger, determine cost-effective means of intervening and demonstrate that more resources should be allocated to food-based social programmes.

Social Programmes

10. Considerable expansion in social spending occurred between 1990 and 1997, but it slowed at the end of the decade along with economic growth worldwide. The 1990s nonetheless saw a 58 percent average increase in per capita public-sector spending. However, these increases were not accompanied by a significant reduction in income disparities among countries or within countries.
11. On average, increases in social spending are not proportionally reflected in allocations to cash-based and food-based programmes: about 1 percent of expenditures are allocated to food-based programmes.
12. Major loans by IFIs are a major source of funding for social programmes. As of 30 June 2003, the World Bank portfolio of projects in the Latin America and Caribbean region totalled US\$22.4 billion, prioritizing (i) education, (ii) support for the financial sector, (iii) distribution and social-protection policy, (iv) institutional reform and governance, (v) empowerment and inclusion of excluded groups and (vi) environmental sustainability. In June 2003, the World Bank approved three loans totalling US\$80 million to strengthen pro-poor programmes in Bolivia, including a social safety net structural adjustment credit.

⁴ UNICEF. 2005. *State of the World's Children*. New York, USA.



PUBLIC SOCIAL EXPENDITURE IN THE LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN REGION		
SOURCE: (ECLAC, SOCIAL PANORAMA OF LATIN AMERICA, 2002–2003)		
Country	Total public spending on education	Total public spending on health
	As % of GDP (2000–2001)	As % of GDP (2000–2001)
Argentina	5.0	5.0
Bolivia	6.5	3.7
Brazil	3.7	3.0
Chile	4.1	2.8
Colombia	3.9	4.3
Costa Rica	5.0	5.3
Dominican Republic	3.0	1.9
Ecuador	3.0	1.1
El Salvador	2.6	1.5
Guatemala	2.6	1.5
Honduras	5.8	3.1
Mexico	4.1	1.9
Nicaragua	6.3	4.8
Panama	6.0	8.2
Paraguay	4.0	1.1
Peru	2.5	1.8
Uruguay	3.4	2.8
Venezuela	5.0	1.4

PROJECT RATIONALE

13. The countries in the region are diverse in terms of geography, language, customs and prosperity, so eradicating malnutrition and hunger requires country-specific strategies, different levels of resources and varying timelines. Given that food transfers represent about 1 percent of social investment, there is a need for increased commitment to food-based social-protection programmes. Collaboration between governments and WFP shows strong demand for more effective hunger-reduction measures and improved and expanded food-based social programmes. The partnership between WFP and the Government of Ecuador exemplifies the role that WFP can increasingly assume: it is built on a shared conviction that investments in reducing hunger pay off. WFP's role goes beyond providing food to include capacity-building and technical assistance in targeting, monitoring, impact analysis and logistics support.
14. Recent WFP efforts in the region highlight the need for policies and programmes that improve access to food and prevent malnutrition among children and mothers. These include ECLAC, WFP hunger studies and regional hunger consultations, technical targeting workshops with the Secretariat of Social Development, Mexico (SEDESOL) and work with the Brazilian Government; they emphasized that food-based social-protection programmes must be part of national strategies, including poverty-reduction strategy papers (PRSPs), to promote sustained economic growth and improved income distribution.



PRSPs alone, however, do not consistently address the food and nutrition needs of the most vulnerable people, particularly children.

15. Food-based social programmes such as school feeding and nutritional programmes for mothers and children are an opportunity to reach the most vulnerable people. Monitoring and impact assessments are crucial in ensuring that social programmes work towards the MDGs; these involve a larger group of stakeholders through the development of networking and knowledge sharing combined with technical support, particularly in targeting. Greater attention must be paid to advocacy and increasing public commitment for funding for food-based programmes in order to accelerate advances towards the MDGs.
16. WFP and its partners must build on successes and capitalize on the visibility initiated by President Lula's *Fome Zero* (Hunger Zero) programme in Brazil. The agreement among presidents Lagos, Lula and Chirac has added impetus to addressing hunger; other governments are joining – Guatemala's new Front Against Hunger is an example. The occasion presents itself for WFP to work with governments to reduce hunger and malnutrition and put all countries in the region on track to achieve the MDGs. WFP should not miss this valuable opportunity.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND OUTPUTS

Overall Objective

17. The overall objective of the project is to increase government capacity to reduce hunger through national food-based social programmes.

Objectives

18. The short-term objectives are to:
 - increase knowledge of hunger and malnutrition to support advocacy, formulation of national policy and implementation of food-based social-protection programmes;
 - strengthen technical capacity to target, manage and show impacts from food-based social programmes; and
 - strengthen networking capacity and build collaborative approaches to facilitate exchange of information and stronger food-based social programmes.

Outputs

19. The main outputs are:
 - a *Nutrition and Food Security Atlas* covering the Andean region, Central America, the Caribbean and South America;
 - sub-regional studies of the cost of hunger and other nutrition studies;
 - impact-assessment studies of food-based mother-and-child health (MCH) programmes in each sub-region;
 - increased advocacy to support formulation of national policy on hunger and malnutrition;
 - staff trained in targeting, impact assessment and transparent food-management practices;



- a hunger and nutrition information system in place and accessible to governments and partners identifying updated best practices and institutions; and
- a network to advocate for hunger reduction and greater efficiency in food-based social-protection programmes.

PROJECT STRATEGY

Implementation Strategy

20. WFP will build on its experience in hunger reduction to generate a knowledge base that
 - (i) brings the cost of hunger and malnutrition to the forefront of political agendas,
 - (ii) demonstrates that least-cost options are available to tackle malnutrition and
 - (iii) promotes dialogue and brings together best practices to influence policy and programme development. WFP will facilitate a process whereby countries in the region can strengthen national food-based social programmes to reduce hunger and malnutrition.
21. The main components of the project are:
 - **informing policy formulation:** increase knowledge of hunger and malnutrition to support advocacy, national policy formulation and food-based social-protection programmes;
 - **technical assistance to support government social programmes:** strengthen technical capacity to target, manage and show impacts of food-based social programmes; and
 - **information sharing and networks:** strengthen networking capacity and build collaborative approaches to facilitate exchange of information and stronger food-based social programmes.
22. Activities will be implemented in (i) the Andean region, covering Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, (ii) Central America and Mexico, (iii) the Caribbean and (iv) the remaining countries in South America. The project will be phased in by region – Central America, the Andes, the Caribbean and then South America.
23. WFP country offices will be involved in planning, designing and implementing activities. In countries where WFP does not have a permanent presence, partners will be identified on the basis of ODPC's regional memoranda of understanding.
24. The project will work with governments to increase their commitment to hunger reduction through improved and expanded food-based social programmes. Project resources will be augmented by in-kind contributions such as staff and data from governments in the Latin America and Caribbean region. These combined resources will enable additional resources to be leveraged to support country-specific studies, consultations and an expansion in food-based programmes. Initially, the project will provide technical assistance in writing proposals and facilitate relationships with donors to secure funds.



25. The project has well developed links to corporate work in the areas of Strategic Priority 5, (help governments establish and manage national food assistance programmes) food-based safety nets, nutrition and results-based management (RBM).⁵ It is designed to complement ODPC initiatives in emergency preparedness and vitamin/micronutrient deficiencies, which will be further addressed in separate activities. The project will benefit from WFP's investments in information technologies such as video conferencing and will maximize their use for activities such as distance learning. Country offices have initiated several capacity-building activities, particularly in monitoring and VAM; the project will build on these and draw on WFP's experiences to ensure cross-fertilization at the field and Headquarters levels.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Informing the Policy Agenda

26. The project will work at the regional and country levels to consolidate and augment hunger and malnutrition information, building on the work of VAMs, World Bank poverty analyses, country-led nutrition assessments and studies by institutions such as the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), the Institute of Nutrition and Food Technology (INTA) and the International Food and Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). Three main activities will be developed to improve understanding of hungry and malnourished people, where they are, the causes of hunger and the financial and economic cost of not addressing these problems. The results will be incorporated into a regional knowledge base accessible to all practitioners in the field and used to enhance implementation of food-based policy and programmes.

⇒ *Nutrition and food-security atlas for Latin America and its sub-regions*

27. The project will work with specialized regional institutions, Tufts University and VAM focal points to analyse hunger, malnutrition and food and livelihood insecurity on a sub-regional basis. The in-depth hunger analysis will identify (i) malnourished populations and areas most exposed to hunger and malnutrition, (ii) the underlying causes of hunger and malnutrition, (iii) malnutrition in groups impacted by HIV/AIDS and (iv) the livelihood profiles of vulnerable groups. Production of the *Nutrition and Food Security Atlas* will be based on consolidation of existing information and will rely on government census data, nutrition surveys, poverty maps and VAM studies. Weighted indices will be constructed, based on (i) food availability and affordability, (ii) chronic malnutrition, (iii) underweight, (iv) inequalities and discrimination, (v) livelihood access and (vi) sanitation and health. The atlas will be a first step from analysis to actions that re-orient existing programmes to serve the needs of malnourished and food-insecure people.
28. The project will establish methodological links with livelihood-security approaches and will derive methods to expand ongoing poverty analyses into multi-dimensional analyses of hunger and malnutrition. WFP's Enhanced Commitments to Women will guide disaggregation of data by sex and age. Studies will examine whether and why women, in

⁵ This project builds on three recent WFP policy papers approved by the Board: "WFP Food-Based Safety Nets: Concepts, Experiences and Future Programming Opportunities" (WFP/EB.3/2004/4-A), "Building National and Regional Capacities" (WFP/EB.3/2004/4-B) and "Financial Framework for Strategic Priority 5 Implementation" (WFP/EB.1/2005/5-A).



particular indigenous women, are more at risk from malnutrition and women's role in establishing household food security.

⇒ *Cost of hunger study*

29. The costs of malnutrition are enormous for affected households and national economies. The loss in gross domestic product (GDP) is significant: the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) puts the cost at US\$2.6 billion annually; the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) estimates it at US\$6 billion. Hunger and malnutrition are political problems that can be resolved at a fraction of the cost of ignoring them. Preventing hunger by investing in nutrition could yield substantial benefits at reasonable cost.
30. The purpose of the sub-regional studies is to develop understanding of the dynamics between macronutrient and micronutrient intake and economic growth. The economic and financial benefits of interventions to reduce malnutrition in quantitative and qualitative terms will allow for an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of potential social-investment options. A comparative analysis will be carried out to show the social cost of allowing 53 million people to continue to live with the effects of malnutrition. An important output will be an understanding of the social return of selected public investments, including a comparison of food-based and cash-based transfers, which will be an important advocacy tool for increased funding for food-based social programmes. The study will analyse real and opportunity costs, taking into consideration the short-term and long-term effects of malnutrition and the short-term and long-term benefits of eradication measures.
31. ECLAC, with support from WFP, has developed an economic model and a methodology that are being tested in Peru and Chile. The model will allow for an empirical study of the cost of malnutrition, considering costs related to women, children and indigenous groups. It is based on indicators that will test (i) the effects of chronic and global malnutrition on economic productivity, (ii) the social costs associated with increased public-health costs and (iii) inefficiency in educational processes, using disability-adjusted life years indicators. The model will provide social-sector practitioners with indicators for measuring the expected benefits of food-based social programmes.

⇒ *Advocacy and policy support*

32. Food and nutrition policies are essential supports for food-based programmes; policymakers will be encouraged to take a longer-term view and encourage involvement of public, private and civil-society stakeholders. Food and nutrition policies can not be conceived in isolation: they must be incorporated into anti-poverty, production and trade policies with a long-term perspective. Advocacy will be a powerful tool for ensuring that food and nutrition policies are reflected at the sub-national level, supported by national laws.
33. To support policy formulation and raise awareness of hunger and nutrition problems at the regional and country levels, the project will:
 - integrate findings from cost studies and the *Food Security and Nutrition Atlas* in advocacy campaigns, consultations, seminars and training;
 - participate in PRSP and sector-wide approach (SWAP) processes in line with WFP's role in a country or sub-region;
 - review policies in five countries and identify gaps and opportunities for integrating hunger and nutrition in policy formulation and legal frameworks; and



- hold regional and sub-regional seminars on hunger and nutrition policy.

Technical Assistance to Support Programme Implementation

34. In line with WFP's strategic orientation in the Latin America and Caribbean region and experiences from ongoing collaborations with governments, particularly in Ecuador, Honduras and Peru where WFP already provides technical assistance, the project will work with governments to enhance capacity in support of food-based social-protection programmes, especially in targeting, food management and impact analysis.

⇒ *Technical assistance to support targeting and food management*

35. Priority social-protection programmes are those that favour nutrition, education, integrated national responses to HIV/AIDS, integrated gender-sensitive nutrition programmes addressing malnutrition in children, especially those between 6 and 24 months, and emergency social-protection responses. Consultations with governments have identified a role for WFP in support of targeting and supply-chain management.
36. WFP's comparative advantage lies in supporting governments in refining methods of targeting to improve links between geographical methods and vulnerable-group targeting to reach those most in need. People in the poorest quintiles often have no access to food-based programmes, many of which are not designed to meet the needs of small children.
37. Technical support in food management will be based on a country-specific needs-based approach covering storage, distribution, local purchases and transparency, including data management for supply-chain operations. WFP's work in Ecuador and Honduras is a model for developing cooperation agreements for technical assistance. WFP will promote establishment of food-based programme standards at regional, national and sub-national workshops.
38. Although governments have made progress in these areas, the project would identify priority areas in collaboration with government counterparts and country offices. Building on experience in the region and relying on south-south cooperation linkages, the project will:
- define technical assistance opportunities in each sub-region and countries where governments have expressed interest in working with WFP;
 - identify providers of technical assistance under south-south cooperation in and outside a region to support the project;
 - review WFP's role and comparative advantage in supporting MCH and other government food-based programmes;
 - develop country-specific technical assistance;
 - organize workshops and training at the regional, national and sub-national levels;
 - support development of national hunger and nutrition policies; and
 - work with partners to raise visibility and resources for food-based programmes, including writing proposals to secure resources for food-based social protection.



⇒ *Impact assessment*

39. The other main aspects of technical assistance are impact assessment and application of RBM in designing and implementing social programmes. The experience of WFP, the World Bank and aid agencies will be used in applying logic models, systematic monitoring and assessments of outcomes and impact to increase and demonstrate effectiveness.
40. Impact assessments are essential for decision-makers, because they provide up-to-date information on trade-offs among programme options, enabling comparisons of effectiveness, efficiency and capacity to implement different programmes.
41. With government counterparts, the project will:
- review best practices in assessing the impact of food-based social programmes;
 - identify gaps in current approaches to impact assessment;
 - review methodologies that can be adapted for different types of food-based programmes, considering gender-sensitive approaches and methods that capture impacts for target groups such as women, children and indigenous people;
 - develop training modules for government practitioners in RBM and impact assessment;
 - undertake impact assessments of selected programmes and collect baseline and evaluation data on social programme beneficiaries; and
 - promote integration of impact assessment results into policy development through advocacy and debates on best practices, performance and implementation capacity.
42. After reviewing best practices, WFP will partner with specialized institutions and coordinate impact assessments for programmes in the four sub-regions. Case studies will be conducted on impact assessments of MCH programmes in the Andean region and Central American countries.

Information Sharing and Networks

43. The importance of knowledge sharing was emphasized recently through the actions of the World Bank and major aid agencies. The principles of national and regional capacity-building⁶ include creating a knowledge-management system to ensure that governments, institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society share existing capacities and adapt to changes. Various databases exist in the region, including Dev-Info, FIVIMS, SISVAN and MFEWS, but hunger and malnutrition information for the region has not been systematically compiled. The project will support and benefit from inter-agency analyses of food security, hunger and malnutrition and will systematically make information available to all practitioners.

⇒ *Hunger and malnutrition information system*

44. With emphasis on information exchange and south-south dialogue, the hunger and malnutrition information system will (i) build communities of practice, (ii) develop an on-line knowledge base, (iii) provide advisory services and a directory of expertise and (iv) provide a dialogue space for professionals. The system will include:

⁶ WFP/EB.3/2004/4-B, "Building Country and Regional Capacities", p. 3.



- an interactive hunger and nutrition database including correlations with HIV/AIDS incidence and sex-disaggregated data;
- a catalogue of practitioners and best practices related to food-based social programmes;
- a library of documents related to food and nutrition; and
- a regional calendar of summits, seminars, workshops and visits related to nutrition and hunger.

⇒ *Networking initiatives*

45. Building on the creation of a “virtual hunger community”, the project will facilitate sharing of experiences through seminars and meetings in the sub-regions. WFP will organize a regional hunger consultation and three sub-regional meetings to discuss hunger issues and technical issues related to improving the effectiveness of food-based social programmes. Annual networking consultations will be organized in each sub-region for practitioners to develop joint agendas, discuss solutions to problems and determine capacity-building requirements.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

46. A core project team will be established in the regional bureau, supervised by the Regional Director. The project will be implemented in collaboration with country office technical staff, especially in VAM, policy, RBM and supply-chain management. Technical support from WFP will complement the skills required and reduce the need for outside consultants.
47. The project manager’s duties will include identifying, selecting and managing consultants. The team will prepare technical service proposals and ensure that products and services are of high quality and meet project objectives.
48. The core project team will include specialists in nutrition, information systems/geographical information system (GIS) and food security/livelihoods, a junior information specialist and two staff assistants. It will be supported by short-term consultants, including specialists in RBM, food policy, HIV/AIDS, gender and training. The project will rely on the experience and networks of country offices, which will help to ensure that the project is demand-driven and to promote dialogue with government counterparts.
49. The project does not contemplate food delivery, so there are no direct operational costs (DOC). Direct support costs (DSC) account for 51 percent of project costs, other direct operational costs (ODOC) for 49 percent.

Partnership

50. WFP will work with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), FAO, ECLAC, the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Bank, IADB and non-traditional partners and coordinate with regional and sub-regional initiatives such as the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama (INCAP) in Central America and INTA in Chile.
51. WFP will work with existing regional networks, including the recently created Latin American School Feeding Network (LA-RAE) in Chile, and will coordinate with the International Vitamin A Consultative Group, the International Nutritional Anaemia Group and the Latin-American Nutrition Forum. WFP will collaborate with development actors



providing technical assistance on nutrition interventions in the region, including the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention.

52. ODPC has established a steering committee with ECLAC to provide political and technical backstopping for activities under this project. It includes representatives from the World Bank, IADB, the MDG Hunger Task Force, Tufts University, UNICEF, INCAP, IFPRI, and the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO). The steering committee will bring together actors and resources to support hunger-reduction agendas.
53. In view of its ground-breaking nature, an important element of the project is to open non-traditional channels for funding and advocacy. Efforts will be made to include the private sector, international and local NGOs and civil society. Broad-based support will help to secure greater financial and political commitment for expanding and strengthening food-based social programmes.

Benefits and Beneficiaries

54. The project promotes a new approach for WFP, emphasizing technical assistance, networking and knowledge management. Transferring capacity to governments provides direct and indirect benefits that are hard to measure, especially benefits for people assisted by food-based programmes. Generating and exchanging information can have wide-ranging multiplier effects.
55. The beneficiaries are government staff and policymakers, who will benefit from enhanced technical capacity, and academic institutions, NGOs and partners, who will benefit from participation in regional and sub-regional hunger meetings. All will have enhanced access to information on hunger and malnutrition.
56. The benefits are:
 - hunger and nutrition information compiled, systematized and updated;
 - information on underlying causes of hunger, identification of geographical areas and detailed profiles of vulnerable groups available for policy formulation, programme implementation and advocacy;
 - enhanced national capacity to deliver more effective food-based programmes;
 - enhanced capacity to integrate strategies for improved food security with national responses to HIV/AIDS;
 - a network to facilitate exchange of information and experiences;
 - government staff and institutions strengthened through training and participation in consultations; and
 - governments and donors provided with best practices and impact analysis, enabling better-informed decision making, resource allocation and policy formulation.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

57. The project, designed in the framework of SP5, will monitor and report progress from an RBM perspective. The logical framework provides the impact, outcome and output level indicators that will be included in the monitoring system for measurement at the end of the project. The project will be reviewed midway to ensure that expected results are achieved within the budget and proposed timeframe. At the end of the project, a self-evaluation is planned to examine results in the context of SP5 and WFP's role in capacity-building.



RISKS

58. Risks associated with this project are related to the political will of governments in the region to tackle hunger and malnutrition and include them in their political agendas.

COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION

59. WFP will ensure coordination with United Nations and other regional consultation processes at the country and regional levels. The project will build on existing United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF)/Common Country Assessment (CCA) commitments and will continue to support monitoring of progress towards the MDGs. Existing collaboration will be continued with ECLAC and expanded to its partners.
60. WFP will continue to support regional summits and consultations and advocate for inclusion of hunger and malnutrition in political agendas, for example hosting with the Government of Panama a technical consultation in May 2005 in conjunction with the fourth Summit of Heads of State for Countries Associated with the Caribbean States. WFP will also continue to work with the Central American System for Economic Integration (SIECA), the Latin American Economic System (SELA), the Andean Community, the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

RECOMMENDATION

61. The project is recommended for Executive Board approval within the budget detailed in Annexes I and II.



ANNEX I

PROJECT COST BREAKDOWN* ODOC (US\$)	
Staff and staff-related costs	
International consultants (incl. travel)	1 406 410
National consultants	373 660
Temporary assistance	82 160
Non-WFP staff training	1 023 910
Travel	518 660
Subtotal	3 404 800
TC/IT equipment	126 000
Subtotal	126 000
TOTAL ODOC	3 530 800

* ISC amount to US\$501,261.



ANNEX II

DIRECT SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS (US\$)	
Staff	
International professional staff	2 015 000
National professional officers	229 520
National general service staff	192 440
International consultants	70 000
Staff duty travel	416 000
Subtotal	2 922 960
Office expenses and other recurrent costs	
Rental of facility	77 540
Utilities (general)	107 710
Office supplies	61 920
Communication and IT services	30 960
Insurance	32 050
Equipment repair and maintenance	21 525
Vehicle maintenance and running costs	10 350
Other office expenses	224 060
Subtotal	566 115
Equipment and other fixed costs	
Furniture, tools and equipment	50 000
Vehicles	18 000
TC/IT equipment	73 000
Subtotal	141 000
TOTAL DIRECT SUPPORT COSTS	3 630 075



ANNEX III: DEVELOPMENT PROJECT — LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN REGION CAPACITY-BUILDING PROJECT 10411.0

SP 5: Help governments establish and manage national food assistance programmes

Results hierarchy	Performance indicators	Risks, assumptions
Impact 1. Increase government commitment and capacity to manage food-based social protection programmes.	Impact-level indicators 1.1 Percentage of social investment dedicated to food-based social programmes.	Governments have the political will to address hunger and malnutrition in the region.
Outcomes	Outcome-level indicators	
1. Increased awareness and knowledge of hunger and malnutrition in the region.	1.1 Number of food-based policies formulated with inputs from project results. 1.2 Number of governments undertaking follow-on hunger related studies.	
2. Strengthen technical capacity to identify food needs, measure impact and manage food-based social programmes.	2.1 Percentage of food-based social programmes that incorporate improved targeting methods. 2.2 Percentage of food-based social programmes that incorporate impact evaluations. 2.3 Percentage of food-based social programmes that deliver food and services on time.	
3. Networking capacity strengthened to facilitate exchange of information and collaborative approaches among countries, institutions and partners to food-based social programming.	3.1 Number of stakeholder contacts facilitated by the project. 3.2 Number of formal collaborations established among countries.	
Outputs	Output-level indicators	
1.1 <i>Nutrition and Food Security Atlas</i> covering Andean, Central American, Caribbean and South American sub-regions. 1.2 Sub-regional studies of the cost of hunger and malnutrition. 1.3 Impact assessment studies of food-based social programmes. 1.4 Advocacy and support for formulation of national policy on hunger and malnutrition.	1.1 <i>Nutrition and Food Security Atlas</i> for Andean, Central American, Caribbean and South American sub-regions. 1.2 Four sub-regional studies of the cost of hunger and malnutrition. 1.3 Four MCH impact-assessment studies, one for each sub-region. 1.4 Four regional consultations, one for each sub-region	
2.1 Capacity-building in management and implementation of food-based social protection programmes.	2.1 Number of new technical trainings, seminars and workshops to improve management and implementation of food-based social protection programmes. 2.2 Number of national government staff trained in skills to support implementation of food-based social programmes.	
3.1 Hunger and nutrition information system in place accessible to governments and partners. 3.2 A network to advocate for hunger reduction in the region.	3.1 One hunger and nutrition information system in place available to governments in the region. 3.2 One network in place facilitating workshops, trainings, events and information sharing related to nutrition and hunger.	



ANNEX IV

Map of Inequality Indices in the Latin America and Caribbean Region

“Recent figures reaffirm that income concentration in the region’s countries stubbornly resist efforts to reduce [inequalities]. Unquestionably, this factor limits the countries’ ability to progress towards the poverty reduction target set in the Millennium Development Declaration”
Social Panorama of Latin America 2002-2003



The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Food Programme (WFP) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its frontiers or boundaries.



ACRONYMS USED IN THE DOCUMENT

APEC	Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CCA	Common Country Assessment
DOC	direct operational costs
DSC	direct support costs
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FIVIMS	Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information and Mapping Systems
GIS	Geographical information system
GDP	gross domestic product
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
IFI	international financial institution
IFPRI	International Food and Policy Research Institute
INCAP	Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama
INTA	Institute of Nutrition and Food Technology (Chile)
LA-RAE	Latin American School Feeding Network
MCH	mother-and-child health
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MFEWS	Mesoamerica Famine and Early Warning System
NGO	non-governmental organization
ODOC	other direct operational costs
ODPC	Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Bureau
PAHO	Pan-American Health Organization
PRSP	poverty-reduction strategy paper
RBM	results-based management
SEDESOL	Secretariat of Social Development (Mexico)
SELA	Latin American Economic System
SIECA	Central American System for Economic Integration
SISVAN	Information System for Food and Nutrition Control
SP	Strategic Priority
SWAP	sector-wide approach
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAM	vulnerability analysis and mapping
WHO	World Health Organization

