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**Executive Board  
Second Regular Session**

**Rome, 16 - 18 May 2001**

# **COUNTRY PROGRAMMES**

## **Agenda item 5**

***For consideration***

**E**

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## **COUNTRY PROGRAMME—NEPAL (2002–2006)**

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# Note to the Executive Board



**This document is submitted for consideration 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.

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# Executive Summary

Nepal, a least-developed, low-income, food-deficit country, has an annual per capita gross national product (GNP) of slightly over US\$200 (1998) and ranks 144<sup>th</sup> on the UNDP's Human Development Index (1999). Of its population of 22 million, 42 percent live below the poverty line and more than one third consume fewer than 2,250 kcal a day. The maternal mortality rate is one of the highest in the world, at 475 per 100,000 live births, and the under-5 mortality rate is 118 per 1,000. Despite women's high labour input to the household economy, their access to assets and services and their involvement in decision-making is restricted by rigid socio-cultural practices.

The Nepal 2002–2006 Country Programme (CP) is based on the Country Strategy Outline (CSO) endorsed by the Executive Board in May 2000. It is also based on the results of a comprehensive consultative process with beneficiaries, government representatives, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and bilateral and multilateral aid agencies. The CP cycle and orientation are harmonized with those of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), and the Government's upcoming Tenth Five-Year Plan.

The goal of the Nepal CP is to bring about sustainable improvements in food security for the most disadvantaged, particularly women and children, in highly food insecure areas, mainly the far and midwestern hill and mountain regions of the country.

In accordance with decision 1999/EB.A/2 of the Executive Board, WFP focuses its development activities on five priority areas. This CP addresses priorities 1, 2 and 3 under the following activities:

- **Rural Community Infrastructure Works (RCIW)** will enhance the self-help capacity of targeted poor communities by improving physical access in remote rural areas and developing productive assets and associated agricultural production. Support activities will enhance skills and capacities and provide income-generation opportunities, especially for women. Although not explicitly stated as an objective, an impact associated with RCIW will be improved disaster mitigation and natural resource management. *This activity addresses the Enabling Development policy's priority 3: Make it possible for poor families to gain and preserve assets.*
- **Food for Education (FFE)** will provide fortified midday meals to pre-primary, primary and lower-secondary schoolchildren and a take-home ration (vegetable oil) for the mothers of girls with regular school attendance. It will also include a deworming component. *This activity addresses the Enabling Development policy's priority 2: Enable poor households to invest in human capital through education and training.*
- **Assistance to Mother and Child Health Care (MCHC)** will provide an essential nutritional supplement to infants and mothers before and after delivery. It is also to serve as a tool for nutritional education and to promote the use of local health services. *This activity addresses the Enabling Development policy's priority 1: Enable young children and expectant and nursing mothers to meet their special nutritional and nutrition-related needs.*

Moreover, the WFP country office will also take a pro-active advocacy role in key areas such as national food security policy, women's empowerment and social marketing of fortified blended food.

The CP places great emphasis on partnerships with other United Nations agencies, bilateral donors, government departments, and national and international NGOs. Community participation and increased involvement of local government structures, NGOs and civil society will be the cornerstone of programme implementation. Vulnerability analysis and mapping (VAM) will constitute a critical input into programme targeting and internal evaluation and for food security



analysis and advocacy for the hungry poor.

A further expansion of the FFE supplementary activity is also planned with additional resources from the School Feeding Initiative.

The Executive Director of WFP recommends that the Executive Board approve the five-year Country Programme (2002–2006) for a total cost of US\$48,901,091. The Board is also requested to approve an additional amount of US\$27,006,365 for the supplementary activity.

## Draft Decision



The Board approves the Country Programme for Nepal (2002–2006) (WFP/EB.2/2001/5/1).



## STRATEGIC FOCUS

### Summary of the Executive Board's Discussion of the CSO

1. The Executive Board found the strategy presented in the CSO to be comprehensive and an appropriate framework for a progressive change in the focus of WFP's future operations. Representatives noted the rationale for and strategic elements of the change, including a more thorough analysis for improved targeting; improvements in programme design and implementation; a pursuit of synergies and partnerships; and compatibility with the UNDAF. The Board welcomed the resulting changes in the geographical targeting and resource allocation in WFP's future operational strategy.
2. The Board commended the Government of Nepal for its continued commitment to eradicating hunger and poverty in the country (see Annex I).

### Food Security and the Hungry Poor

#### ✦ *Overall Dimensions*

3. The dimensions of hunger and poverty in Nepal are deplorable. Of a population of about 22 million, about 42 percent live below the poverty line<sup>1</sup> and about 76 percent on less than US\$1 per day.<sup>2</sup> A declining aggregate food availability is compounded by insufficient access to food, essentially owing to poverty. In 1996/1997 the fertility rate (number of children a woman has during her reproductive years) was 4.58,<sup>3</sup> and since 1966 the population has been growing at a yearly rate of 2.37.<sup>4</sup>

#### ✦ *The Condition of Children*

4. The incidence and effect of hunger and malnutrition among Nepal's children is appalling. Poor maternal and nutritional status and inadequate health care result in low birth weight and high maternal mortality rates. The under-5 mortality rate is about 118 per 1,000 live births, among the highest in the world. Two thirds of all under-5 deaths are associated with malnutrition. About half of the children under 3 years of age are underweight (low weight for age) and half are stunted (low height for age), without gender differences. Diarrhoea-related deaths account for around 44 percent of all child mortality, and parasitic infections cause as much as a 20-percent loss in calories absorbed. Nepal's literacy rate is low, the 11<sup>th</sup> lowest in the world. There are pronounced regional and gender disparities in school enrolment rates: the primary school net enrolment rate is 79.4 percent for boys, but only 61.2 percent for girls. In the far western hills, these rates drop to 77.8 percent for boys and 49.3 percent for girls, and to as low as 50 percent for boys and 30 percent for girls in Achham district.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> As defined on the basis of a minimum per capita intake of 2,250 kcal per day (National Planning Committee [NPC] and 1996 Living Standards Survey).

<sup>2</sup> In purchasing power parity terms.

<sup>3</sup> This is a projection based on the 1991 rate of 5.6, as provided in the Family Health Survey carried out in 1996.

<sup>4</sup> Ministry of Population and Environment data (1998).

<sup>5</sup> Ministry of Education (MOE) data (1998).



### 📌 *The Situation of Women*

5. Global indices of gender equity such as the Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM) and the Gender-related Development Index (GDI) indicate the adverse position of women in Nepal. Nepal is one of the few countries where women's life expectancy is lower than men's and where there are fewer females in every age group. The maternal mortality rate, at 475 per 100,000 live births, is one of the highest in the world. About 75 percent of all expectant mothers suffer from anaemia. Gender inequity is not simply a matter of resources but a reflection of the rigid socio-cultural norms and practices that make the condition of women among the worst in the world. Intra-household eating customs disadvantage women: they are typically the last to eat and their portions are determined by the amount left over by other family members. There is a wide gender disparity also in the literacy rates: 54 percent for men and only 19 percent for women.<sup>6</sup> Women work longer, do 75 percent of the farm work and contribute about two thirds of the total crop and livestock production. In fact, there is an increasing feminization of Nepal's agriculture because of the seasonal migration of men, especially from the hill and mountain regions.

### 📌 *The Spatial Distribution*

6. Poverty in Nepal is largely a rural phenomenon, as about 80 percent of the population are farmers, most of them on a subsistence basis. There is strong regional variation in food security and local agricultural production. Currently, 45 out of Nepal's 75 districts are food deficit, i.e. 3 of the 20 southern lowland "Terai" districts, 26 of the 39 hill districts and all 16 mountain districts. Food insecurity in the food-surplus areas of the Terai is a problem mainly of social access and utilization, whereas in the hills and mountains, all dimensions of food insecurity are prevalent. While the largest absolute number of poor people live in the Terai, the percentage of people living below the poverty line is highest in the mountains (56 percent). Surveys in the mountain and hill regions indicate that local food production can meet the demand for only about five to six months a year, with people adopting a variety of coping mechanisms to survive the remaining period.

### 📌 *Vulnerability*

7. The frequent recurrence of floods, localized drought and landslides further increase the population's food insecurity given their limited capacity to cope. Earthquakes represent a particular threat not only to seismologically sensitive mountain areas but also to urban areas such as the Kathmandu valley, especially for the poorest. Increased deforestation and indiscriminate cultivation have aggravated soil erosion in the fragile mountain ecosystem and increased flooding in the plains. Landslides occur frequently in the rainy season, halting the flow of goods and services and causing sharp price variations in remote areas. To cope with these risks, poor rural households try to diversify their incomes. However, since they have few assets, many can only partially accommodate threats to their livelihoods. Another coping mechanism is a reduction in food consumption, and when the rural poor are forced to reduce their calorie intake, a "silent emergency" occurs, disproportionately affecting women and children.

### 📌 *HIV/AIDS*

8. A migrant labour force of an estimated one million people constitutes one of the most important "bridge populations" for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and HIV/AIDS in

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<sup>6</sup> World Bank, Country Assistance Strategy 1999.



Nepal, as reported by the UNAIDS Nepal. In some districts of the far western region, nearly 70 percent of all men are working abroad as seasonal labourers, mainly in India.

## STRATEGIC FOCUS OF THE WFP COUNTRY PROGRAMME

### Country Programme Goals and Objectives

9. The goal of the Nepal 2002–2006 Country Programme is to bring about sustainable improvements in food security for the most disadvantaged, particularly women and children, in highly food insecure areas of Nepal. A significant part of this strategy is its explicit focus on women as key agents of change. The underlying rationale is that, although gender equality is an end in itself, it is also a means for improved food security. Women's education level, nutritional status and their control over food resources and assets are interlinked determinants of household food security. Educated women tend to follow better child-care and nutrition practices, use health services more frequently, have a higher share in family and community decision-making and are more likely to send their daughters to school. In addition, women's own nutritional status largely determines the physical and mental potential of their children. Finally, the nutritional impact on households is higher if women rather than men control food resources.
10. This strategy is pursued through three food aid activities, complemented by advocacy efforts. These are:
  - Rural Community Infrastructure Works;
  - Food for Education; and
  - Mother and Child Health Care.
11. In accordance with decision 1999/EB.A/2 of the Executive Board, WFP focuses its development activities on five priority areas. Under the above activities, this CP addresses priorities 3, 2 and 1:
  - *make it possible for poor families to gain and preserve assets;*
  - *enable poor households to invest in human capital through education and training; and*
  - *enable young children and expectant and nursing mothers to meet their special nutritional and nutrition-related health needs.*
12. The community infrastructure and food for education activities are refined interventions that build on experience gained during the past few years in the implementation of two ongoing projects. The mother and child health care activity is a new intervention, initiated on a pilot basis in 2000 to respond to the urgent nutrition needs of young children and expectant and nursing mothers. Annex V presents the interrelationships and linkages among the three activities and the dimensions of food insecurity: availability, access and utilization.

### Targeting

13. Based on a comprehensive analysis supported through strengthened vulnerability analysis and mapping, the CP has adopted a refined targeting strategy. Geographic targeting responds to the existing patterns of vulnerability and food insecurity. A



composite vulnerability map<sup>7</sup> for the country (see Annex III) indicates that the populations in the far and midwestern mountain and hill regions are most lacking in basic capabilities to cope with natural, social and economic threats to their livelihoods, and least able to secure adequate food and other resources. Subsequent research in 2000 broadened WFP's understanding of the causes of food insecurity in the rural areas of Nepal and supported earlier vulnerability analysis. Consequently, activities are to be initiated in the far western mountains and expanded in the far and midwestern hills, while during the first CP there will be a corresponding phasing-down of activities in the Terai, with a view to phasing out completely after 2006. Geographic targeting at the sub-district level will be done using a participatory method, developed by VAM in 2000, for identifying the most food insecure communities within each district. At the same time, cohort targeting will be used for MCHC and FFE. The focus will be on people, particularly women, in food-insecure households; children in pre-primary, primary and lower-secondary schools; and nutritionally vulnerable young children and expectant and nursing mothers.

### Programme Synergies and Convergence of Activities

14. The positive implication of geographical targeting is the ability to generate programme synergies by clustering activities in the same areas. First, there will be significant advantages in being able to utilize community groups formed under one of the activities for the benefit of the whole programme, thereby maximizing community motivation efforts. Second, there will be the potential for more cost-effective food storage, management and logistics. Third, all three dimensions of food insecurity will be addressed simultaneously. Fourth, geographic clustering will allow for more streamlined and cost-effective programme monitoring and performance evaluation. RCIW is to become the "pull factor", indeed prerequisite for the other two activities that will be implemented in the same districts. During the CP period, it is proposed that WFP integrate all three programme activities in at least nine districts.

### Community Participation and Decentralization

15. Community participation is essential for ensuring ownership of the proposed programmes. Communities, including the local government structures such as District Development Committees (DDCs) and Village Development Committees (VDCs), are to be explicitly involved at the design, implementation and monitoring stages. DDCs and VDCs will receive training and technical assistance to strengthen their programme management capacity and to orient them towards the CP principles of sustainability, participation and women's empowerment. While this process has been effective within RCIW during the past five years, in the case of FFE and MCHC, the modes of participation by local-level structures are still evolving. Community participation is also called for by the Government's policy of decentralization and has been supported by the UNDP under its Participatory District Development Programme (PDDP) and Local Governance Programme (LGP) and by other donor agencies.

### Partnerships and the UNDAF

16. WFP has been an active participant in the formulation of the recently finalized UNDAF for Nepal (2002–2006). As per the UNDAF, all United Nations agencies have harmonized their programming cycles, with the next cycle beginning in January 2002 and coinciding with the Government's own Tenth Five-Year Plan. The UNDAF objectives reflect the

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<sup>7</sup> Based on 12 district-level indicators related to food security, malnutrition, education and natural disasters.





goals established at the World Food Summit, the World Education Forum and the World Summit for Social Development. The three CP activities are a practical translation of those goals that seek to ensure access to physical, economic and social services for the poor. The strong focus on girls and women is at the heart of the UNDAF, where gender equity was identified as a cross-cutting theme.

17. Partnerships with the Government, NGOs, other donors and United Nations agencies have been sought at three levels (strategic, operational and contractual) and include planning and implementation coordination arrangements at the central, district and village levels. Joint implementation with the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) has been essential for the success and high quality of RCIW since the project's inception in 1996. GTZ financial planning is harmonized with that of WFP in relation to RCIW, and support is expected to continue until the end of 2006. RCIW also has partnerships with the UNDP's PDDP and LGP, the United Kingdom's Department of International Development (DFID), the Netherlands Development Organization (SNV), the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and indirectly with the Danish International Development Organization (DANIDA). The intervention in basic education will seek ways of further enhancing complementarity with the multi-donor-funded Basic and Primary Education Project (BPEP), the UNDP's Community-owned Primary Education (collaboration now ongoing in three districts) and GTZ's Improvement of the Situation of Child Labourers Project (now ongoing in one district). The Mother and Child Health Care activity will aim to expand the current partnership with UNICEF and explore new partnerships with others.

### Disaster Responsiveness

18. The CP will also contribute to mitigating the effects of disasters on the target populations and protecting the natural resource base on which those populations' livelihoods depend. First, specific disaster-prevention activities, such as the construction of river embankments, are carried out within the framework of RCIW. Second, in districts already targeted under RCIW, additional food assistance will be provided in case of a localized natural disaster for recovery and rehabilitation. Third, in the event of a major disaster or emergency situation in any part of the country and affecting large numbers of people, additional resources will be sought and provided through an emergency operation (EMOP) and/or a protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO). The WFP country office will work with relevant government agencies and with the United Nations—disaster-responsiveness being a priority identified in the UNDAF—and other partners to develop contingency plans and other preparedness arrangements for ensuring a prompt and appropriate response to food and related needs in such major crises.

### National Response to HIV/AIDS

19. The Country Office will contribute to the national response to HIV/AIDS by offering the use of its project implementation structures to HIV/AIDS-related projects, using its own programmes (especially the Mother and Child Health Care activity) as an entry point for HIV/AIDS-related activities, and by joint vulnerability mapping.



## COUNTRY PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

### Resources and Country Programme Preparation Process

20. Over the past few years, WFP has succeeded in strengthening its response to the needs of the hungry poor. This was achieved through an increasing number of partnerships with bilateral donors, United Nations agencies and NGOs, as well as through building local-level implementation capacity. As a result, between 1996 and 2000, the number of beneficiaries doubled, and food deliveries reached over 20,000 tons, also an increase of 100 percent.
21. Guided by the demonstrated effectiveness of food aid for food-insecure people in the past and by the anticipated global availability of resources to WFP, the proposed CP envisages assisting 803,300 food beneficiaries, which includes an average of about 374,500 programme participants per year during the five-year period.
22. As seen in Table 1 below, 100 percent of the participants in FFE and MCHC are women and children and 40 percent of RCIW participants are female. This makes the overall participation of women and children as high as 92 percent.

TABLE 1

Activity	Programme participants (average number per annum)			Food aid beneficiaries (average number per annum)		
	Total	Female	Women and children	Total	Female	Women and children
<b>RCIW</b>	<b>46 800</b>	18 700 (40%)	18 700 (40%)	<b>295 000</b>	147 500 (50%)	212 400 (72%)
<b>FFE</b>	<b>292 000</b>	139 700 (48%)	292 000 (100%)	<b>472 600</b>	209 000 (44%)	398 500 (84%)
<b>MCHC</b>	<b>35 700</b>	22 400 (63%)	35 700 (100%)	<b>35 700</b>	22 400 (63%)	35 700 (100%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>374 500</b>	<b>180 800 (48%)</b>	<b>346 400 (92%)</b>	<b>803 300</b>	<b>378 900 (47%)</b>	<b>646 600 (80%)</b>

23. The proposed five-year total food requirements will amount to about 112,811 tons, at a total cost for WFP of approximately US\$48.9 million (see Annex II). The allocations among the proposed activities are anticipated to be as follows:

TABLE 2

Activity	Food requirements (tons)	Total WFP cost (US\$)
<b>RCIW</b>	65 500	<b>22 794 000</b>
<b>FFE</b>	33 143	<b>19 059 003</b>
<b>MCHC</b>	14 168	<b>7 048 088</b>



**Total****112 811****48 901 091**

24. WFP intends to procure all food requirements locally (with the exception of vegetable oil), as this has proved to be more cost-effective than importing in-kind contributions. Moreover, considering the complex logistics in the hill and mountain districts, only local procurement can ensure timely delivery and minimize losses resulting from limited storage capacities in far-off districts.
25. Since 1992, WFP has been assisting the Bhutanese refugees hosted in seven camps in eastern Nepal, an intervention that, as of end 2000, represents a total value of US\$59 million for the Programme alone. With the current 98,000 refugees, the yearly cost of that PRRO is estimated at approximately US\$7.5 million. Those resources do not form part of this CP.
26. The CP is the result of a comprehensive consultative process with the main stakeholders: programme participants, local government representatives, NGOs and line ministries. A series of district-level consultative workshops was held in October–November 2000, which culminated in a national-level workshop in which all stakeholders and most aid agencies represented in Nepal discussed the direction and scope of WFP’s future interventions. This was further supported by a ten-day planning workshop in November, at which WFP staff, government counterparts and operational partners assessed the rationale, objectives, outputs and inputs for the CP.
27. This CP consists of three main activities, in addition to advocacy in favour of the hungry poor, particularly women: Activity 1, Rural Community Infrastructure Works in 23 districts in the eastern, far and midwestern development regions; Activity 2, Food for Education, for children in pre-primary and grades 1–8 in 16 districts, almost exclusively in the far and midwestern development regions; and Activity 3, Mother and Child Health Care, in at least nine districts. Convergence of the three activities in the same districts will address the different dimensions of food insecurity.

## Activity 1: Rural Community Infrastructure Works

### 📌 *Strategic Focus*

28. The strategic focus of this activity is to make it possible for poor families to gain and preserve productive community assets. Further, it has as an explicit objective to enhance the self-help capacity of poor communities, particularly of women. RCIW includes specific disaster-prevention activities, and indirectly, through the “green engineering”<sup>8</sup> approach used to construct assets, protects the natural resource base on which community livelihoods depend.

### 📌 *Problem Analysis*

29. Poverty and food insecurity are highest in the far and midwestern hill and mountain districts, owing largely to isolation and a lack of infrastructure, with consequent limited access to markets, high food prices, sporadic government services and rare economic opportunities. Many communities are several days' walk from the nearest motorable road,

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<sup>8</sup> “Green engineering” is a socially and environmentally friendly approach to construction that uses labour-intensive technology, locally available materials, and bioengineering techniques to construct rural roads, mule trails, etc.



and transportation costs are prohibitively high, limiting the opportunities to sell or purchase food. In addition, the mountain areas and the eastern Terai are prone to natural disasters, mainly landslides and floods. Crops, housing, livestock and other assets are lost every year.

### 📌 *Objectives, Intended Outcomes and Outputs*

30. WFP food assistance aims to assist poor people in developing productive assets that improve physical access, agricultural production and natural resource management. Support activities will enhance skills, capacities and income opportunities at the local level, especially for women. In addition, some of the activities, such as the river-control schemes in the eastern Terai districts, will directly serve to preserve assets and prevent or mitigate the effects of natural disasters.
31. Outputs to be created will be both physical and social. Physical outputs include about 440 km of “green” roads and trails, flood and soil erosion control structures (about 40 km of embankments and dykes), small-scale irrigation facilities (about 500 km of irrigation channels) and food security micro-initiatives, including horticulture, agroforestry and soil and water conservation structures in small watersheds. Social outputs will include strengthened users’ capacity to manage the assets created and increased users’ skills related to income-generation and savings and credit.

### 📌 *Role and Modalities of Food Aid*

32. In the RCIW areas, food is a highly valued and scarce resource. It has a comparative advantage over cash where food availability and income are much restricted by inadequate local food production, scarce employment opportunities and high market prices. Food-assisted interventions enable poor families to invest time in long-term sustainable development by cushioning them against shortages in the lean season (December/January to April/May, according to the region), when RCIW activities are scheduled.
33. An average of 70 days of employment per season per worker will be provided over a period of three years. The daily “work norm” rate is 4 kg of rice (or a total rice ration per family of 280 kg per year), which will cover the entire rice/cereal requirements of a family for almost four months of a given year. Each participant worker will normally find employment for three years.

### 📌 *Implementation Strategy*

34. The organizational set-up of this activity will build on existing implementation structures. User groups (UGs), consisting of workers, and their chosen representatives in user committees (UCs) will be responsible for all project management activities, including project identification, food distribution, resource management and record-keeping. The VDCs and DDCs will be responsible for project implementation through District Project Management Committees and District Project Support Units, while overall national-level implementation responsibility rests with the Ministry of Local Development (MLD). The substantial technical assistance currently received from GTZ is expected to continue over the CP period, and line ministries, the private sector, the donor community and NGOs will be further involved.
35. Programme implementation will adopt an integrated food security approach, linking the construction of community infrastructure and the improvement of physical access with interventions designed to increase and diversify agricultural production and income opportunities, and will initiate savings and credit, functional literacy and awareness-raising



programmes. Efforts will be made to secure increased support in directly productive investments, for example from the Asian Development Bank's Crop Diversification Project and the upcoming IFAD project covering WFP's target areas in the far and midwestern regions.

36. As part of a disaster-response strategy, RCIW will have the flexibility to cover the immediate food requirements of affected households and help them preserve their assets. The food resources required would normally account for less than 5 percent of regular RCIW district allocation and will be made available on the request of DDCs (and with the approval of the MLD), based on simple formats and procedures to ensure appropriate implementation standards and accountability.
37. Considerable emphasis is placed on strengthening the self-help capacity of rural communities, especially of women. Specific guidelines require that 50 percent of UC members be female, and that at least one of the two key UC positions (Chairperson and Treasurer) per project be held by a woman. Moreover, 30 percent of all micro-projects (two per district) will be managed by women only. Female participation in RCIW is expected to increase from the 33 percent it is today to over 40 percent. This target will be handled flexibly, however, considering the other work obligations of women and the fact that the construction sites are often far from the women's homes.

#### **Participants and Intended Benefits**

38. The average number of participants is 46,800 (about 40 percent women). Assuming an average household size of 6.3 persons in rural Nepal, up to 295,000 people will benefit from the project annually.
39. Assets created will result in significant economic and social benefits for the target groups. Anticipated associated support on the production front will enable farmers to intensify and diversify their production for household consumption and increased income. This will likely lead to a drop in food and agricultural input prices, directly benefiting poor households. Improved physical access to schools, health centres and markets will have an overall positive impact on the long-term food security and livelihood of the target population. With an increasing number of women participating in decision-making, women's self-help capacities and lives are expected to improve significantly.

### Activity 2: Food for Education

#### **Strategic Focus**

40. The strategic focus of this activity is to enable poor households to invest in human capital through education and training.

#### **Problem Analysis**

41. Indicators of access to and participation in basic education in Nepal reveal substantial variation by gender and region. The hill districts in the far western development region are among the most undereducated, with a total primary net enrolment rate (NER) of only 64 percent and a girls' primary NER of 49.3 percent. In these same districts, total lower-secondary NER is 25.2 percent and girls' lower-secondary NER a mere 12.5 percent. Across the country, drop-out and repetition rates remain high, with 23 percent dropping out in grade 1 and 55 percent before the completion of the primary cycle, and only 10 percent of those enrolled in grade 1 completing primary school without repeating a grade.



42. The main reason for drop-out is poverty. Girls tend to drop out earlier than boys, primarily because they are required to do most of the household chores. The incidence of short-term hunger often deters children from attending class regularly or concentrating on learning. In the hill districts, about 40 percent of the children walk long distances to school, often on steep mountainous terrain, while those who live near the schools often return home for a meal during the mid-morning break and then fail to return to school.
43. The Nepal Government's US\$106-million Basic and Primary Education Sub-sector Master Plan (1999–2004) funds activities focusing on increasing girls' access to education, improving the quality of education and improving technical and institutional capacities. The key partners, expected to contribute an estimated 71 percent of the total costs of the programme, include the Asian Development Bank, DANIDA, the European Community, the Finnish Development Corporation (FINNIDA), the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Norwegian Development Corporation (NORAD), UNICEF and the World Bank. The programme will cover all of Nepal's 75 districts by the end of 2001.
44. Increasing the assistance to basic education is justified by the success of the current Assistance to Primary Schools Project (Nepal 03718.1, former WIS no. 3718.01)<sup>9</sup> in encouraging the class attendance of both girls and boys and improving their health through deworming. Combined with measures to reduce the major source of infection, deworming programmes are generally recognized to be among the most cost-effective public health interventions, as they improve the developmental, functional and intellectual capacity of affected children. The success of the current school-based deworming programme was proved by a November 2000 WHO impact survey, which shows that from 1998 to 2000, heavy infection decreased from 9.3 to 2.7 percent. These results have generated wide interest from various agencies looking at mobilizing resources to expand this intervention (for example, within the UNICEF, USAID and Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)-supported national vitamin A programme for pre-school children).
45. The Girls Incentive Scheme (under which vegetable oil is distributed to the mothers of girls who have at least 80-percent attendance) has had a very strong impact, amply justifying its relatively high cost. A preliminary survey has indicated that under this programme, girls' school attendance has increased by 11 percent. An incentive scheme involving take-home rations is essential for enabling girls to participate in education.

### 📌 *Objectives, Intended Outcomes and Outputs*

46. The long-term objective is to increase access to basic education for families in food-deficit districts with high educational needs and to improve the health and nutritional status of schoolchildren. The activity aims at (a) improving attendance; (b) increasing girls' enrolment and retention; (c) reducing afternoon absenteeism; (d) enhancing the attention span and learning capacity of students by relieving short-term hunger; (e) reducing the intensity and prevalence of intestinal parasitic infections in schoolchildren by deworming; and (f) enhancing parents' participation in the activity and heightening their awareness of gender issues.

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<sup>9</sup> The current programme consists of several components: (a) distribution of a midday meal; (b) distribution of deworming tablets twice a year; (c) distribution of vegetable oil to enable girls' attendance; and (d) a gender-focused community motivation programme. A mid-term review of the project was finalized in October 2000.





### ✧ *Role and Modalities of Food Aid*

47. A midday meal will be provided to relieve short-term hunger, provide micronutrients to improve the overall health status of children and enable children to attend school regularly. The proposed daily per capita ration is 110 g of fortified food mix (composed of 85 g of cereal blend, 15 g of sugar and 10 g of vegetable ghee). This will provide approximately 463 kcal, about 15 g of fat and 17 g of protein, plus micronutrients.
48. In selected districts and communities, a take-home ration (consisting of 2 litres of vegetable oil per month) will be provided to the mothers of girls, in order to encourage families to enrol their daughters in school and enable them to keep them there. As the vegetable oil is to be delivered directly to the girls' mothers, it will also boost interactions between parents and school staff and, so doing, serve as a vehicle for community participation in school planning in general and in the management of feeding activities in particular. Both the midday meal and the take-home ration will reduce the opportunity costs of basic education for very poor families.

### ✧ *Implementation Strategy*

49. The Primary School Nutritious Food Programme (PSNFP), under the Secretary of the Ministry of Education (MOE), will remain the management unit responsible for implementing and monitoring FFE. PSNFP will arrange for food distribution to a wide network of distribution centres on a monthly basis. School-based food management committees (FMCs), with around 40-percent female members, will be responsible for food collection from those centres. The District Education Office will be responsible for supervision of PSNFP district staff and activities.
50. As per current arrangements, the deworming programme will continue to be implemented with the technical assistance of WHO and through close operational coordination between the MOE and the Ministry of Health (MOH). Schoolteachers will receive training in basic health issues and dedicated information materials and will distribute the tablets and pass their knowledge on to other teachers and to schoolchildren during regular classes.

### ✧ *Participants and Intended Benefits*

51. The average yearly number of participants in this activity is 292,000. This includes 250,000 schoolchildren in grades 1–8 and the mothers of about 42,000 girls in grades 2–8, who will receive the vegetable oil. Whereas the ongoing project targets only children in grades 1–5 in so-called “pure” primary schools, the new activity will include children in the “lower-secondary-cum-primary schools” (grades 1–8). This should also prevent undesirable transfers of children from non-WFP assisted to WFP-assisted schools and support the current government policy of fostering the “lower-secondary-cum-primary schools”, with the aim of ultimately incorporating grades 6–8 in an eight-year basic education cycle. As vegetable oil is a high-cost commodity requiring specific logistic arrangements, the number of participants in this component is necessarily limited to areas selected on the basis of overall levels of poverty, poor education indicators, management capacity and accessibility.
52. Both boys and girls will benefit from the provision of regular fortified midday meals and from regular deworming, both of which will help improve their general health and nutritional status and their learning capability. The combination of other health inputs (e.g. health education materials, the training of teachers, the improvement of health and hygienic facilities) will help create an environment conducive to learning. Girls will



additionally benefit from educational opportunities that are often denied them because of the high opportunity costs associated with sending them to school. The vegetable oil will enable families to invest in the future of their daughters. The participants under this activity are specifically women and children.

### Activity 3: Mother and Child Health Care

#### 📌 *Strategic Focus*

53. The strategic focus of this activity is to enable young children (6–36 months) and expectant and nursing mothers to meet their special nutritional and nutrition-related needs.

#### 📌 *Problem Analysis*

54. Malnutrition remains a serious problem in Nepal. Almost half of all children under 5 are underweight and suffer from stunting.<sup>10</sup> The infant mortality rate was estimated at 79 per 1,000 live births. Furthermore, the National Micronutrient Survey (1998) found anaemia to affect 67 percent of non-expectant women, 75 percent of expectant mothers, 81 percent of pre-school children aged 6–48 months, and 90 percent of infants 6–12 months. Maternal mortality is very high, at 475 per 100,000 live births, and about one fifth of all deaths among women of reproductive age are related to pregnancy and childbirth.
55. Major causes underlying malnutrition include lack of food and access to basic services, such as quality health care, potable water and sanitation. The problem is further aggravated by the low level of education, especially among women, inadequate child-care and feeding practices, dietary restrictions on expectant and nursing mothers and a general lack of appropriate nutrition and health education. These problems are more pronounced in the hill and mountain areas.
56. The Government's mother and child health care priorities, as set in the Nutrition and Safe Motherhood Programmes of the Ministry of Health, are to improve the overall health and nutritional status of children and expectant and nursing mothers. Objectives and targets under the next Five-Year Plan are to reduce by half the moderate and severe malnutrition among children under 3, reduce maternal anaemia by half and strengthen community-based maternity care health services.

#### 📌 *Objectives, Intended Outcomes and Outputs*

57. The long-term objective is to improve the overall health and nutritional status (including that regarding micronutrients) of young children and expectant and nursing mothers. The provision of fortified blended food and MCHC services to expectant and nursing mothers (until six months after delivery) and to young children is designed to: (a) contribute to the prevention or reduction of underweight among young children; (b) reduce iron-deficiency anaemia among expectant and nursing mothers and young children; (c) raise awareness and knowledge among expectant and nursing mothers on their health and nutrition and that of their children; and (d) increase and regularize utilization of community-based and MCHC outreach services.
58. All participants (expectant and nursing mothers or caretakers of young children) are to receive information through the MCHC services on nutrition and health, safe motherhood, hygiene and HIV/AIDS. Expectant mothers will receive deworming tablets after their first

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<sup>10</sup> 1996 National Family Health Survey (Department of Health Services).





trimester of pregnancy. A series of project orientation and food management and nutrition training sessions will be provided to DDC and VDC members, to health staff at the health posts and sub-health posts, and to female community health volunteers. Outcome will be measured against the data collected in the baseline surveys.<sup>11</sup>

### **✧ Role and Modalities of Food Aid**

59. WFP food assistance under the MCHC project is to provide an essential nutritional supplement to the diet of young children and to that of expectant mothers before and after delivery; serve as a platform for nutritional education; and promote increased usage of local health services. The recommended daily individual ration for expectant and nursing mothers is 125 g of Unilito, a locally fortified blended food (supplying 500 kcal, 18.5 g of protein and 7.5 g of fat), while that for young children is 100 g of Unilito (supplying 400 kcal, 15 g of protein and 6 g of fat). In view of the likelihood of ration sharing within households, a double individual ration is provided to each category of beneficiaries, in line with WFP guidelines.
60. Unilito will be pre-mixed with sugar and packed in easy-to-carry monthly take-home rations of 7.5 kg for women and 6 kg for young children.

### **✧ Implementation Strategy**

61. The project is to be implemented in nine food-insecure districts in the far and midwestern regions of the country. Implementation will be dependent on partners and expansion will be gradual, ensuring the availability of required technical and material support. In two of the selected districts, Dadeldhura and Achham, supplementary food is to be provided as a component of the UNICEF-supported Decentralized Planning for the Child Programme (DPCP). Seven districts are to receive technical and material assistance from the Nepal-German Reproductive Health Project.
62. The Primary School Nutritious Food Programme will be responsible at the central and district levels for transporting and handling the food and non-food commodities for the MCHC activity. The VDCs are to organize transport of the food from the distribution centres to the community food stores. This is to be made possible through a “vegetable oil-for-portering” component, whereby porters receive a ration of 1.5 litres of vegetable oil for one day’s work of transporting food commodities.
63. MCHC committees, with representation from both the MOH and VDCs, will oversee the coordination between food management and health services. In the districts where UNICEF’s DPCP is implemented, MCHC-related services will be provided by female community mobilizers, while in other districts they will be the responsibility of trained auxiliary nurse midwives and mother and child health workers. Female community health volunteers are to communicate project and health/nutrition-related messages at the community level. The VDCs, community organizations and partners will ensure awareness-raising and social mobilization to establish local ownership of project activities.

### **✧ Participants and Intended Benefits**

64. The number of expectant and nursing mothers benefiting from this activity will increase from 2,500 in 2002 to 15,000 in 2006 (a yearly average of 9,100). The number of young children benefiting will increase from 7,500 in 2002 to 44,000 in 2006 (a yearly average of

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<sup>11</sup> Survey undertaken by New Era (October-December 2000).



26,600). These beneficiaries are to be provided monthly take-home rations of fortified blended food. The duration of a woman's entitlement during her pregnancy will depend on the timing of her first antenatal visit.

65. Women's utilization of MCHC services and their regular participation in health and nutrition counselling is expected to have a positive impact on their own health and nutritional status and that of their children.

### Advocacy and Capacity-building

66. To complement the three programme activities outlined above, the country office will take up a proactive advocacy role in the following key areas:
- *national food security policy*, including targeted food assistance—especially for malnourished mothers and children—through a process of consultation and sensitization;
  - *women's empowerment* to overcome the discriminatory practices against them and to increase the role of women in decision-making bodies;
  - *increase of female staff in partner agencies*, including support for training, with a view to bringing about greater gender balance in staff positions of partner agencies;
  - *sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS*, by supporting the Joint United Nations Integrated Work Plan on HIV/AIDS, incorporating HIV/AIDS issues in the programme activities and collaborating with other HIV/AIDS-related programmes and projects;
  - *child labour*, through supporting the joint United Nations programme against child labour and collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and GTZ's Improvement of the Situation of Child Labourers Project;
  - *trafficking in girls*, through participation in the United Nations Joint Initiatives Against Trafficking of Women and Girls;
  - *local capacity-building*, following a decentralized planning approach, working through districts, VDCs and UCs and providing training on transparent project management procedures; and
  - *support to social marketing of fortified blended food*, with a view to increasing outreach and the availability of micronutrient-fortified blended food, in close collaboration with the Canadian Micronutrient Initiative, within its sub-regional intervention for the control and elimination of micronutrient deficiencies.

### Support Activities: Role of VAM

67. Vulnerability assessments have been of critical importance in the CP planning process and have been used as a primary tool for identifying target districts. The country office VAM Unit will: (i) identify target communities for inclusion in the programme, if necessary through surveys and the generation of primary data (in collaboration with partner agencies); (ii) monitor CP outcomes and internally evaluate the CP in the context of a results-based management (RBM) approach, through baseline surveys and a mid-term review, thereby providing direct support for management decisions; (iii) identify development opportunities and constraints in target communities using the methodologies developed to date; and (iv) support the country office with the elements required for adopting an effective advocacy role.



68. In addition, the VAM Unit will regularly update its vulnerability and food security analyses. As Nepal is a country prone to natural disasters, it is an essential part of the country office's strategy to effectively respond to emergencies there. A detailed analysis directly relevant to a disaster-response plan will be undertaken and the resulting data will be shared with government entities, local authorities and other concerned agencies. This will increase a common understanding of the levels of risks and other specific vulnerabilities and of the measures to address them.

## Gender

69. The Nepal CP strives to fulfil WFP's Commitments to Women. However, gender differentials continue to exist in almost every economic and social field, which makes the goal of achieving gender parity a long process. The WFP Commitments to Women will be pursued as follows:
- a) **Provide direct access to appropriate and adequate food.** MCHC will specifically address micronutrient deficiencies among women and children.
  - b) **Ensure women's equal access to and full participation in power structures and decision-making.** In all three activities, women's representation in project management groups (such as UCs under RCIW and FMCs under FFE) is to increase to more than 40 percent. Related activities include management and leadership training for women in project management structures.
  - c) **Ensure women's equal access to resources, employment, markets and trade.** About 92 percent of the CP participants and 80 percent of the food beneficiaries will be women and children, especially girls, but 55 percent of the monetary value of all resources will be allocated to women and girls. This will be achieved as follows:
    - MCHC specifically targets women and children;
    - As there is currently an under-representation of girls in school enrolment, the midday meal distributed under FFE will automatically reach more boys than girls. Hence, the inclusion of a take-home ration for the mothers of schoolgirls, which will enable the enrolment of more girls and increase the ratio of girls to boys.
    - About 40 percent of the participants in RCIW will be women. More important, however, at least 50 percent of community-level decision-makers in RCIW projects will be women, with at least one woman in each committee holding a leadership position.
  - d) **Gender-disaggregated data.** This data will be generated and disseminated in reports and surveys for planning and evaluation.
  - e) **Improve accountability.** Gender commitments will be reflected in operational documents and agreements.

## Key Issues, Assumptions and Risks

70. A key issue in the success of the CP is that of the *implementation capacity* of the line agencies and the adequacy, efficiency and motivation of their staff. While efforts will be undertaken to minimize the risks, the limited operational capacity of the Ministry of Health in the MCHC districts could delay smooth implementation of this activity. In both RCIW and MCHC, the possession of adequate technical and managerial skills by *decentralized local bodies* is another critical assumption. Many donors work through these structures, and there is a risk of overloading them. Successful implementation will also be critically



dependent on continued and renewed partnerships with the Government, national and international NGOs and other donors.

71. The possibility of major natural disasters and internal security problems resulting from the current political insurgency represents two additional external factors that could have a bearing on the overall programme.

## COUNTRY PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

### Appraisal

72. The CP was formulated by a multidisciplinary team from FAO, UNESCO and WHO, an expert on disaster mitigation and two Programme Advisors from the WFP regional office in Delhi. In addition to the preparation of the CP document, three specific draft activity summaries have been prepared. These will be further refined during local appraisal missions, to be fielded after the Executive Board has decided on the CP. The activity summaries will then be endorsed by a national-level Joint Food Security Assistance Review Committee, under the chairmanship of the National Planning Commission and with participation of the United Nations and other specialized agencies and NGOs.

### Programme Implementation

73. Operational relationships have been established with the different line agencies: the MLD for RCIW, the MOE for FFE and the MOH for MCHC. The country office is also forging relationships with technically specialized agencies, such as the Department of Soil and Watershed Management and the Department of Irrigation.
74. Expansion of WFP's Nepal CP will require adjustments to the present country office staffing levels and budget. This is not only because of the demands associated with initiating a new programme (MCHC) but also because of the complex task of integrating the three activities at the country and local levels. The decentralization of staff to the project areas has already been initiated. More emphasis will be placed on providing orientation and training to WFP national counterparts and operational partner staff in order to familiarize them with WFP's Enabling Development policy, its Commitments to Women, VAM, RBM and systematic monitoring and evaluation as well as emergency response and related issues.
75. Interventions under RCIW will be systematically subjected to an environmental impact assessment before implementation, consistent with Executive Board decision 1998/EB.3/1 on the policy "WFP and the Environment". The possible detrimental effects of the interventions on a fragile ecosystem will be anticipated and the necessary adjustments will be made.

### Programme Monitoring and Evaluation

76. Regular monitoring reports, based on sector-specific management and accountability arrangements, will be generated for all three activities. Major sources and types of information by gender will include:
- monthly reports on the quantity and timeliness of food deliveries, food losses, financial expenditures and the number of participants reached;
  - quarterly reports on outputs, such as physical assets created and users' capacity to manage them (RCIW) and the number of participants (FFE and MCHC);



- half-yearly reports on progress towards the immediate objectives, such as the physical assets productively utilized and maintained and the results of local capacity-building programmes (RCIW); improvements in attendance, enrolment and drop-out rates (FFE); and the reduction in the number of malnourished children (MCHC); and
  - annual audit reports on food and financial expenditures.
77. Special emphasis will be placed on participatory methods of ongoing monitoring and evaluation, such as the well-established RCIW “public audit” approach (which brings together all community members to review project expenditure and budgets for both food and non-food resources) and the “participatory experience sharing exercise” (which encourages cross-fertilization of ideas among stakeholders and participants from different districts, while gathering a broad range of qualitative data).
78. Measurement of progress towards the overall goal of improving food security for the target groups will require close interaction between the monitoring and evaluation and the VAM functions. Selective use will be made of sample surveys in order to complement VAM information obtained from secondary sources and to ensure full comparability with the target group's specific baseline situation. Sample surveys specific to programme activities will establish changes in nutrition awareness and beneficiary haemoglobin levels to assess the impact of supplementary feeding (MCHC) and deworming (MCHC and FFE) as well as of RCIW's shift to an integrated food security approach.

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## SUPPLEMENTARY ACTIVITY—FFE

79. Contingent on the availability of additional resources from the School Feeding Initiative, a supplementary activity to FFE has been provisionally planned in five districts. This activity would comprise the provision of school meals for boys and girls and food incentives for girls in grades 2–8, thus covering an additional 200,000 children and 57,000 participating mothers. About 61 percent of the monetary value of all resources in this supplementary activity will be directed towards girls and women. The estimated donor contribution for this activity will be 27,300 tons of in-kind food commodities at a total cost of US\$27,006,365, which includes ocean transport and other related implementation costs. Planned to begin by mid-2001, this activity is to be continued during the CP period, subject to availability of resources.

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## RECOMMENDATION

80. For the proposed Nepal Country Programme covering the period 2002–2006, the Executive Director requests that the Executive Board approve, subject to the availability of resources, US\$44.7 million, representing all basic direct operational costs, and endorse US\$24.7 million for supplementary resources (as per Annex II).



## ANNEX I

### CSO EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (WFP/EB.3/2000/6/1)

Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world. Forty-two percent of its population of 22 million live below the poverty line. It is a least-developed and low-income, food-deficit country, with an annual per capita GNP in 1998 of slightly over US\$200. In 1999, the country ranked 144<sup>th</sup> on UNDP's Human Development Index (HDI). More than one third of its population consumes fewer than 2,250 kcal a day. The maternal mortality rate is one of the highest in the world: 475 per 100,000 live births; the under-5 mortality rate is 118 per 1,000. Despite their high labour input to the household economy, women's access to assets and services and their involvement in decision-making are restricted by rigid socio-cultural norms and practices.

Food insecurity in Nepal manifests itself in: 1) insufficient per capita availability because of production and internal redistribution problems; 2) insufficient access to food because of lack of purchasing power; and 3) poor nutrient utilization by expectant and nursing mothers and infants due to diseases and lack of micronutrients.

Through its Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM), WFP has identified the most food-insecure areas: the far western hills and mountains. The food-surplus-producing Terai (plains bordering India) region is relatively less vulnerable, although many food-insecure people live there.

The goal of the Country Programme (2002–2006) will be to sustainably improve food security for the most disadvantaged, particularly women and children in highly food-insecure areas. In accordance with decision 1999/EB.A/2 of the Executive Board, WFP focuses its development activities on five objectives. The Nepal Country Programme will address objectives 1, 2, and 3 (enable young children and expectant and nursing mothers to meet their special nutritional and nutrition-related health needs; enable poor households to invest in human capital through education and training; and make it possible for poor families to gain and preserve assets).

WFP's long-term targeting strategy is to gradually phase out of the Terai and focus on hill and mountain areas while aiming at synergies by converging programme activities geographically. Programme activities will focus on all three dimensions of food insecurity: a) availability: through creation of community assets related to increased food production and improved physical access to remote areas; b) access: through support to community-based rural infrastructure investments, increasingly those that benefit women, and through incentives for pre- and primary education, especially girls', to prevent child labour and create human capital; and c) nutrient utilization: through the provision of micronutrient-fortified foods to expectant and nursing mothers, and children, complementing UNICEF's programme, which focuses on child care and feeding practices.

Attention will be paid to the establishment of results-oriented monitoring and evaluation systems. WFP's Commitments to Women will be addressed through the provision of fortified foods to mothers and children, increasing women's involvement in decisions on the creation of community assets and the provision of special incentives for girls' education. WFP will engage in advocacy efforts for the establishment of a national food security policy, for the micronutrient fortification of food, and for overcoming practices that discriminate against women.



The proposed strategy is strengthened by partnerships with United Nations agencies, bilateral donors, NGOs as well as collaborations with government agencies. The outlined programme is compatible both with the Common Country Assessment (CCA) undertaken in 1999 and with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) currently under formulation.





**ANNEX II****BUDGET PLAN FOR NEPAL COUNTRY PROGRAMME (2002–2006)****Basic Activities**

	<b>Activity I</b>	<b>Activity II</b>	<b>Activity III</b>	<b>Total</b>
Food commodities (mt)	65 500	33 143	14 168	<b>112 811</b>
Food commodities (value)	17 685 000	13 821 890	5 039 380	<b>36 546 270</b>
External transport	0	255 960	30 780	<b>286 740</b>
LTSH (total)	1 965 000	2 353 153	1 005 928	<b>5 324 081</b>
LTSH (cost per mt)	30	71	71	<b>47</b>
ODOC	1 179 000	985 000	365 000	<b>2 529 000</b>
<b>Total direct operational costs</b>	<b>20 829 000</b>	<b>17 416 003</b>	<b>6 441 088</b>	<b>44 686 091</b>
DSC <sup>1</sup>				<b>4 215 000</b>
ISC <sup>2</sup>				<b>3 814 285</b>
<b>Total WFP costs</b>				<b>52 715 376</b>
<b>Government contribution</b>	<b>12 175</b>	<b>2 201 700</b>	<b>1 579 240</b>	<b>15 955 940</b>

<sup>1</sup> The DSC amount is an indicative figure presented to the Executive Board for information purposes. The annual DSC allotment for a Country Programme is reviewed and set annually following an assessment of DSC requirements and resource availability.

<sup>2</sup> The ISC rate may be amended by the Executive Board during the period covered by the Country Programme.





**ANNEX II (cont.)**

## BUDGET PLAN FOR NEPAL COUNTRY PROGRAMME (2002–2006)

## Supplementary Activities

	Activity II	Total
Food commodities (mt)	27 300	<b>27 300</b>
Food commodities (value)	13 455 250	<b>13 445 250</b>
External transport	4 299 750	<b>4 299 750</b>
LTSH (total)	5 569 200	<b>5 569 200</b>
LTSH (cost per mt)	204	<b>204</b>
ODOC	1 375 000	<b>1 375 000</b>
<b>Total direct operational costs</b>	<b>24 689 200</b>	<b>24 689 200</b>
DSC <sup>1</sup>		<b>2 317 165</b>
ISC <sup>2</sup>		<b>2 106 496</b>
<b>Total WFP costs</b>		<b>29 112 861</b>
<b>Government contribution</b>	<b>1 761 360</b>	<b>1 761 360</b>

<sup>1</sup> The DSC amount is an indicative figure presented to the Executive Board for information purposes. The annual DSC allotment for a Country Programme is reviewed and set annually following an assessment of DSC requirements and resource availability.

<sup>2</sup> The ISC rate may be amended by the Executive Board during the period covered by the Country Programme.





## KEY INDICATORS

Activity	Target Group	Outcomes	Key Outcome Indicators
<b>Activity 1: Rural Community Infrastructure Works</b>	Food-insecure households in remote rural areas	Users utilized, maintained and preserved physical assets created through RCIW to improve food availability and mitigate setbacks of natural disasters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 60–percent increase in visits by beneficiaries to food markets</li> <li>➤ 75–percent increase in crop yield owing to irrigation schemes</li> </ul>
		Users utilized capacities gained to improve their income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ At least 80-percent of all completed assets maintained by users, according to agreed standards one year after completion</li> <li>➤ 75 percent of trainees (in agricultural extension and savings and credit) have applied skills learned one year after participation in training</li> </ul>
		<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Key Output Indicators</b>
		Physical assets created	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 440 km motorable rural roads created</li> <li>➤ 9,000 ha land irrigated</li> <li>➤ 3,600 ha land reclaimed through flood-control measures</li> </ul>
		Users' capacity to manage assets strengthened	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 90 percent of all RCIW project books maintained properly and always accessible</li> <li>➤ At least 50 percent of all UC members were women</li> <li>➤ At least 90 percent of UGs carried out at least one public audit per year, attended by at least 60 percent of workers, and with at least 50–percent women's participation</li> </ul>
		Users gained skills related to income-generation and savings and credit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 25 percent of all households participating in food-for-work (FFW) "core" projects were organized in savings and credit groups</li> </ul>



## KEY INDICATORS

Activity	Target Group	Outcomes	Key Outcome Indicators
<b>Activity 2:</b> <b>Food for Education</b>	Children in public schools, from pre-primary to grade 8, in food-deficit areas	An effective food delivery system maintained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ At least 50 percent of all illiterate workers in FFW “core” projects participated in functional literacy classes (with 75 percent of total participants women)</li> <li>➤ The following numbers of participants received WFP food annually:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Male: 28,080</li> <li>Female: 18,720</li> <li>Total: 46,800</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
		Food-insecure families took advantage of educational opportunities for both girls and boys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Increase in the proportion of girls in total enrolment to 43 percent by 2006</li> <li>➤ Increase in girls’ and boys’ attendance rates to at least 80 percent</li> </ul>
		Health and nutritional status of schoolchildren was improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Control of high-intensity worm infestation in school-girls and boys</li> </ul>
		<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Key Output Indicators</b>
		Deworming campaign implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ At least 80 percent of schoolgirls and boys received deworming tablets twice a year</li> </ul>
		An effective food delivery system maintained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The following numbers of schoolgirls and boys received a school meal on school days (average numbers per annum)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Boys: 152,300</li> <li>Girls: 97,700</li> <li>Total: 250,000</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



## KEY INDICATORS

Activity	Target Group	Outcomes	Key Outcome Indicators
<b>Activity 3: Mother and Child Health Care</b>	Young children (6–36 months) and expectant and nursing mothers in targeted food-deficit areas	Underweight among children 6–36 months prevented or reduced  Iron-deficiency anaemia among children 6–36 months and expectant and nursing mothers reduced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 42,000 mothers of girls received vegetable oil under the Girls Incentive Scheme annually, on average</li> <li>➤ Prevalence of underweight measured by weight for age reduced by 20 percent</li> <li>➤ Prevalence of iron-deficiency anaemia measured by Hb levels reduced by 15 percent</li> </ul>
		Knowledge among expectant and nursing mothers on their health and nutritional needs and that of their children improved  Increased and more regular utilization of community-based and MCHC outreach services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 70 percent of expectant and nursing mothers/caretakers of young children had knowledge of appropriate nutritional practices (breastfeeding, complementary feeding, dietary management of illness/diarrhoea)</li> <li>➤ Coverage of maternal care and growth-monitoring increased by 20 percent</li> <li>➤ Average number of MCHC visits per pregnancy increased to at least three</li> <li>➤ Average number of growth monitoring visits increased to at least six per year for children under 1 and at least four per year for children over 1</li> </ul>
		<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Key Output Indicators</b>
		Expectant and nursing mothers and caretakers of young children received information on health and nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 80 percent of expectant and nursing mothers and caretakers of young children received information on health and nutrition during visits to local health facilities</li> </ul>
		Management capacities and health/nutrition awareness among DDC and VDC representatives increased	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 90 percent of DDC and VDC representatives involved in the project participated in orientation on MCHC</li> <li>➤ 90 percent of VDC representatives involved in MCHC project participated in training on food management and record-keeping</li> </ul>

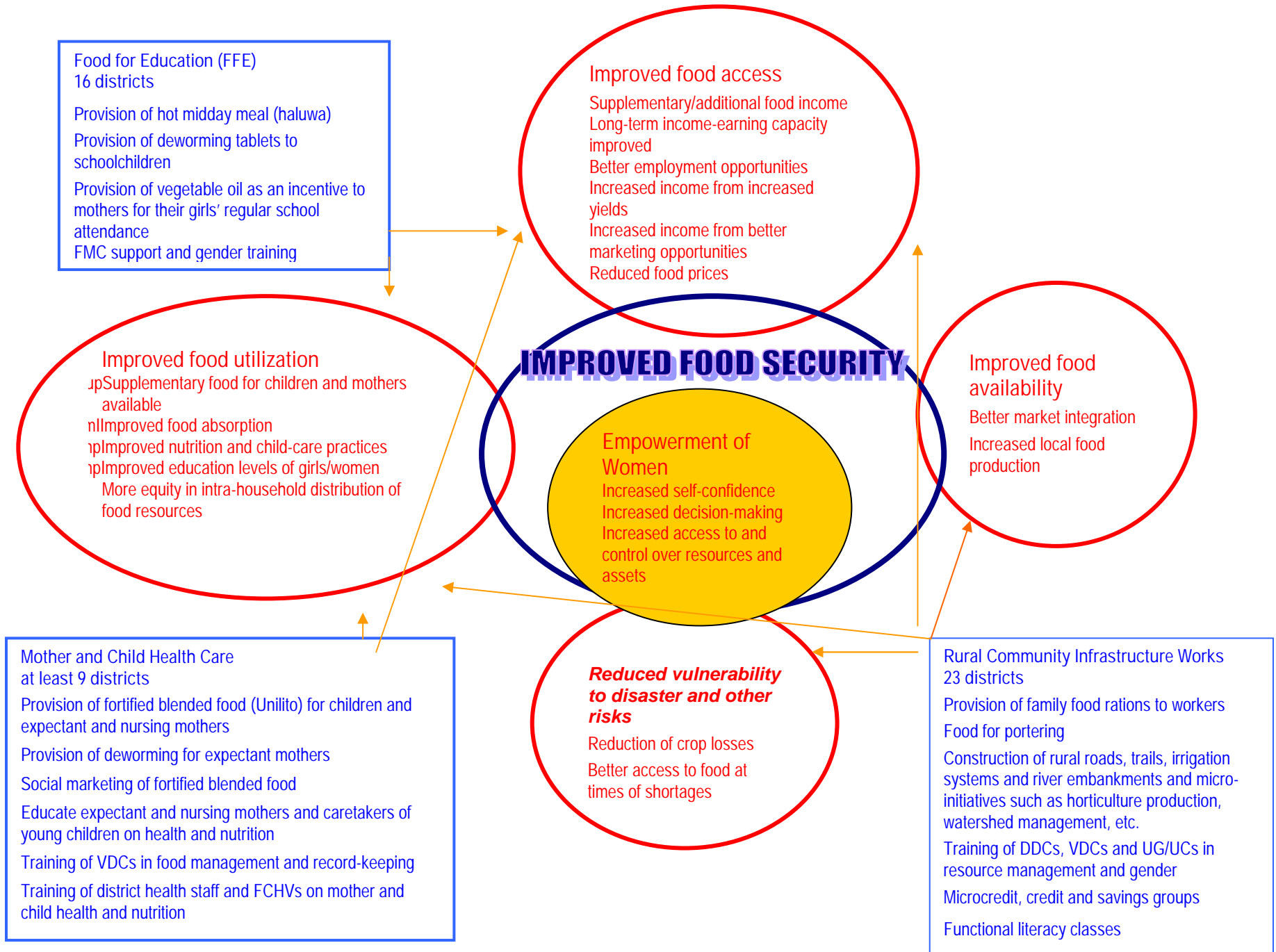


KEY INDICATORS
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Activity	Target Group	Outcomes	Key Outcome Indicators
		Health and nutrition knowledge among VDC health staff and female community health volunteers (FCHVs) increased	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 90 percent of VDC health staff and FCHVs involved in the project participated in training on mother and child health and nutrition</li> </ul>
		Expectant mothers received deworming after the first trimester of pregnancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 95 percent of expectant mothers who visited health facilities received deworming tablets after the first trimester of pregnancy</li> </ul>
		An effective food delivery system maintained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 35,700 participants received WFP food annually, on average.<sup>1</sup></li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Increase in participants from 10,000 in 2002 to 59,000 in 2006 results in annual average figure of 35,700.





## ACRONYMS USED IN THE DOCUMENT

AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
BPEP	Basic and Primary Education Project
CCA	Common Country Assessment
CP	Country Programme
CSO	Country Strategy Outline
DANIDA	Danish International Development Agency
DDC	District Development Committee
DFID	Department for International Development (UK)
DPCP	Decentralized Planning for the Child Programme
DSC	Direct support cost
EMOP	Emergency operation
FCHV	Female community health volunteer
FFE	Food for education
FFW	Food for work
FINNIDA	Finnish Development Corporation
FMC	Food management committee
GDI	Gender-related Development Index
GEM	Gender Empowerment Measurement
GNP	Gross national product
GTZ	German Agency for Technical Cooperation
HDI	Human Development Index
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ISC	Indirect support cost
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
LGP	Local Governance Programme
MCHC	Mother and Child Health Care
MLD	Ministry of Local Development
MOE	Ministry of Education
MOH	Ministry of Health
NER	Net enrolment rate
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NORAD	Norwegian Development Cooperation
PDDP	Participatory District Development Programme





PRRO	Protracted relief and recovery operation
PSNFP	Primary School Nutritious Food Project
RBM	Results-based management
RCIW	Rural Community Infrastructure Works
SDC	Swiss Development Cooperation
SNV	Netherlands Development Organization
STD	Sexually transmitted disease
UC	User committee
UG	User group
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAM	Vulnerability analysis and mapping
VDC	Village Development Committee
WHO	World Health Organization

