

برنامج  
الأغذية  
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Programme  
Alimentaire  
Mondial

World  
Food  
Programme

Programa  
Mundial  
de Alimentos

**Executive Board  
First Regular Session**

**Rome, 11–14 February 2002**

# **INFORMATION NOTES**



Distribution: GENERAL  
**WFP/EB.1/2002/INF/8**

24 January 2002

ORIGINAL: FRENCH

## **SUMMARY OF EVALUATION RECOMMENDATIONS AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSE— COUNTRY PROGRAMME— MAURITANIA (1998–2002)**

This document should be read in conjunction with the document “Summary Report of the Mid-term Evaluation of Country Programme—Mauritania (1998–2002)” (WFP/EB.1/2002/5/1).

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RECOMMENDATION (APRIL 2001)	ACTION OFFICE/UNIT	MANAGEMENT RESPONSE AND ACTION TAKEN (DECEMBER 2001)
<p>➤ In order to facilitate the planning, execution and monitoring of operations and avoid fragmented efforts, activities should be programmed in one geographical area before moving on to the next. In order to increase synergy among activities, an integrated approach should be adopted for targeting and for activity planning for the development of rural areas where various Country Programme (CP) activities are to be carried out. Furthermore, a specific socio-economic study is recommended to appraise the sustainability and ownership of the assets to be restored or created.</p>	Country office	<p>The new Country Strategy Outline (CSO) will be submitted to the Executive Board's First Regular Session in 2002. It represents the strategic framework for the next Country Programme running from 2003 to 2008. Four intervention areas have been selected in the new CP. Efforts will be made to concentrate works sites in every individual intervention area in close collaboration with the government counterpart in order to improve monitoring and evaluation of activities and to better monitor their impact.</p>
<p>➤ In preparing and implementing the next Country Programme, an Interministerial Country Programme Coordination and Steering Committee should be formed, under the chairmanship of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Development and with the following principal participants: the country office, the Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) food security observatory, the Ministry of Rural Development and the Environment (MRDE), the Secretary of State for Women's Affairs (SSWA), the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs (MHSA). The frequency of the committee's meetings should be guided by a pragmatic approach, whose modalities would be determined in the next Country Programme submitted to the Executive Board.</p>	Country office	<p>A Interministerial Coordination and Steering Committee will be set up under the 2003–2008 CP. Its composition and operational modalities will be determined during preparation of the new CP in March 2002.</p>
<p>➤ WFP should increase the number of its partners, particularly in the rural development sector. Chosen partners should share a concern for complementarity and mutual support; they should have complementary human and financial resources at their disposal and monitoring-and-evaluation capacity.</p>	Country office	<p>The non-governmental organization (NGO) ACCORD has already been brought into the rural development sector to help implement micro-components. The office will continue its efforts to involve other NGOs such as the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) for micro-components and the French Red Cross for the vulnerable group activities, as well as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for a pilot activity aimed at laying down gardens in the framework of WFP's school feeding programme. Contact has also been made with World Vision to expand its partnership with WFP both geographically and in terms of diversifying activities (development and emergency aid).</p>
<p>➤ In order to reduce the time lag between approval and implementation of the CP, it is recommended that the work involved in designing future CPs be more thorough. A good technical definition of the proposed activities should be carried out at the time of CP design, so as to facilitate the formulation of future documents (activity summaries, plans of operations, etc.).</p>	ODD Country office	<p>A mission charged with preparing the next CP is scheduled for March 2002. The mission's task will be to draw up the 2003–2008 CP document as well as the documents for individual activities, i.e., Rural Development and Food Security, Support to Basic Education, and Food Assistance to Nutritionally At-risk Groups.</p>

RECOMMENDATION (APRIL 2001)	ACTION OFFICE/UNIT	MANAGEMENT RESPONSE AND ACTION TAKEN (DECEMBER 2001)
<p>➤ For the next CP, WFP should have sufficient human resources available to continue to strengthen logistics oversight. United Nations Volunteers (UNVs) should be assigned to the various regions to enhance field monitoring.</p>	<p>ODD Country office</p>	<p>The office is continuing its efforts with the Finance and Human Resources Divisions to finance four UNVs, three Junior Professional Officers (JPOs) and a national officer charged with the programme.</p>
<p>➤ Activities that interest primarily women should focus on technical areas, with partnerships being developed to provide the necessary skills. Functional literacy should be given priority, so that women are enabled to make the most of their knowledge in areas where the possibility of earning substantial income is ensured. This could include tree planting for the production of gum arabic and of wood for heating or building purposes, and the production of animal feed.</p>	<p>Country office</p>	<p>Functional literacy courses to be undertaken in the framework of women's groups as part of WFP's various interventions will be proposed under the new CSO. The funds required to conduct an evaluation mission on gender issues in WFP's activities in Mauritania have been released and the mission will be organized in the first quarter of 2002. The mission's findings will be taken into consideration in the preparation of the 2003–2008 CP. WFP will also participate in a regional seminar on gender parity, to be held in Nouakchott in February 2002.</p>
<p>➤ Workshops—in which WFP and its partners participate—should be organized to develop a new definition of activities. The workshops should communicate WFP's new strategic orientation and develop a logical framework that would indicate <i>inter alia</i> the modalities to use in selecting partners who possessed a comparative advantage in achieving proposed objectives.</p>	<p>ODD Country office</p>	<p>The office is seeking Headquarters support (funds and human resources) to finance a workshop on WFP policies in favour of development with its national counterpart. A monitoring and evaluation mission was held in December 2001 to assess WFP's activities in Mauritania, and a logical framework was proposed. Headquarters support is requested so that the mission is completed during the preparation of the next CP.</p>
<p>➤ Widening the range of partners will call for more rigorous programming. The Regional Development Committee and the Food Security Commission (FSC) programming directorate at Nouakchott will be the main counterparts for harmonizing the various Country Programme interventions. Four-party contracts should be signed with the local community, the regional governor, the implementing partner and WFP with regard to implementation modalities and guarantees on ownership of the assets created.</p>	<p>Country office</p>	<p>The Regional Development Committee will be integrated into the 2003–2008 CP as recommended.</p>
<p>➤ New partners should be found who are able to contribute to more timely implementation and who possess the resources and capacity required. WFP, under the direction of the Interministerial Country Programme Coordination and Steering Committee, and with the approval of the Technical Supervision Ministry, should draw up bilateral agreement protocols with the new partners. This should avoid the lengthy clearance of individual small-scale works, thus adding speed and flexibility to implementation.</p>	<p>Country office</p>	<p>Agreement protocols are already in force for rural development activities (with the Ministry of Rural Development and the Environment) and in vulnerable group activities (in collaboration with NGOs). Protocols covering the micro-components are currently being discussed.</p>





RECOMMENDATION (APRIL 2001)	ACTION OFFICE/UNIT	MANAGEMENT RESPONSE AND ACTION TAKEN (DECEMBER 2001)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Increase progressively the number of beneficiary students at a given school in order eventually to cover all the students in that school. This will require even more selective targeting of schools in vulnerable areas and of those with a low rate of student attendance.</li> </ul>	Country office	Recommendations 10, 11 and 12 are interdependent and are taken into account in the new CSO, to be presented to the Executive Board's Second Regular Session.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ WFP should aid in this approach within the framework of the new CP without departing from its fundamental objective of assisting only basic education.</li> </ul>	Country office	See response above.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Rations could be temporarily increased during the lean season, and public awareness, information and training campaigns could be improved.</li> </ul>	Country office	This recommendation can be applied only if total food commodities committed are increased. Such an increase should be provided for in the new CP.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Essential medicines and certain micronutrients (iron, vitamin A, etc.) should be made available to the health agent following his/her appointment. In this regard, as UNICEF and WHO are in the process of preparing their new programmes, WFP should be associated with them when formulating the next CP.</li> </ul>	Country office	The country office has initiated discussions with UNICEF and WHO on the possibility of joint action in this field.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The activities of the new CP should include indicators for measuring the production of outputs and the achievement of objectives (outcomes). The necessary baseline reference data should be gathered to measure the impact of the CP on the food insecurity of poor households over the medium to long term.</li> </ul>	ODO ODD Country office	<p>Identification of specific indicators to measure the impact of activities is part of the terms of reference of the mission due to prepare the 2003–2008 CP.</p> <p>A mission on the monitoring and evaluation indicators was held from 19 November to 13 December 2001, with the principal aim of simulating the implementation of monitoring-and-evaluation procedures for every activity.</p> <p>A workshop for the government counterpart—(Ministries of Rural Development and the Environment, Education, Health, Commissariat for Food Security, Secretary of State for Women's Affairs and partner NGOs (World Vision and SAPAS among others)—was held during the mission to Kiffa.</p> <p>The mechanism will be an integral part of the 2003–2008 CP and will suggest the methodology to be followed in evaluating individual activities so as to measure immediate results and effects and to try to assess their overall impact.</p>