

برنامج  
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Programme  
Alimentaire  
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World  
Food  
Programme

Programa  
Mundial  
de Alimentos

Executive Board  
Third Regular Session

Rome, 20 - 23 October 1997

## ACTIVITIES APPROVED BY COUNTRY DIRECTORS UNDER COUNTRY PROGRAMMES APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

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## ACTIVITY 01: BOLIVIA 3866.01

### Participative integrated rural development in depressed areas

Duration of activity	Five years (1997-2001)
Total food cost to WFP	8 927 000 dollars
Total cost to WFP	17 781 451 dollars
Total cost to Government	15 623 790 dollars
External funding (United Nations system)	7 000 000 dollars
Number of beneficiaries	370 000

All monetary values are expressed in United States dollars, unless otherwise stated. One United States dollar equalled 5,150 Bolivian pesos in February 1997.

### ABSTRACT

The Country Programme (CP) for Bolivia was approved by the Executive Board at its Third Regular Session, in October 1996. The CP includes a five-year rural development framework activity (01). An "operation contract" was signed in April 1997 between the Government of Bolivia and WFP to provide for the implementation of this activity.

Bolivia is classified as a low-income, food-deficit country. Its 7.4 million people had a GNP per capita income of 800 dollars in 1995. Income is lower in the rural areas, with an estimated average of 200 dollars per capita. Only 12 percent of rural household members consume the minimum daily requirement of 2,200 calories; 110 out of 1,000 children die before they reach the age of five. The FAO Aggregate Household Food Security Index (AHFSI) shows that while Bolivia as a whole is 71.2 percent food-secure, household food security in rural areas is much lower. Problems such as overgrazing, excessive exploitation of land, soil fatigue, deforestation, land tenancy, lack of credit and inadequate rural infrastructure are compounded by scarce rural investment, gender inequality and low community development in the rural high plateau.

This activity will build on successful experiences of the WFP-assisted project "Rural agricultural development in depressed areas" (Bolivia 3866), targeted to indigenous Aymara and Quechua beneficiaries. The proposed Activity 01 will benefit, during five years, 74,000 families composed of 370,000 people, men and women equally, in 29 municipalities of 17 provinces in the four poorest departments. The beneficiaries will produce more food, protect the environment and enhance household economy. A bonus system has been designed to involve women more actively. Training in income-generating activities has been tailored to encourage women's involvement. The counterpart agency, the National Secretariat of Popular Participation, will implement this activity through the Undersecretariat for Rural Development which is responsible for putting into practice the new concepts of decentralization and popular participation.

The activity will complement the World Bank funded "Rural communities development project", the European Union's project in the Tarija area and the UNDP/FAO/85/002 project, Agroindustrial development of the Gran Chaco. It is in line with Bolivia's strategy for the productive transformation of agriculture and the United Nations system Country Strategy Note (CSN).

WFP's food commitment to Bolivia in Activity 01 amounts to 33,085 tons over five years in wheat (32,035 tons) and canned fish (1,050 tons). Of the total wheat commitment, 7,919 tons will be exchanged for local commodities; 13,611 tons will be milled and distributed to beneficiaries in food-for-work activities. The rest of the wheat, 10,505 tons, will be monetized to be used for training activities and complementary inputs in food-for-work activities. The entire commitment of canned fish will be distributed in the framework of food for work.

In light of the diminishing development resources available to WFP, an estimated 10,000 tons of food is expected to be made available annually for the Bolivia Country Programme. This core activity 01 calls for approximately 6,600 tons a year. It is envisaged that Activities 02 and 03 will require approximately 2,100 tons and 1,300 tons a year, respectively. The supplementary activity (Iron reinforcement programme) is fully resourced from the Canadian women's Health Micronutrients Facility.

The exact amount of food delivered will depend on the resources made available each year.

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## NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

**This document is submitted for consideration to the Executive Board.**

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

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

The WFP focal points for this document are:

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Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact the Documentation and Meetings Clerk (tel.: 6513-2641).

