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**Executive Board  
Annual Session**

**Rome, 9–12 June 2008**

# REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 11

*For information\**



Distribution: GENERAL  
**WFP/EB.A/2008/11-A/1**  
25 April 2008  
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

## DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JULY–31 DECEMBER 2007) – HAITI 10386.0

### Reduction of Vulnerability through the Implementation of Community-Based, Labour-Intensive Activities Aiming at Ensuring Environmental Sustainability

Number of beneficiaries	260,000
Duration of project	24 months (1 January 2008–31 December 2009)
WFP food tonnage	7,488 mt
<b>Cost (United States dollars)</b>	
WFP food cost	2,696,070
Total cost to WFP	5,748,678

\* In accordance with the Executive Board's decisions on governance, approved at the Annual and Third Regular Sessions, 2000, items for information should not be discussed unless a Board member specifically requests it, well in advance of the meeting, and the Chair accepts the request on the grounds that it is a proper use of the Board's time.

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## NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

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

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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## ABSTRACT

1. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) *Human Development Report* for 2007 ranked Haiti 146<sup>th</sup> in its Human Development Index. Gross domestic product per capita was estimated at US\$420, and Haitian families devoted 55 percent of their income to food, according to the Coordinating Body on Food Security. Poverty affects a large part of the population: 54 percent of households are reported to live below the threshold of extreme poverty of less than US\$1 per day; 78 percent live on less than US\$2 per day.
2. National agricultural production covers only 41 percent of requirements; the rest is supplied by imports, which are constantly increasing. Problems of availability and access mean that food insecurity affects 40 percent of households. At the same time, some nutritional indicators have deteriorated between the last two surveys on mortality, morbidity and access to services. Insecurity and violence in poor, marginalized urban areas make the lives of vulnerable populations even more difficult. These urban areas are the first to suffer the consequences of natural disasters.
3. In response to increasing poverty and the weakening of coping mechanisms, development project (DEV) 10386.0 aims to contribute to the improvement of food security of vulnerable families through a food-for-work (FFW) programme featuring labour-intensive activities aimed at ensuring environmental sustainability through asset creation, rehabilitation of infrastructures and disaster preparedness. The project will assist 260,000 beneficiaries and provide more than 3 million work days over two years.
4. Priority departments are the North, Northeast and Northwest. Disaster preparedness activities will be undertaken throughout the country; FFW activities will be implemented in urban or peri-urban areas in the following departments: West (Port-au-Prince), Artibonite (Gonaïves) and North (Cap-Haïtien), covering the country's three main cities.
5. With its disaster risk-management activities, this DEV will serve to complement emergency operations undertaken by WFP and its partners to help to improve food security among the most vulnerable households. This complementarity will help to facilitate the transition between the emergency, recovery and development phases.
6. The project will support efforts implemented by the targeted communities and the technical services of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development to improve resource management for sustainability in a way that ensures that the actions will continue beyond the life of the project. However, the existing food deficit, chronic malnutrition among vulnerable groups and the limited means and capacities of the Government will oblige WFP to continue its interventions in the country for some time.