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Agenda item 9

*For information**



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DEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY–30 JUNE 2004) — PERU 10320.0

Integrated Nutrition Education Pilot Project in Huancavelica

Number of beneficiaries	106,000
Duration of project	17 months (1 August 2004–31 December 2005)
Cost (United States dollars)	
Total cost to WFP	3,258,604
Total cost to Government	2,700,000
Total food cost	2,508,495

* 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 for information 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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Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact the Supervisor, Meeting Servicing and Distribution Unit (tel.: 066513-2328).



1. The proposed pilot project in the highland department of Huancavelica will support the local government in planning and managing its food-based programmes for vulnerable children aged 1 to 11 in areas where chronic malnutrition is prevalent in more than 50 percent of the population. Income and wealth are unevenly distributed in Peru: 54 percent of the population live in poverty, and 25 percent live in extreme poverty. The percentages are higher in remote Andean departments such as Huancavelica, where 88 percent of the population live in poverty and almost 75 percent live in extreme poverty. The indigenous Quechua, who account for 80 percent of the population in the Andean zone, are most affected by exclusion, isolation and the resulting poverty, particularly the children and women.
2. Chronic malnutrition (stunting) is a serious problem in Peru: prevalence is 25.4 percent in children under 5; in Huancavelica, the figure is an alarming 53.4 percent. Almost 60 percent of households experience deficiencies in calorie consumption: average daily caloric intake is between 1,600 kcal and 1,700 kcal, which is between 70 percent and 75 percent of the recommended minimum intake (*Instituto Nacional de Estadística e Informática* [INEI], 2001); 90 percent of households experience low protein consumption (Tufts University, Peru, 2002). Improved care practices and healthy consumption habits have been identified as the main goal of Peru's health and nutrition programme.
3. The project will support the Government in improving the delivery of food assistance by developing capacity to produce and distribute a cost-effective fortified blended complementary food called Inka Mix to children aged 1–11. The project will also assist in the design and management of a pilot education component for pregnant women and mothers with children aged 0–36 months.
4. WFP will work through the Ministry of Women and Social Development with the relevant departments in the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health at the regional and municipal levels, as well as with the Government food aid agency (*Programa Nacional de Asistencia Alimentaria* [PRONAA]) and the *Ministerio de la Mujer y Desarrollo Social* (Ministry for Women and Social Development). Inter-agency collaboration will be established with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to ensure the technical viability of complementary activities. If successful, project implementation can be expanded to other departments with resources from the Government and the private sector.
5. In accordance with Executive Board decision 1999/EB.A/2, WFP focuses its development activities on five Strategic Objectives (SPs). This project addresses SP1: Save lives in crisis situations, and (i) SP3: Support the improved nutrition and health status of children, mothers and other vulnerable people, (ii) SP5: Help governments establish and manage national food-assistance programmes, (iii) WFP's Enhanced Commitments to Women 2003-2007 and (iv) Peru's Common Country Assessment/United Nations Development Framework (CCA/UNDAF).

