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INFORMATION NOTES

SUMMARY OF EVALUATION RECOMMENDATIONS AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSE—WFP's PROJECT PORTFOLIO IN PERU



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This document should be read in conjunction with the document “Summary Report on the Evaluation of WFP’s Project Portfolio in Peru” (WFP/EB.2/2000/3/3).

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RECOMMENDATION TO WFP (NOVEMBER 1999)	ACTION BY	MANAGEMENT RESPONSE AND ACTION TAKEN TO DATE (APRIL 2000)
1. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE REMAINING EXECUTION OF THE CURRENT PORTFOLIO PROJECTS		
PROJECT PERU 2341—Food Assistance to Women’s Groups for the Development of Women’s Micro-enterprises		
1. Immediately evaluate the effectiveness of the information system.	Country office	A one-month consultancy in December 1999 was financed to perform a full review of women’s micro-enterprise credit recovery information systems; appropriate adjustments have been made on the basis of the findings. The most important recommendation being incorporated in the new project PERU 6240 is that an NGO specialized in rural credit replace the government counterpart (PRONAA) in managing credit and related information systems.
2. Commission the Women’s Employment Consolidation Programme (PROFECE) at the Ministry of Labour to carry out a marketing survey in order to obtain information on new markets for the groups.	Country office	PROFECE was contracted for a six-month period commencing 4 January 2000 to improve market linkages of 300 women’s micro-enterprises located in Puno, Lima, La Libertad and Arequipa. The products of this consultancy will be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A technical evaluation of women's micro-enterprises • Development of a commercial database • Market linkages • Publication of a product catalogue
3. Run a gender training programme for the members of the PRONAA teams, both at the central level and in the implementing units.	Country office	In December 1999 national counterpart staff (PRONAA) were trained by a consultant in the use of gender-sensitive indicators and tools.
4. Disseminate the results of the project in a publication setting out objectives and results obtained, the intervention strategy, achievements and difficulties, and success stories provided by women leaders.	Country office	Although the project officially terminates on 31 March 2000, a one-year post-project closure period will focus on the following activities to consolidate the economic gains observed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporation in a publication of the experiences of women's micro-enterprises • Inter-institutional workshops to improve future interventions • Workshops involving project beneficiaries to exchange experiences and to promote women’s leadership • Publication the experiences/results of these workshop interchanges • The Annual Report of the Executive Director for 1999 will focus on gender issues, particularly the strategies used and results obtained in the project.

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PERU 4808—Food Assistance to Pre-school and Primary School Children in Rural Areas		
1. The project should focus on the neediest rural areas, namely the single-teacher educational centres, at all grades in the school system, in conjunction with FONCODES.	Country office	The focus area has been re-programmed from the beginning of the school year (April 2000), to reach a greater percentage of single-teacher educational centres. Action was coordinated with FONCODES in order to avoid duplication.
2. The breakfast supplied at school is the only nutritious meal of the day for many boys and girls who often travel great distances to reach school. The mission therefore recommends that, for those education centres located in areas with proven food insecurity (e.g. Huancavelica), a breakfast ration be provided upon arrival at school, as well as a meal at lunchtime.	Country office	Purchases for the first semester of the 2000 school year are complete. Children are provided with enriched early morning snacks, as indicated in the plan of operations. The limited project resources are sufficient only to reach a reduced percentage of total beneficiaries (40%) and are insufficient to increase the rations even in areas with proven food insecurity. WFP-Peru is trying to study other options to provide school lunches, as recommended by the mission.
3. The Ministry of Education and PRONAA must coordinate the installation of 15 classrooms (modules) in coordination with INFES and, as a matter of urgency, in the previously selected educational centres to provide adequate and acceptable facilities for the students.	Country office	Coordination between the Ministry of Education and INFES is under way to install 15 educational modules in the neediest areas and to rehabilitate the most damaged schools. It is hoped that this work will be completed in the next three months. INFES has budgeted to fully cover these costs.
4. The representatives of INFES, FONCODES and the Ministry of Health should also be invited to join the national project steering committee.	Country office	The representatives of INFES, FONCODES and the Ministry of Health are now being invited to join all high level meetings related to school feeding under project PERU 4808.
5. The Ministry of Education should resume the coordination previously established with the Ministry of Health in order to carry out a parasite control campaign at the beginning of each school year. In addition, the Ministry should coordinate its work with the nearest health centre in order to record the height and weight of students at the beginning of each school year.	Country office	Funding has been identified and tender has been finalized to purchase anti-parasite pills. To cover all the children for two school years, the Ministry of Education is requesting support from the Ministry of Health to supervise two anti-parasite deworming exercises in 2000.

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6. The training of teachers and parents should include aspects relating to food preparation and the nutritional content of breakfasts. Gender aspects should also be considered in the training workshops.	Country office	Training courses for all school directors are being carried out by the Ministry of Education. A consultancy is being arranged to introduce a gender focus in the training courses. Nutrition content of the breakfasts is part of the training curriculum.
7. WFP should assess the possibility of finding funds for motorcycles for the PRONAA Operating Units and the Regional Education Directorates to facilitate monitoring.	Country office	Two motorcycles (in addition to the existing 8) were purchased at the end of 1999. These were distributed to project counterparts to carry out project monitoring.
PERU 5162—Ecological Rehabilitation of Andean Micro-watersheds		
1. WFP should arrange for the food balance amounting to 7,440 tons of wheat, 4 of oil, 14 of edible fat, 400 of canned fish and 1,780 of peas to be allocated, thereby covering requirements to the end of the project.	Country office	The country office has now received 6,000 mt of wheat, 400 mt of canned fish and 1,780 mt of peas out of the food balances mentioned. Resourcing the full balance was not possible due to Resource Allocation Model limitations but the call forward of these balances has been requested.
2. During the period that remains for completion, PERU 5162 activities should be more production-oriented, placing greater emphasis on mechanized irrigation and crop diversification.	Country office	This recommendation has been closely followed since PRONAMACHCS (the national project counterpart) is now installing sprinkle and drop irrigation modules financed with resources mobilized from private companies, such as Southern Mining Company. The project has also initiated action on crop diversification by delivering seeds of cash crops such as garlic and aromatic plants to beneficiaries who are enthusiastically involved in this initiative.
2. GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A FUTURE PROGRAMME		
1. WFP should continue supporting the type of activities currently carried out under projects PERU 2341, 4808 and 5162, since they contribute to the Government's plans and priorities to reduce food insecurity and alleviate poverty.	Country office	The three project activities remain operational but are being reformulated in line with the mission's recommendations.

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<p>2. Since the projects that have been evaluated will be completed between March and August 2000, it is recommended that when they end they be put into an integrated global programme or project which would encompass the three types of activities currently undertaken under these three projects.</p>	<p>Country office</p>	<p>Two of three activities (those of PERU 5162 and 2341.02) have since been integrated under one new project framework (PERU 6240.00 "Promotion of Sustainable Development of Andean Micro-watersheds") to be submitted to the Executive Board in May 2000. The third project is currently being reformulated.</p>
<p>3. The programme or project that will take over the present activities should focus on the departments of Ayacucho, Huancavelica and Apurimac. These are the departments with the greatest rural poverty, the largest concentration of small farmer communities and where the greatest suffering has been caused by civil strife.</p>	<p>Country office</p>	<p>Action is being taken to implement this strategy which the country office proposed to the mission. By the end of the year these three departments will be the exclusive focus of the WFP portfolio of activities in Peru, with the exception of a Binational School Feeding project in the priority Peru/Ecuador border region.</p>