



World Food Programme  
Programme Alimentaire Mondial  
Programa Mundial de Alimentos  
برنامج الأغذية العالمي

**Executive Board**  
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Operational matters – Projects approved by correspondence  
For information

Executive Board documents are available on WFP's website (<http://executiveboard.wfp.org>).

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## Revision of Benin transitional interim country strategic plan

	Current	Change	Revised
<b>Duration</b>	<b>1 January– 31 December 2018</b>	<b>1 January– 30 June 2019</b>	<b>1 January 2018– 30 June 2019</b>
Beneficiaries	149 859	0	149 859
<b>(USD)</b>			
<b>Total cost</b>	<b>5 580 670</b>	<b>3 339 848</b>	<b>8 920 518</b>
Transfer	3 791 159	2 455 628	6 246 787
Implementation	937 450	459 981	1 397 432
Adjusted direct support costs	511 455	220 399	731 854
Subtotal	5 240 066	3 136 008	8 376 074
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)	340 604	203 841	544 445

Gender and age marker\* 2A

\* <http://gender.manuals.wfp.org/en/gender-toolkit/gender-in-programming/gender-and-age-marker/>.

## Decision

The Board approved by correspondence the revision of the Benin transitional interim country strategic plan and corresponding budget increase of USD 3,339,848 outlined in the present document.

23 October 2018

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### Focal points:

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## Rationale

1. The proposed revision of the transitional interim country strategic plan (T-ICSP) for Benin would extend the T-ICSP to 30 June 2019.
2. The current T-ICSP covers the 12 months from 1 January to 31 December 2018. It focuses on school meals, nutrition and resilience and was designed to enable WFP to continue contributing to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 while the Government of Benin completed a zero hunger strategic review and WFP prepared a full country strategic plan (CSP) for presentation to the Executive Board at its 2018 second regular session.
3. Due to delays in the preparation of the zero hunger strategic review and the CSP, WFP is now planning to present the CSP at the Board's 2019 annual session. As a result a six-month extension of the T-ICSP is required. The proposed revision provides for such an extension, which would entail an additional 3,282 mt of food valued at USD 1,667,237 and associated costs of USD 566,343.
4. The proposed extension of the T-ICSP is aligned with the the United Nations development assistance framework for 2019–2023 and the Government Action Programme 2016–2021.

## Changes

### Strategic orientation

5. The proposed revision would not result in any changes to the strategic orientation of the T-ICSP.

### Strategic outcomes

6. No changes to the strategic outcomes or activities are proposed.
7. The T-ICSP currently has the following strategic outcomes:
  - *Strategic outcome 1:* School-aged children in Benin have adequate access to safe and nutritious food all year-round.
  - *Strategic outcome 2:* Children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) in targeted areas have improved nutritional status in line with the national target by 2021.
  - *Strategic outcome 3:* Smallholder and vulnerable communities in Benin have improved livelihoods and stronger resilience to recurrent shocks by 2018.
8. The five activities would remain:
  - *Activity 1:* Provide nutrition-sensitive meals to schoolchildren.
  - *Activity 2:* Provide capacity strengthening to relevant government institutions.
  - *Activity 3:* Provide nutritious foods to malnourished children and PLWG.
  - *Activity 4:* Provide supplementary feeding to children at risk of stunting.
  - *Activity 5:* Provide asset creation and livelihood support to vulnerable communities.
9. The proposed revision would entail an increase in the total value of the T-ICSP from USD 5,580,670 to USD 8,920,518.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The T-ICSP was approved at a cost of USD 5,606,870; with the subsequent reduction of the indirect support cost rate from 7 to 6.5 percent, however, that amount fell to USD 5,580,670.

**Beneficiary analysis**

10. No increase in the number of beneficiaries is expected; 149,859 people would continue to be assisted during the additional six-month period (see table 1).

TABLE 1: FOOD AND CASH TRANSFER BENEFICIARIES BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME AND ACTIVITY

Strategic outcome	Activity		Current			Increase/decrease			Revised		
			Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1	1. Provide nutrition-sensitive meals to schoolchildren		68 746	58 562	127 308	0	0	0	68 746	58 562	<b>127 308</b>
2	3. Provide nutritious foods to malnourished children and PLWG	Children aged 6-59 months	1 770	1 634	3 404	0	0	0	1 770	1 634	<b>3 404</b>
		PLWG	-	1 685	1 685	0	0	0	-	1 685	<b>1 685</b>
		Caretakers	-	300	300	0	0	0	0	300	<b>300</b>
	4. Provide supplementary feeding to children at risk of stunting	Children aged 6-23 months	3 308	3 054	6 362	0	0	0	3 308	3 054	<b>6 362</b>
3	5. Provide asset creation and livelihood support to vulnerable communities		5 400	5 400	10 800	0	0	0	5 400	5 400	<b>10 800</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>79 224</b>	<b>70 635</b>	<b>149 859</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>79 224</b>	<b>70 635</b>	<b>149 859</b>

## Transfers

11. Transfer modalities would remain unchanged. Thus, the transfer modalities would be food for activities 1 and 3, capacity strengthening for activity 2, food and capacity strengthening for activity 4 and food, cash-based transfers and capacity strengthening for activity 5.

**TABLE 2: FOOD RATION (g/person/day) or CASH-BASED TRANSFER VALUE (USD/person/day) BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME AND ACTIVITY**

	Strategic outcome 1	Strategic outcome 2				Strategic outcome 3	
	Activity 1	Activity 3			Activity 4	Activity 5	
Beneficiary type	Primary schoolchildren	Children aged 6–59 months	Pregnant and lactating women and girls	Caretakers	Children aged 6–23 months	Resilience food assistance for assets	
Modality	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	CBTs
Maize	75	-	-	450	-	450	-
Rice	75	-	-	-	-	-	-
Beans	15	-	-	60	-	60	-
Split peas	15	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vegetable oils	10	-	25	25	-	25	-
Salt	3	-	-	5	-	5	-
Plumpy'Sup	-	92	-	-	-	-	-
Supercereal plus	-	-	-	-	200	-	-
Supercereal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supercereal (with sugar)	-	-	250	50	-	-	-
Micronutrient powder	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>-</b>
Total kcal/day	745	500	1 281	2 234	787	2 068	-
% kcal from protein	-	10	14	10.6	17	49.41	-
Cash (USD/person/day)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.24
Number of feeding days per year	55	90	270	30	180	180	180

Abbreviation: CBT = cash-based transfer

**TABLE 3: TOTAL FOOD/CASH-BASED TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS AND VALUE**

Food type/ cash-based transfer	Current budget		Increase		Revised budget	
	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)
Cereals	3 349	1 302 388	2 299	991 972	5 648	2 294 360
Pulses	657	400 848	447	286 114	1 104	686 962
Oil and fats	232	204 562	158	161 927	390	366 489
Mixed and blended foods	371	364 077	333	220 105	704	584 182
Other	65	9 859	44	7 119	109	16 978
<b>Total (food)</b>	<b>4 674</b>		<b>3 282</b>		<b>7 956</b>	-
Cash-based transfers (USD)		108 000		108 000		216 000
<b>Total (food and cash-based transfer value)</b>	<b>4 674</b>	<b>2 389 735</b>	<b>3 282</b>	<b>1 775 237</b>	<b>7 956</b>	<b>4 164 971</b>

### Supply chain

12. WFP faces operational challenges related to the accessibility of targeted areas, unsuitable means of transport, inadequate storage conditions and application of agreements related to tax exemptions. To mitigate them, WFP will continue to improve end-to-end planning and operational visibility of the supply chain; profitability through optimized asset utilization (downstream integrated storage and distribution facilities); standby agreements; and the use of the Global Commodity Management Facility. WFP will conduct wholesale and retail market assessments and will contract with financial services in the implementation of cash-based transfers.

### Other considerations

13. *Impact on country office capacity and partnerships.* The proposed revision would enable the country office to continue to provide food and cash-based transfers to 149,859 beneficiaries to address their food security, nutrition and resilience. The country office would continue to provide the Government with technical advice and training in preparation for the gradual hand-over of activities to the Government. WFP would also continue to work closely with United Nations agencies such as the United Nations Children's Fund, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Development Programme.
14. *Monitoring and evaluation arrangements to measure WFP's revised operation and the value added of the services provided.* No changes to the existing monitoring and evaluation arrangements are proposed because no new activities are proposed. Monitoring would still rely on decentralized government structures and partnerships with non-governmental organizations that have the capacity to collect periodic and timely data. WFP has developed and deployed an electronic data collection system for regional education directorates in Benin to facilitate real-time data collection, analysis and reporting of data for school meals output and outcome indicators. WFP's monitoring and evaluation systems will be aligned with the regional monitoring and evaluation strategy and will be gender-responsive.
15. *Hazard and risk assessment and preparedness planning:*
- There are risks of exploitation and abuse (including sexual abuse) of women and girl beneficiaries during food distribution. Although these risks are considered to be low in Benin, there is a need to address them through mitigation measures. WFP and its partners will continue to make use of feedback and complaint mechanisms and will consider gender barriers to ensure that they are equally available to women and men.

- For cash-based transfers, the country office will conduct a comprehensive feasibility assessment of the cash and vouchers tool for preventing fraud and cash losses and to ensure proper management and monitoring of cash transfers.
- Inadequate leadership and weak financial capacity of WFP's national counterparts may hamper the implementation of activities. Scarcity of skilled government staff and high turnover may hinder progress. To mitigate these risks, WFP will continue to provide the Government with technical advice and training relevant to hand-over.
- Weather conditions may also hamper the smooth delivery of food assistance, as the rainy season can make it difficult or impossible to reach vulnerable communities. WFP will plan the pre-positioning of stocks to ensure timely delivery and adequate supplies.
- Strikes or demonstrations of lecturers during the school year may severely disrupt school meals activities and cause food waste. To avoid this risk, WFP will take appropriate measures to preserve food in school storage facilities.

## Cost breakdown

<b>TABLE 4: COST BREAKDOWN OF THE REVISION ONLY (USD)</b>				
	<b>Strategic Result 1/ SDG Target 2.1</b>	<b>Strategic Result 2/ SDG Target 2.2</b>	<b>Strategic Result 3/ SDG Target 2.3</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Strategic outcome 1</b>	<b>Strategic outcome 2</b>	<b>Strategic outcome 3</b>	
<b>Focus area</b>	<b>Root causes</b>	<b>Root causes</b>	<b>Resilience</b>	
Transfer	1 835 956	336 534	283 138	<b>2 455 628</b>
Implementation	400 310	29 154	30 517	<b>459 981</b>
Adjusted direct support costs				<b>220 399</b>
Subtotal				<b>3 136 008</b>
Indirect support costs (6.5%)				<b>203 841</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>3 339 848</b>

<b>TABLE 5: COST BREAKDOWN FOR THE FULL T-ICSP FOLLOWING THE REVISION (USD)</b>				
	<b>Strategic Result 1/ SDG Target 2.1</b>	<b>Strategic Result 2/ SDG Target 2.2</b>	<b>Strategic Result 3/ SDG Target 2.3</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Strategic outcome 1</b>	<b>Strategic outcome 2</b>	<b>Strategic outcome 3</b>	
<b>Focus area</b>	<b>Root causes</b>	<b>Root causes</b>	<b>Resilience</b>	
Transfer	4 607 333	901 701	737 753	<b>6 246 787</b>
Implementation	1 028 728	206 647	162 057	<b>1 397 432</b>
Adjusted direct support costs	536 774	107 971	87 110	<b>731 854</b>
Subtotal	6 172 834	1 216 319	986 920	<b>8 376 073</b>
Indirect support costs (6.5%)	401 234	79 061	64 150	<b>544 445</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6 574 068</b>	<b>1 295 380</b>	<b>1 051 070</b>	<b>8 920 518</b>



**Acronyms used in the document**

CSP	country strategic plan
PLWG	pregnant and lactating women and girls
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
T-ICSP	transitional interim country strategic plan