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de Alimentos

**Executive Board
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EVALUATION REPORTS

Agenda item 6

For consideration



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MANAGEMENT RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT CÔTE D'IVOIRE PRRO 106720

**Assistance to Populations Affected by the
Côte d'Ivoire Protracted Crisis**

NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

This document is submitted to the Executive Board for consideration.

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 Ms C. Panlilio, Administrative Assistant, Conference Servicing Unit (tel.: 066513-2645).



BACKGROUND

1. This document presents the Secretariat's response to the recommendations of the Summary Evaluation Report Côte d'Ivoire PRRO 106720.
2. The Secretariat recognizes the need to orient the country strategy in the context of the changing development priorities in Côte d'Ivoire.
3. The Secretariat's responses to the recommendations are outlined in the attached matrix.



MANAGEMENT RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT CÔTE D'IVOIRE PRRO 106720

Recommendations	Action by	Management response and action taken	Implementation deadline
<p>1. The country office should develop a country strategy that situates WFP in the new, development-oriented context in a way that is coherent with changing government and donor priorities. The country strategy should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) be based on an understanding of, and a corresponding strategy to address, the needs of resettled IDPs. WFP's support should be integrated into local development plans, for instance by ensuring that food for work is integrated with larger plans for rural infrastructure development, food for training with rural development initiatives, etc; ii) include WFP's approach to HIV and AIDS covering care and treatment, mitigation, and prevention. 	Country office	<p>The country office will prepare a country strategy based on Headquarters guidelines to align with a new United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) after the 2009–2013 UNDAF cycle. The country strategy paper will be written in 2012 to align with the new UNDAF.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) In the meantime, the country office will work under the current UNDAF and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper in implementing a new protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) that will address the government strategy on transition to recovery and development in the north and west of Côte d'Ivoire; the current PRRO should be extended until March 2010. ii) The strategy of the Government and United Nations includes HIV and AIDS support. WFP is working with the National Nutrition Programme of the Ministry of Health and Hygiene, an international non-profit organization called the Program for Appropriate Technology in Health, and the Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance II Project on nutrition and HIV strategies. The Ministry to Fight AIDS, the United Nations sector group for AIDS (which includes WFP), non-governmental organization partners and donors are working on treatment, mitigation and prevention in areas outside WFP's mandate; this approach will continue in the new PRRO and will be part of the country strategy. 	<p>December 2012</p> <p>June 2010 (new PRRO)</p>



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Recommendations	Action by	Management response and action taken	Implementation deadline
<p>2. The new PRRO should focus on a smaller number of programme activities, mainly to support the national nutrition and education plans. In so doing, it should:</p> <p>i) align its human resources with the priority areas and include a nutritionist with experience in HIV and AIDS;</p> <p>ii) fine-tune geographical targeting of the nutrition programmes to areas with the highest malnutrition rates, based on a detailed, participatory needs assessment, and prioritize the northern regions with high malnutrition rates for school feeding;</p> <p>iii) implement stringent criteria for admission and discharge of beneficiaries of supplementary and therapeutic feeding;</p>	<p>Country office</p> <p>Country office/Government Donor Relations Division</p>	<p>i) The country office has two nutritionists with HIV programming experience, a school feeding officer, a vulnerability analysis and mapping officer and programme assistants skilled in the areas of current and future operations. With the current budget and level of activities there is no call to hire additional staff in Abidjan, but the country office will advocate for additional posts. The office is recruiting United Nations volunteers as heads of sub-offices to enhance capacity to manage operations.</p> <p>ii) A food security assessment by the National Statistics Institution, the Ministry of Agriculture, WFP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in May/June 2009, and nutrition studies in northern and western regions by the National Nutrition Programme, WFP and the United Nations Children's Fund in July 2009, will improve the targeting of nutrition and HIV sites. Current nutrition programmes are in areas with the highest rates of malnutrition where there are partners who offer nutrition services. The schools are identified under government priorities and there are plans for a baseline survey; schools in the north will be prioritized in the new PRRO. The country office will, budget permitting, consider increasing the number of schools in development project 107590 with schools south of the former Green Line, a median point between the earlier northern and southern limits of the Zone of Confidence; this will probably be incorporated into the new PRRO.</p> <p>iii) The admission and exit criteria for children in supplementary and therapeutic feeding programmes are in line with government strategy. NGO partner <i>Action contre la faim</i> has been training partners in the north to ensure that the criteria are being addressed; WFP plans to provide additional training for nutrition partners to ensure compliance.</p>	<p>October 2009</p> <p>January 2010</p> <p>December 2009</p>



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Recommendations	Action by	Management response and action taken	Implementation deadline
iv) include affected people in the monitoring and exchange of information concerning assistance provided under the HIV and AIDS component, and complement the nutrition component with food for training based on an analysis of job opportunities;		iv) Most partners working in HIV programmes have encouraged the formation of HIV support groups where individuals exchange information and support each other. Technical partner PATH has helped to create a manual for income-generating activities for orphans and other vulnerable children affected by HIV; WFP might use funds from the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief to explore food-for-recovery activities for beneficiaries graduating from assistance under the HIV programmes.	Ongoing– May 2010
v) strengthen the DNC's (<i>Direction nationale des cantines</i> , National Office on School Feeding) skills in planning, monitoring and evaluation, and logistics coordination, and encourage the DNC, the school management committees and village authorities to exempt poor children from paying the school feeding fee; and		v) WFP has worked with the DNC since 1989 on capacity-building and training in planning, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and logistics coordination through the secondment of a United Nations volunteer. This support ended in November 2008, but WFP continues its support from the Abidjan office through the school feeding officer and the M&E assistant. DNC staff were trained in management, M&E and logistics at workshops in Grand-Bassam and Bouaké in March and April 2009. WFP continues its support under the PRRO and the school feeding programme. A system is in place to use pooled funds to help the poorest children to pay for school meals. WFP will confirm with the DNC that this system is operational in all supported schools.	September 2009
vi) secure resources to implement the take-home ration component for girls in northern regions, especially in upper grades, starting with a pilot initiative.		vi) The country office is trying to secure funding to implement all programme activities at planned levels. WFP and donors will discuss funding support for a pilot take-home ration for girls: once this is assured, the pilot will be included in the new PRRO, but there is little donor interest in this activity. The limited availability of resources for the PRRO means that not all activities can be implemented: those at risk include the take-home rations for girls. The Donor Relations Division proposes that the country office approach the recently established Strategic Resource Allocation Committee with a view to securing multilateral funding for priority activities.	December 2009 September 2009



ACRONYMS USED IN THE DOCUMENT

DNC	<i>Direction nationale des cantines</i> (National Office on School Feeding)
M&E	monitoring and evaluation
PRRO	protracted relief and recovery operation
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework