

Executive Board Annual Session

Rome, 8-12 June 2009

EVALUATION REPORTS

Agenda item 7

For consideration



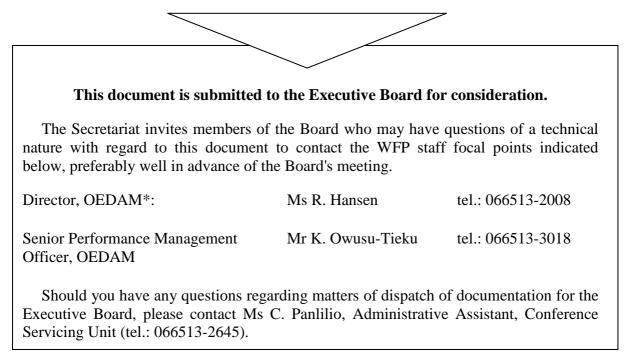
Distribution: GENERAL WFP/EB.A/2009/7-E/Add.1 12 May 2009 ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

MANAGEMENT RESPONSE TO THE SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT BURKINA FASO PRRO 10541.0

Reversing Growing Undernutrition in Food-Insecure Regions

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NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD



* Performance and Accountability Management Division



BACKGROUND

- 1. The Secretariat appreciates the evaluation recommendations and its observations that WFP has made good progress in implementing the Burkina Faso PRRO 10541.0 (2006-2009) "Reversing Growing Undernutrition in Food-Insecure Regions".
- 2. The Secretariat recognizes the importance of improving the effectiveness of delivering future interventions and will address the issues identified by the report.
- 3. The Secretariat's responses to the recommendations are presented in the matrix.



Recommendations	Action by	Management response and action taken	Implementatior deadline
1. WFP, donors and partners should continue to support the PRRO, which has been broadly successful in its first phase and now requires further funding and sufficiently trained staff to proceed. However, given the likely continuation of funding shortfalls during 2009, it is recommended that the PRRO consolidate its achievements in the areas currently covered. Trade-offs will be inevitable between the increased numbers of beneficiaries served through expanded coverage, and the quality and quantity of inputs and services provided.	Country office	Agreed. Actions have been taken to reduce the risk to the achievements of the project from the reduced funding. In consultation with project stakeholders, a decision was made to prioritize resources for nutrition rehabilitation in the health centres. Non-governmental organizations will continue to work with health personnel to identify undernourished children and refer them to the health facilities, and will continue nutrition education.	Ongoing
The potential should be explored for using alternative or additional foods in the ration, including ready-to-use supplementary food for the rehabilitation of moderately wasted children.	Country office	Under emergency operation 10773.0 "Emergency Response to High Food Prices", Plumpy'doz ^{™1} is distributed to children under 2. The country office is interested in exploring the use of other ready-to-use complementary foods to prevent acute malnutrition and ready-to-use supplementary foods to treat it. WFP has guidelines on the use of ready-to-use food for such purposes, which the country office is keen to follow. But the Burkina national protocol for the treatment of acute malnutrition does not include the new products, so their use can only be initiated when the Ministry of Health revises its protocol.	Ongoing
	OMXD	The Programme Design Service (OMXD) will support country office advocacy for the change of protocol when more evidence is available on the cost effectiveness of such products.	Ongoing

¹ Plumpy'dozTM is a trademark for a lipid-based (peanut) product.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSE MATRIX TO THE SUMMARY REPORT BURKINA FASO PRRO 10541.0

Recommendations	Action by	Management response and action taken	Implementation deadline
3. There is an urgent need for studies of the costs and effectiveness of the intervention models used by a PRRO of this kind. The partnership for ending child hunger REACH has a costing model that could be piloted by applying it to PRRO activities. The potential for locally produced fortified foods should also be reassessed in terms of cost per child/mother rehabilitated and cost per percentage point reduction in population-wide wasting, rather than in terms of cost per metric ton.	Country office	The REACH minimum reporting package (MRP) is being tested in pilot countries. The content is therefore not final and cannot be replicated. The country office was in contact with Headquarters regarding being included as a pilot, but the recommendations of the MRP steering committee state, "[I]f the programme is run 'on behalf' of the organization by a different entity, the country will not be considered for the pilot". The Burkina Faso PRRO is therefore not eligible.	Ongoing
		With regard to locally produced fortified blended food, the country office is discussing procurement of a locally produced blended food with the Food Procurement Branch (OMLP) and (OMXD). Before the product can be part of the ration, it has to be assessed under WFP's quality assurance system; the issue of cost must also be addressed.	
	OED – REACH	The REACH team and the country office will explore piloting of the REACH approach in Burkina Faso and the use of operational tools and the REACH costing model, which the country office finds useful.	
	OMXD	OMXD and the country office will assess the locally produced fortified blended foods in terms of nutritional value and food safety and the production facilities to ensure compatibility with WFP standards. The cost effectiveness of the local product rather than regionally or internationally procured products will be considered.	
4. High default rates have a negative impact on efficiency, and this issue should be studied further. A possible solution could be a shift to the use of lipid-based supplements, which require no cooking and pose fewer problems with such issues as storage and bacterial pollution.	Country office	Agreed. The country office appreciates the value added by the use of lipid-based supplementary foods in response to the difficult nutrition rehabilitation environment. WFP, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization will advocate for the use of these products as part of the national protocol.	Ongoing
	OMXD	The country office is using Plumpy'doz [™] . OMXD will support the country office in advocacy for changing the Ministry of Health protocol for the treatment of acute malnutrition.	

ACRONYMS USED IN THE DOCUMENT

- MRP minimum reporting package
- OMLP Food Procurement Branch
- OMXD Programme Design Service
- REACH [a partnership for ending child hunger]
- UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund
- WHO World Health Organization

