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*For information**



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PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY – 30 JUNE 2007) – TAJIKISTAN 10603.0

Transitional Relief and Recovery Support to Food-Insecure Households

Number of beneficiaries	590,800
Duration of project	24 months, (1 July 2007 – 30 June 2009)
WFP food tonnage	37,697 mt
Cost (United States dollars)	
WFP food cost	14,743,199
Total cost to WFP	22.8 million

* 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 to the Executive Board for information.

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).

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ABSTRACT

1. Protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 10603.0 was approved in March 2007 for the period 1 July 2007 – 30 June 2009 to assist 590,800 beneficiaries with 37,697 mt of food. The operational budget is US\$22.82 million.
2. The PRRO will build on existing local support for school feeding programmes. WFP will work with the Ministry of Education, local authorities and parent-teacher associations to provide school meals for 270,000 children. During the operation, WFP will phase out its assistance as capacities are developed and additional contributions are provided by the Government and local counterparts to sustain the programmes. In the health and nutrition sector, WFP will extend support for the Ministry of Health in the first year as it assumes responsibility for mother-and-child therapeutic and supplementary feeding centres previously run by non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Vulnerable group feeding (VGF) programmes will be phased down as food for work (FFW) projects are implemented to build lasting assets and support sustainable livelihoods.
3. The project strategy is aligned with the Government's Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP), the National Development Strategy and the reforms identified in the 2005 Millennium Development Goals (MDG) needs assessment.
4. The immediate objectives of the PRRO are to:
 - meet the immediate food needs of the victims of natural disasters (Strategic Objective 1);
 - protect the livelihoods of chronically food-insecure households in marginalized areas during lean periods through VGF (Strategic Objective 2);
 - contribute to the creation of sustainable community productive assets to improve household food security through FFW that includes access to safe drinking water (Strategic Objective 2);
 - improve the nutritional status of malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women through therapeutic and supplementary feeding (Strategic Objective 3);
 - improve the nutritional status of tuberculosis (TB) patients (Strategic Objective 3);
 - increase access to education and reduce gender disparity by providing hot meals in primary schools and take-home rations for girls in secondary schools (Strategic Objective 4); and
 - support government capacity-building in managing national food-assistance programmes (Strategic Objective 5).
5. WFP activities include:
 - food for education (FFE) in coordination with the Ministry of Education;
 - health and nutrition in support of therapeutic and supplementary feeding centres run by the Ministry of Health;
 - emergency response and VGF, working with the Committee of Emergency Situations, which will take charge of food distributions by the end of the second year; and
 - FFW on projects proposed by local authorities or partners and reviewed by the country office project appraisal committee.
6. The PRRO provides for a gradual withdrawal of WFP assistance from the country to ensure that the joint achievements of WFP and the Government are sustained after WFP has handed over.