

برنامج  
الاغذية  
العالمي



Programme  
Alimentaire  
Mondial

World  
Food  
Programme

Programa  
Mundial  
de Alimentos

**Executive Board  
Second Regular Session**

**Rome, 22 - 24 May 1996**

# **BUDGET INCREASES TO APPROVED PROJECTS FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD APPROVAL**

**Agenda item 5 b)**

## **PROJECT HAITI 4111**

(WIS No. HAI 004111)

### **WFP support for school canteens in north and northeast Haiti**

	<b>Previous budget (dollars)</b>	<b>Increase (dollars)</b>	<b>Revised budget (dollars)</b>
Food cost	3 109 000	945 145	4 054 145
Total WFP cost	4 588 158	1 773 321	6 361 479

Indirect support cost as percent of direct costs (14.5 percent) included.

All monetary values are expressed in United States dollars, unless otherwise stated.

For relevant statistical data, please consult the WFP country profile for Haiti, which is available on request.

# **E**

Distribution: GENERAL

**WFP/EB.2/96/5-B/Add.1**

9 April 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

*This document is produced in a limited number of copies.*

*Delegates and observers are kindly requested to bring it to the meetings and to refrain from asking for additional copies.*

## NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

1. This document contains recommendations for review and approval by the Executive Board.
2. Pursuant to the decisions taken on the methods of work by the Executive Board at its First Regular Session, the documentation prepared by the Secretariat for the Board has been kept brief and decision-oriented. The meetings of the Executive Board are to be conducted in a business-like manner, with increased dialogue and exchanges between delegations and the Secretariat. Efforts to promote these guiding principles will continue to be pursued by the Secretariat.
3. The Secretariat therefore invites members of the Board who may have questions of a technical nature with regard to this document, to contact the WFP staff member(s) listed below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting. This procedure is designed to facilitate the Board's consideration of the document in the plenary.
4. The WFP staff dealing with this document are:  
  
Regional Manager: F. Roque Castro      tel.: 5228-2207  
Desk Officer: R. Antolin              tel.: 5228-2368
5. Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact the Documents Clerk (tel.: 5228-2641).

---

## NATURE OF INCREASE

1. An extension in time of one year (until October 1998), with a commitment of an additional 1,037 tons of bulgur wheat, 1,725 of wheat, 220 of wheat-soya blend, 72 of vegetable oil, 180 of pulses, 40 of canned fish, and 88 of sugar, is proposed. Four hundred and fifty tons of wheat are included for monetization.

## Background information

2. Distribution was delayed by a *coup d'état* in September 1991 and only began in October 1992. The project's objectives are to contribute to improving primary school attendance and reducing drop-out rates, guarantee a specific caloric intake, promote basic knowledge of health and nutrition at school and community levels, and enhance community participation in school-related activities. Achievement of these objectives was hampered during the embargo and the "de facto" government. During this period, the project was executed more as an emergency operation than a development project; thus, the distribution of food in the schools became the main activity. It was only upon Haiti's return to democracy (October 1994) that efforts were made to reorient the project as originally conceived.
3. A progress report was presented to the CFA at its Fortieth Session (November 1995) which stated that, two years after implementation, the project had almost doubled enrolment (85,000 against the 45,000 planned) in WFP-assisted schools despite the difficulties encountered, and that WFP assistance in this sector should continue for at least another phase due to the severe food deficit and because the poorest schoolchildren in the country were the target group.
4. The initial four-year duration was extended for an additional year (until October 1996), because an exceptional donation of 10,900 tons of Argentinean maize and 100 tons of canned fish was received. The Government then requested a new four-year phase. An appraisal mission, with the participation of UNESCO and WFP, visited Haiti from 5 to 24 February 1996 in order to assess the feasibility of formulating a second phase within a programme for improved quality of primary education.

---

## JUSTIFICATION FOR THE REVISION

5. The mission recommended a budget revision with an extension in time to serve as an interim phase, thus allowing time to implement the mission's recommendations and to test the new elements to be introduced. This approach takes into account the fact that the new government Ministers have not yet been appointed, the national plan for education has not yet been finalized, and other donor activities for the medium term have not yet been defined. It would also provide an opportunity for WFP to properly assess the impact of the project and to monitor the progress made in implementing the recommendations of the mission before submitting an expansion for approval.



6. Despite the serious political and socio-economic crisis, an international embargo, frequent changes of government and project staff and the small contribution of the Government of Haiti, the project has had a positive effect on the development of human resources. It has provided access to education to twice as many schoolchildren as planned, among the poorest schools and in the poorest areas of the country. Instead of the planned 45,000 children, the project covered approximately 85,000. The food serves as an income transfer to households, because the school fees were paid from savings. Parent-teacher associations have been created in almost all schools participating in the project, resulting in a high level of community participation in school activities, including the school feeding project. The clearest indicator of participation is parents' willingness to prepare the food on a voluntary basis and to pay the necessary fees for the purchase of wood and condiments, in spite of severe economic difficulties. The feeding programme will help to address the problem of short-term hunger in food-deficit areas and will provide an incentive for parents to send their children to school.
7. Upon return to democracy, the Government initiated the preparation of a "national plan for education 2004", which aims to define the country's education policy, to reinforce and justify the Government's management of the education system and to resolve the question of financing for education. The plan has not yet been finalized, but some measures have been initiated by the Government in the interim, such as teacher training, construction and rehabilitation of schools, and literacy programmes. The importance which the Government attaches to the education sector, coupled with the increasing level of community participation and the positive results attained, justifies an extension in time with additional resources, pending the preparation of a new phase.
8. The appraisal mission recommended that the objectives of the project should be adjusted. While the first objective (i.e., stabilization of school attendance and reduction of drop-outs) has been achieved, the second objective (caloric intake) should be changed to address short-term hunger in order to improve children's capability to concentrate and assimilate information. The third objective, related to the promotion of knowledge on health and nutrition, should be deleted because of lack of concrete strategies for its implementation.
9. The selection of project beneficiaries will now be undertaken on the basis of appropriate criteria recommended by the appraisal mission, which include among others: a) prevalence of short-term hunger among schoolchildren, b) weak socio-economic level of the specific community; c) existence of parent-teacher associations; d) adequate education and canteen facilities.
10. In the current project, the cooks receive dry rations for each working day. During visits to schools and talks with parents and teachers, the mission was informed that the food could be prepared by the parents on a voluntary basis, as is the case with other school feeding programmes in the country (e.g., CARE, CRS, the Adventist Development Relief Agency). For this reason, it is proposed that the provision of dry rations to the cooks be discontinued starting from the next school year.
11. The proposed budget increase covers 45,000 beneficiaries. An early morning snack (wheat-soya blend, sugar) for the same children in rural areas will also be served.



Moreover, a snack consisting of bread, fish and a nutritious drink for an average of 13,000 students in the metropolitan area (implemented by an NGO) will be added.

12. Wheat is recommended for monetization to finance improvement of canteen infrastructure (47 percent), training (seven percent), improved stoves (33 percent), canteen utensils (eight percent) and a survey for targeting (five percent).

---

## **RECOMMENDATION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

13. This one-year extension in time plus an additional commodity commitment and the inclusion of new elements, is recommended for approval by the Executive Board.

