

Executive Board

Second regular session Rome, 26–29 November 2018

Distribution: General Agenda item 8

Date: 18 October 2018 WFP/EB.2/2018/8-E/2
Original: English Operational matters

For information

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

Limited emergency operations and immediate response activities approved by the Executive Director or by the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO (1 January–30 June 2018)

- 1. At its 2001 third regular session, the Board asked to be regularly informed about emergency operations approved by the Executive Director or approved jointly by the Executive Director and the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Since the second regular session of 2002 this information has been provided twice a year.
- 2. In line with the new Integrated Road Map framework, this report covers limited emergency operations and immediate response activities approved between 1 January and 30 June 2018, as shown in the attached tables. Table A lists limited emergency operations approved by the Executive Director or approved jointly by the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO. Table B lists immediate response activities approved by the Deputy Executive Director under authority delegated by the Executive Director.
- 3. During the period under review, the Executive Director approved one limited emergency response while two immediate response activities for emergency preparedness were approved under the authority delegated to the Deputy Executive Director. The total approved value for the reporting period is USD 22.2 million and the total number of beneficiaries assisted is 153,000.

Limited emergency operations approved by the Executive Director

4. **Papua New Guinea – limited emergency operation (29 March 2018–28 July 2018)**. On 26 February 2018, an earthquake of 7.5 magnitude hit Papua New Guinea at a depth of 35 km, with its epicentre in Enga Province (Central Highlands). A series of heavy aftershocks followed until 6 March 2018. Severe damage was reported in 59 local government areas in 23 districts in 9 provinces. On 1 March 2018, the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea declared a state of emergency for the earthquake-affected areas in Enga, Hela, Southern Highlands and Western Highlands provinces. WFP's objective was twofold: to

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provide support through coordination, assessments and the delivery of common services and to provide food assistance to save lives. WFP planned a four-month food-based response focused on saving lives, stabilizing communities and covering the critical period until vegetable gardens for growing roots and tubers were re-established. The response provided a seven-day ration of high-energy biscuits for 38,000 people in the most acute need of food, followed by two food distributions for the entire population in the seven most affected local government areas. The first food distribution consisted of a 30-day rice ration supplemented with high-energy biscuits and the second distribution provided a 30-day rice ration supplemented with canned fish. A total of 153,000 people were assisted through the limited emergency operation at a cost of USD 21.5 million.

Immediate response activities approved under authority delegated to the Deputy Executive Director

- 5. Regional immediate response preparedness and response enhancement programme 201120, "Special preparedness activities in support of migrants from Venezuela" (7 March 2018-6 June 2018) reinforced the capacity of WFP's country office in Colombia to contribute to the United Nations response plan as requested by the Government of Colombia and to assist other countries in the region in assessing the situation. Two international consultants were recruited in Bogotá and Panama to coordinate preparedness actions for the WFP response. Staff based in Bogotá liaised with Colombian authorities at both the central and local levels and contributed to the preparation of WFP's inputs to the joint United Nations response plan for Colombia. Staff based in Panama coordinated with regional humanitarian actors and engaged with partners in countries where WFP does not have a presence. The total cost of the project was USD 299,968.
- 6. The Congo immediate response preparedness and response enhancement programme 201127, "Preparedness activities for the Democratic Republic of the Congo Ebola outbreak" (1 June 2018–31 August 2018) increased preparedness actions to enhance the supply chain and information and communication technology (ICT) facilities of WFP's country office in the Congo in preparation for a possible spread of the Ebola virus disease from the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the Congo. On 3 May 2018, the Bikoro health zone located in Equateur Province of the Democratic Republic of the Congo reported 21 cases of fever with haemorrhagic signs and 17 deaths. Equateur province is across the river from the departments of Likouala and Cuvette in the Congo. WFP's country office in the Congo contributed to a government-led interagency preparedness assessment, which confirmed that existing infrastructure was poor, the communication network was unreliable and storage facilities were not available. The preparedness activities undertaken through the approved project contributed to the enhancement of WFP's capacity to use local rivers for transport, the augmentation of an existing fleet of small barges to facilitate the prepositioning of equipment and supplies, the establishment of four mobile storage units, an assessment of ICT capacity and the enhancement of ICT equipment, and the putting in place of adequate staffing capacity to support future assessments. The total cost of the project was USD 299,369.

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LIMITED EMERGENCY OPERATIONS AND IMMEDIATE RESPONSE ACTIVITIES APPROVED DURING THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY TO 30 JUNE 2018										
Approving authority	Project number	Regional bureau	Recipient	Project title	Tonnage (<i>mt</i>)	Food cost (USD)	Total cost (USD)	Beneficiaries	Approval date	Original duration (days)
Table A: Limit	ed emergen	cy operations a	pproved unde	the authority delegate	d to the Exec	utive Director				
Executive Director	-	Bangkok	Papua New Guinea	Limited emergency operation Papua New Guinea	-	-	21 592 495	153 000	30/03/2018	119
Table B: Imme	diate respor	nse activities ap	proved under	the authority delegated	to the Depu	ty Executive Dir	ector			
Deputy Executive Director	201120	Panama	Colombia	Preparedness activities in support of migrants from Venezuela	-	-	299 968	-	26/03/2018	90
Deputy Executive Director	201127	Johannesburg	Congo	Special preparedness activities for the Democratic Republic of the Congo Ebola outbreak	-	-	299 369	-	30/05/2018	89
Total							22 191 832	153 000		