

World Food Programme Programme Alimentaire Mondial Programa Mundial de Alimentos برنامج الأغذية العالمي **Executive Board** Second regular session Rome, 18–21 November 2024

Distribution: General Date: 23 October 2024 Original: English Agenda item 7 WFP/EB.2/2024/7-D Operational matters For information

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

## Revisions of country strategic plans, interim country strategic plans and transitional interim country strategic plans, and corresponding budget increases or decreases, approved under delegations of authority (1 January 2024–30 June 2024)

### **Executive summary**

This report covers the revisions of country strategic plans, interim country strategic plans and transitional interim country strategic plans, and the corresponding budget increases or decreases, approved under various delegations of authority between 1 January and 30 June 2024. Such reporting is in accordance with the commitment to informing the Executive Board of revisions to country strategic plans, which was made by management during the informal consultations leading up to the second regular session of the Board in 2017 and the first regular session in 2020.

During the period under review, a total of 19 revisions were approved under delegations of authority. For the first time since 2020, WFP's budget had decreased by the end of the reporting period, and the revisions reported on here have decreased WFP's needs-based plan by USD 1.3 billion, representing a 5 percent reduction in the total budget of the country strategic plans concerned.

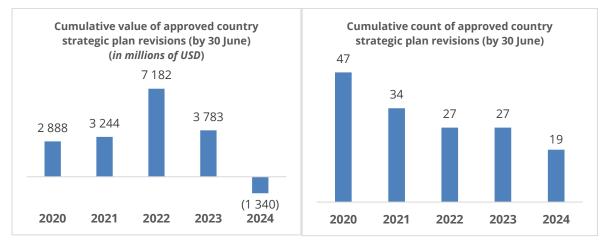
Of the 19 revisions made, one was approved under the authority of the Executive Director and the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, six under the authority of the Executive Director alone, four under the authority of regional directors, and eight under the authority of country directors.

The greatest reductions were in the Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, led by the country strategic plan for Afghanistan with a decrease of USD 786 million; the Regional Bureau for Eastern Africa, led by the plan for Ethiopia with a decrease of USD 647 million; and the Regional Bureau for Western Africa, led by the plan for Nigeria, with a decrease of USD 537 million. The greatest increase in budget for a country strategic plan was in the Regional Bureau for the Middle East, Northern Africa and Eastern Europe, which saw a rise of USD 642 million in the budget for the country strategic plan for USD 642 million in the budget for the country strategic plan for the State of Palestine.

#### **Focal points:**

Mr W. Affif Chief Programme Cycle and Quality Unit email: william.affif@wfp.org Mr M. Wachs Data Analysis Specialist Programme Cycle and Quality Unit email: martin.wachs@wfp.org

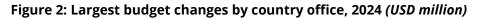
World Food Programme, Via Cesare Giulio Viola, 68/70, 00148 Rome, Italy

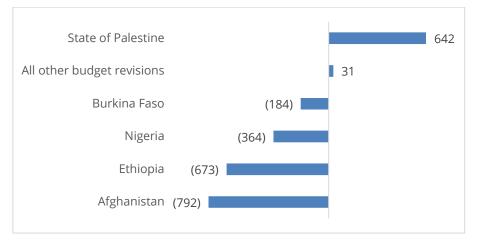


#### Figure 1: Comparison of budget revisions (including direct and indirect support costs), 2020–June 2024

TABLE 1: BUDGET REVISIONS IN VALUE TERMS BY REGIONAL BUREAU, 2024 (USD million)						
Regional bureau	Total value (including DSC and ISC)					
Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific (RBB)	(786)					
Regional Bureau for Eastern Africa (RBN)	(647)					
Regional Bureau for Western Africa (RBD)	(537)					
Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean (RBP)	(51)					
Regional Bureau for Southern Africa (RBJ)	40					
Regional Bureau for the Middle East, Northern Africa and Eastern Europe (RBC)	642					
Grand Total	(1 340)					

*Abbreviations:* DSC = direct support costs; ISC = indirect support costs.





#### TABLE 2: APPROVED CSPs, ICSPs AND T-ICSPs FOR WHICH REVISIONS AND BUDGET INCREASES/DECREASES WERE AUTHORIZED BETWEEN 1 JANUARY AND 30 JUNE 2024, BY DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY AND VALUE

	I	51 52220/11				
Delegation of authority	Paragraph number in this report	Country office/ subregion	Regional bureau	Document	Total increase/decre ase in direct beneficiaries (excluding overlaps)	Value of revision (including DSC and ISC) (USD million)
Executive Director/ Director-General of FAO	1	State of Palestine	RBC	Budget revision 2 to CSP 2023-2028	1 000 000	642
Executive Director	2	Afghanistan	RBB	Budget revision 9 to CSP 2018-2025	(941 755)	(792)
Executive Director	3	Ethiopia	RBN	Budget revision 7 to CSP 2020-2025	(12 108 599)	(673)
Executive Director	4	Nigeria	RBD	Budget revision 1 to CSP 2023-2027	0	(364)
Executive Director	5	Burkina Faso	RBD	Budget revision 10 to CSP 2019-2025	(659 748)	(184)
Executive Director	6	Colombia	RBP	Budget revision 2 to CSP 2021-2024	0	(138)
Executive Director	7	Colombia	RBP	Budget revision 3 to CSP 2021-2024	0	78
Regional director	8	Rwanda	RBN	Budget revision 4 to CSP 2019-2024	17 941	26
Regional director	9	Malawi	RBJ	Budget revision 1 to CSP 2024-2028	0	21
Regional director	10	Zambia	RBJ	Budget revision 1 to CSP 2023-2028	63 187	11
Regional director	11	Angola	RBJ	Budget revision 5 to ICSP 2020-2024	12 780	8
Country director	12	Senegal	RBD	Budget revision 4 to CSP 2019-2024	55 000	11
Country director	13	Ukraine	RBC	Budget revision 2 to T-ICSP 2023-2024	7 100	(8)
Country director	14	Egypt	RBC	Budget revision 2 to CSP 2023-2028	12 000	8
Country director	15	Pacific subregion	RBB	Budget revision 1 to MCSP 2023-2027	225 000	5
Country director	16	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	RBP	Budget revision 1 to CSP 2023-2027	112 000	2
Country director	17	Caribbean subregion	RBP	Budget revision 2 to MCSP 2022-2026	0	8
Country director	18	Timor-Leste	RBB	Budget revision 2 to CSP 2023-2025	0	1
Country director	19	Nicaragua	RBP	Budget revision 6 to CSP 2019-2024	0	0

*Abbreviations:* CSP = country strategic plan; DSC = direct support costs; FAO = Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; ICSP = interim CSP; ISC = indirect support costs; MCSP = multi-country CSP; T-ICSP = transitional ICSP.

# Revisions and budget increases or decreases approved jointly by the Executive Director and the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

1. **State of Palestine country strategic plan (CSP) (2023–2028) revision 2** facilitates several operational adjustments to the CSP in line with the wider humanitarian flash appeal.<sup>1</sup> The revision increases the number of beneficiaries by 1 million and the overall budget by USD 642 million. Since October 2023, the escalation of conflict between Hamas and Israel has led to the deaths of at least 30,000 Palestinians<sup>2</sup> and injured an additional 67,000. In Gaza, entire neighbourhoods, schools and hospitals have been destroyed and supply chains have been severely disrupted, leaving the entire population of an estimated 2.2 million people with depleted food, water and essential supplies, and displacing 1.7 million people.<sup>3</sup> Prior to the conflict, two thirds of Gaza's population was dependent on humanitarian assistance. Now, 2.2 million people face crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity.<sup>4</sup> In December 2023, an Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis<sup>5</sup> found devastating levels of food insecurity in Gaza, with 50 percent of the population (1.17 million people) at emergency levels of food security (IPC phase 4) and a further 25 percent (more than half a million people) facing catastrophic or famine levels (IPC phase 5).

# Revisions and budget increases or decreases approved by the Executive Director

- 2. **Afghanistan CSP (2018–2025) revision 9** reduces the number of beneficiaries by 941,755 and the overall budget by USD 792 million. In line with corporate guidance, it adjusts the planning figures in the CSP to reflect a decrease in expected funding for 2024 and 2025. Long-term strategies and funding for international engagement in Afghanistan remain uncertain and challenging. Sustained humanitarian efforts need to be complemented by interventions that address basic needs and build resilience. This approach is set out in the United Nations strategic framework for Afghanistan for June 2023 to December 2025, which prioritizes sustainable essential services, economic opportunities and resilient livelihoods. The revision does not change the duration of the CSP, so the end date remains in line with the current United Nations strategic framework.
- 3. **Ethiopia CSP (2020–2025) revision 7** reduces the number of beneficiaries by 12,108,599 and the overall budget by USD 673 million. Since food assistance was paused in May and June 2023, the WFP country office has implemented a comprehensive assurance project with close support from leadership in headquarters and the Regional Bureau for Eastern Africa aimed at revamping its operational model in Ethiopia. At the core of the project, WFP has put augmented measures and controls in place to ensure that food aid reaches its intended recipients. The assurance project was primarily designed for relief and refugee activities but is also being implemented for nutrition and school feeding programmes, especially as regards commodity deliveries and enhanced monitoring. Successful implementation of measures under the project allowed the resumption of refugee assistance in October 2023 and relief support in November 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. 2023. Flash Appeal for the Occupied Palestinian Territory 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. 2023. Occupied Palestinian Territory (accessed on 7 March 2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> *Ibid* (accessed on 19 February 2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Integrated Food Security Phase Classification. 2024. Alerts Archive – Issue 94.

⁵ Ibid.

- 4. Nigeria CSP (2023-2027) revision 1 reduces the overall budget by USD 364 million while maintaining the same number of beneficiaries. This represents a budget decrease of 14 percent, bringing the total budget to USD 2.2 billion. Since the middle of 2023, the Nigerian naira has suffered a significant devaluation, which has reduced the cost of food purchased locally under the CSP. Consequently, the country office will adjust the estimates of food costs and transfer values used during the design of the CSP so as to better align the budget with current conditions in local markets. This budget revision has three main purposes: the realignment of the budget through the revision of food costs and cash-based transfer values; the introduction of cash-based transfers as a transfer modality, with a revision of the description of activity 2 to align it with the World Health Organization's new guidelines on supplementation interventions for moderate acute malnutrition under the crisis response pillar, starting in June 2024; and the inclusion of monitoring, evaluation and assessment costs under implementation costs.
- 5. **Burkina Faso CSP (2019-2025) revision 10** reduces the total number of beneficiaries by 659,748 and the overall budget by USD 184 million. The country office faces a challenging funding environment owing to decreased interest from donors, with some donors withdrawing their support. To maximize the impact of the limited resources available, the country office is adjusting its budget down to a revised total of USD 400 million for 2024 and USD 403 million for 2025, representing a 19 percent cut from the total need-based plan for 2024 and 2025. The budget revision is aimed at refining the country office budget, especially the 2024 needs-based plan, to bring spending into line with actual needs while maintaining the overarching strategy for the country, which will not be altered.
- 6. Colombia CSP (2021–2024) revision 2 was initially approved to reduce the duration of the second-generation CSP by six months so as to align it with the new third-generation CSP, which was scheduled to begin on 1 July 2024 and run until 31 December 2028. However, the revision was later reverted by budget revision 3 (see below).
- 7. Colombia CSP (2021-2024) revision 3 reverts budget revision 2 (see above), extending the second-generation CSP until 31 December 2024. Owing to delays in the approval of the new United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework, the Government of Colombia requested a postponement of the new CSP, which is now due to start on 1 January 2025. The budget of the current CSP has therefore been increased to maintain ongoing operations.

#### Revisions approved under the delegated authority of regional directors

- 8. Rwanda CSP (2019-2024) revision 4 extends the current CSP by six months, from July to December 2024, to ensure that the new CSP, which will be submitted for approval at the Board's second regular session in November 2024, is aligned with the new timelines of Rwanda's second national strategy for transformation and the United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework. The overall increase in the country portfolio budget amounts to USD 26 million and increases the number of beneficiaries by 17,941.
- 9. **Malawi CSP (2024–2028) revision 1** increases the overall budget by USD 21 million to cover the provision of on-demand services for the procurement of maize flour and its transport to final delivery points in Malawi. These services respond to a severe rise in food insecurity, affecting 4.4 million people, driven by climate shocks, high food prices, economic decline and currency devaluation.
- Zambia CSP (2023-2028) revision 1 increases the overall budget by USD 11 million and the number of beneficiaries by 63,187 in response to a significant worsening of food security, driven by poor rainfall, ongoing drought, a cholera outbreak and economic challenges. An estimated 2.04 million people – 21 percent of the rural population – are facing acute food insecurity, with 60 percent of the districts assessed requiring urgent food and livelihood

support. Compounding the crisis, expected rainfall deficits and an El Niño phenomenon are likely to exacerbate crop failures and food shortages. Meanwhile, the Zambian economy is struggling with challenges that include currency depreciation and inflation, which are driving up food prices, reducing economic opportunities and leading to the need for a comprehensive humanitarian response.

11. **Angola interim CSP (ICSP) (2020–2024) revision 5** extends the current ICSP for 12 months, from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. The extension is to allow sufficient time for the transition from the current ICSP to a second-generation CSP and is essential for securing the necessary alignment with, and commitments from, the Government for the successful formulation and implementation of the CSP. The revision increases the overall budget by USD 8 million and the number of beneficiaries by 12,780.

#### Revisions approved under the delegated authority of country directors

- 12. **Senegal CSP (2019–2024) revision 4** extends the current CSP by six months to allow the new management team to fully articulate its vision for the upcoming CSP, which will start in January 2025. The budget revision ensures uninterrupted operations during the transition, taking into consideration the high levels of food insecurity, and tensions during the election period. It also increases the number of beneficiaries in school meals, resilience and lean season activities. The revision increases the overall budget by USD 11 million and the number of beneficiaries by 55,000.
- 13. Ukraine transitional-ICSP (T-ICSP) (2023–2024) revision 2 reduces the overall budget of the T-ICSP by USD 8 million and increases the number of beneficiaries by 7,100. The revision incorporates the use of cash-based transfers under activity 4 and makes minor operational adjustments to other aspects of the T-ICSP.
- 14. **Egypt CSP (2023–2028) revision 2** makes several operational adjustments to the CSP to enable WFP to respond to the impact of the crisis in the Sudan while ensuring that preparedness measures are in place for responding to other regional crises as needed. The revision increases the overall budget by USD 8 million, increases the number of beneficiaries receiving in-kind assistance by 12,000 and introduces a new activity 7 under CSP outcome 3 for the provision of on-demand services to government, humanitarian and development actors.
- 15. **Pacific multi-country CSP (MCSP) (2023–2027) revision 1** increases the overall budget of the MCSP by USD 5 million and the number of beneficiaries by 225,000 so as to incorporate the use of cash-based transfers for existing anticipatory action under MCSP outcome 1, activity 2, and adjusts the logical framework for reporting on that intervention. The Pacific Island countries and territories are among the world's most vulnerable to natural hazards exacerbated by climate change, with more frequent and severe extreme weather events affecting the region. Partners are showing growing interest in scaling up anticipatory action in the region to support vulnerable communities before a shock occurs. WFP's approach in the Pacific is to strengthen government systems and capacity to reduce vulnerability to food insecurity and malnutrition from the impacts of climate change and other covariate shocks.
- 16. **Bolivia (Plurinational State of) CSP (2023–2027) revision 1** increases the overall budget by USD 2 million and the number of beneficiaries by 112,000. Given the current challenges faced by the Bolivian Government in sourcing adequate food supplies, and the impact of those challenges on the prompt provision of support in emergencies, WFP has been asked to integrate in-kind food assistance into its operations, helping the Government to stabilize food prices and better meet the population's needs during crises and shocks. By incorporating food transfers alongside cash-based transfers, WFP will ensure a more comprehensive response to the nutrition needs of vulnerable people.

- 17. **Caribbean MCSP (2022–2026) revision 2** increases the overall budget of the MCSP for the Caribbean subregion by USD 8 million while maintaining the same number of beneficiaries. It supports the growing level of engagement that WFP's multi-country office for the Caribbean has with multiple national governments and development partners throughout the English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean. The duration and strategic orientation of the MCSP remain unchanged; instead, the revision reflects the changes in engagement by including a new activity targeting 60,000 people, and a corresponding budget increase under MCSP outcome 2 in the crisis response focus area. The current transfer modality, unconditional resource transfers, allows the multi-country office to meet the needs of governments and accelerate the systems strengthening efforts that are at the core of its strategy for the Caribbean.
- 18. **Timor-Leste CSP (2023-2025) revision 2** increases the overall budget by USD 1 million, without increasing the number of beneficiaries. In line with the Government's urgent need to respond to crises that affect nutrition and local supply chain services, the budget revision will allow WFP to support the Government and partners by providing procurement and supply chain services. The support provided will be reflected in a new CSP outcome 4 with a new activity 4 and will complement the achievements under all CSP outcomes.
- 19. **Nicaragua CSP (2019–2024) revision 6** modifies the geographical focus of CSP outcome 1, activity 1 a school feeding programme according to the Government's requirements, shifting its emphasis from the North Caribbean Coast Autonomous Region and Indigenous areas of Jinotega to the Pacific and north-central regions of the country, an area also known as the Dry Corridor of Nicaragua. The revision reflects the universal coverage of the school feeding programme in Nicaragua and the Government's expressed intention of assuming responsibility for the areas previously covered by WFP. This revision will not result in any changes to the line of sight, number of beneficiaries, food tonnage or budget allocation of the CSP.