

BUDGET REVISION FOR THE APPROVAL OF REGIONAL DIRECTOR

	<u>Initials</u>	<u>In Date</u>	<u>Out Date</u>	<u>Reason For Delay</u>
<u>ORIGINATOR</u>				
Country Office or Regional Bureau on behalf of Country Office
<u>CLEARANCE</u>				
Programme Officer, OMXP
Chief, OMXP
Chief, OMLT (change in LTSH and/or External Transport)
Director, FLB
<u>APPROVAL</u>				
<input type="checkbox"/> Regional Director

PROJECT	Previous Budget	Revision	New Budget
Food cost	US\$ 8,042,706	US\$1,906,500	US\$ 9,949,206
External transport	US\$ 884,673	US\$ 34,030.00	US\$ 918,703
LTSH	US\$ 2,495,586	US\$ 484,962.65	US\$ 2,980,548.65
ODOC	US\$ 501,646	US\$ 84,600	US\$ 586,246
DSC	US\$ 1,969,961	US\$ 409,642	US\$ 3,379,603
ISC (7%)	US\$ 972,620	US\$ 204,381.43	US\$ 1,177,001.43
Total WFP cost (US\$)	US\$ 14,867,192	US\$ 3,124,116.08	US\$ 17,991,308.08

TYPE OF REVISION

- Additional commodity
 Additional DSC
 Additional ODOC
 Additional LTSH
 Additional external transport
 Extension or Reduction in time
 Other

NATURE OF REVISION:

- Additional commodities (4,205MT)
- External transport
- Additional LTSH
- Additional ODOC
- Additional DSC

JUSTIFICATION FOR THE REVISION:

Cyclone Ketsana hit Laos on 30 September, bringing with it extensive rainfall and strong winds. The dam along the Sekong River in Attapeu province had to open its flood gates. The affected provinces were Sekong, Attapeu, Saravanne, Savannaket and Champassak, hitting the rural districts in the

south-eastern part of the country. According to the CFSVA¹, the levels of malnutrition and food insecurity in these districts are already high in normal circumstances. Extensive damage to agriculture is reported, which is particularly worrisome as the harvest was about to start in the coming weeks. Reports are also being received on loss of livestock and extensive damage to infrastructure including roads, housing and public facilities. No official warning was issued to communities prior to the disaster so people were unprepared.

WFP was already operational in these areas under the PRRO and started food distributions in the worst affected parts of Attapeu, Saravane, Sekong and Savannaket a few days after the disaster. Distributions were carried out by helicopters and trucks in partnership with the Government. A total of 165 tons of rice and 20 tons of fish have been distributed to 66,000 of the worst affected people to date, drawing from existing stocks. WFP is planning partnerships with OXFAM, CARE, World Vision, Health Unlimited and IFAD for further distributions.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs held a briefing with international partners on 9th October and provided an overview of the situation and confirmed the urgent need for international assistance. The total number of people affected has not been confirmed. Current estimates are at 130,000 may have been affected, although this does not include information from all affected areas. A joint rapid multi-sectoral assessment is being organized under the IASC, with WFP and UNICEF in the lead, which should help clarify the figures and the extent of the impact.

Rapid assessments have been carried out by the NGOs working on food security, as well as by WFP. Based on these results, and the requests made by NGOs to WFP for food assistance, the plan is to support a total of 115,000 people for the initial three months with peak in October. Following that, it is planned to reduce the caseload to 30,000, based on previous experience in responding to floods in Laos. However, the results of the assessment and careful monitoring in the field may result in more precise figures. An IRA request has been put forward for USD 920,000 and a CERF request is under preparation at UNCT level.

WFP has also been supporting populations in the Northern part of the country who in 2008 were vastly affected by extensive rodent infestations associated with bamboo flowering. Localized floods also impacted livelihoods in some of the districts in the North. It is estimated that new relief needs will be forthcoming in coming months from areas with significant crop failures.

Taking the above into account, it is estimated that an additional 4000 tons of new project commitment is required. The PRRO ends in December. Any remaining stocks can be carried into the new phase of the PRRO which should start in January 2010.

DISTRIBUTION:

DED, COO, OM
Deputy COO
Chief, OMLT
Country Director
OM Registry
REG

Director, OMX
Chief, OMXP
Chief, OMXR
Programme Officer, OMXP
Programming Assistant, OMXP
FLB

Chief, OMXD
Regional Director
RB Programme Advisor
RB Programme Assistant
RB Chrono
Liaison Officer, OM@

¹ Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis, 2006