

**BUDGET REVISION TO PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY
OPERATION PROJECT: PRRO 10672.0 – Assistance to Populations Affected by
the Protracted Côte d’Ivoire Crisis.**

	Cost (US\$)		
	Present budget	Increase	Revised budget
Food cost	20,727,571	15,041,406	35,768,977
External transport	7,134,867		7,134,867
LTSH	7,423,602	4,273,520	11,697,122
ODOC	2,400,580	989,833	3,390,413
DSC	8,917,371	4,961,533	13,878,904
ISC (7percent)	3,262,276	1,768,640	5,030,920
Total cost to WFP	49,866,272	27,034,933	76,901,205

NATURE OF THE INCREASE

1. This budget revision to protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) Côte d’Ivoire 10672.0 is required in order to:
 - Respond to global and localised high food prices in order to alleviate the impact on the most vulnerable food-insecure households, especially during the lean season;
 - Increase nutrition interventions in response to high acute malnutrition rates in the north of the country, identified in a recent nutrition survey;
 - Consolidate support to relief and recovery activities to assist food-insecure internally displaced people (IDPs), returnees, and vulnerable host communities, including HIV/AIDS affected households;
 - Adjust or discontinue support to certain activities given the changing political situation in the country, as follows: (i) Discontinue food for training for demobilized soldiers which concluded in June 2008; (ii) Discontinue rations to teachers in the north as government employed teachers have returned, or are in the process of returning; (iii) Reduce school feeding activities under the PRRO as some schools in government controlled areas of the South are to be covered under a new development programme; (iv) Discontinue girls’ take-home rations because of insufficient support to the programme.
 - An extension-in-time from 1 January to 31 August 2009 is needed to allow WFP to continue addressing relief and recovery needs, particularly during the lean season (June-August), while assessing short/medium-term needs in mid-2009 and consulting with the Government and partners on the design of a successive operation which will be in line with the recently developed United Nations Development Assistance Framework.

2. The budget revision is aligned with the new WFP Strategic Plan (2008-2011) through WFP Strategic Objectives (SO) 1 (Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies), SO3 (Restore and rebuild lives and livelihoods in post-conflict, post-disaster or transition situations) and SO5 (Strengthen the capacities of countries to reduce hunger, including through hand-over strategies and local purchases). The PRRO addresses Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 1 “Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger”.

JUSTIFICATION FOR EXTENSION-IN-TIME AND BUDGET INCREASE

Summary of existing project activities

3. As a consequence of the complex socio-political crisis that broke out in September 2002, Côte d’Ivoire has experienced periods of severe instability over the last 6 years. The crisis led to the division of the country and an accelerated deterioration of conditions against all basic humanitarian indicators. The Ouagadougou Political Agreement concluded a new peace process, with presidential elections now scheduled to take place in 2009.
4. The immediate objectives of Côte d’Ivoire PRRO 10672.0 “Assistance to populations affected by the Côte d’Ivoire protracted crisis” are to: (i) provide life-sustaining assistance through general food distributions to targeted beneficiaries who are critically food-insecure (SO1); (ii) protect livelihoods, support rehabilitation of productive assets and enhance resilience to shocks (SO3); (iii) support the improved nutrition and health status of children, pregnant and lactating women, people living with HIV/AIDS and other vulnerable groups (SO3) and (iv) support access to primary education and reduce gender disparity in access to education (SO3, SO5).
5. Through the relief component of the PRRO, WFP provides food rations to 17,000 IDPs and returnees as part of a combined effort with other United Nations agencies and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Assistance is also provided to 4,500 malnourished women and children, through a supplementary feeding and mother-child health (MCH) programme.
6. The recovery element includes emergency school feeding for 580,000 primary school children countrywide. In addition, WFP supports 42,000 people living with HIV/AIDS to mitigate the socio-economic effects of the disease and maintain their nutritional status. The distribution of a monthly take-home ration to girls attending the last three years of the primary school cycle could not take place as planned due to funding constraints. Finally, due to insufficient funding, WFP was unable to provide seed protection rations to 5,300 households, who received seeds and tools from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in five regions of northern and western Côte d’Ivoire.

Conclusion and recommendations of recent assessments

7. According to an emergency food security assessment (EFSA)¹ conducted jointly by WFP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in 10 regions in 2006, a total of 1.1 million people were identified as being at risk of food insecurity in the event of a future shock. Following the recent sharp food price rises, exacerbated by diminished livelihoods

¹ Emergency Food Security Assessment, WFP/FAO, September-October 2006.

and a poor harvest in 2007,² the Food Security and Nutrition Working Group estimated that 20 to 30 percent of those households (220,000 to 330,000 people) were at high risk of becoming food-insecure, thus needing urgent food assistance during the lean season and support to their livelihood strategies, in particular in agricultural production.

8. A food security monitoring system (FSMS) mission took place in June 2008 in Savanes region in the north and Moyen Cavally in western Côte d'Ivoire. The mission objective was to update food security indicators and identify shocks that households were facing, as well as coping mechanisms. In June 2008, 24 percent of the households in Savanes region (143,500 people) and 16 percent in Moyen Cavally region (83,000 people) were found to be food-insecure. A follow-up mission took place in August 2008, confirming the results: 27 percent of the population in Savanes and 15 percent in Moyen Cavally were found to be food-insecure. Furthermore, surveys were simultaneously conducted in rural and urban zones to assess the impact of rising food prices on households' food security. The preliminary results of these exercises have confirmed the need for continuing relief and recovery assistance for food-insecure populations. In particular, the high food prices study showed that 33 percent of the households were food-insecure in rural zones, while this percentage was around 22 percent for urban households.
9. Prices for imported rice in Côte d'Ivoire in 2008 rose by 28 to 38 percent in WFP-monitored markets (Man and Guiglo in the west, Bouaké in the centre and Korhogo and Odienné in the north) compared to 2007. As for the southern region, the market surveys undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture showed that prices of imported rice rose by 35 percent in Abidjan, 27 percent in Abengourou and 27 percent in Daloa. For locally-produced rice, the price increase was estimated at 21 percent in Korhogo and 17 percent in Man. Maize experienced the most significant price increase: 55 percent in Man and 43 percent in Korhogo. The price of rice on the main markets in Côte d'Ivoire in December 2008 was on average 13 percent higher than in December 2007 - a worrying trend as food prices usually decrease following the harvest in November/December.
10. In March 2008, violent protests against the high food prices took place in several Ivorian cities. As a result, the Government set up an inter-ministerial committee to deal with the high cost of living, reduced VAT from 18 to 9 percent and suspended import taxes on some essential commodities. However, these measures had a limited impact. In July 2008, following an increase of fuel prices (29 to 44 percent), transporters and civil servants went on strike. The fuel price fluctuations have had an impact on food and transport costs.
11. In order to reduce the country's reliance on the international market, the Government has also launched an emergency plan to increase rice production. Currently, the domestic production of rice represents 50 percent of the annual consumption of the population. The purpose of this plan is to increase the domestic production by 200,000 mt per year allowing Côte d'Ivoire to become self-sufficient in rice by the end of 2012.
12. Possible coping strategies for those households with low purchasing power include extensive borrowing leading to heavy debts, reducing the quantity and quality of daily meals, and compromising nutritional status by consuming less nutritious food such as tubers (cassava and yams). The high prevalence of acute malnutrition among children under-5 currently prevailing

in the north is partly a result of the high food prices crisis given the low purchasing power of vulnerable people.

13. In mid-2008, WFP and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) conducted, in cooperation with the National Nutrition Program, a nutrition survey for children under-5 in five regions of northern Côte d'Ivoire and around Abidjan. In the north, the results show a global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate of 17.5 percent (weight-for-height z-score <-2), and a severe acute malnutrition (SAM) rate of 4 percent (weight-for-height z-score <-3). These rates are very high (WHO's emergency threshold is 15 percent GAM), and show an increase from the 2006 multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS) which showed a 12.5 percent GAM rate in the northern part of the country. In the urban areas near Abidjan, the GAM rate is at a low level of 4.7 percent with 0.7 percent SAM.
14. The prevalence of anaemia, measured in women and children, was also very high with a global prevalence of 76 percent in the targeted urban areas and a prevalence of 80 percent among children in the northern regions (prevalence higher than 40 percent is characterised as severe). The recommendations from the survey included extended de-worming programmes (WFP is currently undertaking this activity as part of the school feeding programme), malaria prevention programmes, and iron folate supplementation. The WFP food basket includes corn-soya blend (CSB), which is fortified and is the main source of iron. Micronutrient additives will also be considered after discussions within the context of the National Nutrition Programme.
15. In northern Côte d'Ivoire, the poor harvests for maize and rice have been detrimental to the food security situation,³ as maize is a key staple. The most vulnerable population groups include returnees, small-scale farmers and day labourers. Food insecurity has been further exacerbated by the high food prices crisis, a poor harvest of cotton and cashews as well as a general loss of capital and production means.
16. In western Côte d'Ivoire, an increased movement of returnees has been recorded since the conclusion of the peace agreement of Ouagadougou in March 2007. Returnees have been particularly affected by the food price increases. Continued agricultural support (seeds and tools, income generating activities and temporary food assistance) is important to help the returnees restore their livelihoods.

Purpose of extension and budget increase

17. The purpose of the budget revision is to: (i) reduce the impact of the high food prices on already food-insecure households; (ii) respond to the nutritional crisis in northern Côte d'Ivoire through a combination of targeted and blanket supplementary feeding as well as support to therapeutic feeding programmes; (iii) consolidate support to relief and recovery activities to assist food-insecure IDPs, returnees, and vulnerable host communities; and (iv) extend in time PRRO Côte d'Ivoire 10672.0 to 31 August 2009 to continue important activities while consulting with the Government and partners on the design of a successive operation.

³ 2007 harvest assessment carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture, WFP and FAO,

18. The activities which respond to the high food prices crisis will reach 331,250⁴ people as follows:

(i) Schools will be used to channel family rations for three months to 22,600 children and their family members (113,000 beneficiaries) in the areas most affected by high food prices (Savanes, Bafing, Worodougou and Denguelé regions), thus increasing access to food during the lean season.

(ii) A family protection ration for three months during the lean season will target 30,000 households (150,000 beneficiaries) with children under-5 and/or pregnant and lactating women as identified through the community system in place, or through supplementary/therapeutic feeding programmes in the most food-insecure areas in the north (Savanes, Bafing, Worodougou and Denguelé regions) affected by high food prices and coping with returning IDPs.

(iii) WFP will support 13,650 food-insecure households (or 68,250 beneficiaries) through the promotion of local food production by providing food assistance to small-scale farmers involved in lowland and vegetable production in nine regions (Savanes, Bafing, Worodougou and Denguelé, Zanzan, Vallée du Bandama, Montagnes, Moyen Cavally and Hautassandra). The activity, which covers the provision of a seed protection ration for three months, will be carried out in conjunction with FAO.

19. To respond rapidly and efficiently to the high acute malnutrition rates prevailing in the north, and to reduce child malnutrition:

(i) Given the high acute malnutrition levels in Savanes, Bafing, Worodougou, Denguelé and Zanzan regions, WFP will initiate a blanket supplementary feeding programme for all children aged 6-24 months in the five northern regions. Based on the latest population data for the area, WFP plans to reach a total of 134,000 beneficiaries, providing them with a supplementary feeding ration (1,240 kcal per person per day) for three months, during the lean season.

(ii) In addition, WFP will increase support to moderately malnourished children under-5 and pregnant and lactating women through the existing targeted supplementary feeding and MCH programme from 4,500 to 88,500 beneficiaries. This will bring the overall number of beneficiaries assisted through nutritional interventions to a total of 222,500 persons.

(iii) The number of severely malnourished children expected to be targeted through therapeutic feeding centres will be increased to 1,500 per month in line with the results of the latest nutritional survey. Caretakers will be provided with a new 2,100 Kcal food ration composed of cereals, pulses, vegetable oil, CSB and salt. Monitoring reports have shown that the current ration composed of CSB, vegetable oil and sugar is not well accepted and does not cover the daily requirements an adult, which may be a cause of increased default rates as caretakers leave the therapeutic feeding centres before a complete recovery of their children.

20. WFP will continue to collaborate with its nutritional partners, namely the National Nutrition Programme (PNN) of the Ministry of Health, UNICEF and NGOs. The NGOs are responsible for identifying and treating moderately malnourished women and children through a curative

⁴ The number of beneficiaries for the response to the impact of high food prices has been determined using the Food Security and Nutrition Working Group's estimate (as per paragraph 7), which has been verified by subsequent assessments (paragraph 8).

food ration provided by WFP, as well as conducting nutrition education and other prevention activities. UNICEF is responsible for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition, while WFP supports caretakers of severely malnourished children. PNN is working in collaboration with the United Nations and NGO partners to help coordinate activities, including government-run facilities, and is a key partner for joint assessments and surveys.

21. WFP will continue and expand activities to support the relief and recovery of IDPs, returnees, and vulnerable host populations who are food-insecure and at risk of malnutrition as follows:

(i) People living with HIV/AIDs are amongst the most vulnerable and food-insecure population groups in Côte d'Ivoire. At 4.7 percent nationwide, Côte d'Ivoire has one of the highest prevalence rates of HIV in West Africa. Based on the current needs, WFP will expand its support to people living with AIDs from 42,000 to 53,625 people. WFP food assistance will help patients on anti-retroviral therapy to adhere to treatment, reduce the transmission of HIV from mothers to newborn infants, support the livelihoods of food-insecure HIV-affected households, and assist in the education of orphans and other vulnerable children (OVC).

(ii) In western Côte d'Ivoire, substantial returnee movements have been and continue to be recorded. Agricultural support is vital for returnees to regain their livelihoods. Through food for recovery activities conducted jointly with FAO, 86,000 beneficiaries will receive seed protection rations to enhance their livelihoods.

(iii) In 2009, general food distributions will be targeted at an additional 131,000 internally displaced persons in western Côte d'Ivoire.

22. Some activities will be reduced or discontinued, as follows:

(i) Food-for-training activities for 7,000 demobilized child soldiers were completed in June 2008.

(ii) The provision of a WFP food ration to volunteer teachers is no longer required following a re-deployment of government paid teachers in most of northern Côte d'Ivoire.

(iii) Emergency school feeding will be reduced from 580,000 to 460,000 children as part of the caseload (120,000) will be transferred to the new WFP development project (10759.0), which started on 1 January 2009. Children, especially girls, require continued WFP support to address hunger and increase enrolment and attendance rates.

(iv) Following frequent pipeline breaks and shortfalls, the planned take-home ration for school girls could not be implemented during the 2007-2008 school year. This activity has not been included in this budget revision.

Table 1. Beneficiaries by activity type

Beneficiaries 2008-2009			
Activity	Current	Increase	Revised
General Food Distribution	17,000	131,000	148,000
Supplementary feeding/mother and child health (pregnant/lactating women)	4,500	218,000	222,500
Caretakers of malnourished children in TFC	500	1,000	1,500
Emergency School feeding	580,000	-120,000	460,000
Food for Recovery - FFW (5 person family ration)	0	86,000	86,000
People Living with AIDs (5 person family ration)	42,000	11,625	53,625
<i>New activities in response to high food prices</i>			
General Food Distribution targeting households with children attending school (5 person family ration)	0	113,000	113,000
Nutrition protection ration for households with pregnant and lactating women and children <5 (5 person family ration)	0	150,000	150,000
Food for Recovery – FFW (5 person family ration)	0	68,250	68,250
Total	644,000	658,875	1,302,875

FOOD REQUIREMENTS

Table 2. Food requirements by activity type

Food requirements by activity type			
Activity	Current	Increase	Revised
General Food Distribution	1,399	3,996	5,395
Supplementary feeding/mother and child health (pregnant/lactating women)	272	9,194	9,466
Caretakers of malnourished children in TFC	77	200	277
Emergency School feeding	4,976	8,611	13,587
Food for Recovery - FFW (5 person family ration)	0	3,447	3,447
People Living with AIDS (5 person family ration)	1,286	4286	5,572
<i>New activities in response to high food prices</i>			
General Food Distribution targeting households with children attending school (5 person family ration)	0	4,404	4,404
Nutrition protection ration for households with pregnant and lactating women and children <5 (5 person family ration)	0	5,846	5,846
Food for Recovery - FFW/FFT (5 person family ration)	0	2,736	2,736
Total	8,010	42,720	50,730

23. The revised requirements to 31 August 2009 total 50,730 mt of food. Taking into account the carryover stocks of 7,638 mt and the outstanding balance of commitment of 17,033 mt, an additional 26,059 mt of food is required to meet the revised objectives of the operation until 31 August 2009.

APPROVAL

The proposed eight-month extension in time of PRRO Côte d’Ivoire 10672.0, together with the additional commitment of food and associated costs, is recommended to the Executive Director for approval.

Approved by:

Josette Sheeran
Executive Director, WFP

Date

BUDGET INCREASE COST BREAKDOWN			
	Quantity (mt)	Average Cost per Ton	Value (US\$)
WFP COSTS			
A. Direct operational costs			
Commodity ⁵			
-Cereals	11,013	450.99	4,966,793
-CSB	9,546	560.00	5,345,769
-Pulses	3,110	830.48	2,582,793
-Vegetable oil	1,469	1200.00	1,762,800
-Sugar	693	530.00	367,291
-Salt	228	70.00	15,960
-			
-			
Total commodities	26,059		15,041,406
External transport			
Landside transport			
Subtotal for ITSH			
Total LTSH			4,273,520
Other direct operational costs			989,833
Total direct operational costs			20,304,759
B. Direct support costs (see Annex II for details)			
Total direct support costs			4,961,533
C. Indirect support costs (7 percent of total direct costs)			1,768,640
TOTAL WFP COSTS			27,034,933

⁵ This is a notional food basket used for budgeting and approval purposes. The precise mix and actual quantities of commodities to be supplied to the project, as in all WFP-assisted projects, may vary over time depending on the availability of commodities to WFP and domestically within the recipient country.

DIRECT SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS (US\$)	
Staff	
International professional staff	1,235,880
National professional staff	350,000
National general service staff	1,004,733
Temporary assistance	110,000
Overtime	0
Incentive Rest & Recuperation	445,200
International Consultants	130,000
Staff duty travel	290,000
Staff training and development	
Subtotal	3,565,813
Office expenses and other recurrent costs	
Rental of facility	96,720
Utilities (general)	85,000
Office supplies	70,000
Communication and IT services	116,000
Insurance	55,000
Equipment repair and maintenance	100,000
Vehicle maintenance and running cost	220,000
Other office expenses	350,000
Financial costs (Planning)	45,000
United Nations Organizations Services	58,000
Subtotal	1,195,720
Furniture tools and equipment	90,000
Vehicles	
TC/IT equipment	110,000
Subtotal	200,000
TOTAL DIRECT SUPPORT COSTS	4,961,533