

ODD Regional Special Operation 200234

“Logistics and telecommunications augmentation in support of WFP EMOPs and PRROs in Cote d’Ivoire and surrounding countries; Liberia, Guinea, Mali, Burkina Faso and Ghana”

B/R No.: 1

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➤ BUDGET REVISION FOR SOs FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE DED & COO

	<u>Initials</u>	<u>In Date</u>	<u>Out Date</u>	<u>Reason For Delay</u>
<u>ORIGINATOR</u>				
Sr Regional Logistics Officer, ODD
<u>CLEARANCE</u>				
Regional Director,
Project Budget & Programming Officer, RMBP
Chief, RMBP
Chief, ODLT
Director, ODL
Director and Deputy CFO, RMB
Director, ODI (<i>ICT operations only</i>)
<u>APPROVAL</u>				
Deputy Executive Director and COO, OD

PROJECT			
	Previous Budget	Revision	New Budget
DOC	US\$3,309,291	US\$4,436,522	US\$7,745,813
DSC	US\$1,231,836	US\$1,559,610	US\$2,791,446
ISC	US\$317,878.9	US\$419,729	US\$ 737,607.9
Total WFP cost (US\$)	US\$4,859,006	US\$6,415,861	US\$ 11,274,867

<u>TYPE OF REVISION</u>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional DSC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional ODOC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension in time	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

<u>NATURE OF REVISION:</u>
An increase in ODOC and DSC to support the activities detailed below and to extend the project in time until 23July 2011

BACKGROUND

1. The presidential election on 28 November 2010 in Cote d'Ivoire resulted in political turmoil causing violence and population displacement. The Independent Electoral Commission announced Alassane Ouattara, the opposition candidate, as the winner of the election. A few days later, the Constitutional Council claimed that the incumbent, Laurent Gbagbo, won the elections. Both men swore themselves in as President on 4 December 2010, triggering political instability and violence. The situation led to a wave of internal displacement of people in Cote d'Ivoire and an influx of Ivorian refugees into the surrounding countries, primarily Liberia.
2. As a result of the instability, several financial institutions blocked assistance to Côte d'Ivoire, including private bank closures, economic embargoes and suspension of development loans, exacerbating the fragile socio-economic situation.
3. WFP launched emergency operations to assist the affected population in both Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia. The remote and inaccessible location of the IDPs, refugees and host population and the insufficient logistics infrastructure to cope with the increase in the volumes of food aid and humanitarian relief items needed, is constraining deliveries of food aid and humanitarian relief items to the affected population.

IMPLEMENTATION TO DATE:

4. Special operation 200234 was launched in order to ensure the uninterrupted supply of food aid to the affected populations in Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia. Without donor contributions implementation of project activities has been constrained. WFP's internal advance financing mechanism has been used to allow for augmentation of staff in key areas and limited initial activities. At the time of writing a CERF contribution for the Liberia component of this project has been confirmed which will allow for a scale up of implementation in Liberia.

In Cote d'Ivoire

5. WFP, as the lead of the Logistics Cluster, established a Logistics Cluster cell in Abidjan with the deployment of a Logistics Cluster Coordinator. Regular Logistics Cluster coordination meetings are taking place and an information sharing platform has been established. Liaison and coordination with the relevant authorities, the military and UN peacekeeping forces is taking place. Operational logistics gaps and needs have been identified and a logistics response plan has been developed by the Logistics Cluster participants.
6. Augmentation of the WFP truck fleet has been initiated. Four additional trucks have been mobilized from WFP operations in Mali and Burkina Faso. The trucks are based in Abidjan and have transported WFP food aid, as well as relief items on behalf of other humanitarian actors, to Man, Tiebissou and Daloa where private transporters were not willing to operate due to security concerns.
7. Equipment to begin augmentation of the WFP storage capacity in Odienne, Man, Korhogo, Abengourou and Abidjan has been sourced. Once funds become available, procurement and dispatch can be finalized to allow construction to go ahead. The expanded logistics hubs will provide sufficient storage capacity to ensure the unimpeded flow of both WFP food aid, as well as the relief items of other humanitarian actors, to the affected population, both through the port of Abidjan, and through the northern corridors from Mali, Burkina Faso and Ghana.
8. Following the closure of the port of Abidjan a new access corridor into Cote d'Ivoire needed to be opened via Accra, Ghana. The logistics cluster has facilitated the transport and escort of the first convoy of relief items belonging to UNHCR, from stocks prepositioned at the UNHRD in Ghana.

In Liberia

9. A logistics information sharing and coordination platform has been established in Monrovia. WFP has deployed dedicated staff member to undertake logistics coordination and information management, and regular meetings with the stakeholders are taking place. This includes logistics coordination and information sharing with UNHCR, other UN agencies and NGOs along with liaison with UNMIL.
10. WFP's "all-terrain" truck fleet is being augmented with the deployment of twelve additional 6X6 trucks from the Swedish Civil Contingency Service (MSB), including support staff, spare parts kits and tools for the establishment of a workshop in Saclapea. The trucks fleet will be deployed in Saclapea to transport WFP food aid

to a vulnerable host population of approximately 25,000 people located in 15 villages across, eastern Liberia. Furthermore the trucks will transport food aid from Saclapea to the UNHCR refugee camps in Gaweeh and Bahn. The trucks and equipment are currently being packed and prepared for shipment from Sweden to Liberia.

11. A road engineer has been deployed and has carried a joint road assessment with UNHCR on the roads in eastern Liberia. Based on the assessment results, and the coordination of efforts between WFP and UNHCR, WFP will undertake the rehabilitation of the road from Saclapea to the UNHCR refugee camp in Gaweeh.
12. The augmentation of the logistics hubs at three WFP sub offices in Saclapea, Zwedru and Harper, has been initiated. Earthworks and site preparation has begun for the erection of Mobile Storage Units (MSUs), vehicle workshop, and office and accommodation prefabs for staff in Saclapea. The necessary equipment has been sourced and with the confirmed CERF contribution procurement and delivery can now take place.
13. Airlift capacity has been provided for the urgent movement of high energy food to Liberia. The first wave of Ivorian refugees crossing into Liberia in December 2010 necessitated an immediate humanitarian response including the delivery of 17 Mt of High Energy Biscuits. The urgency of the situation and lack of availability in the region required WFP to airlift High Energy Biscuits from Dubai to Monrovia, for immediate transportation and distribution to the refugees in the eastern part of the country.
14. The airstrip in Saclapea is currently not operational and an assessment of the airstrip has been carried out. In order to re-open the airstrip, in order to facilitate small passenger and light cargo aircraft, the airstrip will have to be re-surfaced. Due to lack of funding the resurfacing has not yet gone ahead.

JUSTIFICATION FOR REVISION

15. In the last weeks of February the situation in Cote d'Ivoire deteriorated further. Fighting between the "New Forces" (*Forces Nouvelles*) and the forces loyal to the incumbent president erupted in and around Abidjan and in western region. This has led to a new wave of IDPs and a significant increase of Ivorian refugees crossing into Liberia. There are currently approximately 80,000 IDPs in Cote d'Ivoire and close to 75,000 refugees in eastern Liberia. The new influx of refugees into Liberia is also increasing the number of vulnerable people in the host population. There are also now reports of several hundred IDPs in Abidjan in need of assistance.
16. The crisis has resulted in a major slow down on all economic activities in Cote d'Ivoire, which is now affecting all sectors. In regards to transport, the port of Abidjan has been closed for extended periods and while it reopened is only operating at limited capacity. Intra-regional transportation has been restricted by the eruption of fighting and the general security situation.
17. Fuel is scarce due to an embargo imposed on Cote d'Ivoire from the onset of the crisis. President Gbagbo, in control of the major fuel reserves in Cote d'Ivoire, announced a ban on delivery of fuel to UNOCI on 28th of February. UN agencies in Cote d'Ivoire are dependent on fuel deliveries from UNOCI and the ban is a serious constraint on the UN operations in the country.
18. The majority of IDPs in Cote d'Ivoire are located in the western regions of Moyen Cavally and Montagnes. Due to the eruption of fighting and the general security situation, the movement of food aid and other humanitarian relief items from Abidjan into these areas is no longer possible.
19. Deterioration of the security situation in Cote d'Ivoire, has made safety of humanitarian workers a matter of serious concern. The local telecommunications services are unreliable and there are frequent disruption to GSM, land line and Internet services. Thus it is essential to provide security communications and data communications services in all the areas of operations to allow staff to work in the field and for staff security.
20. In Liberia the 75,000 Ivorian refugees are located in the remote eastern part of the country. The topography of the area is hilly and road conditions are generally in a poor state and with several downed bridges, access to the refugee camps is limited. With the rainy season starting in late March, early April, accessibility is expected to be further restricted.
21. The increase in IDPs and Ivorian refugees and the deteriorating situation inside Cote d'Ivoire, has created further needs to augment the logistics capacity in order to respond effectively to the crisis. This budget revision will allow WFP to implement the following activities

NEW OR EXPANDED ACTIVITIES

In Cote d'Ivoire

22. Given the deteriorating situation in Cote d'Ivoire, the augmentation of WFP's storage capacity in Abidjan, Korhogo, Odienne, Abenghourou and Man, will no longer be sufficient to facilitate the increased volumes of food aid and other humanitarian relief items required to respond to the crisis in Cote d'Ivoire. WFP will therefore need to further augment the storage capacity in these locations by erecting additional Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) and through the rental of additional warehouses. The additional storage capacity will serve WFP and will also be offered to other humanitarian actors.
23. WFP will also augment its existing trucking fleet in order to handle the increased volumes of food aid and humanitarian relief items. An additional ten trucks will be mobilized from within the region, either through leasing or through purchase. Due to the deteriorating situation this is necessary in order to ensure a consistent, reliable and economically viable transport capacity for an unimpeded flow of food aid and other relief items. This fleet capacity will also be made available to the wider humanitarian community.
24. In order to ensure a constant fuel supply is available to support humanitarian operations, and at the request of the Humanitarian Country Team, WFP will establish a dedicated fuel supply system and a buffer fuel stock in Cote d'Ivoire. This will entail the establishment of fuel storage capacity for the humanitarian community in five strategic locations across Cote d'Ivoire.
25. The road between Boundiali and Odienne in northern Cote d'Ivoire is in very poor condition. The road links the two logistics hubs Korhogo and Odienne. With an increase of food and other humanitarian relief items arriving in Korhogo, in Northern Cote d'Ivoire, from Ghana and Burkina Faso, access between the two hubs is essential. Spot repairs on the road from Odienne to Boundiali, will be carried out to ensure supply lines between Korhogo and Odienne remains open.
26. Due to the increasing insecurity, including incidents of UN vehicles being targeted and attacked, an assessment of the Emergency Telecommunications requirements to support humanitarian operations was carried out by WFP, supported by the local Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) in Côte d'Ivoire. Based on the assessment Common Security Telecommunications and Data Communications services for UN Agencies, International NGOs and other humanitarian partners in eight operational areas of the country (Abidjan, Bouaké, Danané, Duékoué, Guiglo, Korhogo, Man and Odienné) will be strengthened by WFP in its role as lead of the Emergency telecommunications Cluster. This will ensure appropriate and sufficient emergency telecommunications capacity is in place to support humanitarian operations, as well as fully functioning data communications capacity is in place to facilitate timely reporting and information exchange for decision making requirements.

In Liberia

27. In order to facilitate the significant increase in the food aid volumes arriving in Liberia for the Ivorian refugees and the affected host populations in eastern Liberia, WFP will augment its fleet of conventional trucks. Trucks will be mobilized within the West African region and deployed to transport food aid from Monrovia to the three logistics hubs in Saclapea, Zwedru and Harper.
28. Through this budget revision of SO 200234, WFP will augment its logistics capacity and provide essential operational tools in order for WFP and the humanitarian community to effectively respond to the latest deterioration of the humanitarian crisis in Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia. If the situation deteriorates further, putting additional pressures on the supply chain, further revisions may be required.

In light of the above, this budget revision for the extension in time of the project until 23rd July 2011 and overall budget increase of US\$6,415,861 is recommended for approval by the Deputy Executive Director and COO

DISTRIBUTION:

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Chief, RMBP, ODXP, ODXR	Regional Director	Director, ERD
Country Director	Bgt/Prgmming Officer, RMBP	RB Programme Advisor
OD Registry	Programming Assistant, RMBP	RB Programme Assistant

Liaison Officer, OD @

Director, ODI (ICT operations only)