

**SOUTH SUDAN & Project No.:200423**  
**B/R No.: 1**

**BUDGET REVISION OF SO FOR THE APPROVAL OF REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

	<u>Initials</u>	<u>In Date</u>	<u>Out Date</u>	<u>Reason For Delay</u>
<b><u>ORIGINATOR</u></b>				
Country Office or Regional Bureau on behalf of Country Office	.....	.....	.....	.....
<b><u>CLEARANCE</u></b>				
Project Budget & Programming Officer, RMBP	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chief, RMBP	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chief, OSLT	.....	.....	.....	.....
Director, OSL	.....	.....	.....	.....
Director, OST ( <i>ICT operations only</i> )	.....	.....	.....	.....
<b><u>APPROVAL</u></b>				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional Director	.....	.....	.....	.....

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>Previous Budget</b>	<b>Revision</b>	<b>New Budget</b>
<b>Total WFP cost (US\$)</b>	US\$ 1,191,685	US\$681,182	US\$ 1,872,840

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

**NATURE OF REVISION:**  
The budget revision of SO 200423 aims at extending the period of financial support to the FSLC to 31 December 2013.

**JUSTIFICATION FOR THE REVISION:**  
South Sudan continues to face a myriad of political challenges after independence. These include closure of its border with Sudan, the shutdown of oil production and austerity budget. The unstable political landscape has led to a significant number of refugees and internally displaced persons amidst recurrent natural and man-made shocks. Therefore a coordination mechanism is needed to monitor and report gaps and overlaps in humanitarian response to ensure timely and effective food security and livelihood interventions. The FSLC is currently engaged in a number of activities such as livelihood zoning, IPC and market analysis which are crucial for the transition from humanitarian to post-conflict recovery and development activities.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

DED & COO	Director, OSL	
Chief, OSLT	Director, OSZ	
Chief, RMBP, OSZR, OSZP	Regional Director	Director, PGG
Country Director	Programme Officer, RMBP	RB Programme Advisor
Registry	Programming Assistant, RMBP	RB Programme Assistant
Director, OST ( <i>ICT operations only</i> )	Liaison Officer, OMN	

## **Project Background:**

1. The newly independent Republic of South Sudan has an estimated population of 10.3 million and is comprised of ten states spread across a vast area of 650,000 square kilometers. It remains one of the least developed countries of the world.

The need for humanitarian assistance continues to be evident since the declaration of the new state on 9 July 2011 and the ensuing political challenges between Sudan and South Sudan that led to the closure of the borders since May 2011, the shut-down of oil production and the adoption of an austerity budget that will run until mid-2013. The country's, and indeed the region's, unstable political landscape has led to a significant number of refugees, internally displaced persons, and returnees, raising considerable concern within the humanitarian community.

2. As of November 2011, more than 841,000 returnees had arrived in the country from Sudan. In 2012 some 159,452 returnees were registered in various locations of South Sudan<sup>1</sup>. Disputes in Abyei region resulted in displacement of close to 120,000 persons into South Sudan while conflicts in South Kordofan and Southern Blue Nile to date have displaced 72,805 refugees to Yida in Unity State and 115,248 to Maban in Upper Nile as of March 24 2013.<sup>2</sup> Returnees continue to require significant support from humanitarian partners to be fully integrated. The majority of returnees have concentrated their temporary settlements in the fragile border-states of Unity, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Upper Nile and Warrap.
3. The Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster (FSLC), with a membership of 60 partners, is co-led by FAO and WFP and has been in existence since 2004. At the national level in South Sudan the cluster is managed by a secretariat consisting of FAO and WFP co-coordinators and one elected NGO co-coordinator as well as an Information Management officer. A Monitoring and Reporting officer, supported by the OCHA-managed Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF), joined the team in January 2013. Within the country, there are 10 sub-national clusters (one in each state), rolled-out in 2011, co-managed by state cluster focal points from FAO and WFP.
4. The FSLC has no dedicated funding source and relies on ad-hoc joint funding from FAO and WFP in addition to contributions from the global Food Security Cluster (gFSC) for short-term support. WFP and FAO are accountable for the operation of the cluster, in order to ensure coordination and information management gaps in South Sudan are covered.
5. Because of its extensive experience in complex emergency situations, the FSLC offers crucial linkages between emergency, recovery and development. The cluster is currently supporting the ongoing joint FEWSNET/WFP/FAO livelihood profiling and zoning initiative intended to augment Republic of South Sudan (RSS) effort of refining the livelihood zones for the implementation of the Zonal Effort to Transform Agriculture (ZEAT). The cluster manages the IPC process for South Sudan and provides the platform for the Annual Needs and Livelihood Analysis. These activities position the FSLC as a catalyst for post-conflict recovery and development activities.

## **Project Justification:**

6. There are over 342 non-government organizations – including 155 international and 187 national organizations – as well as 21 UN agencies and international organizations currently providing assistance across the ten states of South Sudan. Of those, close to 100 are working in differing degrees in aspects related to food security. In order to ensure that all food insecure areas are appropriately covered, an additional effort is required to provide a common approach to assessments and strategy formulation, resulting in coordinated and informed responses, through a strengthened FSLC at national and sub-national levels.
7. Ongoing political uncertainty between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan highlights the need for a strengthened FSLC that can report back on the needs in the various remote areas where assistance is being delivered. The focus is on a deeper field presence for the cluster with the ability to support monitoring and reporting systems that can adjust quickly to the fluid situation in the border areas and with the state governments as they establish policies and procedures that define how they will work together in the future. The RSS is actively involved in coordination activities at the sub-national level and the FSLC provides the required technical support for the smooth running of the sub-national coordination. Consequently, the FSLC conducts soft-skills training on coordination leadership skills as well as on information management. Strengthening and empowering the sub-national clusters is the key phase-out strategy of the FSLC.

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<sup>1</sup> OCHA Returnee tracking database, August 2012.

<sup>2</sup> UNHCR, 2013.

8. The delivery of humanitarian services in South Sudan poses significant challenges to all FSLC members, both in terms of coordination and information management. Services must be provided over vast distances in a country with poorly developed infrastructure (both physical and telecommunications). Furthermore, increasing tension and insecurity along the border between South Sudan and Sudan restricts the movement of relief items through corridors normally used by the humanitarian community.
9. In order to effectively respond to the increased challenges highlighted above, the FSLC will need to increase its capacity to coordinate the humanitarian response of all components of the food and livelihood sectors. That will require a dedicated coordination and information management mechanism, as well as the development of a monitoring system for accurate and consistent reporting.

#### **Original Project Objectives:**

10. The main objectives of this FSLC SO are to:
  - a. Ensure that the Food Security Sector is strengthened to respond, on a country wide basis, to the increasing needs of the affected population in a coordinated and more efficient fashion.
  - b. Ensure that decisions are made through the use of an accurate and timely information management platform.

#### **Implementation to date:**

11. The partner 4W database<sup>3</sup> was established to support partners' tracking and reporting at the output level through funding from FAO. The database provides a flexible reporting system that allows partner activities to be summarized by multiple criteria which has proved to be a strong advocacy tool.
12. A web page was set-up with the gFSC website for information sharing<sup>4</sup>.
13. Training on sub-national coordination and information management was conducted for 99 participants representing 10 states through joint funding by WFP and FAO from project funds. The objective of the training was to acquaint government officials and FAO/WFP sub-national cluster focal points with the principles of coordination and improve information management at the sub-national level.
14. A workshop on strengthening nutrition outcomes in Food Security and Livelihoods programming was conducted in November 2012 through funding from FAO.

#### **Outstanding Activities and Challenges:**

15. The main challenge of the FSLC is relying on partners to provide information needed for needs assessment, response planning and monitoring. This has limited the cluster's ability to provide timely output level reporting. There is still a need to strengthen the outcome reporting for which dedicated funding will be required to conduct it as one of the core cluster activities. Previously the cluster was supported through ad-hoc funding diverted from ongoing WFP and FAO project funds and/or the gFSC. WFP and FAO have agreed this SO should be the main stream for funding FSLC activities.
16. There is an upsurge of interest to use cash and other market-based interventions but the cluster is ill-equipped to provide support and guidance in the implementation of these activities. The FSLC needs to set up market monitoring activities as well as conduct market surveys to better understand how markets generally work.

#### **Justification for Revision:**

17. Since independence, South Sudan has faced a myriad of political challenges that led to the closure of the borders with Sudan since May 2011, the shut-down of oil production and the adoption of an austerity budget that will run until mid-2013. The country's unstable political landscape has led to a significant number of refugees, internally displaced persons, and returnees, raising considerable concern within the humanitarian community. A mechanism to monitor and report gaps in humanitarian response will still be required in 2013.
18. Most activities proposed in this project required more extensive consultations and engagement with Government and partners than were originally estimated and are not likely to be completed within the project's current timeframe. Specifically it took longer than expected to find agreement on the way to proceed with the livelihood zoning effort, without which the FSLC was unable to begin its planned market surveys. The outstanding activities

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<sup>3</sup> A 4W database is one that finds the answers to the questions: Who does What Where and When.

<sup>4</sup> <http://foodsecuritycluster.net/operations/south-sudan>

of the SO will require financial resources to cover fieldwork, enumerators, ground and air transportation as well as training costs which would be covered with resources availed through the budget revision. The extension in time will also allow for the inclusion of the revised project in the CAP 2013 during the mid year review, and seek funding for its activities through pooled funding such as the CHF.

**Revised Plan:**

19. No major revisions are envisaged in the project activities, except reprogramming of budget to account for activities already accomplished and cover staffing cost until the end of the project.
20. With the 4W database and cluster website in place, the SO activities during the extension period will focus on:
  - a. Continued strengthening sub-national cluster coordination in the border states which face the greatest food security challenges. This will include facilitation of regular coordination meetings at the national and sub-national levels with humanitarian partners and government counterparts to identify gaps and overlaps in the delivery of critical humanitarian services.
  - b. Working with FSLC Members to update livelihood baseline and profiles. Market profiling will be a part of the zoning which crucial for the utilization of market based tools such as cash and vouchers. As much as possible this information shall be compiled from existing sources, which includes WFP's FSMS. Field data collection shall be conducted, with the involvement of partners.
  - c. Rolling out 4 Ws data collection and reporting tools.
  - d. Developing formalized inter-cluster strategic linkages with the Nutrition, Health and WASH Clusters to foster a programme-based approach and create opportunities for greater impact.
21. To achieve the above objectives and provide common services for coordination, information management and monitoring and reporting and holistic service delivery, the continuation of SO 200423 is required until 31 December, with additional requirement of resources to cover field activities embedded in the coordination function.

**RECOMMENDATION**

In light of the above, this revision to extend for 8 months at US\$ 1,872,867 FSLC activities to strengthen coordination activities in South Sudan is recommended for approval by the Regional Director.