

EMERGENCY OPERATION LESOTHO 200499

Assistance in Response to Crop Failure in Lesotho	
Number of beneficiaries	210 000
Duration of project	7 months (October 2012 - April 2013)
WFP food tonnage	4 915 mt
Cost (United States dollars)	
WFP food cost	US\$2,645,271
WFP cash/voucher cost	US\$4,488,095
Total cost to WFP	US\$9,810,756

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Lesotho is facing the devastating effects of two successive crop failures compounded by a litany of socio-economic adversities. Increased food insecurity is expected to affect a large part of the population through the 2012/13 lean season. The findings of the recent Lesotho Vulnerability Assessment Committee's report¹ as well as a rapid assessment conducted by the United States Agency for International Development² indicate that Lesotho's level of food security has declined significantly for the second year in a row. The impact of this season's late rains and subsequent widespread drought adds to the increasing vulnerability of the population. The matter is worsened by the fact that the country faced a similar poor harvest in 2011.

In contrast to flood damage in the previous year that primarily affected the highlands and Senqu River Valley areas, the current drought has affected almost all geographical zones and districts, representing almost a 30 percent increase in populations facing food insecurity compared with last year, further aggravating the suffering of those who were already in an emergency situation.

The Lesotho Vulnerability Assessment Committee's report concluded that 725,000 people face a survival deficit³ ranging from 15 to 55 percent depending on their location. Among those, 210,000 most vulnerable people are classified as 'very poor'. Most of them have already run out of food stocks and require immediate assistance. Levels of food insecurity are expected to peak as early as September, while the lean season normally runs from January to March. The Government recently declared an emergency food crisis and formally requested international assistance. A strategic response plan was developed taking into consideration both activities that address immediate needs of the most vulnerable households, and activities that address the vulnerability profile of the country.

In response to the Government's request, this emergency operation will address the food needs of 210,000 people classified as 'very poor' from October 2012 to April 2013. WFP will target people living in the most food-insecure areas - mainly in the higher mountains, South Lowlands and Senqu Valley areas. Food assistance will be provided through targeted food distributions and livelihood support activities using cash-for-asset modalities.

In line with the priorities of the Government and the United Nations system in Lesotho, the overall aim of this operation is to respond to the emergency needs, while seizing opportunities to contribute to resilience building and disaster risk reduction by addressing land and soil degradation, and strengthening watershed management practices. The operation will primarily address WFP Strategic Objectives 1 - Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies and 2 - Prevent acute hunger and invest in disaster preparedness and mitigation measures. The operation will also contribute to Millennium Development Goal 1.⁴

¹ Government of Lesotho, Lesotho Vulnerability Assessment Committee Annual Monitoring Summary Report, July 2012.

² USAID/OFDA/FFP, Lesotho Food Security Assessment Report, May 2012.

³ A survival deficit occurs when a household is unable to meet their food requirement and is also unable to afford the livelihood protection basket.

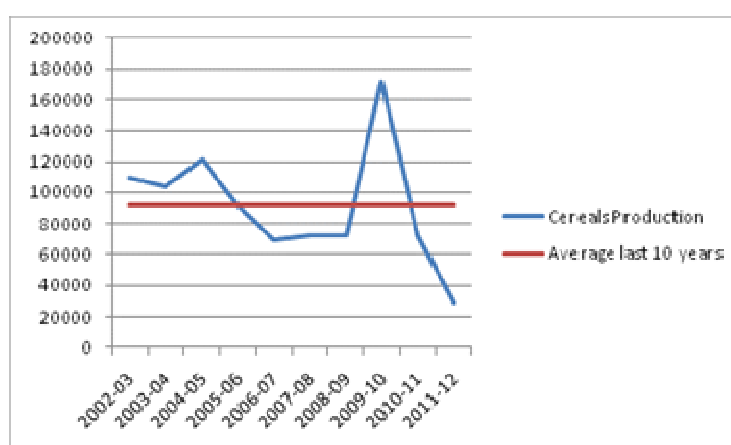
⁴ Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.

SITUATION ANALYSIS

The Overall Context

1. Lesotho is a relatively small, mountainous country situated in southern Africa and entirely surrounded by the Republic of South Africa, with a population of 1.88 million people.⁵ Three-quarters of the country is categorised as ‘highlands’, which rise to nearly 3,500 meters, while the remaining quarter is lowlands with altitudes between 1,388 and 2,000 meters. Lesotho ranks 160 out of 187 countries on the Human Development Index.⁶ Despite relatively strong economic growth in recent years and favourable progress in the education sector, Lesotho struggles with a number of persistent development challenges including high unemployment, widespread poverty, high rates of chronic malnutrition and the world’s third highest prevalence of HIV-AIDS.
2. The combination of two consecutive years of extreme climatic shocks has led to a significant increase in arable land left uncultivated. Despite the arrival of some rainfall in December 2011, the cumulative precipitation remained below normal almost countrywide for most of the cropping season, and the rains have arrived too late for the main crops (maize and sorghum). Dry spells and late rains during the planting season prevented most farmers from cultivating their fields. Crops that were planted late were exposed to early frost, which affected their maturity and quality.
3. The crop forecasts issued by the Bureau of Statistics of Lesotho in June 2012 showed that the cereal production in Lesotho this year is the lowest in 10 years, representing only 32 percent of the average annual harvest (see figure 1). The production of maize (the main staple food in Lesotho) declined by 77 percent compared with the previous year. Sorghum production declined by 80 percent and wheat production by 52 percent. Current crop estimates suggest that domestic production will contribute less than 10 percent of the annual national cereal requirements for 2012/13.

Figure 1: Trends in Cereal Production (2002-2012)



4. Agriculture is constrained by a combination of depleted soils, poor use of available water resources, limited irrigation systems,⁷ no or limited use of fertilizers and hybrid seeds, a weak agricultural extension system, poor marketing infrastructure, and little security in land tenure.⁸ Soil erosion has reached alarming proportions in Lesotho. While only about

⁵ DHS, 2009.

⁶ UNDP, 2011, Human Development Report.

⁷ Approximately 90 percent of Basotho farmers rely on rain-fed agriculture.

⁸ World Bank (2010) Lesotho Sharing Growth and Reducing Inequality and Vulnerability: Choices for Change.

9 percent of the total land area in Lesotho is arable, it is estimated that between 0.2 to 1 percent of arable land is lost to soil erosion each year.⁹

The Food Security and Nutrition Situation

5. The sharp reduction in cereal production has had a serious impact in a country where 77 percent of the rural population and just below 50 percent of the total population rely on subsistence farming as their main source of livelihood. Poor rural households depend on the casual labour market for up to 40 percent of their annual income and the increase of fallow land and poor production directly impact livelihood opportunities. Food prices are also likely to increase during this period, with indications that prices in southern Africa are above those of last year and higher than the current 5-year average, a factor which will negatively impact poor households' ability to access enough food to meet basic requirements.¹⁰
6. The data collected by the Government through the Lesotho Vulnerability Assessment Committee (LVAC) shows that at least 36 percent of the Lesotho population (725,000 individuals) will be food-insecure. Among those, 210,300 most vulnerable people are classified as 'very poor' and require immediate assistance. Furthermore, a recent rapid food security assessment conducted by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Office of United States Foreign Disaster Assistance (ODFA), and Food For Peace (FFP) in June 2012 in three geographical zones, confirmed high levels of food insecurity as a result of poor harvest, reduction in remittances as a consequence of the global economic crisis, and the general reduction of employment opportunities in the country.
7. The mountainous areas are traditionally vulnerable to food insecurity with more than 70 percent of people living below the poverty line. However, the current drought has affected almost all geographical zones and districts, including the lowlands that are normally relatively productive. Food shortages are usually more pronounced during the lean season (January to April) with observed differences between geographical zones. This year's crop failure will result in a prolonged lean season, with the onset as early as September.
8. The prevalence of stunting (chronic malnutrition) is estimated at 39 percent nationally and ranges from 47 to 52 percent in the mountainous areas. The incidence of underweight children is estimated at 13 percent, while wasting is at 4 percent,¹¹ with some districts showing an increase above the national prevalence in recent years. Iron deficiency anaemia has a high prevalence among children 6 to 59 months in mountainous areas. Infant feeding practices are generally sub-optimal. As a result, most children do not consume adequate age-appropriate nutritious foods. Only 54 percent of infants below 6 months are exclusively breastfed. Vitamin-A intake amongst children and women is generally insufficient. Although no nutrition survey was conducted recently, the current food crisis is expected to result in a deterioration of nutritional indicators, particularly amongst children under five. WFP monitoring reports indicate an increase in the number of admission of undernourished children in health facilities.
9. Lesotho has the third highest adult HIV prevalence in the world, at 24 percent:¹² 26 percent of women and 19 percent of men between the age of 15 and 49 are infected. An estimated 62 people are newly infected and roughly 50 people die due to HIV/AIDS each day. At the end of 2007, an estimated 270,000 people in the country were living with HIV,

⁹ Lesotho National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA), 2008.

¹⁰ FEWS NET Southern African Food Security Outlook July-December, 2012.

¹¹ Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) 2009.

¹² Ministry of Health and Social Welfare. Maseru, Lesotho, 2010.

of whom 11,800 children. In 2007, the number of AIDS orphans was estimated at 108,700.¹³

POLICIES, CAPACITIES AND ACTIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND OTHERS

Policies, Capacities and Actions of the Government

10. In its Emergency Response Plan for the upcoming crop seasons, the Government plans to assist vulnerable farming households through the provision of subsidized agricultural inputs. The new government, elected in May 2012, is also expected to present new strategies to deal with the current food crisis while, at the same time, put in place policies and strategies to address chronic food insecurity.
11. An official disaster risk reduction policy was approved by the Government in August 2011, with the objective of providing a framework for effective planning and implementation of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), thus making DRR a national priority. In order to support the Government, the United Nations agencies in Lesotho developed a joint programme on DRR to enhance institutional capacity and mainstream the DRR concept across all sectors of the Government, including civil society.
12. Two social safety net programmes in Lesotho focus on the most vulnerable groups, namely the Public Assistance programme and the Child Grants Programme (CGP) supported by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). In response to the current emergency, the coverage of the CGP will be extended to reach an additional 75,000 people in specific districts, while WFP will provide food assistance to vulnerable communities in districts not covered by the CGP.

Policies, Capacities and Actions of Other Major Actors

13. In response to the Government's request for assistance, United Nations agencies and relevant non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as the Lesotho Red Cross Society, Catholic Relief Services, CARITAS, World Vision International and CARE prepared, in consultation with the Disaster Management Authority (DMA), a Flash Appeal focussing on the priority interventions for the next first six months in the following three main areas:
i) agriculture and food security; ii) health, nutrition and iii) protection. Part of the requirements under this Flash Appeal will be covered by an allocation from the Central Emergency Response Fund.
14. The aim of those interventions is to:
 - Strengthen the emergency response capacity of the Government;
 - Address the immediate and life-saving needs in terms of facilitating access to food, money and agriculture production inputs for the most vulnerable households;
 - Limit the use of negative coping mechanism of vulnerable communities; and
 - Reduce the vulnerability to shocks and increase the resilience of vulnerable communities.
15. WFP supports the Government in implementing a comprehensive nutrition intervention to address chronic undernutrition as part of its on-going development programme (DEV) 200169 "Nutrition Support to Malnourished Children and other Vulnerable Groups in Lesotho". This intervention is implemented by WFP under the United Nation's Delivering as One umbrella, in collaboration with UNICEF, the Food and Agriculture Organization

¹³ World Bank: <http://web.worldbank.org/>

of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). WFP also assists school children through DEV 200199 “School Meals Programme”.

Coordination

16. Upon the declaration of an emergency by the Prime Minister, the Cabinet formed the National Disaster Relief Task Force (NDRT). A national operation centre was established within the DMA to lead and coordinate the emergency response at the national level. It is supported by the United Nations Disaster Risk Management Team (UNDRMT), which includes FAO, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNICEF, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), WFP and WHO.

OBJECTIVES OF WFP ASSISTANCE

17. The aim of the EMOP is to secure the immediate food needs of those most adversely affected by the drought, while simultaneously taking steps to reduce land and soil degradation, and strengthen watershed management endeavours. The operation is in line with WFP’s Strategic Objectives 1 - Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies, and 2 - Prevent acute hunger and invest in disaster preparedness and mitigation measures.
18. The specific objectives of the EMOP are as follows:
 - Improve the food consumption of 65,300 drought-affected vulnerable people, including orphans and vulnerable children, people living with HIV/AIDS, elderly and disabled people, children 6-23 months as well as pregnant and lactating women targeted through vulnerable group feeding.
 - Protect the livelihoods of 145,000 people and reduce the hazard risk at community level through cash for assets (CFA).

BENEFICIARIES AND TARGETING

19. The proposed EMOP will assist 210,300 individuals from October 2012 through April 2013 to cover the prolonged lean season. WFP’s scope of intervention will be extended to maximise both immediate and long-term impact. In-kind food assistance will be provided to 65,000 people through targeted vulnerable group feeding. In areas where soil erosion and environmental degradation are undermining crop production and other livelihood activities, WFP assistance will be provided through cash-for-assets schemes requiring low-technology. The activities will be in support of community and household asset creation such as the construction or refurbishment of irrigation ponds and canals, reforestation, terracing, and watershed management.
20. In order to prevent a deterioration of the nutrition situation, children 6-23 months as well as pregnant and lactating women belonging to households benefiting from vulnerable group feeding will be provided with fortified blended food to meet their special energy and micronutrient needs. In addition, through its development project, WFP, in collaboration with UNICEF and the Ministry of Health, will expand its support to the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition among children 6-59 months, pregnant and lactating women as well as clients on an anti-retroviral therapy (ART) and tuberculosis programmes in line with the national integrated management of acute malnutrition.

TABLE 1: BENEFICIARIES BY ACTIVITY TYPE			
Activity	Male	Female	Total
Targeted vulnerable group feeding	32 128	33 172	65 300
Prevention of acute malnutrition*	1 322	1 983	3 305
Cash for assets	58 000	87 000	145 000
TOTAL*	90 128	120 172	210 300

* The total number of beneficiaries has been adjusted to avoid double-counting of children 6-23 months and pregnant and lactating women receiving both vulnerable group feeding and the prevention of acute malnutrition intervention.

21. While WFP plans to reach 210,300 people classified as “very poor” under this EMOP, over 700,000 individuals will receive assistance during the lean season through various programmes implemented by United Nations agencies and NGOs.¹⁴
22. The EMOP will cover 9 out of the 10 districts of the country, targeting the poorest population in the most food-insecure regions with a food gap exceeding 40 percent (as identified by the LVAC). Targeted vulnerable group feeding will be carried out in five districts out of the ten districts of Lesotho (mostly in the highlands). UNICEF will cover the other 5 districts under the CGP. The CFA activities will be implemented in nine out of ten districts in areas affected by food insecurity and soil/land degradation (in the southern and northern lowlands, the Senqu River Valley and the mountain).
23. Household targeting for vulnerable group feeding will be based on the National Information System for Social Assistance (NISSA), which was established by the Government under the Ministry of Social Development. The NISSA, which follows a community-based approach, was developed for the CGP and is implemented in partnership with UNICEF. In coordination with the Ministry of Social Development, district administrators, community councils and district-level ministry offices, relief committees composed of community members and local authorities jointly define targeting criteria and identify the poorest households. Those mostly consist of disabled, orphans, households headed by children, elderly and females with a high dependency ratio. The CFA activities will target the able-bodied among the food-insecure and vulnerable populations as defined by the LVAC. Monitoring of targeting efficiency will be done by WFP in conjunction with the DMA, the Ministry of Social Development and NGO partners.

NUTRITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS AND RATIONS / VALUE OF CASH TRANSFERS

24. Assistance will be delivered in the form of in-kind food and cash transfers. In-kind food assistance will be provided to the most vulnerable groups who live in remote areas, where market structures are neither well established nor functional, and cash delivery mechanisms are not feasible. CFA activities will be implemented in accessible areas where markets and financial institutions are functional. WFP conducted a market survey

¹⁴ UNICEF will provide cash assistance to 75,000 beneficiaries through the CGP; a consortium of NGOs will cover 15,000 beneficiaries, providing them with a combination of agricultural inputs and food assistance using a cash/voucher system; FAO and several NGOs are planning to assist a total of 255,000 beneficiaries to help them restore crop production. Under WFP’s existing development projects, assistance is also being provided to 110,000 primary school students through a school meals programme and to 53,000 people under its nutrition programme, located mainly in the mountainous areas as part of a food security safety net.

in November 2011 to assess the feasibility of using cash/voucher transfers. The study concluded that food markets in Lesotho are, for the most part, accessible, integrated and operational and not prone to demand-induced inflation. As such, they would be able to absorb increased demand created by cash transfers. The use of cash will not only address the household food security gap, but will also stimulate the local economy and contribute towards the long-term development of local agriculture, benefitting small-scale farmers.

25. The use of vouchers was also explored but analyses carried out indicated that the cash option would be more cost-effective. In addition, vouchers would entail extensive work setting up retailers in the targeted areas. In view of the tight timeline to implement this EMOP, as well as partners' previous experience with other social cash transfer programmes in Lesotho, cash transfers were found to be more appropriate in Lesotho.
26. In rural areas, diet diversification is extremely limited, with a tendency for high consumption of carbohydrates (maize/sorghum) and fats, and an evident lack of proteins and micronutrients. The vulnerable group feeding ration will consist of fortified maize meal, pulses and vegetable oil, providing 1,842 kcal per person per day. In addition, Supercereal will be provided to children under 6-23 months and pregnant and lactating women.
27. For the CFA intervention, the cash transfer value (US\$5 per day) is in line with the standard Ministry of Forestry daily wage for unskilled labour. As participants will work for 12 days per month, targeted households will receive US\$60 per month, which is equivalent to the value of WFP standard food basket. A contingency of 10 percent has been factored in to address any inflationary fluctuations. If applied, participants would work for more days as opposed to receiving a higher wage per day as the latter may disrupt the labour markets.

TABLE 2: DAILY FOOD RATION/ TRANSFER BY ACTIVITY (g/person/day)			
Commodity Type & Cash	Vulnerable group feeding	Prevention of acute malnutrition	Cash for assets
Supercereal		200	
Fortified maize meal	400		
Pulses	60		
Vegetable oil	20		
Cash (US\$/person/day)			5
Total	480	200	5
Total kcal/day	1 842	800	
% Kcal from protein	10	18	
% Kcal from fat	13.4	13.5	
Number of feeding days per month	30	30	12

28. Table 3 below outlines the total food and cash requirements:

Table 3: TOTAL FOOD & CASH REQUIREMENTS BY ACTIVITY (mt/US\$)				
Commodity Type and Cash	Vulnerable group feeding	Prevention of acute malnutrition	Cash for Asset	Total (mt/ US\$)
Supercereal		119		119
Fortified maize meal	3 996			3 996
Pulses	600			599
Vegetable oil	200			200
Cash (US\$)			US\$4 488 095	US\$4 488 095
Total	4 796	119	US\$4 488 095	US\$4 488 095

IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

29. *Participation:* In order to ensure that women have direct access to and control over food assistance, WFP will ensure that ration cards are issued in women's names (except in the case of families with a single male parent) and that the majority of the beneficiaries are women. To ensure that women play a lead role in decision-making associated with food assistance, WFP will ensure that at least 50 percent of food committee members are women. Through field-level agreements signed between WFP, the Government and cooperating partners, all parties will commit to abide by WFP gender policy and guidelines. In order to ensure safety, dignity and integrity of beneficiaries, WFP will collaborate with UNFPA to disseminate gender-based violence advocacy messages.
30. WFP will work with the district health management team (DHMT), community councils and district-level officials to ensure effective links with village councils. The village councils will facilitate the involvement of local groups such as the village disaster management teams and village relief committees, thereby further promoting community involvement and ownership.
31. *Partners:* WFP will maintain a close collaboration with the DMA, line ministries, United Nations agencies, and NGOs both at national and district levels to ensure a consistent implementation of the EMOP. WFP's cooperating partners will be responsible for the identification of beneficiaries and overseeing implementation in consultation with WFP and local authorities. They will prepare beneficiary distribution lists, which will be verified by WFP. The CFA activities will be implemented with the support of NGOs with experience and technical skills related to watershed management. World Vision International, CARE International, CARITAS and Catholic Relief Services are already committed to partnering with WFP.
32. WFP will also coordinate with FAO and the Ministry of Forestry and Land Reclamation who will provide technical support and resources to ensure that projects are practical, sustainable and comply with standard specifications. Technical extension agents employed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministry of Land Reclamation will be deployed to provide knowledge and skills-training to beneficiaries in food preservation techniques, homestead gardening, water conservation farming and land/soil conservation projects.

33. *Transfer modalities:* Given the remoteness of most targeted areas, cash will be delivered to the beneficiaries through a reliable security company, Group 4 Securicor (G4S). This proved to be the only option available as most beneficiaries do not have a bank account and financial institutions rarely provide services beyond urban areas. Mobile phone money transfer services are starting to be introduced in the country with the initial focus on the capital city and regional centres. G4S has extensive experience in moving and disbursing funds under similar programmes including the government Social Welfare Grants system. It uses advanced technology and well equipped security vehicles that are under security surveillance at all times. The system has built-in safety measures and is backed by an insurance premium thereby ensuring that in the unlikely event of funds being lost, WFP can make a claim.
34. Based on WFP beneficiary lists, G4S will package the cash into envelopes for each beneficiary, transport the cash to the distribution point, distribute the cash and reconcile distribution. WFP cooperating partners will be present at the distribution site to verify the identity of beneficiaries as well as to ensure that beneficiaries receive their entitlements. Any unclaimed cash will be returned to the bank by G4S.
35. *Non-food inputs:* WFP plans to provide a limited number of hand tools and materials for asset creation. NGO partners at district level and trainers from the Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry and Land Reclamation will provide complementary training, as well as tools and other inputs.
36. *Environmental impact:* WFP's experience in Lesotho suggests that WFP food assistance can help to minimise environmental degradation by preventing the use of unsustainable coping mechanisms such as hunting and foraging of wildlife and collection and selling of firewood for commercial purposes.
37. *Logistics arrangements:* Regionally and internally purchased commodities will be trucked to Lesotho through the border town of Maseru Bridge. Local purchases will be transported directly to district warehouses under the Government's Food Management Unit (FMU) adjacent to the various extended delivery points (EDPs) in the operational areas. The movement of food commodities from the EDPs to the final delivery points will be undertaken by the FMU in collaboration with WFP.
38. WFP's Commodity Movement Processing and Analysis System (COMPAS) will be activated in the targeted districts for the purpose of tracking and monitoring all commodity movements. WFP staff will provide technical assistance and support to the FMU warehouse staff.
39. *Procurement plans:* Vegetable oil and sugar will be procured on the international market while pulses and Supercereal will be purchased regionally. Cereals will be purchased locally provided that prices are competitive and local purchases do not adversely impact market supply and prices, in line with WFP standard procurement procedures. WFP expects to procure the fortified maize meal locally from the two major millers in Lesotho to ensure a maximum shelf life and the preservation of fortified vitamins and minerals.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING

40. Based on a well-established assessment and monitoring system, community household surveillance (CHS) and post-distribution monitoring (PDM) will be conducted bi-annually and monthly respectively to measure outputs and other key performance results. WFP's cooperating partners' monitoring reports will also be used to provide data on output

performance. Food security data collection and analysis, normally performed monthly by WFP, will continue as usual and be further enhanced as needed.

41. A monitoring and evaluation calendar will be regularly updated to ensure that objectives are being met. Monitoring plans will be produced at field and country office levels and consolidated into the country office plan. Monthly joint monitoring visits will be organized by WFP, FAO, UNICEF and cooperating partners to assess the level and quality of programme implementation. Random and frequent on-site monitoring will be carried out at food distribution points by WFP and/or the cooperating partners' monitors. A well-established database for tracking outputs and impacts will continue to be maintained by WFP and data shared with implementing partners as one of the main tools to assist in performance evaluation.
42. Monitoring of the CFA activities will include project outputs (assets created), market commodity prices and quantities (among other factors), and household cash utilization. WFP will also monitor benefits/impacts of CFA activities on the markets as well as the distribution process. Through CHS, the food consumption score, coping strategy index, dietary diversity score and nutritional indicators will be measured. Through the cash delivery agency, WFP will monitor the timeliness in disbursement, security in transit, and any other relevant indicators.

HAND-OVER STRATEGY

43. The Government of Lesotho has identified 'disaster risk reduction' and 'social protection' as key to their socio-economic development strategy. As part of this strategy, the Government and United Nations agencies will take steps to improve the institutional capacity in areas of disaster risk management and to create a safety-net system that addresses the high levels of socio-economic vulnerability.
44. Under its country strategy 2013-2017, WFP envisions that: 'Led by Government and supported by partners, the population of Lesotho is well nourished, healthy, educated and resilient to shocks'. The EMOP will address the immediate needs of the present food crisis, while at the same time contributing to reinforce the food security safety net in Lesotho, and enhance the National Registration System for Social Assistance.
45. The EMOP is complemented by WFP country programme 2013-2017, which will address some of the root causes of the chronic vulnerability through two pillars of intervention: i) Enhancing Resilience and Responsiveness to Food Security Shocks; and ii) Enhancing Nutritional through DRR and Social Wellbeing of Vulnerable Groups through Nutrition Interventions.

RISK MANAGEMENT

46. Inadequate or late donor support would greatly impede the timely procurement of food and WFP's ability to perform its activities as planned. WFP and other United Nations agencies have raised awareness among potential donors on the prevailing food insecurity.
47. A similar weather-related shock affecting the next crop season would have far reaching consequences on the welfare of the targeted population and would require a review of WFP's response strategy.

48. WFP's existing contingency plan and the emergency preparedness and response plan will be updated using the latest information generated from the Lesotho Vulnerability Assessment Committee, the Lesotho Meteorological Service, the Ministry of Agriculture, the DMA and other internal monitoring reports.
49. WFP will closely monitor and analyse information generated periodically by the LVAC and CHS, Ministry of Health reports, as well as weather forecasts, agro-meteorological quarterly bulletins and monthly food security monitoring reports to identify triggers for revising its course of action, such as abrupt changes in climatic conditions, food prices and socio-economic trends. Particular attention will be directed at rainfall and food price data – the two major determinants of food insecurity and malnutrition in Lesotho. Should the food security situation further deteriorate, WFP would address the increased needs through a budget revision.

Security Risk Management

50. There are no major security concerns within the country, which is presently under security level one. The United Nations Security Management Team meets regularly to review potential threats. Periodic security briefings are provided to all staff by the United Nations Department of Safety and Security. WFP is compliant with the minimum operating security standards (MOSS) and the minimum security telecommunications standards (MISTS).

RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Director and Director-General of FAO are requested to approve the proposed Emergency Operation 200499 “Emergency Assistance in Response to Crop Failure in Lesotho”.

APPROVAL

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Ertharin Cousin
Executive Director
World Food Programme of the United Nations

Date:

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José Graziano da Silva
Director-General,
Food and Agriculture Organization of the
United Nations

Date:.....

PROJECT COST BREAKDOWN			
Food¹⁵	Quantity (mt)	Value (US\$)	Value (US\$)
Cereals	3 996	1 950 224	
Pulses	600	407 626	
Oil and fats	200	209 811	
Mixed and blended food	119	77 610	
Others			
Total food	4 915	2 645 271	
Cash transfers		4 488 095	
Voucher transfers		0	
Subtotal food and transfers			7 133 366
External transport			55 798
Landside transport, storage and handling			605 777
Other direct operational costs			649 140
Direct support costs (see Annex I-B)			724 850
Total WFP direct costs			9 168 931
Indirect support costs (7 percent) ¹⁶			641 825
TOTAL WFP COSTS			9 810 756

¹⁵ This is a notional food basket for budgeting and approval. The contents may vary.

¹⁶ The indirect support cost rate may be amended by the Board during the project.

DIRECT SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS (US\$)	
Staff and staff-related costs	
International professional staff	121 100
Local staff - general service	127 000
Local staff - temporary assistance	77 000
Staff duty travel	87 950
Subtotal	413 050
Rental of facility	16 000
Utilities general	8 400
Office supplies and other consumables	20 000
Communications and IT services	25 000
Vehicle running cost and maintenance	151 200
United Nations organization services	15 000
Subtotal	235 600
Vehicle leasing	35 700
TC/IT equipment	30 000
Local security costs	10 500
Subtotal	76 200
TOTAL DIRECT SUPPORT COSTS	724 850

ANNEX II - LOGICAL FRAMEWORK SUMMARY - LESOTHO EMOP 200499

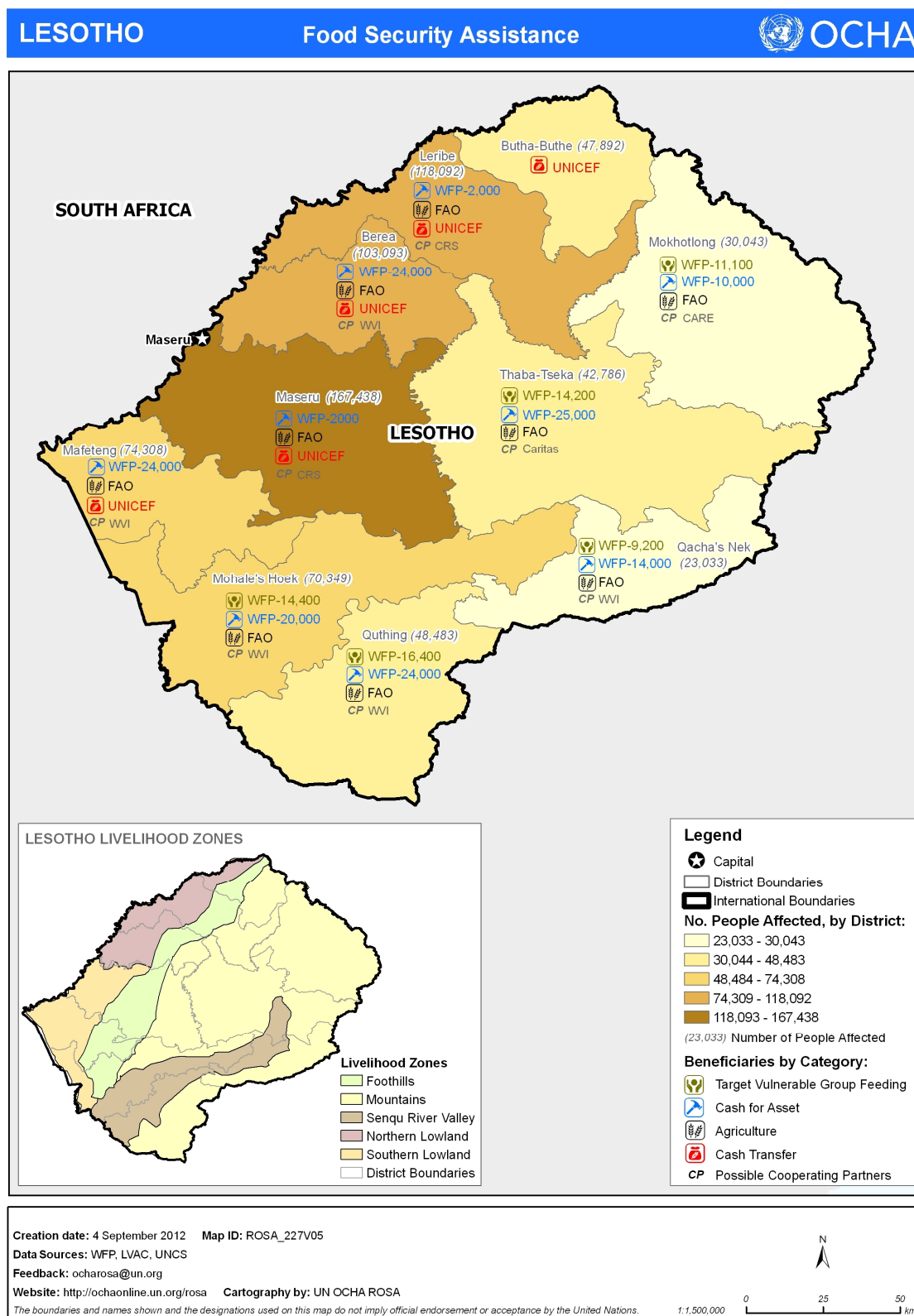
Results	Performance indicators	Assumptions
Strategic Objective 1: Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies		
Outcome 1 Improved food consumption over assistance period for targeted households.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Household food consumption score Target: 35 ➤ Coping strategy index Baseline: 35 (2011 CHS) Target: stabilized/reduced ➤ Dietary diversity score Target: 80% of households have acceptable score 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Political and social stability in the country. ➤ Adequate coordination with NGOs and government institutions at central and district levels.
Output 1.1 Food distributed in sufficient quantity and quality to target groups of women, men, girls and boys under secure conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of women, men, girls and boys receiving food, compared with planned Target: 65 300 ➤ Tonnage of food distributed, by type, as % of planned distribution. Target: 4 914 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Adequate funding available. ➤ No new severe weather shocks

Results	Performance indicators	Risks, assumptions
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Strategic Objective -2: Prevent acute hunger and invest in disaster preparedness and mitigation measures.		
Outcome 2 Hazard risk reduced at community level in target communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community asset score Target: Risk reduction and disaster mitigation assets increased for 80% of communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Political and social stability in the country. ➤ Adequate coordination with government institutions at central and district levels.
Output 2.1 Cash transfers and non-food items, distributed in sufficient quantity to target groups of women and men, under secure conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of women and men, receiving cash compared with planned Target: 145,000 ➤ Total amount of cash transferred to beneficiaries Target: US\$4 488 095 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Equal participation of men and women in identification, implementation and management of assets creation activities.
Output 2.2 Built or restored disaster mitigation assets by target communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Number of community assets created or restored by targeted communities and individuals. ➤ Number of non-food items distributed. ➤ Number of women and men trained in livelihood-support thematic areas. 	

ANNEX III- MAP



LIST OF ACRONYMS

AIDS	acquired immune deficiency syndrome
CFA	cash for assets
CGP	Child Grants Programme
CP	cooperating partners
CHS	community household surveillance
COMPAS	commodity movement processing and analysis system
DHMT	District Health Management Team
DMA	Disaster Management Authority
DRR	disaster risk reduction
EDP	extended delivery point
EMOP	emergency operation
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations
FFP	Food for Peace
FMU	food management unit
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
LVAC	Lesotho Vulnerability Assessment Committee
NGO	non-governmental organization
NISSA	National Information System for Social Assistance
OFDA	Office of United States Foreign Disaster Assistance
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNDRMT	United Nations Disaster Risk Management Team
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAM	vulnerability analysis and mapping

