


World Food Programme
BUDGET REVISION OF SO FOR APPROVAL BY THE CHIEF OF STAFF

5) To:	Division	Room	Approval and Date
Mr. Jim Harvey Chief of Staff	OED	6G36	
4) Through:	Division	Room	Signature and Date
Ms. Elisabeth Rasmusson Assistant Executive Director (a.i)	PG	6G72	
3) Through:	Division	Room	Signature and Date
Mr. Manoj Juneja Assistant Executive Director	RM	6G00	
2) Through:	Division	Room	Signature and Date
Mr. Ramiro Lopes da Silva Assistant Executive Director	OS	6G62	
1) From:	Regional Bureau	Signature and Date	
Ms. Valerie Guarnieri Regional Director	RBN		

Somalia SO 200440: Food Security Cluster Augmentation in Response to the Humanitarian Situation in Somalia
B/R No. 3

PROJECT SO 200440: Food Security Cluster Augmentation in Response to the Humanitarian Situation in Somalia

	Previous Budget	Revision	New Budget
Total WFP cost (USD)	USD 7,099,261	USD 253,908	USD 7,353,169

TYPE OF REVISION
☒ **Additional DSC** ☒ **Additional CD&A** ☒ **Extension in time** ☐ **Other**
NATURE OF REVISION:

This budget revision proposes to extend Special Operation (SO) 200440 for a period of six months. This will allow FAO and WFP sufficient time to mainstream food security cluster coordination costs into their respective regular projects.

JUSTIFICATION FOR THE REVISION:

The Somalia Food Security Cluster (FSC) was launched in 2012 when the Food Assistance Cluster and the Agriculture and Livelihoods Cluster were merged. The Somalia FSC serves as the key source of information to address food insecurity as part of the humanitarian response in the country. It provides its members with a strategic vision and guidance in their response to the acute and underlying causes of food insecurity.



The Somalia FSC works to fulfill the following six priorities:

- Coordination of responses and strategic response guidance;
- Reporting, monitoring and gaps identification;
- Emergency preparedness and contingency planning;
- Development and application of technical standards, and collecting and disseminating best practices;
- Advocacy and resource mobilization; and
- Strengthening the capacity of humanitarian actors.

The FSC membership includes United Nations agencies, International Non-governmental Organizations (INGOs) and Local Non-governmental Organizations (LNGOs), all with varying degrees of capacity. To date, 463 organizations engage with the FSC of which 93 are classified as partners, 369 as members and one observer.

Since 2012 the FSC costs have been resourced through a Special Operation (SO) administered by WFP. The SO project approach has been considered a transparent, effective and agile operational platform for advocacy, resourcing and support to implement the FSC activities. Following consultations with donors in Nairobi on the way forward for the FSC, they requested the lead agencies (WFP and FAO) to transition the FSC coordination costs into their respective projects or programs. In the medium and long term, integrating costs into operational planning makes the management of FSC more financially sustainable, provides the opportunity for long term planning and will enhance further the strategic partnership between the lead agencies. In the short-term, the impact of transitioning the FSC to regular operational funding mechanisms will depend on the ability of lead agencies to prioritize activities as well as on the availability of such resources.

The proposed extension in time will support this transition. The extension costs for WFP for the first half of 2016 will be USD 253,908. For the remainder of 2016, the lead agencies will integrate the corresponding FSC costs, estimated at USD 746,000, into their respective programs and project resources. The SO received USD 500,000 in contributions in 2015.

Specific accomplishments for the FSC in 2015 include:

Priority 1: Coordination of responses and strategic response guidance. An average number of 12 regional coordination meetings per month took place in Somalia. An average number of 18 people attended field and Nairobi level cluster meetings and 98 humanitarian partners and cluster participants were trained since January 2015.

Priority 2: Reporting, monitoring and gaps identification. A total of 168 FSC response updates (including response gaps) were prepared for cluster members, donors, humanitarian community and the general public.

Priority 3: Emergency preparedness and contingency planning. The FSC has supported local level operational contingency plans. This included the identification of who, where and what would be required by its members in areas potentially affected by flooding, drought and conflict. The FSC was also in the forefront in the development of inter-cluster contingency plan for Somalia for El Niño. The regional level FSC coordination meeting at Nairobi was a key platform to share critical information about El Niño and consolidating preparedness and mitigation measures.

Priority 4: Development and application of technical standards, and collecting and disseminating best practices. The FSC led the process of developing various technical guidelines including on the use of cash-based transfers, and information management tools. Additionally, the FSC is currently working with partners to develop and roll out food security assessment tools specific for urban areas. The guidance note around transfer values (work in progress) is very much valued by donors and partners as it harmonizes cash transfer values within the context of a growing cash programming in Somalia. This FSC work was quoted as exemplary by partners and there is high interest in the conclusions and the roll out of a follow up training.

Priority 5: Advocacy and resource mobilization. The FSC provides monthly response updates (including response gaps) for donors and the broader humanitarian community. The FSC is already working with partners in preparing the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan.



Priority 6: Strengthening the capacity of humanitarian actors. A total of 19 FSC agencies are now included in decision making and leadership roles (Strategic Advisory Group, Cluster Review Committee and Vice Coordinators). The FSC facilitated 23 trainings to members in Nairobi and Somalia since January 2015. This trainings benefited 98 local organizations including NGOs, local authorities and relevant ministries (Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of National Planning and Development). Overall, these efforts have led to the progressive increase of leadership positions covered by local humanitarian actors within the FSC.

Since 2014, the FSC has been a member of the Drought Emergency Committee chaired by the Government in Mogadishu; this is a forum for sharing information and discussing the ongoing response. Engagement with the Government on overall recovery planning is mostly done through the lead agencies.

In light of the above, this budget revision to the SO for the six months extension in time until 30 June 2016 is recommended for the approval by the Chief of Staff.