

## PROJECT BUDGET REVISION 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	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	
Mr. Muhannad Hadi Regional Director	RBC		

### Kyrgyz DEV 200176 Optimising Primary School Meals Programme in Kyrgyz Republic

**BR No 05.**

<b>Total revised number of beneficiaries</b>	114,000
<b>Duration of entire project</b>	01 January 2013 – 31 December 2017
<b>Extension period</b>	12 months (01 January 2017 – 31 December 2017)
<b>Gender marker code</b>	2a
<b>WFP food tonnage</b>	2,342 mt

**Start date:** 01 Jan 2013    **End date:** 31 Dec 2016    **Extension period:** 12 months    **New end date:** 31 Dec 2017

#### Cost (United States dollars)

	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>Revised Budget</b>
Food and Related Costs	US\$ 1,044,025	US\$ 910,387	US\$ 1,954,412
Cash and Vouchers and Related Costs	US\$ -	US\$ -	US\$ -
Capacity Development & Augmentation	US\$ 6,376,913	US\$ 2,085,083	US\$ 8,461,996
DSC	US\$ 3,420,654	US\$ 994,650	US\$ 4,415,304
ISC	US\$ 758,911	US\$ 279,308	US\$ 1,038,220
<b>Total cost to WFP</b>	<b>US\$ 11,600,503</b>	<b>US\$ 4,269,429</b>	<b>US\$ 15,869,932</b>

#### CHANGES TO:

##### Food Tool

- ☒ MT  
☒ Commodity Value  
☐ External Transport  
☒ LTSH  
☒ ODOC

##### C&V Tool

- ☐ C&V Transfers  
☐ C&V Related Costs

- ☒ CD&A  
☒ DSC  
☒ Project duration  
☐ Other

##### Project Rates

- ☒ LTSH (\$/MT)  
☒ ODOC (\$/MT)  
☐ C&V Related (%)  
☒ DSC (%)



**World Food Programme**

## NATURE OF THE INCREASE

1. *This budget revision to development project (DEV) 200176 'Optimizing Primary School Meals Programme in the Kyrgyz Republic' is proposed to:*
  - *Extension in time until December 2017 in line with the recent extension of the Kyrgyz Republic United Nations Development Assistance Framework and a Government request to expand the pilot areas under DEV 200176;*
  - *Increase the number of beneficiaries from 62,000 to 114,000 (57,000 boys and 57,000 girls) in view of the increased coverage of the project (number of schools and geographical coverage);*
  - *Increase food commodities by 1,178 mt of wheat flour, in accordance with the above increase in beneficiary numbers;*
  - *Correspondingly, increase landside transport, storage and handling (LTSH) costs, other direct operational costs (ODOC) relating to food transfers, direct support costs (DSC) and capacity development and augmentation (CD&A) costs.*
2. *The budget revision represents an increase of 36 percent over the previously approved budget.*

## JUSTIFICATION FOR THE REVISION

### *Summary of existing project activities*

3. DEV 200176 started in March 2013 and was extended until 31 December 2016. The primary purpose of this project is to strengthen the Government of Kyrgyz Republic's capacity to improve the quality, efficiency and sustainability of the existing national school meals programme, in line with the five WFP policy goals for school meals<sup>1</sup>.
4. With the goal of enhancing national capacities to sustain an improved school meals programme, the project's two components focus on:
  - a) Building government capacity to manage the optimized school meals programme, including through the development of a national school meals policy and implementation strategy and by implementing various capacity development activities that address all five WFP policy goals.
  - b) Implementing a pilot to demonstrate optimized implementation modalities that are effective, accountable, sustainable and cost-efficient. The pilot introduces more nutritious meals and supports the renovation of school canteens and water and sanitation facilities in selected food-insecure areas of the country. Through the pilot, the Government will increase its capacity through practical experience in implementing a best practice model.
5. *Since the beginning of the project, WFP's activities targeted both components including technical support to the policy design, as well as implementation of the pilot projects at the field level. WFP has conducted capacity assessments and gap analyses, and designed models for school feeding that have been introduced in 261 targeted schools, together with a package of technical assistance activities.*

<sup>1</sup> The five WFP quality standards for school meals are (1) sound policy framework, (2) institutional capacity and coordination, (3) stable and predictable funding, (4) sound design and implementation and (5) community participation.

6. *An Inter-ministerial Working Committee (IWC), chaired by the Vice-Prime Minister for Social Affairs, has been established to coordinate the implementation of the project. The IWC is comprised of representatives from MoES, MoH, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Social Development, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and WFP. The MoES and the MoH currently act as line Ministries for the implementation of the project.*
7. WFP has signed an agreement with the international non-governmental organization (NGO) Social and Industrial Food Services Institute (SIFI), which provides technical assistance to WFP. SIFI supports capacity assessments and development of a National School Meals Policy and Implementation Strategy.
8. The project is aligned with WFP's Strategic Objective 4 (reduce undernutrition and break the intergenerational cycle of hunger), and contributes to the second pillar of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), which focuses on improved social protection for vulnerable groups and improved food security, nutrition, and education.
9. The project has mainstreamed gender throughout the project cycle including needs identification, activity implementation and outcome-level results tracking from gender perspectives.
10. The project objectives, scope and activities remain unchanged under this budget revision.

### **Conclusion and recommendation of the re-assessment**

11. *As part of the first component of the project, WFP, with technical support from SIFI, undertook a comprehensive assessment of the Government's school meals programme from May to July 2013. The results were discussed at a stakeholder workshop in July 2013<sup>2</sup> and contributed to the formulation of the National School Meals Policy which was endorsed by the Prime-Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic in December 2014<sup>3</sup>.*
12. *The results of a SABER Workshop conducted in July 2015 identified the current state of the national school meals programme at 'Established' stage with School Feeding National Capacity Index (SF NCI) having improved from 1.6 to 2.8 compared to 2013. The SABER workshop also confirmed the need to design a National Implementation Strategy for School Feeding<sup>4</sup> (NIS) as well as identifying a number of activities required for further development of the national school meals programme.*

<sup>2</sup> The Stakeholder Workshop conducted in July 2013 was organized by WFP to discuss the status of the national school meals programme against five quality standards. Stakeholders included vice-prime minister for social affairs, representatives of the Government Apparatus, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, district education departments, province, district and local authorities, school directors, UNICEF, Mercy Corps, Peace Corps and SIFI. Discussions conducted during the Stakeholder Workshop laid the ground for the National Capacity Index baseline.

<sup>3</sup> Prime-Minister's Resolution no.724, signed on 26/12/2014.

<sup>4</sup> The SABER Workshop was led by MoES, MoH and Government Apparatus with technical support from WFP. The SABER Report is currently under preparation. During the SABER Workshop, stakeholders came to the conclusion that the five policy goals are at the following stages: (1) sound policy framework – 'established', (2) institutional capacity and coordination – 'established', (3) stable and predictable funding – 'established', (4) sound design and implementation – 'established' and (5) community participation – 'emerging'.



## World Food Programme

13. Under a second component of the project, WFP, with technical support from SIFI, conducted baseline assessments for schools included in the pilot, as outlined in Table 1. The assessments covered various stakeholders directly or indirectly involved in the implementation of the school meals programme, including key informants such as school directors, district education departments, local and district authorities, teacher and parent associations and cooks.
14. The results of the baseline assessment supported formulation of modalities to introduce enhanced school meals for pilot schools for the four rounds of pilot schools as well as the upgrading of feeding models from a 'bun and black tea' model to the provision of hot meals, mainly within the existing Government budgetary allocation. The results of these assessments were presented in the previous Budget Revisions.

**TABLE 1: BENEFICIARIES BY SCHEDULE OF INTRODUCTION OF ENHANCED SCHOOL MEALS**

Stage	School selection/ targeting process	Baseline conducted in	Current status	Actual/ Planned Feeding Start Date	Number of Children <sup>5</sup>	Number of schools
1 <sup>st</sup> Round	Apr 2013	May 2013	Feeding on-going	Sep 2013	11,100	59
2 <sup>nd</sup> Round	Dec 2013	Feb 2014	Feeding on-going	Apr 2014	18,800	75
				May 2014		
				Sep 2014		
3 <sup>rd</sup> Round	Jul 2014	Nov 2014	Feeding on-going	Mar 2015	17,000	46
				Apr 2015		20
			Feeding on-going	Sep 2015	1,100	3
4 <sup>th</sup> Round	Jan 2015	Mar 2015	Feeding on-going	Sep 2015	14,000	59
5 <sup>th</sup> Round	Nov 2015	Feb 2016	Planned	Sep-Oct 2016	24,000	50
6 <sup>th</sup> Round	August 2016	Oct 2016	Planned	Sep-Oct 2017	28,000	50
<b>Total</b>					<b>114,000</b>	<b>362</b>

15. During February-March 2015 WFP initiated a Mid-Term Review (MTR) exercise for the DEV 200176 project for learning and accountability purposes, focusing on assessing progress made to date, i.e., from March 2013 until December 2014 and providing recommendations for the remaining project period. The MTR also assessed the project's relevance, effectiveness and sustainability.
16. The MTR confirmed the current directions introduced in the framework of DEV 200176 and recommended those be further developed in the follow-up activities. The MTR found that DEV 200176 exemplifies many good practices for how WFP could implement capacity development for School Meals. The project has demonstrated the value added and the feasibility of implementing the optimized pilot model. During the initial two years, WFP resources have focused on conceptualizing the core pilot model and establishing procedures, guidelines, standards and project stakeholder capacity and inputs required to successfully implement it. During the remaining duration of the project, the MTR advised WFP to focus on consolidating and finalizing the core model whilst addressing project sustainability and nurturing project and policy momentum. Specific MTR recommendations relevant for this BR are provided below:

<sup>5</sup> Girls and boys each represent approximately 50 percent of the total numbers of children.



## World Food Programme

- *Adjusting the targeting of pilot schools to ensure enhanced representation of the country wide context for implementation of school feeding (SF), as well as inclusion of diverse implementation scenarios in pilot testing (e.g. target more urban schools and schools with various infrastructure conditions, etc.).*
- *Elaborating on the exit strategy, not as a phasing out of SF but as a phasing out of external assistance and as development of a strategy for gradual hand over of roles and responsibilities to the government.*
- *To further promote the policy momentum, WFP should assist the government in developing an evidence-based approach to ensure that SF plays a synergetic role with other social protection instruments, and is fully integrated into the existing social protection system as a social safety net programme that guarantees vulnerable families free access to nutritious meals for school children.*
- *WFP should increasingly reflect upon how to institutionalize the work that WFP is currently taking the lead on to ensure that roles currently handled by WFP will increasingly be owned by relevant government partners and institutions at different levels.*

**17. In 2015 WFP also piloted a co-financing approach, whereby local authorities in some areas came forward with the initiative of covering one quarter of the costs related to re-equipment of school canteens on top of the costs related to infrastructure rehabilitation. This approach allowed WFP to increase the initially planned number of schools while also testing the financial and implementation capacities of local stakeholders in replicating (even partially) the pilot models proposed by WFP. This approach will be now applied for the fifth and sixth rounds of pilot implementation, where local authorities (in areas with financial means, e.g. in urban areas) will contribute from 25% to 50% of the costs related to equipment.**

### ***Purpose of change in project duration and budget increase***

18. The current budget revision proposes an extension in time until December 2017, and increases the number of beneficiaries, the volume of food commodities and the associated costs for the implementation of the project. The revision also takes into consideration the results of a mid-term review conducted in early 2015.
19. In 2015, the current UNDAF was extended until end 2017, in line with the National Sustainable Development Strategy (2013-2017). The School Meals programme has enjoyed strong Government support and in June 2015 the Government addressed WFP with a request to extend the current project, including expansion to additional pilot schools. This current expansion and extension- in-time will allow for a timely procurement of school equipment in new schools, some of which are to already start on 1 September 2016, and will also allow WFP to further test different models of implementation, including optimization of school meals in urban areas and district centres.
20. The original project received a Gender Marker Code of 2a, and this budget revision takes into consideration the 2015-2020 WFP Gender Policy. Specifically, women and men participate equally in the project design, particularly the selection of pilot schools, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Women's participation in decision making as members of the school feeding committees will be increased continuously.



## **World Food Programme**

21. *There are no changes proposed with regard to the focus, implementation strategy or expected outcomes of the project.*
22. *The extension includes an:*
  - a. *Increase in number of schools: the current number of pilot schools (262 schools) will increase to some 362 as indicated in Table 1, with two additional rounds of schools being added in 2016 and 2017 to the existing pool of pilot schools. 76% of the additional schools will join the project in September 2016 and the remaining ones in September 2017.*



## World Food Programme

- b. Increase in number of beneficiaries:** *the number of beneficiaries has been revised in view of the increased number of schools, as well as to take into consideration an inclusion of schools located in urban, peri-urban and district centers (where the number of children varies from 500 to 1,000), which will constitute at least 30% of the planned schools for the new rounds.*

**TABLE 2: BENEFICIARIES**

Activity [or Component]	Category of beneficiaries	Current			Beneficiary covered during the extension period			Revised planned numbers throughout project period		
		Boys	Girls <sup>6</sup>	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
School meals	Primary school children (age 7-10)	31,000	31,000	62,000	57,000	57,000	114,000	57,000	57,000	114,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>31,000</b>	<b>31,000</b>	<b>62,000</b>	<b>57,000</b>	<b>57,000</b>	<b>114,000</b>	<b>57,000</b>	<b>57,000</b>	<b>114,000</b>

**23. Under the budget revision, WFP will continue to provide technical support to the school meals programme, in accordance with the Implementation Strategy approved by the Government and the National School Meals Policy. In view of the project extension until end 2017, WFP will also focus on the following activities:**

- (i) Develop government capacity to independently manage the optimized school meals programme, through:
  - Provision of technical support in designing the National School Meals Implementation Strategy based on the nation-wide assessment (Policy Goal 1).
  - Provision of technical support to design the implementation strategy to optimize the school meals programme in around 362 pilot schools, as well as expand the number of provinces/districts through District Implementation Strategies<sup>7</sup> outside the pilot activity, whereby local authorities will develop the school meals programme with their own resources (Policy Goal 4) and as a complement to the already substantial resources allocated for the school meals programme from the central government budget.
  - Provision of technical support for the design of guidelines related to school meals implementation, including updated sanitation requirements, improved procurement, menus

<sup>6</sup> In the context of the Kyrgyz Republic there is no significant gender gap in primary education. The planned proportion between boys and girls is based on the actual WFP data for 2013-2015.

<sup>7</sup> **Assessments have indicated the existence of schools outside the WFP pilot activity with appropriate school infrastructure and the capacity to mobilize resources for school kitchens and canteen equipment. While these schools are interested in transitioning to hot meals, they currently lack the technical knowledge to do so. In order to meet these needs, WFP will provide technical support to improve their school meals. This will enable WFP to extend the coverage of the optimized school meals model to up to 500 schools – without additional infrastructure or food costs to WFP.**



## World Food Programme

and recipes in line with nutritional standards, school accounting with a specific focus on school meals, school feeding in boarding institutions, and the management of school gardens. Guidelines will be designed in coordination with experts from the MoES, MoH and Ministry of Agriculture based on the results of piloting in targeted schools, and through review and endorsement by respective Ministries for nation-wide implementation (Policy Goal 2 and 4);

- Identification of needs and the provision of technical support to MoES in developing monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems for the school meals programme (Policy Goal 4).
- National workshops and other events to build a common vision and understanding among stakeholders for a school meals strategy, guided by international quality standards (Policy Goal 5).

(ii) Implement a pilot activity in targeted schools to demonstrate optimized modalities that are effective, accountable, sustainable and cost-efficient, through:

- Support to improvements in infrastructure in pilot schools, with a focus on equipment and water and sanitation, paving the way for the provision of hot meals, including continued testing of a co-financing model to increase the coverage of the pilot (Policy Goal 3).
- Introduction of diversified menus in pilot schools to support a transition to more nutritious meals. The WFP fortified wheat flour ration will continue to complement the Government's allocation for food purchases, in line with standardized menus approved by the MoH for pilot schools<sup>8</sup>. This approach strengthens the project's sustainability and supports the overall strategy for an eventual handover to the Government at the end of the current project stage (Policy Goal 4).
- Advocacy and training activities to encourage the active participation of local authorities, local communities, parents and teacher associations equally targeting men and women. Particular emphasis will be placed on the contributions of these stakeholders to infrastructure rehabilitation, the establishment of menus along with participation in the decision-making process and monitoring activities (Policy Goal 5).
- Technical support and training targeting district MoES and MoH representatives, school directors and personnel, and parent and teacher associations to increase the efficiency of the management of school meals, including procurement<sup>9</sup>, implementation and monitoring activities. This support also includes further supply chain analysis, advocacy regarding improved systems and procedures, with a focus on procurement from local producers (Policy Goals 3 and 4).
- Support to the development of schools gardens in targeted schools to further diversify menus and promote income-generation for schools. This activity will include the provision of agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, tools and greenhouses, combined with a business development plan and agricultural training, for which co-financing will be sought from local partners, authorities and communities (Policy Goal 4).

<sup>8</sup> While WFP's input will ensure 200 kcal per child per day, the government's contribution will cover 350 to 500 kcal per child per day. Currently, MoH has approved 122 recipes; WFP, with technical support from SIFI, will continue testing the suggested menus during pilot implementation to diversify and/or modify them as required.

<sup>9</sup> WFP will seek to reach a 95 percent procurement efficiency rate, in line with the indicator included in the logframe.





## World Food Programme

- Nutrition and hygiene training<sup>10</sup>, mainly targeting primary school children, as well as primary grade teachers and parents equally targeting men and women (Policy Goals 3 and 5).

**24. As recommended by the MTR, to ensure sustainability of the currently provided optimized menu in schools, WFP should work with the Government on institutionalizing parental contributions to top up the menu, which will eventually substitute the fortified wheat flour provided by WFP. These measures will also be supported by a new government law on the fortification of bakery products, which lays down new legal requirements for the use of fortified wheat flour in local institutional feeding. As these issues are at the initial stages of discussions with the Government, it is suggested that the handover of the management of the programme in pilot schools takes place at the end of 2017. The handover approach is designed to ensure that the central government allocation is set at a sufficient level to maintain school feeding at the optimized level, with additional inputs from local authorities, parents and income from school gardens.**

**25. The planned food ration and modality of food distribution remain unchanged.**

### FOOD REQUIREMENTS

**26. Food requirements are revised in order to reflect changes in the number of beneficiaries for the duration of the project. The cost of food commodities is revised in line with the increased market price of fortified wheat flour.**

**27. Food distribution and partnership arrangements remain the same as under the original phase of the project.**

**TABLE 3: FOOD REQUIREMENTS**

Activity	Commodity <sup>11</sup> /	Food requirements (mt)		
		Current	Increase / Decrease	Revised total
School meals	Wheat flour	1,164	1,178	2,342
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,164</b>	<b>1,178</b>	<b>2,342</b>

<sup>10</sup> The methodology for interactive games on nutrition and hygiene was designed for primary school children by SIFI, tested by WFP and SIFI during the current phase and endorsed by the MoES and MoH for wider introduction in pilot schools.

<sup>11</sup> Please only present overall food requirement. Do not split by commodity.



**World Food  
Programme**


**ANNEX I-A**

<b>PROJECT COST BREAKDOWN</b>			
	<b>Quantity (mt)</b>	<b>Value (US\$)</b>	<b>Value (US\$)</b>
<i>Food Transfers</i>			
Cereals	1,178	807,204	
Pulses	-	-	
Oil and fats	-	-	
Mixed and blended food	-	-	
Others	-	-	
<b>Total Food Transfers</b>	<b>1,178</b>	<b>807,204</b>	
External Transport		-	
LTSH		89,598	
ODOC Food		13,585	
<b>Food and Related Costs <sup>12</sup></b>			<b>910,387</b>
C&V Transfers		-	
C&V Related costs		-	
<b>Cash and Vouchers and Related Costs</b>			
<b>Capacity Development &amp; Augmentation</b>			<b>2,085,083</b>
<i>Direct Operational Costs</i>			2,995,470
Direct support costs (see Annex I-B)			994,650
<b>Total Direct Project Costs</b>			<b>3,990,121</b>
Indirect support costs (7.0 percent) <sup>13</sup>			279,308
<b>TOTAL WFP COSTS</b>			<b>4,269,429</b>

<sup>12</sup> This is a notional food basket for budgeting and approval. The contents may vary.

<sup>13</sup> The indirect support cost rate may be amended by the Board during the project.

**ANNEX I-B**

<b>DIRECT SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS (US\$)</b>	
<b>WFP Staff and Staff-Related</b>	
Professional staff *	328,341
General service staff **	297,309
Danger pay and local allowances	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>625,650</b>
<b>Recurring and Other</b>	<b>42,811</b>
<b>Capital Equipment</b>	<b>33,339</b>
<b>Security</b>	<b>110,000</b>
<b>Travel and transportation</b>	<b>132,850</b>
<b>Assessments, Evaluations and Monitoring<sup>14</sup></b>	<b>50,000</b>
<b>TOTAL DIRECT SUPPORT COSTS</b>	<b>994,650</b>

\* Costs to be included in this line are under the following cost elements: International Professional Staff (P1 to D2), Local Staff - National Officer, International Consultants, Local Consultants, UNV

\*\* Costs to be included in this line are under the following cost elements: International GS Staff, Local Staff - General Service, Local Staff - Temporary Assist. (SC, SSA, Other), Overtime

<sup>14</sup> Reflects estimated costs when these activities are performed by third parties. If WFP Country Office staff perform these activities, the costs are included in Staff and Staff Related and Travel and Transportation.