



World Food Programme

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BUDGET REVISION OF SO FOR APPROVAL BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

5) To:	Initials	In Date	Out Date	Reason for Delay
Mr. Chris Nikoi Regional Director, RBJ				
4) Through:	Initials	In Date	Out Date	Reason for Delay
Ms. Sarah Longford Programme Adviser, RBJ				
3) Through:	Initials	In Date	Out Date	Reason for Delay
Mr. Morris Oduor Logistic Officer, RBJ				
2) Through:	Initials	In Date	Out Date	Reason for Delay
Ms. Aline Samu Resource Management Analyst, RBJ				
1) From:	Initials	In Date	Out Date	Reason for Delay
Mr. Pablo Recalde Country Director				

**Democratic Republic of the Congo Special Operation 200661
BR03**

PROJECT	Previous Budget	Revision	New Budget
Total WFP cost (US\$)	US\$ 2 841 886	US\$ 872 621	US\$ 3 714 507

TYPE OF REVISION

- Additional DSC
 Additional CD&A
 Extension in time
 Change in project orientation
 Other

NATURE OF REVISION:

1. This third budget revision to Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) Special Operation 200661 (“Strengthening Food Security Cluster Coordination in the DRC”) extends the operation by a period of four months, from March to June 2016. Following the delayed confirmation of new resources, this extension will enable the Country Office to expend balance funds and conclude pending activities (including the establishment of a robust information management system and the compilation of standards on the harmonized use of cash-based transfers). During this period, a new Special Operation responding to lessons learned from the current operation will be prepared.
2. In order to align the budget with planned expenditures during this extension, the overall cost of the operation will increase by US\$ 179,728 to a total US\$ 3,021,614.



JUSTIFICATION FOR THE REVISION:

3. The Food Security Cluster aims to serve as the platform in which food security needs are jointly assessed, analysed and disseminated to relevant stakeholders to facilitate appropriate response planning. The Food Security Cluster is co-lead by WFP and FAO and all activities are jointly implemented by both agencies.
4. In September 2012, a global Food Security Cluster mission to DRC was undertaken to review existing humanitarian coordination mechanisms in the country. This identified the following four areas in need of strengthening: i.) co-leadership by cluster lead agencies; ii.) intra-cluster management; iii.) improved services and; iv.) partnerships. The mission further recommended that a more consistent approach to fundraising be pursued for the Food Security Cluster specifically through the development of a common strategy, including provision for dedicated coordination and information management at the national level and in select sub-national clusters.
5. This Special Operation 200661 was approved in March 2014 to strengthen the coordination of Food Security Clusters with a focus on parts of the country affected by ongoing conflict and population movement. The overarching objective is to revitalize the functioning of these clusters and thereby improve joint responses to food security needs.
6. Two previous budget revisions extended the operation by one year (to 29 February 2016) in order to provide a continued forum for discussion on the efficient use of resources, building of synergies, evidence-based identification of priorities, beneficiary targeting and sharing of information with a wide range of stakeholders, as well as to make minor technical adjustments to the budget.
7. To date, this Special Operation has enabled regular coordination meetings and increased Cluster membership at both the national and sub-national levels. It has supported the strengthening of information management through the establishment of an online information tool, and increased members' capacities in food security assessment through trainings. The latter have included specific events relating to assessment methodologies, Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) analysis, data analysis, information management, the use of cash-based transfers and protection mainstreaming. The Cluster additionally facilitated various multi-sectoral assessments led by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), notably in North and South Kivu and Katanga, following new population displacements. Furthermore, the Cluster coordinated closely with the RRPM on joint interventions providing food and non-food assistance in such cases.
8. The humanitarian situation in DRC remains precarious and fragile. Mounting political tensions are expected as the country approaches the next presidential and legislative elections planned for November/December 2016. There is a real and credible risk that large parts of the country will experience intensified conflict and violence. In this context, strong response coordination through the Food Security Cluster will continue to be required to effectively assist affected populations.



9. A sizeable contribution to the operation was confirmed only in October of 2015. Owing to its late receipt, not all funds have been expended in support of planned Cluster activities. With currently available funding, clusters in Lubumbashi and Goma have been maintained.
10. This budget revision will enable a second planned IPC exercise to be conducted during the extension period which will be crucial in providing updated food security data for response planning purposes (only one of an expected two was undertaken in 2015 owing to then limited funding).
11. As co-lead, WFP will continue to partner with FAO in the implementation of cluster activities such as food security monitoring and maintaining the cluster information management system. During the period of the budget revision, with support from FAO, WFP will conduct training on market and food security analysis, facilitate food security cluster meetings and continue to support the market monitoring system.
12. During the extension period, WFP will launch the mobile Vulnerability Analysis Mapping (mVAM) platform to reinforce data collection and information management systems. mVAM uses mobile technology for remote food security data collection and market prices via text messages or placing voice calls to the phones of survey respondents, instead of face-to-face interviews through simple questionnaires. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be signed between WFP and the Prime Minister's Office to provide the mVAM service.
13. The extension will additionally allow for the roll-out of a comprehensive information management system already under development, and the completion of standards on the harmonized use of cash-based transfers in food security responses in the country in partnership with the Norwegian Refugee Council.