

Format for Information Note of IR-EMOP Project Document-Delegation of Authority to the Country Director

TO: Calum GARDNER, Chief, RMBB **DATE:** 21 October 2016

FROM: Angela CESPEDES, Country Director, The Gambia

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IMMEDIATE RESPONSE EMERGENCY OPERATION
GAMBIA -201036 _ Targeted support to floods and windstorm affected households

PART 1: INFORMATION NOTE

NATURE OF EMERGENCY: life-saving support to affected households

1. **Location:** Various locations in West Coast Region (WCR), Lower River Region (LRR), North Bank Region (NBR), Central River Region (CRR) and Upper River Regions (URR).
2. **Cause:** Windstorms, heavy rainfalls and flooding.
3. **Effects:** The effect of the windstorm, heavy rainfalls and flooding since mid-August have been causing damages to infrastructure and livelihoods, as well as population displacement and casualties. There is risk of deteriorated food insecurity and malnutrition particularly among children under 5 in the affected areas. Malnutrition rates¹ are higher than the national average in half of the LGAs visited. Agricultural activities were also impacted due to submerged rice fields and farmland in some areas.
4. **Total numbers affected and in need of emergency food assistance:** The latest available figures (as of September 29th 2016) from the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) indicate that approximately 10,000 people were affected. These include all disaster incidents experienced in the regions following the August 22nd heavy rains, flooding and windstorm. Of the total affected, 26% are children under 5 years; 33% are between the ages of 6-17; 36% are between the ages of 18 - 65; 5% are over 65 years. It was observed that the adolescent group was particularly vulnerable to the loss of shelter.

¹ 2015 SMART Survey

WFP IR EMOP:

5. Justification for an immediate response, expected impact: In August 2016, heavy rains coupled with wind storms and flash floods damaged food stocks, livelihood, property, infrastructure, schools, drinking water systems, hectares of rice and other food crops. The damages are recorded all over the country. All gender and age groups were affected. Children under 5 years of age were the most affected, as they make up at least 26 percent of the affected population. The most affected regions in the country are West Coast and the central River regions. Initial assessments were conducted by NDMA regional structures and shared with humanitarian partners. This was followed by a rapid assessment by UN, Government and NGOs. According to this rapid joint Multi-sectoral Impact assessment² report, an estimated 10,000 individuals are affected and are in need of food for at least the next 3 months. Without support, the food and nutrition situation of the affected population is likely to deteriorate as they deal with the impact of the shock from the damage caused by the disaster. WFP intends to implement cash based transfers, since food markets are functioning normally and food commodities are available.

The main livelihoods of the interviewed households include subsistence farming (cassava, rice, maize) and cash cropping (groundnuts), horticultural production (for both cash and subsistence), livestock rearing (mostly small ruminants) in the rural areas (LRR, NBR, CRR, URR and parts of WCR). The main livelihood activities in the urban areas for the majority of the affected households were petty trading and artisanal craftsmanship. In the rural and urban areas, poverty and food insecurity are higher among households who depend on the above livelihood activities such as subsistence farming, petty trading and artisanal craftsmanship. In the rural regions, women farmers, most of whom are engaged in rice, groundnut and vegetable production are highly vulnerable to food insecurity as their fields have been reported to be either submerged, washed away or affected by too much rain water. Communities and households interviewed both in rural and urban areas reported that staple food prices are higher than in the previous year's, thus increasing the burden of meeting their food security needs. Households' responses to questions on available food stocks for consumption vary from a few days up to three months and all the households interviewed asked for immediate food assistance. Affected communities and households have also raised concerns of depleted food coping mechanisms as they balance the prioritization of rebuilding places of dwelling and food needs of the affected families. The Gambia Government through the NDMA has requested for food assistance for the affected populations impacted by the windstorm, heavy rains and flooding. Humanitarian partners were requested to support the most vulnerable segments of the affected populations. As the PRRO 200557 doesn't have activities for unconditional assistance, an IR-EMOP that will allow for rapid response is necessary.

6. Duration of assistance (maximum three months): 25 October 2016- 22 January 2017
Food assistance in the form of cash based transfers will be provided for 90-days.

7. Number of beneficiaries and location: 10,000 (800 households) in Banjul, Kanifing, West Coast Region, Lower River Region, Central River Region, North Bank Region and Upper River Region. The national average people per household is 8. However, actual number of persons per household as registered in SCOPE will be supported as there are regional variations in household sizes.

Table 1. Number of households and location:

Categories	Location	Male	Female	Total
Flood, Windstorm affected households	Banjul, Kanifing, WCR, LRR, NBR, CRR and URR	4,800	5,200	10,000

8. Food basket composition and ration levels: Monthly general cash assistance will be provided to the affected households for three months. A transfer value of \$0.32 per person per day sufficient to provide 2100 Kcals per person/month will be provided. The transfer value was calculated based on the latest market prices for the main food staples consumed by the populations affected by the disaster. Households are currently employing alternative, though limited, coping strategies to face the food gap, such as borrowing, and reducing quality of meals.

Total food assistance requirements (US\$):

Commodity	Transfer value (\$)
Cash	287,170
Kcal requirements met	2100

9. Mode of implementation: Cash based transfers is the preferred modality of implementation for the 3 months intervention. Immediate cash on site will be provided to the beneficiaries through a financial service providers currently on the Country Office vendor list such as Gambia Teachers Union Commonwealth Credit Union (GTUCCU) and Reliance Financial Services. SCOPE will be used in the beneficiary registration and management of transfers. WFP's response is part of a joint effort that includes government, UN and NGOs. Experience and lessons learnt from four cash based transfer activities since 2012 will guide the implementation for this response. In terms of capacity, the CO will request assistance from RB CBT unit to augment existing Country Office capacity in setting up and kick starting implementation of the cash base transfer activities. The CO has financial service providers on our vendor list who could rapid activate and provided the required cash delivery services. The Country Office will work with the government and other partners (including financial service providers) to implement this immediate response at the regional levels. At Central and regional levels, WFP will be coordinating with the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA), as well as with other UN Agencies and humanitarian partners who will be responding to the disaster. Capacities of NDMA structures stakeholders were developed during similar responses in the past (2012 – 2015) and sharing of responsibilities will further develop their capacities to serve in similar crisis in the future. WFP will handle the responsibility for the delivery of cash up to the beneficiaries and monitoring of the distribution process in collaboration with the regional structures.

PART 2: EMOP BUDGET

Cost Components			USD
Food Tool	MT	Rate/mt	
<i>enter commodity type</i>			0
<i>enter commodity type</i>			0
<i>enter commodity type</i>			0
<i>enter commodity type</i>			0
<i>enter commodity type</i>			0
<i>enter commodity type</i>			0
<i>enter commodity type</i>			0
Total Food Transfers	0		0
External Transport			0
LTSH			0
ODOC Food			0
Total Food DOC			\$ 0
Cash and Voucher Tool		% of Trfs	
Total Cash and Vouchers Transfers			287,170
C&V Related costs		7%	21,373
Total C&V DOC			\$ 308,543
Capacity Development & Augmentation Tool			
Total CD&A DOC			\$
Total Direct Operating Costs (DOC)			\$ 0
Direct Support Cost (DSC)			81,481
Total WFP direct project costs			390,024
Indirect Support Costs (ISC)		7%	\$ 27,302
TOTAL WFP COSTS			\$ 417,326

Please ensure formulas are updated by selecting the entire table and pressing F9.

PART 3: EMOP APPROVAL

1) IRA funding is available to cover EMOP budget

Chief, RMBB: Calum GARDNER, Date: --/--/----

2) EMOP is approved

Country Director, Gambia: Angela CESPEDES , Date: --/--/----