



World Food Programme

Decision Memorandum

To:	Mr. Jim Harvey Chief of Staff, OED	Date: 22 December 2015
Through:	Mr. Ramiro Lopes da Silva Assistant Executive Director, OS	
	Mr. Finbarr Curran Director Budget and Programming Division, RMB	
From:	Stefano Porretti Director of Emergencies, OSE	

Subject:	Regional Bureau Bangkok request for funds allocation from the Immediate Response Account (IRA) for Special Preparedness Activities in Papua New Guinea
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Issue

The purpose of this memorandum is to request your approval for an allocation of US\$ 250,395 to support Regional Bureau Bangkok's (RBB) special preparedness activities in Papua New Guinea.

Background

Papua New Guinea (PNG) is experiencing drought conditions caused by the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) phenomenon, which is seriously disrupting food production and livelihoods in PNG.

There is no WFP Country Office in PNG. Lessons learned during the WFP Vanuatu cyclone response in 2015 and Solomon Island floods in 2014 indicate proactive engagement is required in order to develop productive in-country relationships, to facilitate coordination and technical support to the ongoing response, and to undertake core preparedness actions in view of the possibility that international food assistance is requested.

Recent reports from IOM and other organisations on the ground have indicated that reduced local food supply and incomes along with escalating food prices have exacerbated food insecurity. Poor populations living in rural areas have experienced significant changes to their diet.

In this context RBB fielded a scoping mission to PNG in October-November 2015. The mission recommended that a WFP presence should be established in Papua New Guinea.

The objective of this IR-PREP project is to support a WFP presence in early 2016, for 1.5 months, with a focus on preparedness activities, delivered through sectorial coordination mechanisms such as the Food Security and Logistics Clusters.

Activities, agreed upon with the Government of Papua New Guinea, are:

1. Establishment of sectorial coordination mechanisms at national and where necessary provincial levels – In Food Security and Emergency Logistics sectors, introduce tools and services, including:



- i) Mapping of existing actors and gaps;
 - ii) Sectorial response planning and coordination;
 - iii) Situation reports and updates - relaying consolidated information on the ongoing response;
 - iv) Advocacy, consultation and liaison with major donors to identify, plan and allocate resources to respond to existing needs.
2. Support to national assessment and analysis - this will include consolidation of results from assessments done to date, and, development of future assessments and monitoring systems to track food insecurity.
 3. Operational guidance and planning for scaled-up food operations - To include geographic prioritisation, food tonnages and logistics corridor scenarios to facilitate, resource mobilisation and implementation.
 4. Specialised support to the National Disaster Centre and Provincial Disaster Coordinators, relevant government departments, NGOs and private sector actors - to buttress response capacity at the provincial level, where weaknesses have been identified, the following will need to be identified:
 - i) key constraints and bottlenecks to response;
 - ii) available national capacities to address constraints. And;
 - iii) a list of additional WFP services available (resources permitting).

The duration of this project will be for 2 months (1 January 2016 to 29 February 2016). The detailed request from RBB and the budget for preparedness activities are attached.

Recommendation

In view of the above, that this project focuses on strengthening capacities, enhancing readiness, and improving the appropriateness and effectiveness of a timely response, and, having verified that the request conforms to relevant rules, it is recommended that an IRA allocation of US\$ 250,395, including ISC, be approved to support these special preparedness activities. Currently there is a balance of US\$ 2,000,000 in the IRA account for Specific Disaster Preparedness Activities.

Decision by the Chief of Staff, OED:

Approve: _____
Disapprove: _____
Discuss with me: _____
Date: _____