



World Food Programme

Memorandum

To: Denise Brown,
Director of Emergencies

Date: 2 Oct 2016

From: Carlos Veloso
Country Director, a.i., Haiti

Subject: Request for funds allocation from the Immediate Response Account (IRA) for Special Preparedness Activity (IR-PREP 201031)

PART 1: INFORMATION NOTE

RATIONALE:

Hurricane Matthew, the most powerful Caribbean storm in a decade, churned towards Haiti Sunday October 2nd. Briefly a furious Category 5 storm at the top of the 1-5 Saffir-Simpson scale on September 30th, Matthew has now weakened into a still dangerous Category 4 hurricane. That makes it the strongest Caribbean storm since Hurricane Felix in 2007. The hurricane is forecast to dump 15 to 25 inches of rain over southern Haiti, with possible isolated maximum amounts of 40 inches. This rainfall will likely produce life-threatening flash floods and mud slides. Haiti is the poorest country in the Americas, home to almost 11 million people, many living in fragile housing. The Haitian Government increased the alert level from orange to the maximum red on October 2nd. WFP Haiti is preparing to support one month of response activities to cover the potential relief needs of Haitians affected by hurricane Matthew in line with its PRRO objective to support Government interventions to save lives, meet food needs, and enhance food consumption and dietary diversity of the most vulnerable and food insecure populations affected by natural disasters.

Current predictions are that the departments of the South, Southwest, Grande Anse and Northwest will be the most affected. WFP's request for funding preparedness activities will be used to deploy international and national staff in each of these departments (4 staff per department), to provide coordination and support in Port-au-Prince (4 staff), to provide transportation and communications for the additional staff, to conduct immediate emergency assessments (EFSA 72hour) and to provide logistics support for transporting and warehousing NFIs for other agencies.

WFP's immediate response to food insecurity will be met with commodities already funded under the preparedness/response component of PRRO 200618, ie. we have

cc:
Regional Director, Panama
Chief, OMEP
Director, OSZ
Chief, RMBP
Chief, RMBB

approximately 3,500mt of mixed commodities to feed 300,000 people for 1 month. In the one month period after the hurricane hits, additional beneficiary needs will be known and a longer term response will be formulated.

IRA AMOUNT REQUESTED: US\$ 299,806.51

WFP has already been approached by OFDA/USAID and there are favorable signs that they will provide funding for a response.

DURATION OF THE ACTIVITY: 1 month

JUSTIFICATION:

For several hours Matthew became a Category 5 storm -- the highest on the 1-5 Saffir-Simpson scale. Matthew remains a still-dangerous Category 4, the strongest to hit the Caribbean since Hurricane Felix in 2007. WFP relief assistance in response to the hurricane season is planned under PRRO 200618 for 300,000 people each year based on past emergencies. However, the intensity and path of hurricane Matthew is predicted to have a very wide geographical impact, directly hitting four departments with a total population of 2.6 million people, many living in fragile housing. Therefore the estimated people who might be in need of assistance exceed the PRRO's expectation and WFP needs to prepare for a larger response.

PART 2: DETAILED BUDGET

Attach the budget estimate using the standard SO Project Budget Plan Format.