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Reports of the Executive Director on
Operational Matters

For information

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**Development Projects Approved by the Executive Director
(1 January–31 December 2016) – El Salvador 200932**

*Cooperativism, Resilience and Markets: Promoting access to markets
for resilient smallholder farmers*

Number of beneficiaries	7,000
Duration of project	1 February 2016–31 January 2018
Gender marker code*	2A
Cost (United States dollars)	
Cash-based transfers and related costs	469,520
Capacity development and augmentation	1,958,325
Total cost to WFP	2,969,258

* <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/system/files/documents/files/gm-overview-en.pdf>

Abstract

1. El Salvador is one of the countries most affected by climate change. It ranks 14th in the 2016 Global Climate Risk Index and 10th in the 2015 World Risk Report. The country has been hit by four subsequent droughts over the last four years. While the Government addresses the resulting food and nutrition insecurity with humanitarian funds and WFP support, these short-term interventions cannot adequately tackle the structural problems that result in the population's high vulnerability.
2. This development project responds to the Government's request to work with the communities on the structural causes of their vulnerability to climate change and to support the adjustment of rural livelihoods to enhance the resilience of the population. Guided by the corporate resilience policy, this development project will function as a two-year bridge enabling WFP to implement resilience-building activities until the approval of the country strategic plan, which will include resilience as one of its pillars.

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3. The development project addresses Strategic Objective 3 of WFP's Strategic Plan 2014–2017 and is aligned to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 while also contributing to SDGs 1, 12 and 13. It supports communities in the eastern departments of the country, where severe droughts have led to high levels of food insecurity.
4. Through this development project, WFP will introduce climate change adaptation practices, such as increased rainwater capture, use of efficient small-scale irrigation technology, soil conservation and the diversification of production systems. This will reduce smallholder producers' dependence on the increasingly erratic rainfall and allow them a stable income even in times of moderate drought.
5. WFP will coordinate its activities with the central government, local authorities and civil society and align them with ongoing programmes. WFP will partner with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture to implement activities with a focus on agricultural production, including training for women who participate in farmer field schools of the Government's *Ciudad Mujer* programme.
6. The global food for assets impact evaluation and the decentralized operational review on El Salvador cash-based transfers informed the design of the development project. WFP also builds on the experience and lessons learnt from the implementation of purchase-for-progress activities and the subsequent trust fund 200815 (ProFarmers) to develop community stores for the marketing of smallholders' produce.