

**Executive Board  
Second Regular Session**

Rome, 14–17 November 2011

## **COUNTRY PROGRAMMES**

### **Agenda item 8**

*For approval on a  
no-objection basis*

**E**

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## **COUNTRY PROGRAMME LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC 200242 (2012–2015)**

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## **NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**This document is submitted to the Executive Board for approval on a no-objection basis**

The Secretariat invites members of the Board who may have questions of a technical nature with regard to this document to contact the WFP staff focal points indicated below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting.

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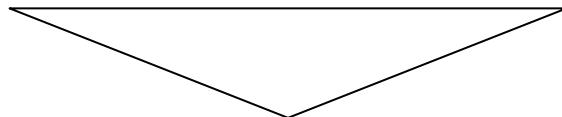
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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic has set ambitious targets of transitioning into a middle-income country by 2020, while achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. Although it has experienced strong economic growth over the past two decades, the country is not yet on track to meet the Millennium Development Goals' hunger target or to address more broadly undernutrition. Wasting among children under 5 has reached 18 percent in one province, the national stunting rate is 40 percent, and micronutrient deficiencies such as anaemia affect more than 40 percent of children.

The Government has recognized the importance of addressing undernutrition in order to achieve its development goals. National policies and frameworks offer the opportunity to take concerted action. WFP's new country strategy aims to support government efforts to reduce wasting, stunting and micronutrient deficiencies. This country programme will implement the strategy through five components that will reach 751,000 beneficiaries over four years:

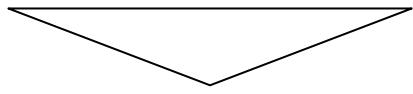
- i) Emergency preparedness and response;
- ii) Mother-and-child health and nutrition;
- iii) School meals;
- iv) Livelihood initiatives for nutrition; and
- v) Food fortification and marketing.

Component 1 focuses on strengthening the Government's capacity at the national, provincial and district levels to prepare for and respond to emergencies. Components 2, 3, and 4 address stunting through an innovative five-step approach involving: problem analysis, awareness raising, nutrition education, opportunities for action, and follow-up and celebration. Under Component 5, technical support will be provided for food fortification with a view to reducing micronutrient deficiencies. Specific criteria for hand-over to the Government or market sustainability will be applied under each Component.

The country programme is in line with the Government's Seventh National Socio-Economic Development Plan (2011–2015) and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (2012–2015), and supports the achievement of Millennium Development Goal 1 – Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger. It responds to the recommendations of the 2009 country portfolio evaluation and contributes to WFP's Strategic Objective 2, 4 and 5.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Strategic Objective 2 – Prevent acute hunger [...]; Strategic Objective 4 – Reduce chronic hunger and undernutrition; Strategic Objective 5 – Strengthen the capacity of countries to reduce hunger, including through hand-over strategies and local purchase.

## DRAFT DECISION\*



The Board approves on a no-objection basis country programme Lao People's Democratic Republic 200242 (2012–2015), (WFP/EB.2/2011/8/6), with a food requirement of 37,140 mt at a cost of US\$36.9 million, and a cash and voucher requirement of US\$1.2 million, for a total cost to WFP of US\$68.9 million.

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\* This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Board, please refer to the Decisions and Recommendations document issued at the end of the session.

## SITUATION ANALYSIS

1. The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic has set ambitious targets of transitioning into a middle-income country by 2020 and achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. Substantial progress has been made towards these aims: over the past two decades, the economy has grown rapidly without a significant increase in inequality.<sup>2</sup> Between 1990 and 2008, the annual growth rate averaged between 6 and 7 percent.<sup>3</sup> The MDG targets for reducing poverty, decreasing child mortality and halting the spread of malaria and tuberculosis are likely to be met. With almost 80 percent of the population employed in the agricultural sector,<sup>3</sup> the country has recently achieved self-sufficiency in rice.
2. Despite these achievements, the country is “off track”<sup>4</sup> for reaching the MDG 1 hunger target<sup>5</sup> and addressing undernutrition more broadly. In particular, it faces high rates of wasting, stunting and micronutrient deficiencies.
3. The national wasting rate among children under 5 is 6 percent,<sup>6</sup> which in itself is not alarming. However, in some locations and at specific times, wasting has reached emergency levels. In 2010, the province of Attapeu had a global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate of 19 percent, which exceeded the “critical” threshold of 15 percent set by the World Health Organization (WHO). In Saravanh and Savannakhet provinces, GAM was above the 10 percent “serious” threshold.
4. The Lao People's Democratic Republic is currently a politically stable country, but natural disasters often trigger crises. Floods, storms and droughts have occurred in recent years, partly caused by climate change. The Mekong River and mountain waterways experienced serious flooding in 2008; typhoon Ketsana struck in 2009; and dry spells affected the harvest in 2010. These natural disasters lead to extensive crop damage and when combined with high disease and pest burdens, can have serious impacts on nutrition.
5. The national average prevalence of stunting is 40 percent, which is “critical” by WHO standards. Upland populations have even higher rates, sometimes exceeding 60 percent.<sup>7</sup> Stunting is directly caused by inadequate food, poor care practices and diseases associated with poor hygiene and sanitation, especially during the first 1,000 days from pregnancy to 23 months.<sup>8</sup> As a result of the high stunting rates, over half the children in rural areas will

<sup>2</sup> The Gini coefficient is 0.37.

<sup>3</sup> United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). 2009. *National Human Development Report: Employment and Livelihoods*. Vientiane.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific/Asian Development Bank /UNDP. 2010. Paths to 2015: MDG Priorities in Asia and the Pacific 2010/11. Available at [http://content.undp.org/go/cms-service/stream/asset/?asset\\_id=2784969](http://content.undp.org/go/cms-service/stream/asset/?asset_id=2784969)

<sup>5</sup> Target 1.C – Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.

<sup>6</sup> Ministry of Health. 2009. National Nutrition Strategy and Plan of Action. Vientiane.

<sup>7</sup> WFP. 2007. Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis, Lao People's Democratic Republic. Vientiane.

<sup>8</sup> In a 2010 study, 43 percent of children had been ill in the previous two weeks. National Institute of Public Health. 2010. Nutritional Assessment in 2008–2009 of Flood and Typhoon Ketsana-Affected Provinces of Lao People's Democratic Republic. Vientiane.

never grow to their full physical or mental potential. It is estimated that between 2005 and 2010, stunting resulted in productivity losses of US\$166 million.<sup>9</sup>

6. The underlying causes of stunting are related to cultural, educational and geographic factors that limit people's knowledge or means to consume an adequate diet or protect their health. The Lao People's Democratic Republic has one of the most diverse populations in the world, with 49 officially recognized ethnic groups and over 200 languages. While this diversity is a strength, cultural differences often translate into views on care practices and appropriate foods that are not nutritionally sound. For instance, certain groups believe that women should only eat white foods such as rice and salt after giving birth, while others feel that it is appropriate to feed infants chewed rice,<sup>10</sup> or that illness is caused by bad spirits.
7. A lack of education limits many people's knowledge and means to address stunting. Over 50 percent of heads of household have not finished primary education.<sup>5</sup> Ethnic minorities tend to have less education than the majority Lao-Tai group. In the Sino-Tibetan ethnic group, which has the highest rate of stunting, 66 percent of heads of household and 89 percent of spouses have had no schooling. Primary school enrolment of girls in rural areas ranges between 49 and 72 percent; the primary completion rate is 62 percent. The dropout rate reaches 17 percent in some areas, posing a further challenge. Almost one third of 12-year-olds who did not pursue their studies beyond fifth grade mentioned financial burden as the main obstacle to continuing their education.<sup>11</sup> This lack of education, especially among women, affects people's knowledge of undernutrition while also limiting their livelihood opportunities – and therefore their means – to address the problem.
8. The country's terrain can be divided into two zones: the fertile, surplus-food producing lowlands along the Mekong River and the remote, mountainous uplands, where 70 percent of the population lives in scattered villages. In the surplus-producing areas, households have adequate amounts of rice, but they do not necessarily have the knowledge or income to improve the quality of their diets. In the food-insecure areas, inadequate nutrition is compounded by unexploded ordnance from the Second Indochina War. The Lao People's Democratic Republic is the world's most heavily bombed country per capita, with two thirds of its land area contaminated, mainly in the mountainous east. This situation limits crop production, animal husbandry and other livelihood activities.
9. Over 40 percent of children under 5 and 63 percent of children under 2 suffer from iron deficiency anaemia,<sup>12</sup> posing a serious public health problem. Almost 45 percent of children under 5 and 23 percent of women between 12 and 49 years suffer from vitamin A deficiency, and in some areas, up to 20 percent of the population lacks sufficient iodine intake. These micronutrient deficiencies contribute to stunting and wasting in children, and can lead to problems with motor and cognitive development, eyesight, immunity and mental ability.

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<sup>9</sup> Cited in United Nations in Lao People's Democratic Republic blog:  
<http://www.unlao.org/Blog/?tag=/national+science+council>

<sup>10</sup> Holmes, W., Hoy, D., Lockley, A., Tammavongxay, K., Bouannaphol, S. , Xeuatvongsa, A. and Toole, M. 2007. Influences on maternal and child nutrition in the highlands of northern Laos. *Asia Pac. J. Clin. Nutr.*, 16(3): 537–545.

<sup>11</sup> The Government of Lao People's Democratic Republic and the United Nations. 2008. *Millennium Development Progress Report*. Vientiane.

<sup>12</sup> Ministry of Health. 2009. National Nutrition Strategy and Plan of Action. Vientiane.

10. The poor diversity of diets contributes to micronutrient deficiencies. The staple food is sticky rice, and there is limited consumption of meat, fat and dairy products.<sup>7</sup> Poorer households may eat meat – an important source of iron – only once or twice a month.<sup>10</sup> While vegetables are consumed more frequently, they are only seasonally available. Fat, which is necessary for absorbing micronutrients, is included in some ethnic groups' meals only once per week.
11. In the past, the Government has equated food insecurity with rice production. However, as a result of advocacy efforts by WFP and other stakeholders, it has now prioritized nutrition and developed policies for addressing undernutrition. The Seventh National Socio-Economic Development Plan (2011–2015), the principal document outlining the government's development priorities, contains a section on health and nutrition, and provides clear targets for reducing undernutrition by 2015. The National Nutrition Policy and the National Nutrition Strategy and Plan of Action (2010–2015) provide a framework for nutrition activities. However, the Government has requested assistance from international organizations to implement them.
12. The United Nations country team collaborates on nutrition activities to support the Government's efforts. Nutrition is also a focus of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (2012–2015) (UNDAF). The Lao People's Democratic Republic is home to one of just two pilots in the world for the REACH partnership between the Government, United Nations agencies, NGOs, the private sector and civil society to combat child malnutrition.

## PAST COOPERATION AND LESSONS LEARNED

13. WFP started work in the Lao People's Democratic Republic in 2000, and its experience since then has informed the development of this country programme (CP). In the past five years, WFP has implemented a protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO), a food-for-work (FFW) project and a school feeding project.
14. A mid-term review of the PRRO found that the activities were “relevant and generally responding to the needs of the most vulnerable”.<sup>13</sup> However, more could be done to address malnutrition given the high levels of stunting, including promoting dietary diversity, offering community-based nutrition and health training, and placing greater emphasis on agricultural schemes. A more nutritionally balanced food basket was also required.
15. Evaluations of the FFW project presented a mixed record. Targeting was identified as a weakness: too many project villages were close to towns instead of in more food-insecure rural areas. Asset-creation efforts linked to constructing or rehabilitating access roads and expanding paddies were seen as effective in enhancing food security, while fish ponds, tree planting and other activities were less successful. A cash-transfer pilot using the postal system as a delivery mechanism showed promise for expansion.
16. A review of the school feeding project in 2009 recommended a reduction in the size of take-home rations in order to align WFP's activities with the Government's plans for a more affordable national programme.

<sup>13</sup> WFP country office. 2008. Mid-term review of PRRO 105660 “Assistance to Food-Insecure Households affected by Multiple Livelihood Shocks”. Vientiane.

17. In 2009, WFP carried out a country portfolio evaluation<sup>14</sup> of all its activities based on consultations with stakeholders. The report expressed concern about the fragmentation of activities and implementation structure, and emphasized the importance of establishing a unifying goal for WFP's efforts in the country. It highlighted the need to work with partners on providing technical inputs and the value of considering ethnicity in programme design. The evaluators recommended maintaining leadership in hunger analysis, developing a strong monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system and creating a sustainable funding model.

## STRATEGIC FOCUS OF THE COUNTRY PROGRAMME

18. Based on consultations with the Government and lessons learned from previous interventions, WFP's country strategy 2011–2015 focuses on reducing undernutrition and its impacts on individual and national development. In line with the National Socio-Economic Development Plan 2011–2015 and the UNDAF 2012–2015, the priorities are: i) preventing and reducing wasting; ii) reducing stunting; and iii) addressing micronutrient deficiencies.
19. These priorities and WFP's Strategic Objectives 2, 4 and 5 are addressed through the CP's five components:
- Component 1 – Emergency preparedness and response (Strategic Objective 2);
  - Component 2 – Mother-and-child health and nutrition (Strategic Objective 4);
  - Component 3 – School meals (Strategic Objective 4);
  - Component 4 – Livelihood initiatives for nutrition (Strategic Objectives 4 and 5); and
  - Component 5 – Food fortification and marketing (Strategic Objective 4).
20. Component 1 contributes to broader efforts to prevent wasting; components 2, 3 and 4 help to reduce stunting; and Component 5 focuses on reducing micronutrient deficiencies.
21. Under components 2, 3 and 4, WFP will take an integrated approach to addressing undernutrition through five steps to ensure that beneficiaries have the knowledge and means to reduce stunting: i) problem analysis; ii) awareness raising; iii) nutrition education; iv) action; and v) follow-up and celebration.
22. **Problem analysis.** WFP will carry out assessments to determine levels of stunting and the underlying causes in each targeted area using vulnerability analysis and mapping tools combined with participatory approaches. The analysis will take into account the different contexts and cultural differences between ethnic groups.
23. **Awareness raising.** Once the scope of the problem is identified, WFP and partners will raise communities' awareness about the issue and its impacts. The awareness campaign will involve songs, slogans, community champions, radio talk shows and dance events.
24. **Nutrition education.** Once awareness of stunting is raised, nutrition education will be provided using WFP's participatory Feeding the Future nutrition education package, which helps villagers to learn the basics of nutrition through games, role plays, cooking

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<sup>14</sup> "Summary Evaluation Report Lao People's Democratic Republic Country Portfolio" (WFP/EB.2/2009/6-F).

demonstrations and informal quizzes.<sup>15</sup> Nutrition education will be tailored to the needs of each ethnic group and offered in local languages by Ministry of Health and NGO staff.

25. **Action.** Once communities are knowledgeable about nutrition problems, WFP will implement activities designed to assist them in improving nutrition. These include mother-and-child health and nutrition (MCHN) interventions, school meals and livelihood initiatives that contribute to improved nutrition (see components 2, 3 and 4 below).
26. **Follow up and celebration.** As communities participate in activities, WFP will follow up to celebrate successes and adjust programmes to address weaknesses. Growth will be monitored regularly, and a strong M&E system will be put in place. Awards will be given to communities that have been successful in reducing undernutrition.
27. The activities will be concentrated in the six provinces of Luang Namtha, Oudomxay and Luang Prabang in the north, and Saravane, Sekong and Attapeu in the south.<sup>16</sup> These provinces were selected based on: i) high levels of stunting, micronutrient deficiencies and in some cases wasting; ii) location of government priority districts; and iii) the need to concentrate activities for greater impact.

## **Component 1 – Emergency Preparedness and Response**

28. With an increase in natural disasters that are partly attributable to climate change, the country will continue to face emergencies. WFP will directly respond through emergency operations. However, capacity development efforts will strengthen the Government's ability to address small-scale emergencies.
29. The Government has taken important steps to strengthen its capacity to respond to disasters by establishing a National Disaster Management Office and co-chairing the Inter-Agency Standing Committee for Humanitarian Response. However, it has also indicated that its capacity for emergency preparedness and response needs to be reinforced. WFP will offer comprehensive training and technical support to strengthen the Government's ability to identify, plan for and respond to emergencies.<sup>17</sup>
30. WFP will coordinate with other United Nations agencies and international NGOs including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), WHO, Oxfam and RedR International. By the end of the CP, it is envisioned that most disasters affecting less than 5,000 people will be handled by the Government, in collaboration with NGOs if necessary.

## **Component 2 – Mother-and-Child Health and Nutrition**

31. Mother-and-child health and nutrition activities will target pregnant and lactating women, and their infants to ensure that they receive the required nutrients and care during the critical 1,000-day period from pregnancy to 23 months of age, when stunting mainly occurs. In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, a ration of rice and Nutributter® will be provided to pregnant and lactating women. The ration will serve as an incentive for mothers to receive ante- and post-natal checkups, and enable them to meet their caloric and

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<sup>15</sup> WFP will also explore the possibility of conducting courses on hunger at the university level.

<sup>16</sup> Purchase for Progress activities will also be carried out in parts of the three central provinces of Bolikhamsai, Khammouane and Savannakhet. The current school meals activity in Phongsaly in the north will eventually be phased out as WFP concentrates its efforts. Areas of focus are subject to change based on agreements with the Government.

<sup>17</sup> This includes training on the integrated management of acute malnutrition.

micronutrient requirements. For children 6–23 months, ready-to-use food such as Plumpy’doz® will be delivered by village health teams on a monthly basis.

32. In many areas, these activities will be part of joint MCHN programmes with UNICEF, WHO, the United Nations Population Fund and the Ministry of Health. WFP will progressively hand over MCHN activities to the Ministry of Health based on the existing MCHN policy and four criteria: i) demonstrated results in reducing stunting; ii) committed government funds; iii) availability of low-cost, locally produced ready-to-use food (see Component 5); and iv) government staff capacity, developed through training and practical experience.

### **Component 3 – School Meals**

33. Interventions for school-age children aim to break the inter-generational cycle of undernutrition. WFP will combine a mid-morning snack for children ages 2 to 5 and primary school students with nutrition-related messages. There will also be a rations and nutrition-related information package for informal boarders<sup>18</sup> at primary and secondary schools. These packages, directed especially at girls and ethnic minorities, will: i) enhance enrolment and attendance in assisted schools; ii) reduce stunting among children ages 2 to 5 by meeting their immediate energy, vitamin and mineral requirements;<sup>19</sup> and iii) enable students to access the knowledge and means to prevent stunting among their own children in the future (long-term impact).<sup>20</sup>
34. Hand-over to a government-led school meals programme has been planned in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, the World Bank and UNICEF; the Government has received funding from the World Bank’s Fast Track Initiative for education. The first steps, which include starting a home-grown school feeding programme, will be completed by early 2012. WFP will support the Ministry of Education in identifying qualified staff to lead the programme and serve as resources during implementation. As the Government takes over the school meals component in some districts, WFP will expand activities to additional areas. The speed of the transfer will depend upon: i) the Government’s logistics, procurement and programming capacities; ii) the impact of hand-over on student enrolment; and iii) the transparency of implementation. Clear performance indicators will be set for each of these criteria, and regular reviews involving government, WFP and other relevant stakeholders will be held to assess progress. As a complement to these efforts, WFP will ensure that the handed-over locations are part of the Government’s “schools of quality” initiative.

### **Component 4 – Livelihood Initiatives for Nutrition**

35. For adults, WFP will identify nutrition-related livelihood initiatives. In rice-surplus areas, Purchase for Progress (P4P) activities will focus on increasing smallholder production,<sup>21</sup> improving access to markets and providing nutrition education. With increased incomes and awareness of good nutrition, households will be better able to meet their children’s nutritional needs.

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<sup>18</sup> Informal boarders are students who live in unofficial dormitories at schools far from home.

<sup>19</sup> This includes a reduction in micronutrient deficiencies such as anaemia.

<sup>20</sup> For a summary of the evidence, see WFP. 2006. *World Hunger Series 2006: Hunger and Learning*. Rome.

<sup>21</sup> The project will explore the possibility of introducing bio-fortified varieties that are rich in micronutrient content.

36. In food-deficit areas, WFP will tailor livelihood activities to the nutritional needs of the communities. Activities that could target specific nutrition problems such as lack of dietary diversity, low protein consumption, lack of market access and disease include vegetable gardens, poultry raising, access roads and sanitation projects, respectively.<sup>22</sup> Communities will receive either food rations or cash transfers<sup>23</sup> depending on the outcome of a market analysis.<sup>24</sup> FFW and cash-for-work (CFW) schemes will run in both the January–March dry season and April–September wet season in villages with high stunting rates. Participation will be voluntary, based on self-targeting at the village level.<sup>25</sup>
37. The P4P initiative will include the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), agencies such as the Netherlands Development Organisation and Helvetas, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Given its market-oriented approach, the initiative is expected to be self-sustaining. In food-deficit areas, the initiative will build on partnerships with government projects supported by the International Fund for Agricultural Development. Joint planning and implementation will enhance the capacity of local authorities to lead these efforts. Hand-over criteria will include an assessment of: i) government skills and capacity; ii) budget allocations or other funding sources; and iii) demonstrated results of the programme.

## **Component 5 – Food Fortification and Marketing**

38. There are three principal interventions for addressing micronutrient deficiencies: supplementation, diet diversification and fortification. The Ministry of Health has established supplementation programmes for vitamin A and iron with support from UNICEF and WHO. However, vitamin deficiencies remain unacceptably high, suggesting a need for complementary approaches. The livelihood initiatives for nutrition under Component 4 will address diet diversification as part of a larger effort to reduce stunting.
39. Component 5 will complement these efforts by focusing on product development and market linkages. Possibilities for fortified products include: i) edible-oil plants such as soya; ii) noodles; and iii) low-cost, lipid-based ready-to-use food. WFP will support feasibility studies for these and other possibilities and provide technical support and equipment for the most promising options in collaboration with the private sector, the Government, and international organizations with expertise in micronutrient deficiencies.
40. WFP will also help to link these products to markets. Biofortified rice, edible oil and special nutritional products could be utilized in the CP and for relief interventions. Nutrition awareness and education campaigns may generate demand for these products in the country and regionally.
41. WFP will provide food assistance to 751,000 beneficiaries (see Table 1). Activities will be integrated to maximize collaboration and impact.

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<sup>22</sup> Activities should improve the quality and quantity of beneficiaries' diets as measured through the food consumption score.

<sup>23</sup> In some communities without large food deficits, the activities may be undertaken without providing a food ration or cash transfer; in these cases, the value of the asset will serve as the incentive for participation.

<sup>24</sup> The evaluation of WFP's cash pilot project showed that money was spent on meat and fish, which are good sources of nutrients.

<sup>25</sup> The provincial government sometimes selects households for participation based on "wealth categories" estimated from household ownership of assets such as land or livestock.

**TABLE 1: BENEFICIARIES BY COMPONENT<sup>26</sup>**

	<b>Men/boys</b>	<b>Women/girls</b>	<b>Total</b>
Component 1 – Emergency preparedness and response	-	-	-
Component 2 – MCHN	45 540	108 085	153 625
Component 3 – School meals	197 921	193 949	391 870
Component 4 – Livelihood initiatives for nutrition*	102 171	102 848	205 019
Component 5 – Food fortification and marketing	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL**</b>	<b>345 632</b>	<b>404 882</b>	<b>750 514</b>

\* Approximately 48,000 beneficiaries may receive cash or vouchers under Component 4.

\*\* The total number of beneficiaries has been adjusted to avoid double counting.

42. Rations have been designed based on the nutritional needs of the target beneficiaries, cultural preferences and guidance from the ministries of health and education. If cash transfers are found to be appropriate, their value will be set at 80 percent of the daily wage rate.

**TABLE 2: DAILY FOOD RATION/TRANSFER BY COMPONENT (*g/person/day*)**

	<b>Component 2 MCHN</b>		<b>Component 3 School meals</b>		<b>Component 4 Livelihood initiatives for nutrition</b>	
	<b>Children 6–23 months</b>	<b>Pregnant and lactating women*</b>	<b>Mid- morning snack<sup>27</sup></b>	<b>Boarder rations<sup>28</sup></b>	<b>FFW*</b>	<b>CFW*</b>
Corn-soya blend	-	-	80	80	-	-
Vegetable oil	-	-	15	15	45	-
Sugar	-	-	15	15	-	-
Glutinous rice	-	388.9	-	120	583.3	-
Plumpy'doz®	46.3	-	-	-	-	-
Nutributter®	-	20	-	-	-	-
Cash ( <i>US\$</i> )	-	-	-	-	-	2.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>408.9</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>628.3</b>	-
<b>Total kcal/day</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>1 508</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>929</b>	<b>2 497</b>	-
% Kcal from protein	9.5	8	11.6	19.4	6.5	-
% Kcal from fat	58.0	6.0	35.9	37.2	17.3	-
Number of feeding days	360	180	166	166	30	30

\* Household ration or transfer, calculated on the basis of average family size of six people.

<sup>26</sup> Table 1 includes only beneficiaries receiving food assistance. WFP non-food assistance will benefit an additional 1,950 people under component 1 and 127,000 people under component 5.

<sup>27</sup> To better align with the government model of school feeding, WFP may provide funds to schools for purchase of vegetables and complementary items, and cash incentives for cooks and storekeepers.

<sup>28</sup> It is assumed that parents will provide other food or cash to procure food.

43. The total food requirement is 37,140 mt (see Table 3).

Commodity type/ Cash and voucher	Component 2 MCHN	Component 3 School meals	Component 4 Livelihood initiatives for nutrition		Total
			FFW	CFW	
Corn-soya blend	-	10 238	-	-	10 238
Vegetable oil	-	1 920	588	-	2 508
Sugar	-	1 920	-	-	1 920
Glutinous or non-glutinous rice	4 407	7 858	7 631	-	19 896
Plumpy'doz®	2 351	-	-	-	2 351
Nutributter®	227	-	-	-	227
<b>Total food requirements</b>	<b>6 985</b>	<b>21 936</b>	<b>8 219</b>	-	<b>37 140</b>
<b>Cash (US\$)</b>	-	-	-	<b>1 197 433</b>	<b>1 197 433</b>
<b>% of total requirements</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>22</b>	-	<b>100</b>

## PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

44. *Management.* National and local authorities will guide the interventions. WFP will manage the activities from its country office in Vientiane and six sub-offices using a logistics network that includes a central warehouse in the capital and regional warehouses in Oudomxay and Saravane. WFP will develop its staff expertise in the areas of: i) nutrition and fortification; ii) hand-over and capacity development; and iii) cash and voucher programming. If appropriate, cash transfers will be distributed using the postal system; targeting of communities close to district centres or village banking services will be considered. Risks of inflation, corruption and market failure will be mitigated through market and programme monitoring.
45. *Monitoring and evaluation.* A results-based management approach will be applied to establish the baseline for outcome indicators and measure the programme's impact. Baseline surveys will be led by the Government and/or WFP. Output and outcome data will be captured in a database for management and reporting. Mid-term and final evaluations of the CP will be carried out. The mid-term evaluation will be qualitative, identifying lessons learned to improve the programme. The final evaluation will assess overall performance. WFP's M&E efforts will be coordinated with other United Nations agencies and contribute to reporting on the UNDAF.
46. *Resource mobilization.* WFP will strive to secure multi-year funding from donors, especially those who have expressed interest in particular components. Government contributions to CP 200242 will also be encouraged, including the World Bank's Fast Track Initiative for school meals. Donors will also be approached through joint United Nations initiatives such as REACH.
47. In the event of shortfalls, the country office will consider two courses of action. If there is a shortfall under one component, it will use loans and borrowings (where possible) to

ensure the continuity of activities as planned under the CP. If there is an overall shortfall of funds but the resources can be used flexibly, the country office will determine which interventions at that point in time will have the greatest impact on the achievement of the CP's goal of reducing undernutrition, and prioritize activities accordingly.

48. *Risks.* The main contextual risk is if WFP were not able to secure sufficient donor funding for its nutrition-focused approach; this risk will be mitigated by the resource mobilization efforts noted above. Another risk would be a major natural disaster in the areas covered by the CP; this risk is addressed by WFP's emergency preparedness response component and, if necessary, WFP would launch emergency operations in coordination with the Government and humanitarian partners. The main programmatic risk is ensuring the capacity to implement the new programmatic areas; this risk is addressed by ensuring appropriate skill sets in the country office and expertise in the regional bureau.

## ANNEX I-A

<b>BUDGET SUMMARY (US\$)</b>						
	<b>Component 1</b>	<b>Component 2</b>	<b>Component 3</b>	<b>Component 4</b>	<b>Component 5</b>	<b>Total</b>
Food weight ( <i>mt</i> ) <sup>1</sup>	-	6 985	21 937	8 218	-	<b>37 140</b>
Food	-	13 601 916	16 549 841	6 783 731	-	36 935 488
Cash transfers	-	-	-	1 197 433	-	1 197 433
<b>Total by Component</b>	-	<b>13 601 916</b>	<b>16 549 841</b>	<b>7 981 164</b>	-	<b>38 132 921</b>
External transport						<b>1 635 760</b>
Landside transport, storage and handling (total)						<b>6 017 422</b>
Landside transport, storage and handling ( <i>per mt</i> )						<b>162.02</b>
Other direct operational costs						<b>7 970 335</b>
<b>Total direct operational costs</b>						<b>53 756 438</b>
Direct support costs <sup>2</sup>						<b>10 678 705</b>
Indirect support costs (7.0 percent) <sup>3</sup>						<b>4 510 460</b>
<b>TOTAL WFP COSTS</b>						<b>68 945 603</b>

<sup>1</sup> This is a notional food basket for budgeting and approval. The contents may vary.

<sup>2</sup> Indicative figure for information purposes. The direct support costs allotment is reviewed annually.

<sup>3</sup> The indirect support cost rate may be amended by the Board during the project.



**ANNEX I-B**

<b>DIRECT SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS (US\$)</b>	
<b>Staff and staff-related costs</b>	
International professional staff	3 123 533
National officers	584 534
Local general service staff	931 066
Local temporary assistance	1 290 072
Local staff overtime	42 000
International consultants	702 000
United Nations volunteers	360 000
Commercial consultancy services	210 000
Staff duty travel	897 500
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>8 140 705</b>
<b>Recurring expenses</b>	
Facility rental	265 200
Utilities	57 800
Office supplies and other consumables	302 000
Communications and IT services	205 400
Equipment repair and maintenance	44 500
Vehicle running cost and maintenance	504 000
Office set-up and repairs	195 000
United Nations organization services	184 000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1 757 900</b>
<b>Equipment and capital costs</b>	
Vehicle leasing	326 400
Telecommunications/IT equipment	197 500
Local security costs	256 200
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>780 100</b>
<b>TOTAL DIRECT SUPPORT COSTS</b>	<b>10 678 705</b>

ANNEX II: LOGICAL FRAMEWORK		
Results	Performance indicators	Risks, assumptions
<b>UNDAF Outcome:</b> By 2015, vulnerable people are more food secure and have improved nutrition <sup>1</sup>	<b>UNDAF outcome indicators:</b> ➤ Prevalence of wasting ➤ Prevalence of stunting ➤ Prevalence of micronutrient deficiencies	United Nations agencies work in partnership to support the Government
<b>Component 1: Emergency preparedness and response</b>		
<b>Strategic Objective 2: Prevent acute hunger and invest in disaster preparedness and mitigation measures</b>		
<b>Outcome 1</b> Early warning systems, contingency plans and food security monitoring systems are in place and enhanced with WFP capacity development support	➤ 100% of targeted government administrative units and communities have a disaster preparedness index greater than 7 by 2014	Government agencies and communities recognize the dangers posed by natural disasters
<b>Output 1.1</b> Disaster mitigation measures are in place with WFP capacity development support	➤ 100% of targeted government administrative units and communities have a disaster response system in place by 2014	
<b>Component 2: Mother-and-child health and nutrition</b>		
<b>Strategic Objective 4: Reduce chronic hunger and undernutrition</b>		
<b>Outcome 2</b> Improved nutritional status of target groups of women, girls and boys	➤ 10% reduction per year in prevalence of stunting in targeted children under 2 ➤ 10% reduction per year in prevalence of iron deficiency anaemia in targeted women and children	No major natural disasters occur in the intervention areas No major pipeline breaks in food supply occur

<sup>1</sup> UNDAF outcomes are still being finalized. WFP's country strategy for the Lao People's Democratic Republic supports this outcome on food and nutrition security; however, there may be other relevant outcomes related to disaster preparedness, education and health.



ANNEX II: LOGICAL FRAMEWORK		
Results	Performance indicators	Risks, assumptions
<p><b>Output 2.1</b> Food and non-food items distributed in sufficient quantity and quality to targeted beneficiaries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 100% of beneficiaries receiving food and non-food items</li> <li>➤ Tonnage of food distributed by type, as percentage of planned distribution</li> <li>➤ Quantity of non-food items distributed, by type, as percentage of planned distribution</li> </ul>	
<b>Component 3: School meals</b>		
<b>Strategic Objective 4: Reduce chronic hunger and undernutrition</b>		
<p><b>Outcome 3</b> Increased access to education and human capital development in targeted schools</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Average annual rate of increase in enrolment above 3%</li> <li>➤ Attendance rate of 80% in assisted schools</li> <li>➤ Ratio of girls to boys enrolled equals 0.9 in assisted schools</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Output 3.1</b> Food and non-food items distributed in sufficient quantity and quality to targeted beneficiaries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 100% of planned beneficiaries receiving food and non-food items</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Outcome 4</b> Improved nutritional status of target groups of women, girls and boys</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 10% reduction per year in prevalence of iron deficiency anaemia in pre-primary schoolchildren</li> </ul>	Deworming is carried out in targeted areas
<p><b>Output 4.1</b> Food and non-food items distributed in sufficient quantity and quality to targeted beneficiaries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 100% of beneficiaries receiving food and non-food items</li> <li>➤ 80% of planned feeding days</li> </ul>	
<b>Strategic Objective 5: Strengthen capacities of countries to reduce hunger, including through hand-over strategies and local purchase</b>		
<p><b>Outcome 5</b> Progress made toward nationally owned hunger solutions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Hand-over strategy developed and implemented</li> </ul>	The Government has the capacity and commitment to take over the programme
<p><b>Output 5.1</b> Agreed hand-over strategies in place</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Hand-over strategy for school meals in place</li> </ul>	



ANNEX II: LOGICAL FRAMEWORK			
Results	Performance indicators	Risks, assumptions	
<b>Component 4: Livelihood initiatives for nutrition</b>			
<b>Strategic Objective 4: Reduce chronic hunger and undernutrition</b>			
<b>Outcome 6</b> Adequate food consumption reached over assistance period for targeted households	➤ 100% of assisted households with a food consumption score >35 without food assistance by 2014		
<b>Output 6.1</b> Food and non-food items distributed in sufficient quantity and quality to targeted beneficiaries	➤ 100% of beneficiaries receiving food and non-food items		
<b>Strategic Objective 5: Strengthen capacities of countries to reduce hunger, including through hand-over strategies and local purchase</b>			
<b>Outcome 7</b> Increased marketing opportunities with cost-effective WFP local purchases	➤ 10% increase in local purchase annually ➤ 10% increase in income of targeted farmers annually	Smallholders recognize market opportunities and are willing to take advantage of them Normal conditions for cultivation exist during the implementation period	
<b>Output 7.1</b> Food purchased locally	➤ 50% of WFP's food purchased locally by 2015		
<b>Component 5: Food fortification and marketing</b>			
<b>Strategic Objective 4: Reduce chronic hunger and undernutrition</b>			
<b>Outcome 8</b> Increased production capacity for fortified foods, including complementary foods and special nutritional products	➤ 30% increase in production of fortified foods	Competitive, suitable industries can be identified to carry out fortification	
<b>Output 8.1</b> Food and non-food items distributed in sufficient quantity and quality to targeted beneficiaries	➤ 40% increase in distribution of locally sourced fortified foods, complementary foods and special nutritional products		



### ANNEX III



The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Food Programme (WFP) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its frontiers or boundaries.

## ACRONYMS USED IN THE DOCUMENT

CFW	cash for work
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FFW	food for work
GAM	global acute malnutrition
M&E	monitoring and evaluation
MCHN	mother-and-child health and nutrition
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
NGO	non-governmental organization
PRRO	protracted relief and recovery operation
REACH	partnership to end child hunger
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WHO	World Health Organization