



WFP SWAZILAND OPERATIONS BRIEF

PRRO 10602.0 – Assistance to Food Insecure People affected by HIV/AIDS and Natural Disasters November 2009

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Implementation Period	May 2008 – April 2011
Total Cost to WFP	US\$38,549,685
Total Food Requirements (mt) (May 2008- April 2011)	47,052 mt
Number of Planned Beneficiaries	201,000 per year
Number of Actual Beneficiaries (as of August 2009)	47,675 beneficiaries
Total Shortfall (mt) (November 2009 to April 2010)	5,445 mt
Total Shortfall (US\$) (November 2009 to April 2010)	US\$4,459,455

FOOD SECURITY UPDATE

Findings of the National Vulnerability Assessment Committee (VAC, July 2009) indicate that Swaziland experienced a slightly improved harvest of 70,672 mt of the staple maize cereal during the 2008/2009 farming season, which is a 14 percent increase from last season's harvest of 62,000 mt. The improved production is attributed to the favourable rainfall received in the latter part of the season, particularly in the Middleveld. The Swazi VAC noted that this resulted in slightly increased output compared to the 2007/08 season and a reduced number of households that will face a food deficit.

Over the past seven consecutive years of erratic rainfall, rural-based poor Swazis especially those in the Lowveld and Lubombo Plateau who depend on subsistence rain-fed agriculture for their livelihood have remained vulnerable to food insecurity. Factors contributing to food insecurity in Swaziland include declining income-earning opportunities and remittances, abject poverty, high levels of unemployment, high food prices and the impact of HIV and AIDS.

The VAC results indicate that despite improved production, food shortages at household level will continue this year; with 256,383 people requiring food assistance. Of these, 114,179 people are acutely food insecure while 142,204 are chronically food insecure.

WFP PLANNED ACTIVITIES UNDER THE PRRO

1. RELIEF ACTIVITIES

Relief activities under PRRO 10602.0 include targeted relief food distribution and school meals provided during the lean season (October 2009 to March 2010), which contribute towards eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, empowering women and achieving universal primary education.

a.) Support to Vulnerable Groups Unable to Support Themselves (Targeted Food Distribution)– 4,000 recipients (20,000 beneficiaries) per month

Relief food assistance is provided to asset-poor and asset-medium households, particularly female and child-headed ones, affected by drought or other natural disasters, including households that face seasonal hunger. The actual number of beneficiaries reached varies from year to year, but overall the head of the household receives a family ration for six people. Last year, the Government requested WFP to scale up the beneficiary numbers to 70,000 to support Government's own efforts to reach a total of 274,300 assessed to be in need of

food assistance. This year, WFP is unlikely to respond positively to the Government's request due to lack of funding.

b.) Support to Children's Education – 70,000 beneficiaries per month

One daily school meal of cereals, pulses and vegetable oil is provided to school children enrolled in 162 primary schools in food insecure areas that record the highest drop out rate in the lean months and where children face acute seasonal hunger. While this activity is currently being implemented during the lean season, WFP is working towards making it a year-round safety net development project.

2. RECOVERY ACTIVITIES

Recovery activities include Food-for-Assets (Agriculture/Training/Work), support to orphaned and vulnerable children in neighbourhood care points and support to patients and families of those on ART/TB (DOTS) /PMTCT treatment programmes. The recovery activities contribute towards improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS and TB and ensuring environmental sustainability.

a.) Support to People Living with HIV/AIDS and TB – 32,000 beneficiaries per month

WFP provides a fortified food supplement to patients in food-insecure areas who are receiving ART and daily observed treatment of short course chemotherapy (DOTS) and beneficiaries of prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) programmes at health facilities to increase programme uptake and adherence to treatment regimens. (This activity is considered development by many donors on the WFP Executive Board and will be reclassified when the PRRO comes to an end.)

b.) Support to Households affected by HIV and AIDS – 2,500 recipients (15,000 beneficiaries) per month

Widowed, child and elderly-headed households and households with a chronically ill breadwinner that have no other means of support, are asset poor and have a high dependency ratio are prioritised. The affected household receives a family ration for five people.

c.) Support to Orphaned and Other Vulnerable Children in Neighbourhood Care Points – 40,000 beneficiaries per month

OVC in the chronic food-insecure areas in all four regions of the country receive food assistance from WFP in over 750 NCPs. OVC receive daily meals as part of a package that includes early childhood care and development, livelihood skills, psychosocial support, de-worming, immunization and other health care support. To supplement the food rations, vegetable gardening is encouraged at the centres.

d.) Investing in Food Security (Food-for-Assets: Agriculture / Work / Training) – 5,000 participants (25,000 beneficiaries) per month

WFP uses both Food-for-Training and Food-for-Work to strengthen on-going community development programmes which promote food security, with emphasis on HIV prevention, and livelihood projects, particularly those targeting people living with HIV/AIDS and OVC. This includes food assistance to volunteer NCP caregivers caring for OVC, OVC learning farming and livelihood skills through Junior Farmer Field and Life Schools (JFFLS) and communities engaged in mitigating the impact of environmental degradation. Participants receive a family ration for five people.

3. PARTNERS

WFP works in collaboration with Government through the Deputy Prime Minister's Office and line Ministries (Ministries of Agriculture, Education and Health), Non-Governmental organizations including its eight Co-operating Partners: African Co-operative Action Trust (ACAT), Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Alliance of Mayors Initiative for Community Action on AIDS at the Local Level (AMICAALL), Conserve Swaziland, Lutheran Development Service (LDS), Save the Children, Swaziland Farmer Development Foundation (SFDF) and World Vision, UN Agencies and community-based organizations.

4. RESOURCE SHORTFALL

WFP Swaziland is currently experiencing a resource and commodity shortfall situation due to insufficient donor contributions to PRRO 10602 that necessitated the reduction of beneficiary rations by 50 percent in all activities from October 2009 until new contributions are received. The breakdown of the shortfalls per activity is detailed in Table 1 below. However, the total food requirements for full rations for the six month period commencing in November 2009 to April 2010 is 8,464 mt.

WFP Activity	Cereal (mt)	Pulses (mt)	Veg Oil (mt)	CSB (mt)	Total (mt)	Cost (US\$)
Support to Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children in NCPs	468	131	53	171	824	674,856
Support to Vulnerable Groups Unable to Support Themselves	462	123	32	0	618	506,142
Support to Households Unable to Support Themselves	144	129	180	0	453	371,007
Support to Households Affected by HIV and AIDS	675	184	135	0	994	814,086
Food-For-Work (Caregivers)	339	81	79	0	499	408,681
Food-For-Agriculture	375	55	33	0	463	379,197
Food-For-Training (JFFLS)	264	40	17	0	320	262,080
Support to People Living with HIV/AIDS and TB	0	0	0	1,274	1,274	1,043,406
Total	2,727	743	529	1,445	5,445	4,459,455

5. CONTACT DETAILS

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