

Standard Project Report 2015

Reporting Period: 1 January - 31 December 2015

GUINEA

Enhancing Food and Nutrition Security of vulnerable groups affected by shocks in the Forest Guinea region

Project Number	200687
Project Category	Single Country PRRO
Overall Planned Beneficiaries	81,325
Planned Beneficiaries in 2015	54,212
Total Beneficiaries in 2015	34,516

Project Approval Date	09 May 2014
Planned Start Date	01 Apr 2014
Actual Start Date	01 Apr 2014
Project End Date	30 Sep 2015
Financial Closure Date	n.a.

Approved budget as 31 December 2015 in USD	
Capacity Dev.t and Augmentation	299,000
Cash--based Transfer and Related Costs	510,300
Direct Support Costs	1,073,900
Food and Related Costs	3,155,983
Indirect Support Costs	352,743
Total Approved Budget	5,391,926

Commodities	Metric Tonnes
Total Approved Commodities	3,803
Planned Commodities in 2015	1,613
Actual Commodities in 2015	403

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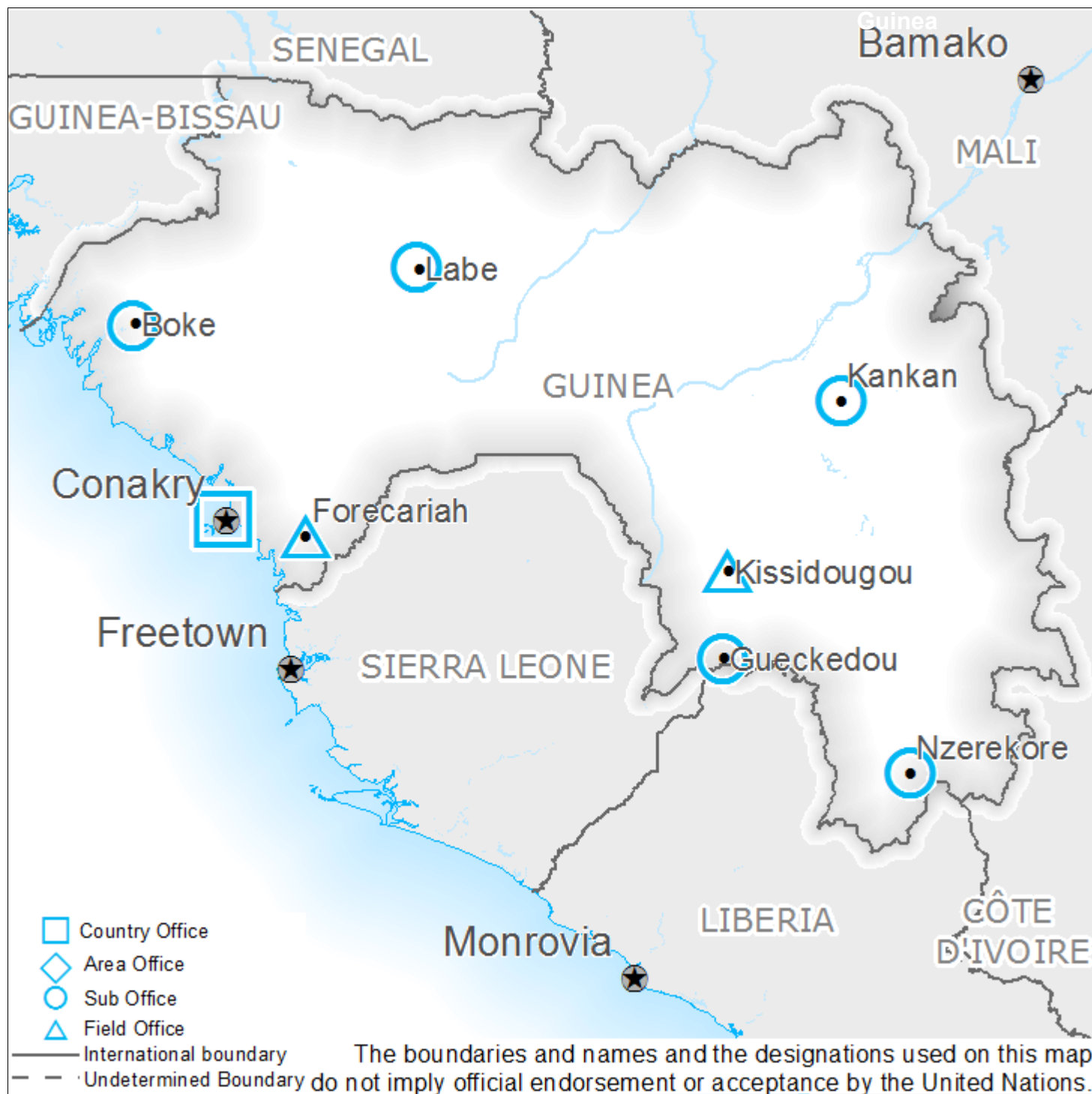
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Country Overview



COUNTRY BACKGROUND

The Republic of Guinea is a low-income, food-deficient country with a population of around 11.75 million and is ranked 182 out of 188 countries in the 2015 Human Development Report.

In March 2014, Guinea was struck by the worst epidemic of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in history, which killed over 2,500 people. The EVD outbreak, which was declared over on 29 December 2015, has had far-reaching social, economic and political consequences in a country that was already fragile following years of conflict, political instability and high levels of poverty.

Guinea has some of the weakest health systems in the world, and the epidemic has damaged what little health infrastructure there was. In Guinea, malnutrition is one of the major causes of childhood illness and mortality. Immediate causes of malnutrition are inadequate dietary intake and infectious diseases deriving from household food insecurity, inappropriate mother and child care practices, and poor health care.

The EVD outbreak has had a negative impact on food security. The closure of borders and markets and the stigmatisation of produce from areas affected have reduced purchasing power and caused prices of imported commodities to rise and exported commodities to fall. According to an Emergency Food Security Assessment conducted in June 2015 by WFP and FAO, areas in which EVD cases were recorded are the most severely food insecure. The assessment also predicted that food insecurity will persist for some time.

In July 2015, WFP conducted the SMART survey in collaboration with the Government of Guinea and UNICEF. Results from the survey indicated that 25.9 percent of children are stunted as a result of a poor diet, often lacking in essential micronutrients, fats and proteins. The survey showed that global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate is at 8.1 percent (with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) at 6.1 percent, and severe acute malnutrition (SAM) at 2 percent).

During the rainy season (July to October) flooding is common in the Upper and Forest Guinea regions and causes significant damage. A trend analysis from 2009 to 2012 indicates that floods affect between 50,000 and 69,000 people annually.

SUMMARY OF WFP ASSISTANCE

Throughout 2015, WFP provided food, nutrition and cash assistance to vulnerable populations of Guinea through an Emergency Operation response (EMOP), a Country Programme (CP) and a Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO).

Through the EMOP WFP delivered food alongside the health response in order to help to meet emergency food needs and prevented the deterioration of the food security situation of communities affected by the EVD outbreak. WFP provided food and nutrition support to suspected and confirmed Ebola patients and their caregivers, as well as children orphaned by the virus and their households. To help support contact tracing and case management, food assistance was also provided to quarantined households, and to households in hotspot communities and in areas of former widespread and intense transmission. In the latter months of 2015, with fewer EVD cases and contacts, WFP began providing cash transfers to people discharged from Ebola Treatment Centres (ETCs).

Through the CP, WFP supported school canteens across Guinea, expanding the programme in November and doubling the number of schools, including those in Ebola-affected areas. Through school feeding WFP is improving access to basic education by addressing the problem of high absenteeism and dropout rates, particularly among girls. Take-home entitlements were also provided to young girls who attend school regularly. WFP carried out comprehensive nutrition activities in three areas: i) treatment of MAM, ii) prevention of GAM (wasting), and iii) prevention of stunting; targeting pregnant and nursing mothers, children under 5, and people living with HIV (PLHIV) and tuberculosis (TB), and their family members. Communities involved in agriculture were supported to increase and diversify food production and to supply food to school canteens.

The Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation continued to assist households that had been negatively affected by inter-ethnic conflict and floods in the Forest Region and that were still in a vulnerable, food insecure situation. Activities included general food distributions to a small caseload of refugees and Food For Asset (FFA) activities for woman and youth.

Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total
Number of children below 5 years of age	215,800	247,704	463,504
Number of children 5 to 18 years of age	265,226	260,183	525,409
Number of adults	308,710	380,491	689,201
Total number of beneficiaries in 2015	789,736	888,378	1,678,114
Total number of beneficiaries in 2014	365,595	359,383	724,978
Total number of beneficiaries in 2013	87,672	87,648	175,320

Distribution (mt)						
Project Type	Cereals	Oil	Pulses	Mix	Other	Total
Single Country PRRO	276	25	43		58	403
Regional EMOP	15,738	528	1,693	2,675	28	20,663
Country Programme	4,145	899	639	726	58	6,467
Total food distributed in 2015	20,159	1,453	2,376	3,401	144	27,533
Total food distributed in 2014	13,089	970	1,714	1,000	135	16,908
Total food distributed in 2013	3,590	398	673	503	79	5,243

Operational SPR

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES AND RELEVANCE

The main objectives of the PRRO project were: i) to help targeted local populations to build resilience as they emerge from conflict and natural disasters; and (ii) to assist the government as it seeks ways of addressing the impact of years of political instability, in order to improve and strengthen its capacity for disaster mitigation and response.

Specifically, the PRRO was to contribute to supporting the efforts of the targeted communities to strengthen their resilience to shocks (Strategic Objective 3, Objective 1) including floods; supporting peace-building efforts in targeted communities (Strategic Objective 2, Objective 3); and increasing government capacity to reduce food insecurity (Strategic Objective 3, objective 3).

The Guinea PRRO 200687 was designed to help WFP to respond to natural disasters related mainly to flooding, as well as to respond to the impact of inter-communal conflicts in Forest Guinea. In addition, the PRRO was designed to assist Ivorian refugees in Forest Guinea and to contribute to strengthening peace-building efforts in the area.

RESULTS

Beneficiaries, Targeting and Distribution

Under the PRRO WFP provided relief and recovery assistance to Ivorian refugees in Kouankan II camp, as well as to women and youth from communities at risk of ethnic violence.

Initially, food assistance to refugees was planned to be phased out in 2014 in accordance with repatriation plans developed by UNHCR and the government. However, as the voluntary return of Ivorian refugees in Forest Guinea continued to be obstructed by the border closure and limitations on movements as a result of the continued EVD outbreak in 2015, WFP decided to continue providing food assistance through General Food Distributions to the remaining refugees in Kouankan II camp in order to ensure they had adequate access to basic food commodities. Conversely, with limited resources available, incomplete food baskets were sometimes distributed as only one or two commodities were available.

In return for their participation in FFA activities, participants received an entitlement consisting of rice, pulses, oil, salt and dates for them and their household members. As a result of providing household entitlements, the total number of beneficiaries assisted under this project is higher than the sum of participants in individual activities. In addition, WFP made sanitation equipment available to the participants to facilitate rubbish collection and gutter clearance.

WFP had planned to provide school meals in schools frequented by both refugee and host community children, but due to the timing of the project, and the fact that the schools were already being included in the school feeding programme, this activity did not take place under the PRRO.

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Beneficiary Category	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Number of adults	15,190	15,158	30,348	7,232	7,834	15,066	47.6%	51.7%	49.6%
Number of children 5 to 18 years of age	7,563	4,678	12,241	4,471	4,843	9,314	59.1%	103.5%	76.1%
Number of children below 5 years of age	5,221	6,402	11,623	4,865	5,271	10,136	93.2%	82.3%	87.2%
Total number of beneficiaries in 2015	27,974	26,238	54,212	16,568	17,948	34,516	59.2%	68.4%	63.7%
Total number of beneficiaries in 2014	29,778	27,936	57,714	19,454	22,074	41,528	65.3%	79.0%	72.0%
The total number of beneficiaries includes all targeted persons who were provided with WFP food during the reporting period - either as a recipient/participant in one or more of the following groups, or from a household food ration distributed to one of these recipients/participants									

Beneficiary Category	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Children receiving take-home rations		1,404	1,404		0	0		0.0%	0.0%
Participants in Food For Training	4,800	5,200	10,000	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Participants in Food For Assets	2,880	3,120	6,000	2,277	3,588	5,865	79.1%	115.0%	97.8%
Refugees	2,296	2,504	4,800	2,399	2,792	5,191	104.5%	111.5%	108.1%
Children receiving school meals	1,404	1,404	2,808	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Cash-Based Transfer Beneficiaries	2,400	2,600	5,000	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Commodity Distribution

Commodity	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual v. Planned
Dried Fruits	0	53	-
Iodised Salt	17	5	31.4%
Rice	1,371	276	20.2%
Split Peas	142	43	30.6%
Vegetable Oil	83	25	30.2%
Total for 2015	1,613	403	25.0%
Total reported in 2014 SPR	2,190	935	42.7%

'Story Worth Telling'

The village of Koule was the scene of violence and unrest in 2013, with frequent inter-ethnic clashes as well as flooding and poor hygiene. Now, in 2015, the village is harmonious and well-kept. Despite the fact that the project ended in September, the community members give up their time twice a week to sweep and clean their communal areas. Every Tuesday and Saturday they come together to make sure their markets and public spaces are clear of dirt and rubbish.

Madame Kebe Lamah, who presides over the activities, explains: 'The project has allowed the community members to join hands and work together; even for the very hard work, the young men help the women'. Furthermore, she says, 'We are very grateful to WFP for the provision of rice, salt, pulses, oil and dates, as during the rains it is not possible to work in the fields, and there is very little food'.

The women of Koule are enthusiastic about the project and the difference it has made. For example, they say, after the rainy season there were many pools of stagnant water, which can bring malarial mosquitoes. Since they cleared the water away, there has been a reduction in the number of malaria cases. This was their first experience of working with WFP, and they are looking forward to continuing the work.

Progress Towards Gender Equality

For FFA activities, WFP particularly targeted women through the focus on women sweeper groups for remediation work. These groups of women were targeted as they are the ones who are normally responsible for clean-up operations, and the clearing of communal spaces was integral to the project in improving the sanitation of villages in Forest Guinea.

Due to the Ebola crisis, WFP Guinea's monitoring resources have been primarily concentrated on the Ebola response in 2015. In addition, as high levels of transmission of the Ebola virus were recorded in the areas of implementation of this project, WFP sometimes had to deal with movement restrictions or limitations. As a result, WFP was not able to conduct any monitoring on cross-cutting indicators related to gender equality.

Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

The assistance was designed in a way that was respectful of the communities' culture and ethics. Through close collaboration with local NGOs that are rooted in the communities, WFP was able to ensure that beneficiaries could provide feedback in case of concerns or complaints. In addition, WFP aimed to limit security issues for beneficiaries by organising food distributions as close as possible to their communities.

Women in the community participated in the management of distributions, so they were able to ensure that everything took place safely, and that women felt protected. Women were safer during the distributions as a result. Furthermore, during the two weeks before the distributions, female and male beneficiaries were able to spend time together, meaning that risks associated with attending distributions together with unknown people were significantly reduced.

Outputs

In order to provide predictable and longer-term transfers to the most vulnerable refugees that decided to remain and in order to ensure refugee elementary school children would have access to nutritious foods during their integration into Guinean society, WFP planned to initiate school feeding in 25 schools at the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year. However, as schools remained closed until January 2015 as a result of the Ebola outbreak, and limited resources were available under this project, WFP did not launch this activity under the current project, leading to a significantly lower tonnage distributed than expected. However, within the context of scaling up school feeding activities under the Country Programme, most of the 25 schools that were planned to be assisted under this PRRO are now being assisted under the Country Programme instead.

In 2015, WFP aimed to assist with the creation, restoration and protection of assets in prefectures most affected by recurrent flooding in Forest Guinea through FFA and FFT activities. In addition, asset creation activities were also implemented to support peace building efforts of local government units and NGO partners working with communities to address underlying causes of conflicts associated with food insecurity, such as competition over natural resources and loss of livelihoods, and to restore the social fabric of conflict-prone communities.

WFP distributed agricultural tools to allow participants to conduct the rehabilitation and cleaning work. In total, 13,677 agricultural tools including shovels, sweeps, mattocks, wheelbarrows, rakes, boots and gloves were distributed. Moreover, WFP distributed 14 motor tricycles to 10 different groups of women sweepers to support them in their remediation work. As a result of these inputs, the participants of FFA activities have been able to restore 267 sites such as schools, roads, bridges, youth homes and markets.

With limited resources available for this project and a strong concentration of resources focused on WFP's Ebola response, WFP did not plan or implement any capacity building activities in 2015 under this PRRO. Furthermore, the planned cash transfer component which aimed to assist 5,000 flood victims in Macenta could not be implemented for the same reasons. However, as no big floods occurred in 2015, the impact of not implementing cash transfers was relatively small.

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
SO 2: School Feeding				
Number of primary schools assisted by WFP	school	25	0	0.0%
Quantity of kitchen utensils distributed (plates, spoons, cooking pots etc.)	utensil	14,600	0	0.0%
SO 3: FFA				
C&V: Number of beneficiaries receiving cash transfers	Individual	5,000	0	0.0%
Number of assets built, restored or maintained by targeted communities and individuals	Asset	270	267	98.9%
Quantity of agricultural tools distributed	tool	14,000	13,677	97.7%
Quantity of motorbikes/vehicles distributed	vehicle	14	14	100.0%

Outcomes

Due to the concentration of monitoring resourced on WFP's response to the Ebola outbreak, and as a direct result of movement restrictions for staff due to the Ebola outbreak no post-distribution monitoring was conducted for this project in 2015. As a result, no data on outcome indicators is available.

The continued support to remaining refugees in Kouankan II camp through general food distributions ensured refugees could meet their basic food needs while the majority of them could not continue with their repatriation plans and were trapped in Guinea as a result of the closure of borders due to the Ebola outbreak.

FFA and FFT activities provided opportunities to rehabilitate assets and strengthen the capacity of local populations to engage in the process of creating more resilient communities. As a result of strong community engagement, sustainable structures have been set up that create an enabling environment for the participants to continue work even after project closure and to act as ambassadors of continued work in their respective communities.

Sustainability, Capacity Development and Handover

Two main components aimed at promoting sustainability were built into the project. The first, in Gueckedou and Kissidougou prefectures, involved the purchase and distribution of 14 tricycles. These were made available to associations of women sweepers to enable them to collect household waste against small payments by the households. These funds are being used to fund motorcycle maintenance and operational costs of associations.

WFP also promoted sustainability by working with established women's groups who were already undertaking waste collection, providing them with basic equipment that is easy to maintain and that can be easily repaired in the communities.

In the prefectures of N'Zerekore, Macenta, Beyla, Lola and Yomou, comites de veille were set up to monitor compliance with regulations prohibiting littering. The comites de veille are composed of members of the community who have a stake in ensuring that communities are kept clean, and they can provide guidance and support to the groups that are directly involved in clean-up activities.

INPUTS

Resource Inputs

The activities have been implemented with the support of multiple donors. Both cash and in-kind contributions have been received in 2015. Due to an overall lack of funding, a limited number of the planned commodities for 2015 could be procured.

Donor	Resourced in 2015 (mt)		Shipped/Purchased in 2015 (mt)
	In-Kind	Cash	
MULTILATERAL		164	62
Saudi Arabia			54
UN CERF Common Funds and Agencies		200	23
Total:		364	139

See Annex: Resource Inputs from Donors for breakdown by commodity and contribution reference number

Food Purchases and in-kind Receipts

Two thirds of the commodities under this PRRO have been purchased on the regional market. Yellow split peas were purchased on the international market as this commodity was not available regionally and the quantity of in-kind dates was originally purchased on the international market.

Commodity	Local (mt)	Developing Country (mt)	Other International (mt)	GCMF (mt)
Dried Fruits	0	0	54	
Iodised Salt	0	5	0	
Rice	0	279	0	
Split Peas	0	0	44	
Vegetable Oil	0	19	0	18
Sum:	0	303	98	18

Food Transport, Delivery and Handling

Contracts were signed on time and were respectively and fully implemented. The transport is organized as followed Conakry to sub-offices (EDP) where food is stored and from there the stocks are delivered to the sites as planned by the programme unit.

In 2015, 452,414 tons have been handled and 402,896 tons distributed. The project definitely closed on the 30th September 2015. The CO has transferred to CP the balance resources.

Post-Delivery Losses

Guinea registered 2.83 tons as post-delivery losses (2.811 mt in warehouse and 0.021 mt of implementing partner losses). The losses are due to overlong storage causing the deterioration of the packaging materials and an infestation. The stock was re-bagged and reweighted in new packaging materials.

MANAGEMENT

Partnerships

WFP implemented the PRRO in partnership with local authorities and five national NGOs in Forest Guinea, as well as with UNDP. The choice of NGO partners was based on their experience and capabilities in the areas of information dissemination and awareness-raising on issues related to consolidation of peace, supervision of community-based work and knowledge of WFP procedures.

Local authorities that were involved included the urban communes of Beyla, Youmou, Lola, Nzerekore, Macenta, Gueckedou and Kissidougou prefectures, and Koule sub-prefecture. Partnership with local authorities facilitated implementation of activities through the provision of containers for rubbish disposal and trucks to dispose of the collected rubbish. In addition, representatives of town halls monitored the presence and the effective involvement of participants. Local authorities played a key role in information dissemination to the population about targeting and about the interventions.

WFP built a successful partnership with UNDP with whom the Country Office consulted on the conflict prevention and peacebuilding component of the PRRO.

Partnerships	NGO		Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement	UN/IO
	National	International		
Total	6			2

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project end Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
	Target Val	(at start of project or benchmark)	(penultimate follow-up)	(latest value measured)
Number of partner organizations that provide complementary inputs and services				
Previous Follow-up: Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Programme monitoring.	1		1	0
Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners				
Previous Follow-up: Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Programme monitoring.	100		100	100

Lessons Learned

Involvement of local authorities from the beginning, and at every stage of the project was crucial in achieving the objectives, and the inclusion of woman and youth opinion leaders in the different activities helped to strengthen local civil society and ensure sustainability. Sanitation campaigns in public places were highly appreciated by local authorities.

The PRRO suffered predominantly from delays and low funding relating to the outbreak of the EVD epidemic, which affected the implementation of activities in Forest Guinea. In addition, WFP could not benefit from the operational coordination of UNDP at every stage of the activities in part because UNDP was not present in the field for most of the implementation period, despite the joint nature of the project.

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Annex: Resource Inputs from Donors

Donor	Cont. Ref. No	Commodity	Resourced in 2015 (mt)		Shipped/ Purchased in 2015 (mt)
			In-Kind	Cash	
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Rice		102	0
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Split Peas		44	44
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Vegetable Oil		19	19
Saudi Arabia	SAU-C-00095-16	Dried Fruits			54
UN CERF Common Funds and Agencies	001-C-01150-01	Iodised Salt		5	5
UN CERF Common Funds and Agencies	001-C-01150-01	Rice		177	0
UN CERF Common Funds and Agencies	001-C-01150-01	Vegetable Oil		18	18
Total:				364	139