DRC – SO 200747 - Logistics Cluster Coordination and Information Management, Democratic Republic of Congo
BR No. 1

PROJECT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Capacity Dev &amp; Augmentation:</th>
<th>Previous Budget</th>
<th>Revision</th>
<th>New Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DSC:</td>
<td>US$ 1 094 967</td>
<td>US$ 284 446</td>
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<td>ISC:</td>
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<td>US$ 130 951</td>
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<td>Total WFP cost (US$)</td>
<td>US$ 2 325 332</td>
<td>US$ 444 475</td>
<td>US$ 2 769 807</td>
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TYPE OF REVISION

- Additional DSC
- Additional CD&A
- Extension in time
- Change in project orientation

NATURE OF REVISION:

1. This Budget Revision seeks to extend DRC Special Operation (SO) 200747 “Logistics Cluster Coordination and Information Management, Democratic Republic of Congo” in time by four months from December 2016 until 31 March 2017. This will increase the project’s budget plan by **US$ 444,475** in order to improve the functioning of the DRC Logistics Cluster in support of the humanitarian community. This extension will emphasize the Information Management/Knowledge Management (IM/KM) activity and will support the development of the next Special Operation.
JUSTIFICATION FOR THE REVISION:

1. Through this budget revision, WFP aims to extend SO 200747 until 31 March 2017 in order to:
   - Advance the functioning of the DRC Logistics Cluster in line with recommendations made by the lessons learned mission, which was conducted in DRC by the Global Logistics Cluster Support Cell in early 2016;
   - Improve the coordination as well as the information management activities, building the capacity of both humanitarian partners and the DRC Government; and,
   - Continue to support the Civil Protection Agency (DPC), the Ministry of Social and Humanitarian Affairs (MSH) and the humanitarian community on capacity building for Emergency Preparedness and DRR in the DRC, in line with the IM/KM project initiated in 2016.

A four-month extension in time will allow WFP to carry on these activities while at the same time consulting with partners on the elaboration of a new Special Operation.

2. The DRC Logistics Cluster will continue to:
   - Ensure a coordinated logistics response among humanitarian actors working in the country, enabling the delivery of food and non-food items to vulnerable populations; and
   - Provide relevant logistics information to the humanitarian community to enable the timely and effective identification and resolution of logistics bottlenecks.

Logistics Cluster Activities

3. The two main components of the SO 200747—Logistics Cluster Coordination and Information Management—will continue through this budget revision. However, particular attention will be given to the Information Management/Knowledge Management (IM/KM) project developed in DRC.

Coordination

4. As per the recommendation from the lessons learned mission related to coordination, the Logistics Cluster team in Kinshasa needs to be more present in the field to ensure support and presence in the provinces for focal points and partners. At provincial level, there is a need for better representation by the Logistics Cluster focal point in the multi-sectorial assessment missions and coordination mechanisms already in place. To this end, a consultant has been hired to support the Logistics Cluster efforts in the eastern provinces and supervise the focal point. The Logistics Cluster will continue to increase its presence in the field, to support logistics coordination and to strengthen partners’ inclusiveness through bilateral contacts.

5. The increase of UNHAS travel fees in the east of the country (US$500 one way from Kinshasa) is affecting the capacity of the team in Kinshasa to go to the field and to move internally within the provinces. These additional costs need to be covered to maintain the implementation of the DRC Logistics Cluster strategy.

IM/KM project expansion
6. As suggested by the lessons learned mission, the DRC Logistics Cluster is making efforts to improve the diversity of tools available for use by the partners. Throughout 2016, the Logistics Cluster has been more proactive on information sharing, with the creation of new tools and a larger diffusion of these among relevant stakeholders.

7. In 2016, the Logistics Cluster developed an IM/KM project which aims to strengthen the data-collection capacity of various government entities and humanitarian actors and to support the creation of a reliable, exhaustive open GIS database.

8. This activity includes the setup of an open-source WFP Geo-Spatial Data Infrastructure (GeoSDI) database. With support from WFP and the Institute of Methodologies for Environmental Analysis of the National Research Council of Italy (IMAA-CNR), the Logistics Cluster provides technical support to the Democratic Republic of Congo Civil Protection Agency (DPC) towards the establishment and management of this platform. The development of information management and Geo-Spatial Data Infrastructure System (GeoSDI) aims to improve the overall disaster response capacity of the DPC and other relevant stakeholders.

9. Under the IM/KM project, the Logistics Cluster has also initiated a series of trainings on data collection. So far, more than 400 staff from partner organizations (including INGOs, national NGOs, and government authorities) have been trained on data collection through GPS devices and smartphones. To further strengthen local capacities, the Logistics Cluster has adopted a “train the trainers” approach, whereby the staff initially trained by the Logistics Cluster have now taken the lead and are in charge of organizing further training sessions in the provinces.

10. This project is instrumental in building local capacity and also supports Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Emergency Preparedness efforts aimed at improving the Government’s overall disaster response skills.

11. Through this budget revision, the Logistics Cluster will conduct further trainings in provinces countrywide and will support the maintenance and enlargement of the database, while at the same time ensuring the quality of data collected. Through continuous support and further trainings, the platform will be progressively handed over to the DPC.

**DRR and Emergency Preparedness**

12. To support and manage the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) side of the project, the Logistics Cluster has hired an experienced consultant who will support capacity development of local authorities and relevant ministries.

13. The Logistics Cluster has recently developed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Democratic Republic of Congo Civil Protection Agency (DPC) and the Ministry of Social and Humanitarian Affairs (MSH) on capacity building for Emergency Preparedness in the DRC. The project focuses on support and information management from WFP to the DPC and MSH, as well as the establishment of IT tools and systems that can help to build DPC's and MSH’s institutional capacity to prepare and respond to disasters.
14. Additionally, the Logistics Cluster is working alongside the UN Development Programme (UNDP) to finalize a MoU through which the two agencies—UNDP and WFP—will collaborate towards strengthening DRR and Emergency Preparedness efforts of local authorities.

Other possible emergencies

Elections
15. While approaching the electoral milestone of November, there is a severe risk of civil unrest in Kinshasa and across the country, as testified by the September 2016 events. The Logistics Cluster is working closely with partners, through OCHA and Inter-Cluster Coordination mechanisms, to review contingency plans and ensure a coordinated response in case of a crisis.

Epidemics
16. DRC is regularly affected by epidemic outbreaks such as yellow fever, cholera, measles and Ebola, the Logistics Cluster is in contact with partners to support their emergency preparedness measures and contingency plans in the event of epidemic outbreaks.

Insecurity and limited access to beneficiaries
17. Armed conflicts and their impact on both the national and refugee populations remain a major concern for the humanitarian community. Moreover, the situation is further exacerbated by massive influxes of refugees from neighboring countries, including South Sudan and Burundi. Access to the people affected by said crises is increasingly limited, especially in the eastern regions (North and South Kivu). Through its six provincial hubs, the Logistics Cluster supports humanitarian actors to coordinate the logistics response to the crisis. This also includes advocacy with donors to obtain funding for logistics projects aimed at facilitating access to beneficiaries in remote areas.

Natural Disasters
18. The already dire situation in Eastern DRC is further aggravated by the likelihood of an imminent volcanic eruption in Goma, which would have a devastating impact on the population. The Logistics Cluster is working in close collaboration with the Department of Civil Protection (DPC), the Ministry of Social and Humanitarian Affairs (MSH), and the humanitarian community in North Kivu on contingency planning for the volcanic eruption and to improve their overall disaster response capabilities. This activity, which supports SDG 17, focuses on support and information management from the Logistics Cluster to the DPC and MSH; the establishment of IT tools and systems to build their institutional capacity to respond to disasters; and GIS and mapping services to produce tools to improve the response to the disaster as well as to inform the population

Recommendation
19. In light of the above, a budget increase of US $444,475 and an extension in time until 31 March 2017 is recommended for approval by the Regional Director with the budget provided.