In Numbers

- **207,000** people in need of food assistance
- **162,499** people reached in September
- **4,618 mt** of rice distributed

Highlights

- WFP has completed distributions of rice in all areas except Milne Bay Province, where WFP is currently distributing 434 mt rice to 31,000 people.
- WFP is preparing a Lessons Learned workshop on the El Niño humanitarian response together with the Government, United Nations agencies and other partners. The workshop will take place from 31 October—01 November.

Beneficiaries

- **48%** female
- **52%** male

WFP Funding Requirements

WFP is not seeking additional funding for Emergency Operation (EMOP) 200966: Food Assistance to El-Niño-Affected Populations in Papua New Guinea, at this time. USD 9.2 million of 12.6 million in total requirements has been received for the EMOP to date.

Situation Update

- In September, WFP reached 162,499 people in the country while finishing food distributions in Enga Province, Western Province, and Southern Highlands Province.
- The EMOP is on schedule to conclude on 31 October. WFP does not expect to continue any food distributions in the country but will conduct a post-drought Food Security Assessment starting November.
- WFP collected anecdotal evidence from people assisted that although they have planted their kaukau yield in May/June, they do not expect a productive harvest until as late as December 2016. However, as of October, WFP notes that agricultural recovery may be observed in many areas. WFP will conduct a post-EMOP Food Security Assessment in part to better understand the extent of the agricultural recovery.

WFP Response

- **Food and Nutrition Assistance**
  - In the Highlands, WFP completed a second round of general food distributions (GFD) from 26 August to 26 September. WFP distributed 1,440 mt of rice and reached 144,050 people (28,810 households) with each household receiving a 50 kg ration, to cover four weeks.
  - Unlike in the first round GFD in the Highlands, WFP did not distribute to Hela Province in the second round GFD, citing security concerns. In August, the Secretary for Provincial & Local Government Affairs officially requested that WFP withdraw from Hela Province.
  - The Highlands GFD operation was WFP’s largest in the country by far in terms of beneficiaries, tonnage involved and field support required. This feat was achieved despite the volatile security situation and...
necessitated heightened programme support, a staff member surge, and a swift but thorough set-up for the direct distribution.

- The GFD in Milne Bay Province is ongoing and is expected to be completed by 20 October. From 09 August to 10 October, WFP reached 73,555 of the 77,770 people (14,711 of 15,554 households) experiencing severe food insecurity. Each household received a 70 kg ration, to cover a period of six weeks.

- In Western Province and Southern Highlands Province, WFP completed its third round of GFD from 18 July to 13 September, reaching 15,510 people with 155 mt of WFP-purchased rice. Each person received a ration of 10 kg per person, to last for four weeks.

**Supply Chain**

- As of 09 September, WFP has contracted 4,701 mt of rice, of which 4,618 mt has been dispatched and distributed.

- In Milne Bay Province, there have been some delays in the sea transport due to unfavourable weather conditions and strong currents.

- From 18 July to 13 September, WFP conducted a 188 sorties in Western and Southern Highlands Provinces carrying 284 mt of WFP and Provincial Disaster Centre rice. WFP faced challenges for these airlifts including weather interference, poor conditions on some airstrips, pilot hour restrictions, and communication delays since the villages are remote and have limited access to ETC technologies.

**Gender**

- WFP continues to provide fortified rice to unregistered widows and divorced women arriving at food distribution sites. WFP evaluates the status of these women with ward councilors and community leaders.

- In September, WFP reached 78,000 female beneficiaries — more than in any single month of the operation.

- Households with two families under different women were given two separate rations.

**Clusters and Common Services**

**Food Security Cluster (FSC)**

- The FSC has encouraged collaboration on the Post Drought Rapid Assessment and implementation of the [El Niño Agriculture Recovery Plan](http://www.fao.org).

- The FSC and partners continue to monitor La Niña. According to a [FAO report](http://www.fao.org), La Niña is developing across the Pacific Islands Region, with current forecasts indicating that there is a 55 to 70 percent chance that La Niña will develop. The phenomenon could be correlated with heavy rains in Milne Bay Province and the Highlands.

**Communications**

- On 01 September, a WFP Food Monitor in Milne Bay Province was featured in a [UNDP PNG article](http://www.un.org) as part of a World Humanitarian Day series. WFP PNG also participated in the WFP-wide World Humanitarian Day Session on Twitter.

**Contacts**

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### General Food Distribution By Month

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>Total Received (in USD)</th>
<th>People Assisted</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 2016</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>60,526</td>
<td>29,052</td>
<td>31,474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2016</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>162,499</td>
<td>78,000</td>
<td>84,499</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### General Food Distribution by Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Total Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>People Assisted (in USD)</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Highlands (06 June—26 September)</td>
<td>144,050</td>
<td>69,144</td>
<td>74,906</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milne Bay Province (09 August—ongoing)</td>
<td>73,555</td>
<td>35,306</td>
<td>38,249</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western and Southern Highlands Provinces (18 July—13 September)</td>
<td>15,510</td>
<td>7,445</td>
<td>8,065</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL EMOP 200956 (25 April—31 October 2016)</td>
<td>12.6m</td>
<td>9.2m</td>
<td>233,115</td>
<td>111,895</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>