WFP Papua New Guinea
Situation Report #03

12 September 2016

In Numbers

207,000 people in need of food assistance
189,937 people reached from June-August—92 percent of the target for the operation.
2,533 mt of rice distributed from June-August

Highlights

- WFP continues to monitor the possible development of La Niña and its potential effect on operations. According to the latest FAO report, there is a 55 to 70 percent chance that La Niña will develop across the Pacific Islands Region. The phenomenon may be correlated with more intense heavy rains in Milne Bay and Enga Provinces of PNG.
- WFP faces operational challenges including a volatile security situation in the Highlands, rough sea conditions in Milne Bay Province, and periodic heavy rains throughout the country.

Beneficiaries

GENDER MARKER EMOP 200966

WFP Funding Requirements

Emergency Operation 200966: Food Assistance to El Niño-affected populations in Papua New Guinea is expected to end on 31 October. **WFP is not seeking additional funding for the EMOP at this time.** USD 9.2 million of 12.6 million in total requirements have been received for the EMOP to date.


Situation Update

- In September, WFP nears the end of its emergency operation as final round food distributions continue in Enga Province, Milne Bay Province, Southern Highlands Province and Western Province.
- WFP funding requirements for the EMOP to date.
- From 06 June to 31 August, WFP reached 91 percent, or 188,167 of the planned 207,000 people targeted in the Emergency Operation (EMOP) in Enga, Hela, Southern Highlands, Western and Milne Bay Provinces.
- As the EMOP approaches its end date on 31 October, WFP intends to work with UNDP, UN Resident Coordinator’s Office, humanitarian and Government partners on the Post-Drought Rapid Assessment and a Lessons Learned exercise in September.

WFP Response

Food and Nutrition Assistance

- On 07 August, WFP partner CARE officially ended the food distribution in the Highlands, citing the volatile security situation.
- On 26 August, WFP began a second round, direct distribution in Pilikambi Rural LLG, reaching 7,690 beneficiaries/1,538 households with 77 mt of rice. Each household received 50 kg of rice lasting four weeks.
- On 09 August, WFP began a food distribution in Milne Bay Province for the first time. In cooperation with the local Provincial Disaster Centre, dinghy boats and six larger vessels deliver rice on a daily basis starting with remote island wards in the province.
Heavy rains and rough seas continue to be challenges for the Milne Bay operation, which in August reached 27,935 people — or 54 percent of the 52,000 people requiring food assistance in the province. In August, WFP distributed a total of 391 mt of rice to the province, with each household receiving 70 kg rations lasting six weeks.

On 23 August, WFP began airlifting WFP-purchased rice for the first time in Western Province and Southern Highlands Province. Previously, airlifts were completed using rice purchased by private partners.

In August, WFP reached 5,991 people in Western Province with 59.9 mt of rice purchased by WFP. Each person received a 10 kg ration lasting four weeks.

Despite the security and weather challenges, all food distributions are on track to finish by early October.

Supply Chain

As of 09 September, WFP has contracted 4,701 mt of rice, of which 960 mt has been pre-positioned for the second round distribution in the Highlands.

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

In August, WFP conducted a total of 166 sorties in Western and Southern Highlands Provinces carrying a total of 123 mt of rice.

WFP faces challenges for these airlifts including: weather interference, poor conditions on some airstrips, pilot hour restrictions, and communication delays since the villages are very 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 August, WFP reached 27,855 female beneficiaries — 100 percent of the female beneficiaries planned for the month.

Households containing two families under different women were given two separate rations.

Clusters and Common Services

Food Security Cluster

The PNG Food Security Cluster has been discussing the transition from the emergency response phase to the recovery phase and whether a handover or deactivation will take place.

The FSC has encouraged collaboration on the Post Drought Rapid Assessment and implementation of the El Niño Agriculture Recovery Plan.

The Highlands Regional Food Security Cluster is looking at shifting leadership from the cluster to the Department of Agriculture and Livestock representatives and provincial administration. It is intended that this leadership transition process will commence at the September meeting for the seven Highlands Provinces.

Communications

On 09 August, the WFP Emergency Coordinator completed a radio interview with ABC Australia Radio for their Pacific Beat Programme. The interview was then released as a news story on their website.

On 01 September, WFP Food Monitor in Milne Bay Province was featured in a UNDP PNG article as part of a World Humanitarian Day series.

Contacts

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WFP Operation</th>
<th>Total Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>Total Received (in USD)</th>
<th>People Assisted</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMOP 200966 (25 April – 31 October 2016)</td>
<td>12.6m</td>
<td>9.2m</td>
<td>189,937</td>
<td>91,169</td>
<td>98,768</td>
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<td>General Food Distribution July 2016</td>
<td>73,450</td>
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<td>35,256</td>
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<td>General Food Distribution August 2016</td>
<td>58,032</td>
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<td>27,855</td>
<td>30,177</td>
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