

Standard Project Report 2009

GEORGIA

Relief & Recovery Assistance to Conflict-Affected Population and Other Vulnerable Groups in Georgia

Project Number	107870
Project Category	Single Country PRRO
Reporting Period	1 January - 31 December 2009
Total Beneficiaries in 2009	107,550

Project Approval Date	26 Jun 2009
Planned Start Date	01 Jul 2009
Actual Start Date	08 Jul 2009
Project End Date	30 Jun 2011
Financial Closure Date	n.a.

Approved budget as at 31 December 2009 in USD	
Food Costs	13,386,173
Other Direct Costs	8,217,419
Indirect Support Costs	1,512,251
Total Approved Budget	23,115,843

Approved Commodities	Metric Tonnes
83% Cereals And Grains	14,204
6% Miscellaneous	969
6% Oils And Fats	1,006
6% Pulses And Vegetables	960
100% Total Approved Commodities	17,139

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

COUNTRY BACKGROUND

SUMMARY OF WFP ASSISTANCE

OPERATIONAL SPR

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES

RESULTS

Beneficiaries, Targeting and Food Distribution
'Story Worth Telling'
Enhanced Commitments to Women
Outputs
Outcomes
Sustainability, Capacity Development and Handover

INPUTS

Resource Inputs from Donors, Government and Partners
Food Purchases
Food Transport, Delivery and Handling
Post-Delivery Losses

MANAGEMENT

Partnerships
Lessons Learned

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS (where applicable)

Annex: Resource Inputs from Donors
Annex: Commodity Transactions

FINANCIAL SPR

Contribution & Expenditure as a Proportion of Budget
Project Overview
Project Detail by Contribution
Status of Contributions Receivable

Country Overview



The boundaries and names shown on the maps in this document do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

COUNTRY BACKGROUND

Georgia is a lower-middle-income, food-deficit country with a population of 4.4 million people. The collapse of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s paved the way for independence, while also causing acute economic hardship, political instability, civil war and armed conflict in Georgia's two autonomous regions (Abkhazia and South Ossetia).

Economic reforms carried out by the Government since the "Rose Revolution" in 2003 resulted in strengthened macroeconomic indicators. The country continuously demonstrated strong economic growth (averaging 9.5 percent per year for 2005-2006; 12.3 percent in 2007 and 8.7 percent for the first six months of 2008). Inflation was kept below 10 percent and the local currency remained stable.

The conflict that erupted in South Ossetia in early August 2008 caused a downturn in economic growth and stability together with increasing the numbers of internally displaced persons (IDPs). The Georgian economy's pre-August 2008 GDP showed a strong 9 percent increase. However, post-conflict growth plummeted to 2.3 percent in 2008, and contracted a further 7.8 percent during the first six months of 2009.

In 2009, an estimated 316,000 people representing 16.5 percent of the total labour force, was unemployed. This figure marked an increase of 13.1 percent as opposed to 2007. Furthermore, an estimated 23.6 percent of the population lives below the official poverty line and 13.4 percent in extreme poverty.

In February and March 2009, a joint FAO/UNICEF/WFP food security, nutrition and livelihoods assessment revealed adequate food availability owing to the numerous well-stocked markets. However, displacement, unemployment and poverty continue to prevent access to markets and limit dietary diversity. The assessment recommended livelihood support as the most effective and appropriate means of improving food security and nutrition among the target population groups.

SUMMARY OF WFP ASSISTANCE

In response to Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 1, the overall objective of WFP assistance in Georgia is to support a reduction in poverty and hunger.

WFP's relief food assistance aims to prevent the loss of assets through the distribution of food in sufficient quantity and quality to cover basic food needs.

In terms of recovery, WFP resources are channelled through community-based food-for-work (FFW) and cash-for-work (CFW) activities to promote sustainable food security among food-insecure populations. WFP assistance aims to improve food production capacities through the creation and rehabilitation of agricultural assets and to help re-establish livelihoods among IDPs and other conflict-affected population groups.

In addition, WFP complements the Government's efforts to respond to tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS. Highly vulnerable people undergoing medical treatment for tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS receive food and cash assistance as an incentive to complete their full courses of treatment (MDG 6).

Throughout all activities, there is a strong focus on enhancing local capacities, participation and ownership, to facilitate preconditions for a gradual hand-over of assistance programmes to government counterparts by mid-2011.

Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total
Number of children below 5 years of age	5,600	5,300	10,900
Number of children 5 to 18 years of age	19,800	18,800	38,600
Number of adults	69,200	77,300	146,500
Total number of beneficiaries in 2009	94,600	101,400	196,000
Total number of beneficiaries in 2008	117,400	126,700	244,100
Total number of beneficiaries in 2007	62,950	66,450	129,400

Distribution (mt)						
Project Type	Cereals	Oil	Pulses	Mix	Other	Total
Single Country PRRO	11,991	880	960		778	14,609
Total food distributed in 2009	11,991	880	960		778	14,609
Total food distributed in 2008	6,997	461	418	150	426	8,452
Total food distributed in 2007	6,529	444	78	0	393	7,445

Operational SPR

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES

The PRRO supported a smooth transition from emergency relief to livelihood restoration for conflict-affected population groups.

In line with WFP Strategic Objective 3, the relief component aimed to maintain adequate food consumption levels among beneficiaries. This component targeted IDPs, newly resettled populations and vulnerable food-insecure groups.

WFP's recovery assistance aimed to improve local food production through the creation and rehabilitation of agricultural assets. The target group included resettled IDPs and poor households in the adjacent area. In consultation with local communities, and based on their specific needs, key activities included FFW and CFW.

Through its tuberculosis and HIV projects, WFP targeted tuberculosis outpatients receiving treatment under directly observed treatment (DOTS) and people living with HIV undergoing antiretroviral treatment (ART). Patients received food as an incentive to complete their courses of treatment (Strategic Objective 4).

RESULTS

Beneficiaries, Targeting and Food Distribution

Most of WFP's resources (two thirds of total distributions) were directed through the relief component of the operation. Beneficiaries included: IDPs living in government-built settlements as well as those accommodated in collective centres with host families, and local populations in areas adjacent to the conflict zone. IDP lists were provided by the government and verified through WFP monitoring activities. Targeting of beneficiaries in the adjacent area was based on comprehensive socio-economic criteria established by WFP in close consultation with local authorities. WFP provided dry take-home rations, equivalent to 2,085 calories per person per day. The food basket included cereals (wheat flour and pasta), vegetable oil, pulses (beans), sugar and iodized salt. In addition, WFP continued the supply of bread to those beneficiaries with limited or no baking facilities.

FFW and CFW activities aimed at rehabilitating/creating basic agricultural and other infrastructure were started under the previous operation and continued with the new PRRO. These targeted resettled IDPs and local populations in the communities hosting IDPs and in the area adjacent to the conflict zone.

The FFW food basket included wheat flour, vegetable oil and sugar. The per capita daily ration of 2,311 kcal was provided to an average of four persons per family. Daily remuneration through CFW equalled 5 Georgian Lari (US\$3) per day.

Tuberculosis and HIV projects were implemented in partnership with national institutions and targeted patients as per lists provided by the tuberculosis and HIV centres. Monthly or bi-weekly rations were provided to patients following a check-up with medical staff. The food basket included cereals (pasta), vegetable oil and sugar; the daily ration size (1,389 kcal for HIV and 1,072 kcal for tuberculosis patients) was calculated in consultation with national tuberculosis and HIV centres.

Beneficiary Category	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Number of children below 5 years of age	2,450	2,200	4,650	3,100	2,950	6,050	126.5%	134.1%	130.1%
Number of children 5 to 18 years of age	8,150	7,950	16,100	10,200	10,100	20,300	125.2%	127.0%	126.1%
Number of adults	29,800	32,650	62,450	38,450	42,750	81,200	129.0%	130.9%	130.0%
Total number of beneficiaries in 2009	40,400	42,800	83,200	51,750	55,800	107,550	128.1%	130.4%	129.3%
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									
Internally Displaced Persons	14,630	15,840	30,470	14,400	15,250	29,650	98.4%	96.3%	97.3%
Beneficiaries of General food distribution (GFD)	21,800	24,600	46,400	26,350	28,700	55,050	120.9%	116.7%	118.6%
Participants in Food For Work	6,900	4,600	11,500	14,400	3,150	17,550	208.7%	68.5%	152.6%
HIV/AIDS and TB beneficiaries	3,950	1,850	5,800	3,100	1,450	4,550	78.5%	78.4%	78.4%
Cash and Voucher Beneficiaries	8,600	9,400	18,000	4,400	4,750	9,150	51.2%	50.5%	50.8%

Commodity Distribution

Commodity	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual v. Planned
Beans	405	298	73.6%
Iodised Salt	41	2	5.7%
Pasta	825	658	79.7%
Sugar	357	307	86.1%
Vegetable Oil	402	355	88.4%
Wheat Flour	4,553	3,911	85.9%
Total for 2009	6,583	5,532	84.0%

'Story Worth Telling'

Asmat is a 50-year old mother of a large family. Before the August 2008 war, they lived in the village Satskheneti of Gori district. The conflict forced the family to leave their home. The family was accommodated in one of the collective centres in the capital, which were established during the first days of the conflict.

"When I first arrived in Tbilisi with my large family, with nothing to our names, I thought that my life was not worth living. In addition, my husband got sick and needed medical care. The only income we had was a monthly allowance of 70 Gel for my disable daughter, - she is sick with cerebral palsy from birth. I was desperate," - recalls Asmat.

Later the family was resettled into the IDP settlement located in Shaumiani village. In April, a small land plot of 0.2 hectare was allocated to each IDP household living in the settlements.

The family receives regular food assistance from WFP. During February-April they also received cash from three UN agencies (WFP, UNICEF and UNHCR) to cover their food and other needs.

In May, WFP launched a CFW project with the participation of IDPs accommodated in Shaumiani. The project aimed to reclaim and fence plots allocated to IDPs. Each participant received a daily cash incentive for the work accomplished at the project site.

Asmat and her older son participated in the project. The cumulative incentive totalled 300 Lari (US\$180) for each of them.

"We spent the greatest part of the money on seeds, fertilizers and machinery", says Asmat proudly, showing the small plot cultivated under maize. "Now I feel much better", she continues, "I have shelter, I have good neighbours, I have a small plot and, most importantly, I have hope for a better future."

Enhanced Commitments to Women

The country office successfully advocated for women's participation in food management committees. The actual proportion of women receiving food rations under GFD also exceeded the target. However, the country office needs to increase the proportion of women holders of food entitlements, given that existing numbers are below the target. Extensive sensitisation campaign will be carried out among the beneficiaries to emphasize importance of women's role in food management at household level.

<i>Enhanced Commitments to Women Indicators</i>	Planned	Actual
Proportion of household food entitlements (on ration cards or distribution list) issued in women's name in GFD	52%	36%
Proportion of women in leadership positions in food management committees	50%	54%
Proportion of women receiving household food rations at distribution point in GFD	52%	52%

Outputs

Relief food distributions were carried out in over 155 collective centres and 30 new settlements. Local populations were assisted in 30 communities adjacent to the conflict zone.

FFW and CFW projects were implemented in 73 communities in five targeted regions. The majority of approved micro-projects were accomplished according to the agreed schedule. Due to late confirmation of cash contributions as well as the prolonged process of procuring non-food items, the start-up of CFW activities was delayed and most of the activities are scheduled for completion during the next reporting period.

Physical outputs shown against FFW include also those achieved through CFW activities.

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
Care and Treatment (ART, TB and PMTCT)				
No. of ART health facilities receiving food support	number	4	4	100.0%
No. of patients of ART supported	number	500	385	77.0%
No. of TB health facilities receiving food support	number	69	69	100.0%
No. of TB patients on DOTS supported	number	5,200	4,100	78.8%
Cash Transfers and Vouchers				
Number of cash entitlement cards issued in men's name	number	2,250	434	19.3%
Number of cash entitlement cards issued in women name	number	2,250	652	29.0%
Number of men receiving cash	number	2,250	913	40.6%
Number of women receiving cash	number	2,250	1,370	60.9%
Percentage of beneficiaries receiving cash on time	%	100	99	99.0%
Percentage of beneficiaries receiving the right amount of cash	%	100	100	100.0%
Total cash amount (USD) distributed	USD	1,200,000	263,700	22.0%
FFA/FFW				
Area (ha) protected/developed	ha	2,199	1,670	75.9%
Hectares of lands with irrigation systems built/restored	ha	20,578	19,139	93.0%
Kilometres of drainage channels restored	km	66	60	90.9%
Kilometres of roads rehabilitated	km	2	2	100.0%
No. of shallow wells constructed	number	24	22	91.7%
Volume of checkdams or gully plugs constructed	m3	5,963	4,747	79.6%

Outcomes

A follow-up food security assessment, conducted in October 2009, showed considerable improvements in food consumption levels among the targeted beneficiaries. While caloric intakes remained at adequate levels, the assessment revealed tangible improvements in dietary diversity. The Allocation of agricultural land plots to most of the IDPs allowed them to start up their own food production that, coupled with FFW/CFW incentives, provided additional income for improved livelihoods and food security.

Since most FFW activities implemented during the reporting period were those started under the previous PRRO, the country office could not assess the community asset score. This indicator is planned to be thoroughly monitored and reported on in 2010 for those projects approved within the framework of the new PRRO.

Outcome		Base Value <i>(at start of project or benchmark)</i>	Previous Follow-up <i>(penultimate follow-up)</i>	Latest Follow-up <i>(latest value measured)</i>
Strategic Objective 3: Restore and rebuild lives and livelihoods in post-conflict, post-disaster or transition situations				
FCS: percentage of households with a poor Food Consumption Score	↑1	11	16	0
FCS: percentage of households with a borderline Food Consumption Score	↑2	80	74	32
FCS: percentage of households with an acceptable Food Consumption Score	↑3	9	10	68
Strategic Objective 4: Reduce chronic hunger and undernutrition				
% of adults and children with HIV known to be on treatment 6 and 12 months after initiation of ART	↑4	98	98	98
% of TB cases registered under DOTS programme in a given year, that have successfully completed treatment	↑5	73	91	91

↑See endnotes for information about data sources

Sustainability, Capacity Development and Handover

Through the new PRRO, WFP continued to focus on interventions with a longer-term impact on beneficiaries. The best examples are the joint WFP/FAO FFW/CFW projects that were initiated towards the end of the reporting period. These projects, implemented in support of resettled IDPs, will seek individual household-level solutions for agriculture-based activities, by providing small animals, building stables and harvesting rain water.

INPUTS

Resource Inputs from Donors, Government and Partners

Total contributions by the end of the reporting period represented 66 percent of 2009 requirements (21 percent of overall projected needs).

Local NGO cooperating partners continued providing complementary food items and cooking facilities, and prepared meals for beneficiaries through soup kitchens, shelters for the elderly and children's centres.

Local authorities have actively participated in the prioritization and planning of FFW activities and covered part of the costs through the provision of non-food items and the transportation of food to final distribution points.

Donor	Resourced in 2009 (mt)		Shipped/Purchased in 2009 (mt)
	In-Kind	Cash	
European Commission		3,203	3,092
Private Donors		218	218
Total:		3,421	3,310

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

Food Purchases

Most of the commodities were procured through international and regional purchases. The country office purchased additional amounts of pasta from a local supplier, based on the cost-effectiveness of this particular commodity as well as to encourage local food production.

Commodity	Local Purchases (mt)	Triangular Purchases (mt)	Other International Purchases (mt)
Beans	0	220	0
Pasta	467	0	0
Rice	0	350	0
Sugar	0	0	161
Vegetable Oil	0	156	0
Wheat Flour	0	1,957	0
Total:	467	2,682	161

Food Transport, Delivery and Handling

Commodities were shipped to the Georgian port of Poti. Verifying the quantity and quality of packaging was performed by the superintendence company appointed and paid for by WFP. Food commodities from port to WFP warehouses were transported by the forwarding agent and further transportation to distribution points was conducted by hired private transporters.

Commodity	Metric Tonnes								%	
	Opening Stock	Commodities Received	Commodity Transactions	Total Handled	Food Distributed	Closing Stock (In-Country)* ¹	Closing Stock (Total)* ²	Post Delivery Losses		Loss vs Handled
Vegetable Oil	16	0	343	181	524	355	168	156	0	0.0%
Wheat Flour	17	0	3,050	2,694	5,745	3,911	1,829	1,748	4	0.1%
Beans	18	0	436	31	467	298	168	167	1	0.1%
Iodised Salt	19	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	2.3%
Pasta	110	0	494	250	744	658	86	82	0	0.0%
Sugar	111	0	276	197	473	307	165	152	0	0.1%
Rice		0	0	0	0	0	0	350	0	
Project Total:		0	4,599	3,356	7,955	5,532	2,417	2,655	6	0.1%

* The projects closing stock is presented in two formats: ¹ describes COMPAS closing stock (WFP in recipient country + cooperating partner/s), while ² describes the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) compliant closing stocks, which are total stocks (inside and outside the recipient country and on high seas) as reflected in the Annual Financial Statement. Further information on these two values are available on the SPR Guidance webpage.

† Where applicable, see Annex: Food Transport, Delivery and Handling, Annex: Commodity Transactions, and Endnotes for information on opening and closing stocks

Post-Delivery Losses

Losses were minimal during the reporting period for most of the commodities, except iodized salt. The main losses of this commodity occurred in the WFP warehouse during rebagging-reconstitution due to poor packaging materials. In order to minimize losses, regular checking of commodities was undertaken and laboratory testing and fumigation performed whenever necessary. Stacks were set up as per standard procedures and minimized whenever possible in order to increase ventilation and avoid damages to bags/boxes.

MANAGEMENT

Partnerships

WFP continued to implement the relief component in partnership with international NGOs, such as World Vision International (WVI), Care, Save the Children and International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC).

FFW activities and the tuberculosis project in the conflict-affected area of Abkhazia were implemented in collaboration with WVI (FFW) and Médecins Sans Frontières (tuberculosis project).

The institutional assistance component was implemented in partnership with local NGOs.

As part of the UNCT, WFP actively participated in the UN Joint Support Plan to HIV/AIDS National Response in Georgia and in preparation of UNDAF and multi-hazard contingency planning.

NGO Data Collection	
Total number of International NGO Partners in the project	5
Total number of Local NGO Partners in the project	13

Lessons Learned

After OCHA phased out of the country in April 2009, the Government no longer benefited from the coordination support it required. As a result, most of the clusters created during the emergency had to continue their functions. This led to the Government losing some of its ownership of assistance projects implemented across the country.

Endnotes

- 11 Base value: Sep-2008, Emergency food security assessment conducted in IDPs, WFP survey. Previous Follow-up: Mar-2009, FAO//UNICEF//WFP Assessment. IDPs settlements, col.centrs, adj. area villages., WFP survey. Latest Follow-up: Oct-2009, Assesment conducted in IDPs settlements, col.centrs, adjacent area villages., WFP survey.
- 12 Base value: Sep-2008, Emergency food security assessment conducted in IDPs, WFP survey. Previous Follow-up: Mar-2009, FAO//UNICEF//WFP Assessment, IDPs settlements, col.centrs, adj. area villages., WFP survey. Latest Follow-up: Oct-2009, Assesment conducted in IDPs settlements, col.centrs, adjacent area villages., WFP survey.
- 13 Base value: Sep-2008, Emergency food security assessment conducted in IDPs collective centers, WFP survey. Previous Follow-up: Mar-2009, FAO//UNICEF//WFP Assessment, IDPs settlements, col.centrs, adj. area villages., WFP survey. Latest Follow-up: Oct-2009, Assesment conducted in IDPs settlements, col.centrs, adjacent area villages., WFP survey.
- 14 Base value: Nov-2006, Information from National AIDS Centre., Secondary data. Previous Follow-up: Jun-2009, Consolidated information from medical centres., Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2009, Consolidated information from medical centres., Secondary data.
- 15 Base value: May-2004, MSCI Concept paper., Secondary data. Previous Follow-up: Jun-2009, Information from assisted TB facilities., Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Sep-2009, Information from assisted TB facilities., Secondary data.
- 16 Commodities transactions represent the transfer of carry over stocks from the previous closed operation.
- 17 Commodities transactions represent the transfer of carry over stocks from the previous closed operation.
- 18 Commodities transactions represent the transfer of carry over stocks from the previous closed operation.
- 19 Commodities transactions represent the transfer of carry over stocks from the previous closed operation.
- 110 Commodities transactions represent the transfer of carry over stocks from the previous closed operation.
- 111 Commodities transactions represent the transfer of carry over stocks from the previous closed operation.

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Annex: Resource Inputs from Donors

Donor	Cont. Ref. No	Commodity	Resourced in 2009 (mt)		Shipped/ Purchased in 2009 (mt)
			In-Kind	Cash	
European Commission	EEC-C-00166-01	Beans		220	220
European Commission	EEC-C-00166-01	Iodised Salt		25	
European Commission	EEC-C-00166-01	Pasta		420	420
European Commission	EEC-C-00166-01	Rice		350	350
European Commission	EEC-C-00166-01	Sugar		46	46
European Commission	EEC-C-00166-01	Vegetable Oil		99	99
European Commission	EEC-C-00166-01	Wheat Flour		2,043	1,957
Private Donors	WPD-C-00420-01	Sugar		92	92
Private Donors	WPD-C-00420-01	Vegetable Oil		57	57
Private Donors	WPD-C-00429-01	Pasta		47	47
Private Donors	WPD-C-00429-01	Sugar		23	23
Total:				3,421	3,310

Annex: Commodity Transactions

Commodity	Commodity Transaction	Going out		Coming in	
		To project	mt	From project	mt
Beans	Transfer			102111	31
Iodised Salt	Transfer			102111	2
Pasta	Transfer			102111	250
Sugar	Transfer			102111	197
Vegetable Oil	Transfer			102111	181
Wheat Flour	Transfer			102111	2,694
Project Total:					3,356