



World Food Programme

WFP Office of Evaluation: Introductory Brief

Evaluation is: the systematic and impartial, periodic assessment of the performance of WFP's activities, operations, strategies and policies. (Evaluation Policy 2008)

Evaluation is part of WFP's accountability and learning framework:

- *Accountability* – The obligation to report on work carried out and results achieved
- *Learning* – Improving practice based on past experience and new knowledge

Purpose of Evaluation:

- Provide evidence on the achievement of intended and unintended results, causal contributions and performance (accountability)
- Understand the reasons and factors affecting performance and results to support continuous improvement (learning)

Uses:

- Inform decision-making through credible, reliable and useful findings, lessons and recommendations.
- Build consensus on how to respond to a problem.
- Contribute to building knowledge and innovation.

Characteristics of the Office of Evaluation (OEV):

Structurally: OEV is structurally separate from WFP's units responsible for the design and implementation of policies and operations that are evaluated and the

Director of Evaluation reports to WFP's Executive Director and the Executive Board;

Institutionally: mechanisms are in place that ensure independence in the planning, funding and reporting of evaluations. All evaluations are presented to the Executive Board, and the Director of Evaluation has full authority for OEVs human and financial resources and evaluation plans;

Behaviourally: OEV operates in accordance with internationally set norms, standards and code of conduct for evaluation, with policies and systems to manage and minimise conflicts of interest, safeguard evaluators from repercussions, and protect evaluation principles of independence, credibility and utility.



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Evaluation Principles



Roles & Responsibilities

WFP Executive Board:

- Is the custodian of the Evaluation Policy;
- Sets the enabling environment for evaluation in WFP;
- Provides strategic guidance to the evaluation function;
- Reviews OEV's work plan and budget as set out in WFP's Management Plan;
- Holds management accountable for follow up to evaluation findings and recommendations in policy and programme decision making;
- Uses evaluation findings and recommendations in its decision-making.

Executive Director:

- Provides resources to enable adequate evaluation coverage;
- Is responsible for WFP's Management Response and follow up to evaluations.

Director Office of Evaluation:

- Develops OEV's workplan ensuring balanced coverages;
- Delivers high quality credible independent evaluations;
- Approves and publishes key evaluation documents including Terms of Reference and Evaluation Reports;
- Promotes access and use of evaluations through publication and active dissemination.

What do evaluations focus on?

In conducting evaluations, the Office of Evaluation:

- applies international evaluation criteria: *Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, Sustainability*;
- employs independent teams to conduct evaluations and ensures that all evaluations meet WFP's evaluations quality standards .

Evaluations focus on answering:

- ✓ Are we doing things right?
- ✓ Are we doing the right thing?
- ✓ What difference are we making?
- ✓ What are we learning?
- ✓ Are there better ways of achieving intended results?

Annual Work Programme & OEV's interaction with the Executive Board Members

The Director of Evaluation engages directly with the Executive Board on strategic development of WFP's evaluation function, and the OEV Annual Workplan.

Annual Consultation on Evaluation:

- Annual Evaluation Report
- Office of Evaluation forward workplan & strategy
- Evaluation function development

Round Tables on Evaluation:

- Informal discussion of Evaluation Reports (OEV) and Management Response (Management)

Executive Board Sessions

- Formal consideration of Evaluation Reports (OEV) and Management Response (Management)



Office of Evaluation Work Plan 2015 – 16

EVALUATION TYPE	FOCUS	SELECTED EVALUATION TOPIC
Strategic	Strategic Evaluations focus on strategic and systemic issues of corporate relevance related to corporate and strategic decision making.	WFP's Preparedness and Response Enhancement Programme (PREP) REACH
Policy	Policy Evaluations assess the quality and results of a specific policy within 4-6 years of EB approval.	Nutrition Policy WFP's Capacity Development Policy
Impact	Impact Evaluations focus on outcomes and impacts, causal contributions and explanatory factors. Conducted in series, they aim to inform future policy and programming decisions.	Moderate acute malnutrition (MAM)-1 Moderate acute malnutrition (MAM)-2 Moderate acute malnutrition (MAM)-3 Moderate acute malnutrition (MAM)-4 Moderate acute malnutrition (MAM)-5
Country Portfolio	Country Portfolio Evaluations assess performance and results of a Country Office's entire portfolio over a five years period. Aims to inform country offices' strategies and contribution to UNDAF.	United Republic of Tanzania Country Portfolio WFP's Portfolio in the State of Palestine WFP's Portfolio in Mauritania WFP's Portfolio in Burundi WFP's Portfolio in Iraq
Humanitarian Emergency Level 3 Response	These Evaluations assess WFP's Response to Level 3 emergencies, either for WFP alone or the inter-agency response.	WFP's Syria crisis response Philippines (Inter-agency) South Sudan (Inter-agency) Central African Republic (Inter-agency)
Operations	Operations Evaluations focus on single operations systematically selected to reflect WFP's operational Programme of work by region and programme category.	30
Synthesis/ Other	Syntheses systematically analyse findings from a series of evaluations on specific topics, to strengthen WFP's overall knowledge base across contexts and identify lessons for future policy and programme. Other evaluation assessment and advisory activities are carried out to strengthen WFP's overall evaluation function.	Synthesis Report of the Evaluation Series on WFP's Emergency Preparedness and Response Annual Evaluation Report 2014 Annual Evaluation Report 2015 Synthesis Report of 2014-2015 Operation Evaluations Synthesis Report of 2015-2016 Operation Evaluations

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Completed Evaluations 2014

Country Portfolio	Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC): an evaluation of WFP's Portfolio (2009-2013)
	Uganda: an evaluation of WFP's Portfolio (2009-2013)
	Indonesia: an evaluation of WFP's Country Portfolio (2009-2013)
Synthesis	Synthesis Food for Assets Impact Evaluation series
	Annual Synthesis of Operations Evaluations (June 2013 - July 2014)
Other	Peer Review of the Evaluation Function of the UN World Food Programme (2008-2013)
	Annual Evaluation Report, 2013
Strategic	FAO/WFP Joint Evaluation of Food Security Cluster Coordination in Humanitarian Action
	WFP's Use of Pooled Funds
	Pilot Purchase for Progress Initiative 2008-2013
Policy	WFP's Cash and Voucher Policy
Operations	<i>12 Operations Evaluations completed</i>

Reference:

Full and summary reports of evaluations, evaluation products and the Management Responses are available at www.wfp.org/evaluation For more information please contact the Office of Evaluation WFP.evaluation@WFP.org

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