UNEG/OECD DAC WFP PEER REVIEW

PRESENTATION TO WFP EXECUTIVE BOARD

2021



Panel Members

Marco Segone, Peer Review Chair, Director, Evaluation Office of United Nations Population Fund

Sven Harten, Deputy Director, German Institute for Development Evaluation (DeVAL)





Maurya West Meiers, Senior Evaluation Officer, World Bank's Independent Evaluation Group's "Methods Advisory Team"



David Rider Smith, Senior Evaluation Coordinator, Evaluation Service of United Nations High Commission for Refugees

Silvia Salinas, President of the International Organization for Cooperation in Evaluation



Anu Saxen, Director, Development Evaluation Unit, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland



Daniel Arghiros, Senior Evaluation Consultant to the Panel

Overall Assessment

- WFP has established a strong and mature centralized evaluation function.
- The decentralized evaluation system is less mature, but significant progress has been made:
 - Panel congratulates WFP, OEV & Regional Evaluation Units for achievements to date.
- UNEG Norms and Standards have been embedded throughout evaluation function.
- High degree of professionalism in OEV & influences international evaluation community.
- Panel endorses fully Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN) assessment conclusion that WFP has:
 - "A highly strategic independent corporate evaluation function" that produces "high-quality centralized and decentralized evaluations".
- Not recommending any fundamental changes to strong existing model: it works well.
- Panel makes six overarching recommendations, with action points under each.
- WFP focus should be on strengthening even further the utility of the evaluation function (value added).

Independence

Central evaluation function has a high degree of structural and functional independence. Recommendation 1:

• All conditions that relate to independence should be stated in next Evaluation Policy.

Recommendation 2:

Next Policy should again set target for a % of WFP's income to be dedicated to evaluation.
Credibility

Evaluation function & its products have **high degree of credibility**:

OEV has established very robust principles, guidance and practices for both centralized and decentralized evaluations.

Recommendation 3:

Ensure the evaluation function has the required professional skills and diversity – report contains some concrete suggestions.

Utility: Enhancing Value Addition

Recommendation 4:

Further enhance contribution that evaluation makes to organizational learning in WFP.

Panel recommends:

a) the Executive Board incentivizes WFP's senior management to integrate evaluative lessons into the organization's practices; and WFP's senior management drive this same approach downwards within the organization.

b) OEV **experiment with different approaches and methodologies**, and offer an expanded "menu" of evaluation tools.

c) OEV enhances its added value by **systematically providing targeted evidence to targeted decision-makers for targeted decisions.**

Further strengthening the Integrated Evaluation Function

Recommendation 5:

Implement changes that will help strengthen the utility of decentralized evaluations and contribute to a stronger integrated evaluation function.

Panel suggests series of detailed action points to further strengthen decentralized evaluation.

Positioning & Partnership

WFP has strong record of working in partnership and supporting global evaluation practice. But it can be strengthened.

Recommendation 6:

Given experience and status of WFP's evaluation function the Panel considers that WFP can take a leadership role globally in developing and sharing evaluation approaches.