



WFP EVALUATION

Evaluation of The Gambia WFP Country Strategic Plan 2019-2021



World Food Programme

**SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES**

Executive Board November 2021

Q1 TO WHAT EXTENT ARE WFP'S STRATEGIC POSITION, ROLE AND SPECIFIC CONTRIBUTION BASED ON COUNTRY PRIORITIES AND PEOPLE'S NEEDS, AS WELL AS WFP'S STRENGTHS?



The CSP had **strong alignment with national policies**, except for obesity and agricultural processing



WFP responded well to needs and showed strong adaptability to upscale during implementation.



Targeting of schools and for resilience activities could be further refined.

Q2 WHAT IS THE EXTENT AND QUALITY OF WFP'S SPECIFIC CONTRIBUTION TO (T-I)CSP STRATEGIC OUTCOMES?



SO1 Emergency response: Good quality response in 2019 but delayed Covid-19 response in 2020.



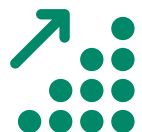
SO2 School feeding: Increased its performance but handover of two regions needs further consolidation.



SO3 Nutrition activities benefited from effective partnerships, but after meeting targets in 2018/19 suffered delays in 2020.



SO4 Smallholder farmer and resilience activities suffered from late funding availability and bottlenecks affected linkage of smallholder farmers to school meals.



SO5 Important contributions to **country capacity strengthening**, but lack of strategic planning and monitoring.

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES



Well-designed **gender** approaches and activities, now speeding-up thanks to improved CO capacities.



Due protection measures; and affected populations largely satisfied with information about activities and availing of a proper feedback mechanism.



Sustainability: more efforts required for the handover of HGSF and nutrition programmes.



Triple-nexus: CSP facilitating linkages between the three through specific activities

Q3 TO WHAT EXTENT DID WFP USE ITS RESOURCES EFFICIENTLY IN CONTRIBUTING TO CSP OUTPUTS AND STRATEGIC OUTCOMES?



CSP direct support costs and transfer costs were acceptable when comparing with countries with similar contexts.



Some key resources arrived late in 2019 and 2020



Timeliness can be improved for SBCC and CBT to schools.

Q4 WHAT ARE THE FACTORS THAT EXPLAIN WFP PERFORMANCE AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH IT HAS MADE THE STRATEGIC SHIFT EXPECTED BY THE CSP?



Strengthened existing strategic **partnerships** and new ones developed. Strong engagement in the Delivery-as-One approach



Adequate **contributions** (except for SO4 in 2019) but high levels of earmarking limited flexibility



Other challenges: COVID restrictions, slow pace of staff capacity alignment and shortcomings in performance monitoring

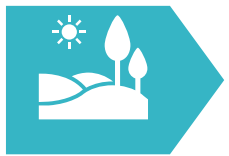
CONCLUSIONS



Strategic shift of the highly relevant CSP positioned WFP well and was supported by expanded and strengthened partnerships



Adaptive humanitarian player during crises



Late start of resilience activities (end 2020)



Successful implementation, but handover of the SFP requires further consolidation and enhanced smallholder farmer participation



Need to consider obesity in alignment with national priorities



Gradual shift towards supporting the strengthening of national systems, but there is a need for a well-articulated national capacity-strengthening strategy

RECOMMENDATIONS

1

Maintain the thematic areas of the current CSP, with a **strong focus on capacity strengthening**, applying adjustments to **increase alignment** with national priorities.

2

Country capacity-strengthening: need for gap assessments, a comprehensive strategy and enhanced skillset of staff.

3

Further **strengthen the gender approach of the CSP** using **dedicated resources**.

4

Strengthen M&E systems of the CSP with a dedicated M&E system for country capacity strengthening activities.

5

Improve the value chain approach and local purchase mechanisms to **increase smallholder farmer participation in the HGSP programme**.