



WFP EVALUATION

Evaluation of Kyrgyz Republic WFP Country Strategic Plan 2018-2022

October 2022

Round Table



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

Context

- Multidimensional poverty rate at 42%
- Dispersed population of 6.7 million with 34.97 persons per km
- High dependence on international remittances which comprise 43% of GDP
- Prevalence of food security and gender-based inequities largely in rural areas (63% population rural)
- Vulnerable to environmental shocks and climate change
- COVID-19 has worsened food consumption across the Kyrgyz Republic



WFP CSP in Kyrgyz Republic 2018-2022

Five strategic outcomes

(% of needs-based plan after June 2021 Budget Revision 5 | DSC: 6.5%; ISC: 6.1%)



13.3%

Vulnerable populations including schoolchildren have access to safe, adequate, and nutritious food all year round

S01



37.5%

Enhanced livelihoods and increased resilience to shocks

S02



15.8%

Food insecure communities vulnerable to climate change have strengthened food systems

S03



9.4%

Country capacity strengthening for centralized and decentralized government

S04



11.5%

Support to meet food recovery and nutrition needs for early recovery during and in aftermath of a crisis

S05

Data collection methods



- **Mixed methods:** Triangulation of documentation, interviews, focus group discussions, questionnaire
- **Field mission:** Three week in-person field trip which included site visits
- **Extensive engagement of beneficiaries:** 291 through focus group discussions, 1029 through phone interviews
- **Ethical safeguards:** Attention to confidentiality, gender and ethical considerations
- **COVID-19:** Partially remote data collection (inception phase)

Findings

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?



Relevant to the national priorities and aligned with national policies and strategies



Evidence-based targeting of most vulnerable, though concern around potential exclusion errors due to conditionality requirements



Successful adaptation to the COVID-19 pandemic



WFP took a leadership role among UN agencies characterized by a strong coordination role

Q2 What is the extent and quality of WFP's specific contribution to CSP strategic outcomes?



SO1 Strengthened capacity of government institutions and schools to implement the School Meals Programme and contribution to the legislative and management systems for national capacity on SMP

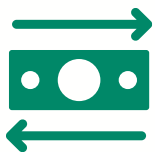


SO2 and SO3 [Implemented as a single programme]

Effective implementation of food assistance activities funded by traditional donors; climate adaptation activities have been more limited due to delays in funding from GCF



SO4 Contribution to national capacity strengthening through interventions to support policy development and institutional development. Limited engagement at local levels



SO5 Contribution to CBT as early recovery assistance to vulnerable households affected by the COVID-19 pandemic

Q2 What is the extent and quality of WFP's specific contribution to CSP strategic outcomes?



Proper adherence to humanitarian principles and good performance on protection. Concern around conditional transfer requirements



Gender equality mainstreamed. Gender disparities observed in project selection



Although there has been progress on sustainability of SMP, challenges remain for institutionalization of capacity development



Opportunities for a triple nexus approach constrained by the CSP architecture and stakeholders' perceptions of WFP's role

Q3 To what extent did WFP use its resources efficiently in contributing to CSP outputs and strategic outcomes?



Overall, timely provision of transfers. Emergency response somewhat delayed due to absence of a crisis-response focus area in the initial CSP



Broadly appropriate coverage of beneficiaries



Food transfers are more cost effective than cash due to government management of food distribution



Cost-effectiveness analysis and alternative measures have determined that little adjustment can be made at the macro level

Q4 What are the factors that explain WFP performance and the extent to which it has made the strategic shift expected by the CSP?



Evidence-based, consultative programming based upon assumptions about the stability of the country context



Flexible, multi-year funding but lack of donor diversity and decreasing availability of resources



Consistently strong interest from government, but significant disruptions from COVID-19 and political changes



WFP able to adapt programming to emerging needs



Country office capacity was stable but stretched

Conclusions



Strategic positioning: WFP's role in country capacity strengthening enhanced. Room to strengthen and expand positioning on social protection



Design: Coherence of CSP design with underpinning of social protection logic affected by siloed implementation



Results of the CSP: Overall achievement of beneficiary and output targets. Key contribution to the legislative and management systems for national capacity on SMP



Partnerships: WFP's coordination role is strong with UNCT, government, and CSOs. Opportunities for greater diversity of partners across the nexus



Gender: Achievements in gender sensitive programming but gender transformative programming requires adequate gender expertise



Reaching the most vulnerable: Targeting criteria were revised to include those affected by pandemic. Concern that conditionality requirements may exclude extremely vulnerable



Sustainability and long-term development: Sustainability remains a challenge. Advancing a programmatic approach, institutionalizing capacity building, and monitoring contribution to long-term development outcomes is needed

Recommendations

1

Strengthen the **conceptual frameworks for country capacity strengthening** and linkages across SOs for greater internal coherence contributions to long-term development outcomes

2

Continue to **expand social protection** strategic positioning

3

Continue to **strengthen the partnerships with the government, UN agencies and civil society** for enhanced complementary programming and sustainability

4

Continue to **diversify the donor base**

5

Continue to refine and reassess coverage and targeting to **better reach extremely vulnerable** or potential new beneficiary groups

6

Further **invest in evidence generation to track long-term contributions to development** outcomes, enhance project management as well as inform policy development