Evaluation of Benin
WFP Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023

July 2023

Informal consultation
Methodology

- Desk analysis - evaluation & other data
- Field site visits
- Interviews and focus groups (400+); school survey (40)
- Gender & ethical issues
Benin CSP 2019-2023
(as per BR02 September 2020)

Four strategic outcomes

Benefits
1 million targeted 2019-2023
0.9 million reached in 2020
0.85 million reached in 2021
1 million reached Jan-June 2022

89%
School feeding

3%
Nutrition

2%
Country capacity strengthening

7%
Crisis response

SO1
SO2
SO3
SO4
EVALUATION FINDINGS
Q1. Relevance & strategic focus

- Evidence-based and reflecting food and nutrition needs
- SO1 and SO3 well aligned but limited alignment of SO2
- Coherent with UN strategies and plans
- Addition of SO4 showed adaptability but no adjustments under SO2
- Lack of provision for emergency response and resilience building
Q2. Contribution to strategic outcomes

**SO1 School feeding:** WFP managed massive scale-up and significant contribution to success of the national school feeding programme

**SO2 Nutrition:** Limited implementation due to lack of funding

**SO3 Country Capacity Strengthening:** Delayed start due to late funding arrival

**SO4 Emergency response:** Assistance arrived too late to address immediate needs
Q2. Cross cutting issues

AAP needs further strengthening

Gender: Insufficient efforts and disappointing results (e.g. in terms of closing gender gap in school enrolment)

Humanitarian principles: targeting not fully independent and gaps in inclusion

Current school feeding model requires adaptation to ensure sustainability

Integration of development and resilience building at an early stage
Q3. Cost-efficient use of resources to contribute to CSP outputs and outcomes

Efficient and timely logistics for school feeding but assistance to flood affected people delayed

School feeding aim of universal coverage by 2025 – but insufficient attention to areas of low enrolment/high food insecurity

Limited coverage of nutrition interventions

School feeding highly cost effective
Q4. Factors explaining performance

- Majority of funding from Government of Benin
- Complementary partnerships for school feeding, but limited coverage of schools
- Increase in work force but lack of expertise in certain technical areas (e.g. gender and emergency response)
- Improvements in monitoring but reliance on national systems means complementary activities' integration not tracked
High-level Conclusions (1/2)

**Results and strategic orientation**

- Successful implementation of national school feeding programme with indirect impact on food and nutrition security
- Modest contribution to overall food and nutrition security
- Close relationship with the Government of Benin
- Imbalance in strategic orientation
High-level Conclusions (2/2)

Programme design and implementation

• Insufficiently articulated capacity strengthening strategy exacerbated by uneven funding levels
• Lack of a clear strategy for addressing cross-cutting issues and insufficient efforts to promote gender equality
• Efficient implementation but need to explore more sustainable procurement model
• Weaknesses in some areas of technical expertise
## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Balance strategic direction across school feeding, nutrition, resilience & preparedness

2. Strengthen the integration of cross-cutting aspects

3. Promote WFP’s comparative advantages outside school feeding

4. Strengthen sustainability

5. Align staff capacity to strategic direction