

Evaluation Terms of Reference



SUMMARY TERMS OF REFERENCE

CAMBODIA: AN EVALUATION OF WFP PORTFOLIO (2011-2017)

Country Portfolio Evaluations (CPE) encompass the entirety of WFP activities during a specific period. They evaluate the performance and results of the portfolio as a whole and provide evaluative insights to make evidence-based decisions about positioning WFP in a country and about strategic partnerships, programme design, and implementation. Country Portfolio Evaluations help Country Offices in the preparation or review of Country Strategic Plans and UNDAF cycles, and in documenting lessons that can be used in the design of new operations.

Country context

Following more than two decades of strong economic growth, the World Bank officially revised the status of Cambodia's economy in July 2016, moving it up into lower-middle income status¹. Poverty continues to fall in Cambodia, albeit more slowly than in the past. In 2012, the poverty rate was 17.7 percent with 90 percent of the poor living in rural areas. Cambodia's Human Development Index value for 2014 is 0.55 positioning it in the medium human development category at 143 out of 188 countries and territories².

Increased income appears to be translating into more diverse and nutritious diets, especially among the poorest segment of the population. However, according to Cambodia Socioeconomic Surveys the national undernourishment prevalence still remains at 33 percent. Despite the economic growth, overall, 32 percent of Cambodian children under age 5 are stunted, and 9 percent are severely stunted with very little difference in the level of stunting by gender. Ten percent of children under age 5 are wasted, and 2 percent are severely wasted with wasting prevalence not differing substantially by sex³.

Objectives, rationale and users of the evaluation

Evaluations serve the dual objectives of accountability and learning.

The new Cambodia Country Strategic Plan is due for approval in November 2018. The evaluation is an opportunity for the Country Office to benefit from an independent assessment of its 2011-2017⁴

portfolio of operations in line with WFP's Strategic Plans (2008-2013 and 2014-2017).

The key intended users of the evaluation findings and recommendations are the Country Office in liaison with the Government of Cambodia and other UN and Non-UN partners.

Scope and methodology

The scope of the evaluation will cover a six years period from 2011 to 2017. Thus, in summary, the CPE will review and assess the overall performance of the various relief and recovery activities under the CP⁵ 200202 focused on marginalized Cambodians living in the most food-insecure provinces, an IR-EMOP⁶ targeting areas affected by floods in 2011 and the subsequent 12 month EMOP⁷ 200373, a bilateral operation for the provision of technical assistance and a trust fund granted to support the Humanitarian Response Forum activities. The geographic scope of this CPE includes all areas covered by the portfolio.

CPEs primarily use a longitudinal design, rely on secondary quantitative data and conduct primary qualitative data collection with key stakeholders in the country. The methodology should demonstrate impartiality and lack of biases by relying on a cross-section of information sources and using a mixed methodological approach (e.g. quantitative, qualitative, participatory) to ensure triangulation of information through a variety of means.

Key evaluation questions

The CPE will address the following three key questions. Collectively, the questions aim at

¹ <http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/cambodia> (visited January 2016)

² UNDP Human Development Report 2015, Briefing note for countries on the 2015 Human Development Report (Cambodia) 2015

³ Cambodia Demographic and Health Survey 2014

⁴ The scope of the evaluation stated in the original ToR was extended to cover up to mid-2017.

⁵ Country Programme.

⁶ (Immediate Response) Emergency Operation.

⁷ Emergency Operation.

highlighting the key lessons from the WFP country presence and performance in Cambodia, which could inform future strategic and operational decisions.

Question 1: What has been the strategic alignment and positioning of WFP’s portfolio? In view of the country’s needs, to what extent has WFP positioned itself strategically in Cambodia? Were its country strategy and activities aligned with the Government’s strategies and those of its partners? Have there been trade-offs between aligning with national strategies on one hand and with WFP’s mission, strategic plans and corporate policies (including the Humanitarian Principles) on the other hand?

Question 2: What have been the factors driving strategic decision-making? How and why did WFP make its strategic choices in Cambodia? What were the factors that influenced WFP’s decisions in Cambodia? Has WFP analysed (or used existing analysis) the hunger challenges, the food security and nutrition situation and the climate change issues in Cambodia - including gender issues?

Question 3: What have been the performance and results of the WFP portfolio? Assess the performance and results of WFP’s portfolio in Cambodia on the basis of the criteria of relevance, efficiency, effectiveness (including the respective cost analyses), and sustainability. Analyse the factors that explain the results obtained and the degree of operational synergy with partners (multilateral, bilateral and NGOs).

Roles and responsibilities

Evaluation Team: An independent evaluation team selected by WFP’s Office of Evaluation (OEV) in Rome will implement the evaluation including inception, fieldwork, analysis, internal quality review and reporting.

OEV Evaluation Manager: This evaluation is managed by the WFP Office of Evaluation, with Diego Fernandez as the Evaluation Manager (EM). The EM will be the main interlocutor between the evaluation team, represented by the team leader, and WFP counterparts to ensure a smooth implementation process.

Stakeholders: WFP stakeholders at Phnom Penh Country Office, Regional Bureau in Bangkok and Headquarters levels are expected to participate and provide information necessary to

the evaluation; be available to the evaluation team to discuss the programme, its performance and results; facilitate the evaluation team’s contacts with stakeholders in Cambodia; set up meetings and field visits, organise for interpretation if required and provide logistic support during the fieldwork.

Communications

Preliminary findings will be presented by the evaluation team in an exit debrief in Phnom Penh after the conclusion of the fieldwork. The initial findings and conclusions will be shared later on with WFP stakeholders in Country Office, Regional Bureau and Headquarters during a teleconference debriefing session.

The various WFP stakeholders will have an opportunity to provide feedback on the evaluation products, both verbally and in writing. This will allow them to clarify issues and will ensure a transparent evaluation process.

The Country Office will organise a learning workshop in Phnom Penh for both internal and external stakeholders to develop a shared understanding of the issues emerging from the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the draft CPE report.

The final summary evaluation report will be presented to the WFP Executive Board Session in February 2018 and will be publicly available on WFP’s website.

Timing and key milestones

Main Phases	Timeline	Outputs
1. Preparation	Jan – Mar 2017	ToR Evaluation team selected and contracted
2. Inception	Apr – May 2017	Inception Report
3. Fieldwork	Jul 2017	Exit debriefing Preliminary findings debrief (telecom)
4. Reporting	Aug - Oct 2017	Draft report In-country learning workshop Final evaluation report (including SER)
5. Presentation to WFP EB	Feb 2018	Management response and EB presentation
6. Dissemination	Feb 2018	Websites posting (WFP intranet and internet, and other relevant sites)



Full Terms of Reference are available at <http://www.wfp.org/evaluation> as are all Evaluation Reports and Management Responses. For more information please contact the WFP Office of Evaluation at: WFP.evaluation@wfp.org