

Management Response Template

Version June 2016

This template provides a suggested structure and guidance on content for the management response to decentralized evaluation recommendations

Mid-Term Evaluation of McGovern-Dole School Feeding in Bangladesh in Bangladesh from 2014 to 2017 WFP						
Rec. #	Recommendation Text (as per evaluation report)	Management Response (Is recommendation <i>Accepted</i> , <i>partially accepted</i> or <i>not accepted</i> ? If partially accepted or not accepted, provide a brief response)	Actions to be taken (Briefly state what actions will be taken to address the recommendation)	Action By [WFP Country Office, WFP Regional Bureau, WFP Headquarters, External Stakeholders (UN Agency, Government body, Donor)]	Implementation timeframe [Month, Year]	Status [Not started/In progress/On hold/Complete]
1	R1. Improve the monitoring and evaluation function, with rationalization and streamlining of the indicators used, and improvements to the table used for reporting against plans and targets.	Partially accepted: USDA provided the reporting template. Any revision of the template would require agreement with USDA. The current MGD phase ends in October 2017. The indicators are all related to the agreed	~ CO will provide additional explanation of the key findings and also the trends, wherever possible, in the next semi-annual report.	WFP Country Office	October 2017	

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		results framework of the project. Action suggested for reducing the number of indicators under this Project is not feasible.				
2	R2. Ensure that the reasons for any shortfalls in the planned number of snacks provided are tabulated and explained in regular monitoring reports.	<i>Accepted</i>	~ In consultation with USDA, the CO will add a table in the next semi-annual report to show whether any shortfalls in delivery of snacks have occurred, along with associated contributing factors	WFP Country Office	October 2017	
3	R3. Retention/dropouts in schools remain a concern. WFP and partners should, first of all strengthen recording and analysis of attendance and dropout, then follow up on the dropout of boys (due to child labour) and girls (due to child/early marriage) and consider supporting vulnerable communities in a more holistic approach.	<i>Partially accepted</i> The design of the School Feeding program is as agreed with the Government of Bangladesh (GoB). The Government possesses strong ownership of the Program. The Government is aware of the reporting issue and has initiated a number of measures to improve the reporting in enrolment, attendance and dropout. Follow up on the gender and	~ The CO, along with other development partners will continue to advocate with government for measures to improve reporting.	WFP Country Office	Dec 2017	

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		region specific reasons for drop out is feasible. However, unilateral change in the program design to support the vulnerable communities to deal with the underlying causes of dropout is not feasible under the current government owned and run program. The Government has increased the coverage of the stipend program and is also looking at other feasible options.				
4	R4. Also, in any future phase of SF support, pay additional attention to the handover process, and the provision of complementary support to handed-over schools, especially NGO schools.	<i>Partially accepted</i> The Government School Feeding program does not support NGO schools. The Government prioritizes measures to improve schools and learning conditions through the introduction of complementary activities (Little Doctor, establishing of WASH block, etc.) under the Primary Education Development Program (PEDP)	~ The CO, along with other development partners, will continue to advocate with the Government to support NGO-run schools, particularly in hard to reach areas.	WFP Country Office	June 2018	

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5	R5. Both in the remainder of the current operation and in the preparation of future operations, pay particular attention to the theory of change assumptions that this MTE has identified as problematic.	<i>Accepted</i>	As suggested under specific actions CO will undertake following actions: ~ Continue technical support to the national SF programme ~ Subject to approval of the modification request to USDA, the CO will intensify local capacity development activities ~ Support Government Ministry (MoPME) in putting action plan that enables coordination with key agencies for complementary inputs for achieving results for future operation.	WFP Country Office	June 2018 October 2017	
6	R6. In the next phase of MGD support, reconsider WFP's direct role in supporting complementary activities that are not linked to its core competences.	<i>Accepted</i> The WFP Country Office considers the recommendation primarily directed to USDA. The CO fully agrees that supporting quality education is not WFP's mandate and core competency; it could rather be the theme for a WFP partnership with Unicef – 'school feeding in support	No action is proposed from CO for the current phase	<i>WFP Regional Bureau, WFP Headquarters, USDA</i>		

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		of quality education'. Though progress is slow, the Government with significant support from development partners is already active in promoting quality education in primary schools.				
7	R7. With support from GOB and other development partners, WFP should continue to provide strategic support to SF in Bangladesh.	<i>Accepted</i>	~ CO will continue supporting government to develop SF policy and alternative SF modalities best fit for the country context.	WFP Country Office	During and beyond the project period	
8	R8. Ensure that the choice of future SF modalities (HEB vs. hot meals) is based on rigorous evaluation of the hot meals pilot, and takes full account of equity considerations as well as the proven effectiveness of school biscuits.	<i>Accepted</i>	~ CO is supporting government to undertake a comparative study between fortified biscuits and hot meal modality for evidenced based programming ~ CO will continue to provide technical support to government initiating pilots to develop and scale up appropriate SF modalities.	WFP Country Office	October 2017 During and beyond the project period	