

## Management Response Nepal mid-term MGD 2017

### [Mid-Term Evaluation of McGovern-Dole-supported School Feeding Programme in Nepal from January 2015 to September 2016

#### WFP Nepal Country Office

Rec. #	Recommendation Text	Management Response (Is recommendation <i>Accepted</i> , <i>partially accepted</i> or <i>not accepted</i> )	Actions to be taken	Action By	Implementation timeframe	Status
1	Future MTEs should be scheduled to report before potential further phases of an operation are designed, either by a funding agency calling for proposals or by implementing agencies preparing them.	<i>Accepted</i>	<i>Ongoing planning of MTEs; Comprehensive planning of all evaluations (baseline, midline and end line) will be initiated at start of the project and commissioned through a single evaluation company</i>	WFP RB WFP CO USDA	December, 2017 for contracting; MTE mid November 2019	Contracting in process
2	The next phase of USDA support for school feeding in Nepal should be the last in which foodstuffs internationally procured by	<i>Accepted.</i> Next phase of McGovern Dole Programme has a strong transition and sustainability plan, building on the recommendations of a 2015	Explicit agreements between WFP, Government of Nepal and USDA 2017, to guide implementation 2018-2021	WFP RB WFP CO Government of Nepal USDA	Interim operational plan commencing January 2018; Country Strategy Plan commencing 2019	In progress

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	external agencies are used. It should be focused on transition by 2021 to a school feeding programme based entirely on locally procured foodstuffs.	System Approach for Better Education (SABER) assessment. Through the school meals project, WFP has explored avenues to improve local production so as to increase project sustainability. Following consultations with local communities and the Government, WFP proposes to change the requested MGD in-kind commodity from corn soya blend (CSB), which is not locally available, to rice and lentils. With this change, schools can prepare a mid-day meal that is locally available and familiar to the children. The change in commodity is expected to lead to improved sustainability with a view to transitioning school meals districts to the government cash-based NSMP and ultimately decreasing dependency on internationally procured food.				

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3	While maintaining a school feeding activity in at least ten districts that is fully integrated in all schools for ECD and all basic education grades with literacy and WASH interventions in order to achieve the MGD SOs, WFP should intensify its strategic dialogue with the Government of Nepal and DPs in support of further analysis and decision-making about the criteria for selecting specified in-kind and cash modalities. This dialogue should take into account lessons from other	<b>Partially Accepted</b> Clarifications needed since cash modality for school meals is not an option for MGD programme. Government's capacity to fully run a food transfer modality may be limited, however 2013 study commissioned to compare two modalities indicates that both modalities are equally important in Nepal. Cash is working well in some areas where there is food security, but not in the high mountains where markets are non-existent or unreliable. To engage in strategic level discussion with Government and DPs, WFP will provide technical assistance to conduct a cost benefit analysis of Nepal School Meals Programme as	Structured programme of analysis and decision-making 2017-2018; Initiate annual learning and sharing platforms	WFP CO LEDPG Government of Nepal/WFP	By Dec 2018	On hold

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	countries' experience and the factors facilitating and impeding each modality, and identify measures to address constraints as appropriate.	well as develop integrated implementing guideline.				
4	WFP should thus support the preparation and approval of a national school feeding policy that spells out the agreed targets, criteria and modalities – including the interface and coordination with related literacy and WASH support.	<i>Accepted</i> The Government of Nepal has indicated requirement for a national school feeding strategy to harmonize existing programmes and set standards in terms of objectives, targeting criteria, nutritional provisions, linkages with other interventions and expected result rather than a policy. Building off the ongoing pilot studies, WFP will be providing technical assistance in the next phase to develop an integrated national school meals programme	WFP advocacy to Government of Nepal on desirability of a school feeding policy, 2017 WFP engagement in LEDPG support to Government of Nepal policy development, 2018-2019	WFP CO WFP RB LEDPG	By end of 2019	In progress

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		<p>strategy as well as an integrated implementing guideline. The implementing guideline will incorporate multiple school meals modalities, specifically covering both food and cash transfer.</p> <p>WFP will also work with the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education to further review and revise the existing School Health and Nutrition Strategy which recognizes nutrition sensitive activities including school meals, WASH and nutrition literacy as key interventions.</p>				
5	WFP and USDA should undertake a detailed assessment, rationalization and simplification of the performance indicators and	<p><i>Partially accepted</i></p> <p>With the project coming to an end, it might be best to revise indicators for the next phase since the end line of project cycle will need to reflect the</p>	Review and revision of monitoring and reporting system 2017	WFP CO WFP RB	Indicators reduced; recommendation for revision through baseline expected to	Ongoing

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	targets used for monitoring and reporting of the current phase. The number of indicators should be reduced by at least 50%. The last two WFP six-monthly reports on the current operation should be based on the revised indicators and targets, which should also be used in an end line survey that serves as a baseline for the next phase.	indicators and outcomes captured in the baseline which was developed from the existing indicators.			be completed by April 2018	
6	WFP support for further development of school feeding policy and strategy should advocate closer integration with national social protection frameworks.	<b>Accepted</b> WFP's new Country Strategy Plan (2018-2022) will also be addressing this further. The timeline though may need to be revised based on changes that may take in institutional	WFP advocacy to Government of Nepal on importance of closer integration with national social protection frameworks 2017-2018	WFP CO	Mid 2018	In progress

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		arrangement as Nepal rolls out its federal structure.				
7	A further phase of WFP support for school feeding should align explicitly and proactively with the gender and social inclusion provisions of the SSDP. In particular, WFP should integrate menstrual health management in its WASH programme for Grades 5 to 8 (involving both boys and girls); ensure that women in leadership positions in the FMC have been adequately trained to perform their tasks authoritatively; assess the work burden that its SFP puts on women and take necessary remedial	<b>Accepted</b> WFP's next phase of MGD programme will elaborate the current WASH related activities to extensively address menstrual health management. With the expansion of schools to Grade 8, WFP will equip all women's toilet facilities in programme schools with menstrual hygiene management facilities for students, teachers and school staff. WFP will install appropriate menstrual hygiene management systems in selected schools, under the coordination of the Wash In Schools Taskforce. WFP will also carry out sensitization trainings for Parent Teacher Associations and School Management Committees on the	Detailed elaboration of design for next phase of WFP SMP to achieve these objectives: 2017 Implementation of the intensified gender and social inclusion strategy: 2018-2020	WFP CO WFP RB	By March 2018	In progress

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	action; and adjust its targeting and/or district-specific efforts periodically in terms of the equity index developed under the Equity Strategy for the School Education Sector.	importance of menstrual hygiene education for girls. WFP's proposed School Infrastructure Project includes building or rehabilitation of latrines adhering to government standards of toilet design with particular attention to girls' needs in particular to menstrual hygiene to combat absenteeism of girl students owing to lack of adequate hygiene facilities in schools.				
8	WFP and USDA should review the adequacy of the WFP's current and proposed school feeding rations as compared to international guidelines.	<b>Accepted</b> Adequacy of the proposed ration will be reviewed in consultation with the Ministry of Education. The composition and ration size will be determined by availability of resources and to meet approximately a third of the average daily requirements for school aged population.	Review during 2017 for potential implementation from 2018	WFP RB WFP CO USDA	November 2017	Completed



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9	WFP should assess what factors might induce behaviour change for nutrition in the MFWR; and consequently, review whether the current nutrition and health training materials respond to these factors and needs. This would lead, if applicable, to a shift from 'education and information' to 'changing behaviours', and enhanced, coordinated behaviour change advocacy by WASH IPs for teachers, SMCs, FMCs, parents and all children in basic education, including a focus on	<b>Accepted</b> WFP will build on Nutrition and WASH Behavior Change Communication research undertaken in partnership with the BBC Media Action. The formative research is particularly important to understand the existing knowledge, attitude, behaviour and practice of the existing nutrition and WASH issues in the schools and at the household level and how to best utilize the information in programme design and messaging	Review and potential revision of approaches and methods in advocacy of behavioural change 2017	WFP CO WFP RB	October 2017 Behavior Change Communication formative research completed in partnership with BBC Media Action	Completed

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	menstrual hygiene management.					
10	WFP support for the necessary strategic development by the MoE should include advocacy of the merger of the FFEP and school feeding capacity in the DoE, creating a single school feeding agency in the Ministry	<b>Accepted</b> WFP will continue to advocate for an integrated management arrangements for all modalities of school meals. With Nepal set to transition to a federal structure the current institutional arrangement may most likely change and therefore will need further exploration, The School Health and Nutrition Strategy revision, School Meals Strategy and Integrated Guideline planned in the next phase are all expected to contribute to this process. An action already identified during the SABER exercise was to at least have the National Food for Education Committee oversee both food and cash modalities, whereas it	WFP advocacy to Government of Nepal on desirability of establishing a single school feeding agency 2017-2018	WFP CO	July 2017- MoE Secretary established a Task Force chaired by National Planning Commission to propose insituational structure under the Federal set up.	In progress

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		was previously only responsible for the former.				
11	WFP should advocate the closer integration of school feeding, literacy and WASH personnel and programmes in District Education Offices.	<b>Accepted</b> WFP through the Local Education Development Partner Group will continue to advocate	WFP advocacy to Government of Nepal on integration of personnel and programmes in District Education Offices 2017-2020	WFP CO	By April 2018 through the end line report of current cycle	In progress

