

**Decentralized Evaluation Quality Assurance System (DEQAS)**

## Management Response

Nutrition Components of the Algeria PRRO 200301 in the Sahrawi refugee camps from 2013 to 2017						
WFP Algeria						
Rec. #	Recommendation Text (as per evaluation report)	Management Response	Actions to be taken (Briefly state what actions will be taken to address the recommendation)	Action By	Implementation timeframe [Month, Year]	Status [Not started/In progress/On hold/Complete]
1	In 2018, with the concurrence and support of all levels (HQ, RBO, CO, SO), WFP Algeria must decide on its role in nutrition and clarify, internally and externally, how to perform it.	Accepted	A new WFP nutrition strategy will be developed	WFP Algeria, RBC and HQ	June 2019 (EB.2/2019 endorsement)	Started
1.1	If WFP remains in its current role of "supplier", it must be guided by decisions regarding the outputs of that role, and these should be taken jointly with all actors in the nutrition and food sectors after a constructive debate, exploring all possible options.	Accepted	This role will be clarified in the CO nutrition strategy, as per recommendation 1	WFP Algeria / Stakeholders	April 2019	Started

1.2	WFP Algeria and the rest of the key players in the nutrition sector should explore and negotiate together how this role is articulated and formalized.	Accepted	The articulation of the role and its formalization will be clarified in the CO nutrition strategy	WFP Algeria / Stakeholders	April 2019	Started
1.3	WFP Algeria should reinforce the internal capacities, systems and processes that the role requires.	Accepted	(i) CO will recruit a nutritionist (ii) The nutritionist will provide on-site training to staff and partners	WFP Algeria, RBC, HQ	April 2019	(i) Completed (ii) Started
2	<b>If WFP Algeria decides to assume a more active strategic role in nutrition, in 2018, the agency should actively promote and support a revision of the current nutrition strategies and activities.</b>	Accepted	In consultation with stakeholders, Country Office will update the following documents: Tripartite agreement; MoU; and Joint Action Plan	WFP Algeria, RBC, HQ, UNHCR, Sahrawi authorities, and nutrition stakeholders	November 2018 - June 2019	Not started

2.1	<p>The evaluation recommends</p> <p>(i) performing an in-depth analysis of the effectiveness and impact of current malnutrition and anaemia prevention activities;</p> <p>(ii) conducting broad studies on the causes, consequences, and possible solutions of the current growing nutritional problems, namely</p> <p>(a) obesity and metabolic risk in women,</p> <p>(b) anaemia in women and children under 5, and</p> <p>(c) IYCF practices; and</p> <p>(iii) assessing coverage, effectiveness, and impact, and harmonising existing community-based activities for IEC; and</p> <p>(iv) reviewing existing global mechanisms for data collection and joint analysis to better understand the Sahrawi nutrition context.</p>	<p><b>(i) Accepted</b>  <b>(ii) (a) Not accepted</b>  <b>(ii) (b) Accepted</b>  <b>(ii) (c) Accepted</b>  <b>(iii) Accepted</b>  <b>(iv) Not accepted</b></p>	<p><b>(i)</b> In-depth study: The next nutrition survey will also include a specific focus on prevention activities as well consideration of the effectiveness and if possible impact, with RBC/HQ nutrition support and to inform the nutrition strategy.</p> <p><b>(ii) (a):</b> to study obesity / metabolic risk in women, Such a study would be very complex and requires many years and a lot of money.</p> <p><b>(ii) (b):</b> WFP Algeria will opt to focus on a study (formative research with dietary intake angle using SBCC approach) on anemia among PLW and under-5 children, as identified as an issue of public health concern in the 2016 Survey.</p> <p><b>(ii) (c):</b> IYCF practices, particularly breast feeding will be implemented</p>	WFP Algeria with RBC and a consultant	Now – June 2019	Started
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			<p><b>(iii):</b> recommended actions on coverage, effectiveness, and impact, and harmonization will be done separately from nutrition survey.</p> <p><b>(iv):</b> global data collection and joint analysis mechanisms is intersectoral and, therefore, WFP Algeria alone cannot commit to this recommendation. WFP will make efforts to discuss with nutrition partners on this issue.</p>			
2.2	Review current regulatory documents (MoU, bilateral, and tripartite agreements), which seem to have multiple possible interpretations, including misperception of roles and potential competitiveness at the agency and personal level, which is affecting the working relationship between UNHCR and WFP. The formal clarification of roles by the key actors would improve the relationship between WFP and UNHCR.	Accepted	This will be included in the CO nutrition strategy	WFP Algeria	April 2019	Started
2.3	Promote increasing complementarity and synergy between nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions from other sectors.	Accepted	(i)The new nutrition strategy will promote complementarity and	WFP Algeria	Now – June 2019	Started

	<p>a. The nutrition sector should consolidate interlinkages with nutrition-sensitive interventions from other sectors which, while not having explicit nutrition objectives, contribute to the improvement of nutrition outcomes. The sector should also define tools for increased strategic and programmatic collaboration with a comprehensive strategy, mainly with the FS (food assistance and livelihoods) but also with other sectors such as WASH and education. This can include, for example, setting nutrition vulnerability criteria for targeting for FS actions.</p>		<p>nutrition training a better understanding.</p> <p>(ii)WFP nutritionist to promote intersectoral complementarity with UNHCR, as lead agency for intersectoral coordination.</p> <p>(iii)WFP CO will conduct a review of its school meals programme to make it more nutrition-sensitive.</p>			
2.4	<p>Assess and rationalise nutrition sector articulation, mechanisms, and coordination outputs.</p> <p>a. Actors in the nutrition sector should promote a revision of actual mechanisms for coordination. There is not a wide range of actors within the nutrition sector, but each has individual priorities, and although there are multiple coordination platforms and forums, explicit strategic debates are absent. While national policies and guidelines are validated and implemented by actors, some of the bilateral regulatory documents (MoU) allow for several</p>	<b>Accepted</b>	<p>(i) Formalise the food and nutrition sector with new TORs</p> <p>(ii) Make efforts to include strategic discussions on food security and nutrition in CdC/FSM</p> <p>(iii) Joint high-level nutrition mission with UNHCR will be organized as soon as sufficient data and information is available</p>	<p>WFP Algeria, RBC and HQ,</p> <p>UNHCR, Sahrawi authorities, and nutrition stakeholders</p>	Now - June 2019	Started

	<p>interpretations, thus triggering misunderstandings, duplications, and sometimes conflict.</p> <p>b. Discussion must revolve around strategic issues rather than solely operational and logistic aspects. Exchanges should occur between all actors in the sector to discuss current problems, for example funding shortfalls, to find adaptive solutions.</p>					
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2.5	<p>Strengthen inter-sectoral coordination mechanisms and outputs.</p> <p>a. Many causes of malnutrition are present in the refugee camps. Since multiple factors intervene in the occurrence of all forms of under-nutrition, only multi-sectoral approaches can efficiently address the problem. The evaluation recommends that integrated responses be favoured, as well as strengthened partnerships and coordination mechanisms between a wide range of stakeholders, from authorities, UN agencies, NGOs at field level, and donors. UNHCR is, by mandate, responsible for the nutrition sector's coordination. WFP, as much as possible, should contribute to encouraging different sectors to search for a common objective, and to improve global inter-sectoral coordination.</p>	<b>Accepted</b>	<p>(i) WFP to agree with partners on where the nutrition sector falls through the formalization of TOR.</p> <p>(ii) WFP to promote nutrition related intersectoral complementarity with UNHCR, as lead intersectoral coordination lead, and other stakeholders.</p> <p>(iii) Suggest to partners to conduct a mapping of nutrition issues from the inter-sectorial perspective.</p>	WFP Algeria, RBC, HQ, UNHCR, Sahrawi authorities, and nutrition stakeholders	Now - June 2019	Started
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3	<b>WFP Algeria should reinforce the internal competences and technical capacities in nutrition, as a first step to improving the appropriateness and relevance of the design of the PRRO, and consequently of its nutrition components. It must also strengthen the internal processes and partnerships that influence the performance and results of the PRRO.</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	Establish capacity development plan to reinforce partners' technical capacity (for example the (1) IMAM refresher training, (2) reporting training with new WFP tools for monitoring and evaluation, and (3) training of SMART survey methodology)	WFP Algeria, RBC	February 2019	Started
3.1	WFP should consider ways of strengthening its <b>internal capacity in nutrition</b> by: (i) recruiting a national or international staff member that can guide future strategic and programming decisions and improve WFP's contribution to the development of the Sahrawi nutrition sector; and/or (ii) providing skills and tools to staff directly involved in the supervision, monitoring, and accompanying of nutrition activities in the camps, and allow them to fulfil their functions.	<b>Accepted</b>	(i) Recruitment of a nutritionist  (ii) The nutritionist will provide on-site training to staff and partners	WFP Algeria	February 2019  Jan-June 2019	Completed  Not started



3.2	WFP Algeria should explore <b>complementarities between the different components of the PRRO</b> , as well as synergies between the nutrition and the food sectors.	<b>Accepted</b>	(i)Conduct school meals review (ii) Development of a nutrition strategy (iii)Clear links to be added in the ICSP	WFP Algeria	February 2019  February 2019 February 2019	Not started  Started Started
3.3	WFP should undertake a <b>gender</b> assessment to guide the new PRRO and use analysis to gain a more accurate comprehension of the perspectives of women in the Sahrawi context. Programme design needs to be informed by a detailed view of the vulnerabilities and coping strategies of women in the refugee camps. This analysis would play a critical role in programme design and in allowing the CO to develop context-specific indicators for GEEWS.	<b>Accepted</b>	CO will recruit a consultant to carry out a gender assessment.	WFP Algeria, RBC gender unit, HQ	February 2019	Started
3.4	<b>Vulnerability and Targeting:</b> Given the difficult political sensitivities in the camps, WFP needs to support high-level efforts to carry out adequate beneficiary assessments, and to review the needs of the vulnerable population. This should be a joint effort between WFP and UNHCR. Better <b>assessments</b> would help WFP and other agencies effectively prioritise. Based on the findings of studies seen throughout the evaluation, and with	<b>Partially Accepted</b> Targeting in the traditional way is not possible in the Sahrawi refugee camp context, due to strong solidarity between families and social cohesion. Nonetheless, WFP has begun carrying out several assessments to	(i)WFP Algeria will conduct assessments: a. Food Security Assessment b. Decentralized evaluation c. Review of school meals activity (ii)WFP will explore community-based	WFP Algeria, RBC, HQ, UNHCR, Sahrawi health authorities	(i) c. February 2019 (ii) July 2019 (iii) Done (iv)July 2019	(i) a. and b. Complete d; (i) c. Started (ii)Not started (iii)Completed (iv)Started

	reference to the JAM 2016 recommendation to adjust food assistance to address refugees' needs at the household level, WFP should contemplate adopting alternative approaches (i.e. community-based targeting grounded on vulnerability assessments).	better assessment vulnerability as relate to food insecurity as per WFP mandate.	distribution for improved targeting. (iii) WFP will contribute to the planned UNHCR-led inter-sectorial vulnerability assessment (with FSA results). (iv) WFP will seek to implement a CBT pilot to contribute to the reduction of the anemia prevalence			
3.5	WFP should improve its current <b>information management capacity</b> at both Tindouf and Algiers level. a. A central repository of information that all staff can access is needed, as well as a more efficient strategy on disseminating information among staff. In order to efficiently contribute to the nutrition situation in the camps, decisions need to be based on thorough, tangible, evidence-based data. WFP Algiers, with support from HQ, should seek technical support to achieve this.	<b>Accepted</b>	WFP Algeria will work on improving archiving by appointing an IM focal point (team work space is being set up).	WFP Algeria	Now - June 2019	Started
3.6	WFP should improve implementation of <b>monitoring and evaluation</b> activities to	<b>Accepted</b> (Somewhat repetitive: refer to	WFP Algeria will include an M&E plan of analysis	WFP Algeria in consultation with RB	March 2019	Not started

	ensure the activities respond to the needs of the targeted population. WFP and partners should prioritize the review and improvement of monitoring systems and tools. Furthermore, the analysis of data collected, and its triangulation with external data and information, need to be enhanced to effectively produce relevant recommendations.	recommendations 1 and 2)	into the new nutrition strategy.			
3.7	<p><b>Partnerships:</b> A more nuanced and wider approach to nutrition and food security is needed to tackle future challenges faced by the local population in the refugee camps.</p> <p>a. This requires a multi-sectoral response, as well as stronger partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders—from the NGOs working with WFP at field level to donors making decisions that affect the entire programme. WFP and its donors should explore less harmful alternatives for coping with financial shortfalls.</p>	<b>Practically accepted</b>	- <b>Accepted:</b> WFP Algeria will continue discussions with the Sahrawi authorities to prioritize nutrition activities over GFA, when funding is limited through coordination meetings and on a case-by-case basis. WFP will also make efforts to attract new technical partners and explore new opportunities to enhance nutritional impact of our actions. Finally, WFP will continue to build the food security and	WFP Algeria, RBC and UNHCR	Now - Dec 2019	Started

			<p>nutrition capacity of staff and partners.</p> <p><b>Not accepted:</b> the term “less harmful alternatives for coping with financial shortfalls” is understood as the priority given to GFA over nutrition activity feeding (including supplementary GFA three-commodity rations and specialized nutritious foods). Providing no GFA or supplementary GFA to ensure nutrition activity feeding would not benefit nutrition.</p>			
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