

Decentralized Evaluation Quality Assurance System (DEQAS)

Management Response from WFP India Country Office to the recommendations of the decentralized evaluation of End-line Evaluation of the Target Public Distribution System (TPDS) Reforms Project in Bhubaneswar (Odisha) in India from 2014 to 2019

Rec. #	Recommendation	Management Response	Actions to be taken	Action By	Implementation timeframe	Status
1	Update the existing beneficiary list to remove ineligible beneficiaries.	<i>Partially accepted.</i> The CO's Central Programme Management Unit (CPMU) team based inside the Ministry of Food has already drafted both inclusion and exclusion criterion for all states. However, better implementation of suggested inclusion and exclusion criterion is required.	The CO will advocate the following measures to Govt. of Odisha: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To prepare a state level updated beneficiary (priority) list instead of the district priority list. • Use of Master Database Management tools for updating the beneficiary list, annually. • Periodically (every 6 months) conduct de-duplication with proper checks & balances. 	WFP India Country Office (CO)	June, 2020	In progress
2	Rejuvenate social audit and augment the grievance	<i>Partially accepted.</i> - The CO has already supported the creation of	1. The CO will prepare and share a concept note on augmenting the	WFP India CO	June, 2020	In progress

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	redressal (GR) mechanism to improve community's participation and ownership of the TPDS.	toll-free helpline number, responsibility matrix, State Food Commission, formulation of rules for District GR Officer etc. and has supported awareness drives with IEC materials in 3 districts.	Grievance Redressal mechanism with the government. 2. The CO will advocate and share IEC materials for a state-wide awareness drive.			
3	Augment service at FPS to include food security allowances as mandated under NFSA in case of stock-outs. Solutions such as ensuring that FPS runs for the 20 days as mandated by the government and other steps to a similar extent can be explored to save beneficiaries time.	<i>Partially accepted.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stock outs are rare events or unlikely. - Application of the state norms on the number of days to open FPS will be helpful in managing crowds at the shop. - Since the policy (state control order) is already in place, it is only important to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Strengthen vigilance b. Monitor and take actions on FPS that have beneficiaries pending distribution but no activity. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The CO will advocate for technical enhancement of Supply Chain Network and support in stock balance-based triggers and analysis for quick response from Govt. in cases of stock-out situation. 2. The CO will advocate to discuss and have a strategy to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Strengthen vigilance b. Monitor and take actions on FPS that have beneficiaries pending distribution but no activity. 	WFP India CO	October, 2020	Not started

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4	Further augmenting the reliability of the transparency portal by increasing the frequency and timeliness for updating database on the transparency portal.	<i>Accepted.</i>	1. The CO has shared the WFP-commissioned assessment report of TPDS transparency portal with Govt. of Odisha for improvements in transparency portal system.	WFP India CO	December, 2019	Completed
5	Periodic research on factors affecting TPDS performance.	<i>Accepted.</i>	1. The CO will support Govt. of Odisha in developing a simple tool for the post distribution monitoring and improvement of targeting which can then support quick reviews for making necessary policy- and programme-related changes.	WFP India CO	December, 2020	Not started
6	Conduct independent research on potential food grain leakages.	<i>Accepted.</i>	1. The CO will submit proposals for independent research on food grain leakages to private sector.	WFP India CO	June, 2020	Not started
7	Support and guide GoO in decreasing targeting errors:	<i>Partially accepted.</i> Same response as mentioned in Recommendation 1	1. Same actions as mentioned in Recommendation 1	WFP India CO	June, 2020	In progress

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8	Conduct Independent evaluation of TPDS reforms in distant and resource poor areas	<i>Accepted.</i>	1. The CO will submit proposal on conducting an Independent evaluation of TPDS reforms in distant and resource poor areas to private sector.	WFP India CO	June, 2020	Not started