

Evaluation of Mauritania WFP Country Strategic Plan 2019-2022

Terms of reference



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1. Background

1. These Terms of Reference (ToR) were prepared by the WFP Office of Evaluation based upon an initial document review and consultation with stakeholders.
2. The purpose of these ToR is to provide key information to stakeholders about the evaluation, to guide the evaluation team and specify expectations during the various phases of the evaluation. The ToR are structured as follows: section 1 provides information on the context; section 2 presents the rationale, objectives, stakeholders and main users of the evaluation; section 3 presents the WFP portfolio and defines the scope of the evaluation; section 4 identifies the evaluation approach and methodology; section 5 indicates how the evaluation will be organized. The annexes provide additional information.

1.1. INTRODUCTION

3. Country Strategic Plan Evaluations (CSPEs) encompass the entirety of WFP activities during a specific period. Their purpose is twofold: 1) to provide evaluation evidence and learning on WFP's performance for country-level strategic decisions, specifically for developing the next Country Strategic Plan (CSP) and 2) to provide accountability for results to WFP stakeholders. Evaluations are mandatory for all CSPs and are carried out in line with the WFP Policy on Country Strategic Plan and WFP Evaluation Policy.

1.2. CONTEXT

General Overview

4. The Islamic Republic of Mauritania is an arid, lower-middle-income country in Northwest Africa. Although it has made significant improvements in reducing poverty and chronic malnutrition, its rapidly growing population still faces major challenges, including food insecurity, malnutrition, gender inequality and land degradation. In the Sahel, population displacement and frequent climate-related crises pose further challenges.
5. Mauritania became an independent nation in 1960. It has a total population of 4.5 million, growing at 2.7 percent per annum (2019). Fertility rates have slightly decreased in the last three decades, currently being at 4.6 birth per woman, and 0.07 per adolescent girl, while life expectancy at birth in the country is 64.7 years (2018).¹
6. Mauritania has an estimated per capita gross national income (GNI) of USD 1,660.² Despite significant recent reductions in poverty, child undernutrition and mortality, Mauritania ranks 157th on the Human Development Index. It faces major structural and shock-related challenges with regard to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).³
7. Between 2008 and 2014, the poverty rate fell from 42 to 31 percent and the Gini Index, measuring inequality in income distribution, fell from 35.7 to 32.6.⁴ However, major disparities persist from region to region and in terms of gender, age and occupational status; 74 percent of the poor – largely farmers, pastoralists and landless or unpaid women and young people – live in rural areas. Of these, 60 percent are smallholder farmers and 20 percent seasonal workers with no land of their own; many are women, who are at a disadvantage due to persistent discrimination and an unequal burden of unpaid labour. An estimated 12.5 percent of children aged 5 to 14 work, primarily in agriculture, putting them at risk of the worst forms of child labour.⁵

Food and Nutrition Security

8. In the 2020 Global Hunger Index (GHI), Mauritania ranks 85th out of 107 countries. With a score of 24.0, Mauritania has a level of hunger that is classified as serious.⁶
9. A 2017 integrated context analysis concluded that between 2011 and 2015 five southern regions - Gorgol, Assaba, Guidimakha, Tagant, and Hodh El Gharbi – had experienced high frequency of food insecurity and

¹ World Bank, <https://databank.worldbank.org/>

² World Bank, <https://databank.worldbank.org/>

³ WFP Mauritania CSP (2019-2022), <https://www.wfp.org/operations/mr02-mauritania-country-strategic-plan-2019-2022>

⁴ World Bank, <https://databank.worldbank.org/>

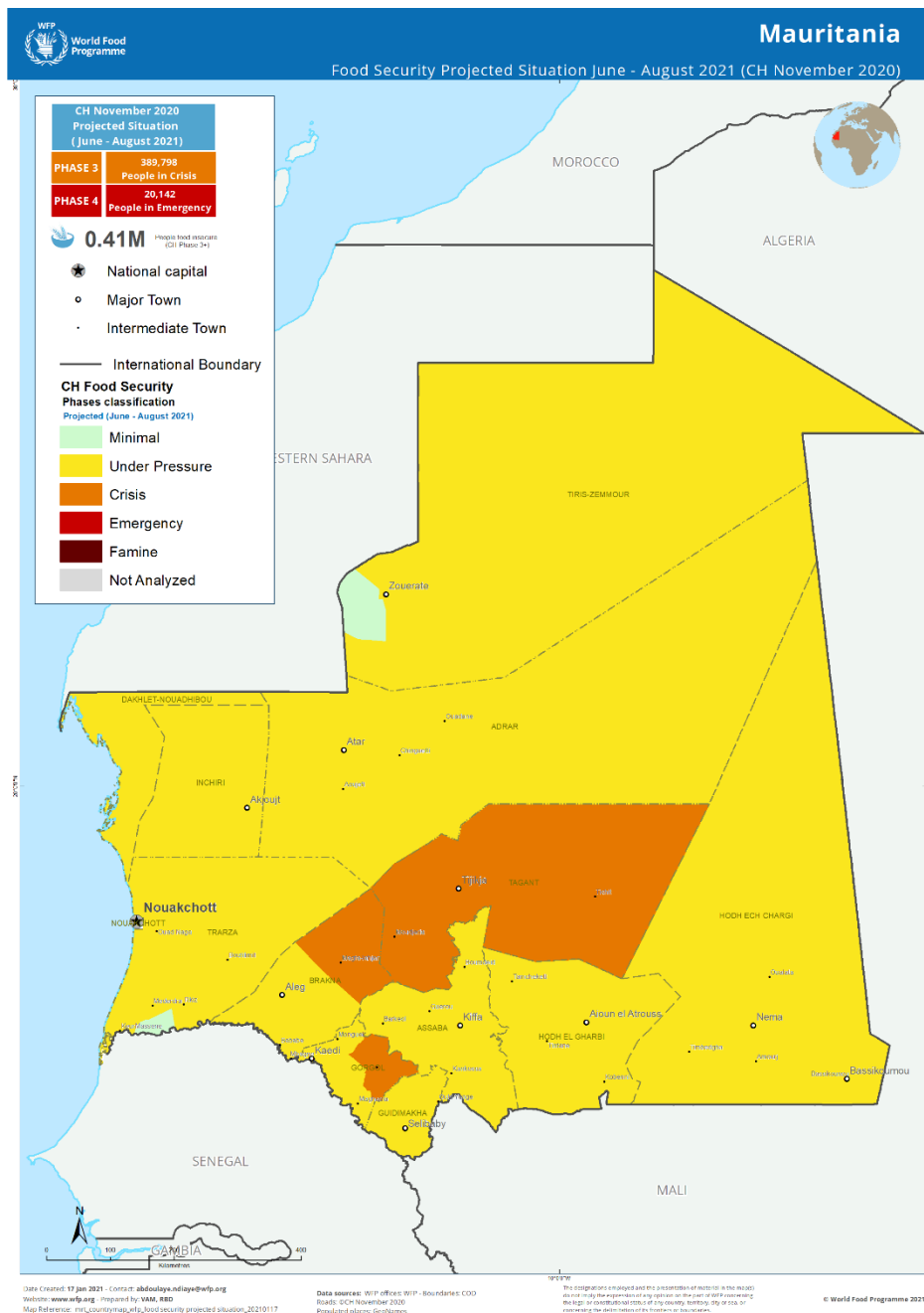
⁵ USDOL, https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/resources/reports/child-labor/mauritania#_ENREF_6

⁶ Global Hunger Index, <https://www.globalhungerindex.org/mauritania.html>

average frequency of natural shocks. These regions are characterized by a high level of food insecurity in the post-harvest period which tends to worsen during the lean season.⁷

- According to the *Cadre Harmonisé*,⁸ as of November 2020, 0.18 million people in Mauritania are estimated to be food insecure (approximately 4 percent of the total population). The situation is expected to deteriorate during the 2021 lean season (July-August), with 0.41 million people projected to be food insecure (approximately 9 percent of the total population).⁹

Figure 1: Mauritania food insecurity: projection for the June-August 2021 lean season



Source: Cadre harmonisé analysis, National validation workshop, 2020. Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA)

⁷ WFP GeoNode, <https://geonode.wfp.org/documents/8950>

⁸ CILSS Harmonized Framework for the Analysis and Identification of Areas at Risk and Vulnerable Groups in the Sahel. The framework is harmonized with the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC).

⁹ *Cadre Harmonisé*, November 2020

11. The prevalence of undernourishment in the total population increased from 9.6 percent in 2004–2006, to 11.9 percent in 2017–2019.¹⁰ Child malnutrition remains a major concern, as during 2013–2018, 22.8 percent of pre-schoolers were stunted, 15 percent suffered of wasting.¹¹

Agriculture¹²

12. The useful agricultural area (UAA) represents less than 0.5 percent of the country (estimated at 502,000 ha). The rural sector is one of the most important in the Mauritanian economy. Over 62 percent of the population depend on rural activities for their livelihoods. Rural activities are responsible for 17 percent of the GDP and are the second highest source of employment in the country (about 21 percent of the working population). The sector contributes significantly to meet the country's consumption needs of cereals (30 percent), red meat (100 percent) and milk (30 percent).
13. Production in Mauritania is affected by the ecological environment in the country's four agro-ecological zones and consequently in the correspondent four main production systems: i) the arid zone (80 percent of the total area), with an oasis production system characterized by palms and some associated irrigated crops (cereals, alfalfa, fruit and vegetables); ii) the Sahelian zone in the South-east of the country, characterized by an agro-pastoral production system; iii) the area of the Senegal River Valley, dominated by irrigated agriculture, though rain fed crops and livestock are also common; iv) the maritime zone, relatively more suitable for crops, especially horticultural and tree cultivations.

Climate Change and Vulnerability

14. Mauritania ranks 81st out of 181 countries on the Global Climate Risk Index for the period 1999–2018.¹³ The country is at risk to hydrometeorological hazards and natural disasters. Climate change is expected to increase risks and severity of natural disasters in Mauritania, through more intense temperatures, prolonged heat waves and heightened rainfall variability.
15. While Mauritania is prone to drought and flooding in some areas, human displacement and increased urbanization may become an additional future challenge. Furthermore, damage to crops and increased water stress is likely to result in significant economic losses, damage to agricultural lands as well as human health. Vulnerability is exacerbated due to the country's high level of poverty and high dependence on 'climate change sensitive' sectors, such as agriculture, fisheries, mining and livestock.¹⁴
16. Data from the Emergency Events database (EM-Dat) (1900–2018) shows the country has endured various natural hazards, including droughts, epidemic diseases, insect infestation and storms, affecting over 11.5 million people. Highly variable rainfall, coupled with the arid nature of the country, are responsible for acute droughts that continue to limit agricultural production. Mauritania has experienced severe droughts over the past 30 years, affecting thousands of people across the country.
17. The decrease in rainfall over the years has resulted in various adverse ecological, economic, social and cultural consequences. Food harvests and livestock have continuously shrunk due to lessening and unpredictable rainfall. Violent winds blow hot and dry dust and sand that sweep across many parts of the country. More than 15 kilometres of the coastal bar was reported to have been destroyed by wind erosion.

Education

18. Compulsory education in Mauritania lasts 9 years from age 6 to age 14. In 2019, primary school net enrolment rate was at 78 percent for females and 74 for males, while these indicators drastically drop to 40 and 38 percent respectively in secondary schools. Fewer than three in five finish primary school, and just 6 percent complete secondary education, driving income inequality. Literacy rates among over-15 population are remarkably lower for females (43 percent in 2017) than males (64 percent).¹⁵

¹⁰ FAO, SOFI 2020

¹¹ UNICEF, SOWC 2019

¹² FAO, <http://www.fao.org/family-farming/countries/mrt/en/>

¹³ Global Climate Risk Index 2020

¹⁴ World Bank, Climate Change Knowledge Portal, <https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/country/mauritania/vulnerability>

¹⁵ UNESCO, <http://uis.unesco.org/en/country/mr?theme=education-and-literacy>

19. Data from UNESCO shows that between 2011 and 2019, expenditures on education as a percentage of total government expenditures dropped from 13.7 to 9.5 percent.¹⁶

Gender

20. Mauritania ranks 151st out of 162 countries in the Gender Inequality Index (2019), with a remarkably lower 28.9 percent labour participation rate for women compared to 63.1 percent for men.¹⁷ Obstacles to gender equality include girl marriage, early and closely spaced births and a past of unequal access to education among the adult population: projections estimate a lower rate of over-25 female population with some secondary education (12.7 percent) compared to the male population (25 percent). Data on gender-based violence is scarce, but an estimated 55 percent of girls have been subjected to female genital mutilation, and the rate is much higher among girls without education (69 percent), girls in the poorest quintile (84 percent) and girls in rural areas (69 percent).¹⁸
21. Mauritania is characterized by relatively high levels of gender discrimination and restricted liberties under the Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI).¹⁹ Unequal legal rights mean that women and girls inherit half of what can be inherited by men or boys. Access to land is a major obstacle to women's participation in agriculture: only 19 percent of women own property in their own name.²⁰ In some ethnic groups, the practice of *leblouh* or the forced feeding of adolescent girls prior to marriage continues to persist (CEDAW, 2014).

Migration, Refugees, and Humanitarian Protection

22. Mauritania is a vast territory with more than 5,000 km of borders and with a long-standing tradition of migration and hospitality. Due to its geographical position, the country has become an important transit site for migratory movements, including for irregular migrants journeying to Europe. Controlling the vast maritime and land borders of Mauritania remains a major challenge for the state, as does the provision of assistance to migrants in its territory.²¹ According to UNHCR data, as of September 2020 the total population of concern (refugees and asylum seekers registered with UNHCR) counted 66,582 individuals, the vast majority of which (95 percent) being Malians fleeing violence in the neighbouring state and being hosted in the Mbera camp in the south-west.
23. In 2020, there were no voluntary returns from Mauritania to neighbouring Mali due to COVID-19-related border closures, and the deteriorating political and security situation in Mali. Due to these same reasons, large scale returns of Malian refugees to Mali are also not expected in 2021. In 2019, Mauritania pledged at the Global Refugee Forum to adopt draft asylum legislation in 2020.²² Despite Mauritania's welcoming stance, its ratification of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, the 1967 Protocol and the 1969 OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa, an asylum law is yet to be adopted. Progress was slowed by the COVID-19 pandemic.²³

COVID-19

24. As of 11 January 2021, there were 15,214 confirmed cases and 378 deaths since the first case of COVID-19 was identified in country in March 2020.²⁴ Access to the country is possible through commercial passenger flights and land borders (with Senegal and Mali). There is a nationwide curfew across the country from 8pm to 6am. COVID-19 tests are required for incoming passengers. Compliance with measures such as wearing masks and keeping physical distancing to limit the spread of COVID-19 applies.²⁵
25. A July 2020 joint study from WFP, FAO and the German Cooperation (BMZ) on the impact of COVID-19 on food security concluded that the restrictive measures taken by the Government have reduced the supply of products and services, while the level of demand, access to and diversification of available products have remained unchanged. The study also concluded that the pandemic has caused a slowdown of productive activities and a reduction in working hours which varies according to the different value chains. Moreover, a

¹⁶ UNESCO, <http://uis.unesco.org/en/country/mr?theme=education-and-literacy>

¹⁷ UNDP. Human Development Report, 2020

¹⁸ WFP, Mauritania CSP (2019-2022)

¹⁹ OECD, SIGI 2019, <https://www.genderindex.org/>

²⁰ WFP, Mauritania CSP (2019-2022)

²¹ IOM, <https://www.iom.int/countries/mauritania>

²² UNHCR, <https://reporting.unhcr.org/mauritania>

²³ UNHCR, <https://reporting.unhcr.org/mauritania>

²⁴ UNINFO, <https://data.uninfo.org/Home/CountryProfile/Mauritania>

²⁵ WFP, <https://unwfp.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/db5b5df309ac4f10bfd36145a6f8880e> (consulted on 11 January 2021)

WFP internal assessment estimated that during the 2020 lean season, COVID-19 has affected the food security of urban population more severely compared to the rural one.

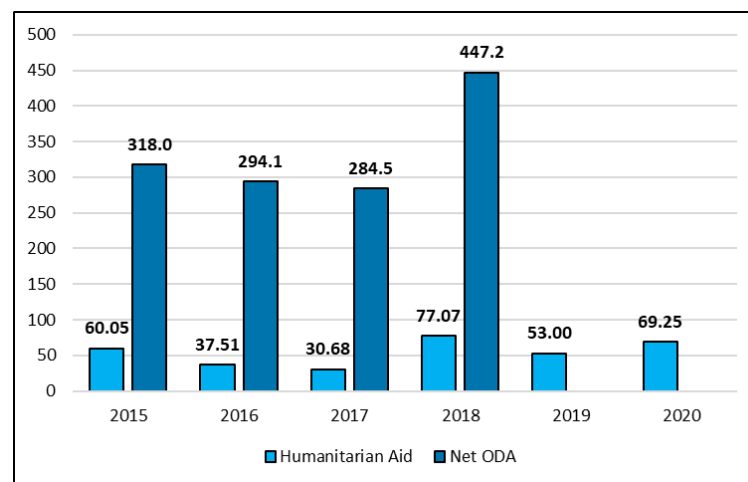
National Policies, priorities, institutional capacities and the SDGs

26. Government's efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development²⁶ are guided by its National Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Shared Prosperity (2016-2030)²⁷. The Strategy aims to eradicate severe food insecurity and reduce food insecurity to less than 5 percent and global acute malnutrition to 2 percent. It promotes the scale-up of social protection programmes such as shock-responsive safety nets to achieve SDG2. The Strategy also prioritizes the reversal of environmental degradation and climate change mitigation through reforestation, dune stabilization and soil and water conservation, and calls for government investment in climate-related disaster risk management and emergency preparedness.
27. The 2013 National Social Protection Strategy²⁸ seeks to equip the country with the tools and institutional framework to address structural vulnerabilities, including those based on age, gender and disability, and transient food insecurity resulting from shocks.
28. The Government's approach in tackling malnutrition and food security are outlined in the 2012 National Food Security Strategy²⁹, the 2016 Strategic Multi-Sector Plan for Nutrition³⁰, and the 2013 National Social Protection Strategy. The 2017 National School Feeding Policy envisages the roll-out of a national programme, making provision for home-grown school feeding.³¹ The 2015–2025 National Gender Institutionalization Strategy³² aims to eradicate gender-based violence and address all forms of discrimination against women and girls by mainstreaming gender in all sectors and implementing gender-transformative actions.³³

International Development Assistance

29. During the period 2015-2018³⁴, Mauritania received a yearly average 335.9 USD million net Official Development Assistance (ODA). The proportion of net ODA per GDP remained stable, between 27.4 and 27.5 percent during the same period.³⁵ The top five ODA funding sources between 2015-2019 were the Arab Fund, the International Development Association, European Union institutions, Kuwait and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) (Figures 2 and 3). During the same period, ODA funding focused primarily on energy, water supply & sanitation, transport & communications, humanitarian aid, Government & Civil Society and Education.³⁶

Figure 2: International Assistance to Mauritania 2015-2020, USD million



Source: OECD-DAC, UN OCHA – FTS (data extracted on 01/10/20). Note: no ODA data available for 2019 and 2020.

²⁶ United Nations, <https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>

²⁷ Islamic Republic of Mauritania, <https://www.economie.gov.mr/spip.php?article547>

²⁸ Islamic Republic of Mauritania, <https://www.masef.gov.mr/spip.php?article409>

²⁹ FAO, <http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/Mau147221.pdf>

³⁰ FAO, <http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/Mau192041.pdf>

³¹ WFP Mauritania CSP (2019-2022)

³² Islamic Republic of Mauritania, https://www.masef.gov.mr/IMG/pdf/strategie_nationale_d_institutionnalisation_du_genre.pdf

³³ WFP Mauritania CSP (2019-2022)

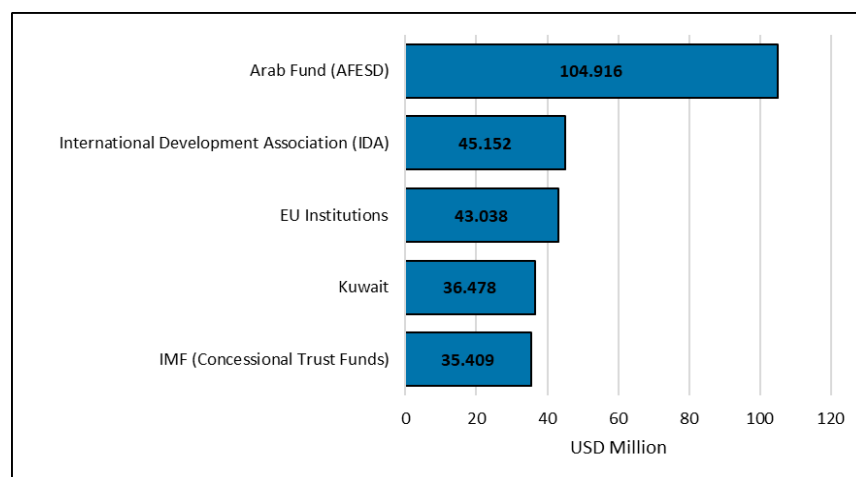
³⁴ ODA cumulative figures for 2019 and 2020 are not currently available.

³⁵ OECD-DAC, [Aid at a glance](#)

³⁶ OECD

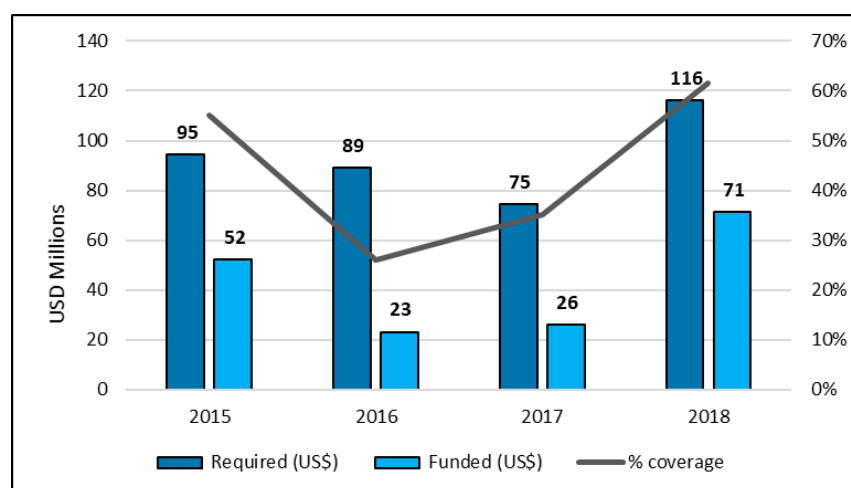
30. On the other hand, humanitarian funding fluctuated between 60 USD million in 2015 and 69.2 USD million in 2020 (Figure 2: **International Assistance to Mauritania 2015-202**. Main donors of humanitarian assistance in 2020 were the United States of America (26.6 percent of total funding), followed by the European Commission, the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom.
31. Humanitarian funding in 2020 focused primarily on COVID-19 (22.5 percent), food security (22.5 percent) and nutrition (17 percent), with WFP being the largest UN recipient (22.3 percent of total funding) followed by UNHCR and UNICEF.³⁷
32. The funding level of response plans and appeals has been fluctuating significantly between 2015 and 2018 ranging from below 30 percent in 2016 to slightly above 60 percent in 2018 (Figure 4).

Figure 3: Top five donors of Gross ODA to Mauritania: 2015–2018, yearly average



Source: OECD website (data extracted on 10/01/21). Note: no ODA data available for 2019 and 2020.

Figure 4: Funding against response plans and appeals, 2015-2018 (sub-components of total Humanitarian Aid)



Source: OCHA FTS website (data extracted on 10/01/21)

United Nations Development Assistance Framework

33. Succeeding the UNDAF (2012-2017), the *Cadre de Partenariat pour le Developpement Durable*³⁸ (2018-2022) (CPDD - Sustainable Development Partnership Framework) currently provides the strategic and legal framework for United Nations activities in the country.

³⁷ OCHA, financial tracking service, <https://fts.unocha.org/countries/141/summary/2020>

³⁸ <https://unsdg.un.org/un-in-action/mauritania>

34. Its objective is to contribute to i) the achievement of the national priorities defined by the National Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Shared Prosperity (2016-2030) and its priority action plan for 2016-2020, as well as its sectorial strategies; ii) the achievement of Sahel G5's priorities and the ones set out in the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS); iii) the promotion of human rights and the realization of the values and principles set out in Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
35. The CPDD aims to provide a response to humanitarian and sustainable development issues Mauritania is confronted with, based on the respective comparative advantages of the different UN agencies and NGO partners. It integrates development planning and humanitarian action, based on the recommendations of the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit, and aims to implement the New Way of Working promoted in this context. It identifies three strategic priorities for cooperation, namely: i) sustainable and inclusive growth; ii) human capital & basic social services, and iii) governance.

2. Reasons for the Evaluation

2.1. RATIONALE

36. Country Strategic Plan Evaluations (CSPEs) have been introduced by the WFP Policy on CSPs in 2016, which states: “under the management of the Office of Evaluation, all CSPs, besides Interim CSPs, will undergo country portfolio evaluations towards the end of their implementation period, to assess progress and results against intended CSP outcomes and objectives, including towards gender equity and other cross-cutting corporate results; and to identify lessons for the design of subsequent country-level support”. These evaluations are part of a wide body of evidence expected to inform the design of CSPs. The evaluation is an opportunity for the CO to benefit from an independent assessment of its portfolio of operations. The timing will enable the CO to use the CSPE evidence on past and current performance in the design of the CO’s new Country Strategic Plan (CSP) – scheduled for Executive Board consideration in November 2022.

2.2. OBJECTIVES

37. Evaluations serve the dual objectives of accountability and learning. As such, this evaluation will: 1) provide evaluation evidence and learning on WFP’s performance for country-level strategic decisions, specifically for developing WFP’s future engagement in Mauritania and 2) provide accountability for results to WFP stakeholders.

2.3. STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

38. The Evaluation will seek the views of, and be useful to, a broad range of WFPs internal and external stakeholders. It will present an opportunity for national, regional and corporate learning. The key standard stakeholders of a CSPE are the WFP Country Office, the relevant Regional Bureau (in this case: Dakar) and headquarters technical divisions, followed by the Executive Board (EB), the beneficiaries, the host Government, local and international NGOs, the UN Country Team and WFP Office of evaluation (OEV) for synthesis and feeding into other evaluations. A matrix of stakeholders with their respective interests and roles in this CSPE is found in Annex 4.
39. The CSPE will seek to engage with the affected populations, including beneficiary household members, community leaders, teachers, school personnel, health workers and other participants in WFP activities to learn directly from their perspectives and experiences. Special attention will be given in hearing the voices of women and girls, and other potentially marginalised population groups.
40. The Government of Mauritania is an important partner of WFP in the implementation of its CSP. In particular, the evaluation will seek to engage with the National Commission for Food Security, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Social Affairs, Children and Family, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, the Social Register Directorate and the Taazour agency (General Delegation to Solidarity). Other national WFP partners include a range of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society institutions. National stakeholders are expected to have an interest in the results of the evaluation, as the exercise aims to enhance collaboration and synergies among national institutions and WFP, clarifying mandates and roles, and accelerating progress towards replication, hand-over and sustainability.
41. On the other hand, key international stakeholders of the CSP include the FAO, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the World Bank, international non-governmental organizations such as Oxfam and *Action contre la Faim*, and key donors of WFP interventions such as Germany, the European Commission, the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Japan and France. International partners of WFP in Mauritania have a stake in this evaluation in terms of partnerships, performance, future strategic orientation, as well as issues pertaining to UN coordination. They have an interest in that WFP activities are coherent and effective. The evaluation can represent an opportunity to improve collaboration, co-ordination and increase synergies within the UN system and its partners.
42. Selected stakeholders will be interviewed and consulted during the inception and data collection phases as applicable and will be expected to participate in a Learning Workshop towards the end of the reporting phase.

3. Subject of the Evaluation

3.1. SUBJECT OF THE EVALUATION

43. WFP has been operating in Mauritania since 1964 providing relief assistance and school meals and supporting mother and child health and nutrition, asset creation and livelihoods strengthening. As of 2017, prior to the shift to the Country Strategic Plan framework, WFP’s portfolio in Mauritania included four operations: a Country Programme (CP), a Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO), a Special Operation and a Trust Fund. Its operations covered a wide range of intervention areas, including unconditional food and cash-based transfers, food assistance for assets, school meals, nutrition interventions, and provision of UNHAS services. The assisted populations included vulnerable Mauritians in targeted areas, Malian refugees and host communities. Annex 6 provides an overview of ongoing WFP projects and programmes in 2017 and 2018.
44. In the course of 2017, WFP developed a **Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (T-ICSP)** for Mauritania, covering the January-December 2018 period. The T-ICSP aimed at taking important steps towards WFP’s strategic direction for a strengthened national and local capacity whereby the government and communities would independently own, manage and implement food and nutrition security programmes by 2030.
45. The T-ICSP was informed by the findings and recommendations from the Mauritania Country Portfolio Evaluation (CPE) (2011-2015).³⁹ According to the T-ICSP document, priority actions identified by the CPE and during the elaboration of the T-ICSP included:
- i) **focus the geographical and household targeting** of food assistance interventions in the most vulnerable regions and communes to avoid a scattered approach and geographical dispersion;
 - ii) systematically seek **synergies, stronger integration and multisector complementarity** between WFP interventions and with partners;
 - iii) favour **multi-year efforts** in the same communities, to maximize impact and sustainability;
 - iv) enhance operational transfer modalities and cross-cutting priorities such as **gender equality and protection**;
 - v) integrate **climate change issues** into national and local planning and technical standards for assets building; and
 - vi) enhance strategic and operational coordination and refocus capacity development efforts within the **social protection and resilience** agenda to achieve zero hunger objectives.⁴⁰
46. Table 1 below provides an overview of the T-ICSP Strategic Outcomes (SOs) and associated activities. A detailed overview of T-ICSP implementation as per the Annual Country Reports (ACRs) is presented in Annex 8 of these ToR.

Table 1: Mauritania T-ICSP (2018), Overview of Strategic Outcomes and Activities ⁴¹	
Strategic Outcomes	Activities
SO.1: Food insecure (and vulnerable) Mauritanian populations in the six targeted regions, including school-age children, have stable access to adequate food all year-round.	Activity 1: Provide seasonal unconditional food assistance to vulnerable Mauritanian households, including preventive nutritious rations for children (aged 6-23 months) <i>*[activity closed through Budget Revision No. 2 and augmented as an emergency response to the 2018 drought crisis under the new Activity 9 (crisis response focus area, SO2)]</i>
	Activity 2: Provide school meals to vulnerable Mauritanian children during the school year

³⁹ <https://www.wfp.org/publications/mauritania-evaluation-wfps-portfolio-2011-2015>

⁴⁰ WFP Mauritania T-ICSP (2018), https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000022214/download/?_ga=2.196619372.1108498621.1608715745-187301385.1528979675

⁴¹ Including significant updates introduced by Budget Revision 2 (BR2).

<p>SO.2: Crisis-affected people, including refugees, are able to meet basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crisis</p>	<p>Activity 3: Provide food assistance (conditional and unconditional) to the food insecure Malian refugees affected by Mali’s crisis including school meals.</p>
	<p>Activity 4: Provide nutrition assistance to Malian refugee children (aged 6-23 months) and PLW/Gs for malnutrition prevention for six months (May–October), and Malian refugee children (aged 6-59 months) and PLW/Gs with MAM treatment for the entire year</p>
	<p>Activity 9: Provide emergency unconditional food assistance to vulnerable Mauritanian households, including preventive nutritious rations for children (aged 6-23 months) and PLW/Gs, and provide emergency nutrition treatment to vulnerable Mauritanian children (6 to 59 months) and PLW/Gs for an average of two months until recovered between March and October</p> <p><i>*[new activity included through Budget Revision No. 2 to absorb and scale up the resilience building SO.1 activity 1 and SO.3 activity 5]</i></p>
<p>SO.3: Children and pregnant and lactating women and girls in the six targeted regions have improved nutritional status all year-round</p>	<p>Activity 5: Provide MAM treatment to vulnerable Mauritanian children (6 to 59 months for an average of two months until recovered) between May–October and cash transfers to PLW/Gs as part of malnutrition prevention activities</p> <p><i>*[through BR2, MAM treatment component was augmented and integrated into the new emergency response under Activity 9, while cash transfer for PLW/G was planned to close in 2018. Only the capacity strengthening component of Activity 5 was maintained]</i></p>
<p>SO.4: Food-insecure smallholders and communities in the six targeted regions have enhanced livelihoods and resilience to better support food security and nutrition needs all year-round</p>	<p>Activity 6: Provide food assistance to food insecure Mauritanian households for community and household assets creation.</p>
<p>SO.5: The humanitarian community in Mauritania has access to UNHAS services all year-round</p>	<p>Activity 7: Provide flights services to humanitarian partners, towards areas of humanitarian interventions.</p>
<p>SO.6: Government has enhanced capacities to manage food security and nutrition policies and programmes and identify, target and assist food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations all year-round</p>	<p>Activity 8: Provide training and technical support to government institutions in policy formulation and activity coordination and implementation related to: social protection, resilience, and emergency preparedness and response, across which gender is integrated.</p>

47. The total cost of the T-ICSP was initially estimated at USD 37.7 million and overall, WFP was expected to assist 288,700 beneficiaries. A crisis-response budget revision (BR2) in response to a severe drought affecting agro-pastoralist communities in the central, southern and eastern regions of the country increased the total number of planned beneficiaries to 513,200, and the total estimated cost to USD 59.6 million. BR2 proposed to eliminate the seasonal shock response interventions from strategic outcome 1 and 3 (resilience-building focus area) and include those in the emergency response interventions under strategic outcome 2 (crisis response).⁴²
48. On 12 June 2018, WFP activated an internal level-3 (L3) emergency declaration for the Sahel shock response operation, specifically in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger, through 29 November 2018. Under this L3, WFP was also pursuing a regional Sahel resilience scale-up to provide early recovery and resilience-building support following the relief efforts with augmented funding and staffing capacities. Following the L3 declaration, in June 2018 the Mauritania Country Director approved a new budget revision (BR3), which slightly

⁴² WFP Mauritania T-ICSP (2018), BR2, https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000069098/download/?_ga=2.200680942.1108498621.1608715745-187301385.1528979675

increased both the total number of estimated beneficiaries (516,200) and the total estimated cost of the T-ICSP (USD 61.3 million). In particular, while the revision proposed no specific changes to the strategic framework of the T-ICSP it proposed amendments to increase its operational capacity in Activities 3, 6, 8 and 9.⁴³ The L3 emergency for the Sahel shock response was discontinued in December 2019, hence it was not later reflected in the subsequent CSP (2019-2022). As reported in the 2019 Internal Audit⁴⁴ of the L3 Sahel shock response, while emergency mechanisms such as corporate L2/L3 help the various units in Headquarters, RBx and COs ensure stronger communication, support and capabilities in emergency contexts, emergency interventions are not differentiated from other WFP operations, therefore there was no specific consolidated reporting on the emergency costs for the 2018 Sahel L3 response.

49. Tables 2 and 3 provide an overview of the budget and funding for the T-ICSP. As can be seen, Strategic Outcome 2 (crisis response focus area) has received the largest resource allocation, in line with the needs-based plan. As shown in Table 4, all donor allocations have been earmarked at the activity level.

Strategic Outcome	Needs based plan, USD (2018)	% of SO needs-based plan on total	Actual allocated resources, USD	% of SO allocated resources on total	Expenditures	% of SO expenditures on actual allocated resources
SO.1	4,088,824	7%	727,869	2%	711,667	97.8%
SO.2	43,975,686	80%	24,063,041	80%	23,720,107	98.6%
SO.3	151,945	1%	0	0%	0	0%
SO.4	2,931,416	5%	2,236,682	7%	2,234,707	99.9%
SO.5	2,986,966	5%	2,654,829	9%	2,654,829	100%
SO.6	956,991	2%	500,733	2%	500,733	100%
Non-SO Specific	0	0%	255	0%	0	0%
Total Direct Operational Cost	55,091,828	100%	30,183,409	100%	29,822,043	98.8%

Source: IRM analytics - ACR1 Standard Country Report (data extracted on 06/01/21). Note: needs-based plan figures are as per last BR of the T-ICSP. Figures do not include direct and indirect support costs.

Focus Area	Confirmed Contributions (USD)	% of Total Contributions
Crisis Response	27,144,325	82.9%
Resilience Building	3,618,830	11.0%
Not assigned	1,983,971	6.1%
Sum	32,747,126	100%

Source: IRM analytics - CPB Grants Balance Report (data extracted on 06/01/21). Note: confirmed contributions values do not include indirect support costs.

Donor Earmarking level	Confirmed Contributions (USD)	% of Total Contributions
Country Level	0	0%
Strategic Outcome Level	0	0%
Activity Level	32,747,126	100%
Sum	32,747,126	100%

Source: IRM analytics - CPB Grants Balance Report (data extracted on 06/01/21). Note: confirmed contributions values do not include indirect support costs.

⁴³ WFP Mauritania T-ICSP (2018), BR3, https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000098778/download/?_ga=2.121529544.1108498621.1608715745-187301385.1528979675

⁴⁴ WFP, <https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000107981/download/>

50. In the course of 2018, WFP designed a four-year full **Country Strategic Plan (CSP)** for Mauritania, running from January 2019 to December 2022 and aiming at six strategic outcomes (Table 5). The CSP was approved by the Executive Board in November 2018. Its total initial cost was estimated at USD 132.4 million, targeting 444,566 beneficiaries.
51. The CSP aims to contribute to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2, 4, 5, 13 and 17. Through the Mauritania CSP WFP intended to: i) maintain crisis-response capacities, including to assist Malian refugees (SO1); ii) support national efforts to address the immediate and root causes of vulnerability by delivering an integrated resilience package for Mauritanian populations – including host communities in the six food-insecure regions identified by the integrated context analysis (SOs 2, 3 and 4); iii) strengthen institutional capacity with a view to the gradual transfer of Adaptive Social Protection (ASP) programmes, tools and processes to the Government (SO5) and iv) provide common services, including humanitarian flight services (SO6).
52. An overview of the CSP Strategic Outcomes and related activities is presented in Table 5, while more details on planned activities are presented in Annex 8.

Table 5: Mauritania CSP (2019-2022), Overview of Strategic Outcomes and Activities		
Focus Area	Strategic Outcomes	Activities
CRISIS RESPONSE	SO.1: Crisis-affected people in targeted areas, including refugees, are able to meet basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crises	Activity 1: Provide an integrated assistance package to refugees, including food assistance (conditional and/or unconditional), school meals, and specialized nutritious food to children and PLW/Gs for malnutrition prevention and treatment
		Activity 8: Provide food assistance and supplementary feeding to pandemic affected populations/households
RESILIENCE BUILDING	SO.2: Food-insecure populations in targeted regions, including school-age children, have access to adequate and nutritious food all year	Activity 2: Provide seasonal food assistance to food insecure Mauritanian populations, integrating complementary specialized nutritious food for children (aged 6-23 months) as well as PLW/Gs
		Activity 3: Provide school meals to vulnerable Mauritanian children during the school year, in a way that relies on and stimulates local production (home-grown school feeding)
	SO.3: Nutritionally vulnerable populations in targeted areas, including children and pregnant and lactating women and girls, have improved nutritional status all year	Activity 4: Among food insecure Mauritanian populations, provide specialized nutritious food for MAM treatment to children aged 6-59 months and PLW/Gs, nutrition-related messaging to women and men care providers, and cash transfers to PLW/Gs attending pre/post-natal care
	SO.4: Food-insecure populations and communities exposed to climate shocks in targeted areas have more resilient livelihoods and sustainable food systems all year	Activity 5: Provide livelihood support to food insecure and at-risk Mauritanian households, including the development or rehabilitation of natural and productive assets (including FFA), through an integrated, equitable and participatory community approach
	SO.5: National institutions have strengthened capacities to manage food-security, nutrition and social protection policies and programmes, including an adaptive (shock-responsive) social protection system, by 2030	Activity 6: Provide capacity strengthening support to national institutions on the design and implementation of: i) a permanent response planning scheme for food security and nutrition with consolidated early warning and coordination mechanisms, ii) a national shock-responsive, nutrition-sensitive and gender transformative safety-net system, iii) and effective preparedness and supply chains operations
CRISIS RESPONSE	SO.6: Humanitarian and development partners have access to common services that permit them to reach and operate in targeted areas all year	Activity 7: Provide UNHAS flight services for partners, to access areas of humanitarian interventions
		Activity 9: Provide on-demand logistics services to Government, United Nations and Non-Governmental partners to facilitate effective field operations (CPA Service Provision and platform activities)

Source: WFP CSP Data Portal (data extracted on 06/01/21)

53. Among main strategic changes proposed by the CSP, WFP would take a lead role in strengthening the institutional capacities (SO5) required for the adaptive social protection (ASP) system, focusing on building resilience at the national and community levels. According to the CSP document, the six strategic outcomes of the CSP would guide the design, roll-out, implementation and handover of the ASP system with a view to achieving zero hunger by 2030.
54. Support for the ASP system will encompass the establishment of a robust preparedness and response mechanism with protective and productive safety-net functions. As part of this effort, attention would be dedicated to developing ASP tools that can be used to adequately assess and address the specific needs of pastoralist and other mobile populations. As capacities are enhanced, WFP's interventions would be integrated into national programmes. Such shift, which is reflected in the scale-down of the annual CSP budget, would be gradual and would continue after the CSP to ensure sustainability through capacity maintenance.⁴⁵
55. In 2019, WFP Mauritania commissioned a decentralized evaluation of its Adaptive Social Protection activities, which findings should inform the remainder of the implementation of the CSP as well as its evaluation. As of January 2021, the evaluation team is working on the preparation of the first draft of the evaluation report. Findings and recommendations from the decentralized evaluation are expected to inform and complement the learning from the CSP evaluation.⁴⁶
56. Activities under SO1 aim at assisting crisis-affected people, including 55,000 protractedly displaced Malian refugees and might potentially be expanded to food-insecure Mauritanian populations in case of severe drought or other shock. This outcome reflects crisis-related needs at the time when the CSP was developed (2018). A progressive shift towards refugee self-reliance was planned under the CSP, guided by the 2018–2022 integrated livelihood strategy for the department of Bassikounou and the joint corporate priorities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and WFP.
57. According to the CSP document, SOs 2, 3 and 4 correspond to the Resilience Building package. In particular, activities under SOs 2 and 3 would contribute to the protective function of the national shock-responsive safety-net system, while activities under SO4 would contribute to its productive function.
58. To implement its activities, WFP would closely collaborate with numerous partners in Mauritania. Detailed lists of national and international partners and their respective roles in CSP implementation are presented in Annex 4.
59. According to the *Cadre de Partenariat pour le Développement Durable*⁴⁷ (2018-2022), WFP Mauritania is expected to contribute to the achievement of its strategic priorities 1 (sustainable and inclusive growth) and 2 (human capital & basic social services) together with other UN agencies such as FAO, IOM, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UNHCR, UNICEF and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), among others, and ONG partners.
60. The ongoing CSP has known one Budget Revision (BR1), which was approved by the WFP Regional Director in Dakar in June 2020. BR1 was conceived in response to i) successive droughts that would result in a significant increase in the number of people affected by food insecurity and malnutrition during the 2020 lean season; ii) newly arising needs for populations whose food security was deteriorating due to the COVID-19 crisis and the restrictive measures put in place to contain the propagation of the pandemic, and iii) requests for service provision to other UN agencies and the Government, including COVID-19 logistics response. It foresaw an increase in the number of planned beneficiaries to 680,642 people (+53 percent) and the total cost to USD 164.6 million (+24 percent).⁴⁸
61. The following tables provide a budget overview for the Mauritania CSP. They reflect a larger portion of funding dedicated to Resilience building focus area compared to the T-ICSP period, and a more balanced allocation of resources over diverse activities under the Crisis Response and Resilience Building areas.
62. Donor allocations have still been predominantly earmarked at the Activity level, with only few allocations being earmarked at the SO level. As of December 2020, main donors for the Mauritania CSP were Germany, the European Commission, United States and United Kingdom, together accounting for over 76 percent of funding sources (Figure 5).

⁴⁵ WFP Mauritania CSP (2018-2022)

⁴⁶ <https://www.wfp.org/publications/mauritania-adaptive-social-protection-capacity-strengthening-activities-evaluation>

⁴⁷ See the CPDD Results Framework ([link](#))

⁴⁸ <https://www.wfp.org/operations/mr02-mauritania-country-strategic-plan-2019-2022>

Table 6: WFP Mauritania CSP (2019-2022), Cumulative Financial Overview (USD)						
Strategic Outcome	Needs based plan, USD (2019-2022)	% of SO needs-based plan on total	Actual allocated resources, USD	% of SO allocated resources on total	Expenditures	% of SO expenditures on actual allocated resources
SO.1	54,952,161	38%	23,774,472	35%	21,749,890	91.5%
SO.2	40,788,201	28%	21,276,111	31%	16,879,134	79.3%
SO.3	6,952,411	5%	2,675,727	4%	2,070,376	77.4%
SO.4	18,584,117	13%	9,423,292	14%	7,480,275	79.4%
SO.5	6,902,711	5%	3,415,810	5%	2,103,984	61.6%
SO.6	15,326,296	11%	7,350,019	11%	5,667,242	77.1%
Non-SO Specific	0	0%	663	0%	0	0%
Total Direct Operational Cost	143,505,898	100%	67,916,095	100%	55,950,900	82.4%

Source: IRM analytics - ACR1 Standard Country Report (data extracted on 06/01/21), with needs-based plan figures updated as per BR1. Note: Figures do not include direct and indirect support costs.

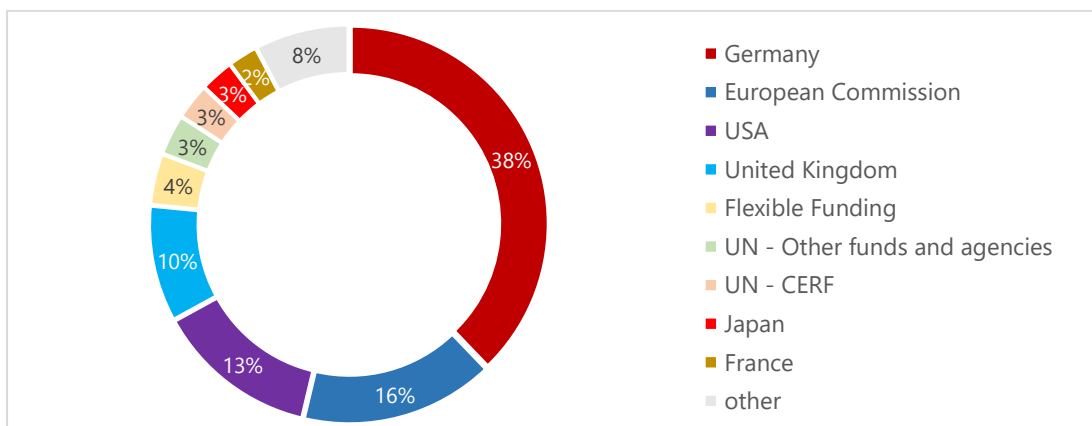
Table 7: Mauritania CSP (2019-2022), Summary of allocated contributions by focus area as of January 2021		
Focus Area	Confirmed Contributions (USD)	% of Total Contributions
Resilience Building	37,120,221	50.4%
Crisis Response	30,825,269	41.9%
Not assigned	5,642,299	7.7%
Sum	73,587,789	100%

Source: IRM analytics - CPB Grants Balance Report (data extracted on 06/01/21). Note: confirmed contributions values do not include indirect support costs.

Table 8: Mauritania CSP (2019-2022), Summary by donor allocation level as of January 2021		
Donor Earmarking level	Confirmed Contributions (USD)	% of Total Contributions
Country Level	718	~0%
Strategic Outcome Level	2,792,619	3.8%
Activity Level	70,794,452	96.2%
Sum	73,587,789	100%

Source: IRM analytics - CPB Grants Balance Report (data extracted on 06/01/21). Note: confirmed contributions values do not include indirect support costs.

Figure 5: Mauritania CSP (2019-2022), main donors and funding sources as of December 2020



Source: WFP, Mauritania Resource Situation (data extracted on 21/12/20)

Staffing

63. As of December 2020, the Country Office had 117 staff, of which 29 percent were female and 74 percent were on short-term contracts. In addition to the Country Office in Nouakchott, WFP operates with three sub-offices in Bassikounou, Kaedi and Kiffa. Annex 1 presents a map with WFP sub-offices in the country.

3.2. SCOPE OF THE EVALUATION

64. The evaluation will cover all of WFP's activities (including cross cutting results) for the period January 2018 - September 2021, i.e. from the start of the T-ICSP until the end of the CSPE data collection mission. The evaluation report will be updated with data until the end of 2021 when it becomes available in the 2021 Annual Country Report. Moreover, the evaluation will cover the year 2017 in relation to the development of the T-ICSP and current CSP and associated decision-making process, and build on the Country Portfolio Evaluation (2011-2015) to enable the assessment of key changes in the approach moving from project-based to country level strategic planning. Within this broader timeframe, the evaluation will look at how the CSP builds on or departs from the previous activities and assess if the envisaged strategic shift has taken place and what were the associated consequences, key facilitators or impediments. The unit of analysis are the CSP and the previous T-ICSP, understood as the set of strategic outcomes, outputs, activities and inputs that were included in the CSP and T-ICSP documents approved by WFP Executive Board, as well as subsequent approved budget revisions (BRs).
65. The evaluation will focus on assessing WFP contributions to T-ICSP and CSP strategic outcomes, establishing plausible causal relations between the outputs of WFP activities, the implementation process, the operational environment and the changes observed at the outcome level, including any unintended consequences, positive or negative. In so doing, the evaluation will also analyse the WFP partnership strategy, including WFP strategic positioning in complex, dynamic contexts, particularly as relates to relations with the national government and the international community.
66. The evaluation scope will include an assessment of how relevant and effective WFP was in responding to the COVID-19 crisis in the country. It will also consider how substantive and budget revisions (if any) and adaptations of WFP interventions in response to the crisis have affected other interventions planned under the CSP.

4. Evaluation Approach, Methodology and Ethical Considerations

4.1. EVALUATION QUESTIONS AND CRITERIA

67. The evaluation will address four main questions common to all WFP CSPEs. Within this framework, the evaluation team may further develop and tailor the sub questions as relevant and appropriate to the CSP and country context, including as relates to assessing the response to the COVID-19 crisis.

EQ1 – To what extent is WFP’s strategic position, role and specific contribution in Mauritania based on country priorities and people’s needs as well as WFP’s strengths?	
1.1	To what extent was the T-ICSP and is the current CSP relevant to national policies, plans, strategies and goals, including achievement of the national Sustainable Development Goals?
1.2	To what extent did the T-ICSP and current CSP address the needs of the people most vulnerable to food insecurity and malnutrition in Mauritania (including refugees), ensuring that no one is left behind?
1.3	To what extent has WFP’s strategic positioning remained relevant throughout the implementation of the T-ICSP and CSP considering changing context, national capacities and needs in Mauritania – in particular in response to the COVID-19 pandemic?
1.4	To what extent are the T-ICSP and the current CSP coherent and aligned with the wider UN and humanitarian sector, and do they include appropriate strategic partnerships based on the comparative advantage of WFP in Mauritania?
EQ2 – What is the extent and quality of WFP’s specific contribution to T-ICSP and CSP strategic outcomes in Mauritania?	
2.1	To what extent did WFP deliver expected outputs and contribute to the expected T-ICSP and CSP strategic outcomes?
2.2	To what extent did WFP contribute to achievement of cross-cutting aims (humanitarian principles, protection, accountability to affected populations, gender equality and other equity considerations)?
2.3	To what extent are the achievements under the T-ICSP and CSP likely to be sustainable?
2.4	To what extent did the T-ICSP and CSP facilitate more strategic linkages between humanitarian, development and, where appropriate, peace work?
EQ3: To what extent has WFP used its resources efficiently in contributing to T-ICSP and CSP outputs and strategic outcomes in Mauritania?	
3.1	To what extent were outputs delivered within the intended timeframe?
3.2	To what extent was coverage and targeting of interventions appropriate?
3.3	To what extent were WFP’s activities cost-efficient in delivery of its assistance?
3.4	To what extent were alternative, more cost-effective measures considered?
EQ4 – What are the factors that explain WFP’s performance and the extent to which it has made the strategic shift expected in the T-ICSP and CSP?	
4.1	To what extent did WFP use existing evidence on food security and nutrition issues in Mauritania as well as evidence from evaluation to develop the T-ICSP and consecutive CSP?

4.2	To what extent has WFP been able to mobilize adequate, predictable and flexible resources to finance the T-ICSP and subsequent CSP?
4.3	To what extent did the T-ICSP and CSP lead to partnerships and collaborations with other actors, and how did these partnerships influence performance and results?
4.4	To what extent did country-level strategic planning affect flexibility and results in dynamic operational contexts, in particular as regards adaptation and response to the COVID-19 and other unexpected crises and challenges?
4.5	What are the other factors that can explain WFP performance and the extent to which it has made the strategic shift expected the T-ICSP and CSP?

68. The evaluation will adopt standard UNEG and OECD/DAC evaluation criteria, namely: relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, coherence and sustainability, as well as connectedness and coverage. Moreover, it will give attention to assessing adherence to humanitarian principles, protection issues and Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) of WFP's response.
69. During the inception phase, the evaluation team in consultation with OEV will identify a limited number of key themes of interest, related to WFP's main thrust of activities, challenges or good practices in the country that would be of special interest for learning purposes. Those themes should be further elaborated upon in the inception report and translated into specific lines of inquiry under the relevant evaluation questions and sub-questions in the evaluation matrix.
70. Themes / lines of enquiry which could be of particular interest to this CSPE identified at TOR stage are:
- How relevant, effective and efficient was the response to the COVID-19 crisis and what were the effects on other interventions planned under the CSP? (This is a compulsory theme across all 2021 CSPEs)
 - How relevant, effective and sustainable is WFP's contribution to the national Social Protection agenda?
 - How relevant and effective is WFP in contributing to the climate resilience of refugee populations and host communities, also in view of a possible phase-out of its intervention in this domain?
 - To what extent and how did WFP leverage the strengths and comparative advantages of different partners in Mauritania towards achieving a shared vision and maximizing positive impact through the CSP?

4.2. EVALUATION APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

71. The Agenda 2030 conveys the global commitment to end poverty, hunger and inequality, emphasizing the interconnected economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. This calls for a systemic approach to development policies and programme design and implementation, as well as for a systemic perspective in analysing development change. WFP assumes the conceptual perspective of Agenda 2030 as the overarching framework of its Strategic Plan 2017-2021, with a focus on supporting countries to end hunger (SDG 2). In so doing, it places emphasis on strengthening the humanitarian-development nexus, which implies applying a development lens in humanitarian response and complementing humanitarian action with strengthening national institutional capacity.
72. To operationalize the above-mentioned systemic perspective, the CSPE will adopt a mixed methods approach; this should be intended as a methodological design in which data collection and analysis is informed by a feedback loop combining a deductive approach, which starts from predefined analytical categories, with an inductive approach that leaves space for unforeseen issues or lines of inquiry that had not been identified at the inception stage; this would eventually lead to capturing unintended outcomes of WFP operations, negative or positive.
73. In line with this approach, data should be collected through a mix of methods from primary and secondary sources. Systematic data triangulation across different sources and methods should be carried out to validate findings and avoid bias in the evaluative judgement. Data collection methods proposed for this CSPE include:
- In-depth desk review of relevant documentation on the country context; WFP strategies, plans, monitoring data, risk register, annual reports, donor reports, decentralized and centralized evaluations, post distribution monitoring reports, beneficiary feedback databases and other relevant documents;

Government policies, strategies and reports; UNDAF, CPDD and Humanitarian Response Plans; country strategies and reports from strategic partners, donors and cooperating partners; etc.

- Semi-structured interviews with key informants, including WFP CO management and relevant staff including in the sub-offices; Government decision makers and technical staff at national and local level; UN, international financial institutions and NGOs representatives and technical staff; key humanitarian and development donors; managers and technical staff from cooperating partners; etc.
 - Surveys and group interviews with affected populations. While a mobile phone survey may be considered to reach a larger number of people, it will be important to combine it with in-person (group) interviews to ensure that also traditionally marginalised population groups, in particular women, people with disabilities and the extremely poor who do not have access to a mobile phone are given a voice.
 - Direct observation: the evaluation team will visit all sub-offices and a minimum of eight WFP intervention sites, covering an as diverse as possible range of WFP interventions and target population groups.
74. During the inception phase, the evaluation team will develop a detailed methodological design, in line with the approach proposed in these TOR and based on a thorough evaluability assessment. This should also include a reconstructed Theory of Change (ToC) based on the desk review of the T-ICSP and CSP documents and consultations with the Country Office (see section 4.3).
75. Considering the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the inception phase will be conducted remotely, whereby briefings and interviews will be held virtually. However, because of the complexity of the situation, the nature of WFP's programme in Mauritania and likely significant connectivity issues with national stakeholders, in-country fieldwork during the main data collection phase is considered indispensable. In case of international travel restrictions, at a minimum, there should be in-person interviews and field visits conducted by national team members not affected by travel restrictions – taking the strongest possible precautions to avoid spreading the virus and fully abiding by WFP guidelines and national regulations. In case no in-person interviews or in-country travel are possible, an approach with fully remote data collection could be considered as a last resort. In any case, the data collection phase can only be postponed up to when it becomes unrealistic to deliver a quality evaluation in time for the preparation of the new CSP, hence not beyond October 2021.
76. In light of the above, technical and financial offers for this evaluation should consider three scenarios for the main data collection phase: a) a minimum 3-week in-country mission conducted by the full team; b) a mixed approach with part of the team conducting primary data collection in-country, and those team members affected by international travel restrictions conducting interviews remotely and regularly checking-in with the in-country team; c) a data collection phase fully conducted remotely. In any case, should the contextual and security situation allow it, the aim would be to hold the final learning workshop in Nouakchott not later than January 2022.
77. A key annex to the inception report will be an evaluation matrix that spells out for each evaluation question and sub-question the relevant lines of inquiry and indicators, with corresponding data sources and collection techniques. The evaluation matrix will constitute the analytical framework of the evaluation. The key themes of interest of the evaluation should be adequately covered by specific lines of inquiry under the relevant evaluation sub-questions.
78. The methodology should aim at data disaggregation by sex, age, nationality or ethnicity or other characteristics as relevant to, and feasible in specific contexts. Moreover, the selection of informants and site visits should ensure to the extent possible that all voices are heard. In this connection, it will be very important at the design stage to conduct a more detailed and comprehensive stakeholder mapping and analysis to inform sampling.
79. This evaluation will be carried out in a gender responsive manner. For gender to be successfully integrated into this evaluation it is essential to assess:
- the quality of the gender analysis that was undertaken before the T-ICSP and the CSP were designed.
 - whether the results of the gender analysis were properly integrated into the implementation of the T-ICSP and the CSP.
80. The gender dimensions may vary, depending on the nature of the CSP outcomes and activities being evaluated. The CSPE team should apply OEV's Technical Note for Gender Integration in WFP Evaluations. The evaluation team is expected to assess the Gender Marker levels for the CO. The inception report should incorporate gender in the evaluation design and operational plan, including gender sensitive context analysis. Similarly, the

final report should include gender-sensitive analysis, findings, results, factors, conclusions, and where appropriate, recommendations; and technical annex.

81. The evaluation will give due attention to assessing adherence to humanitarian principles, protection issues, accountability to affected populations and environmental impact in relation to WFP's activities, as appropriate, and on differential effects on men, women, girls, boys and other relevant socio-economic groups.
82. Beyond the Mauritania Country Portfolio Evaluation (2016), in recent years, the Mauritania Country Office has taken part in several broader global WFP evaluations, namely:
 - a. the Evaluation of the WFP Gender Policy (2020);
 - b. the Strategic Evaluation of WFP Capacity to Respond to Emergencies (2020);
 - c. and the Evaluation of the Update on WFP Policy on Safety Nets (2019).

Findings and recommendations from these exercises represent an important source of information for the Mauritania CSP Evaluation, and the Evaluation Team is expected to carefully review these evaluation reports as part of the desk review during the inception phase, along with the results of the ongoing decentralized evaluation of WFP Adaptive Social Protection activities in Mauritania, which final report is expected in March 2021.

4.3. EVALUABILITY ASSESSMENT

Evaluability is the extent to which an activity or a programme can be evaluated in a credible and useful fashion. It necessitates that a policy, intervention or operation provides: (a) a clear description of the situation before or at its start that can be used as reference point to determine or measure change; (b) a clear statement of intended outcomes, i.e. the desired changes that should be observable once implementation is under way or completed; (c) a set of clearly defined and appropriate indicators with which to measure changes; and (d) a defined timeframe by which outcomes should be occurring.

83. Several issues could have implications for the conduct of the evaluation. At this stage, the following potential evaluability challenges have been preliminarily identified:
 - COVID-19 travel and movement restrictions in the country and their implications for the coverage of field visits during the main mission;
 - the CSP document does not present an explicit theory of change (ToC), potentially making it challenging for the Evaluation Team to draw theory-based conclusions on WFP's contribution to higher-level results. As part of the inception phase, the Evaluation Team would be expected to reconstruct a ToC in consultation with the CO as a basis for the evaluation work;
 - the time frame covered by the evaluation. To be on time to feed into the next CSP, the CSPE is conducted during the penultimate year of the current CSP, which excludes coverage of WFP performance during the last 1.5 years or so of the CSP. This will have implications for the completeness of results reporting and attainment of expected outcomes;
 - the reliability of measurement of certain indicators, in particular at the outcome level and for cross-cutting objectives, and the possible lack of control groups for comparative purposes;
 - multiple logframe updates, with the introduction of new outcome and output indicators in the course of the CSP implementation, across different Strategic Outcomes (Annex 5);
 - missing targets, baseline and follow-up data for some indicators, both at outcome and output level;
 - sensitivities for primary data collection at community level and access to beneficiary households and and/or implementation sites.
84. During the inception phase, the evaluation team will be expected to perform an in-depth evaluability assessment and critically assess data availability, quality and gaps to inform its choice of evaluation methods. The latter should be based on desk review of key programming, monitoring and reporting documents and on interviews with the M&E team and selected programme managers. This will include an analysis of the results framework and related indicators to validate the pre-assessment made by OEV.

4.4. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

85. Evaluations must conform to WFP and UNEG ethical standards and norms. Accordingly, the evaluation firm is responsible for safeguarding and ensuring ethics at all stages of the evaluation cycle. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring informed consent, protecting privacy, confidentiality and anonymity of participants, ensuring cultural sensitivity, respecting the autonomy of participants, ensuring fair recruitment of participants (including women and socially excluded groups) and ensuring that the evaluation results do no harm to participants or their communities. In fact, as the evaluation will use significant WFP resources and take time from stakeholders which could otherwise have been used elsewhere, it is essential that the evaluation's utility is assured for all stakeholders involved. This will require a significant effort from both the evaluation team and WFP to deliver a timely and relevant evaluation, to communicate the results in an appropriate manner and to follow up on the recommendations. The evaluation firms are encouraged to propose an appropriate approach to communicating back the evaluation results to national stakeholders including affected populations.
86. The team and EM will not have been involved in the design, implementation or monitoring of Mauritania CSP, nor have any other potential or perceived conflicts of interest. All members of the evaluation team will abide by the [2020 UNEG Ethical Guidelines](#) and the [2014 Guidelines on Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluations](#). In addition to signing a pledge of ethical conduct in evaluation, the evaluation team will also commit to signing a Confidentiality, Internet and Data Security Statement.

4.5. QUALITY ASSURANCE

87. WFP's evaluation quality assurance system sets out processes with steps for quality assurance and templates for evaluation products based on quality checklists. The quality assurance will be systematically applied during this evaluation and relevant documents will be provided to the evaluation team. This quality assurance process does not interfere with the views or independence of the evaluation team but ensures that the report provides credible evidence and analysis in a clear and convincing way and draws its conclusions on that basis. The evaluation team will be required to ensure the quality of data (reliability, consistency and accuracy) throughout the data collection, synthesis, analysis and reporting phases.
88. OEV expects that all deliverables from the evaluation team are subject to a thorough quality assurance review by the evaluation company in line with WFP's evaluation quality assurance system prior to submission of the deliverables to OEV.
89. All final evaluation reports will be subjected to a post hoc quality assessment by an independent entity through a process that is managed by OEV. The overall PHQA results will be published on WFP website alongside the final evaluation report.

5. Organization of the Evaluation

5.1. PHASES AND DELIVERABLES

90. The evaluation is structured in five phases summarized in the table below. The evaluation team will be involved in phases 2 to 5 of the CSPE. Annex 3 presents a more detailed timeline. The CO and RB have been consulted on the timeframe to ensure good alignment with the CO planning and decision-making so that the evidence generated by the CSPE can be used effectively.

Table 9: Summary timeline – key evaluation milestones		
Main Phases	Tentative key dates	Tasks and Deliverables
1. Preparatory	28 February 2021 31 March 2021 31 March 2021	Final ToR Evaluation Team/Firm selection & contract Summary ToR
2. Inception	3-18 May 2021 30 June 2021 30 July 2021	Remote inception briefings Draft Inception report Final Inception report
3. Evaluation, including fieldwork	6-27 September 2021 27 September 2021 5 October 2021	Evaluation mission & data collection Exit debriefing with CO Debriefing with IRG
4. Reporting	28 September-27 October 2021 28 October – 7 December 2021 8 December 2021 19-20 January 2022 15 March 2022 15 April 2022	Report drafting Review process (OEV) Draft Report shared with IRG Learning workshop Final evaluation report Summary evaluation report
5. Dissemination	June 2022 November 2022 December 2022- February 2023	Management response and EB Preparation Executive Board presentation Wider dissemination

5.2. EVALUATION TEAM COMPOSITION

91. The CSPE will be conducted by a gender balanced team of three international consultants (including a junior researcher) and two national consultants (one female and one male) with relevant evaluation experience and technical expertise. The selected evaluation firm is responsible for proposing a mix of evaluators with multi-lingual language skills (French and English) who can effectively cover the areas of evaluation. The team leader should have excellent synthesis and evaluation reporting writing skills in either French or English and be fluent in the other language. The evaluation team will have strong methodological competencies in designing feasible data capture and analysis, synthesis and reporting skills. In addition, the team members should have experience in west African / Sahelian humanitarian and development contexts, and good knowledge of the WFP food and technical assistance modalities.

Table 10: Summary of evaluation team and areas of expertise required

Areas	Specific expertise required
Team Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team management, coordination, planning, ability to resolve problems • Strong experience in evaluating implementation of strategic plans and CO positioning, including related to humanitarian assistance • Strong experience with evaluations in lower-middle-income countries, and in humanitarian and development contexts • Relevant knowledge and experience in humanitarian contexts, preferably in west Africa/Sahelian region, and with key players within and outside the UN System; • Strong presentation skills and ability to deliver on time • Fluency and excellent writing skills in either French or English, fluency in the other language (i.e. spoken fluency in both English and French) • Prior experience in WFP evaluations is strongly preferred
Humanitarian assistance, refugee assistance	Experience with evaluation of emergency responses, including lean season support, refugee assistance, food security and nutrition information systems (such as early warning and nutrition surveillance). Technical expertise in cash-based transfer programmes.
School meals	Experience with evaluation of school-based programmes, including home-grown school feeding and links to rural economies.
Nutrition-specific interventions	Experience with evaluation of interventions related to treatment and prevention of moderate acute malnutrition.
Asset creation and smallholder farmers support	Technical expertise in asset creation and smallholder farmer support and training programs, proven track record of evaluation of such activities.
Institutional capacity strengthening and Social Protection	Experience with evaluation of interventions related to support to policy coherence and support to government, particularly in the fields of social protection and safety nets, early recovery support, national data and information systems.
Research Assistance	Relevant understanding of evaluation and research and knowledge of food assistance, ability to provide qualitative and quantitative research support to evaluation teams, analyse and assess M&E data, data cleaning and analysis; writing and presentation skills, proofreading, and note taking.
Other technical expertise needed in the team	<p>Additional areas of expertise requested are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme efficiency • Gender equality and empowerment of women • Humanitarian Principles and Protection • Accountability to Affected Populations <p><i>Note: all activities and modalities will have to be assessed for their efficiency and effectiveness and their approach to gender. For activities where there is emphasis on humanitarian actions the extent to which humanitarian principles, protection and access are being applied in line with WFP corporate policies will be assessed.</i></p>

5.3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

92. This evaluation is managed by the WFP Office of Evaluation (OEV). Filippo Pompili, Evaluation Officer OEV, has been appointed as Evaluation Manager (EM). The EM has not worked on issues associated with the subject of evaluation. He is responsible for drafting the ToR; selecting and contracting the evaluation team; preparing and managing the budget; setting up the review group; organizing the team briefing and the stakeholders learning in-country workshop; supporting the preparation of the field mission; drafting Summary Evaluation Report; conducting the 1st level quality assurance of the evaluation products and soliciting WFP stakeholders' feedback on draft products. The EM will be the main interlocutor between the team, represented by the team leader, and WFP counterparts to ensure a smooth implementation process.

93. Marie-Therèse El-Ajaltouni, Evaluation Analyst OEV, will support WFP-level data collection and analysis, organization of briefings and meetings, and review and finalization of evaluation deliverables. Michael Carbon, Senior Evaluation Officer OEV, will provide second level quality assurance. Anne-Claire Luzot, Deputy Director OEV, will approve the final evaluation products and present the CSPE to the WFP Executive Board for consideration in November 2022.
94. An internal reference group composed of selected WFP stakeholders at CO, RB and HQ levels will be expected to review and comment on draft evaluation reports, provide feedback during evaluation briefings; be available for interviews with the evaluation team.
95. The CO will facilitate the evaluation team's contacts with stakeholders in Mauritania; provide logistic support during the fieldwork and organize an in-country stakeholder learning workshop. Paulo Oliveira, Deputy Country Director, has been nominated the WFP CO focal point and will assist in communicating with the EM and CSPE team, and oversee the set-up of meetings and coordination of field visits. To ensure the independence of the evaluation, WFP staff will not be part of the evaluation team or participate in meetings where their presence could bias the responses of the stakeholders.

5.4. SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS

96. As an 'independent supplier' of evaluation services to WFP, the contracted firm will be responsible for ensuring the security of the evaluation team, and adequate arrangements for evacuation for medical or insecurity reasons. However, to avoid any security incidents, the Evaluation Manager will ensure that the WFP CO registers the team members with the Security Officer on arrival in country and arranges a security briefing for them to gain an understanding of the security situation on the ground. The evaluation team must observe applicable United Nations Department of Safety and Security rules including taking security training (BSAFE & SSAFE) and attending in-country briefings.

5.5. COMMUNICATION

It is important that Evaluation Reports are accessible to a wide audience, as foreseen in the Evaluation Policy, to ensure the credibility of WFP – through transparent reporting – and the usefulness of evaluations. The dissemination strategy will consider from the stakeholder analysis who to disseminate to, involve and identify the users of the evaluation, duty bearers, implementers, beneficiaries, including gender perspectives.

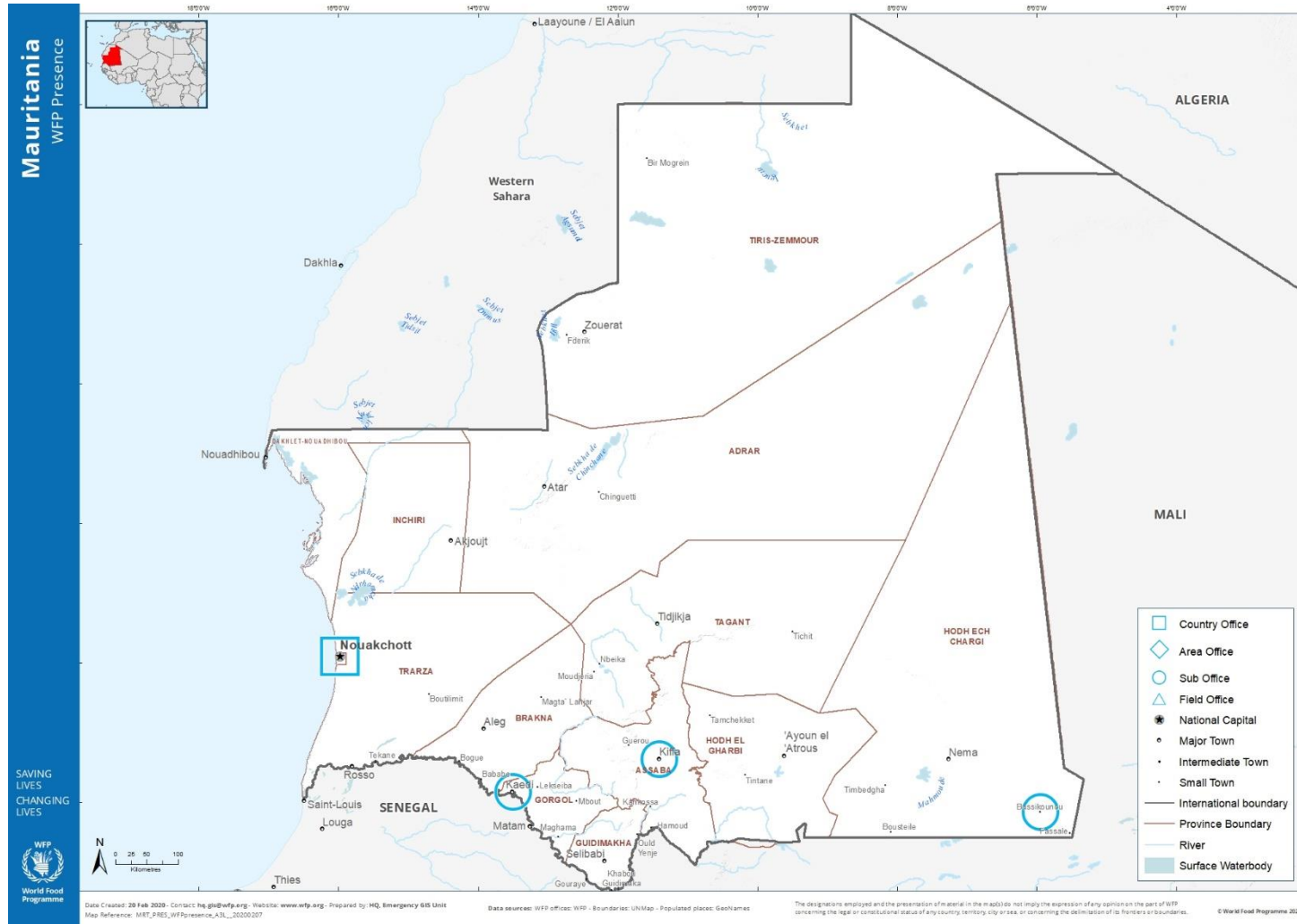
97. All evaluation products will be produced either in French or English. If the report is initially drafted in English, it will be translated in French by the evaluation firm so that it can be shared in French with national stakeholders before the stakeholder workshop. As part of the international standards for evaluation, WFP requires that all evaluations are made publicly available. Should translators be required for fieldwork, the evaluation firm will make arrangements and include the cost in the budget proposal. A Communication and Knowledge Management Plan (see Annex 9) will be refined by the EM in consultation with the evaluation team during the inception phase. The summary evaluation report along with the management response to the evaluation recommendations will be presented to the WFP Executive Board in November 2022. The final evaluation report will be posted on the public WFP website and OEV will ensure dissemination of lessons through the annual evaluation report.
98. To support communication of evaluation results, the Evaluation Team is expected to take and collect pictures and other media (video and audio) in the field, respecting local customs, and to share those with OEV for use in communication products such as evaluation reports, briefs, presentations and other means which can be used to disseminate evaluation findings, lessons and recommendations in an appropriate way to different audiences.

5.6. BUDGET

99. The evaluation will be financed through the CSP budget.

Annexes

Annex 1: Mauritania, Map with WFP Offices (2020)



Source: OPweb

Annex 2: Mauritania Fact Sheet

	Parameter/(source)	2018	2020	Data source	Link
General					
1	Human Development Index (1)	0.801	0.804 (2019)	UNDP Human Development Report 2018 & 2019	http://www.hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-indices-indicators-2018-statistical-update
2	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) (5)	1,112	1,533 (2019)	UNHCR	http://popstats.unhcr.org/en/persons_of_concern
3	Refugees (incl. refugee-like situations) (5)	83,169	84,901 (2019)	UNHCR	http://popstats.unhcr.org/en/persons_of_concern
4	Returned refugees (5)	0	0	UNHCR	http://popstats.unhcr.org/en/persons_of_concern
5	Internally displaced persons (IDPs)	0	0	UNHCR	http://popstats.unhcr.org/en/persons_of_concern
6	Returned IDPs (5)	0	0	UNHCR	http://popstats.unhcr.org/en/persons_of_concern
Demography					
7	Population, total (millions) (2)	4,403,319	4,525,696 (2019)	World Bank	https://data.worldbank.org/country
8	Population, female (% of total population) (2)	49.82	49.80 (2019)	World Bank	https://data.worldbank.org/country
9	% of urban population (1)	53.70	54.5 (2019)	UNDP Human Development Report 2018 & 2019	http://www.hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-indices-indicators-2018-statistical-update https://data.worldbank.org
10	Total population by age (1-4) (millions) (6)	579,832 (2010 - 2019)		UNSD	https://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic-social/products/dyb/#statistics
11	Total population by age (5-9) (millions) (6)	567,643 (2010 - 2019)		UNSD	https://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic-social/products/dyb/#statistics
12	Total population by age (10-14) (millions) (6)	478,293 (2010 - 2019)		UNSD	https://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic-social/products/dyb/#statistics
13	Total Fertility rate, per women (10)	4.5	4.5	UNFPA	https://www.unfpa.org/data/world-population-dashboard

14	Adolescent birth rate (per 1000 females aged between 15-19 years (9))	84 (2014)	n.a.	WHO	https://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.xgswcah.31-data
Economy					
15	GDP per capita (current USD) (2)	1600.88	1677.92 (2019)	World Bank	https://data.worldbank.org/country
16	Income Gini Coefficient (1)	32.6 (2010 - 2018)		UNDP Human Development Report 2018 & 2019	http://www.hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-indices-indicators-2018-statistical-update
17	Foreign direct investment net inflows (% of GDP) (2)	10.96	-11.64 (2019)	World Bank	https://data.worldbank.org/country
18	Net official development assistance received (% of GNI) (4)	8.4	Not reported	OECD/DAC	https://public.tableau.com/views/OECDDACaidataglancebyrecipient_new/Recipients?:embed=y&:display_count=yes&:showTabs=y&:toolbar=no&:showVizHome=no
19	SDG 17: Volume of remittances as a proportion of total GDP (%) (9)	1.15	Not reported	SDG Country Profile	https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org
20	Agriculture, forestry, and fishing, value added (% of GDP) (2)	20.04	18.72 (2019)	World Bank	https://data.worldbank.org/country
Poverty					
21	Population vulnerable to/near multidimensional poverty (%) (1)	18.6 (2008 - 2019)	n.a.	UNDP Human Development Report 2018 & 2019	http://www.hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-indices-indicators-2018-statistical-update
22	Population in severe multidimensional poverty (%) (1)	26.3 (2008 - 2019)	54.7 (2019)	UNDP Human Development Report 2018 & 2019	http://www.hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-indices-indicators-2018-statistical-update
Health					
23	Maternal Mortality ratio (%) (lifetime risk of maternal death: 1 in:) (3)	28 (2017)	Not reported	UNICEF SOWC 2017 and 2019	https://www.unicef.org/sowc/
24	Healthy life expectancy at birth, total (years) (2)	64.70	64.70 (2018)	World Bank	https://data.worldbank.org/country
25	Prevalence of HIV, total (% of population ages 15-49) (2)	0.2	0.2 (2019)	World Bank	https://data.worldbank.org/country

26	Current health expenditure (% of GDP) (2)	4.40 (2017)	Not reported	World Bank	https://data.worldbank.org/country
Gender					
27	Gender Inequality Index (rank) (1)	150	151 (2019)	UNDP Human Development Report 2018 & 2019	http://www.hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-indices-indicators-2018-statistical-update
28	Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments (%) (2)	20.26	20.26	World Bank	https://data.worldbank.org/country
29	Labor force participation rate, female (% of female population ages 15+) (modelled ILO estimate) (2)	28.80	28.89	World Bank	https://data.worldbank.org/country
30	Employment in agriculture, female (% of female employment) (modelled ILO estimate) (2)	51.17	49.5	World Bank	https://data.worldbank.org/country
Nutrition					
31	Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the total population (%) (7)	44.8 (2017 - 2019)	Not reported	The State of Food Security and Nutrition report 2017 and 2020	http://www.fao.org/publications/sofi/en/
32	Weight-for-height (Wasting - moderate and severe), (0–4 years of age) (%) (3)	15 (2013 - 2018)	Not reported	UNICEF SOWC 2017 and 2019	https://www.unicef.org/sowc/
33	Height-for-age (Stunting - moderate and severe), (0–4 years of age) all children (%) (3)	28 (2013 - 2018)	Not reported	UNICEF SOWC 2017 and 2019	https://www.unicef.org/sowc/
34	Weight-for-age (Overweight - moderate and severe), (0–4 years of age) (%) (3)	1 (2013 - 2018)	Not reported	UNICEF SOWC 2017 and 2019	https://www.unicef.org/sowc/
35	Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births) (2)	75.3	72.9 (2019)	World Bank	https://data.worldbank.org/country
Education					
36	Adult literacy rate (% ages 15 and older) (1)	53.5 (2018)	Not reported	UNDP Human Development	http://www.hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-indices-

				t Report 2018 & 2019	indicators-2018- statistical-update
37	Population with at least secondary education (% ages 25 and older) (1)	18.8	19 (2019)	UNDP Human Developmen t Report 2016 & 2019	http://www.hdr.undp.org/ en/content/human- development-indices- indicators-2018- statistical-update
38	School enrolment, primary (% gross) (2)	99.89	100.41 (2019)	World Bank	https://data.worldbank.or g/country
39	Attendance in early childhood education - female (%) (3)	12 (2013 - 2018)	Not reported	UNICEF SOWC 2017 and 2019	https://www.unicef.org/s owc/

Source: (1) UNDP Human Development Report – 2016 and 2018; (2) World Bank. WDI; (3) UNICEF SOWC; (4) OECD/DAC; (5) UNHCR; (6) UN stats; (7) The State of Food Security and Nutrition report - 2019; (8) WHO; (9) SDG Country Profile; (10) UNFPA

Annex 3: Timeline

Steps		Action by	Tentative key dates
Phase 1 – Preparation			
	Draft ToR cleared by DDoE and circulated for comments to CO and to LTA firms	DDoE	25 January 2021
	Comments on draft ToR received	CO	10 February 2021
	Proposal Deadline based on the Draft ToR	LTA	17 February 2021
	LTA Proposal Review	EM	20-28 February 2021
	Final revised ToR sent to WFP Stakeholders	EM	March 2021
	Contracting evaluation team/firm	EM	March 2021
Phase 2 - Inception			
	Team preparation, literature review prior to HQ briefing	Team	April 2021
	HQ Inception Briefings	EM & Team	3-10 May 2021
	CO and RB Inception Briefings	EM + TL	11-25 May 2021
	Submit draft Inception Report (IR)	TL	23 June 2021
	OEV quality assurance and feedback	EM	30 June 2021
	Submit revised IR	TL	7 July 2021
	IR Review	EM	14 July 2021
	IR Clearance	DDoE	28 July 2021
	EM circulates final IR to WFP key Stakeholders for their information + post a copy on intranet	EM	31 July 2021
Phase 3 – Data Collection, including Fieldwork			
	In-country Data Collection	Team	6-27 September 2021
	Exit Debrief (ppt)	TL	27 September 2021
	Preliminary Findings Debrief	Team	5 October 2021
Phase 4 - Reporting			
Draft 0	Submit high quality draft ER to OEV (after the company's quality check)	TL	27 October 2021
	OEV quality feedback sent to TL	EM	6 November 2021
Draft 1	Submit revised draft ER to OEV	TL	17 November 2021
	OEV quality check	EM	18-30 November 2021
	Seek clearance prior to circulating the ER to IRG	DDoE	30 November - 7 December 2021
	OEV shares draft evaluation report with IRG for feedback	EM/IRG	8 December 2021
	Learning workshop (in country or remote)	CO/TL/RB/EM	19-20 January 2022
	Consolidate WFP comments and share with Team	EM	31 January 2022
	Submit revised draft ER to OEV based on WFP's comments, with team's responses on the matrix of comments	ET	14 February 2022
Dr	Review D2	EM	15-22 February 2022

Steps		Action by	Tentative key dates
	Submit final draft ER to OEV	TL	23-28 February 2022
Draft 3	Review D3	EM	1-8 March 2022
	Seek final approval by DDoE	DDoE	9-15 March 2022
SER	Draft Summary Evaluation Report	EM	16-31 March 2022
	Seek DDoE clearance to send SER	DDoE	1-11 April 2022
	OEV circulates SER to WFPs Executive Management for information upon clearance from DDoE	DDoE	15 April 2022
Phase 5 - Executive Board (EB) and follow-up			
	Submit SER/recommendations to CPP for management response + SER to EB Secretariat for editing and translation	EM	April 2022
	Tail end actions, OEV websites posting, EB Round Table Etc.	EM	April-October 2022
	Presentation of Summary Evaluation Report to the EB	DoE/DDoE	November 2022
	Presentation of management response to the EB	RD/ CPP	November 2022

Annex 4: Preliminary Stakeholder Analysis

	Interest in the evaluation	Participation in the evaluation	Who
Internal (WFP) stakeholders			
Country Office	Primary stakeholder and responsible for country level planning and implementation of the current CSP, it has a direct stake in the evaluation and will be a primary user of its results in the development and implementation of the next CSP.	CO staff will be involved in planning, briefing, feedback sessions, and will be interviewed as key informants during the inception and data collection phase. They will have an opportunity to review and comment on the draft ER as part of the Internal Reference Group, participate in both the debriefing at the end of the data collection phase and the learning workshop, and prepare management response to the CSPE.	Senior management and staff from technical sectors as relevant, including Programme, VAM, M&E, Partnership
Regional Bureau in Dakar	Regional Bureau in Dakar (RBD) have an interest in learning from the evaluation results as these can inform regional plans and strategies and help better target their support to the CO.	RBD staff will be key informants and interviewed during the inception and data collection phase. They will participate in the debriefing at the end of the data collection phase and in the learning workshop. They will have an opportunity to provide comments on the draft ER as part of the Internal Reference Group, and on the management response to the CSPE prepared by the CO.	Regional Bureau Senior staff from Programme, Monitoring, Evaluation and other sectors as relevant.
HQ Divisions	HQ Divisions and Units such as programme and policy, livelihood and resilience, capacity strengthening, nutrition, gender, vulnerability analysis, performance monitoring and reporting, safety nets and social protection, partnerships, supply chain,	As applicable, HQ Divisions will be involved in the initial virtual briefings with the evaluation team. The CSPE will seek information on WFP approaches, standards and success criteria from these units linked to main themes of the evaluation. Selected HQ Divisions will also have	Appointed focal points from HQ divisions

	and governance have an interest in lessons relevant to their mandates. Evaluation results can help to better target their support to the CO.	an opportunity to review and comment on the draft ER as part of the Internal Reference Group.	
WFP Executive Board	The Executive Board members have an accountability role, but also an interest in potential wider lessons from the Mauritania's evolving contexts and about WFP roles, strategy and performance.	Presentation of the evaluation results at the November 2022 session to inform Board members about the performance and results of WFP activities in Mauritania.	Delegates
External stakeholders			
Affected communities	As the ultimate recipients of WFP assistance, beneficiaries have a stake in WFP determining whether its assistance is relevant, appropriate and effective.	They will be interviewed and consulted during the data collection phase as feasible. Special arrangements will be made to give voice to marginalized population groups, in particular women, the elderly, minority groups and people living with disabilities.	People (men, women, boys and girls) targeted by WFP activities; traditional authorities and religious leaders; teachers; school kitchen staff etc.
National and local government institutions	The evaluation is expected to enhance collaboration and synergies among national institutions and WFP, clarifying mandates and roles, and accelerating progress towards replication, hand-over and sustainability.	Key staff from the Government will be interviewed and consulted during the inception phase as applicable, and during the data collection phase, both central and field level. Interviews will cover policy and technical issues and they will be involved in the feedback sessions.	Key staff from the Government, including from National Commission for Food Security, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Social Affairs, Children and Family, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, the Social Register Directorate and the Taazour agency (General Delegation to Solidarity).
UN Country Team and Other International Organizations	UN agencies and other partners in the Mauritania have a stake in this evaluation in terms of partnerships, performance, future strategic orientation, as well as issues pertaining	The evaluation team will seek key informant interviews with the UN and other partner agencies. The CO will keep UN partners, other international	Key staff from UN partners, including from FAO, IFAD, UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM , other international organizations such as the African Development

	<p>to UN coordination. UN Resident Coordinator and agencies have an interest in ensuring that WFP activities are effective and aligned with their programmes. The CSPE can be an opportunity to improve collaboration, co-ordination and increase synergies within the UN system and its partners.</p>	<p>organizations informed of the evaluation's progress.</p>	<p>Bank and the World Bank, and the Scaling-up Nutrition (SUN) network</p>
<p>Donors</p>	<p>WFP activities are supported by several donors who have an interest in knowing whether their funds have been spent efficiently and if WFP's work is effective in alleviating food insecurity of the most vulnerable.</p>	<p>Involvement in interviews and feedback sessions as applicable, and report dissemination.</p>	<p>Representatives from main bilateral donors: Germany, European Commission, United States of America, United Kingdom, Japan, France.</p>
<p>Cooperating partners and NGOs</p>	<p>WFP's cooperating partners in implementing CSP activities have an interest in enhancing synergies and collaboration with WFP, and in the implications of the evaluation results.</p>	<p>Interviews with staff of cooperating partners and NGOs during the data collection phase as applicable.</p>	<p>Key staff from cooperating partners and NGOs including Oxfam and Action contre la Faim</p>
<p>Private sector and civil society</p>	<p>Current or potential partners from the private sector and the civil society may have an interest in learning about the implications of the evaluation results.</p>	<p>Interviews with other current or potential partners from the private sector and civil society during the data collection phase as applicable.</p>	<p>Key staff from partners and civil society</p>

Annex 5: Evaluability Assessment

Table 1: Mauritania T-ICSP 2018 and CSP 2019-2022 logframe analysis

	Logframe version		Outcome indicators	Cross-cutting indicators	Output indicators	
MR01	v 1.0 29/03/17	Total nr. of indicators	38	7	40	
		New indicators	-	-	-	
		Discontinued indicators	-	-	-	
	v 2.0 10/11/17	Total nr. of indicators	38	7	40	
		New indicators	-	-	9	
		Discontinued indicators	-	-	-	
	v 3.0 13/02/18	Total nr. of indicators	38	7	49	
		Total number of indicators that were included in all versions of the logframe		37	7	49
		MR02	v 1.0 14/11/17	Total nr. of indicators	31	6
New indicators	10			3	16	
Discontinued indicators	-			-	2	
v 2.0 25/04/19	Total nr. of indicators		41	9	61	
	New indicators		-	-	15	
	Discontinued indicators		-	-	9	
v 3.0 06/04/20	Total nr. of indicators	41	9	62		
	Total number of indicators that were included across all logframe versions		31	6	31	

Source: COMET report CM-L010 (data extracted on 21/12/2020)



Table 2: Analysis of results reporting in Mauritania Annual Country Reports 2018 - 2019

		ACR 2018	ACR 2019
Outcome indicators			
	Total number of indicators in applicable logframe	38	41
Baselines	Nr. of indicators with any baselines reported	24	37
	<i>Total nr. of baselines reported</i>	122	220
Year-end targets	Nr. of indicators with any year-end targets reported	24	37
	<i>Total nr. of year-end targets reported</i>	122	220
CSP-end targets	Nr. of indicators with any CSP-end targets reported	24	37
	<i>Total nr. of CSP-end targets reported</i>	122	220
Follow-up	Nr. of indicators with any follow-up values reported	25	37
	<i>Total nr. of follow-up values reported</i>	140	220
Cross-cutting indicators			
	Total number of indicators in applicable logframe	7	9
Baselines	Nr. of indicators with any baselines reported	4	6
	<i>Total nr. of baselines reported</i>	16	12
Year-end targets	Nr. of indicators with any year-end targets reported	4	6
	<i>Total nr. of year-end targets reported</i>	16	12
CSP-end targets	Nr. of indicators with any CSP-end targets reported	4	6
	<i>Total nr. of CSP-end targets reported</i>	16	12
Follow-up	Nr. of indicators with any follow-up values reported	4	6
	<i>Total nr. of follow-up values reported</i>	16	12
Output indicators			
	Total number of indicators in applicable logframe	49	56
Targets	Nr. of indicators with any targets reported	15	20
	<i>Total nr. of targets reported</i>	20	30
Actual values	Nr. of indicators with any actual values reported	15	20
	<i>Total nr. of actual values reported</i>	20	30

Source: COMET report CM-L010 (data extracted on 21/12/20), ACRs 2018-2019

Annex 6: WFP Mauritania presence in years pre-CSP

		2017	2018	2019	2020
Mauritania natural and man-made disasters, outbreak of conflicts		52,000 Malian refugees registered at the end of 2017. GAM was estimated at 10.9 percent with a prevalence of SAM at 2.3 percent. Erratic rain patterns. Increased number of people between emergency and crisis food insecurity (three times more than 2016).	Irregular and scattered rainfalls in 2017 led to dry pastures, reduced agricultural production, scarce surface water supplies, raised food prices and caused livestock prices to plummet	Large population displacement of Malian refugees	In March 2020, the first case of COVID-19 was identified
WFP interventions	Country Programme 200251 (2012-2017)	Activity type: School feeding Total requirements: USD 76,965,970 Total contributions received: USD 9,164,867 Funding: 11.9%			
	PRRO 200640 (2014 - 2017)	Activity type: General distribution, school feeding, food-assistance-for-assets, MAM treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition Total requirements: 124,487,486 Total contributions received: 52,224,353 Funding: 42%			
	Special Operation SO 200803 (2015-2017)	Activity type: Air transport services Total requirements: 12,392,717 Total contributions received: 8,153,373 Funding: 65.8%			
	IR-PREP RBD 201118 (2018)		Activity type: Special preparedness activities in the Sahel Region: Capacity development activities and direct support cost activities Total requirements: USD 210,000 for Mauritania component Total contributions received: n/a Funding: n/a		
	T-ICSP MR01 (2018)		Activity type: School meals, unconditional food assistance, nutrition assistance, MAM treatment, flight services to humanitarian partners, capacity development activities Total requirements: UDS 61,321,127 Total contributions received: USD 32,685,787 Funding: 53.3%		

Outputs at Country Office Level		2017	2018	2019	2020
	Food distributed (MT) 	6,520	8,135	5,723	-
	Cash distributed (USD) 	7,173,423	12,348,694	10,196,705	-
	Actual beneficiaries (number)	141,500	427,665	243,916	-

Source: ACRs, Factory, Country Briefings (data compiled on 07/01/21)

Annex 7: WFP Mauritania CSP (2019-2022) - Line of Sight

MAURITANIA						
CRISIS RESPONSE		REILIENCE BUILDING	REILIENCE BUILDING	REILIENCE BUILDING	REILIENCE BUILDING	CRISIS RESPONSE
<p>SR 1 – Everyone has access to food (SDG Target 2.1)</p> <p>OUTCOME 1: Crisis-affected people in targeted areas, including refugees are able to meet basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crises</p> <p>OUTPUTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crisis-affected beneficiaries (Tier 1) receive timely and adequate food assistance (food or cash-based) (output category A1) in order to meet their food and nutrition requirements. - Crisis-affected beneficiaries (Tier 1) receive nutrition messaging (output category E) in order to improve nutrition-related practices (SR2) - Crisis-affected children attending school (Tier 1) receive timely and adequate school meals (output category A1) in order to meet their food requirements - Crisis-affected children and PLW/Gs (Tier 1) receive adequate and timely specialized nutritious food (output category B) in order to prevent and treat MAM (SR 2) <p>ACTIVITY 1: Provide an integrated assistance package to refugees, including food assistance (conditional and/or unconditional), school meals, and specialized nutritious food to children and PLW/Gs for malnutrition prevention and treatment (Activity Category 1)</p> <p>ACTIVITY 8: Provide food assistance and supplementary feeding to pandemic affected populations/households. (Activity Category 1)</p>		<p>SR 2 – No one suffers from malnutrition (SDG Target 2.2)</p> <p>OUTCOME 2: Food insecure populations in targeted regions, including school-age children, have access to adequate and nutritious food all year</p> <p>OUTPUTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Targeted beneficiaries (Tier 1) receive timely and adequate food assistance (food and cash-based) (output category A1) in order to meet their food and nutrition requirements - Targeted children aged 6 to 23 months and PLW/Gs (Tier 1) receive adequate and timely specialized nutritious food integrated to food assistance (output category B) in order to prevent malnutrition (SR2) - Children attending school (Tier 1) receive timely and adequate school meals (output category A1) in order to meet their food requirements and support school attendance (SDG 4) <p>ACTIVITY 2: Provide seasonal food assistance to food insecure Mauritanian populations, integrating complementary specialized nutritious food for children (aged 6-23 months) as well as PLW/Gs (Activity Category 1)</p> <p>ACTIVITY 3: Provide school meals to vulnerable Mauritanian children during the school year, in a way that relies on and stimulates local production (home-grown school feeding) (Activity Category 4)</p>	<p>SR 2 – No one suffers from malnutrition (SDG Target 2.2)</p> <p>OUTCOME 3: Nutritionally vulnerable populations in targeted areas, including children and pregnant and lactating women and girls, have improved nutritional status all year</p> <p>OUTPUTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Targeted children aged 6-59 months and PLW/Gs (Tier 1) receive adequate and timely specialized nutritious food (output category B) in order to treat moderate acute malnutrition - Targeted beneficiaries (Tier 1) receive nutrition-related messaging (output category E) in order to improve nutrition-related practices and prevent malnutrition - Targeted PLW/Gs (Tier 1) receive timely and adequate CBT (output category A2) to improve access to pre/post natal care services and prevent infant malnutrition <p>ACTIVITY 4: Among food insecure Mauritanian populations, provide specialized nutritious food for MAM treatment to children aged 6-59 months and PLW/Gs, nutrition-related messaging to women and men care providers, and cash transfers to PLW/Gs attending pre/post-natal care (Activity Category 5)</p>	<p>SR 4 – Food systems are sustainable (SDG Target 2.4)</p> <p>OUTCOME 4: Food insecure populations and communities exposed to climate shocks in targeted areas have more resilient livelihoods and sustainable food systems all year</p> <p>OUTPUTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Targeted beneficiaries (Tier 1) receive timely and adequate FFA with CBT or in-kind transfer modality (output category A2) in order to meet their short-term food needs (SR1) while improving their livelihoods' resilience - Targeted populations (Tier 2) benefit from assets built or restored and other livelihood support interventions (output category D) in order to improve their resilience to natural shocks and adaptation to climate change - Targeted smallholders and other actors along the value chain (Tier 1) benefit from strengthened technical capacities (output category C) in order to improve livelihoods, including in relation to home-grown school feeding <p>ACTIVITY 5: Provide livelihood support to food insecure and at-risk Mauritanian households, including the development and rehabilitation of natural and productive assets (including FFA), through an integrated, equitable and participatory community approach (Activity Category 2)</p>	<p>SR5- Countries strengthened capacities (SDG target 17.9)</p> <p>OUTCOME 5: National institutions have strengthened capacities to manage food-security, nutrition, and social protection policies and programmes, including an adaptive (shock-responsive) social protection system, by 2030</p> <p>OUTPUTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food-insecure people (Tier 3) benefit from strengthened government-led Adaptive Social Protection capacities and system (output category C) in order to receive timely, adequate, equitable, consistent and predictable assistance from the government, WFP and partners <p>ACTIVITY 6: Provide capacity strengthening support to national institutions on the design and implementation of (i) a permanent response planning scheme for food security and nutrition with consolidated early warning and coordination mechanisms, (ii) a national shock-responsive nutrition-sensitive and gender-transformative safety-net system, and (iii) effective preparedness and supply chains operations (Activity Category 9)</p>	<p>SR 8- Global partnership support (SDG Target 17.16)</p> <p>OUTCOME 6: Humanitarian and development partners have access to common services that permit them to reach and operate in targeted areas all year</p> <p>OUTPUTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Affected population (Tier 3) receive support from WFP partners using timely and cost-effective services provided by WFP in order to address their needs (output category H) - WFP Partners (Tier 3) benefit from WFP logistic services in order to provide support to affected population (output category K,H) <p>ACTIVITY 7: Provide UNHAS flight services for partners, to access areas of humanitarian interventions (Activity Category 10)</p> <p>ACTIVITY 9: Provide on-demand logistics services to Government, United Nations and Non-Governmental partners to facilitate effective field operations (CPA Service Provision and platform activities) (Activity Category 10)</p>

Source: WFP SPA website

Annex 8: Key information on beneficiaries and transfers

Table 1: Actual beneficiaries versus planned 2018 - 2020 by year, strategic outcome, activity category and gender

Strategic Outcome/Activity Category	2018					
	Planned		Actual		Actuals as a % of planned beneficiaries	
	F	M	F	M	F	M
SO1: Food insecure and vulnerable Mauritanian populations in the six targeted regions, including school-age children have stable access to adequate food all year-round						
SMP1: Provide school meals to vulnerable Mauritanian children during the school year	37,650	37,650	29,630	29,630	78.70%	78.70%
Subtotal SO1	37,650	37,650	29,630	29,630	78.70%	78.70%
SO2: Crisis-affected people, including refugees, are able to meet basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crises						
NTA1: Provide nutrition assistance to Malian refugee children (aged 6-23 months) and PLW/Gs for malnutrition prevention for six months (May–October), and Malian refugee children (aged 6-59 months) and PLW/Gs with MAM	5,378	3,166	4,150	2,154	77.17%	68.04%
URT1: Provide food assistance (conditional and unconditional) to the food insecure Malian refugees affected by Mali’s crisis including school meals	67,086	54,414	32,935	26,848	49.09%	49.34%
URT2: Provide emergency unconditional food assistance to vulnerable Mauritanian households, including preventive nutritious rations for children (aged 6-23 months) and PLW/Gs, and provide emergency nutrition treatment to vulnerable Mauritanian children (6 to 59 months) and PLW/Gs for an average of two months until recovered between March-October	273,175	233,245	195,070	168,208	71.41%	72.12%
Subtotal SO2	345,639	290,825	232,155	197,210	67.17%	67.81%

SO4: Crisis-affected people, including refugees, are able to meet basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crises						
ACL1: Provide food assistance to food insecure Mauritanian households for community and household assets creation	15,027	16,412	12,935	14,125	86.08%	86.07%
Subtotal SO4	15,027	16,412	12,935	14,125	86.08%	86.07%
Total without overlap	398,316	344,887	274,720	240,965	68.97%	69.87%

Source: COMET report CM-R020 (data extracted on 08/01/21)

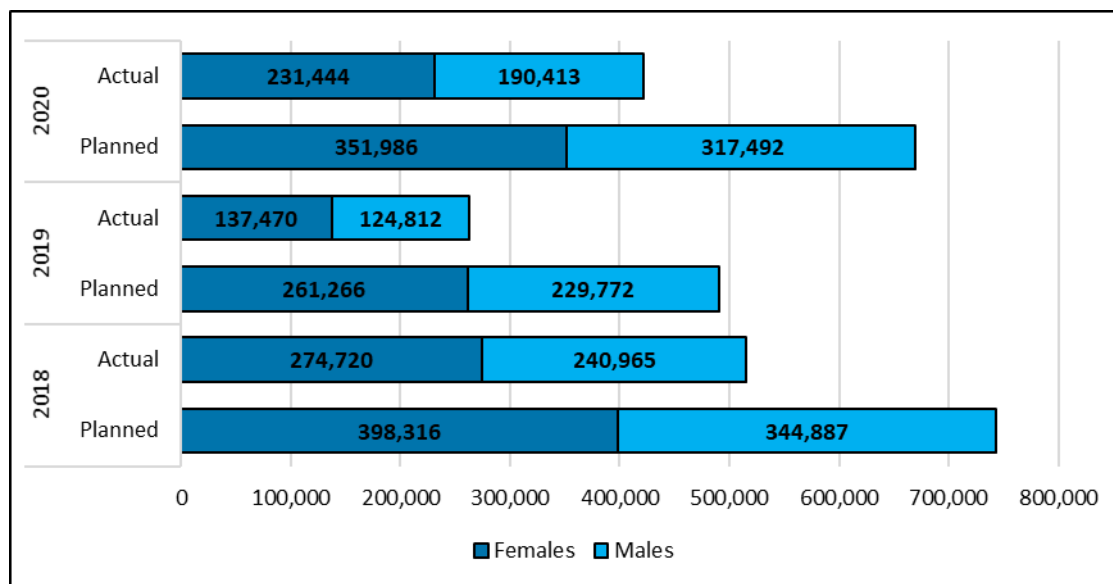
Strategic Outcome/Activity Category	2019						2020					
	Planned		Actual		Actuals as a % of planned beneficiaries		Planned		Actual		Actuals as a % of planned beneficiaries	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
SO1: Crisis-affected people in targeted areas, including refugees, are able to meet basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crises												
URT1: Provide an integrated assistance package to refugees, including food assistance (conditional and/or unconditional), school meals, and specialized nutritious food to children and PLW/Gs for malnutrition prevention and treatment	111,022	90,288	37,297	30,191	33.59%	33.44%	40,503	31,966	39,111	32,352	96.56%	101.21%
URT2: Provide food assistance and supplementary feeding to pandemic affected populations/households	-	-	-	-	-	-	142,592	132,413	18,153	18,153	12.73%	13.71%
Subtotal SO1	111,022	90,288	37,297	30,191	33.59%	33.44%	183,095	164,379	57,264	50,505	31.28%	30.72%
SO2: Food-insecure populations in targeted regions, including school-age children, have access to adequate and nutritious food all year												
SMP1: Provide school meals to vulnerable Mauritanian children	23,283	23,283	23,755	23,715	102.03%	101.85%	23,842	23,842	25,103	23,458	105.29%	98.39%

during the school year, in a way that relies on and stimulates local production (home-grown school feeding)													
URT1: Provide seasonal food assistance to food insecure Mauritanian populations, integrating complementary specialized nutritious food for children (aged 6-23 months) as well as PLW/Gs	65,591	60,909	53,188	50,071	81.09%	82.21%	93,539	86,861	113,416	90,153	121.25%	103.79%	
Subtotal SO2	88,874	84,192	76,943	73,786	86.57%	87.64%	117,381	110,703	138,519	113,611	118.01%	102.63%	
SO3: Nutritionally vulnerable populations in targeted areas, including children and pregnant and lactating women and girls, have improved nutritional status all year													
NTA1: Among food insecure Mauritanian populations, provide specialized nutritious food for MAM treatment to children aged 6-59 months and PLW/Gs, nutrition-related messaging to women and men care providers, and cash transfers to PLW/Gs attending pre/post natal care	23,870	17,792	9,992	7,598	41.86%	42.70%	31,510	22,410	13,361	22,726	42.40%	101.41%	
Subtotal SO3	23,870	17,792	9,992	7,598	41.86%	42.70%	31,510	22,410	13,361	22,726	42.40%	101.41%	
SO4: Food-insecure populations and communities exposed to climate shocks in targeted areas have more resilient livelihoods and sustainable food systems all year													
ACL1: Provide livelihood support to food insecure and at-risk Mauritanian	37,500	37,500	13,238	13,237	35.30%	35.29%	20,000	20,000	12,935	12,936	64.68%	64.68%	

households, including the development or rehabilitation of natural and productive assets (including FFA), through an integrated, equitable and participatory community approach													
Subtotal SO4	37,500	37,500	13,238	13,237	35.30%	35.29%	20,000	20,000	12,935	12,936	64.68%	64.68%	
Total without overlap	261,266	229,772	137,470	124,812	52.62%	54.31%	351,986	317,492	231,444	190,413	65.75%	59.97%	

Source: COMET report CM-R020 (data extracted on 08/01/21 for 2019 and on 17/02/21 for 2020)

Figure 1: Actual versus planned beneficiaries by gender in Mauritania, 2018 – 2019



Source: COMET report CM-R020 (data extracted on 08/01/21 for 2018 and 2019 and on 17/02/21 for 2020)

Table 2: Actual beneficiaries by transfer modality in Mauritania, 2018 – 2019, by strategic outcome

Strategic Objective		Activity	Total number of beneficiaries receiving food	Actual vs Planned beneficiaries receiving food (in %)	Total number of beneficiaries receiving CBT	Actual versus Planned beneficiaries receiving CBT (in %)
2018	Total SO1	SMP1	59,259	78.7%	-	-
	Total SO2	NTA1, URT1, URT2	199,990	56.4%	285,300	101.3%
	Total SO3	ACL1	-	-	27,060	86.1%
	Grand Total		259,249	60.3%	312,360	99.8%
2019	Total SO1	URT1, URT2	66,236	53.3%	55,343	50.3%
	Total SO2	SMP1, URT1	78,726	75.7%	97,037	140.6%
	Total SO3	NTA1	17,591	45.3%	-	-
	Total SO4	ACL1	22,625	100.6%	25,548	48.7%
	Grand Total		185,178	63.9%	177,928	76.2%
2020	Total SO1	URT1, URT2	71,465	33.0%	95,106	53.0%
	Total SO2	SMP1, URT1	63,898	51.5%	172,137	165.5%
	Total SO3	NTA1	36,086	67.7%	-	-
	Total SO4	ACL1	-	-	25,874	64.7%
	Grand Total		171,449	43.7%	293,117	90.1%

Source: COMET report CM-R002b (data extracted on 08/01/21 for 2018 and 2019 and on 17/02/21 for 2020)

Table 3: Actual beneficiaries by residence status and year

Residence Status	Number of beneficiaries 2018	% 2018	Number of beneficiaries 2019	% 2019	Number of beneficiaries 2020	% 2020
Residents	339,994	79.5%	188,573	77.3%	263,984	81.5%
IDPs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Refugees	87,670	20.5%	55,343	22.7%	60,003	18.5%
Returnees	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: COMET report CM-R001b (data extracted on 17/02/21)

Annex 9: Communication & Knowledge Management Plan

Phase Evaluation stage	What Communication product	Which Target audience	How & Where Channels	Who Creator lead	Who Creator support	When Publication draft	When Publication deadline
Preparation	Comms in ToR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email 	EM/CM		Jan 2021	Mar 2021
Preparation	Summary ToR and ToR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WFP Technical Staff and Practitioners • WFP country/regional office/local stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email • WFPgo; WFP.org 	EM		Mar 2021	Apr 2021
Inception	Inception report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WFP Technical Staff and Practitioners • WFP country/regional office/local stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email • WFPgo 	EM		July 2021	July 2021
Reporting	Exit debrief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO staff & stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPT, meeting support 	EM/ET		Sept 2021	Sept 2021
Reporting	Stakeholder workshop in Nouakchott	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WFP Technical Staff and Practitioners • WFP country/regional office/local stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop, meeting • Piggyback on any CSP formulation workshop 	EM/ET	CM	Jan 2022	Jan 2022
Dissemination	Evaluation report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WFP EB/Governance/Management • WFP country/regional office/local stakeholders • WFP Technical Staff and Practitioners • Donors/Countries • Partners/Civil society/Peers/Networks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email • Web and social media, KM channels (WFP.org, WFPgo, Twitter) • Evaluation Network platforms (UNEG, ALNAP) • Newsflash 	EM	CM	Mar 2022	Mar 2022
Dissemination	Summary evaluation report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WFP EB/Governance/Management • WFP country/regional office/local stakeholders • WFP Technical Staff and Practitioners • Donors/Countries • Partners/Civil society/Peers/Networks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Board website (for SERs and MRs) 	EM/EB	CM	From Apr 2022	From Apr 2022

Phase Evaluation stage	What Communication product	Which Target audience	How & Where Channels	Who Creator lead	Who Creator support	When Publication draft	When Publication deadline
Dissemination	Management response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WFP EB/Governance/ Management • WFP Country/Regional office/local stakeholders • WFP Technical Staff and Practitioners • Donors/Countries • Partners/Civil society /Peers/Networks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Web (WFP.org, WFPgo) • KM channels 	EB	EM	From Jun 2022	From Jun 2022
Dissemination	ED Memorandum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ED/WFP management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email 	EM	DE	From Apr 2022	From Apr 2022
Dissemination	Talking Points/Key messages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WFP EB/Governance/ Management • WFP Technical Staff and Practitioners • Donors/Countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation 	EM	CM	From Apr 2022	From Apr 2022
Dissemination	PowerPoint presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WFP EB/Governance/Management • WFP Technical Staff and Practitioners • Donors/Countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation 	EM	CM	From Apr 2022	From Apr 2022
Dissemination	Report communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation management Group (EMG) • Division Directors, Country Offices and evaluation specific stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email 	EM	DE	From Apr 2022	From Apr 2022
Dissemination	Newsflash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WFP EB/Governance/ Management • WFP country/regional office/local stakeholders • WFP Technical Staff and Practitioners • Donors/Countries • Partners/Civil society /Peers/Networks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email 	CM	EM	From Apr 2022	From Apr 2022
Dissemination	Business cards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation community • Partners/Civil society/Peers/Networks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cards 	CM		From Apr 2022	From Apr 2022
Dissemination	Brief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WFP EB/Governance/Management • WFP country/regional office/local stakeholders • WFP Technical Staff and Practitioners • Donors/Countries • Partners/Civil society/Peers/Networks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Web and social media, KM channels (WFP.org, WFPgo, Twitter) • Evaluation Networks (UNEG, ALNAP, EvalForward) 	EM	CM	From Apr 2022	From Apr 2022

Annex 10: Template for evaluation matrix

Dimensions of Analysis	Lines of Inquiry	Indicators	Data Sources	Data Collection Techniques	Data Analysis
Evaluation Question 1: To what extent is WFP's Strategic Position, role, and specific contribution in Mauritania based on country priorities and people's needs, as well as WFP's strengths?					
1.1 To what extent was the T-ICSP and is the current CSP relevant to national policies, plans, strategies and goals, including achievement of the national Sustainable Development Goals?					
1.2 To what extent did the T-ICSP and current CSP address the needs of the people most vulnerable to food insecurity and malnutrition in Mauritania, ensuring that no one is left behind?					
1.3 To what extent has WFP's strategic positioning remained relevant throughout the implementation of the T-ICSP and CSP considering changing context, national capacities and needs in Mauritania – in particular in response to the COVID-19 pandemic?					
1.4 To what extent are the T-ICSP and the current CSP coherent and aligned with the wider UN and humanitarian sector, and do they include appropriate strategic partnerships based on the comparative advantage of WFP in Mauritania?					

Dimensions of Analysis	Lines of Inquiry	Indicators	Data Sources	Data Collection Techniques	Data Analysis
Evaluation Question 2: What is the extent and quality of WFP's specific contribution to T-ICSP and CSP strategic outcomes in Mauritania?					
2.1 To what extent did WFP deliver expected outputs and contribute to the expected T-ICSP and CSP strategic outcomes?					
2.2 To what extent did WFP contribute to achievement of cross-cutting aims (humanitarian principles, protection, accountability to affected populations, gender equality and other equity considerations)?					
2.3 To what extent are the achievements under the T-ICSP and CSP likely to be sustainable?					
2.4 To what extent did the T-ICSP and CSP facilitate more strategic linkages between humanitarian, development and, where appropriate, peace work?					
Evaluation Question 3: To what extent has WFP used its resources efficiently in contributing to T-ICSP CSP outputs and strategic outcomes in Mauritania?					
3.1 To what extent were outputs delivered within the intended timeframe?					
3.2 To what extent was coverage and targeting of interventions appropriate?					

Dimensions of Analysis	Lines of Inquiry	Indicators	Data Sources	Data Collection Techniques	Data Analysis
3.3 To what extent were WFP's activities cost-efficient in delivery of its assistance?					
3.4 To what extent were alternative, more cost-effective measures considered?					
Evaluation Question 4: What are the factors that explain WFP's performance and the extent to which it has made the strategic shifts expected in the T-ICSP and CSP?					
4.1 To what extent did WFP use existing evidence on food security and nutrition issues in Mauritania as well as evidence from evaluation to develop the T-ICSP and the subsequent CSP?					
4.2 To what extent has WFP been able to mobilize adequate, predictable and flexible resources to finance the T-ICSP and subsequent CSP?					
4.3 To what extent did the T-ICSP and CSP lead to partnerships and collaborations with other actors, and how did these partnerships influence performance and results?					
4.4 To what extent did country-level strategic planning affect flexibility and results in dynamic operational contexts, in particular as regards adaptation and response to the COVID-19 and other unexpected crises and challenges?					

Dimensions of Analysis	Lines of Inquiry	Indicators	Data Sources	Data Collection Techniques	Data Analysis
4.5 What are the other factors that can explain WFP performance and the extent to which it has made the strategic shift expected in the T-ICSP and CSP?					

Annex 11: Approved CSP document

<https://www.wfp.org/operations/mr02-mauritania-country-strategic-plan-2019-2022>

Annex 12: Proposed members of the Internal reference group members – Mauritania

Mauritania Country Office	
Country Director	Kinday SAMBA
Deputy Country Director / CSPE focal point	Paulo OLIVEIRA
Head of Programme	Damien VAQUIER
M&E Officer	Papa-Gormack NDIAYE
VAM Officer	Oscar GOBBATO
Dakar Regional Bureau	
Senior Regional Programme Advisor (ad interim)	Muriel CALO
Sr Regional VAM Officer	Ollo SIB
Regional Monitoring Advisor	Moustapha TOURE
Sr Regional Livelihoods/Resilience Officer	Volli CARUCCI
Regional School Feeding Officer	Abdi FARAH
Sr Regional Nutrition Adviser	Katrien GHOOS
Sr Regional Emergency Preparedness and Response Officer	Alexandre LECUZIAT
Sr Regional Supply Chain Officer	Isabelle MBALLA
Regional Gender Officer	Ramatoulaye DIEYE
Regional Humanitarian Protection Officer	Rachida AUAMEUR
Regional Partnerships Officer	Jennifer JACOBY
Regional Social Protection Advisor	Ana OCAMPO
Regional Cash-based Transfers Officer	Natasha FROSINA
HQ	
Social Protection Unit	Thomas DICKINSON
Country Capacity Strengthening Unit	Maria LUKYANOVA
Country Capacity Strengthening Unit	Katri KANGAS
Nutrition Division	Siti HALATI

Annex 13: Terms of Reference for the (I)CSPEs

Internal Reference Group (IRG)

1. Background

The Internal Reference Group (IRG) is an advisory group providing advice and feedback to the Evaluation Manager and the evaluation team at key moments during the evaluation process. It is established during the preparatory stage of the evaluation and is mandatory for all CSPEs.

2. Purpose and Guiding Principles of the IRG

The overall purpose of the IRG is to contribute to the credibility, utility and impartiality of the evaluation. For this purpose, its composition and role are guided by the following principles:

- *Transparency*: Keeping relevant stakeholders engaged and informed during key steps ensures transparency throughout the evaluation process.
- *Ownership and Use*: Stakeholders' participation enhances ownership of the evaluation process and products, which in turn may impact on its use.
- *Accuracy*: feedback from stakeholders at key steps of the preparatory, data collection and reporting phases contributes to accuracy of the facts and figures reported in the evaluation and of its analysis.

3. Roles

Members are expected to review and comment on evaluation deliverables and share relevant insights at key consultation points of the evaluation process.

The IRGs main role is as follows:

- Participate in face-to-face or virtual briefings to the evaluation team during the inception phase and/or evaluation phase.
- Suggest key references and data sources in their area of expertise.
- Participate in field debriefings (optional).
- Review and comment on the draft evaluation report and related annexes, with a particular focus on: a) factual errors and/or omissions that could invalidate the findings and change the conclusions; b) issues of political sensitivity that need to be refined in the way they are addressed or in the language used; c) recommendations.
- Participate in national learning workshops to validate findings and discuss recommendations.
- Provide guidance on suggested communications products to disseminate learning from the evaluation.

IRG members, particularly those nominated as country office evaluation focal points are responsible for gathering inputs to evaluation products from their colleagues.

4. Membership

The IRG is composed of selected WFP stakeholders from mainly country office and regional bureaus. IRG members should be carefully selected based on the types of activities being implemented at country level, the size of the country office and the staffing components at regional bureau level. Selected HQ staff may also be included in the

IRG, depending on the CSPE context and the availability of expertise at RB level⁴⁹ (where no technical lead is in post at RB level, HQ technical staff should be invited to the IRG).

The table below provides an overview of IRG composition that allows for flexibility to adapt to specific country activities. The IRG should not exceed 15 active members.

Country Office	Regional Bureau	Headquarters (optional as needed and relevant to country activities)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation focal point (nominated by CD) • Head of Programme • Deputy Country Director(s) • Country Director (for smaller country offices) 	<p>Core Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Supply Chain Officer • Senior Regional Programme Advisor • Regional Head of VAM • Regional Emergency Preparedness & Response Unit Officer • Regional Gender Adviser • Regional Humanitarian Adviser (or Protection Adviser) • Regional Monitoring Officer <p>Other possible complementary members as relevant to country activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Regional Nutrition Adviser • Regional School Feeding Officer • Regional Partnerships Officer • Regional Programme Officers (Cash-based transfers/social protection/resilience and livelihoods) • Regional HR Officer • Regional Risk Management Officer <p>Keep in copy: REO and DRD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Assistance and Country Capacity Strengthening Service • School Based Programmes • Protection and AAP • Emergencies and Transition Unit • Cash-based Transfers • Staff from Food Security, Logistics and Emergency Telecoms Global Clusters <p>A broader group of senior stakeholders should be kept informed at key points in the evaluation process, in line with OEV Communication Protocol</p>

5. Approach for engaging the IRG:

The OEV Regional Unit Head will engage with regional bureau (DRD) ahead of time to prepare for the upcoming evaluation, and to agree on the types and level of engagement expected from IRG members.

While the IRG members are not formally required to provide feedback on the Terms of Reference (ToR), the OEV Regional Unit Head and OEV Evaluation Manager will consult with the Regional Programme Advisor and the Regional Evaluation Officer at an early stage of ToR drafting, particularly as relates to: a) temporal and thematic

⁴⁹ An example would be members from the Emergencies Operations Division where there is a level 2 or level 3 emergency response as a CSPE component. Or a HQ technical lead where there is an innovative programme being piloted.

scope of the evaluation, including any strategic regional strategic issues; b) evaluability of the CSP; c) humanitarian situation and d) key donors and other strategic partners.

Once the draft ToR are ready, the OEV Evaluation Manager will prepare a communication to be sent from Director OEV to the Country Director, with copy to the Regional Bureau, requesting comments to the ToR from the Country Office and proposing the composition of the IRG for transparency.

The final version of the CSPE ToRs will be shared with the IRG for information. IRG members will be given the opportunity to share their views on the evaluation scope, evaluability, partnerships etc. during the inception phase. The final version of the inception report will also be shared with the IRG for information. As mentioned in section 3 of this ToR, IRG members will also be invited to comment on the draft evaluation report and to participate in the national learning workshop to validate findings and discuss recommendations.

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Annex 15: Acronyms

AAP	Accountability to Affected Populations
ACL	Asset creation and livelihood support
ACR	Annual Country Report
ASP	Adaptive Social Protection
BR	Budget Revision
CBT	Cash Based Transfer
CO	Country Office
CP	Country Programme
CPA	Service provision and platforms
CPDD	Cadre de Partenariat pour le Développement Durable
CPE	Country Portfolio Evaluation
CPP	Corporate Planning and Performance
CSA	Commissariat à la Sécurité Alimentaire
CSP	Country Strategic Plan
CSPE	Country Strategic Plan Evaluation
DaO	Delivering as One
DDoE	Deputy Director of Evaluation
DoE	Director of Evaluation
EB	Executive Board
EM	Evaluation Manager
EM-Dat	Emergency Events database
EQ	Evaluation Question
ER	Evaluation Report
ET	Evaluation Team
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FFA	Food Assistance for Assets
GAM	Global Acute Malnutrition
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHI	Global Hunger Index
GNI	Gross National Income
HQ	Headquarters
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
IR	Inception Report

IRG	Internal Reference Group
LTA	Long Term Agreement
MAM	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NTA	Nutrition Treatment Activities
OAU	Organisation of African Unity
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD/DAC	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development/Development Assistance Committee
OEV	Office of Evaluation
PHQA	Post Hoc Quality Assessment
PLWG	Pregnant Lactating Women or Girls
PRRO	Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation
RB	Regional Bureau
RBD	Regional Bureau Dakar
RD	Regional Director
REO	Regional Evaluation Officer
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SER	Summary Evaluation Report
SIGI	Social Institutions and Gender Index
SMP	School meal activities
SO	Strategic Outcome
SSAFE	Safe and Secure Approaches in Field Environments
T-ICSP	Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan
TL	Team Leader
ToC	Theory of Change
ToR	Terms of Reference
UN	United Nations
UAA	Useful Agricultural Area
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHAS	United Nations Humanitarian Air Service
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNISS	United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel
UNEG	United Nations Evaluation Group
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division
URT	Unconditional resource transfers to support access to food
USD	United States Dollar
USDOL	United States Department of Labor
VAM	Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

Office of Evaluation

World Food Programme

Via Cesare Giulio Viola 68/70
00148 Rome, Italy
T +39 06 65131 wfp.org