

Evaluation title	Évaluation conjointe à mi-parcours du Programme National d'Alimentation Scolaire Intégré (PNASI)	
Evaluation category and type	Decentralized – Activity	
Post Hoc Quality Assessment (PHQA) – overall rating	Satisfactory: 85%	
<p>Decision makers can draw upon the findings of the Joint Mid-term Evaluation of the National Integrated School Feeding Programme (PNASI) in Benin with confidence. The evaluation employed an appropriate methodological approach, including relevant data collection and analysis methods that enabled unbiased answers to evaluation questions. The report provides solid and well documented findings, with the strengths and weaknesses of the programme clearly presented in a balanced manner. It also thoroughly assesses how lessons learned and recommendations from previous evaluations were considered in the design and implementation of the programme. Moreover, the recommendations propose concrete actions to be taken during the next phase of the programme, oriented towards creating a national institution for managing school canteens programmes and improving the effectiveness and sustainability of the existing components of the programme. However, the report could have been improved in some areas such as in the description of the programme modalities of intervention, including cash transfer. Moreover, conclusions should have provided a high-level analysis of the implications of the evaluation findings for the future of the programme or similar interventions. Finally, as required by the evaluation terms of reference, the report should have included specific lessons learned highlighting good practices that contribute to wider organizational learning.</p>		
CRITERION 1: REPORT SUMMARY	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The report summary is concise, with a useful overview of the PNASI, its context, the evaluation features and key findings for all evaluation questions. Moreover, linkages between the findings and recommendations are clear and relevant. However, the evaluation conclusions and lessons learned in the summary do not fully reflect the content in the main report.</p>		
CRITERION 2: CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW OF EVALUATION SUBJECT	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The description of the context includes relevant information on trends on poverty, food security and nutrition, and the education situation in Benin, as well as information on policies and strategies related to food, nutrition, and gender. The report also includes a good overview of the logic of the intervention, its planned activities, and key assumptions. However, programme modalities, such as capacity strengthening and service delivery, and expected results should have been presented more clearly and discussed in more detail.</p>		
CRITERION 3: EVALUATION RATIONALE, OBJECTIVES, AND SCOPE	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The report includes a succinct summary of the objectives, main users, and stakeholders of the evaluation. While accountability and learning objectives are clearly described, the rationale for the evaluation could have been better explained and more details provided on the scope of the evaluation, including geographic areas, target groups, and specific activities or dimensions covered.</p>		
CRITERION 4: METHODOLOGY	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The evaluation methodology is generally strong. The evaluation methods and sampling frame clearly demonstrate that a diverse range of stakeholders were consulted, including at the institutional and community levels. Ethical standards are clearly described and adhered to, including ensuring the confidentiality of collected data. Moreover, methodological limitations and mitigation strategies are clearly identified. However, the methodological design could have been more clearly defined, and an assessment of monitoring data could have included analysis of whether sufficient information was collected during programme implementation on results indicators related to human rights and gender equality as well as broader equity and inclusion dimensions. It would also have been useful to indicate specifically how the triangulation process was operationalized.</p>		

CRITERION 5: FINDINGS	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
Findings are solid and well documented, with the strengths and weaknesses presented without bias. They highlight WFP and government contributions to results within the implementation context, in particular the reactivation of the programme after two years of crisis in the area. The summary of the major findings presented at the end of the assessment of each evaluation criterion is useful and relevant. The findings clearly and explicitly derive from the triangulation of different sources and types of data and unintended effects are clearly highlighted, e.g., the opportunity cost for women working as unpaid school cooks. Gender considerations are well covered in the assessment of programme relevance and effectiveness despite the limited availability of gender-related and gender-disaggregated data produced by WFP's monitoring system.		
CRITERION 6: CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS	Rating	Partly Satisfactory
Conclusions are well-balanced and draw on evidence that spans across the findings and evaluation criteria/questions/themes. While the conclusions are useful for accountability and decision making, the overarching conclusions statements should have been more distinct from the formulation of the findings and pitched at a more strategic level to identify the implications for the future of the intervention or similar interventions. Equity, inclusion, and gender considerations are clearly addressed in one conclusion. As specified in the TOR it would have also been useful to highlight lessons learned, especially in terms of good practices, to contribute to wider organizational learning.		
CRITERION 7: RECOMMENDATIONS	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
Recommendations are clearly and logically derived from the evaluation findings and conclusions. They propose concrete actions to be taken during the next phase of the programme to increase the prospect of achieving expected results, taking into account contextual factors and WFP constraints. Priority actions are clearly identified as well as responsible actors and a specific timeline for their implementation is presented.		
CRITERION 8: ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
The report uses clear and easily understood, precise and professional language. Sources are provided for all data and quotes. Relevant information found in other parts of the report is adequately signposted. However, clarity and coherence of the report could have been somewhat enhanced with minor reorganization of some sections.		

Integration of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) considerations in the evaluation report based on the UN System-Wide Action Plan (UN-SWAP) Evaluation Performance Indicator (EPI) scorecard	
UN-SWAP EPI – individual evaluation score	Approaches requirements: 5 points
GEWE considerations are only partially integrated into the evaluation. While pertinent gender-related evaluation questions were included in relation to the relevance and effectiveness criteria, there would have been opportunities to mainstream GEWE through the efficiency and sustainability criteria as well. Moreover, while an intersectional analysis of how populations are affected by different issues is presented, the integration of gender, human rights and equity is uneven across the different thematic areas that are discussed, and the evaluation scope of analysis remains unclear about the importance of gender in the evaluation process. However, the report comments on the quality of the monitoring system to measure progress on gender and human rights despite the limited availability of gender-related or gender-disaggregated data produced by WFP's monitoring system. The report also includes a relevant recommendation on the gender issues, proposing concrete actions to increase the inclusion of girls, women and other vulnerable groups in the school canteens.	

Post Hoc Quality Assessment – Rating scale and definitions at overall report and criteria levels	
Highly Satisfactory	<i>Definition at overall report level: Evaluation users can rely on the credible and useful evaluation findings provided and can use the evaluation with a high degree of confidence for decision-making. The report is considered an excellent example.</i>
	<i>Definition at criterion level: The criterion is addressed without any gaps or limitations.</i>
Satisfactory	<i>Definition at overall report level: Evaluation users can rely on the quality and credible evaluation findings provided and can use it with confidence for decision-making.</i>

POST HOC QUALITY ASSESSMENT OF WFP EVALUATIONS

	<i>Definition at criterion level: There are no significant gaps or limitations in addressing the criterion.</i>
Partly Satisfactory	<i>Definition at overall report level: Evaluation users can rely on the evaluation findings provided and may use it for decision-making noting that there are some gaps/shortcomings in the information provided.</i>
	<i>Definition at criterion level: There are some significant gaps or limitations in addressing the criterion.</i>
Unsatisfactory	<i>Definition at overall report level: Evaluation users can use some of the learning from the evaluation, noting that there are significant gaps/ shortcomings in the evaluation findings provided. The report may still contribute to decision making but should be used with caution.</i>
	<i>Definition at criterion level: There are critical gaps or limitations in addressing the criterion. Most of the required parameters are not met.</i>