**COUNTRY CONTEXT**

Population: 6.7 million

- Multidimensional poverty affects both rural and urban households
- High levels of food insecurity and malnutrition
- Regular exposure to natural disasters
- Major concerns: violence, organised crime, gender-based violence

**COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN**

Focused on five strategic outcomes:

1. Vulnerable households’ access to social protection
2. Support to smallholder farmers
3. Increased resilience to climate change
4. Access to food for people affected by disaster
5. Government institutions capacity strengthening

USD million budget: 88.8

**EVALUATION**

Covers WFP activities implemented from 2016 to 2020

- October 2020 to July 2021
- Evidence and lessons to inform the development of the new Country Strategic Plan in El Salvador

- 83 online surveys
- 11 focus group discussions
- 80 interviews with stakeholders
- Document review
- Remote approach due to COVID-19
- Gender sensitive and ethical approach

**CONCLUSIONS**

WFP recognized as a key player in humanitarian response, but less so in development and capacity strengthening

CSP allowed flexibility in programming, especially during COVID-19 response, but synergies across strategic outcomes not fully explored

Room for improvement in gender transformative programming and partnership

Conditions for sustainability and scaling-up of pilots could have been more clearly identified

Evidence generation is a key strength, but there is need to reinforce results-based management

Critical assumptions on funding availability and continuation of programmes did not fully hold true

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. WFP should harness its strategic position and reputational capital to position itself as a key development partner in the post-COVID-19 reconstruction

2. The new CSP should link strategic outcomes, incorporating national capacity strengthening and the humanitarian-development-peace nexus

3. Continue adopting a gender-transformative approach with partners

4. Develop a strategy for enhancing the sustainability of interventions

5. Promote a results-based management approach

6. Develop a resource mobilization strategy with medium- and long-term horizons