



Management Response from WFP Nepal Office to the recommendations of the decentralized endline evaluation Report of the FY 2017 McGovern-Dole Project [DE/NPCO/2021/006] from 2018 to 2021

1. This document, finalized in August 2022, presents the management response to the recommendations from the evaluation of the FY17 McGovern-Dole Project in Nepal.
2. The evaluation, which was commissioned by WFP Nepal Country Office and undertaken by Sambodhi research firm, covers the period from August 2021 to December 2022. All activities and processes related to the project formulation, implementation, resourcing, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting relevant to answer the evaluation questions have been covered in the evaluation. The evaluation serves the dual purpose of accountability and learning as well as informing evidence-based decision making.
3. The evaluation came up with five key recommendations along with [15] actions. The matrix below sets out whether WFP agrees, partially agrees or disagrees with the recommendations and sub-recommendations. It presents the planned (or taken) actions, responsibilities, and timelines.

Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations (Deadline) <i>[as per evaluation report – one (sub-) recommendation per row, deadline in brackets.]</i>	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division (/possibly external stakeholder in the case of Joint Evaluation). Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Management Response <i>[Is (sub-) recommendation Agreed, Partially agreed or Not agreed? If Partially agreed or Not agreed, provide a brief reason for this.]</i>	Actions to be taken <i>[Briefly state what action(s) will be taken to address each sub-recommendation – one action per row.]</i>	Action Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division/unit. Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Action Deadline <i>[Month and year – not to exceed related (sub-) recommendation deadline.]</i>
<p>Priority: High</p> <p>Recommendation 1:</p> <p>WFP to strategically engage with different ministries for better convergence of departments (such as health, education, agriculture among others) objectives and activities to ensure the sustainability of impact.</p>	<p>WFP Nepal CO</p>	<p>Agreed</p>	<p>1. WFP will continue supporting the government to develop National School Health and Nutrition Strategy along with a costed plan of action to ensure program sustainability and impact.</p> <p>The Government of Nepal signed a declaration of support to join the Global School Meals Coalition in August 2021. In this context and moment when Nepal is gearing towards establishment of a sustainable home-grown school feeding, it is critical and an opportune time to participate in the coalition. Hence, WFP will support the Government in its active engagement in the School Meals Coalition.</p>	<p>WFP Nepal CO (Program – School Meal Program)</p>	<p>Continue till December 2023</p>
<p>Sub-recommendation 1.1 Development of long-term Memorandum of Understanding with health, education, agriculture, and other ministries that facilitate progress towards strategic objectives.</p>	<p>WFP Nepal CO</p>	<p>Agreed</p>	<p>1.1.1 WFP will work with the National Planning Commission and relevant stakeholders to make sure the national School Feeding Program is incorporated in the national food system action plan (as part of the UN Food Systems Summit 2021)</p>	<p>WFP Nepal CO (Program – School Meal Program)</p>	<p>December 2022</p>

Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations (Deadline) <i>[as per evaluation report – one (sub-) recommendation per row, deadline in brackets.]</i>	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division (/possibly external stakeholder in the case of Joint Evaluation). Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Management Response <i>[Is (sub-) recommendation Agreed, Partially agreed or Not agreed? If Partially agreed or Not agreed, provide a brief reason for this.]</i>	Actions to be taken <i>[Briefly state what action(s) will be taken to address each sub-recommendation – one action per row.]</i>	Action Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division/unit. Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Action Deadline <i>[Month and year – not to exceed related (sub-)recommendation deadline.]</i>
Sub-recommendation 1.2 Coordinating an annual meeting of key nodal officers from the departments/ministries for cross learning and collaboration.	WFP Nepal CO	Agreed	1.2.1 WFP School Meal unit will continue to participate in regular multi-sectoral coordination committees at the national, provincial, and local levels for improved cooperation and collaboration among sectoral portfolios	WFP Nepal CO (Program – School Meal Program)	December 2022
Priority: High Recommendation 2: Focus WFP efforts on building capacities of local level actors, developing market linkages, and enhancing supply chain governance for the effective functioning of the SMP. Sub-recommendation 2.1. Incorporate a robust capacity	WFP Nepal CO	Agreed	2.1.1 As part of the transition strategy, WFP is working closely with the MoEST in pilot-testing and gradually rolling out the Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF) approach and Local and Regional Procurement (LRP) under the FY20 cycle project.	WFP Nepal CO (Program – School Meal Program)	July 2022-June 2024

Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations (Deadline) <i>[as per evaluation report – one (sub-) recommendation per row, deadline in brackets.]</i>	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division (/possibly external stakeholder in the case of Joint Evaluation). Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Management Response <i>[Is (sub-) recommendation Agreed, Partially agreed or Not agreed? If Partially agreed or Not agreed, provide a brief reason for this.]</i>	Actions to be taken <i>[Briefly state what action(s) will be taken to address each sub-recommendation – one action per row.]</i>	Action Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division/unit. Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Action Deadline <i>[Month and year – not to exceed related (sub-) recommendation deadline.]</i>
building plan for local level functionaries in the programme design, alongside regular monitoring mechanisms.					
Sub-recommendation 2.2. Direct efforts towards increased awareness and sensitization programmes for the local governments whose priorities may not be aligned with the national goals and WFP objectives.	WFP Nepal CO	Agreed	2.2.1 Provide orientation and training on supply chain management to the government officials (agriculture, health and education at local level), warehouse staffs, school management committee, cooperatives, and farmers' groups.	WFP Nepal CO (Program – School Meal Program)	September 2022-December 2023
Sub-recommendation 2.3. Identify, sensitize, and mobilize farmer groups and cooperatives.	WFP Nepal CO	Agreed	2.3.1 WFP will continue to put in place a system for creating linkages between the schools and cooperatives/farmers' groups to ensure regular and uninterrupted supply of locally produced nutritious food based on a predetermined menu	WFP Nepal CO (Program – School Meal Program)	September 2022-December 2023

Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations (Deadline) <i>[as per evaluation report – one (sub-) recommendation per row, deadline in brackets.]</i>	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division (/possibly external stakeholder in the case of Joint Evaluation). Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Management Response <i>[Is (sub-) recommendation Agreed, Partially agreed or Not agreed? If Partially agreed or Not agreed, provide a brief reason for this.]</i>	Actions to be taken <i>[Briefly state what action(s) will be taken to address each sub-recommendation – one action per row.]</i>	Action Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division/unit. Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Action Deadline <i>[Month and year – not to exceed related (sub-) recommendation deadline.]</i>
<p>Priority: High</p> <p>Recommendation 3:</p> <p>WFP to advocate for streamlining of roles and responsibilities for monitoring and implementation between federal, provincial, and local level to establish clarity of roles between the different levels of government</p> <p>Sub- recommendation 3.1 Mapping potential role of provincial and local level government in supporting the functioning of SMP and complementary interventions to enhance</p>	<p>WFP Nepal CO</p>	<p>Agreed</p>	<p>3.1.1 WFP will conduct Government monitoring capacity needs assessment and gap analysis (and produce a Needs Assessment and capacity gap analysis Report)</p>	<p>WFP Nepal CO (Monitoring, review and Evaluation Unit and, School Meal Program team)</p>	<p>December 2022</p>

Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations (Deadline) <i>[as per evaluation report – one (sub-) recommendation per row, deadline in brackets.]</i>	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division (/possibly external stakeholder in the case of Joint Evaluation). Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Management Response <i>[Is (sub-) recommendation Agreed, Partially agreed or Not agreed? If Partially agreed or Not agreed, provide a brief reason for this.]</i>	Actions to be taken <i>[Briefly state what action(s) will be taken to address each sub-recommendation – one action per row.]</i>	Action Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division/unit. Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Action Deadline <i>[Month and year – not to exceed related (sub-)recommendation deadline.]</i>
literacy and health outcomes.			3.1.2 Based on the capacity needs assessment and gap analysis findings, WFP will design and provide capacity strengthening training to the local government at municipal level.	WFP Nepal CO (Monitoring, review and Evaluation Unit and, School Meal Program team)	December 2022
Sub-recommendation 3.2 Incorporate a robust capacity building plan for provincial and local level functionaries in the programme design, alongside regular monitoring mechanisms.	WFP Nepal CO	Agreed	3.2.1 WFP will expand the monitoring capacity strengthening activities building on the ongoing training activities (specifically on School Feeding Indicators in Integrated Education Management Information System - IEMIS) to build the capacity of all three tiers of government on school meals management based on national standard which clearly recognized the roles and responsibilities of all 3 tiers of government	WFP Nepal CO (Monitoring, review and Evaluation Unit and, School Meal Program team)	December 2023
Priority: High	WFP Nepal CO	Agreed			

Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations (Deadline) <i>[as per evaluation report – one (sub-) recommendation per row, deadline in brackets.]</i>	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division (/possibly external stakeholder in the case of Joint Evaluation). Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Management Response <i>[Is (sub-) recommendation Agreed, Partially agreed or Not agreed? If Partially agreed or Not agreed, provide a brief reason for this.]</i>	Actions to be taken <i>[Briefly state what action(s) will be taken to address each sub-recommendation – one action per row.]</i>	Action Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division/unit. Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Action Deadline <i>[Month and year – not to exceed related (sub-) recommendation deadline.]</i>
<p>Recommendation 4:</p> <p>Advocacy efforts towards increasing per student/per meal budget allocated to schools is needed as the program transitions from in-kind to cash modality.</p> <p>Sub-recommendation 4.1. Conduct agro-ecological zone-specific study to provide updated data on cost of food, non-food, food management and transportation to determine cost of both- nutrient rich and sufficient quantity meal per child.</p>			<p>4.1.1 WFP in collaboration with MoEST will assess the per capita allocation for school feeding in terms of nutrition and management costs as per the agroecological zones and in accordance with the current market price</p>	<p>WFP Nepal CO (Program – School Meal Program)</p>	<p>December 2023</p>

Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations (Deadline) <i>[as per evaluation report – one (sub-) recommendation per row, deadline in brackets.]</i>	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division (/possibly external stakeholder in the case of Joint Evaluation). Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Management Response <i>[Is (sub-) recommendation Agreed, Partially Agreed or Not agreed? If Partially agreed or Not agreed, provide a brief reason for this.]</i>	Actions to be taken <i>[Briefly state what action(s) will be taken to address each sub-recommendation – one action per row.]</i>	Action Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division/unit. Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Action Deadline <i>[Month and year – not to exceed related (sub-) recommendation deadline.]</i>
Sub-recommendation 4.2. Use evidence-based advocacy to influence top tier of the government for expanding per capita budget for school feeding	WFP Nepal CO	Agreed	4.2.1 WFP in collaboration with MoEST will assess the per capita allocation for school feeding in terms of nutrition and management costs as per the agroecological zones and in accordance with the current market price.	WFP Nepal CO (Program – School Meal Program)	December 2023
			4.2.2 WFP will provide technical assistance to the government for the development of a home-grown school feeding policy framework which includes local procurement guideline, cost sharing mechanism, different implementation modality/options, and other School Feeding related standards)		June 2023

Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations (Deadline) <i>[as per evaluation report – one (sub-) recommendation per row, deadline in brackets.]</i>	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division (/possibly external stakeholder in the case of Joint Evaluation). Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Management Response <i>[Is (sub-) recommendation Agreed, Partially agreed or Not agreed? If Partially agreed or Not agreed, provide a brief reason for this.]</i>	Actions to be taken <i>[Briefly state what action(s) will be taken to address each sub-recommendation – one action per row.]</i>	Action Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division/unit. Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Action Deadline <i>[Month and year – not to exceed related (sub-)recommendation deadline.]</i>
Sub-recommendation 4.3. Use evidence-based advocacy and communication to sensitize and influence local governments to adopt cost sharing mechanism on school feeding activities.	WFP Nepal CO	Agreed	4.3.1 WFP will provide technical assistance to the government for the development of a home-grown school feeding policy framework which includes local procurement guideline, cost sharing mechanism, different implementation modality/options, and other School Feeding related standards)	WFP Nepal CO (Program – School Meal Program)	June 2023
			4.3.2. WFP will advocate for increasing per capita allocation for middy meals based on evidence of benefits of school meals will be shared with governments (e.g., cost-benefit analysis; cost of nutritious school meals on Tarai, Hills and Mountain, among others)	WFP Nepal CO (Program – School Meal Program)	June 2023
Priority: High Recommendation 5: Strengthen the approach, objectives, and goals of WFP to supporting the GoN's strategy	WFP Nepal CO	Agreed			

Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations (Deadline) <i>[as per evaluation report – one (sub-) recommendation per row, deadline in brackets.]</i>	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division (/possibly external stakeholder in the case of Joint Evaluation). Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Management Response <i>[Is (sub-) recommendation Agreed, Partially Agreed or Not agreed? If Partially agreed or Not agreed, provide a brief reason for this.]</i>	Actions to be taken <i>[Briefly state what action(s) will be taken to address each sub-recommendation – one action per row.]</i>	Action Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division/unit. Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Action Deadline <i>[Month and year – not to exceed related (sub-) recommendation deadline.]</i>
<p>for taking over the school meals program.</p> <p>Sub-recommendation 5.1. Conduct a structured and systematic series of participatory lessons learned sharing events with the federal, provincial, and local government to facilitate the identification of solutions to the challenges that they may have faced in the successful transition of the school meals programme to the Government.</p>			<p>5.1.1 WFP will carry out documentation of the best and innovative School Feeding practices implemented by local governments and/or schools for advocacy purposes.</p>	<p>WFP Nepal CO (Program – School Meal Program)</p>	<p>December 2023</p>

Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations (Deadline) <i>[as per evaluation report – one (sub-) recommendation per row, deadline in brackets.]</i>	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division (/possibly external stakeholder in the case of Joint Evaluation). Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Management Response <i>[Is (sub-) recommendation Agreed, Partially agreed or Not agreed? If Partially agreed or Not agreed, provide a brief reason for this.]</i>	Actions to be taken <i>[Briefly state what action(s) will be taken to address each sub-recommendation – one action per row.]</i>	Action Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division/unit. Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Action Deadline <i>[Month and year – not to exceed related (sub-) recommendation deadline.]</i>
Sub-recommendation 5.2. Develop a long-term transition plan with the GoN to ensure the sustainability of SMP. The plan should include required short term and long term strategic intervention with source of funding. And it should clearly define the technical assistance required, cost sharing, and role of WFP and partners in providing the same.	WFP Nepal CO	Agreed	5.2.1 WFP will provide technical assistance for the smooth implementation of the activities stated in the transition strategy (Ensuring the Continuity of School Feeding in Nepal)	WFP Nepal CO (Program – School Meal Program)	December 2023
			5.2.2 WFP will provide technical assistance to the government for the implementation of School Health and Nutrition component of costed 10 years School Education Sector Plan (2021-2030).	WFP Nepal CO (Program – School Meal Program)	June 2023