

<b>Evaluation title</b>	Decentralized Evaluation of The First 1000 Days Programme in Egypt 2017 to 2021	
<b>Evaluation category and type</b>	Decentralized - Activity	
<b>Post Hoc Quality Assessment (PHQA) – overall rating</b>	Satisfactory: 73%	
<p>The Decentralized Evaluation of The First 1000 Days Programme in Egypt 2017 to 2021 constitutes a satisfactory report that evaluation users can rely on with confidence for decision-making. It clearly summarizes information on the evaluation purpose and methodology, relevant contexts, and evaluation subject. It presents findings on all evaluation questions that are supported by evidence and that draw upon a variety of secondary and primary sources. The evaluation mainstreams gender equality and formulates conclusions and lessons learned suited to inform future WFP action. The evaluation presents 11 prioritized and generally actionable recommendations. The findings section could have been strengthened by omitting some detail in favour of higher-level findings, and by anchoring the discussion to a theory of change. The conclusions could have benefited from synthesizing findings across evaluation criteria and questions, and by outlining more higher-level strategic implications. The recommendations would have benefited from explicitly addressing gender equality and broader equity and inclusion considerations. The report exceeds WFP requirements for length. Its readability could have been improved by summarizing long paragraphs into higher-level findings, omitting activity or indicator-level detail, eliminating repetitions, and using visual aids to highlight key messages.</p>		
<b>CRITERION 1: REPORT SUMMARY</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Satisfactory</b>
<p>The summary meets WFP requirements on length. It presents key evaluation features and context information and addresses all evaluation questions, provides an overview of the evaluation conclusions and recommendations, and effectively summarizes key lessons learned. The summary might have benefited from including a clear summary assessment for each of the evaluation questions to indicate if the overall evaluation findings on the respective questions were positive or negative. As in the main report, the summary could have used the conclusions more effectively to connect findings across evaluation criteria and questions, and to highlight strategic implications of these findings.</p>		
<b>CRITERION 2: CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW OF EVALUATION SUBJECT</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Partly Satisfactory</b>
<p>The report provides a detailed description of the evaluation context and the evaluation subject. It provides information on how the programme under review evolved over time and due to what contextual influences and includes reflections on gender equality issues. The context section could have been strengthened by structuring it more clearly by sub-topics discussed and by referencing Egypt's 2021 Voluntary National Review. Both the context and description of the evaluation subject might have benefited from omitting narrative detail and providing information in a more condensed fashion. The report could have benefited from (i) including a reconstructed overarching theory of change for the programme and/or clarifying how the programme fit into and contributed to WFP's CSP; and (ii) reflecting not only on gender, but also wider equity and inclusion issues related to the evaluation subject.</p>		
<b>CRITERION 3: EVALUATION RATIONALE, OBJECTIVES, AND SCOPE</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Highly Satisfactory</b>
<p>The evaluation report clearly outlines the evaluation objectives, purpose, and scope in terms of the time period and activities covered. It identifies its intended users and uses of the evaluation. Gender equality and women's rights issues (GEWE) were mainstreamed in the evaluation. However, identifying a specific objective related to assessing the integration of GEWE and human rights could have further strengthened the attention drawn to these dimensions, especially given the fact that one of the key targeted beneficiary groups was women.</p>		
<b>CRITERION 4: METHODOLOGY</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Satisfactory</b>
<p>The chosen mixed methods approach, data sources and methods of data analysis were generally appropriate for answering the evaluation questions. Several of the evaluation sub-questions explicitly addressed gender equality and inclusion. Evaluation activities were carried out in alignment with relevant ethical standards. The report includes a</p>		

detailed evaluation matrix and states limitations as well as some related mitigation strategies. The report could have been strengthened by describing how existing data gaps informed the choice of methodology, and by including a reconstructed theory of change or similar overarching framework to clarify outcome level changes that the programme aimed to contribute to. Using elements of outcome harvesting or similar 'goal free' approach might have facilitated capturing results achieved that were not reflected in WFP reports. The report could also have been improved by presenting mitigation strategies for all noted limitations and shortening the section on limitations.

<b>CRITERION 5: FINDINGS</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Satisfactory</b>
<p>The evaluation addresses all evaluation questions and sub-questions. Evidence is presented transparently and fairly, providing sources for most presented data and quotes, and using a neutral tone. The report reflects the voices of diverse stakeholder groups and comments on unanticipated effects of programme implementation. It could have been strengthened by identifying sources for all data provided in tables and graphs. The analysis of programme effectiveness and WFP contributions to results would have benefited from a less detail-oriented, higher-level discussion anchored to a guiding framework to help readers better understand the main types of results achieved. In some cases, the report could have been improved by explicitly identifying which stakeholder groups expressed a certain view.</p>		

<b>CRITERION 6: CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Partly Satisfactory</b>
<p>The conclusions summarize the evaluation findings under each of the evaluation questions and reflect both strengths and weaknesses. The report formulates a set of relevant lessons that build on the evaluation findings and conclusions, and that are suited to support WFP organizational learning and guide future action. The conclusions could have been strengthened by using them to connect findings across evaluation questions and criteria, and by pointing out strategic implications for future and/or similar interventions. They would also have benefited from including more, and more explicit, reflections on gender equality, equity, and inclusion issues. The report could have clarified how suggestions made in the lessons learned section related to those presented in the recommendations chapter.</p>		

<b>CRITERION 7: RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Satisfactory</b>
<p>The evaluation formulates 11 realistic, internally consistent, and generally actionable recommendations that logically flow from the evaluation findings, conclusions and lessons learned. The recommendations are prioritized, targeted, and include a timeframe for action. The report would have benefited from presenting no more than 10 recommendations and staying within the suggested word limit, e.g., by presenting the recommendations in either narrative form or in table format rather than in both. Specificity of the recommendations could have been strengthened by (i) focusing on clear suggestions for what WFP and/or others should do while moving information on the underlying rationale for recommendations to the conclusions; (ii) structuring the text into clearly identified main recommendations and related sub-recommendations; and (iii) providing similar levels of suggestions for their operationalization for all recommendations. The report would also have benefited from including considerations related to gender equality, equity, and inclusion into the recommendations.</p>		

<b>CRITERION 8: ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Partly Satisfactory</b>
<p>The report follows the WFP template and includes all the mandated annexes. It is written in professional language, spells out all acronyms on first use, and uses multiple figures, tables, and textboxes to convey information and quotes. Readability of the report could have benefited from considerably shortening the main body of the report, e.g., by omitting or moving some information to annexes, formulating higher-level and less detail-focused findings, and consistently avoiding duplication of content. Readability of the report would also have benefited from visually highlighting key messages, e.g., through bold font, from breaking up excessively long paragraphs through bullet points, and by eliminating mistakes such as incomplete sentences. The report could also have been strengthened by providing sources for all information provided in tables and figures.</p>		

<b>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</b>	
<b>UN-SWAP EPI – individual evaluation score</b>	<b>Meets requirements: 8 points</b>

The evaluation approach and mixed-methods methodology, which drew upon a variety of data sources and processes, were gender-responsive and based on deliberate considerations on how to integrate GEWE dimensions in data collection and analysis. The evaluation matrix includes several sub-questions that address GEWE issues, and the report comments on the availability of monitoring data on GEWE-relevant indicators. Ethical standards were consistently considered, and all stakeholder groups treated with respect for confidentiality and integrity. Evaluation findings and conclusions, and recommendations reflect a gender analysis. The report could have been strengthened by being more explicit about which stakeholder groups expressed a noted opinion, and by explicitly reflecting GEWE considerations in the recommendations.

Post Hoc Quality Assessment – Rating scale and definitions at overall report and criteria levels	
<b>Highly Satisfactory</b>	<i>Definition at overall report level:</i> 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>Definition at criterion level:</i> The criterion is addressed without any gaps or limitations.
<b>Satisfactory</b>	<i>Definition at overall report level:</i> Evaluation users can rely on the quality and credible evaluation findings provided and can use it with confidence for decision-making.
	<i>Definition at criterion level:</i> There are no significant gaps or limitations in addressing the criterion.
<b>Partly Satisfactory</b>	<i>Definition at overall report level:</i> 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>Definition at criterion level:</i> There are some significant gaps or limitations in addressing the criterion.
<b>Unsatisfactory</b>	<i>Definition at overall report level:</i> 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>Definition at criterion level:</i> There are critical gaps or limitations in addressing the criterion. Most of the required parameters are not met.