

Evaluation title	Evaluation of Egypt WFP Country Strategic Plan 2018-2023	
Evaluation category and type	Centralized - CSPE	
Post Hoc Quality Assessment (PHQA) – overall rating	Satisfactory: 86%	
<p>The Evaluation of Egypt WFP Country Strategic Plan 2018-2023 constitutes a satisfactory report that decision makers can use with confidence. The report effectively summarizes the evaluation purpose, rationale, and methodology, as well as relevant information on contextual developments during the evaluation period. Drawing upon a range of primary and secondary data sources and a variety of data collection methods, the report presents findings on all the evaluation questions and sub-questions. Gender equality is consistently mainstreamed. It formulates well-crafted conclusions that synthesize the findings across evaluation questions and discuss their strategic implications for the future country strategic plan (CSP). A set of five relevant, prioritized, targeted and actionable recommendations are put forward that strike a good balance between being specific and leaving users space to adjust their implementation, as needed. The report uses clear, understandable language that is free of jargon. The Summary Evaluation Report and Executive Summary adequately capture the evaluation's essence and key messages. Readability of the report could have been further enhanced by ensuring the absence of grammatical, spelling, and formatting errors, and, at times, using more precise language to convey findings. The extent to which the report provides clear answers to some of the evaluation sub-questions could have been further improved by, for example, formulating less descriptive and more analytical findings, and by formulating an overarching finding related to the achievement of outputs across strategic objectives. The description of the evaluation subject might have benefited from providing information on gender, equity, and wider inclusion dimensions of the CSP. It would also have been helpful had the report provided some explanatory information on the distinction between a 'Theory of Change' and a 'Theory in Use', on whether/how this distinction added value to the evaluation methodology. The conclusions could have been strengthened by commenting on the validity of the CSP's implicit/explicit logic and its key assumptions, including causal linkages to national development goals and SDGs.</p>		
CRITERION 1: REPORT SUMMARY	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
<p>The report summary constitutes a clear and accurate synthesis of the evaluation. It briefly captures key evaluation and contextual features, summarizes the main evaluation findings and supporting evidence, presents a summary of the evaluation conclusions, and includes the evaluation recommendations.</p>		
CRITERION 2: CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW OF EVALUATION SUBJECT	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The report provides a comprehensive, yet concise, overview of relevant contextual information, including in relation to gender equality and women's rights (GEWE), and persons with disabilities. It clearly describes the strategic focus of the CSP, including strategic and operational shifts from the transitional interim CSP (T-ICSP) to the CSP, with a discussion of different modalities of intervention, including South-South exchange. It could have been strengthened by presenting information on the transfer modalities used for CSP activities; on gender, equity and wider inclusion dimensions of the CSP; and on the types of activities WFP conducted to inform the CSP in the descriptive sections early in the report.</p>		
CRITERION 3: EVALUATION RATIONALE, OBJECTIVES, AND SCOPE	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
<p>The report clearly states the evaluation objectives, scope, and main users and stakeholders. Human rights and gender equality considerations are mainstreamed in the evaluation's dual objectives of accountability and learning. It could have been strengthened by explicitly noting the evaluation rationale/purpose in the section on evaluation features.</p>		
CRITERION 4: METHODOLOGY	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
<p>The evaluation's mixed methods approach, and its chosen data sources and methods of data analysis, were appropriate for answering the evaluation questions in an unbiased way and allowed for effective data collection, including primary data collection from a variety of WFP staff, stakeholders and CSP beneficiaries. WFP contributions to cross-cutting</p>		

priorities, including gender equality, are addressed through dedicated sub-questions. The use of multiple data sources facilitated triangulation to ensure validity of findings. Evaluation activities were carried out in alignment with relevant ethical standards and took gender and inclusion issues into account. The report provides an overview of key methodological limitations encountered, mitigation strategies, as well as whether/how the limitations impacted the evaluation report. The report might have benefited from providing more detail on limitations in the available monitoring data, including in relation to gender equality issues, and how these informed the methodology. It also might have benefited from explaining the notion of an 'outcome harvesting inspired interview approach' and ensuring that this definition aligned with the literature on outcome harvesting.

CRITERION 5: FINDINGS	Rating	Satisfactory
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The report addresses all evaluation questions and sub-questions in a structured fashion. It presents supporting evidence transparently and clearly, providing sources for all presented data and quotes, and generally uses a neutral tone. It discusses WFP contributions to results in a fair and nuanced way, considering contextual factors, including the COVID pandemic. The report reflects the voices of different stakeholder groups from inside and outside of WFP, and comments on unplanned effects of WFP programming. It could have been strengthened by ensuring that the information provided in the summary statement for each sub-section clearly addresses and answers the respective (sub)-question and focusing these summary statements on analytical findings while moving descriptive elements into the supporting evidence; and by providing an overview finding on results achievement at output and outcome levels before delving into the detailed discussion of individual strategic objectives and related activities. The report could also have been strengthened by explicitly assessing the extent to which the CSP and its implementation reflected the humanitarian principles.

CRITERION 6: CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS	Rating	Satisfactory
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The conclusions effectively synthesize evaluation findings across evaluation questions and reflect on the strategic implications of these findings for the future of the CSP. They reflect both strengths and weaknesses of the CSP and its implementation, do not introduce any new information, and include reflections on GEWE, equity and inclusion dimensions. The conclusions could have been strengthened by balancing observations on gaps/weaknesses in WFP staff expertise with an acknowledgement of the CO's strengths and comparative advantages; and by explicitly commenting on the validity of the CSP's internal logic and its key underlying assumptions.

CRITERION 7: RECOMMENDATIONS	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
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The evaluation makes five relevant, realistic and actionable recommendations that are prioritized, include a timeframe for action, and identify responsible actors. The recommendations logically and clearly derive from the evaluation findings and conclusions and strike a good balance between being specific and allowing evaluation users to fine tune their implementation. They include suggestions on how to improve GEWE dimensions in CSP design and implementation.

CRITERION 8: ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY	Rating	Partly Satisfactory
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The report follows the WFP template and includes all mandated annexes. It is written in clear and understandable language that avoids jargon and makes extensive use of visual aids including graphs, tables, and bold font. It provides sources for all data and quotes, effectively uses cross-references, and remains within the recommended word limit. Readability of the report could have been further strengthened by ensuring that all visual aids clearly add value to the narrative information provided; by ensuring that the final version includes a complete and accurate table of contents and list of tables and that it is free from errors, including in relation to formatting. The discussion of output/outcome achievement might have benefited from providing fewer descriptive details in favour of higher-level analytical synthesis and findings. The long annexes could have been shortened by omitting some detail.

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	Meets requirements: 8 points
<p>GEWE considerations are well integrated into the report. The evaluation matrix includes sub-questions and indicators related to gender equality and broader inclusion and equity considerations. The evaluation approach and methodology were gender-responsive and based on deliberate considerations on how to effectively integrate GEWE. The evaluation drew upon a variety of data sources and processes, thereby facilitating inclusion, accuracy, and credibility. Findings include reflections on GEWE dimensions, and one of five recommendations addresses gender quality issues. The report reflects on unanticipated effects of CSP implementation including on the most vulnerable. Ethical standards were consistently considered, and all stakeholder groups treated with respect for confidentiality and integrity. However, the report could have provided more information on the availability of monitoring data on GEWE indicators.</p>	

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>
	<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>