

Evaluation title	Evaluation of the Breaking Barriers for Girls' Education Programme in Niger 2019–2022	
Evaluation category and type	Decentralized - Activity	
Post Hoc Quality Assessment (PHQA) – overall rating	Satisfactory: 79%	
<p>The "Evaluation of the Breaking Barriers for Girls' Education Programme in Niger 2019–2022" is a satisfactory report that evaluation users can rely on with confidence. The report summarizes the evaluation purpose, rationale, and methodology. It draws on extensive primary and secondary data sources, including consultations with many beneficiaries. The report presents findings and evidence on all evaluation questions, discussing gender and equity considerations, and forms conclusions reflecting key insights and strategic implications of the findings. It puts forward nine relevant, targeted recommendations and uses clear, jargon-free language and some visual tools to convey information. Areas which could have been improved include providing a more comprehensive description of the outputs, outcomes, and targets of the intervention; elaborating on the theory-based approach; formulating findings in a way to provide more direct answers to some of the evaluation questions; balancing discussion of weaknesses and strengths in the conclusions; and providing a recommendation on the future use of baseline data for programme design. The report could also have been strengthened by using more tables, reducing repetition through cross-references, aligning fully with the WFP style guide, and better copy editing. Finally, the summary could have been shortened and more fully aligned with the main report.</p>		
CRITERION 1: REPORT SUMMARY	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The summary captures key evaluation and contextual features, summarizes insights on all the main evaluation questions, presents an overview of the conclusions, and includes all the lessons and recommendations. It might have benefited from being shorter and better balancing detail and synthesis across sections (i.e., descriptive sections and the presentation of lessons could have been shorter, while the discussion of findings and conclusions could have been longer). The summary of the conclusions could have been more aligned with the main report.</p>		
CRITERION 2: CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW OF EVALUATION SUBJECT	Rating	Partly Satisfactory
<p>The report provides a concise description of relevant contextual information, and an overview of the evaluation subject. It includes detailed reflections on gender equality and broader equity dimensions of the programme under review and provides information on other international assistance in the thematic area. The overview of the evaluation subject could have benefited from: commenting explicitly on the analytical work conducted that informed programme design; providing at least estimated information on the relative size of different transfer modalities and related targets; and clearly linking the programme's theory of change to its envisioned results.</p>		
CRITERION 3: EVALUATION RATIONALE, OBJECTIVES, AND SCOPE	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
<p>The report provides a clear and complete overview of the evaluation purpose, objectives of accountability and learning, and scope. Human rights and gender equality considerations are reflected as part of the evaluation's learning objective.</p>		
CRITERION 4: METHODOLOGY	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
<p>The evaluation's approach and mixed methods of data collection and analysis are clearly described and were appropriate for answering the evaluation questions. Data collection included consultations with a variety of stakeholders including many beneficiaries. The evaluation addressed gender equality and equity dimensions through dedicated questions, and it included an evaluability assessment. Evaluation activities were carried out in alignment with relevant ethical standards and took gender and human rights considerations into account. The evaluation could have been further strengthened by providing additional information on how it used the programme's theory of change.</p>		

CRITERION 5: FINDINGS	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The report addresses all evaluation questions and sub-questions in a structured fashion. It presents evidence transparently and clearly, provides sources for most data and quotes, and uses a neutral tone. Findings triangulate the voices of different stakeholders, including of youth in beneficiary communities, and reflect on both positive and negative unanticipated effects of programme implementation. The report could have been strengthened by providing clearer answers to specific evaluation questions, and from more explicitly comparing planned and actual performance against targets. The report could have also discussed more explicitly the extent to which evidence validated the programme's theory of change and progress towards programme objectives resulted from the work of other actors.</p>		
CRITERION 6: CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS	Rating	Partly Satisfactory
<p>The conclusions connect findings across evaluation criteria and questions and provide several forward-looking insights that can be useful for accountability and decision making. They include gender equality and equity related considerations. Also, the report formulates several lessons that have the potential to contribute to wider learning within WFP and the other implementing organizations. The conclusions could have been further improved by providing a more balanced synthesis of not only programme weaknesses but also strengths; omitting micro-level detail and focusing on overarching insights; and ensuring that they fully reflected the evidence presented in the findings.</p>		
CRITERION 7: RECOMMENDATIONS	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The evaluation makes nine recommendations, most of which are relevant, realistic, actionable, prioritized, include a timeframe for action and identify responsible actors. Most recommendations logically derive from the evaluation findings and conclusions, and cover most of the identified areas for improvement. Two recommendations address gender equality and equity considerations. The recommendations could have been strengthened by: (i) including suggestions for future phases of the programme to be based on solid baseline data; (ii) clearly basing recommendations for future programme design to an analysis of the current programme's theory of change and validity of its underlying assumptions; (iii) ensuring that all recommendations fully consider possible constraints within the UN agencies' contexts; and (iv) categorizing more than one recommendation as 'medium' rather than 'high' priority.</p>		
CRITERION 8: ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The report follows the WFP template for evaluation reports and includes all mandated annexes. It uses clear, professional language and visual aids like maps, graphs, tables, textboxes, and photographs. It would have been strengthened by ensuring that data sources for each table are identified; employing more cross-references to avoid repetition of the same information in different sections; using even more tables to avoid long narrative sections; visually highlighting all direct quotes to separate them from analytical paragraphs; and ensuring that the report fully complies with WFP editorial guidelines and is free from errors. The Annexes should have been shortened and listed in the order that they are referenced in the main report.</p>		
<p>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</p>		
UN-SWAP EPI – individual evaluation score	Meets requirements: 8 points	
<p>GEWE considerations are well integrated into the report. The chosen mixed-method approach and evaluation methodology were based on deliberate considerations on how to effectively integrate GEWE. The evaluation matrix includes sub-questions and indicators on gender. The evaluation drew upon a variety of data sources and processes, thereby facilitating inclusion, accuracy, and credibility. Findings include reflections on GEWE dimensions, and two of nine recommendations address gender equality issues. Ethical standards were consistently considered, and all stakeholder groups treated with respect for confidentiality and integrity. The report comments on the availability of monitoring data but could have been more explicit in terms of commenting on the implications of noted data gaps for assessing programme contributions to gender quality and broader inclusion results.</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>