

Evaluation title	Evaluation of WFP's Contribution to Market Systems in South Sudan and Bangladesh 2018 to 2022	
Evaluation category and type	Decentralized - Thematic	
Post Hoc Quality Assessment (PHQA) – overall rating	Highly satisfactory: 92%	
<p>The evaluation of WFP's Contribution to Market Systems in South Sudan and Bangladesh 2018 to 2022 provides credible and useful findings that can be used with a high degree of confidence for decision making. The report is professionally written, accessible, and follows the WFP template for decentralized evaluations. A good overview is provided on key aspects of the Bangladesh and South Sudan contexts, as well as on the market development activities (MDAs) under review. The report effectively outlines the objectives of the evaluation, including analysis of gender equality and women empowerment (GEWE) and inclusion dimensions, as well as its main users, although information could have been added on stakeholders. The methodology adopted by the evaluation is a sound mix of conceptual and analytical approaches and, as such, allowed for all evaluation questions to be answered. Findings are generally presented in a transparent manner, balance the positive and negative features of the MDAs' performance, and provide a good analysis of their contribution to results. Conclusions are balanced and reflect GEWE and inclusion aspects, although they could have more consistently identified implications of the findings for the future of the MDAs. Some lessons learned are incorrectly formulated as findings or recommendations. Recommendations appear to be feasible and address GEWE issues, although their linkages with findings and conclusions could have been better articulated in the report.</p>		
CRITERION 1: REPORT SUMMARY	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The report summary presents key evaluation findings which are clearly organized around the evaluation criteria. Conclusions and recommendations are also presented in a concise manner. However, the summary could have included relevant information on evaluation stakeholders (beyond users). The conclusions could have been articulated around the three main themes (as in the main report), while ensuring that they capture GEWE-related issues. Lessons learned could have been framed better, and recommendations could have been improved by adding information on targeting and timeframe.</p>		
CRITERION 2: CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW OF EVALUATION SUBJECT	Rating	Highly satisfactory
<p>Key elements of the contexts of Bangladesh and South Sudan are discussed, including population dynamics, poverty, inequality, food and nutrition security, climate change and natural disasters, social protection systems, efforts to promote sustainable economic growth, and GEWE. Moreover, a good overview of the MDAs implemented in Bangladesh and South Sudan is provided, which includes information on key characteristics (such as CBT portfolio and theory of change). The overview could have been improved by discussing how the MDAs addressed gender, equity and wider inclusion dimensions and by presenting budget figures of the interventions by outcomes.</p>		
CRITERION 3: EVALUATION RATIONALE, OBJECTIVES, AND SCOPE	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The report effectively outlines the aim and dual objective (accountability and learning) of the evaluation, as well as its main users, but information on evaluation stakeholders (beyond users) is missing. The temporal, geographic and programmatic scope of the evaluation is clearly discussed.</p>		
CRITERION 4: METHODOLOGY	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
<p>The report outlines the evaluation methodology, which is grounded in a sound mix of conceptual and analytical approaches and draws on qualitative and quantitative data collection methods. The sampling approach is described and it focuses on how to include a diversity of stakeholders affected by the MDAs, including vulnerable and marginalized groups, such as women and persons with disability. The evaluation matrix shows the main evaluation questions, clear data sources, methods of analysis and specific questions on GEWE aspects. The report could have elaborated on the rationale for some changes to the evaluation questions from those in the evaluation terms of reference.</p>		

CRITERION 5: FINDINGS	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
<p>Evaluation findings provide answers to all evaluation questions and are presented in a transparent manner, balancing the positive and negative features of the MDAs' performance in Bangladesh and South Sudan. The report provides a good analysis of WFP's contribution to results through the implementation of MDAs, the main factors affecting performance, as well as unanticipated effects of the MDAs. The findings triangulate the voices of different social groups that were consulted in the evaluation, including WFP teams in Bangladesh and South Sudan, other development partners, and representatives of civil society organizations (including women's representatives for refugees, beneficiaries of MDAs, etc.). The presentation of findings could have been improved by referencing the quotes from informants in the text.</p>		
CRITERION 6: CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>Evaluation conclusions are balanced, reflect GEWE and inclusion aspects, and do not introduce information that is not discussed in the findings. However, conclusions do not consistently identify implications for the future of the MDAs. Finally, some of the findings or recommendations in the report should have been framed as lessons.</p>		
CRITERION 7: RECOMMENDATIONS	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>Evaluation recommendations appear to be feasible, sensitive to context, and are realistic. Moreover, they assign responsibilities to specific WFP teams and/or units and identify contributing entities. Finally, recommendations address GEWE issues, are categorized by priority (high, medium) and include a clear timeline for action. However, the logical links among the six recommendations, findings and conclusions could have been better articulated in the report.</p>		
CRITERION 8: ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The report follows the WFP template for decentralized evaluations, reads well, uses professional style, and has all requested lists. A combination of tables and figures is used to aid readers visualize content and to complement information presented in the narrative. In the findings section, key messages are presented in text boxes, bold or using different colors. However, the content of the main report could have been streamlined to meet WFP maximum length requirements.</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	
UN-SWAP EPI – individual evaluation score	Meets requirements: 9 points
<p>GEWE and inclusion dimensions are mainstreamed in the evaluation framework, notably through their inclusion as one of the evaluation analytical dimensions. The mixed-methods approach enabled to collect and analyze GEWE-related data, as reflected in the evaluation matrix. The findings triangulate the voices of different social groups that were consulted in the evaluation and recommendations address GEWE-related aspects. Unintended effects of MDAs related to gender and inclusion are reported.</p>	

Post Hoc Quality Assessment – Rating scale and definitions at overall report and criteria levels	
Highly Satisfactory	<p><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.</p> <p><i>Definition at criterion level:</i> The criterion is addressed without any gaps or limitations.</p>
Satisfactory	<p><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.</p> <p><i>Definition at criterion level:</i> There are no significant gaps or limitations in addressing the criterion.</p>
Partly Satisfactory	<p><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.</p> <p><i>Definition at criterion level:</i> There are some significant gaps or limitations in addressing the criterion.</p>
Unsatisfactory	<p><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.</p> <p><i>Definition at criterion level:</i> There are critical gaps or limitations in addressing the criterion. Most of the required parameters are not met.</p>