

Evaluation title	Evaluation of the Lesotho WFP Country Strategic Plan 2019-2024	
Evaluation category and type	Centralized - CSPE	
Post Hoc Quality Assessment (PHQA) – overall rating	Highly Satisfactory: 98%	
<p>The evaluation of the Lesotho WFP Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2019-2024 constitutes a highly satisfactory report that users can rely on with a high degree of confidence. It clearly outlines the evaluation purpose, rationale, and methodology, as well as the evaluation context and subject. It also presents clear, evidence-based findings on all the evaluation questions and sub-questions drawing on a range of primary and secondary sources and collection methods, including extensive consultations with WFP staff, partners, and beneficiaries. It clearly relates findings to the CSP's reconstructed theory of change. Gender equality, equity and inclusion dimensions are consistently mainstreamed. The report formulates well-crafted conclusions that synthesize the presented findings across evaluation questions and point to strategic implications for the future CSP. It puts forward relevant, targeted, and actionable recommendations that strike a good balance between being specific and leaving users space to adjust their implementation. It uses clear, understandable language that is free of jargon and makes good use of visual aids such as tables and figures. The report's primary weakness is its considerable length, which limits its readability.</p>		
CRITERION 1: REPORT SUMMARY	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
<p>The summary report provides a clear, concise, and useful summary of the evaluation. It captures relevant evaluation features, and information on the evaluation context and subject, effectively summarizes the main evaluation findings and conclusions, and accurately presents the evaluation's recommendations.</p>		
CRITERION 2: CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW OF EVALUATION SUBJECT	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
<p>The report provides a detailed overview of contextual dimensions relevant to the evaluation and draws upon reliable sources with recent data on key indicators. Further, it presents a comprehensive overview of the evaluation subject, including the evolution of WFP Lesotho's strategic objectives and activities during the review period, the CSP budget and budget revisions, beneficiaries, and the CSP's results framework and reconstructed theory of change.</p>		
CRITERION 3: EVALUATION RATIONALE, OBJECTIVES, AND SCOPE	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
<p>The report clearly describes the evaluation's rationale, objectives, and scope. Gender equality considerations is mainstreamed in the overarching objectives. The report could have benefited from explicitly stating the evaluation's dual objectives of accountability and learning.</p>		
CRITERION 4: METHODOLOGY	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
<p>The evaluation's mixed method design and theory-based approach were appropriate for answering the evaluation questions. The evaluation drew upon a variety of quantitative and qualitative data sources, which facilitated triangulation and enhanced validity of findings. The evaluation made meaningful use of the reconstructed theory of change for the CSP and of a framework on organizational readiness to assess WFP contributions to country capacity strengthening. The report could have been further strengthened by explicitly commenting on the extent to which WFP collected sufficient information on results indicators to measure progress on human rights, gender equality, equity and inclusion during implementation.</p>		
CRITERION 5: FINDINGS	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
<p>The evaluation addresses all the evaluation questions and sub-questions in a clear and structured fashion. Supporting evidence is presented transparently and clearly, providing sources for all presented data and quotes, and using a neutral tone. The report discusses WFP contributions to results in a fair and nuanced way, accounting for contextual factors,</p>		

including the COVID pandemic. The report reflects the voices of different stakeholder groups from both inside and outside of WFP and reflects a diversity of views.

CRITERION 6: CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
---	---------------	---------------------

The conclusions section provides a good practice example of how to effectively synthesize evaluation findings across evaluation questions and across CSP strategic objectives. They point to strategic implications for the future of the CSP and reflect both strengths and weaknesses of the CSP and its implementation. The conclusions do not introduce any new information not presented in the findings.

CRITERION 7: RECOMMENDATIONS	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
-------------------------------------	---------------	---------------------

The evaluation makes six 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 gender equality and women empowerment (GEWE) and broader equity and inclusion dimensions in future CSP design and implementation. It would have been for the report to explain the approach to categorizing, prioritizing and assigning deadlines of the recommendations.

CRITERION 8: ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY	Rating	Satisfactory
---	---------------	--------------

The report follows the WFP template for CSPE and includes all the mandated annexes. It is written in clear, understandable, precise, and professional language and makes good use of visual aids including graphs, tables, and bold blue font to highlight key findings. The report provides sources for all data and quotes and effectively uses cross-references within the main report and in relation to annexes. The report considerably exceeds the recommended word limit for CSPEs, and its readability could have benefited from reducing overall report length, e.g., by omitting some descriptive detail or by merging some findings and shortening their supporting evidence. Similarly, readability and thus usability of the Annexes might have benefited from remaining within the recommended word limit. The report could have ensured that all Annexes are listed in the order that they appear in the main report.

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
--	------------------------------

GEWE considerations are well integrated into the report. The evaluation matrix includes a question on gender. The evaluation drew upon a variety of data sources and processes, thereby facilitating inclusion, accuracy, and credibility. Findings and conclusions include reflections on GEWE and broader equity and inclusion dimensions, including on unanticipated effects on gender equality. Ethical standards were consistently considered, and stakeholders treated with respect for confidentiality and integrity in the evaluation process. Recommendations also include reflections on GEWE dimensions. However, the report could have provided more information on the availability of monitoring data on GEWE indicators to inform the methodological design.

Post Hoc Quality Assessment – Rating scale and definitions at overall report and criteria levels	
Highly Satisfactory	<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.
Satisfactory	<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.
Partly Satisfactory	<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.
Unsatisfactory	<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.