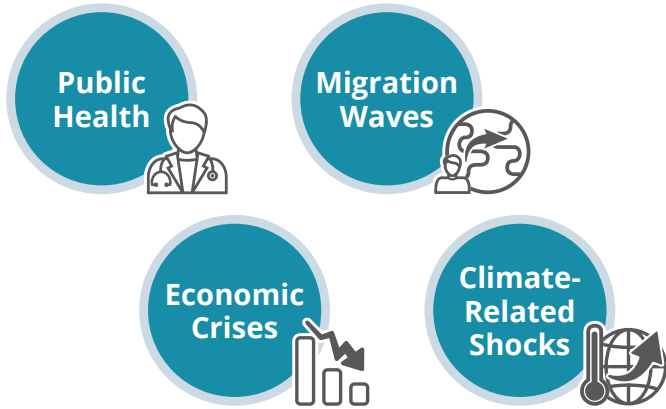
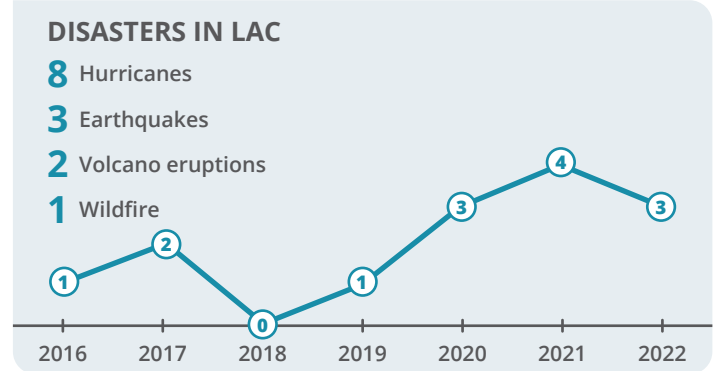


Flexible Systems-Effective Responses? Regional Evaluation of WFP's Contribution to Shock-Responsive Social Protection in Latin America and The Caribbean (2015-2022)

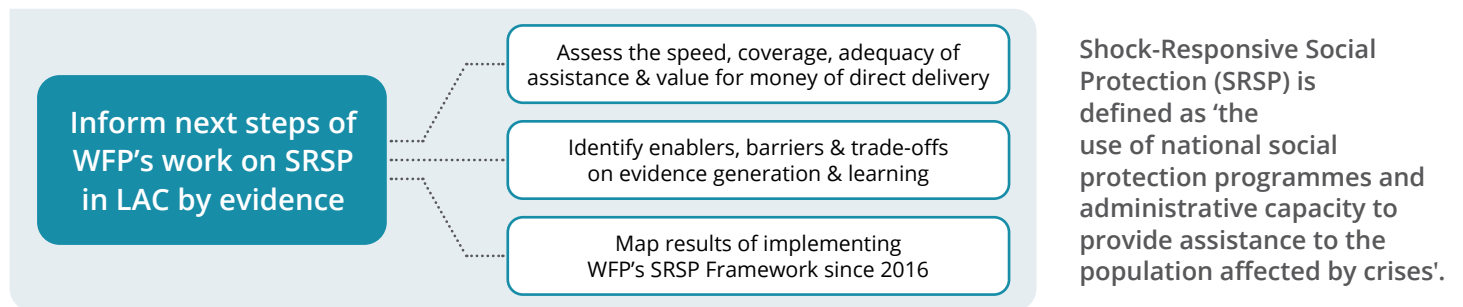
Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) is characterized by significant socio-economic disparities and exposure to various shocks



LAC is one of the regions that is the most vulnerable to climate-related and other disasters

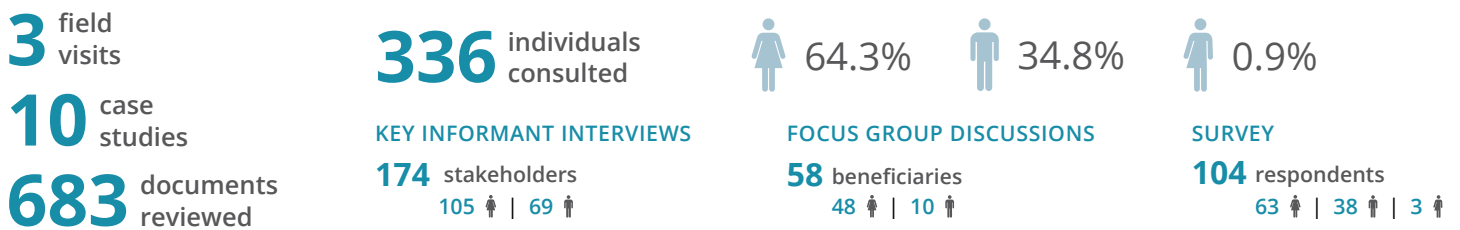


EVALUATION RATIONALE AND USE



Evaluation covers WFP's Shock-Responsive Social Protection work in Latin America and the Caribbean from 2015 to 2022

DATA COLLECTION METHODS



CONCLUSIONS

Results, Challenges and Opportunities: WFP's engagement in Shock-Responsive Social Protection in the region has positively impacted coverage, transparency, and financial inclusion, leveraging its comparative advantages and good practices such as collaboration with sub-regional bodies. Challenges include varying government engagement and internal factors like staff turnover. Opportunities lie in advocating for national budget allocations for social protection and innovative financing models.

Harmonizing Shock-Responsive Social Protection Strategies: While there is alignment between the Regional and Corporate Social Protection Strategies, the term 'Shock-Responsive Social Protection' exists in parallel with other appellations and need to contextualize the terminology was identified. The region's pioneering role has influenced the corporate approach and positioned WFP as a key actor, but there is room for enhanced cross-regional learning.

Evidence-based leadership, relationship-building and coordination: WFP's evidence generation and advocacy efforts have raised awareness about social protection, leading to improved coordination with governments. However, there's a growing demand for stronger coordination to foster synergies and avoid duplication.

Organizational adaptability and capacity strengthening: WFP has increased resources for Shock-Responsive Social Protection activities, demonstrating adaptability. However, initial strategic reliance on short-term contracts has limitations, and moving forward an appropriate staffing mix is crucial for retention and financial sustainability.

Integration of gender and inclusion towards enhanced effectiveness: WFP's Shock-Responsive Social Protection engagement has expanded coverage and inclusivity, but improvements are needed in systematically including affected groups like persons with disabilities. Effective communication with beneficiaries and collaboration with other organizations were identified as a good practice to do so.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WFP

1. Strengthen structured platforms for knowledge-sharing and exchange internally and externally alongside with providing technical assistance to strengthen social protection systems in less advanced regions.
2. Continue positioning WFP as a key partner to national governments with respect to SRSP, contributing to coordination, evidence generation and capacity strengthening strategies development.
3. Continue generating robust evidence on WFP's engagement in strengthening social protection systems and contribute to enhancing the monitoring and evaluation capacities of these systems.
4. Continue with internal and external capacity development on SRSP as part of the broader capacity strengthening efforts on social protection, including training partnerships with academia, South-South cooperation, and conferences.
5. Continue to expand evidence generation and investments in disaster risk financing, where it is relevant, to contribute to sustainable financing models of response to shocks through strengthened social protection.
6. Continue exploring opportunities in supporting governments in digitalization processes to improve social protection systems with the emphasis on registries, monitoring, payment and delivery systems.
7. Seize the opportunity when assisting governments in strengthening social protection systems and emergency preparedness and ensure that WFP also contributes to enhancing inclusion, gender-sensitivity and potentially their transformative attributes.