

Evaluation title	Evaluation of Local and Regional Food Procurement Pilot Programmes in Eastern Africa (2021-2023)	
Evaluation category and type	Decentralized	
Post Hoc Quality Assessment (PHQA) - overall rating	Satisfactory: 82%	
<p>The Evaluation of Local and Regional Food Procurement Pilot Programmes in Eastern Africa (2021-2023) constitutes a satisfactory report that decision makers can use with confidence. It succinctly and clearly outlines the evaluation's purpose, rationale, methodology, and context. Using both primary and secondary data, the report delivers evidence-based findings on all evaluation questions, integrating gender and inclusion considerations. Conclusions are well-synthesized, discussing strategic implications and inform six targeted recommendations that logically flow from them. The report is professionally written, logically structured, and uses visual aids effectively. Its readability could have been enhanced, however, as the report exceeds the word limit, and presents missing words and grammatical issues. The description of the evaluation subject could have benefited from a clearer summary of which CO activities and approaches were part of the evaluated pilot programmes, and from clearer information on funding sources. Some of the findings could have been strengthened by explicitly linking them to their underlying evidence and clearly distinguishing them from generalized conclusions or recommendations. Also, the report might have benefited from commenting on whether the pilot programmes addressed recommendations from previous evaluations, shortening the recommendations section, and including references to all appendices in the main report. The methodology section could have been improved by stating how the programme's theory of change informed the evaluation questions, data collection and analysis.</p>		
CRITERION 1: REPORT SUMMARY	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The executive summary briefly captures key evaluation and contextual features, clearly summarizes the main evaluation findings and supporting evidence, presents a summary of the evaluation conclusions, and includes the evaluation recommendations. It could have been strengthened by including information on the methods of data collection, and from reflecting findings on gender equality and inclusion.</p>		
CRITERION 2: CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW OF EVALUATION SUBJECT	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The report provides clear information on the regional and country contexts relevant to the three pilot countries. The context section could have been improved by using consistent indicators for contextual information on the three pilot countries, discussing key features of other international assistance in the region, and providing an overview of relevant policies or strategies. The report also provides relevant details of the evaluation subject, including the role of local and regional food procurement within WFP's food security work. It would have been helpful for the report to provide further details on how WFP used analytical work, including previous evaluations, to design the policy and pilot initiatives. It should also have included more specific information of gender and wider inclusion dimensions of the subject.</p>		
CRITERION 3: EVALUATION RATIONALE, OBJECTIVES, AND SCOPE	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The report clearly identifies the evaluation's dual objectives of accountability and learning, including mainstreaming of gender equality and human rights dimensions, and fully defines the evaluation scope. It could have been further strengthened by explicitly noting why the evaluation took place at that moment.</p>		
CRITERION 4: METHODOLOGY	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
<p>The report clearly describes the evaluation's mixed methods design, which employed a hybrid approach of combining outcome mapping with a rigorous assessment of procurement, programmatic, and organizational processes. The design, methods of data collection, data sources and sampling frame were appropriate for answering the evaluation questions in an unbiased way. The report comments on the extent to which relevant monitoring data (including on gender equality) were available and describes methodological limitations and related mitigation strategies. The evaluation considered</p>		

<p>ethical standards throughout the evaluation process. However, the evaluation matrix should have included the main evaluation questions in addition to the sub-questions.</p>		
CRITERION 5: FINDINGS	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The evaluation clearly and systematically addressed all evaluation questions and sub-questions. The report transparently presents supporting evidence, provides sources for most presented data and quotes, and uses a neutral tone. The report discusses WFP contributions to results in a fair and nuanced way and reflects the voices of diverse stakeholder groups from inside and outside of WFP. In some cases, the report would have benefited from stating more clearly the evidence that evaluative judgments were based on, and further unpacking how interventions under the pilot programmes contributed to results. The report could have also commented on the extent to which the evaluation subject addressed recommendations from previous evaluations.</p>		
CRITERION 6: CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
<p>The conclusions effectively synthesize evaluation findings across evaluation questions and reflect on the strategic implications of these findings for WFP's future work around local and regional procurement. The conclusions reflect both strengths and weaknesses of the pilot programmes and include reflections on GEWE and broader inclusion dimensions. They could have benefited from expanding insights on WFP institutional support for policy rollout and discussing the role of the Global Commodity Management Facility for funding local procurement activities.</p>		
CRITERION 7: RECOMMENDATIONS	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The evaluation makes six relevant, realistic, and actionable recommendations that are prioritized and identify a timeframe for action and responsible actors. The recommendations logically derive from the evaluation findings and conclusions. They include suggestions for how to improve the integration of GEWE and inclusion considerations in future local procurement work. The report could have benefited from presenting the recommendations more synthetically, with some of them being more specific, and slightly less prescriptive.</p>		
CRITERION 8: ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The report follows the WFP template for evaluation reports and includes all the required annexes and lists. It is generally written in clear and professional language and makes good use of visual aids such as tables and figures. It provides sources for all data and quotes. However, the report contains multiple errors such as missing words or incorrect grammar. It also could have been strengthened by using more cross references to point readers to other parts of the report where the same or similar topics are discussed, and to point readers to more of the included Annexes. Also, it might have been helpful to reference textboxes in accompanying paragraphs to clarify their purpose. Additionally, the report is significantly longer than the recommended word limit.</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>The evaluation approach and mixed-methods methodology, which drew upon a variety of data sources and processes, were gender-responsive and based on deliberate considerations on how to integrate GEWE dimensions in data collection and analysis. The evaluation matrix includes a dedicated sub-question on GEWE, and the report comments on the availability of monitoring data on GEWE-relevant indicators. Ethical standards were consistently considered, and all stakeholder groups treated with respect for confidentiality and integrity. Evaluation findings, conclusions, and recommendations reflect GEWE and broader inclusion considerations. However, the report could have been strengthened by explicitly commenting on how gaps in gender equality and women's empowerment-related data informed the choice of methodology and on including on including in the findings any information on unanticipated effects on human rights and gender equality.</p>		

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.