Evaluation title	Mid-Term Evaluation of WFP's Strategic Plan 2022– 2025
Evaluation category and type	Centralized - Strategic
Post Hoc Quality Assessment (PHQA) - overall rating	Satisfactory: 86%

The Mid-Term Evaluation of WFP's Strategic Plan 2022–2025 constitutes a satisfactory report that decision-makers can use with confidence. It concisely summarizes the evaluation purpose, rationale and methodology, and presents information on relevant external and internal contextual developments during the evaluation period as well as on the evaluation subject. Gender equality was mainstreamed into the evaluation's broader objectives of accountability and learning. The report presents clearly formulated findings on all evaluation questions and sub-questions, drawing upon a variety of relevant primary and secondary data. It formulates conclusions that synthesize key findings across the evaluation questions and indicate key areas for improvement. It also provides four main recommendations that are supported by realistic and actionable sub-recommendations. The report is written in clear and understandable language and makes good use of figures and visually highlighted main findings. The report could have been further strengthened by explicitly commenting on the assessment of monitoring data and explaining how this informed the choice of methodology; better differentiating, where feasible, the voices of different stakeholder groups when presenting the findings; and providing more nuanced reflections on gender equality and women's empowerment issues in the discussion of the context and subject.

CRITERION 1: REPORT SUMMARY

Rating

Satisfactory

The Summary provides a concise overview of key evaluation features, the context, and the evaluation subject. It effectively summarizes key findings and conclusions, and includes all recommendations as presented in the main report. Clarity of the Summary might have benefited from mentioning evaluation stakeholders and intended users, structuring the findings along the four main evaluation questions, and, in the conclusions, referencing insights on WFP's cross-cutting priorities, including gender equality.

CRITERION 2: CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW OF EVALUATION SUBJECT

Rating

Satisfactory

The report provides a comprehensive summary of relevant developments in the external and internal contexts and provides helpful information on the Strategic Plan (SP) as the evaluation subject. These areas could have benefited from more nuanced reflections on gender equality and women's empowerment, equity, and inclusion issues. The description of the evaluation subject could also have included information on the SP budget, noting whether it demonstrated a shift in WFP's strategic direction compared to the previous strategic plan, and summarizing key insights deriving from relevant previous evaluations.

CRITERION 3: EVALUATION RATIONALE, OBJECTIVES, AND SCOPE

Rating

Satisfactory

The report clearly states the evaluation's emphasis on learning, as well as its rationale and purpose, and the period covered. Human rights and gender equality were effectively mainstreamed. The report could have benefited from explicitly stating the evaluation's dual objectives of accountability and learning, detailing the intended evaluation users and including information on the dimensions of the Strategic Plan that were covered.

CRITERION 4: METHODOLOGY

Rating

Satisfactory

The evaluation used an appropriate mixed-methods approach combining theory-based and developmental elements to answer the evaluation questions. It drew upon diverse data sources and methods of data collection and analysis. The report explains how the evaluation addressed gender equality and broader inclusion issues, and notes limitations and related mitigation strategies applied. The evaluation adhered to ethical standards and ensured stakeholder confidentiality. The report could have been strengthened by providing an assessment on the availability and quality of monitoring data and explaining how the findings from it informed the choice of methodology. It could also have included

methods of data analysis in the evaluation matrix and articulated one or more dedicated evaluation (sub-)questions on gender equality and/or broader inclusion and equity dimensions.

CRITERION 5: FINDINGS Rating Satisfactory

The evaluation addresses the evaluation questions and sub-questions in a clear and structured fashion. Evidence is presented transparently and clearly, providing sources for all data and quotes and using a neutral tone. The report reflects the voices of diverse stakeholder groups and mentions unanticipated effects of Strategic Plan design and implementation. The report could have been further strengthened, in selected cases, by contrasting the views of men and women and/or providing gender-disaggregated data. Also, it could have commented on whether Strategic Plan design and implementation had unanticipated effects on human rights and gender equality.

CRITERION 6: CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS

Rating

Highly Satisfactory

The conclusions provide a high-level synthesis across the evaluation questions and identify several strategic implications for WFP decision making. Most conclusions clearly identify strategic implications deriving from the findings. The conclusions include reflections on gender equality and wider equity considerations.

CRITERION 7: RECOMMENDATIONS

Rating

Satisfactory

Recommendations are actionable and realistic and logically from findings and conclusions. They are internally consistent, targeted, specific and actionable. However, they could have reflected gender equality dimensions more effectively. It might also have been helpful had the report prioritized/categorized the recommendations or explained why this was deemed unnecessary.

CRITERION 8: ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY

Rating

Highly Satisfactory

The report is written in clear and understandable language and makes effective use of cross-references within the report and of figures to complement narrative information. It makes good use of shaded textboxes to present key findings for individual sub-questions, and summary findings for each main evaluation question. Annexes include almost all the required elements and both the main report, and the annexes meet WFP requirements on length. The report could have been further strengthened by ensuring that references to Annexes are correctly labelled.

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: 7 points

GEWE considerations are well integrated into the report. The methodology, sampling and data collection tools were adequate for generating appropriate data for the analysis, although the evaluation matrix could have benefited from including a dedicated evaluation (sub-)question on gender, and from assessing whether sufficient monitoring data on gender and human rights had been collected. Findings include reflections on gender dimensions and triangulate the voices of different social role groups. The report could have benefited, however, from further nuancing the presented evidence in some cases to reflect the respective perspectives of men and women, and from mentioning whether Strategic Plan implementation had any unintended effects on gender equality. The report's context section could have been strengthened by providing a more pronounced intersectional analysis of different social role groups' vulnerabilities. The report could also have benefited from explicitly mentioning gender equality in the recommendations, for example as part of an existing sub-recommendation on WFP cross-cutting priorities.

POST HOC QUALITY ASSESSMENT OF WFP EVALUATIONS

Post Hoc Quality Assessment – Rating scale and definitions at overall report and criteria levels	
Highly Satisfactory	<u>Definition at overall report level</u> : 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.
	<u>Definition at criterion level</u> : The criterion is addressed without any gaps or limitations.
Satisfactory	<u>Definition at overall report level</u> : Evaluation users can rely on the quality and credible evaluation findings provided and can use it with confidence for decision-making.
	<u>Definition at criterion level</u> : There are no significant gaps or limitations in addressing the criterion.
Partly Satisfactory	<u>Definition at overall report level</u> : 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.
	<u>Definition at criterion level</u> : There are some significant gaps or limitations in addressing the criterion.
Unsatisfactory	<u>Definition at overall report level</u> : 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.
	<u>Definition at criterion level</u> : There are critical gaps or limitations in addressing the criterion. Most of the required parameters are not met.