

Evaluation title	Évaluation du Plan stratégique de pays du PAM Mali 2020-2024	
Evaluation category and type	Centralized - CSPE	
Post Hoc Quality Assessment (PHQA) – overall rating	Satisfactory: 84%	
<p>The <i>Évaluation du Plan stratégique de pays du PAM Mali (2020-2024)</i> is a high-quality report that observes WFP requirements and can effectively be used to inform decision-making. The report presents a good overview of the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) and relevant contextual aspects. It includes a clear statement on the rationale/purpose of the evaluation, clearly identifying a range of primary and secondary users. The methodological design, data collection methods, and data sources are relevant and enabled the evaluation questions to be answered. The report presents both positive and negative findings in a balanced way. It identifies weaknesses and strengths of the CSP supported by evidence from a variety of sources. The findings clearly assess WFP's delivery of outputs and contributions to outcomes. The recommendations are realistic and feasible, consider the implementation context and potential limitations, and are specific and actionable, focusing on areas where the WFP can realistically make improvements. However, the report could have been improved in a few respects. The findings section should have more clearly distinguished between indirect and unintended effects of the interventions. Additionally, the linkages between the evaluation findings, conclusions, and recommendations should have been made more explicit. Finally, the methodology should have included a fuller description of the sampling frame and proved mitigation strategies for all limitations identified.</p>		
CRITERION 1: REPORT SUMMARY	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
<p>The report summary correctly highlights the key evaluation findings, conclusions, and summary recommendations. It contains the evaluation rationale, objectives, scope as well as the stakeholders and users. It also includes a good overview of the evaluation methodology and its main findings. The evaluation conclusions are clearly summarized, and the evaluation recommendations are presented exactly as they appear in the main report.</p>		
CRITERION 2: CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW OF EVALUATION SUBJECT	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The report presents a good overview of the Malian context and the CSP. It includes information on the food and nutrition security context and uses the IPC map to illustrate the severity of food insecurity in different regions of the country. The section also presents recent data and trends related to key issues under both SDG 2 and SDG 17. The strategic focus of the CSP and its objectives are clearly described, together with the intervention logic, key assumptions, planned activities, beneficiary numbers, expected results, and budget figures by outcomes. Transfer modalities planned or used for each activity are presented along with the gender and equity dimensions of the CSP, particularly related to food security and nutrition issues. However, more attention could have been paid to intersectionality related to the most vulnerable groups.</p>		
CRITERION 3: EVALUATION RATIONALE, OBJECTIVES, AND SCOPE	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The evaluation objectives of accountability and learning are clearly outlined, together with the primary and secondary users. Human rights and gender equality considerations were integrated into the assessment of the CSP's performance. The evaluation scope, including time, target groups, and specific activities covered, are clearly outlined. The evaluation users and stakeholders could have been narrowed down to include the most relevant.</p>		
CRITERION 4: METHODOLOGY	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The methodological design, data collection methods, and data sources are relevant and enabled the evaluation questions to be answered. The report outlines various data sources and processes used to ensure the voices of men, women, boys, and girls were heard. Ethical standards are also discussed. However, the report could have been strengthened by including a more robust discussion around the sampling frame. Both limitations and mitigation strategies should have been fully presented in the main report beyond the annexes.</p>		

CRITERION 5: FINDINGS	Rating	Satisfactory
<p>The report presents positive and negative findings in a balanced way. It identifies weaknesses and strengths of the CSP based on evidence obtained from a variety of sources. Findings are presented for each of the main evaluation questions and all sub-questions. However, the report does not adequately differentiate or discuss the difference between 'indirect' and 'unintended' effects of the interventions both in the main report and the evaluation matrix in annex.</p>		
CRITERION 6: CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS	Rating	Partly Satisfactory
<p>The report presents conclusions that are balanced and connect findings across different evaluation criteria/questions. They reflect positive and negative aspects of the CSP, wider equity and inclusion dimensions, and, to some extent, GEWE-related aspects. They also comment on the validity of the logic of the CSP and its key assumptions, identifying causal linkages to national development goals and SDGs. On the other hand, the report could have been strengthened by presenting conclusion statements more clearly. More importantly, it should have included the conclusions in the mapping of conclusions to findings and recommendations to allow the reader to understand the logical flow and connection between these different elements more effectively.</p>		
CRITERION 7: RECOMMENDATIONS	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
<p>The evaluation recommendations are realistic and feasible and consider the implementation context and potential limitations. They are specific and actionable, focusing on areas where the WFP can realistically make improvements, such as strengthening the integration of activities, improving planning, and enhancing partnerships. They address GEWE issues and priorities for action, while also considering broader equity and inclusion dimensions.</p>		
CRITERION 8: ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY	Rating	Highly Satisfactory
<p>The evaluation report generally observes the WFP template for CSPEs and includes all the required elements and lists. It effectively and consistently provides sources for all data presented and data sources are explicitly mentioned and duly quoted. The report is reader friendly with key messages captured using bold and colour boxes. However, it should have been further copy edited to improve readability.</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: 7 points	
<p>The report highlights that the CSP monitoring system effectively collected sex-disaggregated data, allowing for an analysis of gender-specific outcomes. While the evaluation did not have a dedicated objective solely focused on human rights and gender equality, these aspects were integrated into the assessment of the CSP's performance and the identification of lessons learned. These considerations were incorporated into the evaluation framework. The evaluation used a mixed-methods approach that included gender-related data collection and analysis. The report outlines various data sources and processes to ensure the voices of men, women, boys, and girls were heard. Ethical standards are duly discussed, and the evaluation was conducted in accordance with the UNEG Ethical Guidelines and Ethical Code of Conduct. Although the report primarily focuses on the general population and those affected by food insecurity, with some mentions of specific groups such as women, children, and displaced populations, it does not delve into the intersectionality of these groups and how multiple factors might compound their vulnerability. The report's approach to triangulation and disaggregation of data allows for a more nuanced and comprehensive understanding of WFP's interventions in Mali. While the report explicitly identifies some unintended results of CSP interventions, both positive and negative, it does not explicitly discuss any unintended results relating to human rights or gender equality. The report presents recommendations that address GEWE issues and priorities for action.</p>		

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