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| Evaluation title | Evaluación del plan estratégico para Cuba (2021-2024) | |
| Evaluation category and type | Centralized -Country Strategic Plan Evaluation (CSPE) | |
| Post Hoc Quality Assessment (PHQA) – overall rating | Highly Satisfactory: 96% | |
| <p>The Evaluation of the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) for Cuba (2021-2024) is a high-quality document that can be used with high degree of confidence to inform decision-making. It describes the strategic objectives of the CSP and includes the original theory of change (ToC) identifying the CSP's expected outputs, outcomes, and cross-cutting results. The report presents a relevant methodological approach and includes an evaluation matrix with the necessary components. While the evaluation does not have a specific objective solely focused on human rights and gender equality, these considerations are effectively mainstreamed across its broader objectives and throughout the evaluation process. The findings demonstrate a commitment to impartiality and transparency. They are presented in a balanced way, identifying strengths and weaknesses. All the main evaluation questions and sub-questions are addressed without inconsistencies supported by adequate evidence. Similarly, gaps in the evidence base or omissions are explained, and the report demonstrates transparency in acknowledging limitations and addressing inconclusive evidence, enhancing its credibility and validity. Conclusions connect findings across different evaluation criteria and questions, serving as a valuable tool for strategic decision-making. The recommendations are realistic and feasible, consider contextual factors and WFP constraints, and are internally consistent. They are grounded in the evaluation's findings and conclusions, providing practical and achievable suggestions for improvement.</p> | | |
| CRITERION 1: REPORT SUMMARY | Rating | Satisfactory |
| <p>The summary highlights the key evaluation findings, conclusions, and recommendations. The findings are clearly summarized and organized according to the main evaluation questions. Conclusions logically flow from the findings. The recommendations presented in a table that replicates those presented in the main report.</p> | | |
| CRITERION 2: CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW OF EVALUATION SUBJECT | Rating | Highly Satisfactory |
| <p>The context section includes relevant information on multiple aspects of food and nutrition security. It presents recent data and trends about key issues under SDGs 2 and 17. The report includes an overview of the Country Office's analytical work that informed the design of the strategic plan. It presents the causal logic of the intervention through the reconstruction of the theory of change of the CSP. The overview specifies the transfer modalities planned and used for each activity. It also shows the evolution of the CSP due to internal and external factors, which are clearly illustrated.</p> | | |
| CRITERION 3: EVALUATION RATIONALE, OBJECTIVES, AND SCOPE | Rating | Satisfactory |
| <p>The report clearly states that the objectives of the evaluation are to learn about WFP's performance in Cuba and to provide accountability to WFP stakeholders. The report also identifies the purpose, intended audience and scope of the evaluation. On the other hand, it would have been useful to specify that the objectives of accountability and learning had equal weight in the evaluation. The report could also have been strengthened by explicitly explaining how the evaluation will be used by the main users.</p> | | |
| CRITERION 4: METHODOLOGY | Rating | Highly Satisfactory |
| <p>The report includes an assessment of monitoring data and a discussion around the way it informed the evaluation methodology. The evaluation used a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis methods. The evaluation drew on a variety of data sources that are clearly outlined. The report demonstrates transparency in acknowledging methodological limitations and outlines the strategies employed to mitigate these limitations.</p> | | |

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| CRITERION 5: FINDINGS | Rating | Highly Satisfactory |
| <p>The evaluation findings are presented in a balanced way, identifying strengths and weaknesses and making explicit use of evidence to support them. Findings are presented for each of the main evaluation questions and addresses the sub-questions without inconsistencies. Gaps in the evidence base or omissions are explained and the report demonstrates transparency in acknowledging limitations and addressing inconclusive evidence. The section effectively articulates the contributions of WFP interventions toward outcome-level results. The evaluation demonstrates a commitment to inclusivity and gender-sensitive analysis by actively triangulating the voices of diverse stakeholder groups and disaggregating quantitative data to report on gender, equity, and broader inclusion dimensions.</p> | | |
| CRITERION 6: CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS | Rating | Highly Satisfactory |
| <p>Conclusions connect findings across different evaluation criteria and questions and serve as a valuable tool for accountability and strategic decision-making. Conclusions are substantiated by the findings and flow logically from them. Conclusions of the CSPE for Cuba effectively comment on the intervention logic of the CSP and its key assumptions, highlighting the causal linkages to national development goals and the relevant SDGs. The evaluation appropriately identifies several lessons that can inform WFP's work in other contexts, particularly in middle-income countries. On the other hand, the importance of knowledge transfer and capacity building for the sustainability of the CSP's interventions could have been better captured.</p> | | |
| CRITERION 7: RECOMMENDATIONS | Rating | Highly Satisfactory |
| <p>The recommendations are clear, aligned to the evaluation purpose, and they logically derive from the findings and conclusions. They are realistic and feasible, consider contextual factors and WFP constraints, and are internally consistent. Recommendations provide practical and achievable suggestions for improvement. All five recommendations are targeted, specific, and responsible actors are clearly identified. However, recommendations could have been strengthened by providing greater specificity to enhance their clarity.</p> | | |
| CRITERION 8: ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY | Rating | Highly Satisfactory |
| <p>The report follows the WFP template and uses clear, precise, and professional language. Technical jargon is minimal, and there are limited grammatical or spelling errors. The report provides sources for data and quotes. Similarly, the report signposts relevant information using a variety of methods to direct the reader to relevant information, including cross-referencing to other sections of the report. All mandatory annexes are included.</p> | | |

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| 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: 9 points | |
| <p>The report acknowledges limitations in the availability and quality of monitoring data, particularly in relation to human rights, gender equality, and inclusion noting that data on these dimensions is often not disaggregated or is collected inconsistently. While the evaluation does not have a specific objective solely focused on human rights and gender equality, these considerations are effectively mainstreamed across its broader objectives and throughout the evaluation process. The data collection methods employed were appropriate for evaluating GEWE considerations, including a range of data sources and processes that addressed the diversity of stakeholders affected by the intervention. The evaluation demonstrates a commitment to inclusivity and gender-sensitive analysis by actively triangulating the voices of diverse stakeholder groups and disaggregating quantitative data to report on gender, equity, and broader inclusion dimensions. In terms of unintended effects of CSP activities, the report states the short food supply chain model contributed to the empowerment of women in agriculture, with evidence of women taking on leadership roles and transforming gender dynamics within farming communities. The report provides recommendations and sub-elements that address GEWE issues and priorities for action to improve GEWE in the CSP or future initiatives.</p> | | |

| Post Hoc Quality Assessment – Rating scale and definitions at overall report and criteria levels | |
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| 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. |