2011

WFP OFFICE OF EVALUATION

Evaluation Terms of Reference

wfp.org

Summary Terms of Reference Somalia: an evaluation of WFP's portfolio 2006-2010

Country Portfolio Evaluations (CPE) cover the entirety of WFP activities during a specific period. They evaluate the performance and results of the portfolio as a whole and provide evaluative insights to make evidence-based decisions about positioning WFP in a country and about strategic partnerships, programme design, and implementation. CPEs help Country Offices in the preparation of Country Strategies and provide lessons that can be used in the design of new operations.

Subject and Focus of the Evaluation

In Somalia, WFP provides vital humanitarian assistance for over two million people each year and, in terms of size and scale, is a major part of WFP's global humanitarian efforts. General food distribution remains the major component of this effort and the WFP Country Office and cooperating partners face considerable risks in implementing operations, targeted at those populations most in need, throughout the country. Since the last WFP Office of Evaluation (OE)-led evaluation in 2005/6, the WFP Somalia operations have increased substantially in scale. The complementary increase in partnerships, logistics, coordination and security has come with an increased demand for risk management, strategic decision-making, and engagement with transitional government and non-government actors. This CPE thus comes at an important and relevant time in the evolution of WFP operations in Somalia. In addition, this CPE is timed to provide findings and recommendations for the design of a new WFP Somalia operation (EMOP or PRRO) in late 2012.

Objectives and Users of the Evaluation

This evaluation serves the dual objectives of accountability and learning. As such, the evaluation will:

- assess and report on the performance and results of the country portfolio in line with the WFP mandate and in response to humanitarian challenges in Somalia (accountability); and
- determine the reasons for observed success/failure and draw lessons from experience to produce evidence-based findings to allow the CO to make informed strategic decisions about positioning itself in Somalia, form strategic partnerships, and improve operations design and implementation whenever possible (learning).

Key Evaluation Questions

Question one: What has been the strategic alignment of the WFP portfolio, including the extent to which:

- its main objectives and related activities have been in line with Somalia's humanitarian and developmental needs;
- its objectives and strategies have been aligned with international good practice in humanitarian response;
- its objectives and strategies have been aligned with and supportive of those of the TFG, other state actors, and international good practices for non-state providers (NSP) working in conflict and fragile states;
- its objectives and strategies have been coherent with those of relevant humanitarian partners operating in Somalia?

Question two: What have been the *factors driving strategic decision-making*, including the extent to which the WFP:

- has analysed the national hunger, food security and nutrition issues, or used existing analyses to understand the key hunger challenges in the country;
- has developed and implemented appropriate monitoring and evaluation systems with which to make evidence-based and strategic decisions;

- has made appropriate risk management decisions in responding to the scale of humanitarian need and the security and partnership risks;
- has been driven by external factors to make operational decisions, and to what extent this has affected the overall performance and results?

Question three: What have been the performance and results of the WFP portfolio including:

- the performance and results of the food security and nutrition activities against the standard Development Assistance Committee (DAC) evaluation criteria (relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability);
- the performance and results of the food security and nutrition activities against two expanded DAC evaluation criteria in humanitarian operations (connectedness and coverage)?

Scope and Methodology

The country portfolio evaluation covers the 2006 – 2010 period of the WFP operations in Somalia, picking up where the prior 2006 evaluation finished, and all relevant operational and analytic work therein. In light of the strategic nature of the evaluation, it is not the intent to evaluate each operation individually but to focus broadly on the portfolio as a whole. The evaluation thus focuses on questions of alignment with humanitarian needs, priorities and good practices, strategic and operational decision making, and overall results and performance. The main technical areas of the evaluation focus will be food security, nutrition, humanitarian relief and response, monitoring and evaluation, and WFP's work with state and non-state actors.

Roles and Responsibilities

Evaluation Team: Tango International Inc.

OE Evaluation Manager: Ross Smith

Communications

The final evaluation will be presented to WFP's Executive Board, along with the official management response to key recommendations. Thereafter it will be posted on WFP's internet, both internally and externally, and incorporated into the Office of Evaluation's annual report. In addition, appropriate dissemination products, such as summarized presentations, lessons learned briefs, and other products will be produced.

Timing and Key Milestones

Inception Phase: September – December 2011

Fieldwork Dates: January – February 2012

Briefings: February 2012

Reports: April – May 2012

Findings will be actively disseminated and the final evaluation report will be publicly available on WFP's website.

Full Terms of Reference are available at http://www.wfp.org/evaluation as are all Evaluation Reports and Management Responses.

For more information please contact the WFP Office of Evaluation at:
WFP.evaluation@wfp.org