

Evaluation Terms of Reference



SUMMARY TERMS OF REFERENCE 2012 Nutrition Policy Evaluation

Policy Evaluations focus on a WFP policy, arrangements and activities for implementation. They evaluate the quality of the policy, its results, and seek to explain why and how these results occurred.

Subject and scope of the Evaluation

The 2012 Policy presents WFP's vision for its contribution to the global movement on nutrition and defines a policy framework for doing so. The Policy framework focuses on five areas:

Nutrition-specific intervention:

1. Treating Moderate Acute Malnutrition;
2. Preventing Acute malnutrition;
3. Preventing Chronic Malnutrition;
4. Addressing Micronutrient Deficiencies; and

Nutrition-sensitive intervention:

5. Strengthening the focus on nutrition in programmes without a primary nutrition objective.

The evaluation will cover the 2012-2014 period and will take into account the enabling environment and dynamic context. While the primary focus will be on WFP nutrition-specific interventions i.e. the first four areas of the Policy framework, the evaluation will also consider whether the Policy has influenced approaches to WFP activities without a direct nutrition objective i.e. Policy area 5.

Objectives, Rationale and main Users of the Evaluation

Serving the dual objectives of accountability and learning, this evaluation will assess and report on the quality and initial results of the Nutrition Policy and associated implementation activities ; as well as determine the reasons why certain changes occurred or not, intended to draw lessons for WFP's future policy and guidance, considering the highly dynamic environment for nutrition, particularly at the global level.

At the time of its approval, the Board requested an evaluation of the 2012 Policy, for completion in 2015. The extent of results plausibly associated with the Policy may be expected to be affected by this earlier than normal timing, as compared with that embedded into WFP's Policy Formulation process, which requires evaluation of Policies between 4-6 years following approval.

WFP's Nutrition Services (OSZAN and OSN) will be key participants and main intended users of this evaluation. WFP Senior Management, at HQ and field levels, and the Executive Board also have a strong strategic interest in the evaluation's conclusions and recommendations.

Key Evaluation Questions

The evaluation will address the following three key questions:

Question 1: What is the quality of the Policy? The evaluation will assess the Policy against international good practice for design, coherence with policies in comparator organizations, and relevance to context.

Question 2: What are the initial results of the Policy? The evaluation will collect information and data on the initial results that can plausibly be associated with the Policy statement and mechanisms to implement it.

Question 3: What were the factors that affected the implementation and initial results of the Policy? Why and how the Policy produced the initial results that have been observed.

Methodology

The evaluation will be theory-based, and use a mixed method design. Derived from key policy documentation and stakeholder discussion during Inception, a theory of change to identify the policy's intended results pathways and key assumptions for testing, will inform the evaluation framework.

Alongside other key documents including those of comparator organisations and major international initiatives such as the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement, WFP's three earlier (2004) nutrition policies will serve as reference points for review of policy quality, coherence and evolution in WFP's approach to nutrition.

Document review, secondary data analysis and interviews will be the main form of data collection, and a number of in- depth country desk studies will be undertaken, impartially selected by the evaluation team during the inception phase.

The evaluation will also build on the evidence and information accumulated by WFP's Policy Division since 2012. In addition, the evaluation will utilize the findings of relevant assessments, reviews, decentralised and central evaluations with a WFP nutrition component or a strategic focus related to WFP nutrition.

The evaluation will use appropriate internationally agreed evaluation criteria and ensure that relevant gender issues are incorporated in the evaluation design, process and reporting.

Roles and Responsibilities

Evaluation Team: The evaluation will be conducted by a team of independent consultants. The team will be multidisciplinary with a strong evaluation background and expertise with WFP nutrition programming and with the global nutrition's partnership environment. The contracted consulting firm is *Mokoro Ltd*.

OEV Evaluation Manager: The evaluation is managed by the WFP Office of Evaluation (OEV) with Mrs. Diane Prioux de Baudimont as the Evaluation Manager.

Stakeholders: WFP stakeholders at country, regional and headquarters are expected to engage with the evaluation process as required e.g.

discuss the Policy and its implementation arrangements with the team, provide relevant documentation, facilitate the evaluation team's contact with partners, take part in the Inception Mission and debriefing, and comment in a constructive manner on the draft evaluation report. In particular, the WFP's Nutrition Services (OSN and OSZAN) will be key participants.

Communications

The Internal Reference Group (IRG) - composed of the six Regional Nutrition Advisors and representatives of pertinent HQ's divisions and units - will be asked to be substantially involved at key stages throughout the evaluation process. Based on the team's initial analysis, draft evaluation findings and recommendations will be presented and discussed during a debriefing.

The final summary evaluation report will be presented to the WFP Executive Board, and publicly available on WFP's site.

Timing and Key Milestones

Inception Phase & Document Review: Jan-Feb 2015 (HQ Inception Mission 13-16 January)

Data Collection : March-April 2015

Debriefing : April 2015

Reporting : April-July 2015

WFP Executive Board: November 2015

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