

OPERATION EVALUATION

Kyrgyz Republic, Development project, 200662,
Support to national productive safety nets and
longer-term community resilience: An evaluation of
WFP's Operation (2014-2016) **Management
Response**

[September, 2016]



World Food Programme

Management response cleared by:

Country Director: Ram Saravanamuttu/ 4th September 2016

Section 2: Detailed responses to evaluation recommendations

Evaluation Recommendations	Management	Management - Action to be taken			
	Accepted, partially accepted or not accepted and COMMENT on the Recommendation, providing clear reasoning for partially accepted and not accepted	Action	Responsible CO unit	Timeframe	Further funding required (Y or N)
Recommendation 1: By the end of January 2017, the CO, with the MoLSD and other relevant ministries as required, should develop a capacity development plan that identifies the intended outcomes of the national capacity technical assistance component.	Accepted	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> CO will conduct a follow-up exercise to the National Capacity Index (NCI – completed July 2015) during the period of November 2016 - February 2017, which will be used to formulate a DEV 200662 Capacity Development (CD) plan. The results of NCI and CD activities implemented during the period of DEV 200662 (June 2014 – December 2017) will feed into the formulation of a new Country Strategic Plan (CSP) for 2018-2022 including CD plan as part of the CSP. This will also take into account any activities identified during the Government’s national strategy review processes, the UN Common Country Assessment (CCA) and UNDAF formulation, which is planned during the period of October 2016 – February 2017. The RBC and external expertise would be used to support the development of the CD activity as required. 	CO Policy unit,	a. 28 February 2017	N

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Recommendation 2: Within the context of a new Country Programme (CP) (from January 2018), the CO should incorporate project activities and School Meals Programme activities under a single resilience framework that will highlight the strategic safety net and social protection links between the projects.	Accepted	3. The CO is planning the formulation of a CSP from September 2016 until February 2017. This process will include a review of potential future activities and the design of a single resilience framework that takes into account synergies between activities such as productive safety nets and school meals optimization. Potential activities identified during October 2016 - February 2017 will be included for implementation under the operational plan of the CSP from 2018-2022, subject to the funding availability.	DCD	a. 28 February 2017	Y
Recommendation 3: Although the CO has already done extensive work in the social protection sector and in programme monitoring, the WFP CO should consider building their human resource capacity in these two areas in order to be in a better position to bring SMP and PSNP under a single framework for the next CP.	Accepted	4. The WFP CO will conduct training, including ILO social protection modules to build the capacity of relevant CO staff in social protection. The CO will engage in regional and corporate level training. The CO training plan for 2016 and 2017 will include the above-mentioned items. 5. During the 3 rd quarter of 2016, the WFP CO, jointly with the National Institute for Strategic Studies of the Kyrgyz Republic, will design an M&E system for productive safety nets, with a focus on social protection using external expertise as required. The exercise will also serve as an on-the-job training exercise for relevant WFP staff to enhance their knowledge and skills on social protection. 6. The WFP CO, through an MOU signed with the University of Eastern Finland The MOU will be used to deliver learning to	DEV 200662 Programme Unit	a. 31 December 2017	N

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		build WFP's internal staff capacity. The implementation of this activity is planned during 2017.			
Recommendation 4: By the end of January 2017, the CO, with the MoLSD, should develop an action plan to ensure the elaborated policies and strategies related to rural development, disaster risk management, social protection, and climate change adaptation are operationalized at local levels.	Accepted	7. WFP, jointly with Ministry of Labor and Social Development, will convene a mid-term meeting at the provincial level during November 2016 to: a) Review mid-term achievements by province; b) Map challenges, identify risks and prepare necessary follow-up actions and risk mitigation measures; c) Conduct training and awareness raising for project level committees on the WFP DEV 200662 project. This will allow for presentation of project objectives and national level policies and strategies on DRM, Social Protection, Rural Development and Climate Change with a view to further developing linkages between field level interventions and national level strategies and policies.	DEV 200662 Programme unit	a. 30 November 2016	N
Recommendation 5: By the end of January 2017, the activities under the DRM, rural development and CCA pillars should continue in their current form while the CO, with support from RB and/or external expertise as necessary, considers enhancing project contributions to social protection by developing a more systematic and focused	Accepted	8. The DEV 200662 project will conduct an annual round of consultations and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) in target sub-districts (Ayil Okmotus) during November 2016-January 2017. This exercise will ensure that WFP projected activities are in line with local level plans for the year 2017. The emphasis will be on the prioritization of livelihood activities, jointly with local self-governance bodies, using a landscape approach and ensuring the availability of local level co-financing from local level development plans.	DEV 200662 Programme Unit	a. 31 January 2017 b. 31 December 2017	N Y

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prioritization of social protection elements.					
Recommendation 6: By the end of 2017, the CO should work on ensuring systematic options for households without labour capacity to participate in community FFA/FFT activities. This should be done in parallel with continuing to advocate for increase social assistance from the Government for these groups.	Accepted	<p>9. Field level consultations and preparation of plans for 2017 in target areas will include an assessment of potential activities targeting households with limited or no labor capacity. The same planning exercise will include a call for proposals from project committees for interventions targeting these groups.</p> <p>10. In August 2016, WFP jointly with MLSD, supported the establishment of an “Advisory Board to support vulnerable and poor households to improve socio-economic conditions” under the chair of the Prime Minister. Key objectives of this Board are to:</p> <p>a) Improve coordination between various government institutions, ministries, and to better coordinate poverty reduction efforts including between Government, donors and the UN;</p> <p>b) Ensure that sufficient funds are allocated for poverty reduction efforts from the national budget;</p> <p>c) Provide policy and strategy advice to central Government. WFP jointly with MLSD will use this platform to lobby for an expansion of assistance, including short-term training opportunities, as part of the additional social assistance provided by the Government</p>	DEV 200662 Programme Unit	<p>a. 31 January 2017</p> <p>b. 31December 2017</p>	<p>N</p> <p>N</p>

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		WFP will be using this platform to lobby to enhance systematic approach towards support to households without labor capacity			
Recommendation 7: By the end of 2017, the CO should continue to seek out opportunities to implement cash-based interventions and other non-food based support, including seeking financial support from donors.	Accepted	<p>11. The WFP CO has received new donor contributions, which will fully cover the Cash-based Transfer (CBT) requirements under the DEV 200662.</p> <p>12. The WFP CO, jointly with MLSD, have prepared a funding proposal and are seeking donor support in order to be able to provide additional non-food support in areas targeted under DEV 200662.</p> <p>13. WFP, jointly with MLSD, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Education and Agrarian University of the Kyrgyz Republic, has signed a MoU to provide on-farm and off-farm short-term courses to poor and vulnerable households, including WFP beneficiaries to increase and diversify income source opportunities</p>	<p>DEV 200662 Programme Unit</p> <p>DEV 200662 Programme Unit</p>	a. 31 December 2017	<p>N</p> <p>Y</p>
Recommendation 8: By the end of 2017, the CO, with its cooperating partners and the MoLSD, should develop an implementation plan that ensures increased community engagement, especially by women, in project planning, management and decision-making.	Accepted	14. WFP, jointly with MLSD, will propose to the Inter-ministerial Working Group (IMWG) of Dev 200662 to review the current design to increase the number of community representatives from poor and vulnerable households, in particular women, in the work of "Project committees" (PC) at the sub-district level, thus improving the engagement of community members in project selection,	DEV 200662 Programme Unit	a. 31 December 2017	N

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		design, implementation and monitoring. Implementation plan will be designed and implemented.			
Recommendation 9: By the end of 2017, given the success of the project in developing outcome monitoring frameworks, the CO and RB should collaborate to showcase these learnings for strengthening the monitoring of similar projects in other countries.	Accepted	15. As part of ongoing exchanges between the CO and the RB, a further review of productive safety nets approaches, which WFP and Government are implementing under DEV 20662 during October/November 2016, which will support documentation of approaches for potential dissemination to other countries as required.	DEV 200662 Programme Unit	a. 30 November 2016	N