

# **Philippines**

## **Improvement Plan**

**Thematic window: Children, Food Security & Nutrition**

**Programme Title: Ensuring Food Security for Children 0-24 months old in the Philippines**

Evaluation Recommendation No. 1						
The MDG-F should consider separating the JP Inception Phase from the project cycle						
<b>Response from the Joint Programme Management</b>						
The matter is best responded to by the MDG-F Secretariat.						
<b>Evaluation Recommendation No. 2</b>						
The UNRCO, in collaboration with UN agencies and national counterparts, should design a study to identify the key elements that contribute to and affect transaction costs, and how these can be effectively measured, monitored and reduced						
<b>Response from the Joint Programme Management</b>						
While action on this recommendation is lodged with the UNRCO, the JP is very willing to participate actively in this endeavor						
<b>Evaluation Recommendation No. 3</b>						
The JP should develop specific strategies and interventions to strengthen local-level information management systems						
<b>Response from the Joint Programme Management</b>						
Several activities of the JP already address this concern.						
Key actions	Time frame	Person responsible	Follow-up		Secretariat	
			Comments	Status	Comments	Status
3.1 Conduct workshop to assess local nutrition information system (Operation Timbang and on infant and young child feeding (IYCF)) and action lines for improvement	February	NNC DOH	This will be part of the overall effort of formulating the scheme for monitoring and evaluation of the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition 2011-2016			
3.2 Implement action lines for improvement	March – September	JP areas NNC				

3.3 Assess implementation of 3.2 and identify sustainability and scaling up strategies	October	JP areas NNC DOH				
3.4 Testing a monitoring and evaluation scheme for measuring exclusive breastfeeding	December 2011 to November 2012	WHO DOH				
3.5 Testing monitoring and evaluation scheme for measuring IYCF practices in both the formal and informal workplace	December 2011 to November 2012	ILO DOLE NAPC				
<b>Evaluation Recommendation No. 4</b>						
The JP should expand the practice of father's classes to all JP areas to enhance support and food security for lactating mothers and their infants						
<b>Response from the Joint Programme Management</b>						
The concern should go beyond conducting father's classes and should encompass gender inclusiveness in promoting optimum infant and young child feeding.						
Key actions	Time frame	Person responsible	Follow-up		Secretariat	
			Comments	Status	Comments	Status
4.1 Conduct gender analysis for MDG-F 2030 activities	January 2012	NTWG RTWG (with ILO as lead)				
4.2 Identify specific strategies to ensure gender inclusiveness in all JP activities	January – November 2012	NTWG RTWG (with ILO as lead)				
4.3 Implement the IYCF communication plan with a clear gender inclusiveness perspective	January – November 2012	DOH UNICEF WHO	The recently-formulated communication plan identifies a comprehensive set of primary, secondary, and tertiary targets and strategies			

			to reach these targets to enable them to participate meaningfully in promoting infant and young child feeding.			
<b>Evaluation Recommendation No. 5</b>						
The JP should design and undertake a targeted study to determine and recommend appropriate MNP dosage for the Philippines						
<b>Response from the Joint Programme Management</b>						
The JP decided to maintain the 60 sachet/6 months dosing, consistent with the recently-adopted government policy. However, the JP is assessing the more effective distribution strategy, i.e. one-time distribution of requirements for 6 months vs. staggered distribution.						
Key actions	Time frame	Person responsible	Follow-up		Secretariat	
			Comments	Status	Comments	Status
5.1 Conduct study on the distribution scheme	December 2011 to Nov 2012	WFP		WFP has engaged the services of Helen Keller International for the study, which will be conducted in a non-JP area. Study design has been finalized. Orientations of field partners have also been conducted. Distribution of MNP in study area will commence in January 2012		
5.3 Disseminate initial results of study	November 2012	PMU WFP	WFP will explore how the endline measurement could be done after six months of MNP distribution			

			since study objectives could be achieved without having to go through two cycles of distribution. This will enable the JP to formulate appropriate recommendation at the end of the project			
<b>Evaluation Recommendation No. 6</b>						
The JP in collaboration with partner UN agencies should continue to review and redraft of the JP indicators						
<b>Response from the Joint Programme Management</b>						
<p>While the JP recognizes the importance of the recommendation, particularly on the use of qualitative indicators, there is very little time left to set up systems for generating new indicators. However, related concerns will be included in the recommendations at the end of the project.</p> <p>Furthermore, in pursuing the JP outputs, there are efforts to ensure that JP outputs come closer to result to the outcomes. For instance, the training of peer counsellors does not stop in the training. Those trained are monitored to ensure that they are able to counsel targets effectively.</p>						
Key actions	Time frame	Person responsible	Follow-up		Secretariat	
			Comments	Status	Comments	Status
6.1 Review current indicators and include qualitative indicators that may have been overlooked during project formulation and in the MTE and identify recommendations on the appropriate comprehensive indicator system related to nutrition and IYCF in the terminal report						

<b>Evaluation Recommendation No. 7</b>						
The JP should develop a specific Exit Strategy that clearly defines what the JP will leave in place at the conclusion of the programme, including national capacities and fully tested process models for replication						
<b>Response from the Joint Programme Management</b>						
The formulation of the exit strategy had always been in the agenda of the JP.						
Key actions	Time frame	Person responsible	Follow-up		Secretariat	
			Comments	Status	Comments	Status
7.1 Formulate exit strategy	January 2012	NTWG RTWG				
7.2 Conduct "turn-over" ceremony with the President and LGUs	November 2012	NTWG	This activity is part of the communication and advocacy plan of the JP. The intent is to organize a forum during which tool and key lessons learned in JP implementation will be shared to LGUs. The President's presence will also be requested. While the activity is scheduled for November 2012, preparations will begin in January 2012, to include the identification of 1) tools to be shared and 2) the system for generating good practices in the use of these tools and in implementing JP components.			