

Executive Feedback

Title of the evaluation	Evaluation of a Postnatal Home Visiting Program for mothers, neonates and their families in Gaza, State of Palestine, over the period 2011 – 2016
Sequence No	2018/003
Region	MENA
Office	State of Palestine
Coverage	State of Palestine
Evaluation Type	Programme
Year of Report	2018

OVERALL RATING



Highly Satisfactory

Exceeds UNICEF/UNEG standards for evaluation reports and decision makers may

Implications: use the evaluation with a high degree of confidence

SECTION A: BACKGROUND (weight 5%)



Highly Satisfactory

The report presents a complete description of the sociopolitical context in the SoP and it discusses how the particular conditions in which Palestinians live relate to the initiative. The object of the evaluation is clearly explained, and information such as time and location, current status of the programme, primary beneficiaries and their main characteristics and needs, etc, are duly discussed. Furthermore, the report provides an explanation of the the importance that the intervention has for UNICEF considering its involvement in the State of Palestine. Also, the report does a good job at presenting a recreated ToC which is clearly explained in a narrative format as well as through a graphic representation. Finally, main stakeholders and their respective roles and contributions, including those of UNICEF, are discussed in detail.

SECTION B: EVALUATION PURPOSE, OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE (weight 5%)



Highly Satisfactory

The purpose of the evaluation is described as documenting and assessing the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability of the PNHV programme as well as identifying good practices and areas for improvement to inform future programming. Also, primary and secondary intended users of the evaluation and how the information will be used are clearly stated. Similarly, the report presents a thorough description of the objectives and the scope of the evaluation both in chronological and geographic terms. Additionally, elements outside of the scope are also identified. Finally, the report addresses the rationale behind the decisions made regarding the scope of the evaluation.

SECTION C: EVALUATION METHODOLOGY (weight 15%)



Highly Satisfactory

The report does a good job at explaining the evaluation framework used, including the use of OECD/DAC standard criteria, and the inclusion of cross-cutting principles of Human Rights, gender equality, and equity. Also, the evaluation used a mixed-methods approach involving a desk review and qualitative and quantitative data; it explains the triangulation made among different levels of evidence; and provides a rationale for the sources of information and the sampling strategy used. The evaluation presents key evaluation questions and a detailed evaluation matrix with specific evaluation questions is presented in annex 2. The report also presents the limitations faced by the evaluation and provides a mitigation strategy in each case. Finally, the evaluation does a good job at discussing the obligations of the evaluators and the corresponding ethical safeguards for participants.

SECTION D: EVALUATION FINDINGS (weight 20%)



Highly Satisfactory

The report does a good job at presenting findings that follow the evaluation framework, respond to key evaluation questions, and are based on robust evidence. Furthermore, the evaluation addresses both positive and negative findings which are supported by several lines of evidence and a discussion is provided for causal factors that explain positive findings and challenges. The evaluation report makes reference to the initiative's M&E system and provides recommendations on the way this system could be improved in future programming. Finally, the evaluation does a good job at discussing in detail the occurrence of both unintended positive and negative effects and their consequences.

SECTION E: EVALUATION CONCLUSIONS & LESSONS LEARNED (weight 15%)



Highly Satisfactory

Conclusions present relevant information on the most important findings and they provide further insight and a deeper analysis of the evidence presented, including a description of the challenges that may arise in future programming. Also, lessons learned are correctly identified and clearly stated.

SECTION F: RECOMMENDATIONS (weight 15%)



Highly Satisfactory

The report presents recommendations that stem logically from the findings and conclusions. Recommendations are clearly stated and they clearly identify the target stakeholders in each case. Finally, the report describes the process followed in developing the recommendations and the way key stakeholders participated in this process (i.e. Steering Committee, regular consultations, stakeholder engagement in the reconstruction of the Theory of Change, etc).

SECTION G: EVALUATION STRUCTURE/PRESENTATION (weight 5%)



Satisfactory

The report presents the information in a clear fashion, with numbered sections and subsections and following the standard and logical order for an evaluation report, i.e. context is followed by the purpose and scope of the evaluation, which is then followed by findings, conclusions, lessons learned and recommendations. Both the opening pages and the annexes include all necessary elements in order to quickly grasp the most important information on the evaluation and complement the information in the core of the report. On the other hand, the report presents some typos and minor formatting mistakes.

SECTION H: EVALUATION PRINCIPLES (weight 15%)



Satisfactory

The evaluation does a good job at explicitly discussing the extent to which the initiative adopted a human-rights-based approach to programming, as well as at including gender equality and equity as cross-cutting issues in the evaluation. The report also refers to male involvement as being an essential part of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and provides a discussion around the best ways to include them in future initiatives. Furthermore, the report explains that special efforts were made in order to reach the most vulnerable mothers and neonates in Gaza. Similarly, the level of stakeholder involvement in the Steering committee as well as in the different stages of the evaluation is also addressed. Finally, the evaluation does a good job at mainstreaming GEEW throughout the evaluation.

SECTION I: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (weight 5%)



Satisfactory

The executive summary is thorough and provides a good understanding of the intervention. The executive summary also duly explains the methodology, main findings, and conclusions of the evaluation. All of the information included in the executive summary is developed in further detail in the core of the report. On the other hand, the executive summary is slightly long (8 pages).

Does the evaluation meet UN SWAP evaluation performance indicators?

8

Meets requirements

Recommendations for improvement

<p>Lessons for managing future evaluations:</p>	<p>This is a high quality evaluation report that observes good practices and can adequately inform end users about the PNHV programme in Gaza. It is based on a strong methodology and presents grounded findings, analytical conclusions and actionable recommendations. The report provides a particularly clear and thorough explanation of the evaluation process and the way stakeholders were involved in all stages of the evaluation.</p>
<p>Section A</p>	<p>This section observes good practices. No further improvement is required.</p>
<p>Section B</p>	<p>This section observes good practices. No further improvement is required.</p>
<p>Section C</p>	<p>This section observes good practices. No further improvement is required.</p>
<p>Section D</p>	<p>This section observes good practices. No further improvement is required.</p>
<p>Section E</p>	<p>This section observes good practices. No further improvement is required.</p>
<p>Section F</p>	<p>This section observes good practices. No further improvement is required.</p>

Section G

The structure of the report observes good practices. On the other hand, it is recommended that the entire report be edited for typos and minor formatting mistakes.

Section H

The evaluation does in general a good job at addressing the extent to which gender equality, human rights, and equity were included in the design of the intervention. Also, the evaluation shows a good understanding of the importance of gender equality for UNICEF. However, it may add value to the evaluation to include gender equality and equity as a stand-alone criterion in order to fully reflect the importance that these principles represent.

Section I

It is recommended that the executive summary be further synthesized to 4-5 pages in order to effectively and readily inform decision-makers about the intervention and the main elements of the evaluation.
