

Executive Feedback

Title of the evaluation	Evaluation of UNICEF Viet Nam Rural Sanitation and Hygiene Programme (RSHP) 2012 – 2016
Sequence No	2018/003
Region	EAPR
Office	Vietnam
Coverage	Vietnam

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 provides a good overview of the background. It sets the context to understand the WASH situation of the vulnerable populations that the programme sought to support, including relevant data about access to services and the state management system and policies within the context of a middle-income country. The situation of the public entities and population is also explained with data. The results expected per project and per program are included, along with the theory of change. The stakeholders involved are clearly defined and their roles very clearly described.

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



Highly Satisfactory

The evaluation states the reasons for conducting it and the objectives it seeks to achieve. It also develops in detail who are the intended users and how they will use the evaluation results (table 2.1. in page 28). The objectives are also described and the scope is clearly delimited in several dimensions in section 2.5.1 on page 29.

SECTION C: EVALUATION METHODOLOGY (weight 15%)



Highly Satisfactory

The report shows evidence of how the methodology section meets UNICEF's standards for a solid, trustable evaluation. Firstly, it reflects rich evaluation-specific knowledge, by describing a hybrid evaluation approach by merging several relevant frameworks. Secondly, by adding sector specific analytical frameworks such as the 'Social Norms Theory', it also demonstrates a good fit by customizing the design to the nature of the programme. The variety of methods and sources used also reinforces evidence of a solid data collection process. The report also describes methods for analysis, multiple mechanisms for quality assurance of the data (both internal and external) and full disclosure of ethical considerations and limitations faced (with their mitigation measures).

SECTION D: EVALUATION FINDINGS (weight 20%)



Highly Satisfactory

The finding section meet all requirements of a good quality report. It answers all of the evaluation questions, and even probes deeper beyond the question (example: it goes beyond the way the relevance question is asked and explores the relevance of the program in regards to multiple stakeholders' priorities). It includes the questions and summaries of the answers, and titles for most of the contents, which facilitates the reading and understanding of the section. It adds success cases and other qualitative and quantitative data to reinforce the messages.

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



Satisfactory

The conclusions gathered in the report come to summarize and give closure to the findings sections. They capture the final insights about each criterion and are appropriately derived from the findings. However, they are rather brief and some further analysis could reinforce the report. For example, regarding the Cross-cutting priorities, the report merely states on page 92: "The Programme approaches and interventions suggest coherence with the principles of equity, gender, resilience and HRBA", without further explanation or further development derived from the findings. The lessons learned are present and capture knowledge identified during the evaluation process.

SECTION F: RECOMMENDATIONS (weight 15%)



Satisfactory

The recommendations presented in the report suggest actionable ideas to move the program forward. The fact that they are clearly structured by subject, priority and implementation group greatly facilitates the implementation process. The process to elaborate them is also well explained and quite participatory, which increases their relevance. Finally, the connection with the conclusions and findings is implicit and could have been further specified.

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



Highly Satisfactory

The report is nicely packaged and uses a logical structure. Initial pages include introductory elements including title, country, names of evaluators, lists and acronyms. The list of annexes is very complete and informative and includes all recommendations on annexes within UNICEF's guidelines. The structure is easy to navigate and the use of colored fonts for different types of titles is helpful for the reader.

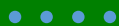
SECTION H: EVALUATION PRINCIPLES (weight 15%)



Satisfactory

Evidence demonstrates how the evaluation was sensitive to these cross-cutting question, putting gender equity and human rights at the centre of the design by choosing an HR-based approach. Participation in the evaluation was promoted amongst stakeholders thanks to the evaluation reference group that included UNICEF staff and public workers. Equity considerations in the design and implementation are discussed in section 3.6 (page 82). While gender equality is adequately integrated in to the evaluation design and methodology, gender is not discussed in the evaluation conclusions.

SECTION I: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (weight 5%)



Highly Satisfactory

The Executive Summary clearly presents the key messages from the evaluation. By including small titles to separate content, it follows the structure of the report, providing an overview of each element. The report presents the most critical elements (context, object, objectives, purpose, methodology, findings, conclusions and recommendations), while providing sufficient depth within each section. The report is easy to read and is presented in a way that makes it user-friendly.

Does the evaluation meet UN SWAP evaluation performance indicators?

6

Approaches requirements

Recommendations for improvement

Lessons for managing future evaluations:

This evaluation is based on a solid, constant display of evaluation competencies and a thorough compliance to UNICEF's good reporting guidelines, making the report excel in many of its sections. This being said, the conclusions could have been expanded and enriched to provide more analytical reflection. Additionally, the use of a gender analysis would have increased the report's sensitivity to gender equality.

Section A

This section reflects good practices and does not require improvement. However, the theory of change in figure 2.2. (page 25-26), while very comprehensive, uses very small font that hinders its comprehension. The figure could be presented in 3 pages to make it more readable.

Section B

This section reflects good practices. No further improvement is required.

Section C

This section reflects good practices. No further improvement is required.

Section D	This section reflects good practices. No further improvement is required. However, to increase the clarity of some of the tables, it is recommended to convert some of the multiple tables (example: table 3.8 in page 66) with data into graphs for better display of the evidence (such as figure 3.5. in page 76).
Section E	To improve the report, the conclusions section could have been further developed, both in length and in depth of analysis. This is particularly the case for conclusions regarding the cross-cutting questions that include many important issues regarding the evaluation approach and focus.
Section F	The recommendations sections could be strengthened by adding clear reference to the findings or conclusions originating each of them.
Section G	This section reflects good practices. No further improvement is required.
Section H	The report could strengthen its focus on GEEW by including GEEW-specific methods such as a Gender Analysis (https://www.betterevaluation.org/en/resource/tool/gender_analysis_tool) and by consecrating more space and a deeper analysis to the consequences of the findings in this area shown in the conclusions section.
Section I	This section reflects good practices. No further improvement is required.