

Field Report

End-Term Evaluation of WFP School-Feeding USDA Mc Govern Dole Grant for FY 2020-2023 in Bangladesh

Submitted to:

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Submitted by:



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Introduction

The task was to undertake field works for the end-line evaluation of WFP's School-Feeding USDA McGovern-Dole Grant for FY 2020-2023 in Bangladesh, led by Intellect Advisory Services Pvt Ltd (IASP).

The fieldwork involved both quantitative data and qualitative information collection. The data collection tools included structured questionnaires with different stakeholders (parents, school heads, teachers, storekeepers, and students) at the primary schools. The Early Grade Reading Assessment (EGRA) tool was administered to assess learning levels among children in Grade III. The Key Informant Interviews covered government officials and WFP staff. The assignment also included Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with mothers, students, and other community members.

Area Coverage:

- Treatment Area: Ukhia and Kutubdia Upazila, Cox's Bazar district
- Control Area: Ramu Upazila, Cox's Bazar district

The Field Personnel

The field personnel (enumerators, facilitators, and note-takers) were recruited from the local level to overcome the accessibility and language barrier. HDRC supervisors at Cox's Bazar District recruited the field personnel independently for each Upazila. The advantages of this strategy were:

- There was no language barrier between the field personnel and the respondents/discussants/key informants.
- The travel time to sampled primary schools was minimized, ensuring enough time to complete the survey activities.
- The local-level familiarization of the field personnel with the target respondents made access easier.
- The headmasters were much more flexible, allowing the field personnel to work around the school compound.

Training

Rigorous training on data collection was provided to the field personnel to gather qualitative data and quantitative information using structured questionnaires and FGD guidelines consecutively. The training took place between 13-16 September 2024 in multiple training venues at Global Training Center – Ukhia. Qualified and experienced trainers and experts from WFP and HDRC physically imparted the training while the NRMC team participated online. There were separate teams for structured questionnaires and discussion guidelines.

HDRC led the training sessions, and relevant NRMC staff joined through online platforms during the training sessions to provide support and any necessary clarifications. WFP experts were also present to add to the lectures and discussions. Classroom lectures, demonstrative interviews, role plays, data input and mock interviews utilizing electronic devices, evaluation of lessons learned, and proposed solutions were provided in the training sessions. Separate training sessions were held for the field supervisors, and audio and visual equipment were used in the training sessions. Training included MOCK interviews, tests, and field practice.



Training Schedule



Field Practice

The field practice covered four primary schools in Ukhia in consultation with the WFP team on 15 September 2024.

SL no	Name of School	Union	Upazila
1	Ruhullardeva Govt. Primary School	Ratnapalong	Ukhia
2	Poshchim Ratna Govt. Primary School	Ratnapalong	Ukhia
3	Moddho Rajapalong Govt. Primary School	Rajapalong	Ukhia
4	Kutupalong Govt. Primary School	Rajapalong	Ukhia

The field practice ensured that the questions were easily understandable and that necessary records were available at the schools. The field practice identified some inconsistencies with the skip rules that were corrected during the follow-up sessions. Also, the field practice helped to strategize the plan to complete the data collection in a school within school hours.

Questionnaire and Checklists

The structured survey questionnaires, FGD discussion, and KII guidelines were prepared before the training. Some minor revisions of the questionnaire and checklist were made based on field experience, keeping the original questions intact.

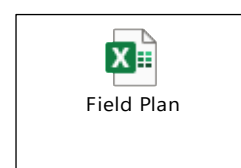
Updating the application

An XLSForm of the questionnaire to install in the KoBo was prepared, installed, and updated alongside the questionnaires. All the devices/tabs for data collection were also prepared before the training sessions. During the training session, the necessary corrections were made using the devices, and trouble/problems were fixed. The KoBo-collect was used accordingly to enhance the precision of data and smooth the data collection process.

Fieldwork

There were separate teams for structured interviews at schools and qualitative interviews and discussions. The fieldwork took place between 18 September 2024 and 1 October 2024.

School Survey Team: The school survey team was separate for each Upazila. In each Upazila, 4 enumerators completed the surveys in schools. The 4 enumerators were divided into groups of 2 to complete school survey activities in 2 schools daily in an upazila.



Qualitative (FGD) team: The qualitative team was divided into two teams, one for the treatment area and the other for the control area.

KIIs at the local level: The core team members and associates of HDRC completed the district and Upazila-level Key Informant Interviews. Also, they completed KIIs with the implementing partners (RIC and RtR)

The field teams were instructed to maintain the following activities:

- Submit a daily report on challenges found during the fieldwork;
- Each team shared daily updates on data collection through WhatsApp.
- Upload collected data from the school survey in the server every day after the finishing data collection and necessary checking of data; If unable to upload collected data at the end of the day due to any inconveniences, such as—internet connectivity problem, upload the data before starting the fieldwork on the following day.
- The FGD and KII teams prepared scripts daily.

Summary of Data and Information Collection

Table 1: Summary of School Survey

Quantitative (Structured questionnaires)	Details	Treatment		Control	Total
		Ukhia	Kutubdia	Ramu	
School	1 per school	18	12	20	50
Headmaster	1 per school	18	12	20	50
School Teacher	2 per school	36	24	40	100
Storekeepers (treatment schools only)	1 per school	18	12	-	30
Students	13 per school	234	156	260	650
Parents (of selected students)	5 per school	90	60	100	250
EGRA (Grade 3 students only)	14 per school	252	168	280	700

Table 2: Summary of FGDs

Qualitative- Focus Group Discussions (FGD)	Treatment	Control	Total
Mothers/Caregivers	6	4	10
School Management Committee	6	4	10
Students	6	4	10
Smallholder farmers	6	4	10
	24	16	40

Table 3: Summary of KIIs

SL	Name of Key Informant	Designation	Organization	Upazila
1	Muhammad Shahidul Azam	DPEO	DPEO, Cox's Bazar	-
2	Mokhter Ahmed	UEO	UEO, Ukhiya	Ukhiya
3	Moslem Uddin	UEO	UEO, Kutubdia	Kutubdia
4	Kh. Masudul Hasan	Sr. Literacy Program Officer	Room to Read	Ukhiya
5	Mizanur Rahman	Sr. Literacy Program Officer	Room to Read	Kutubdia
6	Jahidur Rahman	Project Coordinator	RIC	Ukhiya
7	Abdun Noor	Project Coordinator	RIC	Kutubdia
8	Helal Khan	Field Facilitator	FAO	Ukhiya
9	Mong Chong Pro	Field Facilitator	FAO	Kutubdia