

The Role of WNCB's Final Evaluation in MEAL

The final evaluation of the *Work: No Child's Business* (WNCB) programme serves as the culmination of a comprehensive MEAL (Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning) approach implemented over the five-year programme cycle. This evaluation builds upon a structured MEAL framework that integrated multiple methodologies to assess outcomes, adapt interventions, support continuous learning, and inform decision-making.

From the outset, the MEAL strategy adopted a multi-method approach. Outcome Harvesting was conducted throughout the programme, capturing annual reflections and contributing to ongoing learning. SenseMaker, applied at baseline, mid-term, and end-line, provided qualitative insights into community-level changes, while key performance indicators (KPIs) were systematically measured via household surveys and tracer studies. These efforts generated valuable data, leading to two external evaluations: the participative Mid-Term Review (MtR) and the Final Evaluation.

The Final Evaluation synthesizes these findings, offering a comprehensive assessment of the programme's effectiveness, sustainability, and lessons learned. It provides critical insights into the success of interventions and their adaptability over time. The MEAL Working Group (WG), comprising representatives from all Alliance partners, played a pivotal role in ensuring consistency and expertise retention, fostering an environment conducive to continuous MEAL adaptations.

Beyond evaluation, the MEAL framework also facilitated annual planning and reporting, ensuring alignment with programme goals. The documentation of success stories, lessons learned, and key recommendations, alongside the development of the WNCB knowledge centre (www.wncb.org), ensures that the insights gained extend beyond the programme's lifecycle, serving as a valuable resource for future initiatives combatting child labour. The Final Evaluation, therefore, not only marks the conclusion of the WNCB programme but also acts one of the key references for future policy and programme development in the fight against child labour.