



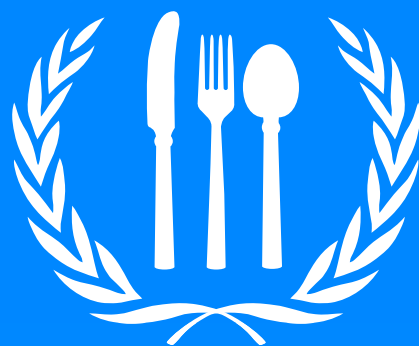
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Centre of  
Excellence  
against Hunger

# ANNUALREPORT | 2017





WFP/Arssalan Serra

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# HIGHLIGHTS







## HIGHLIGHTS Presentation

Throughout 2017, the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger has consolidated its position as partner of governments and other WFP offices in South-South cooperation initiatives aimed at eliminating hunger.

The WFP Centre contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals by providing partner countries with technical assistance and dialogue opportunities, using a multi-dimensional approach that includes school feeding, nutrition, smallholder agriculture, and social development.

Based on the results of its first impact evaluation, the WFP Centre of Excellence defined priorities to improve its actions. Deepening the technical support provided to the countries, including the elaboration and implementation of pilot projects, intensifying advocacy activities to influence the public agenda, and expanding research and technical knowledge dissemination initiatives marked the results of 2017.

Another highlight was the completion of the study about the situation of school feeding in Africa and its potential to promote sustainable development. The study was requested by the African Union, a partner of the WFP Centre of Excellence, and has been serving as a tool for the mobilization of governments and other stakeholders around the commitment to creating and implementing sustainable school feeding programmes.

## Impacts

The WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger has contributed to changing the understanding of governments in 30 countries about the potential of school feeding: in addition to providing food to children in schools, school feeding programmes are an inter-sectoral food and nutrition security policy, with multi-dimensional impacts. This was the highlight of the impact evaluation carried out to assess the first five years of the Centre of Excellence.

The impact evaluation covers the period from 2011 to 2016. The research focused on the impact of the Centre of Excellence's work on 28 countries receiving continued technical assistance. The research team conducted interviews with 66 national and international stakeholders.

### Results:

- The Centre of Excellence contributed significantly to the overall recognition of school feeding as a strategy to promote sustainable development
- The Centre of Excellence promoted the involvement of high-level government actors, which increased countries' commitment to school feeding
- The partnerships fostered by the Centre of Excellence helped strengthen technical skills crucial to the development of national school feeding policies linked to local agriculture.



## School Feeding in Africa

### Of those interviewed:

- 71% mentioned an increase in the purchase of food produced locally since the beginning of the partnership with the Centre, for use in school meals
- 100% considered that exchanges and capacity building activities are relevant and responsive to their needs
- 69% recognized the Centre's contribution to greater country autonomy in the design and implementation of school feeding policies and programmes.

The impact evaluation was carried out by a consortium of independent organizations, composed by the Centre for Studies and Articulation of South-South Cooperation and Move Social. Results were shared with partners and governments of countries receiving technical assistance from the WFP Centre of Excellence.

African Ministers of Education endorsed the report and findings of the African Union Study on School Feeding. The results of the study were presented during the Second Ordinary session of Africa Minister's Meeting on Education, Science and Technology, held on 21-23 October, in Cairo, Egypt. The study will be presented to Heads of State and Government during the January 2018 summit.

The study findings and recommendations were initially validated in May 2017 by member states and WFP school feeding practitioners. The preliminary results of the study were discussed with the 90 representatives of 25 African countries present at the III Regional Workshop in Home-Grown School Feeding in Nairobi, in May 2017. Comments and suggestions made by the audience, including state ministers from seven countries, were incorporated into the study's final version.

The home-grown school feeding model was seen to have multiple benefits for community development, social protection and employment creation, playing an important role in achieving SDG2, Zero Hunger.

The Ministers endorsed the report and the recommendations of the School Feeding Study and called for the allocation of budget for inter-ministerial Home-Grown School Feeding management units, as a means to strengthen the implementation of the findings of the study and the Decision of 2016. They also encouraged Member States to develop implementation plans based on the findings of the study, including strengthening local resourcing of school feeding and identification of cost-effective and more innovative local financing.

### The core set of recommendations of the African Union study:

1. Link school feeding programmes to international, continental and national development agendas.
2. Design and implement school feeding programmes to achieve cross-sectoral policy objectives.
3. Invest in and empower multi-sectoral response and coordination mechanisms.
4. Commit to developmental procurement strategies that exert a strong focus on increasing local production capacities.
5. Innovate financial arrangements by diversifying sources of financing for school feeding programmes and/or putting into place co-financing mechanisms.
6. Devote resources to stronger M&E systems and automate feedback processes to improve policy outcomes.
7. Deepen and learn from South-South and pan-African cooperation to optimise policy impacts.

The WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger, in collaboration with WFP Africa Office, carried out this study, after the African Union Commission Department of Human Resources, Science and Technology undertook a mission to explore the Brazilian experience on home-grown school feeding, as a means for promoting children's access, retention and quality of education. As a result of this study visit to Brazil, the AU Summit of January 2016 took a decision to undertake this school feeding study and established the Africa Day of School Feeding.





## Research

One of the key aspects of the South-South cooperation work developed by the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger is the dissemination of knowledge about different strategies adopted by countries to ensure the food and nutrition security of their populations.

The WFP Centre's impact evaluation pointed out the need for strengthening the generation and dissemination of knowledge. The WFP Centre of Excellence, throughout 2017, increased its research initiatives on food and nutrition security policies, such as school feeding programmes.

The dissemination of robust evidence on the consequences of food insecurity and the different strategies adopted to combat it is essential to influence the agenda setting process and the design and implementation of relevant public policies.

In the WFP Centre of Excellence daily work, the application of scientific or technical evidence underpins the technical assistance provided to governments and helps to understand the gaps and successes of the past and to plan future policies. The food and nutrition security policy analysis of the WFP Centre of Excellence seeks to explain the interaction between institutions, interests and ideas in the political process and that may present obstacles to the success of the elaboration of public policies.



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## Partnerships

### 1. Brasilia University Center (UNICEUB)

The WFP Centre of Excellence signed a memorandum of understanding with the institution to promote researches on the human right to adequate food, food law, and corporate social responsibility for food security. The partnership materialized in 2017 as a special edition of the Brazilian Journal of International Law, dedicated exclusively to food and nutritional security, and a series of studies and lectures by the WFP Centre of Excellence for undergraduate and graduate Law students.

### 2. School of International and Public Affairs – Columbia University

The Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs and the WFP Centre of Excellence have partnered to develop a scientific assessment of the Centre's technical assistance process. The evaluation will be conducted in 2018 and will result in a case study on the methods of direct technical assistance in school feeding programmes adopted by the WFP Centre of Excellence in Benin, Togo and Senegal.

### 3. Institute for Global Food Security – McGill University

The partnership between McGill's Institute for Global food Security and the WFP Centre of Excellence included the university's participation at the 2017 Global Child Nutrition Forum in Montreal. McGill contributed to the Centre's for technical consultation booth and offered academic advisory on agricultural production to participating countries and WFP offices. McGill contributed significantly to the Forum's report, with notes on meetings, lectures and forum proceedings. The research and extension activities will continue in 2018.

### 4. International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

In 2017, the International Food Policy Research Institute was in Brazil to discuss with the WFP Centre of Excellence a research project on the impacts of public purchases for the National School Feeding Programme on the income and quality of life of family farmers. The research, to be started in 2018, will be coordinated by the National Education Development Fund with the support of the Ministry of Social Development and the National Supply Company.

## Contests

To encourage study groups and research centres to conduct research on food and nutritional security and South-South cooperation for the Sustainable Development Goal 2, the WFP Centre of Excellence held two scientific contests.

### 1. School feeding

The WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger, in partnership with the University Center of Brasilia, held the contest for scientific papers "Sustainable Food and Nutrition Security: Building Bridges between Durable Agricultural Practices and School Feeding Programmes". The competition aimed to promote research around the world on food and nutritional security to support the generation and dissemination of knowledge related to the subject and to promote the integration between science and policy in the field of food and nutritional security. The five best articles were selected for publication in the Journal of International Law.

### 2. Nutrition

The WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger held the contest "Multiplying Experiences and Sustainable Strategies on Food and Nutrition in Brazil". The goal of the initiative is to give visibility to academic research and sustainable projects related to food and nutrition in Brazil that can be shared and multiplied through the Centre of Excellence in Africa.





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# NUMBERS





## NUMBERS

### Activities

13

national policy  
dialogue workshops

13

technical missions to  
strengthen local capacities

10

study visits

### Building evidences

2

scientific contests, with a  
total of 15 papers on food  
and nutrition security  
awarded

1

special edition of a journal  
with 10 papers and 3 essays

1

study on school  
feeding in Africa

20

case studies on school feeding  
in African countries finalized

### Impacts

15

countries adapting  
good practices to  
improve policy and  
legal frameworks for  
Zero Hunger and  
school feeding

10

countries adapting good  
practices to improve  
institutional arrangements  
and multi-sectorial  
coordination for Zero  
Hunger and school feeding

7

countries adapting good  
practices to improve design  
and implementation Zero  
Hunger and school feeding  
programmes

15

countries discussing measures to  
ensure stable funding for national  
school feeding programmes

15

country governments strengthening  
engagement with civil society









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## ADVOCACY

The capacity to influence the public agenda, especially in relation to school feeding, is one of the most important contributions of the WFP Centre of Excellence for the fight against hunger and malnutrition and for the Sustainable Development Goals. This was one of the highlights of the impact evaluation of the WFP Centre of Excellence and is one of the main axes of the WFP Centre's work. The organization and participation in international events on food and nutritional security and school feeding is crucial.

## African Day of School Feeding

The second edition of the African Day of School Feeding was officially celebrated on Wednesday 1 March 2017, under the patronage of the government of Congo. The main theme of the event was "Home Grown School Feeding: Investment in Youth and Children for Harnessing the Demographic Dividend".

The historic day was celebrated by the African Union Commission, along with AU Member States and development partners. An official ceremony and a series of official and technical events took place in the Congolese capital, Brazzaville. Senior government officials and ministers from African governments including Niger, Ethiopia, Guinea Bissau, Chad, Zimbabwe, and Senegal participated in the event.

The African Day of School Feeding was instituted by the African Union Heads of State in 2016. It recognizes the immense value of home-grown school feeding in enhancing retention and improving the performance of children in school, and in boosting income generation and entrepreneurship in local communities.

## Latin America

The VIII School Meals Seminar for Latin America and the Caribbean concluded on 26 April in Mexico City with a call to intensify efforts to exploit the full potential of school meals in helping to eradicate malnutrition in the region. More than 300 participants, government representatives of 20 countries, experts, academics, United Nations agencies, private sector and other partners attended the seminar, which this year addressed the following theme: "School Meals Programmes and their contribution to the eradication of malnutrition in all its forms in the region".

The World Food Programme undertook, for the first time, the School Feeding Research in Latin America and the Caribbean. Results were systematized in the publication "Smart School Meals: Nutrition-Sensitive National Programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean", now available online. The publication presents the accomplishments of national school meals programmes in the region and sets new frontiers for school feeding as a strategy to promote the Sustainable Development Goals.

The survey systematized information from 16 countries in the region on national school feeding programs that serve meals or snacks to 74 million students daily. The compiled information was analyzed with the support of the governments of the 16 countries, specialists in the area and the School Feeding Network in Latin America and the Caribbean (LA-RAE), as well as UN agencies, including the Center for Excellence against Hunger.

In addition to the publication with the results of the region, the research also generated an annex with the analysis of school feeding in each of the 16 countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and Peru.



## South-South Cooperation Seminar in Mozambique

On 3 and 4 May, a seminar took place in Maputo to discuss the role of South-South cooperation in the development of initiatives of social protection, food and nutritional security and gender in the country. Entitled “Innovative Partnerships in Social Protection, Food and Nutrition Security and Gender: Mozambique, Brazil, UN and DFID,” the event was an opportunity to discuss issues of social protection, food security and gender equality, as well as sharing good practices and lessons learned.

The event happened under two specific projects, conducted as partnership between UN agencies in Brazil, the governments of Mozambique and Brazil, and DFID, the international cooperation agency of the United Kingdom.

## 30 years of ABC

The Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC) hosted on 25 and 26 May an event to celebrate its 30th anniversary. ABC is part of the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and aims to strengthen external cooperation with Brazil and to coordinate the Brazilian technical cooperation with other countries. In three decades, ABC has coordinated more than 4,000 cooperation initiatives from other countries to Brazil and 3,000 cooperation projects from Brazil to 108 countries in Africa, Latin America, Asia and Oceania.

The Centre of Excellence against Hunger is a joint initiative between Brazil and the World Food Programme that works in close collaboration with ABC ever since its inception in 2011.

## Regional Seminar on School Feeding in Kenya

For three days, 90 representatives of 25 African countries, including seven state ministers, dedicated their time, knowledge, and skills to find ways to keep home-grown school feeding programmes advancing in Africa. The III Regional Workshop in Home-Grown School Feeding took place in Nairobi from 29 to 31 May. The first version of the study on the status and impacts of school feeding in African Union member states was the main discussion topic. After discussing the findings and recommendations of the study, participants agreed on a set of recommendations to be incorporated into national school feeding strategies.

## GCNF

The 2017 Global Child Nutrition Forum was held in Montreal, Canada. The event had five days of discussions and exchanges on nutrition and school feeding between governments, academics, practitioners, NGOs, and the private sector. The 250 participants from 59 countries adopted a Communiqué with concrete recommendations for countries to adopt and improve school meals programmes.

Among the recommendations, governments are encouraged to integrate school meals programmes into national policies, strategies and plans, to take advantage of existing school feeding regional networks, to mainstream gender considerations in the design and implementation of programmes, and to include school meals programmes into national budgets with high priority.

The 2017 Global Child Nutrition Forum’s theme was building bridges to sustainable development through school meals programmes: engaging local, national, regional, and global communities. The event is organized every year by the Global Child Nutrition Foundation and the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger. In 2017, the event had the support of the Breakfast Club Canada.

## CFS

The WFP Centre of Excellence took part once again in the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) plenary session in September 2017. During the event, the three Rome-based UN agencies urged governments, international organizations, private companies and other actors to work together to improve the global food system. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) have pointed out that both hunger and obesity are increasing worldwide.

## CONSEA

The WFP Centre of Excellence presented the results of its impact evaluation and cooperation actions at the National Council for Food and Nutrition Security (CONSEA). The WFP Centre participates in CONSEA’s Standing Committee for Food and Nutrition Security and Macro-National and International Challenges, which, as a priority line of work, has the conjunctural analysis of cooperation in food and nutrition security and the Sustainable Development Goals. The presentation of the WFP Centre focused on the objectives and results of its cooperation activities.





## PAA Africa

The WFP Centre of Excellence has participated in the closing activities of PAA Africa, a programme dedicated to increasing agricultural productivity, improving smallholder farmers' access to institutional markets, reducing rural poverty and improving food and nutritional security and resilience of families and school-age children.

PAA Africa was a joint initiative of the Brazilian government, WFP and FAO launched in 2012, with support from DFID, the UK's international cooperation agency. After five years of work in five countries, the programme ended in June.

In March, two representatives of the PAA Africa programme were in Brasilia to present the achievements and challenges to all partners involved in the programme. Then, by mid-2017, evaluation workshops were held in each of the five countries where the programme has been implemented in the last five years: Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger and Senegal. At each workshop, countries shared experiences, school feeding outcomes and impacts on smallholder farmers.

## African Day of Food and Nutrition Security

On 18 November, Daniel Balaban delivered a keynote speech at the 8th African Day for Food and Nutrition Security, celebrated in Côte d'Ivoire. The theme of this year's commemoration was "Promoting Sustainable Food Systems for Healthy Diets and Improved Nutrition". An audience of 180 representatives of 25 countries, including several ministers of Agriculture, attended the event to share experiences and discuss challenges in ensuring food security and nutrition for all.

The main purpose of the Africa Day for Food and Nutrition Security (ADFNS) is to serve as a rallying point in intensifying political and financial commitments at all levels to address current challenges of food and nutrition insecurity in Africa. The ADFNS provides a platform at national, regional and continental levels to share experiences, knowledge and mutual learning, as well as to measure progress in assuring food and nutrition security for all by governments and multi-stakeholder partners.

## South-South Expo

At the Global South-South Development Expo in Antalya, Turkey, the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), in partnership with the WFP Centre of Excellence, FAO and Unicef, held a side event to discuss the South-South and trilateral cooperation practices of Brazil. The objective was to promote a critical reflection on cooperation methodologies involving UN agencies and developing countries.

The perceptions and lessons shared in the side event contributed to greater coordination of the South-South cooperation agenda among the UN agencies and expanded knowledge on innovative South-South cooperation practices in Brazil. ABC presented the implementation principles and shared governance of these initiatives. The Centre of Excellence shared with participants how its work methodologies have contributed to Agenda 2030.

The WFP Centre also participated in a parallel event held by the World Food Programme to highlight its approach to South-South cooperation and its network of centres of excellence. Brazil and China have partnered with WFP to create a network of centres of excellence and harness strengths and complementary resources for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal 2. Each centre offers different modalities and principles of South-South cooperation, based on the demands of the countries demanding support.

The network of Centres of Excellence has become the most important WFP mechanism to promote South-South and trilateral cooperation to facilitate countries' efforts in improving food security and nutrition. The parallel event promoted the dialogue and exchange between Brazil and China on the modalities and solutions of South-South cooperation and gave an overview of the experiences and cooperation solutions of the two countries.

WFP/ Isadora Ferreira







WFP/ Mariana Rocha



# TECHNICAL SUPPORT





WFP/ Rein Skullerud

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

### West, Northern and Central Africa

#### SENEGAL

With the support of the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger, Senegal carried out a cost-benefit study of various models of school feeding programmes. Of the several models evaluated, the home-grown school feeding model showed the best possibilities of return in relation to the investment made.

Throughout 2017, the WFP Centre of Excellence supported Senegal with technical and policy assistance to strengthen and establish institutional coordination measures that foster sustainability for the transition and implementation of a national school feeding programme.

The WFP Centre carried out a technical mission to Senegal to support monitoring and evaluation activities and financial balance. The objective was to coordinate the monitoring mechanisms in order to capitalize on the best practices already developed in the country in the area of food and nutritional security. The Centre contributed to the elaboration of a document to advocate for school feeding within the Senegalese Ministry of Education and other governmental bodies. The goal was to promote legal and institutional coordination of the national school feeding programme.

The WFP Centre also assisted Senegal in creating communication channels and networking with regional partners through strengthening and engagement in policy development networks such as the Pan-African School Feeding Network. Senegal has become a key player in this network, which promotes dialogues among various global political actors and strengthens regional forums and platforms for knowledge exchange in the development and implementation of school feeding initiatives.

#### GUINEA BISSAU

To encourage the reestablishment of partnerships for school feeding in the country, the WFP Centre of Excellence facilitated the development of a project with the key institutional instruments for Guinea-Bissau's horizontal and trilateral cooperation with Brazil.

The project involves several sectors to strengthen government capacities to implement the national school feeding programme and to link it with local food procurement in order to create market channels for the vulnerable group of family farmers. In addition to the Brazilian government, the World Food Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) are participating in the project, along with other partners.

#### TOGO

The WFP Centre of Excellence has been offering specialized technical support, both remotely and presently, to design the legal and political bases of Togo's national sustainable school feeding programme. The Centre's technical support includes the pilot project "Schools of Excellence". With the support of the WFP Centre of Excellence, the Togolese government prepared the school feeding law, which was validated in a workshop with the participation of various governmental and civil society stakeholders. Participants discussed the design of the draft national law on school feeding.



## BENIN

Technical support from the WFP Centre of Excellence in Benin during the year 2017 focused on the search for innovative models of resource mobilization from the government and other partners to ensure the sustainability of school feeding initiatives. As a result, the government announced the investment of \$ 48 million in the National School Feeding Programme over five years. The Centre continues to support the Government of Benin and the World Food Programme country office in the implementation of the programme.

## NIGER

The government of Niger, hosted an introductory workshop on school feeding cost-benefit analysis. The goal was to discuss the methodology and to plan its application to assess the school feeding programmes in Niger. The main stakeholders involved in the planning and execution of school feeding in the country took part in the workshop.

The event was organized by the Ministry of Primary Education, in partnership with the WFP Centre of Excellence, WFP Headquarters, and WFP country office. The school feeding cost-benefit analysis is a tool that helps demonstrate to donors and governments the advantages of investing in school feeding and the costs involved in this investment, in order to assist the decision-making process.

In April, Niger conducted a national consultation to evaluate the PAA Africa's experience in the country. Representatives of the government of Niger and officials from the World Food Programme (WFP), and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) participated in the event to discuss the impacts, challenges and accomplishments of the programme in Niger. The government of Niger took the opportunity to prepare an implementation plan for the country's National Strategy of Local Food Procurement from Smallholder Farmers.

## MALI

Representatives of the governments of Mali and Madagascar were Brazil from 8 to 12 May for a study visit focusing on school feeding. Organized by the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger, the visit provided the two countries with the opportunity to exchange experiences with Brazil and with each other in initiatives to combat hunger and poverty. On a field trip to Brazil's Northeast, representatives of the two countries could see first-hand the link between the school feeding programme and smallholder farming.

The study visit enhances governments' knowledge of good practices in establishing legal and institutional food and nutritional security milestones. The knowledge acquired in Brazil served as a subsidy for the elaboration of an action plan to improve the sustainability of food security initiatives, especially home-grown school feeding.

The WFP Centre of Excellence reinforced technical support to the government of Mali to stimulate the participation of governmental actors indispensable to the establishment of institutional and political mechanisms that would allow the approval of the National School Feeding Policy and the proposal of a school feeding law.

## CÔTE D'IVOIRE

A delegation from Cote d'Ivoire visited Brazil from 13 to 15 December to strengthen knowledge exchange with Brazil in the areas of school feeding, food security and social protection. The delegation, led by the country's vice-president, participated in institutional meetings and field visits to enhance discussions of the national Zero Hunger strategy.

## GHANA

After supporting the preparation of the text of the school feeding law for the country in 2016, the WFP Centre of Excellence worked in 2017 with the World Food Programme country office in the technical follow-up of the process of sending the law to the Congress for discussion and approval, after the country's elections.

## REPUBLIC OF CONGO

The Republic of Congo hosted the 2017 edition of the African Day of School Feeding, which was attended by international and national authorities. During the event, the Congolese government reinforced its intention to increase investments in a national school feeding programme and discuss possible ways forward.





## East Africa

### KENYA

The WFP Centre of Excellence continued to support Kenya with direct technical assistance to strengthen institutional and multi-sectorial coordination in food and nutritional security. The partnership contributed to the approval of the National School Food and Nutrition Strategy, signed by three ministries: Education, Agriculture and Health.

### ETHIOPIA

The WFP Centre of Excellence has been working with the country's government since 2013, and throughout 2017, provided remote support to help developing the national school feeding strategy for the preparation of a national programme based on local food production.

Ethiopia also held the National Consultation on Home-grown School Feeding in May to discuss the impacts of the PAA Africa programme in the country. Implemented in Ethiopia since 2012, PAA Africa has helped design the country's school feeding programme, with support from the government of Brazil, WFP, FAO and other partners.

### BURUNDI

The WFP Centre of Excellence has been providing technical support to Burundi in designing a national school feeding policy and local food procurement pilot projects. Continued technical assistance has been done remotely and, in July 2017, the WFP Centre carried out a technical mission to the country. Support was requested by the Ministry of Education in Burundi.

The Centre's team of experts met with key stakeholders to collect their impressions, advice, views and considerations, which should be included in the future program document. During the two-week mission, the team had very productive meetings with technical teams of the ministries of Education, Health, Social Protection, and Agriculture, as well as senior management and staff of the WFP Country Office, local NGOs and other international agencies in the country.

### SOUTH SUDAN

The WFP Centre of Excellence has been providing remote support to the government of South Sudan for the preparation of a national school feeding policy.

## Southern and Southeastern Africa

### MOZAMBIQUE

The WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger has been supporting the Mozambican government since 2012 in the development of the National School Feeding Programme (PRONAE). With the completion of the first two years of pilot implementation, the government, the WFP country office, Brazil and the Centre of Excellence are expanding the experience. A new project to strengthen PRONAE was designed throughout 2017 to begin in 2018, with actions focused on capacity building, implementation enhancement and programme sustainability.

Mozambique also held a seminar to discuss the role of South-South cooperation in the development of social protection, food and nutritional security and gender initiatives in African countries. The event was the closing of a partnership with DFID to support five African countries in initiatives on food security and social protection.

### LESOTHO

The WFP Centre of Excellence initiated remote support for Lesotho in reviewing its strategy for implementing the school feeding programme. Technical support focuses on sharing good practices in establishing a sound institutional basis for sustainable school feeding programmes.

### SWAZILAND

The WFP Centre of Excellence supported Swaziland in a high-level study visit to Brazil, focusing on home-grown school feeding. During the visit, the delegation learned about good practices to strengthen government initiatives and establish legal and institutional frameworks for food and nutritional security programmes.

### ZIMBABWE

To carry on the technical support provided to the government of Zimbabwe, the WFP Centre of Excellence worked directly with the Ministry of Education and the World Food Programme country office throughout 2017 to evaluate current school feeding initiatives in the country. Technical support included proposing an implementation plan. The next step is the government's approval of the school feeding strategy.

### MADAGASCAR

A delegation from Madagascar, together with Mali, visited the Northeast of Brazil to learn about the institutional mechanisms for integration between agricultural production and the institutional market for school feeding. In addition to understanding how the Brazilian approach to food and nutritional security addresses both the creation of structured demand and the support to smallholder agricultural production, the delegations have also visited other social protection facilities, such as community kitchens and social assistance reference centres.

### MALAWI

A Brazilian delegation went on a mission to Malawi in September to participate in a wrap-up workshop and develop a roadmap to ensure the sustainability of the trilateral initiative that aims to strengthen the school nutrition programme in the country. The initiative is part of the trilateral cooperation agreement between Brazil, Malawi and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and it builds upon Malawi's School Health and Nutrition Policy, designed with technical support from the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger and WFP country office.



WFP/ Sophia Andreazza





## Latin America and the Caribbean

### BOTSWANA

A ministerial delegation from Botswana was in Brazil for a study visit organized by the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Embassy of Botswana, with support from the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger. The focus of the visit was learning about the Brazilian efforts to promote social development and food and nutrition security, including the school feeding programme.

The information shared during the three-day visit is assisting Botswana in pursuing its Vision 2036, the country's plan based on sustainable development principles that states what Botswana wants to achieve by 2036 to ensure prosperity for all. The integration and coherence among social policies and programmes and the coordination mechanisms among different governmental sectors were the key topics discussed with the Brazilian government.

### BRAZIL

The WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger supported the National Fund for the Development of Education in the second edition of the Best School Feeding Recipes contest. With the purpose of valuing the role of school cooks in promoting food and nutritional education of children and adolescents, the contest chose the best recipe of each region of Brazil.

Fifteen school cooks, three from each region of the country, participated in the final competition. They were selected from more than 2,000 registrations, after passing through municipal, state and regional stages of evaluation of the proposed recipe and food and nutritional education activities developed in their schools. The preparations presented in the final phase of the contest combined flavor and nutrition and reflected regional eating habits. The chef-style dishes conquered the hearts and minds of contest jurors.

The WFP Centre of Excellence has also provided technical support to the Brazilian government in the logistics of food assistance to displaced Venezuelan citizens.

## Asia

### BANGLADESH

The WFP Centre of Excellence offered remote technical support to Bangladesh to develop institutional frameworks for the country's national school feeding policy.

### CHINA

The WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger hosted a delegation from China that was in Brazil in June to exchange experiences in food security and nutrition and to see firsthand initiatives such as the Brazilian school feeding programme. The delegation took the opportunity to learn about the South-South cooperation initiatives conducted by Brazil and by the WFP Centre of Excellence.

The delegation was composed by representatives from the Chinese ministries of Education, Agriculture, and Poverty Alleviation and Development. Since 2016, WFP runs a Centre of Excellence in China that aims to leverage China's successful experience in reducing poverty and hunger. Before 2015, China met its Millennium Development Goal of halving hunger, which caused a reduction in the number of hungry people globally by two thirds.

### LAO PDR

Throughout 2017, the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger intensified its remote support to the government of Lao PDR to carry out joint activities with the countries of the region in 2018.

### NEPAL

The WFP Centre of Excellence has remotely supported Nepal with expert assistance in monitoring an impact assessment of pilot school feeding projects in the country.



WFP/ Sophia Andreazza





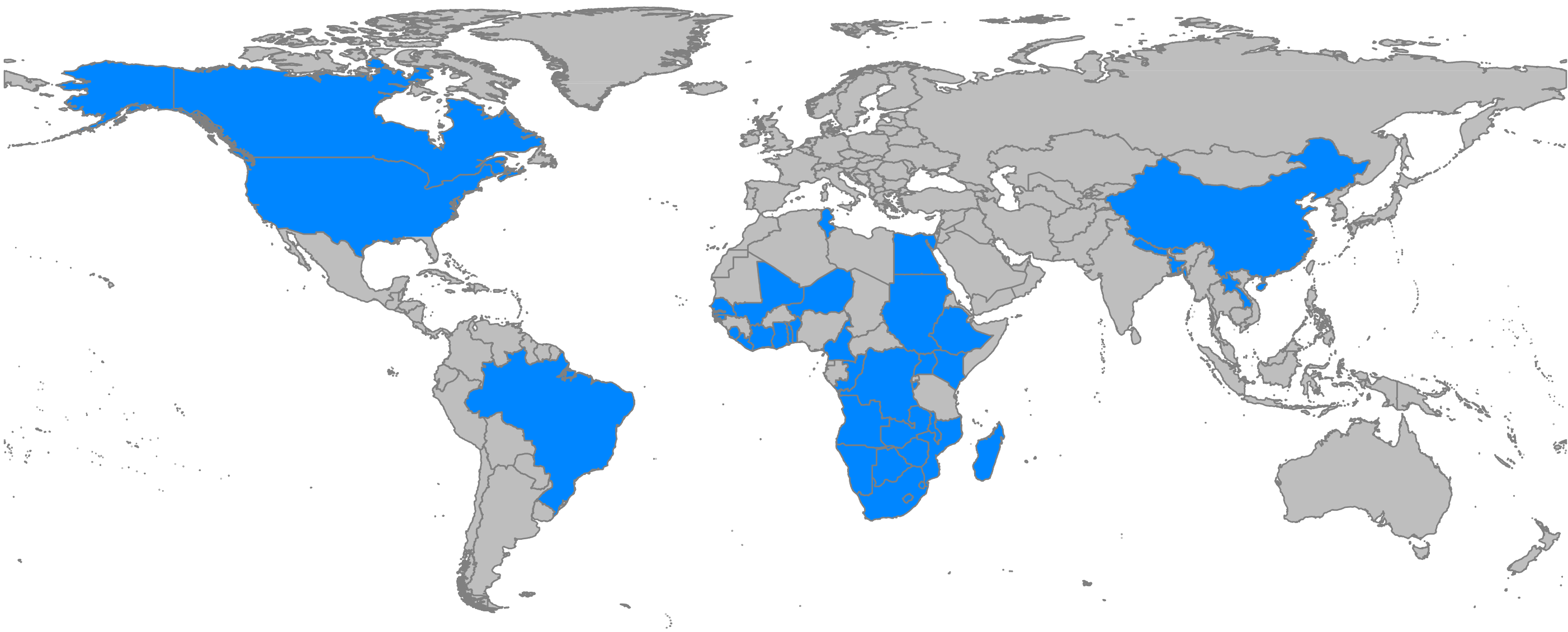


WFP/ Alexandra Hilliard



**Partner countries**

Centre of Excellence against Hunger







# ANNUAL REPORT 2017

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