

WFP CoE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

Knowledge Services

EMPOWERING
COUNTRIES
TO ACHIEVE
ZERO
HUNGER



World Food
Programme
Centre of Excellence
against Hunger



KNOWLEDGE SERVICES

The demand from developing countries for Knowledge Products and Services has evolved well beyond food assistance. Knowledge management is more important than ever for development, placing higher emphasis on better knowledge products and services from international organizations. Knowledge is key to linking several development efforts and to achieving better outcomes and greater impact from resources. Thus, knowledge management remains a complex and growing area of work, with various organizations tackling to leverage knowledge more effectively to advance their operations and serve countries better.

Intensifying the knowledge agenda requires a strategic direction that enables the benefits that come with it - effective arrangement, prioritization, clarity, and coordination. High-level knowledge products and service ensure better quality, greater accountability and buy-in from stakeholders, enabling an effective leadership of WFP Centre of Excellence in Brazil in becoming a stronger knowledge institution.

For WFP Centre of Excellence knowledge management agenda to have the greatest impact on development effectiveness, it is essential to create long-term partnerships for producing and sharing knowledge solutions. Zero hunger solutions (SDG2) requires a wide range of stakeholders working together toward common goals and, rightly, the WFP Centre of Excellence has attempted to create knowledge partnerships to enable the dissemination of knowledge among partners.

Recognizing the increased country demand for improved knowledge, WFP Centre of Excellence knowledge products and services production has grown considerably in the past years. Knowledge products and services are segmented in three main areas: data collection and evidence-building, good practices documentation and dissemination, and monitoring and evaluation activities.

DATA COLLECTION AND EVIDENCE-BUILDING

Responding to the increasing demand by countries in Africa and Asia to learn and benefit from the Brazilian experience and expertise in social protection to promote food and nutrition security, the WFP Centre of Excellence in Brazil, the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom (DFID) and the Brazilian Ministry of Social Development (MDS) established the Partnership for National Social Development Initiatives (PNSDI). A first step of the PNSDI in promoting this South-South exchange on social protection and food and nutrition security is to increase the knowledge base on social protection policies and programmes in selected African countries and understand these policies' and programmes' linkages to food and nutrition security. With the objective to contribute to this knowledge base, the WFP conducted a study focusing on Ethiopia, the Gambia, Mozambique, Kenya and Zambia as case countries to assess and evaluate the current and potential linkages between social protection policies and programmes and food and nutrition security. Based on the analysis, the study aimed to identify pathways on how the PNSDI could promote South-South exchange, enable the role of Brazil in this regard, and support these five African countries with improving the design and implementation of social protection programmes for food and nutrition security, culminating in a series of suggestions about the ways forward. This is the true potential for data collection and evidence-building, and one of the several examples in which the WFP Centre in Brazil contributed to improving knowledge services to serve countries.



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Data Collection and Evidence-Building

Good Practices Documentation and Dissemination

Monitoring & Evaluation Activities

GOOD PRACTICES DOCUMENTATION AND DISSEMINATION

Several tools and services for good practices documentation and dissemination are available to pursue the uptake of results related to Zero Hunger solutions. An example includes the WFP Centre's Policy Briefs. Periodically the WFP Centre publishes policy briefs related to food and nutrition security programme and policy planning, design implementation, finance, transition strategies, among other topics highly demanded by partner countries. Other services include the WFP Centre Annual Report, stocktaking from events and country experiences, among others. In September 2019, for example, The Centre for Excellence against Hunger launched the first publication of the Good Practices Series. The series provides successful examples of school feeding programs in Portuguese-speaking countries. The document compiles processes, laws and strategies implemented in Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe, Brazil and Mozambique.

Another example of WFP's work in documentation and dissemination includes the issue of a new policy brief on how the Brazilian school feeding programme has integrated food and nutrition education into the school environment. The document provides an overview of food and nutrition education in Brazil and explores the two-pronged strategy to include food and nutrition education in the school curriculum and the policy base to devise this strategy. This work derived from the demand from various African and Asian partner countries regarding this topic.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) ACTIVITIES

WFP Centre of Excellence in Brazil works with partners on the ground to evaluate needs and support programmes to reach zero hunger. As the Centre supports the planning, designing, implementation, transition and reporting of activities, it is also responsible for monitoring and evaluating its efforts and take every opportunity to learn first-hand from operations and projects. M&E informs the design of WFP Centre's support to projects and preserves focus on results

Continuous monitoring of accomplishments and overall performance produces the information and data to inform partners if the approaches chosen are successful. Learning from that evidence is essential to fine-tune projects and report successfully on results.

The primary function of M&E, as outlined in WFP's Corporate Monitoring Strategy, is to inform on decision-making, including project design. On a secondary level, M&E generates data for evaluative purposes and corporate reporting, as well as for further evidence-building at all organizational levels. As part of WFP's HQ structure, the WFP Centre of Excellence in Brazil follows these procedures to support other country offices and countries with this key task.

In parallel, the Centre also evaluate its own work! This external impact evaluation assessed the degree of achievement of the Centre's objectives, the efficiency and relevance of its strategies, and the quality of its support activities. The evaluation also identified possible recommendations to better support partner countries. The evaluation focused on the 28 countries that benefited from the Centre's continuous support, out of which 24 countries were consulted during the evaluation process. The evaluation team conducted 66 semi-structured interviews with partners, the WFP, and the Centre's staff, in addition to 2 workshops with partners and a survey to gather the partner countries' views on the Centre's contribution to their school feeding and social protection initiatives. Every lesson learned from the evaluation was directly used to improve the Centre's services and products towards its partner countries.

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