

WFP CoE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

Technical and Advisory Services

EMPOWERING
COUNTRIES
TO ACHIEVE
ZERO 
HUNGER



World Food
Programme
Centre of Excellence
against Hunger



TECHNICAL AND ADVISORY SERVICES

The WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil works closely with regional and national stakeholders (governments, private sector and institutions) to expand food and nutrition security policies and programmes from a multi-sector perspective, particularly social safety net programmes that include school feeding connected to local agriculture and nutrition (home-grown school feeding—HGFS). The WFP Centre fosters food and nutrition security solutions for countries to deliver long-term development benefits for children and vulnerable populations in the Global South.

As part of a long-term cooperation strategy, technical assistance and advisory services from the Centre is often provided based on the outcome of a planning and needs assessment process. Upon request of the government or WFP offices, the Centre analyses the possibility of deploying expertise (or remote assistance via its Virtual Exchanges methodology) to support the process of national planning; policies and programmes design and/or implementation, transition strategy design and implementation, country strategic planning support, supply chain services and project preparation for resource mobilization. Activities include, but are not limited to, assistance to develop legal frameworks, institutional arrangements, policy drafts, implementation, pilot projects and scale-up planning, technical training, national consultations and strategies to promote participation of local practitioners and beneficiaries of policies at different levels.

PROGRAMME/POLICY DESIGN

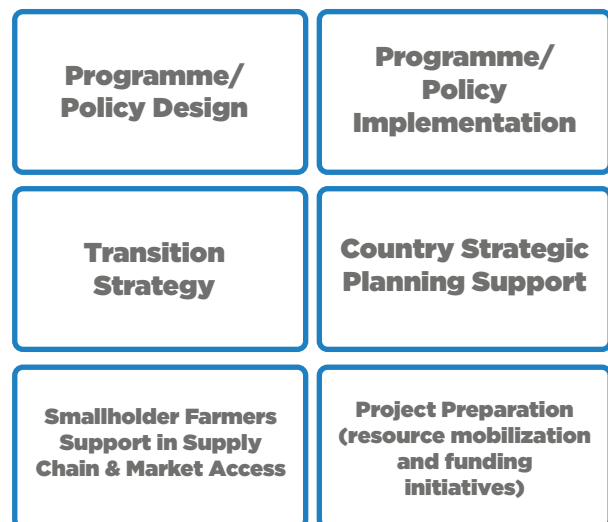
Responding to the evolving nature of food insecurity and international development assistance, the shift from food aid to food assistance has repositioned WFP from a provider of food to that of broader hunger solutions. This has impacted the WFP Centre’s work directly. Initially basing its work on the Brazilian Zero Hunger solutions experience in designing programmes, and later on, evolving to new international perspectives, the Centre supports countries in effective programming with integrated, country specific and nationally-owned intervention strategies that can bridge the gap between humanitarian and development responses. The WFP Centre understands that well-designed programmes

should be: based on clearly identified food and nutrition needs; rooted in local contexts and livelihoods; informed by best practices; aligned with existing or planned policies and strategies; realistic, adaptable and results-oriented; and measurable over a range of indicators.

For example, The Republic of Guinea initiated a dialogue with Brazil in 2012 during a study mission organized by the Centre . The WFP Centre assisted with the development of the National School Feeding Policy (and its design) and the organization of the National Consultation that took place in March 2013. In 2015, the government announced the creation of the National Directorate of School Canteens, under the country’s Ministry of Education. The National School Feeding Policy was the result of a year’s work by a multi-sector group composed of various ministries and representatives of the Centre and the WFP country office.



TECHNICAL AND ADVISORY SERVICES





PROGRAMME/POLICY IMPLEMENTATION & EVALUATION

Building on its expertise in food security, procurement, logistics and school feeding, the WFP Centre works with governments to implement national policies and strategies for HGSF programmes. Local producers' contribution to the programmes, and the benefits they derive from them, depend on context-specific factors – the range of actors involved, the size and precise objectives of the programme, the quantity and type of foodstuffs required, and other purchasing and contractual variables.

This is why models can be different from country to country, and sometimes within the same national boundaries. The WFP Centre also supports countries to implement institutional plans, supporting pilots' elaboration and roll-out, country-level strategies, develop policies and legislation, organization of public consultations and workshops, dialogue with stakeholders, trainings, and implementation actions towards nationally-owned sustainable programs.

TRANSITION STRATEGY

The WFP Centre supports countries prepare and implement transition strategies. The sustainable handover or 'transition' of programmes being managed by WFP to national entities can be one of the results of capacity strengthening processes. Capacity strengthening activities are given top priority in all countries where WFP is acting as a channel for donor funding to reach the implementation level, onward granting to both government bodies and civil society organizations. As mentioned, the scope is to transition management and implementation of these programmes to national entities once capacity in the national organization is strong. Successful national school feeding programs are not set up overnight. The intention is to help governments improve the efficiency and sustainability of ongoing programs and to scale them up as needed. The objective of a transition strategy is to design a staggered process to allow for responsibilities to increasingly move from WFP (and other external organizations) to the national entities, developing capacity where required during this time. In this way, the grant management role is transitioned in a planned manner, with national entities gradually taking over the responsibilities as their capacity is strengthened. It is vital that any handover of school feeding programmes must be managed well to avoid disruptions to service delivery.

COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLANNING SUPPORT (CSP)

The Centre supports WFP country offices in their planning efforts related to capacity strengthening and South-South Cooperation. Each CSP is unique. It incorporates a Country Office's entire humanitarian and development portfolio, subsuming all programmes and projects into clearly defined Strategic Outcomes. It is based on a country-led Zero Hunger Strategic Review, outlining the contributions of all stakeholders, including WFP's distinct value proposition, for the achievement of SDG 2. It takes its cue from the priorities set by the country in question, following evaluations, assessments and consultations; involving government, development and humanitarian agencies, institutional actors and civil society. The WFP Centre comments, reviews and guides country offices with key issues related to its capacity strengthening and/or South-South Cooperation portfolio in their CSP process. Later it supports countries in the implementation of the CSP for both topics.

The WFP Centre of Excellence is directly referred in over 40 CSPs, and although the Centre is not directly referred in other CSPs, direct citations are found concerning South-South cooperation and/or capacity strengthening activities related to social protection systems, school feeding programmes and transition strategies, such as Nicaragua, Nigeria, Rwanda, Bhutan, and Sierra Leone. This shows potential areas of support from the Centre, including with its new remote assistance methodology – Virtual Exchanges. Acknowledged by peer countries, the Centre has become a global reference in terms of WFP Country Capacity Strengthening and South-South Cooperation.

PROJECT PREPARATION (RESOURCE MOBILIZATION)

The WFP Centre of Excellence also supports Country Offices and governments with Project Preparation for resource mobilization. Country programmes for cooperation countries give rise to project ideas. Project preparation is the process of analysing and developing a project idea into a final project ready for implementation. The product of this process is presented in the form of a Project Document. The Project Document forms the basis of the bilateral project agreement and the contracting of external assistance for the project. The demand for rural development, agriculture, and food and nutrition security in developing countries is extensive and one of the key bottlenecks is the development and preparation of bankable projects. In addition, the planning and delivery of large projects is complex and fraught with risk.

Hence, many projects fail or are implemented with budget and timeline overruns. Over time, many development institutions have tried to fill the space where government capacity is low and risk is high. Although this landscape is evolving and expanding, current institutions in developing nations have not proven a large scale successful model. This need and these challenges translate into an opportunity for the WFP Centre to create a high-skill, scaled-up, end-to-end project development and preparation business that de-risks projects and delivers project concepts to bankability. The latest example in this line of work refers to The Gambia, where the Centre supported the country in preparing a solid project proposal for the GAFSP Fund; a USD 24million proposal for Rural Development, Social Protection and HGSF.

SUPPLY CHAIN AND SMALLHOLDER FARMERS MARKET ACCESS

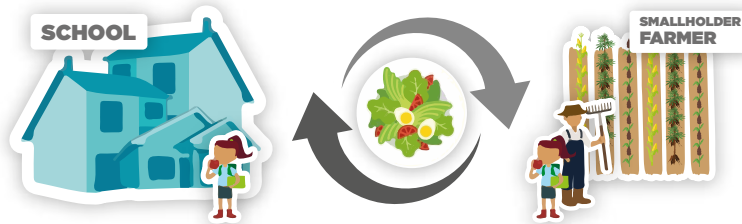
School feeding is the Centre's flagship area of cooperation as it enables multi-sector sustainable development. The Centre provides assistance for governments to develop nationally-owned school feeding programmes as an efficient means to achieve Zero Hunger and to improve educational, social, and economic indicators of the 2030 Agenda.

An example of this WFP Centre product is the Beyond Cotton Project, a new partnership between WFP, Brazil, Benin, Kenya, Tanzania, and Mozambique. The project aims, through South-South cooperation, to support smallholder farmers and public institutions adding value to cotton products (lint, oil and cottonseed cake) and combined food crops, addressing the production for school feeding programmes, public purchase policies, local or regional commercialization strategies. The goal is to improve production, local income, market access, and food and nutritional security of smallholder farmers.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

- 1** continent wide commitment by 54 Heads of State to invest in Home-Grown School Feeding
- 51** learning study visits to Brazil
- 30** countries investing in national school feeding programmes
- 20** countries developing national policy frameworks
- 19** countries transitioning to nationally-owned programmes

OUR WORK IN PUBLIC POLICIES & STRATEGIES



Beyond Cotton

CoE IN THE FIELD



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