



Photo: PAA Africa/Janaina Ferraz Plessman

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“All developing countries, regardless of size or level of development, have accumulated capacities and experiences that can be shared among developing countries.”

*[Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General, United Nations]
United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Summit 2015*



World Food Programme

WFP Policy and Programme Division (OSZ)

What's happening in Rome?

Increased engagement of WFP in supporting South-South cooperation in 2015

WFP Country Offices engaged in South-South cooperation:

60% in 2015  an increase from **48%** in 2014

AREAS OF ENGAGEMENT

Most South-South exchanges took place in the area of **safety nets and social protection, including school feeding** (most of them facilitated through the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil and exchanges facilitated through WFP Regional Bureaus).

Other areas in which South-South cooperation has been facilitated include

- market access;
- nutrition;
- disaster risk reduction;
- climate adaptation and early warning; and
- emergency preparedness and response.

WFP Country Offices that have supported South-South cooperation in 2015

(Source: WFP Annual Performance Report (APR) 2015; QCPR survey 2015.)

To take a look at WFP's Policy on South-South and triangular cooperation, click [here](#). You may also be interested in some of the [benefits for your RB or CO](#) when it comes to supporting South-South cooperation. To see the what role SSC plays at the global level and to implement the Sustainable Development Goals, take a look at the [2015 Report of the Secretary General on South-South cooperation](#).

Update from the Purchase from Africans for Africa (PAA Africa) programme

On 12-14 January 2016, a **PAA Africa International Seminar** on "Connecting Smallholder Farmers to School Feeding for Promoting Local Development" was held in Awassa, **Ethiopia**. The seminar brought together Ethiopian government officials and technical experts, representatives of local cooperatives and farmers, FAO and WFP, and Brazilian authorities. They discussed challenges in implementing the PAA Africa programme and identified best practices to be integrated into the scale-up phase of PAA Africa (2016–2018).

In Ethiopia, the objectives of the current phase, PAA Africa Phase II (2014–2016) are aligned with the government's national school feeding plans and agricultural policies. So far, the programme, supported by the WFP CO, has provided 10,000 Ethiopian students with nutritious meals, which has improved their performance at school. The students' passing rate has increased from 69 percent in 2013 to 74 percent in 2014. Productivity of wheat, maize, haricot and fava beans has also increased by 68 percent in programme areas since 2014.

The takeaways from the seminar include:

- 1) A need to reinforce the government-owned home-grown school feeding model in Ethiopia;
- 2) A need for stronger linkages between smallholder farmers and schools to enhance livelihood and food security;
- 3) A need for decentralized procurement models to reduce costs and delivery times to schools; and
- 4) Diversification of school menus as an entry point for improving nutrition.

Another **PAA Africa International Seminar** will take place in **Rome** in **May 2016**, focusing on the scale-up phase of PAA Africa. The objective for 2016 to 2019 is to extend PAA support, with the help of WFP COs, to a greater number of smallholder farmers and school children in Ethiopia and other countries, including Malawi, Mozambique, Niger and Senegal. Please contact wfp.paa.africa@wfp.org or francesco.slaviero@wfp.org for further information.



Photo: PAA Africa/Janaina Ferraz Plessman

What's happening in the WFP Centre of Excellence Against Hunger in Brazil?

WFP Centre of Excellence in Brazil supports school feeding in Africa

School feeding in Africa received a significant boost in January: **the African Union Summit decided to adopt school feeding as a continental strategy** to fight hunger and poverty, promote smallholder agriculture and achieve the sustainable development goals (SDGs).

The declaration of the African Union Summit calls for the establishment of a multidisciplinary technical

Technical assistance to countries

Highlights from the centre's technical assistance to countries include:

November 2015: The government of Benin conducted a National Forum on School Feeding in Cotonou with technical and financial support from the WFP Centre of Excellence in Brazil and the WFP CO in Benin. The forum sought to establish a five-year action plan for Benin's National School Feeding Policy.

11–23 January 2016: The Senegalese government, jointly with the WFP Centre of Excellence in Brazil, the WFP RB in Dakar and the WFP CO in Senegal, planned the assessment of costs and benefits involved in school feeding programmes in Senegal

committee of African experts to undertake, with support from the WFP Centre, a broad study on the relevance and impact of school feeding in the African Union Member States. It also institutes the African Day of School Feeding on 1 March. The decision is the result of the Centre's long-term commitment to supporting national school feeding programmes in Africa.

through a WFP-based methodology. The evaluation will inform the implementation of Senegal's forthcoming government-owned school feeding programme.

For further information, you can contact peter.rodrigues@wfp.org or christiani.buani@wfp.org.



Photo: WFP Centre of Excellence in Brazil/Isadora Ferreira

What's happening in the regions?

Rising profile of the Johannesburg Regional Bureau (RBJ) as a partner for South-South cooperation in Southern Africa

As WFP is transitioning from direct implementation towards a technical advisory role in Southern Africa, support to South-South and triangular cooperation is becoming increasingly important for RBJ. In 2015, the Bureau took on an active role in **facilitating intra-regional learning** and **integrating SSC into country strategic planning**.

- **Intra-regional collaboration** was facilitated very through the following initiatives:
 - ⇒ A seminar organized by the Purchase from Africans for Africa (PAA) programme was held in 2015 for Malawi and Mozambique to share experiences and lessons on strengthening the link between institutional markets and smallholder farmer production.
 - ⇒ Learning visits on safety nets and social protection:
 - (a) Exchange between Lesotho and Namibia to promote learning from Namibia's

experience in transitioning from WFP-assisted school feeding to a fully government-managed programme; and

- (b) Sharing of solutions between Ethiopia and Lesotho, specifically those linked to the Ethiopian national safety net programmes.

- **Integrating South-South cooperation into Country Strategic Planning:** In November 2015, as part of the process towards the establishing a Country Strategic Plan (CSP), a fact-finding mission to Mozambique identified potential areas for South-South cooperation and mapped WFP's existing engagements on South-South cooperation. These newly identified South-South opportunities will provide an impetus for Mozambique's new CSP from 2017 to 2020.

For further information, you can contact Sarah.Longford@wfp.org (RBJ).

Cuba's exchange with El Salvador – managing food security successfully

In Cuba, WFP supports the government in strengthening national social protection programmes to promote food security and nutrition among vulnerable groups. As part of these efforts, the Cuba Country Office encourages experience sharing among countries where WFP supports the link between social protection programmes and local smallholder agriculture production.

The aim is not only to facilitate an exchange between two or more countries, but also to showcase how WFP can use its expertise to foster change by working with government institutions and a network of partners.

In early November 2015, Cuba participated in an exchange visit to El Salvador. In El Salvador, the government has developed an effective food security management model with support from WFP.



Photo: WFP Cuba/Gabriela Hernández

The Cuban team included national and local government decision makers and technical experts, representatives of the state agriculture company and cooperative managers and farmers. The WFP CO in Cuba and El Salvador have worked together to prepare the programme for the mission, taking into account each country's interests and learning needs.

Stakeholders from El Salvador shared their experience in the management of value chains, food security and social protection programmes with the Cuban delegation. WFP and its partners supported the knowledge exchange. The delegation visited cooperatives, private sector food processing companies, and national institutions linked to the global food security system and witnessed their work in action.

El Salvador also shared its experience on how WFP has supported them to link small-scale agriculture to national social protection programmes. This includes cooperation in school feeding, grain production techniques, management skills, food processing, marketing, targeting and monitoring of social safety nets.

Both delegations found the study visit mutually beneficial. After the visit, WFP and the Cuban counterparts started to develop a work plan with an aim to strengthen sustainability and effectiveness of Cuba's approach to managing food security.

For more information, please contact laura.melo@wfp.org (WFP CO in Cuba) or maria.pino@wfp.org (RBP).

Coming soon

- **South-South cooperation roundtable – Beijing, 1 June 2016.**

A South-South cooperation roundtable meeting will take place in Beijing on 1 June 2016. Held by the China G20 Presidency, the meeting will convene the heads of the three Rome-based agencies and vice-ministers of China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Science and Technology and the State Council Poverty Alleviation Office, to discuss opportunities for South-South partnerships with China.

- **Global South-South Development Expo 2016 – Dubai, October/November 2016** (exact dates tbc).

The Global South-South Development Expo is an expo "from the South and for the South". It showcases successful country-led development solutions that advance progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. This year's expo is hosted by the Government of the United Arab Emirates and the UN Office of South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC). It will bring together participants from governments, regional organizations, UN agencies and non-state actors (incl. philanthropic organizations, the private sector and CSO), in order to build partnerships that will scale up effective solutions. WFP has been invited by UNOSSC to showcase its approach to supporting South-South cooperation at the expo. For questions on the expo, or to share your suggestions, contact carola.kennigott@wfp.org.

