



South-South News Quarterly November 2015

WFP Policy and Programme Division, Rome

“As we embark on efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, we need to accelerate development momentum across the South, including by building resilience and mitigating risk.”

*[Ban Ki Moon, Secretary General, United Nations]
Message for the UN Day of South-South Cooperation, 12 September 2015*



World Food Programme

What's happening in Rome?

"How-to Guide" on South-South Cooperation for WFP Country Offices

With WFP's South-South and Triangular Cooperation [Policy](#) approved, the WFP Policy and Programme Division is now preparing a "How-to Guide" on South-South Cooperation for WFP Country Offices. The guide is being developed in partnership with the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil, WFP Regional Bureaus, and relevant Liaison Offices. It will be released in 2016.

If you are working in a Country Office or Regional Bureau, the guide will offer you access to practical steps, best practices and tools to:

- start a dialogue with your government on South-South and Triangular Cooperation;

- identify South-South opportunities in your work;
- engage with the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil;
- approach South-South Cooperation within the Country Strategic Planning process;
- support your government to initiate and implement South-South exchanges; and
- mobilize resources for your project.

Your opinion counts!

In order to ensure the "How-to Guide" addresses your priority areas we invite you to submit your inputs and questions to carola.kenngott@wfp.org.

2015 Report of the Secretary General on South-South Cooperation

WFP's work on facilitating South-South Cooperation has been featured prominently in the [2015 Report of the Secretary General on South-South Cooperation](#). The report has been submitted to the 70th session of the UN General Assembly this year. It is one of the most important reference documents on this topic for the UN system, the G77 and donors.

WFP's new South-South policy, the work of the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil, South-South projects in school feeding and disaster risk reduction in Latin America and the Caribbean, WFP's support to the Cost of Hunger in Africa Studies, African Risk Capacity (ARC), African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) and on rice fortification in Asia are featured in the report.

Five benefits for your WFP Country Office to support South-South Cooperation

"What are the benefits for my Country Office to facilitate South-South Cooperation (SSC)?" This is a question which we frequently hear in WFP. Based on various South-South experiences we reviewed over the past few months, we have identified [five arguments](#) below that may be helpful to your SSC engagement strategy.

1. **SSC can help you tap into additional expertise and institutional capacities.** A good example for this is the work that the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil does. It provides additional capacities, political support for advocacy initiatives, and technical assistance to develop and implement nationally-owned, sustainable programmes and policies on school feeding, social protection, food security and nutrition.
2. **SSC fosters innovation for strengthening capacities at the country level.** An example is WFP's engagement with the African Risk Capacity (ARC). ARC is a Specialized Agency of the African Union, which helps member states

improve their capacities to better plan, prepare and respond to extreme weather events and natural disasters, while providing risk insurance.

3. **SSC helps mobilize additional resources, both financial and in-kind.** During the 2011/12 food crisis in the Horn of Africa, WFP mobilized and facilitated the transfer of US\$ 14 million in-kind resources from the Southern African Development Community, Cuba and Sri Lanka, to support the response at the Horn of Africa.
4. **SSC creates an "enabling environment"** for zero hunger through evidence-based policy-making. An example is WFP's support to the Cost of Hunger in Africa studies.
5. **SSC provides access to a larger pool of highly skilled experts.** For example, the African Economic Research Consortium, supported by WFP, contributes to building the capacities of local experts to conduct policy research on connecting smallholder farmers to markets. **You can access further information on this topic and on contact persons for each example [here](#).**

World Food Programme
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For questions, please contact carola.kenngott@wfp.org

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

Meeting on African Network on School Feeding in Dakar

In June 2015 in Dakar, Senegal, 21 countries agreed on the terms of inception of an **African Network on School Feeding**. The network aims to contribute to the creation and improvement of school feeding policies, including the increase of countries' budgets for school feeding. The network participants are also expected to advocate for stronger engagement of governments and other stakeholders in the institutionalization of school feeding.

The network was first conceived as the Francophone School Feeding Network, to promote exchange among French-speaking African countries. Its first meeting took place at the 2014 Global Child Nutrition Forum (GCNF) in South Africa, with representatives of nine countries. The meeting was an initiative of the Minister of Education of Niger. With support from the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil and the WFP Regional Bureau in Dakar, the network evolved to include more countries.

The centre supported the coordination among partners to create the network. It now continues to contribute to it by strengthening the network's approach towards South-South cooperation .

The participating countries already identified some opportunities to exchange experiences among each other. Some of them met during the 2015 GCNF and presented their experience to the representatives of 43 countries that were participating in the event.

One of the first results of the network was the involvement of the African Union, which sent a high-level delegation for a study visit to Brazil and committed to advocating for school feeding among the African heads of states.

For further information, you can contact peter.rodrigues@wfp.org and christiani.buani@wfp.org in the WFP Centre of Excellence in Brazil.



Photo: WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil.

What's happening in the regions?

Niger Minister of Education is promoting AUC's leadership in School Feeding

From 22 to 28 August 2015, the African Union sent a high-level delegation to the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil to learn about Brazil's school feeding experiences. The delegation was led by the African Union Commission (AUC), and included ministers from Niger, Zimbabwe, Ghana, ministerial representatives from Malawi, Kenya, the Southern African Development Community (SADC), and the Charge d'Affaires of Cameroon to Brazil.

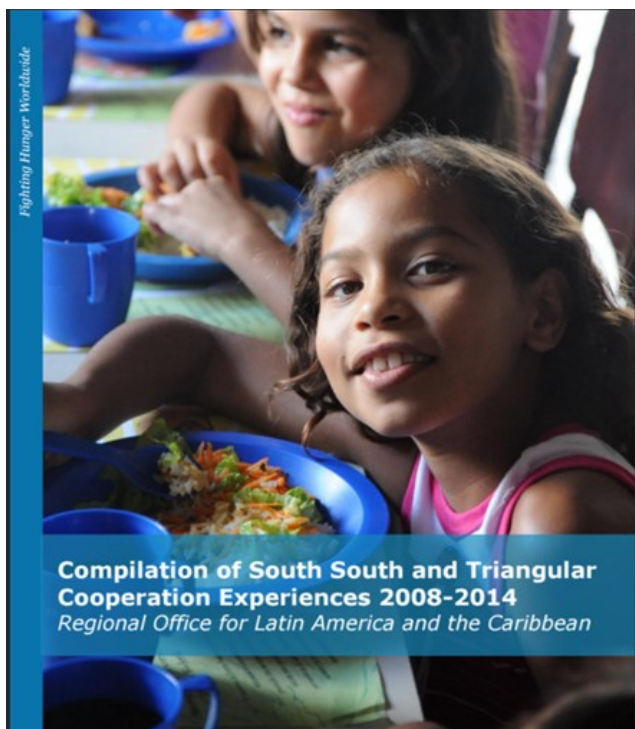
This visit was one step in a longer process that started last year at the WFP Executive Board meeting, when representatives of West and Central Africa requested WFP to support them in raising

school feeding at a high level political agenda in order to adopt a common strategy for implementing quality programmes under the leadership of national governments. The Minister of Education of Niger is currently leading this advocacy effort.

The visit helped to sensitize AUC on the importance of putting in place sustainable, effective home grown school feeding programmes, and their cross-sectoral impacts on improved nutrition and social protection, agricultural development, and rural capital formation. It was an important step to promote AUC leadership in school feeding. For more information, you can contact Constance.Kobolar@wfp.org, RBD.

Compilation of South-South and Triangular Cooperation experiences in Latin America and the Caribbean

The WFP Regional Bureau in Panama has launched a report which compiles [WFP's experiences in South-South and Triangular Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean](#) between 2008 and 2014.



Changing needs of countries in the region

The nature of WFP interventions in Latin America and the Caribbean has changed significantly over the past 20 years.

- Over 80 per cent of countries in the region have graduated from lower-income to middle-income country status. Alongside this shift, the needs for food assistance of many countries in the region have been changing.
- Many countries continue to receive food assistance, while also establishing themselves as providers of assistance. Countries like Mexico, Brazil, Chile and Peru have even consolidated their own “aid agencies” and are providing expertise that is relevant for achieving Zero Hunger to other countries in the region. Some of them, like the Chilean Development Agency (AGCI), are already engaged with WFP.
- Food assistance programmes implemented by WFP in countries like Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico and Panama have been completely transferred to the government.

WFP's role in SSC in Latin America and the Caribbean

WFP continues its efforts in the region to

- strengthen food and nutrition security,
- reduce the impact of natural disasters and climate change through capacity strengthening in the design, management, and implementation of programmes and projects,
- promote the inclusion of hunger eradication in public agendas of countries.

Facilitating South-South Cooperation is an important “tool” and “engagement strategy” for Country Offices and for the WFP Regional Bureau in Panama to advance these efforts.

What kind of information does the report provide?

The report provides a snapshot of WFP's experiences in supporting South-South Cooperation with different countries in the region. It includes experiences in areas such as child nutrition, school feeding, social protection, family farming, public policy and integrated risk and disaster management.

Best practice examples and lessons learned are presented in the report as well.

For further questions on the report or on RBP's work on South-South Cooperation, you can contact Maria Pino (maria.pino@wfp.org) and Carol Montenegro (carol.montenegro@wfp.org).



Photo: WFP.