

WFP CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

# VIRTUAL EXCHANGES

REMOTE SUPPORT TO COUNTRIES



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Since 2011, the WFP Centre of Excellence (CoE or Center) against Hunger in Brazil has been engaging, either onsite and/or remote, in technical assistance and capacity strengthening in development contexts for Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The WFP Strategic Plan 2017-2021 and Agenda 2030 provide the WFP CoE with an opportunity to strengthen its remote assistance’s conceptual and operational framework to further contribute to national SDG2 efforts and results.

This document provides partners with a summary, rationale, and framework of WFP CoE’s Virtual Exchanges, a remote assistance concept for SDG2 solutions, with focus on school feeding programmes. The methodology is consistent with the demand-driven approach of the Centre and it will support countries to engage in South-South cooperation within a broader programmatic and development context by: working with partner countries to identify the challenges to the strengthening of national programmes and defining a combination of technical assistance instruments and activities to overcoming the given challenge that will be implement in an adaptive and learning-focused manner.

## WFP CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE AGAINST HUNGER IN BRAZIL

The WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger was established in 2011 to assist developing countries in strengthening their national food and nutrition security frameworks via South-South and Triangular Cooperation. Starting from Brazil’s world reference experience in this field, in partnership with the Brazilian Fund for Education Development (FNDE) and the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), WFP CoE continuously supports over 30 countries develop their capacities and has engaged with over 80 countries worldwide.

Considering WFP estimates for school feeding, WFP CoE technical assistance, remote assistance, and capacity strengthening can benefit more than 4 million school-going children and thousands of smallholder farmers participating in home-grown school feeding (HGSF) programmes.

While delivering its South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) programme, the WFP CoE responds to requests by WFP HQ, RBs and COs,

as well as partner country governments to help identify, capture and package their national solutions in matters of school feeding and share these solutions with peers. For that, WFP CoE offers advice and various types of support to WFP RBs and COs and governments in the preparation of normative frameworks such as draft legislation, institutional development plans, pilots’ elaboration and roll-out, country-level strategies, and implementation actions towards sustainable programs. WFP CoE responds to capacity gaps identified through an assessment process that is led by the partner government. Considering national contexts, available resources, operating constraints & opportunities and identified demands to achieve SDG 2 – Zero Hunger, some countries require closer technical assistance and capacity strengthening, while others can have their demands fulfilled by remote assistance’s Virtual Exchanges.



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## HOW CAN WFP COE REMOTE ASSISTANCE HELP YOU?

South-South knowledge exchange initiatives are a powerful way to share, replicate, and scale up what works in development. Development practitioners want to learn from the practical experience of others who have gone through, or are going through, similar challenges. They want to be connected to each other and have ready access to practical knowledge and solutions, with specialized support from a third-party used to conducting such exchanges, as is the case of the WFP CoE. When done right, SSTC initiatives can strengthen the capacity, confidence, and belief of individuals and entities to perform better. Results from SSTC exchanges can also influence outcomes at the institutional and even systemic levels. Participants from successful HGSF SSTC initiatives are empowered and motivated to make things happen. They will pursue to change the environment in which they work, affect policies and norms that impact the way people perform, and strengthen the institutions where they operate.



### TECHNICAL AND ADVISORY SERVICES

<b>Programme/ Policy Design</b>	<b>Programme/ Policy Implementation</b>
<b>Transition Strategy</b>	<b>Country Strategic Planning Support</b>
<b>Smallholder Farmers Support in Supply Chain &amp; Market Access</b>	<b>Project Preparation (resource mobilization and funding initiatives)</b>



### PARTNERSHIPS PROMOTION

<b>Regional Networks Coordination &amp; Facilitation</b>
<b>International Policy Dialogue</b>
<b>Multisector Coordination &amp; Stakeholders Mobilization</b>



### ADVOCACY SERVICES

<b>Identification of SSTC Opportunities</b>
<b>Study Visits &amp; Knowledge Exchange Activities</b>
<b>Programme Cost-Assessment Support</b>



### KNOWLEDGE SERVICES

<b>Data Collection and Evidence-Building</b>
<b>Good Practices Documentation and Dissemination</b>
<b>Monitoring &amp; Evaluation Activities</b>

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WFP Centre's programme advice and technical assistance activities aim at nationally-tailored strengthened government capacities in policies and legislation frameworks, institutional capacity and coordination, strategic planning, national programme design, as well as engagement and participation of local communities.

Understanding that country resources may be limited, the WFP Centre developed its methodology for remote support - virtual exchanges.

WFP CoE Virtual Exchanges seize the recent digital transformation priority WFP has been going through and takes advantage of the increasing

global interconnectivity through the internet, promoting financial savings and reducing logistic hassles. WFP CoE Virtual Exchanges promotes Remote Assistance while facilitating Country Strategic Plans operation in the field and supporting high-quality school feeding programmes' designing and implementation. WFP CoE Virtual Exchanges develops data-informed and knowledge-based remote assistance resulting from the Centre's role and experience as a knowledge hub. Virtual Exchange initiatives are just a fraction of WFP CoE's menu of solutions and may be used as part of a change process to powerful effects.

## STRATEGIC RESULTS WFP COE VIRTUAL EXCHANGES MAY ASSIST YOU PRODUCE



Access to knowledge, expertise and technology that strengthen global partnership to support your country's efforts to achieve sustainable school feeding programmes (SDG target 17.16)



Country's strengthened capacity to implement and deliver the sustainable school feeding programmes (SDG target 17.9)



Country's policies to support sustainable school feeding programmes are coherent (SDG target 17.14)

## STRATEGIC OUTCOMES WFP COE VIRTUAL EXCHANGES MAY ASSIST YOU ACHIEVE



Enhanced capacities of WFP and national public institutions and systems, including local responders, to identify, target and assist food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations with school feeding programmes



National governments' demand for specific school feeding services fulfilled



Supported inclusive and sustained school feeding policy reform processes



Prioritized and implemented school feeding policy reforms



Enhanced common coordination platforms for nationally-owned school feeding programmes



Enhanced strategic partnerships with the public and private sectors and other operational partners for school feeding programmes

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## STRATEGIC OUTPUTS WFP COE VIRTUAL EXCHANGES MAY ASSIST YOU DELIVER

Strategic outputs are changes in skills or abilities and capacities of individuals or institutions, or the availability of new products and services that result from the successful completion of the Virtual exchange. They are achieved with the resources provided and within the period specified. Some examples of strategic outputs resulting from Virtual Exchange are:

capacity development and technical support, shared services and platforms, non-financial partnerships, national coordination mechanisms, policy engagement strategies developed/implemented, and policy reform identified/advocated. Strategic outputs for the exchange are agreed upon during the first stage of the process.

## WHAT IS THE FOCUS AND THE ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE FOR VIRTUAL EXCHANGES?

WFP CoE Virtual Exchanges are directly linked to SDG 17, however to encourage more integrated programming, this modality of remote assistance is tailored for WFP COs and governments to produce results and achieve outcomes on SDG 2 as needed by each national context. Virtual Exchanges setup for

HGSF may be adapted based on operational context. There are 13 common HGSF programme areas for countries to choose from and for WFP CoE to tailor its assistance. This menu is not limitative, and depending on country needs, WFP CoE will develop new themes based on its knowledge hub:

-  Financing of the school feeding programmes
-  School menus design
-  School feeding legislation
-  Food and nutrition education in school feeding programmes
-  Social participation in school feeding programmes
-  Monitoring & Evaluation
-  Quality index of nutritional food safety coordination
-  Nutrition, food preparation and preservation
-  Gender-sensitive school feeding programming
-  Home-grown school feeding programming
-  Food waste
-  Nutrition-sensitive school feeding programming
-  Multisectoral coordination for national school feeding programmes

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Available tools/activities for the exchange are aligned with the above-mentioned strategic outcomes and outputs, also depending on the national legal framework and local context. These activities are standardized categories that enable the creation of a starting point for action and will also be tailored to the requested country demand.

-  Sharing of knowledge through baseline publications
-  Conference calls
-  Country-specific webinars
-  Tailored videos
-  Development of new publications
-  Remote participation in national missions, events, workshops and seminars
-  In-person participation in national missions, events, workshops and seminars, if there is demand and available country funding

## HOW DOES “VIRTUAL EXCHANGES” WORK?

Virtual Exchanges have three main steps (the “three Ds”).



Steps for a Virtual Exchange with the WFP Centre of Excellence include:



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## 1. DEFINE

The first step is to agree on the national demand/goal that the Virtual Exchange will support, identify major challenges limiting the achievement of this goal, and consider what will transform due to the exchange (policies, institutions, coordination, resources, etc.). Stakeholder engagement: Building on its core principles for SSTC and considering the elements of the Country Strategy Plan (CSP) frameworks, WFP CoE will engage with stakeholders to debate and reflect upon actions able to define relevant, existing capacity assets and stakeholder needs to design and deliver a validated and demand-driven Virtual Exchange remote assistance. Demands from WFP country offices can be sent directly to WFP CoE by e-mail. Online confer-

ences and calls will be set to arrange first meetings for engagement process and to tailor requests. Demands from host governments should be channeled through WFP country offices for optimizing process and systems WFP has available for all partners. Validation of demand and baselines: Through an online dialogue process, WFP CoE engages with WFP country office to identify critical school feeding programme areas resources that will be required to support the exchange agenda. To help tailor the demands, WFP CoE and country offices should assess the CSP framework and the current level of capacities in each school feeding context and identify the appropriate exchange.

## 2. DESIGN

Once current capacity assets and needs are clear and agreed upon, an agenda for the Virtual Exchange will be tailored to context regarding stakeholders, capacity assets, objectives, and activities. A general action plan articulates the outcomes that typify a state of self-sufficient capacity along each of the six strategic outcomes

virtual exchanges can assist countries deliver. Guidance and tools to promote partnership scoping are available to support the process of relationship-building and knowledge mobilization across the 13 programme focus areas, a critical issue to a successful Virtual Exchange.

## 3. DELIVER

During this phase, the WFP Centre will prepare the outputs designed in the previous steps and direct all necessary material to the requesting country. Regular conference calls will also take place during this phase to close further knowledge gaps for the requesting country

Review findings are mapped to a Virtual Exchange Activity Matrix, which captures critical operational information for each activity proposed and aligns with a new process monitoring approach to help track progress along the critical programme focus

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

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