

SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME:

Trajectory and results of the Brazil-FAO Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean

Strengthening of School Feeding Programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean

Since 2009, within the framework of the Brazil-FAO Cooperation Programme, the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC/MRE), the National Development of Education Fund (FNDE) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) have been implementing the project “**Strengthening of School Feeding Programmes in the Framework of the Hunger Free Latin America and the Caribbean 2025 Initiative**”.



Since then a total of 19 countries have already participated in this Initiative, which takes the Brazilian experience of school feeding programmes as reference. This programme is universal and offers quality meals, one or more times a day to almost 43 million students, during 200 school days annually. In the year 2017, there are 13 countries directly participating in the project: Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

A new vision for School Feeding Programmes in the region

With the goal to overcome an assistance based focus, a new vision of school feeding programmes was build, taking into account the principles of the human right to adequate food and of quality education for achieving food and nutrition security, healthy food habits, and the sustainable social and cognitive development in the countries.

Trajectory and results: Good practice and management

The publication “**Sustainable School Feeding Programmes: Trajectory and results of the Brazil-FAO Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean**” was developed in order to share experiences, good practices and results reached through the Brazil-FAO technical cooperation. It is expected that this document will be useful to the countries in an effort to strengthen their programs and their public policies, in an inter-sectoral and sustainable way, thus guaranteeing healthy, continuous, universal and adequate food in schools.



Various actions were identified as good practices because of their results and contributions to the process of strengthening sustainable school feeding programmes within the framework of this cooperation. In this a way, it is possible to highlight:

- Inter-sectorial articulation and articulation of policies;
- International experts forum;
- Technical exchange visits to exchange experiences;
- The semi-presential course about SFPs;



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- Implementation of Sustainable Schools
- Regional studies; and
- The elaboration of educational and teaching materials for the various segments.

Main contributions of the Brazil-FAO Cooperation to School Feeding Programmes: the new scenario in the region

Taking the principles and guidelines of the Brazilian School Feeding Programme as reference, there has been an effective participation of the countries, in jointly constructing a new paradigm.

Thus, more than 60 years of experience of the school feeding programme in Brazil and FAO's support, have been important factors to affirm the political will to strengthen SFPs in the countries and to accelerate the building of knowledge and capabilities to formulate and implement national policies in this sense.

The new generation of SFPs is based on guaranteeing social rights and public investment in social development, in consolidated legal frameworks or in the process of consolidation, in practical laboratories of the implementation of sustainable school feeding programmes (Sustainable Schools), and in technicians and managers that debate and develop public policies in their countries.



Support of the project in the fight against hunger and malnutrition

Currently, School Feeding Programmes are part of the agendas of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), and is a pillar of nutritional and health well-being. In addition, they are recognized as a strategy for inter-sectorial social policies and for achieving several Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

By ensuring adequate, healthy, continuous, universal and sustainable food in public schools, Sustainable School Feeding Programmes generate positive social impacts in terms of the universalization of compulsory public education; of improving the quality of education; improving school performance; improving the health and nutritional status of children; as well as the strengthening of healthy eating habits of families and the community; increased food security and sovereignty of the population; the development of family farming and the local economy; including increased incomes, among others.



The positive changes created in the lives of students, teachers, families and local producers through the implementation of quality and sustainable school feeding programmes are visible, and are reinforcing the commitment of the institutions involved, the support of the school community and the decision of the public authorities to strengthen their programmes.

Strengthening of School Feeding Programmes in LAC

<http://www.fao.org/in-action/programa-brasil-fao/proyectos/alimentacion-escolar/es/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/FAOBrasilCoop> / Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjnFA-mbbzo>



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