THE REGIONAL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE AGAINST HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION (CERFAM)

1. What is the Regional Centre of Excellence?

The Regional Centre of Excellence against Hunger and Malnutrition (CERFAM) is the result of a partnership between the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and the World Food Programme (WFP) to support countries in their national efforts to develop and implement sustainable policies and programmes to achieve Zero Hunger (SDG2) and combat all forms of malnutrition in line with the 2030 Agenda.

CERFAM is WFP's first Centre of Excellence in Africa. It was officially launched on 25 March 2019. It follows WFP's previous successful experiences in Brazil and China. CERFAM aims to support and leverage efforts aimed at accelerating the achievement of Zero Hunger while simultaneously responding to national Governments and regional institutions' growing demands for capacity strengthening, technical expertise, knowledge management and sharing, South-South cooperation and exchanges.

2. Mission, vision and strategic goal

Mission: Contribute to accelerating progress towards ending hunger and malnutrition in the region and Africa.

Vision: CERFAM is a catalyst and enabler for good practices and innovative solutions against hunger and malnutrition in the region and Africa.

Strategic Goal: Promote and facilitate access and exchange of knowledge for transforming good practices and lessons learned into opportunities to advance the fight against hunger and malnutrition in the region and Africa.

3. Objectives and Thematic of CERFAM

CERFAM is a regional hub for exchanges, partnership-building and South-south cooperation, which allows developing countries to access the best available expertise, knowledge and technical assistance to support them in their efforts to advance in the implementation of SDG2. It facilitates and mobilizes high-level expertise, promotes hunger and nutrition solutions, through proven practices, innovative approaches and pioneering networks and communities of practice connecting national, regional and international stakeholders.

CERFAM's specific objectives are to:

- 1. Support governments and development partners to advance in their efforts to implement the SDGs, particularly SDG2;
- 2. Act as a knowledge hub for good practices and lessons learned, by facilitating the identification, documentation, exchange, dissemination, adoption and implementation/scale up of locally owned and durable solutions with effective impact on hunger and malnutrition:
- 3. Strengthen, establish and mobilize strategic partnerships and alliances to support efforts and lasting solutions against hunger and malnutrition;
- 4. Contribute to advocacy in the fight against hunger and malnutrition, ensuring synergies and complementarities with partners.

The initial consultations and reviews indicate a growing demand for investment in capacity strengthening from national governments, especially in school feeding and local purchase, post-harvest losses, nutrition sensitive/specific interventions, community resilience, agricultural development. The work on these thematic areas with Member States and partners, will contribute to youth and women employment and empowerment, income generation, private sector engagement through local economic and value chain development, and implications for the environment and climate.

4. Strategic Pillars

Partnership-building at all levels, including with the Centres of Excellence of Brazil and China, regional institutions and other platforms, for the crossfertilization of expertise, know-how, technologies and the release of synergies, in the fight against hunger.

Technical Assistance

to support countries to strengthen their policy, legal and institutional frameworks and the implementation of good practices against hunger and malnutrition through a network of experts.

CERFAM'S FOUR PILLARS

Research to enable the identification, documentation and dissemination of good practices and lessons learned on family farming, post-harvest losses management, coordination and convergence of nutrition interventions, community resilience and social protection.

Advocacy and communication

to raise awareness and mobilize collective action at all levels, build and strengthen partnerships, mobilize resources to leverage investments aimed to promote and implement good practices and innovative solutions in the region.

Capacity strengthening and South-South Triangular cooperation are at the core of CERFAM's modus operandi.









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