How to propose a good practice to CERFAM?

1. Why good practices?

Identifying, documenting, analysing and sharing good practices is a key knowledge management strategy at the core of CERFAM work. Through the experiences, projects and programmes of CERFAM's partners, good practices are identified, analysed, documented, selected and certified by world-class experts before being widely disseminated to inform decision-making processes including investments, capacity development initiatives and.

Submitting potential good practices and promising innovations to CERFAM opens an opportunity for stakeholders to test their interventions not only by receiving a comprehensive analyse of their practices and effectiveness of their results, but also the occasion to review, understand, improve their initiatives.

By identifying, documenting and analysing good practices, important elements can be captured, including:
1. Success factors and lessons learned: Stakeholders can understand what makes the practices successful (i.e. generating desired results and impacts). On the other hand, these elements can prevent stakeholders from failure or inefficiency, which have been made by others before.
2. Conditions: Stakeholders can realize what are essential to implement or even scale up the good practices, such as social, environmental or cultural aspects.
3. Innovation: New techniques, technologies or methodologies can be considered an alternative to the existing one to fight zero hunger and malnutrition in a more efficient and effective way. Stakeholders can inspire from it and think about how to adopt it in their context.

By working with CERFAM on the identification, documentation, analysis, selection and dissemination of good practices, you will contribute to spread knowledge on many areas that critical to zeroing hunger in Africa.

Join us in these efforts to harness the potential of good practices to bring about the change we want in Africa. We are looking for good practices in the following areas:
1. Home-grown school feeding
2. Postharvest loss management
3. Rural development
4. Food quality and safety
5. Community resilience
6. Multisectoral Platforms for Nutrition and Nutrition sensitive programming
7. Institutional Coordination and Collaboration

2. What is a good practice?

A good practice refers to interventions, business practices, processes or methodologies with proven or potential evidence of impact on food insecurity or malnutrition. To identify and select good practices, the following aspects are considered by the methodology of CERFAM:

1. It is not necessary to consider a whole project or programme. It can be the processes, the activities, results, any piece/practice that can contribute to the goal of achieving SDG2.

2. The practice in the project can be defined as good, even if the project is evaluated as not successful. In this case, the practice has the potential to become a good practice and could be applied in other different contexts.

3. Evidence is a key component for evaluating a good practice, therefore the practice should have been tested to ensure good and reliable result and demonstrate that it is indeed effective.

4. Processes matter as an intrinsic part of good practices, and they influence capacity strengthening outcomes.

5. This guideline recognizes the diversity of initiatives to identify and document good practices against hunger and malnutrition. It will therefore evolve and be flexible enough to consider efforts in place while exploring synergies and complementarities to partners' initiatives;

3. Three levels of good practices

Good practices are classified at three levels: Innovative Practices, Successfully Demonstrated Practices and Replicated or Scalable Good Practices.

Level 1:

Innovative Practices

Such practices may not be supported by statistics or formal evaluations. However, they have already been tested and logically show a certain level of effectiveness. They could also have been implemented as pilot or initial new techniques or technologies exhibiting promising and minimal evidence of results.

Level 2:

Successfully Demonstrated Practices

This kind of practice has been proven successful, with tangible results, in a given context. Although the practice is only tested in this context, it has transferable features for other contexts or settings. But it can also represent a risk if applied in a different context.

Level 3:

Replicable or Scalable Good Practices

Practices at this level have demonstrated that they generate desired results in multiple contexts. They are qualified as a good practice and may be widely disseminated for adaptation and adoption by others.

4. **Criteria for assessing Practices**

CERFAM assesses practices by considering the following aspects of criteria:

Effectiveness
The criteria of "Effectiveness" tests if the practice works and achieves measurable results. CERFAM measures the extent to which the practice's objectives were achieved or are expected to be achieved and figure out the major factors influencing the achievement of the objectives.

Efficiency
This is a measure of how well resources were used by the programme in achieving the outcome. A good practice should demonstrate that it applies cost-effective methodologies in its implementation, including showing the link between activities and results in food security and nutrition. Moreover, there is a great need to factor into the cost of interventions, the hidden costs of social and environmental impacts.

Relevance
The proposed practice must address the priority problem regarding food security and nutrition. In addition, the different aspects of context, in which the practice has been carried out, should be clearly considered.

Feasibility
This means to demonstrate possible implementation. The practice itself should not be complex and complicated, so that the beneficiaries can understand and benefit from it more quickly and easily. Different factors, such as human, finance and environment, should be considered and addressed to ensure that the practice is feasible.

Innovation and learning
Innovation refers to the component of good practice which is perceived as new. It includes not only new technology or technique, but also managerial process and participation approach. Evaluation during project implementation and its end could provide an opportunity to learn from the project and improve it in the future if the practice is adopted again in the future.

Partnership and multi-sectoriality
The proposed practice should involve and foster the collaboration between several stakeholders, especially the local community and national or local authorities. In addition, the practice needs to create synergies and complementarities while adding value to ongoing initiatives. The involvement of local community and stakeholders from the beginning to the end of the project is essential.

Accountability (Good governance and transparency)

The project should be transparent with clear structure for participation, management and decision-marking. Its information should be always available for the public. Moreover, the project should have explicit funding sources and avoid any conflict of interest.

Replicability

The practice should show potential for replicability. The evaluation conducted during project implementation could assist in finding the conditions of replicability. With clear conditions of replicability, good practice can be replicated by other practitioners in different contexts without making efforts in vain.

Sustainability and scaling up

The good practice should have a persistent effect on the beneficiaries, even after the withdrawal of other project stakeholders. Moreover, the practice itself should possess potential to be scaled up with attributes of success identified in research or through practical experience.

Submitting a practice to CERFAM

Any practices, which are likely to fulfill the above aspects of criteria, may be the targeted practice of CERFAM. If you have such practices and would like to have them disseminated, please send the information to: wfp.cerfam@wfp.org