



World Food Programme  
Centre of Excellence  
against Hunger

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

# Annual Report 2024

## Centre of Excellence against Hunger

April 2025

Brasília, April 2025

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## Dear reader,

This report summarises the main actions of the World Food Programme (WFP) Centre of Excellence Against Hunger in Brazil throughout 2024.

This year, we participated in major international events focused on fighting hunger, organised several study visits under the South-South Cooperation framework, reaped results in food and nutrition security, and had the presence of school cooks and nutritionists who won the Vida de Merendeira reality show in a meeting of Portuguese-speaking countries.

Among outstanding international events, we had the honour to represent UN agencies in Brazil at the launch of the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty during G20 Social, an initiative that brought together civil society organisations to make recommendations to the G20, a meeting of leaders of the world's major economies that took place in November in Rio de Janeiro.

The Global Alliance is the result of an intense process of joint construction that we followed closely throughout the year. During this process, WFP Executive Director Cindy McCain came to Rio de Janeiro to participate in the Ministerial Meeting of the Global Alliance Task Force, in recognition of the initiative's importance and Brazil's protagonism in the fight against hunger.

In early November, WFP joined the Global Alliance as a founding member, supporting countries' commitments to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially poverty alleviation (SDG 1) and zero hunger (SDG 2) through partnerships and cooperation (SDG 17), which are axes of our work.

The year 2024 was also very special for promoting policies to fight hunger through technical cooperation, the main objective of the Centre of Excellence. Initiatives the Centre has been following – and providing technical support for – deliver concrete results that change lives.

One example is Malawi, a Southeastern African country with whom the Centre has had a close relationship for more than a decade. In 2013, we contributed to a dialogue to design a national school feeding programme, back when the country had no children receiving food in schools. Today, the country's school meals programme covers 48% of schools. They resumed contact with the Centre of Excellence to design its scale-up plan, with the goal of providing school meals to 100% of its children by 2030.

We shall highlight some of our numerous activities. We supported the construction of water-harvesting cisterns, vegetable gardens, and eco-friendly stoves in Kenya, impacting the lives of 3,000 students and their families; we carried out study visits with former partners who are making progress in improving their school feeding and strengthening their smallholder farming.

We organized training for Brazilian, Peruvian and Colombian managers to ensure food and nutrition security, contributing to the fight against obesity and malnutrition at the regional level.

Our school cooks and nutritionists who won Vida de Merendeira had the opportunity to meet professional colleagues from Angola, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Mozambique. They attended a meeting of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP) in São Tomé and Príncipe, further expanding the experience exchange and presenting their specialties internationally.

As we look to the future, we are increasingly convinced that international cooperation remains critical to addressing the global challenges of hunger.

I invite you to get to know a little about our trajectory in building a world where everyone has access to healthy and nutritious food. Good reading!



**Daniel Balaban**

# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR



28 tonnes of sesame and 3 tonnes of beans harvested, generating a revenue of **US\$ 35,512.34** for farmers involved in the Beyond Cotton project in Mozambique.



**3000 students** in 4 schools and **80 families** benefited from the construction of water-harvesting cisterns, ecological stoves, and seed banks for vegetable gardens in Kenya



**11.000 cotton farmers** in Tanzania's Mwanza region benefited from the Beyond Cotton project



**10 countries** supported with onsite and remote actions to strengthen school feeding and agriculture



**150% increase** in Instagram post reach (**189,8K to 474,6K**)



**8% increase** in impressions of LinkedIn posts (**134,6K to 246K impressions**)

Are you part of the WFP?

Get to know our support services in the areas of school feeding and smallholder farming at <https://centrodeexcelencia.org.br/intercambios-virtuais/>

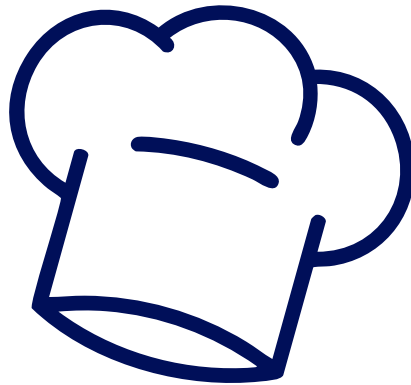
Access the form and contact us.

Do you represent a government, civil society organization, or private company?

Contact us at [brazil.centrefexcellence@wfp.org](mailto:brazil.centrefexcellence@wfp.org)



# SCHOOL MEALS



The partnership between the WFP Centre of excellence and the National Fund for Education Development (FNDE), through the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), registered important advances in 2024. In a year when Brazil is co-chair of the School Meals Coalition, together with France and Finland, the Centre of Excellence represents UN agencies in Brazil at the announcement of the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty. This Alliance is an unprecedented initiative in the mobilisation of various government actors, civil society, private and financial sectors. It was announced during the G20, a meeting of leaders of the main global economies, which took place in Rio de Janeiro in November (read more on page 26).

## School Meals Coalition

The School Meals Coalition is an initiative led by its member states, launched in 2021 at the United Nations Food Systems Summit. The Coalition aims to ensure that every child in the world receives a healthy meal at school by 2030. The World Food Programme serves as secretariat for the Coalition. Throughout 2024, the WFP Centre of Excellence Against Hunger continued to work towards the Coalition's goals, providing information and technical assistance to foster better coordination, political will, and engagement needed to create change through advocacy for school meals.

# Vida de Merendeira

The Centre of Excellence also supported FNDE in the production of the third season of a reality show about the daily lives and recipes of professionals who prepare school meals in Brazil. The 2024 season of Vida de Merendeira (“School Cook Life”) brought together 15 school cooks from all regions of Brazil over the course of eight episodes, challenging them to demonstrate their skills in creating tasty and nutritious recipes that value local food cultures.

One highlight of this edition was the participation of guests from Angola, São

Tomé and Príncipe, and Mozambique, all Portuguese-speaking African countries, to share how their school feeding programmes work and to present recipes from their countries in one of the episodes.

Conducted in partnership with the National Fund for Education Development (FNDE) and the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), Vida de Merendeira represents a tool to promote food and nutrition education through healthy eating practices, and to value professionals who play essential roles in schools.



“School meals contribute to creating new eating habits for children. For me, being a school cook is a labour of love and dedication. Together with the nutritionist, we adapt and improve recipes so that students always like what we serve.”

#### **Josefa Graciene Ribeiro**

School Cook from Limoeiro de Anadia (state of Alagoas), winner of Vida de Merendeira. She prepared the recipe “Kung Pao Chicken with orange and pineapple sauce, with a side of pumpkin puree with pumpkin seeds and licuri nuts”.

“We serve approximately 10,000 meals a day between breakfast, lunch and dinner. I have been working at the municipal PNAE since 2013, preparing menus for children in kindergarten, daycare, elementary, and youth and adult education, always taking care to ensure that students have local, fresh and nutritious products on their plate.”



#### **Janaina Mácia Soares Barbosa de Oliveira**

Nutritionist from Limoeiro de Anadia (AL), winner of Vida de Merendeira.



# TECHNICAL COOPERATION

The Centre of Excellence also works to support countries through remote or onsite technical cooperation. Here are some highlights:

## Kenya

At the end of 2024, a delegation from Kenya carried out a technical study visit to the cities of Natal, Mossoró and Apodi, in Rio Grande do Norte, to learn about social technologies that contribute to a more sustainable school feeding programme. In Mossoró, the delegation visited reference organisations in agroecology and solidarity economy, as well as a school to observe the implementation of PNAE in practice. In Apodi, the delegation met agrarian reform settlements with regenerative agriculture and climate-resilient solutions, such as a solar-powered water well, an economic flowerbed, ecological stoves, rainwater harvesting cisterns, and underground dams for orchards. As a result, at the end of the visit, the delegation prepared an action plan with guidelines for local farmers and for culinary practices, inspired by schools in Brazil.



## São Tomé and Príncipe

Representatives of São Tomé and Príncipe paid a study visit to Brazil, led by its Minister of Education, Culture and Science, Isabel Viegas de Abreu. The mission took place in Brasília and aimed to evaluate the relationship between school meals and the improvement of educational indicators; to learn about the integration of smallholder farming and the school feeding programme; and to discuss menus and programme financing.

The delegation visited local schools, producers, and met with strategic partners to address the strengthening of the educational system and school meals. The study visit resulted in a plan of initiatives for 2025, focusing on training and capacity-building for professionals who work with school meals in the country.



## Armenia

Armenia initially requested to learn about the National School Feeding Programme (PNAE) through virtual visits, in January. In October, they paid an onsite visit with the aim of exchanging experiences on the implementation of school feeding programmes and inclusion of smallholder farming products in schools.

The delegation participated in technical sessions on smallholder farming regulations to provide food for the PNAE, interministerial coordination mechanisms, and social protection policies. The delegation also observed practical aspects of the PNAE during visits to schools and rural properties.



## Cameroun

Representatives from Cameroun carried out a technical visit to learn about aspects of the National School Feeding Programme (PNAE), such as financing mechanisms, institutional arrangements and nutritional guidelines, as well as observing public supply mechanisms and solutions for water access in schools, such as the cisterns programme.

Other topics covered were regulation of food stocks and prices in Brazil, management of pre- and post-harvest losses, development of value chains, and the Food Acquisition Programme (PAA). The delegation visited schools, cooperatives, and rural properties to understand how Brazil integrates smallholder farming into its school feeding policy.

## United Kingdom

The Ambassador of the United Kingdom in Brazil and the Secretary General of the UK Ministry of Foreign Affairs were in Brazil to witness the operation of the National School Feeding Programme (PNAE). The two accompanied the preparation of food, students' mealtime at Escola Classe 66. They also visited the reading room and school gardens.



## Virtual visits



Created in 2021, the virtual visit is a tool for exchanging knowledge between countries, optimizing financial resources, and identifying priorities for cooperation and technical support. Interested countries receive on-demand videos on legal frameworks, social participation, family farming, among other topics that are part of the implementation of the National School Feeding Programme in Brazil.

## Cuba

Representatives of the Cuban government participated in a virtual workshop promoted by WFP in Cuba, with participation of the Centre of Excellence. The event aimed to strengthen cooperation and align demands about the Brazilian school feeding programme, with emphasis on the process of local food procurement and smart solutions for water use in schools.

## Indonesia

A delegation from Indonesia visited Brazil to learn about aspects of the National School Feeding Programme (PNAE), such as legislation, financing, nutritional guidelines, and civil society participation. The country is in a stage of discussions to implement its own school feeding programme.

## Republic of the Congo

Launched in September 2023, the Seeds for Tomorrow project aims to improve food security and nutritional status of smallholder farmers, their families, and schoolchildren in the Republic of the Congo.

In addition, it seeks to strengthen livelihoods of smallholder farmers through access to school feeding markets. To achieve these goals, the project supports 10 schools and 10 associations of local producers in the departments of Bouenza, Pool and Plateaux.

Implemented by the WFP Centre of Excellence Against Hunger in Brazil and the WFP in Congo, the project is supported by the Government of the Republic of the Congo, the Government of Brazil, and the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), with funding from the IBSA (India, Brazil and South Africa) Fund for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation.

In 2024, a delegation from the Republic of Congo met smallholder farming initiatives, cooperatives, quilombola<sup>1</sup> communities, and public schools during a visit to Maricá and Paraty, in Rio de Janeiro.

Throughout the year, the project promoted three thematic workshops on strengthening smallholder farming, local purchasing strategies for school feeding programmes, and methods for monitoring and evaluating these programmes.

The Centre of Excellence also participated in the preparation of documents such as market studies, materials on operating procedures, and thematic manuals.

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<sup>1</sup> Translator's note: Quilombolas are people who live in quilombos. During the slavery period in Brazil, quilombos were independent settlements formed by enslaved people who managed to escape captivity. Many of these communities have maintained themselves even after slavery was institutionally abolished and still exist to this day, keeping their own culture and eating habits.



©Maricá City Hall



## Malawi – Scale-up plan

With more than a decade of cooperation, the Centre of Excellence and the government of Malawi joined forces to develop the School Feeding Programme Scale-Up Plan, an initiative to expand school feeding coverage in Malawi's primary schools, increasing from 43% to 100% by 2030.

The Centre of Excellence team undertook a mission to Malawi with the aim of mobilizing key stakeholders and contributing to designing a roadmap, a document with strategies for scaling up the programme and the development of local agriculture.

During the visit, the Centre played a liaison role between the Government of Malawi, local partners, international organisations and the WFP Country Office. In addition to providing technical assistance, it acted as a facilitator, promoting intersectoral dialogue to meet programme demands.

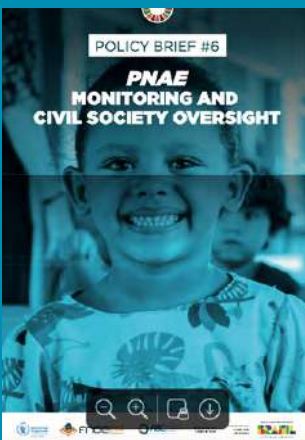
The Centre of Excellence has a long-standing relationship with Malawi. The Centre was a facilitator of the National Consultation Workshop, held in Brazil in 2013, when the government and civil society of Malawi built their National School Health and Nutrition Policy. It was a fundamental step, as there was no school feeding programme in the country until then.

# PUBLICATIONS



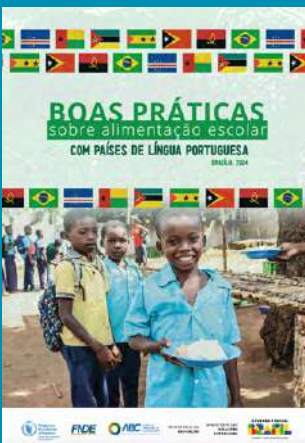
## Good practices in school gardens and school feeding: Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean

School gardens provide fresh, nutritious food and are spaces for practical activities to form healthy habits. Produced by the Centre of Excellence Against Hunger, FNDE, ABC and FAO, the publication brings together successful experiences from countries such as Armenia, Benin, Brazil, El Salvador and Saint Lucia, highlighting the positive impact of school gardens on the education and nutrition of students.



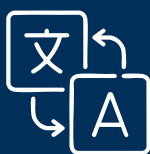
## Policy Brief #6 Monitoring and Social Control of PNAE

The publication, made in partnership with FNDE and ABC, discusses the Brazilian government's tools to monitor the National School Feeding Programme (PNAE)'s execution and accountability. It highlights school feeding councils, field monitoring visits, and the use of digital tools for data management and analysis.



## Good Practices in School Feeding with Portuguese-Speaking Countries

Key points discussed by formulators and implementers of school feeding policies, seeking to develop resilient, environmentally healthy and nutrition-sensitive programmes in Portuguese-speaking countries. The publication was an initiative of the Centre of Excellence, in partnership with ABC and FNDE.



### Publications in English

In 2024, the Programme Unit translated into English and reviewed more than 40 documents on PNAE and international school feeding good practices, such as publications, content for events and missions, articles and communiqués available on the [Centre of Excellence](#) and [School Meals Coalition](#) websites.



**SMALL  
HOLDER  
FARMING**



## **BEYOND COTTON PROJECT**

The Beyond Cotton project supports small cotton producers and public institutions in Benin, Mozambique and Tanzania, to link cotton by-products (such as seed oil) and consortium crops such as maize, sorghum and beans to secure markets, including school feeding programmes.

The objective is to improve production, local income, and food and nutrition security for smallholder farmers.

The project is finished in Tanzania and running in Benin and Mozambique. It is a joint initiative of the World Food Programme (WFP) Centre of Excellence Against Hunger Brazil and the Brazilian Cooperation Agency, with support from the Brazilian Cotton Institute.

**Learn more about the Project:**





## Tanzania

The Beyond Cotton Project in Tanzania started in July 2022 and closed in December 2023. In March 2024, it launched a brochure with results and four technical booklets on approached topics such as seed houses, plate cisterns, monitoring, and alternative control of pests and diseases.

During the closing mission, photos and interviews were recorded for the project's documentary in Tanzania, developed by the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC)'s and the Centre of Excellence's communications department. The documentary records the project's results in Tanzania, which benefited about 11,000 cotton farmers in the Mwanza region.

Through multidisciplinary activities, the project strengthened the capacity of farmers and technicians to diversify production by intercropping with corn, beans and sorghum to increase family income and local food security. Released in November 2024, the documentary is available on [WFP's Youtube channel](#).

During the project's execution, dozens of farmers from the Misungwi, Kwimba, and Magu districts participated in training on pest and disease management; production and application of natural insecticides; workshops about seed selection and storage; planting planning activities; and making low-cost handmade looms, adding value to cotton fibre. The project also included food and nutrition education training on the integral use of food and social control of child and adult malnutrition.



## Mozambique

Building productive backyards and vegetable gardens in lowland areas near rivers was the solution found by Beyond Cotton in Mozambique to mitigate the extreme drought that affected cotton crops in the Tete and Manica regions during the second year of the project's execution. This alternative made it possible for farmers to plant fruits and vegetables for their own consumption and marketing.



Horticatures in river-flooded areas produced more than 400 kilograms of okra, 180 kilograms of lettuce and more than 200 kilograms of kale, as well as onions and tomatoes. Despite challenges imposed by the climate, the Beyond Cotton Project, in partnership with local institutions, promoted commercialization of cotton and consortium crops, with emphasis on more than 28 tons of sesame harvested and more than 3 tons of beans, generating a total revenue of US\$ 35,512.34 for farmers involved in the project.





## Benin

Throughout 2024, the Beyond Cotton project in Benin conducted a series of trainings for farmers and managers, trained women farmers, acquired equipment for crop processing and garden creation, and offered training on school menus.

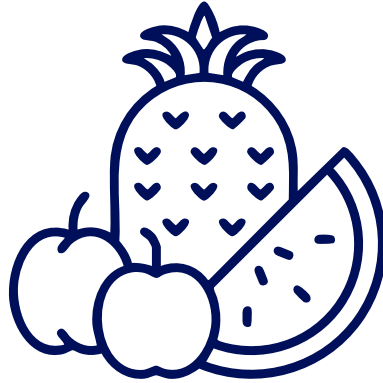
The trainings were aimed at 280 farmers from 14 rural schools in four districts. Through a waterfall methodology, another 1,794 farmers were trained in the topics of harvest, post-harvest, and stock management of corn, cowpeas, paddy rice and ground rice.

Eighty-six technicians and three university students were trained to manage rural schools and school gardens. In addition, 178 women were trained in good harvesting practices, paddy rice and milled rice stock management.

The project also procured associated food crop processing and packaging equipment for 15 farmer organisations, facilitating the marketing of maize and cowpeas during the 2023-2024 agricultural season. Gardening equipment was purchased for the creation of school gardens, and 32 school canteen management committees received garden kits and training on how to design balanced menus.



# NU TRI TION



In 2024, the Nurture the Future Project concluded its activities with the launch of a Policy Brief and video on “Confronting the Multiple Burden of Malnutrition” during the 6th National Food and Nutrition Sovereignty and Security Research Meeting in Rio de Janeiro.

The documents bring guidelines to combat the increase in malnutrition, obesity, consumption of ultra-processed foods and micronutrient deficiencies among the school public and families. The launch was supported by the Brazilian government and attended by representatives of Ministries of Health of Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Uruguay and Colombia.

## About the Project

Completed in 2024, the South-South Cooperation Project to Address the Multiple Burden of Malnutrition in Schoolchildren, also known as “Nurture the Future”, was a partnership between the Ministry of Health (MOH), the World Food Programme (WFP) Centre of Excellence Against Hunger, and the Brazilian Cooperation Agency of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (ABC/MRE).

The project worked on topics such as reducing childhood overweight and obesity through the development of documents with guidelines and strategies for public managers of the three cooperating countries (Brazil, Colombia and Peru). Learn more about the project:

Click to access the website



Click to watch the video



### DEVELOPMENTS

In the completion phase of Nurture the Future, the Brazilian Ministry of Health and the Centre of Excellence carried out technical missions to Colombia and Peru to share the proposed activities and strengthen institutional ties with governments.

Due to the theme's relevance and results obtained, a new stage of work emerged with the signing of the “South-South Cooperation Project for the promotion of adequate and healthy food and prevention of malnutrition for school-age populations”.

With a duration of two years, the project contemplates three axes of action. The

first deals with monitoring indicators of health, diet and nutrition of school-age populations. The second develops strategies to prevent nutritional deficiencies in specific populations. The third axis works with government health and education units to promote adequate nutrition and prevent malnutrition in the school environment.

Activities include technical missions, production of Policy Briefs (recommendations), and participation in national and international events to disseminate results.



# OTHER ACTI VITI ES





## FOOD SYSTEMS

Food systems are sets of processes and activities that involve production, processing, distribution, consumption, and disposal of food. They encompass a complex network of factors, including agriculture, fisheries, food industry, transportation, public policies, cultural preferences, economic issues, and consumer practices.

Food systems include interaction with the environment, considering aspects such as sustainability, biodiversity, use of natural resources, and impacts of climate change. In addition, it covers social and nutritional issues such as access to healthy food and reducing hunger and malnutrition.





An event dedicated to debating food systems and climate resilience was organised by the Centre of Excellence, in partnership with FAO and the UN Food Systems Coordination Centre, with support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Held between October 29th and 31st, the National Inception Workshops to pilot the Convergence Initiative was aligned with the commitment made at COP 28 to promote sustainable agriculture and food systems resilient to climate events.

Following expert presentations and discussions, participants developed recommendations for integrating the food systems and climate agendas.



WFP/Caroline Melo

## Food Systems Summit

The Centre of Excellence participated in the regional interagency working group, coordinated by the WFP Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, in Panama, which followed the implementation of the Brazilian government's commitments signed within the United Nations Food Systems Summit framework.

The summit was created with the goal of addressing global challenges such as hunger, climate change, poverty, and inequality and promoting the development of sustainable food systems.

Since 2023, the WFP Regional Bureau in Panama, through a task force, supports the Brazilian government in its proposal for the Food Systems Summit and has the support of the Centre of Excellence in Brazil.

# INTERNATIONAL PURCHASE WORKSHOP

The workshop Mechanisms for Purchasing Food from Brazilian Smallholder Farmers on the International Market gathered around 50 family farmers and members of cooperatives from all over the country.

The event presented strategies of access to international sales and to train participants to register smallholder farming products to sell to the WFP. It was held jointly by the Centre of Excellence; the WFP in Panama; the Ministry of Development, Social Assistance, Family and Fight against Hunger; the Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Farming; and the National Supply Company.

## PARTICIPATION IN EVENTS

Check out some highlights of the year:



T20 midterm Conference



X Regional Forum on School Feeding for Latin America and the Caribbean



52nd Food Security Committee



2nd Ministerial Meeting of the School Meals Coalition Task Force



3rd CPLP International Seminar on Good School Feeding Practices



Global Child Nutrition Forum



6th National Research Meeting on Food and Nutrition Sovereignty and Security (ENPSSAN)



10th Latin American Congress of Agroecology



National Food and Nutrition Security Council (CONSEA)



Seminar – 25 years of the National Food and Nutrition Policy (PNAN)



Fiocruz Advanced Seminar – Global Fight Against Hunger: national, regional and international responsibilities

## International Events

### G20 preparatory

#### T20 and Sprints

In the year of the G20 leaders meeting in Brazil, the Centre of Excellence participated in discussion forums such as the T20, and proposal-forwarding events such as Global Sprints, within the framework of the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, an initiative of the Brazilian government, of which WFP is a founding member.



#### G20 Social - Global Sprints

In 2024, the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty was launched with the announcement of large-scale policies and programmes to end hunger and extreme poverty. These initiatives were announced during the "2030 Sprints", an event that brought civil society together and that preceded the meeting of G20 leaders. It aimed to present solutions on the topics of income transfers; maternal and early childhood support; family and smallholder agriculture; school meals; and water access solutions.



#### Participation in T20

The T20 is a G20 group that brings together think tanks, research centres from G20 countries and guest countries. In July 2024, the Centre of Excellence took part in the T20 Brazil Mid-Term Conference, contributing to the drafting of the article 'School meals: a unique strategy for fighting inequality, poverty and hunger and achieving the SDGs', in partnership with WFP from other countries, the Rockefeller Foundation, School Health and Nutrition and the Global Partnership for Education. The article was included in the T20 Brazil 2024 Communiqué, a strategic document for the joint declaration presented during the G20 Leaders' Summit. In addition, the Centre of Excellence co-authored the Policy Brief 'Policy Pathways for Tackling Global Poverty and Hunger'.

#### Participation of the Centre of Excellence

The WFP and the Centre of Excellence are engaged in the School Meals Sprint, which aims to double the number of children receiving daily school meals in low-income countries, reaching 150 million by 2030; and in the Water Access Sprint, in which participating countries committed to expand access to water in vulnerable communities in Latin America and Africa by 2030.

The announcement of the 2030 Sprints can be found at:

[Governments and partners pledge to double school meals for children in hardest-hit countries by 2030-Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty](#)  
[Governments, development banks, and civil society and international organisations join forces to develop water solution for consumption and production in vulnerable communities in Latin America and Africa by 2030 – Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty](#)

## Global Child Nutrition Forum (GCNF)



The Global Child Nutrition Forum is a biannual event that promotes knowledge exchange for sustainable school feeding programmes. The 2024 edition took place in Osaka, Japan, with the theme “School Meal Programs in an Era of Food Systems Transformation”. The event addressed aspects such as local purchasing, financing, and sustainability and presented the Global Survey of School Meal Programmes.

Workshop – As part of the activities, the Centre of Excellence organized the workshop “Integrating Climate-Smart Strategies for Nutritious and Sustainable Food Systems”, where more than 100 participants debated home-grown school feeding models through intersectoral discussions and knowledge exchange between countries.



## Portuguese-speaking African countries

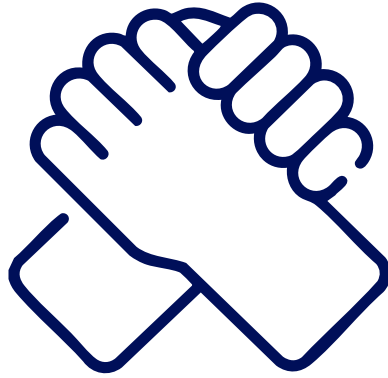
The support of the World Food Programme (WFP) Centre of Excellence Against Hunger in Brazil to Portuguese-speaking African countries has a long history. In 2024, the Centre’s team participated in the 3rd International Seminar on Good Practices in School Feeding in the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP) in São Tomé and Príncipe, which aimed to consolidate programmes in member states and strengthen multilateral cooperation.

During the two-day event, representatives from Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Mozambique, Portugal, São Tomé and Príncipe, Timor Leste, Centre of Excellence, WFP Country Office in São Tomé and Príncipe, private sector, and civil society participated in debates and round tables on different aspects of school feeding programmes.

The Centre of Excellence promoted a side event with the finalist school cooks and nutritionists of the Vida de Merendeira reality show. The Centre also participated in the Global School Meals Coalition presentation at the High-Level Conference held shortly after the seminar, with the goal of promoting the integration of CPLP into this initiative.

**PART  
NER  
SHIPS**





WFP works together with governments, the private sector, United Nations agencies, international financial institutions, researchers, non-governmental organisations, and other civil society groups to end hunger and food insecurity that affects an estimated 800 million people worldwide.

The WFP Centre of Excellence in Brazil also invests in partnerships to promote policies to combat hunger through international cooperation. It includes policies such as national school feeding programmes, incentives for smallholder farming, promotion of food and nutrition education, and strengthening of resilient food systems.

Anchored in WFP's Corporate Partnership Strategy, partnerships enable advances in shared goals and principles.

Some partnerships of the Centre of Excellence:

# ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION – KENYA MISSION

The Partnerships unit carried out the Kenya Mission, a partnership with the Rockefeller Foundation, together with the Federal University of Campina Grande (UFCG) and the Brazilian Embassy in Nairobi to strengthen home-grown school feeding initiatives.

The mission’s design began in March with the Rockefeller Foundation paying a technical visit to Brazil. After coordinated negotiations with the Rockefeller Foundation in Kenya and the WFP headquarters in Rome, the project was approved in April. Agreements with the Kenyan government, WFP Kenya and the Brazilian Embassy in Nairobi were signed between July and September. Visits to map local needs were carried out for logistical planning.

## THREE AXES OF THE KENYA MISSION PROJECT

- Four schools equipped with social technologies (cisterns) to collect water for the preparation of nutritious meals
- Integration of regenerative agricultural practices (land recovery, vegetable gardens and seed banks) into the school structure
- Multisectoral partnerships to present the model in Sub-Saharan African countries.



WFP/Timothy Mwaura



## Execution and results

In October, the project was executed by the Centre of Excellence and UFCG. Together with the local community, cisterns were built in each of the four schools. They now have a rainwater harvesting system, the same used in the Brazilian One Million Cisterns programme.

Ecological stoves were built, and the community was empowered to make vegetable gardens and create a seed bank for use in schools and by local small farmers, contributing to the development of the region's economy. These activities benefited 3,000 students from the four schools and 80 families.

Thanks to these results in articulation with several actors, the Partnerships unit initiated a dialogue with the Office of the First Lady of Kenya to expand the model to other regions and ensure its sustainable financing.

## FOME DE TUDO MOVEMENT

In 2024, the Fome de Tudo movement, with support of the Centre of Excellence, developed the concept of a campaign to support school meals in Latin America and the Caribbean, continuing the partnership initiated in 2023. Fome de Tudo was created as a national initiative that presents solutions to combat hunger and food waste.

The main objective of the partnership is to generate visibility and raise resources for actions to combat hunger through programmes such as school feeding in Latin America and the Caribbean.

## GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP NETWORK

\* In order to expand and promote national school feeding programmes, the Kenya mission strategy was presented to representatives from Angola, Tanzania and Myanmar.

\* Contact with the WFP Regional Bureau in Senegal to promote sustainable agriculture in West Africa, based on sustainable models of productive development, agroforestry and new methods of water harvesting.

\* Dialogues with Benin and Sudan to adapt local purchasing models to the reality of these countries.



**COM  
MUNI  
CATION**





A highlight of the Communications unit in 2024 was the celebration of World Food Day in Brasília, Federal District, at the Sesi Lab Museum. It was a joint action between the WFP Centre of Excellence, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), in partnership with the Ministry of Social Development and Fight against Hunger and the Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Farming.

The chef and official high-level WFP supporter Rita Lobo promoted World Food Day through a social media post, nationally publicising the date to 80,000 people who viewed her Instagram post.

The Communication unit also played a strategic role in some events throughout the year, such as in planning Vida de Merendeira; during the WFP Executive Director Cindy McCain's visit to Brazil in preparation for G20 and the launch of the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI) report; and in planning, designing and approving the concept for the "Hunger does not go on holiday" campaign,

in partnership with the Fome de Tudo movement.

With a total of 106 published articles, the number of visits to the website in the period was 72,030, an increase of 33% compared to the year 2022 (2023 data is incomplete due to updates to the Google Analytics Platform). In the same period, 161 graphic and visual materials were prepared and the Communication unit attended 31 direct requests from the press.

In social networks, Instagram had a 38% increase in the number of new followers and an 150% increase in the reach of posts when compared to 2023. These results are largely linked to the close collaboration with the UN Brazil profile and other strategic partners.

LinkedIn had an 8% increase in the reach of posts and 26% in the number of new followers in the annual comparison. In addition, the distribution list of the weekly newsletter This Week received 74 new subscribers (67 in Portuguese and 7 in English). Content engagement (clicks) was 6,009 in 2024, considering the English and Portuguese versions.



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