



WFP/Gabriela Vivacqua

Fifth Africa Day of School Feeding

Home-Grown School Feeding creating a conducive environment for Africa's development and silencing the guns

Wednesday, 26 February 2020, 10:00-12:00
Auditorium, WFP Headquarters, Rome



World Food Programme



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



Investing in rural people



WFP/Gabriela Vivacqua

Fifth Africa Day of School Feeding

Home-Grown School Feeding creating a conducive environment for Africa's development and silencing the guns

On 1 March 2020, the Fifth Africa Day of School Feeding will be celebrated all over Africa under the theme:

Home-Grown School Feeding creating a conducive environment for Africa's development and silencing the guns

The African Union acknowledges the importance of school feeding in connecting humanitarian and development action and changing lives, ending hunger, reducing unsafe migration, educating young people, building social cohesion and stemming conflict.

Instability, conflict and extreme poverty have a direct impact in the enrolment and attendance of children to school. Children in conflict-affected countries are more than twice as likely to be out of school than children in stable contexts. Children that are taken out of school are more exposed to violence, trafficking, child labour and child marriage.

Part of the solution is to scale up integrated programmes that build and support communities: programmes that build resilience, that help parents send their children to school, that make schools a safe and healthy space, and that teach children values and support social cohesion and healthy life habits.

Home-Grown School Feeding is part of this essential package. For children living in fragile and conflict-affected areas, school feeding can become an essential safeguard by contributing to a sense of normalcy and educational continuation. However, WFP and partners calculate that still 73 million primary schoolchildren do not have access to school feeding programmes.

Building on the African Union's commitment to scale up school feeding programmes across the continent, the event will showcase projects in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Mali which demonstrate the importance of Home-Grown School Feeding for bridging humanitarian and development efforts and its contribution to education continuation in conflict situations.

AGENDA

- 09:30 Welcome coffee
- 10:00 Welcome and opening remarks
Mr David Beasley
Executive Director
- 10:10 Video Message
H.E. Agbor Sarah Mbi Enow Anyang
African Union Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology
- 10:15 Remarks by H.E. Hisham Mohamed Badr,
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Chair of the Africa Regional Group of Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives accredited to the RBAs
- 10:20 Presentation of joint projects: Democratic Republic of the Congo and Mali
Ms Silvia Caruso
WFP Country Director, Mali
Mr Claude Jibidar
WFP Country Director, Democratic Republic of the Congo
- 10:30 Facilitated panel discussion
Moderator: **Ms Valerie Guarnieri**
Assistant Executive Director Programme and Policy Development Department
H.E. Dr. Ulrich Seidenberger
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations Organizations in Rome
Ms Nancy Aburto
Deputy Director Nutrition and Food Systems Division, FAO
Ms Antonella Cordone,
Senior Technical Specialist, Environment, Climate, Gender and Social Inclusion Division, IFAD
Other panellists to be confirmed.
- 11:00 Questions and observations
- 11:20 Closing remarks
H.E. Haladou Salha
Representative of the African Union to the Rome-based Agencies