



The work of the Regional Centre of Excellence against Hunger and Malnutrition (CERFAM) in leveraging good practices to accelerate zero hunger

Side event on the margins of the second regular session of the Executive Board
Thursday, 18 November, 13:30–14:30
Hybrid format event on the Zoom platform

Summary

The Government of Côte d'Ivoire and WFP are pleased to invite the members of the WFP Executive Board and their partners to a side event to present the work of the Regional Centre of Excellence against Hunger and Malnutrition (CERFAM) which leverages the potential of good practices and innovative solutions to accelerate progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal 2 zero hunger.

This side event highlights the importance and effectiveness of the strategic and operational partnership between the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and WFP, which led to the creation of CERFAM. It provides an opportunity to share CERFAM's key achievements to date, in particular the capitalization of knowledge management through the promotion of good practices on food security, nutrition, and sustainable food systems in Africa to advance the implementation of SDG 2. The Ivorian Government has initiated a transition process for the endorsement of CERFAM as a specialized technical agency of the African Union.

Context

Based in Abidjan, CERFAM is a hub for exchanges, partnerships, research, technical assistance, and cooperation that aims to meet the growing demand from national governments and development partners to strengthen national capacities, knowledge management, documentation and sharing of good practices and lessons learned to advance the implementation of SDG 2 in Africa.

South–South cooperation and capacity building are at the heart of CERFAM's modus operandi and are key elements in advancing the fight against hunger and malnutrition in Africa. CERFAM has a range of services that has two components: i) identify, document, promote and disseminate good practices at the level of African countries, and ii) act as a catalyst in the mobilization and deployment of expertise and technologies necessary for the implementation of good practices through capacity building and South-South cooperation. Through its services offering, CERFAM leverages evidence-based good practices, particularly those generated in Africa, and expertise in the areas of food security, nutrition and healthy and sustainable food systems, to support the efforts and investments of African countries to achieve the African Union's Agenda 2063. And the Agenda 2030 of the SDGs.

CERFAM has developed mechanisms, tools and methodologies for the collection and documentation of good practices, through a user-friendly and innovative digital knowledge exchange platform called "KEPT". The good practices identified are supposed to allow sharing between countries across the African continent. Key stakeholders, including inter-regional government bodies such as the African Union, regional institutions such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and networks

dedicated to South-South cooperation, are involved in this innovative approach at different levels of commitment in terms of coordination and collaboration.

CERFAM seeks innovative, replicable, and sustainable good practices to inform decision-makers on how to improve their national initiatives, to increase the investments needed to replicate and scale up these good practices and to deploy the best expertise to support this process. Experiences of good practice influence not only the design and implementation of programmes and policies, but also strategic planning for the establishment of comprehensive mechanisms and frameworks. The side event will also highlight the enabling role of digital platforms such as KEPT in sharing good practices and easing access to knowledge and networks and communities of practice.

Launched in November 2020, KEPT comprises four main components:

1. An interface for the submission of good practices and a database to capture these practices.
2. A database of experts in priority programmatic areas for food security, nutrition, and food systems.
3. An expert forum to facilitate the exchange of experiences and practices.
4. A module to ensure the implementation of good practice.

To date, KEPT database, includes 10 practices, 15 practices under analysis, more than 60 users and 30 experts. Good practices documented to date include strengthening agri-food value chains, scaling up effective school feeding models based on local production, food fortification, among others. and can contribute to a global network, such as the Global Coalition for School Feeding, which will catalyze actions and knowledge sharing, thus serving as a key driver for both pandemic recovery and the accelerated achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Objectives

CERFAM will present its progress in identifying, documenting, and disseminating good practices, including harnessing the enormous potential of effective and efficient knowledge sharing to advance food security, nutrition and sustainable food systems in Africa. CERFAM's presentation will focus on the methodology used to determine good practices and will organize a virtual tour of KEPT. Good practices related to initiatives/programmes implemented in Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Republic of the Congo, Chad, and Rwanda will be presented and the impacts of their documentation and dissemination highlighted.



Agenda

Moderator: Mr Chris Nikoi, Regional Director for Western Africa, WFP.

1. Welcome and opening remarks

- **Mr Chris Nikoi**, Regional Director for Western Africa, WFP.
- **H.E. Mr Abdourahmane Cissé**, Minister and Secretary General, Presidency of the Republic, Côte d'Ivoire.

2. CERFAM's work and key results: *leveraging research, partnerships, technical assistance and advocacy to capitalize on good practices to achieve SDG 2 in Africa*

- **Mr Patrick Teixeira**, Director a.i., CERFAM.

3. Voices from the field: *How good practices contribute to advancing food security and nutrition, and promoting sustainable food systems in Africa*

4. Q&A session

- **Mr Chris Nikoi**, Regional Director for Western Africa, WFP.

5. Closing words

- **H.E. Mr Abdourahmane Cissé**, Minister and Secretary General, Presidency of the Republic, Côte d'Ivoire.
- **Mr Chris Nikoi**, Regional Director for Western Africa, WFP.