

Bhutan

WFP has assisted the Government of Bhutan in achieving its education goals by supporting school feeding since 1974 – that is almost 40 years. Over the years, the Government has increasingly taken over responsibilities for school feeding, with WFP remaining with assistance to 232 schools in mostly remote mountainous areas.

This project in front of you is designed to complete the hand-over of Bhutan's school feeding programme to the Government, over a 5 year period from 2014 to 2018 which corresponds to the Government's new 5 years development plan and that of UNDAF. When I visited Bhutan in 2011, the Prime Minister of Bhutan agreed to engrain the complete nationalization of school feeding into this 5 years national development plan.

We are confident that the Government will be able to fulfill their commitment if WFP can provide the necessary capacity building support over the coming 5 years.

With your permission, Mr. President, I would like to show a 3 minutes video on Bhutan which should demonstrate the level of commitment of our staff and that of the Government to make this a handover success story - and use that as my introductory presentation for this proposed project.