

School Meals Programming

Capacity Statement

World Vision International

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1. Background, Mission and Sector Focus

World Vision is an international partnership of Christians whose mission is to follow our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in working with the poor and oppressed to promote human transformation, seek justice and bear witness to the good news of the Kingdom of God. We pursue this mission through integrated, holistic commitment to:

- Transformational Development that is community-based and sustainable, focused especially on the needs of children.
- Emergency Relief that assists people afflicted by conflict or disaster.
- Promotion of Justice that seeks to change unjust structures affecting the poor among whom we work.
- Partnerships with churches contribute to spiritual and social transformation.
- Public Awareness that leads to informed understanding, giving, involvement and prayer.
- Witness to Jesus Christ by life, deed, word and sign that encourages people to respond to the Gospel.

The World Vision Partnership Strategy presents a multi-level approach to focusing our ministry for greater impact through:

- Child Well-being Objectives
- Five priority sectors, each with a global sector approach: i). Child Protection, ii). Education, iii). Health and Nutrition, iv). Livelihoods, v). WASH - Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
- Priority project models.

2. World Vision Education Sector Focus

World Vision's aspiration is that each child attains the core skills and abilities they need to go on to lead a productive and fulfilling life. We envision a world where all children have quality learning opportunities in the home, the community and in school. Quality education should develop a child's cognitive, social and emotional skills enabling them to realize their full potential.

The Challenge

The recent global food crisis is inflicting a high cost on children's health, nutrition, well-being and education, exacerbating the global education crisis and robbing the futures of millions of children if urgent action is not taken.

School-age children are bearing the brunt of the current food crisis. WFP estimates that 349 million people in 79 countries are marching towards starvation, including 153 million children under the age of 18.

The number of children being reached by school meal programs now exceeds pre-pandemic levels and the possible damage resulting from school closures is being repaired. While there has been a huge recovery overall, the reach of school meals in low-income countries remains 4 per cent below pre-pandemic levels.

School meal programs have become the world's most extensive safety net, and present a powerful opportunity to transform the lives of children and their families affected by the food crisis

Overall, approximately 41 per cent of children enrolled in primary school now have access to a free or subsidized daily school meal, rising to 61 per cent in high-income countries.

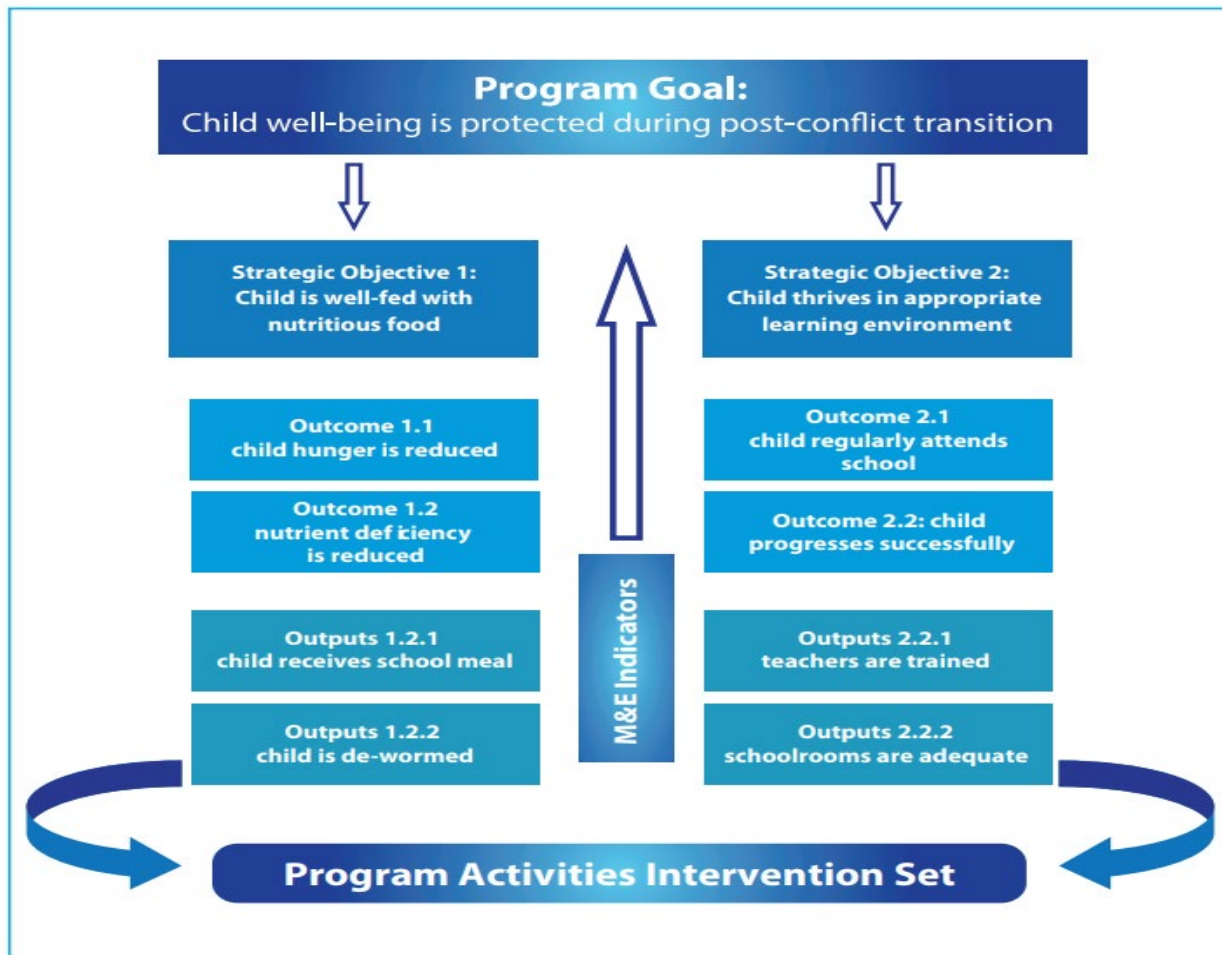
3. Objectives of the School Meals Program

The objective of SMP is to assure access to nutritious food for children of primary school age, by

- a) Contributing to the improvement of primary school enrolment; stabilization of attendance rates and reduction of afternoon absenteeism.
- b) To improve children's capacity to concentrate and assimilate information by relieving short-term hunger.
- c) Improvement in the nutrition status especially for the most vulnerable children, who may not have access to an adequate balanced diet and meals.
- d) To reduce the stress on household livelihoods and increase food availability for other household members.

4. Our Approach – School Meal Programs

The programming options available seek to meet the immediate needs of food security, nutritional security, and improvement in the school environment.



	STEP ONE	STEP TWO	STEP THREE
OUTCOMES	Physical needs are addressed: food security	Health and nutritional needs are addressed	Household livelihood skills are built
	Educational opportunities are provided	Community participation is promoted	School becomes a community center of learning and integrated child nurturing
INTERVENTIONS	School meals, educational environment	Health and nutrition messages, de-worming, supplemental feeding	Adult literacy, livelihood training, community organization, access to information

5. Specific World Vision Interventions

Over the last three years, World Vision has collaborated with WFP, USDA and national governments in 17 countries where we implement school meals. World Vision is providing technical support and sharing of capacities through several complementary activities to the provision of daily school meals and help the transition of school meal programmes to government control. In some

countries, World Vision actively engages in education task forces and advocacy actions to ensure school meals are made more sustainable through institutionalisation in policy and budget allocations.

World Vision provides multi-sectorial technical support to governments, involving the collaboration and coordination of government and World Vision experts in areas including agriculture, nutrition, education and public health. In addition to managing logistics, storage, transportation, food safety and quality, monitoring and oversight, World Vision works with local government actors to build their capacity to independently manage all components of school meal programmes, from production to distribution, working with suppliers and schools, and assuring access to high-quality meals for all children. Activities include:

Key Activities	Offices of operation
Provision of daily school meals to reduce short-term hunger and increase access to nutritious foods.	Angola, Burundi Cambodia, Colombia, DRC, Haiti, Jordan, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Venezuela
Conduct deworming in all targeted schools.	South Sudan
Establishment of school feeding management committees	Angola, Burundi Cambodia, Colombia, DRC, Haiti, Jordan, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Venezuela
Recognition of high-performing teachers	Rwanda, Mozambique
Utilize its Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) methodology to strengthen social accountability mechanisms between communities and schools to improve teacher attendance rates.	Rwanda, Mozambique
Strengthen teachers working together as multi-disciplinary teams to improve learning outcomes producing well-rounded students, and establish peer support and accountability systems.	Rwanda, Mozambique
Provide a capitation grant of \$5 per year per student for school supplies, school repairs, and teacher and administrator training.	Rwanda, Mozambique
Provide school literacy starter kits of essential supplies each year of the project to reach all targeted schools	Rwanda, Mozambique
Empower communities to establish libraries so children can borrow books to bring home and use in reading club activities.	Rwanda, Mozambique
Train teachers in primary schools on improved literacy instruction using the Literacy Boost model through a training of trainers (ToT) model.	Rwanda, Mozambique
Train school administrators on (a) Leadership and communication; (b) Financial and resource management (including human resource management (HRM), infrastructure management and planning, and improving teaching and learning materials within classrooms); (c) Partnering with PTAs and communities for improved learning and accountability; and (d) Ensuring safe schools and inclusive education is provided.	Angola, Burundi Cambodia, Colombia, DRC, Haiti, Jordan, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Venezuela

Support smallholder farmers' production cooperatives to ensure they can supply requirements from the schools.	Rwanda, Mozambique, Angola, DRC, Burundi
Provide garden support packages to schools for establishing and maintaining school gardens.	Rwanda, Mozambique, South Sudan, Haiti, DRC
Practical nutrition education to promote healthy diets and lifestyles including how to grow micronutrient-rich vegetables and fruits, as well as the provision of practical experience in food production and natural resource management through school health and nutrition clubs.	Angola, Burundi Cambodia, Colombia, DRC, Haiti, Jordan, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Venezuela
Collaboration with the Environmental Management Authorities in protecting the environment in and around the schools, and in building fuel-efficient stoves as strategies to protect the environment.	Angola, Burundi Cambodia, Colombia, DRC, Haiti, Jordan, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Venezuela
Distribution of Vitamin A to school-going children	Haiti
Construction of classes and storage for school meals	Mozambique
Construction of latrines	Mozambique
Provision of water tanks and utensils	South Sudan. Sudan

6. School Meal Reach

Country	Reach	Donors
1. Angola	4,097 8,050	WFP ECW
2. CAR	112,309	WFP
3. DRC	20,376	WFP
4. Haiti	40,740	WFP
5. Kenya	23,114	PNS
6. Mozambique	94,479	USDA
7. Rwanda	8,427	USDA
8. South Sudan	289,425	WFP
9. Sudan	19,649	WFP
10. Tanzania	357,552	PNS
11. Venezuela	56,070	WFP
12. Burundi	133,732	WFP
13. Ethiopia	64,125	WFP
14. Lebanon	6,800	WFP
15. Sri Lanka	3,634	PNS

In all contexts, World Vision works in close cooperation with Government Ministries/Departments of Education, School authorities, community leaders and families to determine primary issues to address and the appropriate interventions.

7. Signatory to the School Meals Coalition

World Vision is a key partner for the School Meals Coalition which sets the global agenda for SMP. The agenda focuses on building safety nets for the most vulnerable children, working across the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus, gradual government ownership of school meals, as well

as a deep investment in all sectors, including, improving educational outcomes (e.g. retention and literacy rates), food security and agriculture, health and nutrition, Water and Sanitation Hygiene (WASH), Child Protection and Gender, Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, and Localization (e.g. locally procured and appropriate foods and strengthened local food systems). The gradual government ownership, with technical support from organizations like World Vision, is a top priority for the School Meals Coalition and a shared goal for all actors working together in this sector.

8. World Vision Food Assistance Program Portfolio

In 2022, World Vision implemented food, cash and voucher assistance programs worth USD 735 million, reaching 17 million beneficiaries in 34 countries. Of the 17 million beneficiaries reached, 10.6 million were children. The food programming model used includes general food assistance (28%, USD 202 million), cash-based programming (48%, USD 353 million), integrated programming (19%, USD 138 million), food-for-asset (2%, USD 13 million), targeted vulnerable feeding (1%, USD 9 million) and integrated school feeding (3%, USD 20 million).

The biggest donor of the food, cash and voucher assistance programs was WFP (USD 560 million), the US Government (USD 110 million) and others USD 65 million.

9. Vision for the Future

The vision for the future is a world where all children enjoy life in all its fullness, regardless of their vulnerability. For this vision to become a reality, more funding for school meals is needed. This funding needs to be multi-year and enable the start-up of new programs as well as the scale-up of existing ones.

The sustainability of school meals in the long term depends on the will, involvement, and financing of national governments. World Vision and the School Meals Coalition are focusing on advocacy to enable this vision for the future to become a reality, where collaboration across all actors in the development sector results in stronger and more sustainable social safety nets. World Vision intends to support national offices to advocate in coalition with partners to their governments to reach these shared goals.