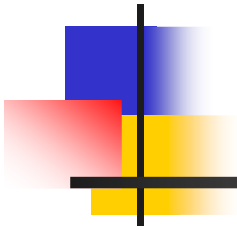




Ethiopia: Children-In-Local-Development Based Food for Education Programme



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Context

- Ethiopia: 77 million people. 85% rural rain-fed subsistence agriculture. USD per capita per year: 100. 47% children <5 stunted, 11% wasted and 38% underweight.
- Net Enrolment Rate 86% in 2005/06
- Literacy rate show urban-rural discrepancy and clear gender bias with 49.9% for men/boys and 26.6% for women/girls.
- National drop-out rate at 14.4% in primary schools and 3.7% repetition rate. Only 3.8% attaining higher education.
- Recurrent and capital spending of US\$ 4.15 per student per year combined with underdeveloped community capacity results in pressure on basic school services and infrastructure, negatively affecting quality of education.
- Ethiopia is amongst the countries in the world with the highest rate of school age children with special needs, mainly attributed to impairments from malnutrition.



Policy framework

- Ethiopia has a Plan for Accelerated Sustainable Development to End Poverty, which highlights education as a key social sector
- Education Sector Development Programme (III) in place, which recognises school feeding as a key strategy to achieve improved access in food insecure areas
- National Nutrition Strategy under discussion in cabinet
- School Health and Nutrition framework being designed based on the FRESH



Programme development over time

- Food for Education (FFE) commenced in 1994 in 40 schools in Afar, Amhara, Oromiya and Tigray regions reaching 25,000 school children.
- In 2006, the FFE was implemented in 1,030 schools in Afar, Amhara, Oromiya, SNNPR, Somali and Tigray regions reaching 639,000 school children.
- In 2007, the FFE programme will reduce to cover only 372,000 school children due to multilateral development funding constraints corporately in WFP.



Objectives

- ✓ “More children enrolled in, attending and able to participate actively in schools”
 - Number of primary school children provided with in-school meals in 136 chronically food insecure woredas
 - A national consensus of the provision of school meals advocated
 - Food provided as an incentive to girls to reduce gender disparity
 - Home-based school feeding pilot developed and implemented
 - Food rations of appropriate quality and quantity received and distributed in a timely manner
- ✓ “Quality of education improved and schools progressively transformed into centers for local-level development”
 - CHILD framework implemented in WFP assisted schools

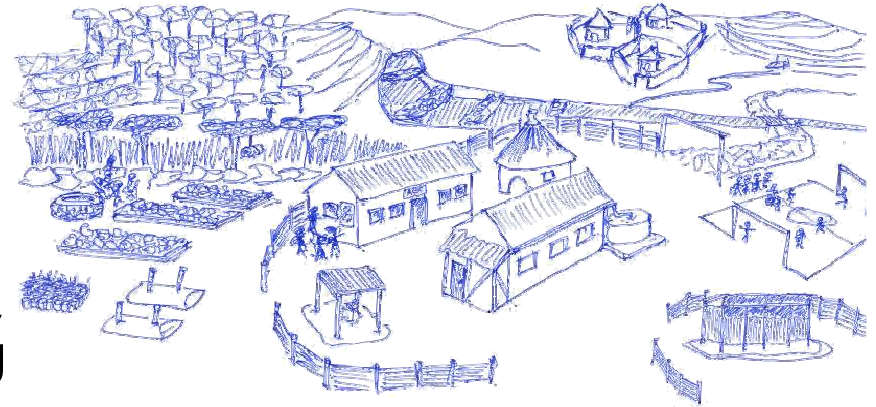
FFE design

- Geographical targeting of primary school children in food insecure woredas done by local government Education Offices based on WFP/MOE targeting criteria.
- Mid-morning meal made of 150 gm. fortified blended food, 6 gm. fortified vegetable oil and 3 gm. iodized salt. Cooked according to local recipes – vary by region. This ration provides 600 kcal.
- Take Home Ration of 8 liters of fortified vegetable oil for girls in pastoralist communities realizing significant gender disparities.



Innovation

- Children In Local Development (CHILD) a participatory community planning tool to improve the school environment and transform the school into a local development resource center
- Building on existing systems, while strengthening planning capacity at local levels
- Partnership framework with the school at the center





Programme management

- Overall coordination of implementation facilitated by WFP, Regional Education Bureaus, Bureaus of Finance and Economic Development and federal MOFED and MOE.
- Focus on capacity building of ESDP&P Unit at federal level, regional focal points and Regional Project Coordination Committees, woreda focal points and school communities through CHILD framework and partners.
- MOE/RBoE responsible for implementation, management, coordination and regular monitoring and reporting as well as waivering of taxes on commodities.
- Schools responsible for food storage and preparation and formulation of CHILD plans through mobilisation of the community. Implementation of CHILD plans by school children and community members.
- WFP responsible for provision of food, essential NFIs, project cycle management expertise and capacity building.
- Plan to develop resource mobilisation strategy jointly by MOFED, MOE and WFP.

Results

- Up to 639,000 children fed everyday in 1,030 schools in 2006 (8% more than in 2005).
- Enrolment increase is 6.2% above the average (2006)
- Attendance rate is 90% and dropout is 5.4% lower than national average
- Gender ratio has improved by 35.6% more than average in Girls' Initiative schools





Challenges

- Food deliveries to schools affected by tender procedures and challenging topography to reach remote schools.
- School storage facilities not adequate
- Reporting difficult due to limited capacities at local levels
- CHILD/FFE dependant on funding solicited through WFP – with decrease in multilateral development funding this affects the programme size.
- Making FFE a national programme with separate budget line in a poor country like Ethiopia

Thanks

