

Side Event at the Global South-South Development Expo 2022

Virtual Exchanges: Digital South-South Cooperation for School Feeding

13th September 2022, from 18:00 to 19:30 (local time, GMT +7 hours)

Zoom meeting: <https://wfp-org-conference.zoom.us/j/96592908728>

Context

The WFP Centre of Excellence Against Hunger in Brazil (CoE) is a global hub for knowledge exchange, capacity development and technical assistance to help countries achieve zero hunger. Over the past 10 years, the WFP CoE Brazil has supported more than 80 countries, using South-South and Triangular cooperation to showcase positive experiences in the development of food and nutrition security policies.

To be more adaptable, since 2019 the WFP CoE Brazil has focused on offering support through Virtual Exchanges. This remote assistance methodology was crucial for the continued delivery of services during the pandemic. Through digital support, the WFP CoE Brazil was able to provide technical assistance in a flexible and cost-effective way to more than 17 countries in the past two years.

One of the core components of this remote package is the Virtual Study Visit: Brazil. Launched in July 2021, the visit consists of online workshops and a series of videos that simulate an immersion into the Brazilian National School Feeding Programme. In the past year, 4 countries have already tested this new methodology, with positive results for south-south engagement and school feeding advocacy among governments.

Even after the end of travel restrictions, remote support is expected to answer to demands that require quick, cheap, and effective technical assistance to governments and WFP offices, especially as it allows bigger than the usual government and WFP offices delegations to take part in the activities, reaching government officials and implementation partners involved in the process at all levels. This GSSD side event aims to present this successful experience and foster a discussion on the opportunities and challenges of using digital tools to promote South-South cooperation.

Outcomes

- Shared learnings from the Brazilian experience in remote assistance
- Discussed opportunities and challenges of digital tools for South-South collaboration
- Identified how to leverage COVID-driven innovative solutions to complement on-site traditional development work

Agenda (13th September 2022)

- **Moderator:** TBC
- **Format:** virtual (Zoom) <https://wfp-org-conference.zoom.us/j/96592908728>

- **Duration:** 75 Minutes
- **Interpretation:** TBC

Time	Session and presentations
10 min	<p>Welcome and opening words David Kaatrud, Director, WFP Programme Humanitarian and Development Division Daniel Balaban, Director, WFP Centre of Excellence Brazil</p>
25 min	<p>The Centre of Excellence’s Virtual Exchanges and the Virtual Study Visit: Brazil</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharon de Freitas, Head of Programme, WFP CoE Brazil • Solange Fernandes de Freitas Castro, General Coordinator of PNAE and Renata Mainenti Gomes, Coordinator of Education and Social Control of PNAE. • Video of the Virtual Study Visit: Brazil (2 short videos – maximum 5 min in total) • Q&A
20 min	<p>Partner countries: Successful experiences of digital cooperation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WFP Lesotho - Masahiro Matsumoto (Deputy Country Director), • WFP and Government in Angola • Government and Save the Children in Ethiopia
15 min	<p>Final discussion: What are the main opportunities and challenges for the use of digital tools in South-South Cooperation?</p>
5 min	<p>Final words Brazilian Cooperation Agency – speaker TBC</p>