

Standard Project Report 2015

Reporting Period: 1 January - 31 December 2015

HAITI

Assistance to the National School Feeding Programme in Haiti

Project Number	200150
Project Category	Development Project
Overall Planned Beneficiaries	685,000
Planned Beneficiaries in 2015	488,500
Total Beneficiaries in 2015	541,457

Project Approval Date	16 Nov 2011
Planned Start Date	01 Jan 2012
Actual Start Date	15 Sep 2012
Project End Date	31 Dec 2017
Financial Closure Date	n.a.

Approved budget as 31 December 2015 in USD	
Capacity Dev.t and Augmentation	1,676,900
Cash--based Transfer and Related Costs	883,033
Direct Support Costs	21,667,848
Food and Related Costs	92,199,517
Indirect Support Costs	8,149,911
Total Approved Budget	124,577,209

Commodities	Metric Tonnes
Total Approved Commodities	89,430
Planned Commodities in 2015	13,128
Actual Commodities in 2015	8,681

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Country Overview



COUNTRY BACKGROUND

Haiti is the poorest country in the Americas. Its economy has been repeatedly affected by political crises and natural disasters in the last two decades. Haiti ranked 163rd out of 188 countries on the 2015 Human Development Index and 138th on the Gender Inequality Index. 59 percent of Haitians live in poverty and close to 25 percent in extreme poverty, while the wealth of the richest one percent of Haitians amounts to the aggregated wealth of 45 percent of the poorest. Poverty is mainly rural, according to the 2013 Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Report it affects 75.2 percent of the rural population.

On the Climate Risk Index, Haiti is third among the countries most affected by extreme weather events and it ranks sixth among the countries most vulnerable to climate change. Recurrent natural disasters include severe storms, flooding, landslides, and drought. A Rapid Food Security Assessment conducted in May 2015 confirmed that Haiti was facing its third year of drought exacerbated by El Niño phenomenon. The 2015 main spring harvest fell below the average with losses of up to 70 percent in some areas. Because many households have experienced several back-to-back poor harvests, hardly any alternative livelihood strategies and coping mechanisms remain. Late in September, the Ministry of Agriculture issued a food security alert with the estimate that up to 560,000 people had already reached crisis levels of food insecurity.

Agriculture provides 50 percent of jobs in the country and accounts for 25 percent of the GDP, but Haiti fails to produce enough food for its population. Food imports account for more than 50 percent of the country's needs and 80 percent of its main staple rice (The State of Food Insecurity in the World, SOFI, 2014).

More than 50 percent of the population is undernourished according to SOFI. The MDG target to halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger between 1990 and 2015 has not been achieved, and progress in this area is very slow. 22 percent of the children under five are stunted according to EMMUS V 2012, and five percent suffer from acute malnutrition. Almost half of the women in the age group 15-49 and 65 percent of the children under five are anaemic.

Since 2015 was the year of presidential, legislative, and local government elections, political instability accompanied by insecurity seriously limited the implementation of WFP activities. High turnover at government decision making and technical levels also hampered WFP efforts to establish strategic partnerships.

SUMMARY OF WFP ASSISTANCE

The main pillars of the country strategy are food and nutrition safety nets, emergency preparedness and response, and augmentation of national capacity. In 2015, WFP worked in nine out of ten departments, contributing mainly to Sustainable Development Goal 2. Due to political instability, the resulting insecurity, and funding shortfalls, WFP faced major challenges in 2015 in implementing its activities.

1. Food and nutrition safety nets

As part of the DEV 200150, the WFP school meal programme represents the country's largest food safety net. It also supports government efforts to establish a Haitian-owned programme by 2030. With trust fund resources, WFP launched a home grown school feeding pilot in the Nippes department, to augment production among smallholder farmers while supplying schools with local food.

Through the PRRO 200618, WFP setup the country's first vulnerability database, hosted and managed by the government and accessible to humanitarian partners. WFP also distributed monthly nutritious rations to pregnant and lactating women and to children aged 6 to 59 months. This safety net has diminished hunger and lent support to the communities most affected by the ongoing drought.

2. Emergency preparedness and response

WFP is at the forefront of the response to the drought that is also exacerbated by the ongoing El Niño phenomenon. Throughout the year, WFP supported the government and partners in conducting an Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) analysis, a Rapid Food Security Assessment, and a nationwide Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA). WFP responded in March by delivering food assistance in the most affected communes. WFP has since set up the largest response to the drought by supporting the recovery of households in the most affected communities with assets creation and distributed food assistance.

3. Augmentation of national capacity

WFP and the government have set up pilot emergency radio communication centers to bolster national disaster response capacity. WFP has fostered South-South Collaboration through the Integrated Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation process involving the governments of Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic. An action plan was finalized in 2015, which identified potential areas of collaboration for disaster risk reduction and for sharing best practices in early warning disaster response.

Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total
Number of children below 5 years of age	50,056	48,955	99,011
Number of children 5 to 18 years of age	274,219	265,725	539,944
Number of adults	56,253	73,486	129,739
Total number of beneficiaries in 2015	380,528	388,166	768,694
Total number of beneficiaries in 2014	559,411	591,758	1,151,169
Total number of beneficiaries in 2013	511,724	555,279	1,067,003

Distribution (mt)						
Project Type	Cereals	Oil	Pulses	Mix	Other	Total
Single Country PRRO	3,690	683	725	2,119	71	7,287
Development Project	6,310	524	1,594		253	8,681
Total food distributed in 2015	10,000	1,206	2,319	2,119	324	15,968
Total food distributed in 2014	11,404	1,328	2,331	1,290	304	16,657
Total food distributed in 2013	14,752	1,696	3,569	2,407	797	23,221

Operational SPR

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES AND RELEVANCE

The Government of Haiti views school feeding as a major contribution to school retention as well as an important social safety net in fighting hunger and malnutrition. Aligned with national policies and contributing to WFP Strategic Objective 4, this development project responded to the government's request for support in establishing a viable nationally owned school meals programme by 2030 that would primarily use local commodities purchased from smallholder farmers. School meals complement government efforts to guarantee basic education for all children, and preempt short term hunger that negatively impacts children's learning abilities.

The specific objectives of the project are to help ensure that primary school children remain in school, to improve education and nutrition levels, and to enhance government capacity for the sustainable management of its national school meals programme. To this end, the activities planned in 2015 included:

1. The continued implementation of a nutrition-sensitive school meals programme where diversified school meals were complemented by key essential package interventions like nutrition and health education, water and sanitation, deworming, fuel efficient stoves and school gardens as well as the gradual introduction of Micronutrient Powders;
2. Linking school feeding to local agriculture and increasing local purchases in line with current efforts and the strategy supported by the Ministries of Agriculture and of Education; and
3. A capacity strengthening strategy encompassing the five pillars of SABER: Policy frameworks, Financial Capacity, Institutional Capacity and Coordination, Design and Implementation, and Community Participation.

Cooperating closely with the Ministries of Education and of Agriculture and involving civil society, WFP launched a Home Grown School Feeding pilot project in Nippes department in October 2015 based on a complementary trust fund. It serves as a platform to scale-up a sustainable school feeding model. Around 3,500 students will receive nutritious and diversified seasonal menus including cereals, pulses, fresh vegetables, root tubers and milk. This pilot works towards the autonomous implementation of locally-sourced school meals in Haiti.

RESULTS

Beneficiaries, Targeting and Distribution

Following a request from the National School Feeding Programme (PNCS), WFP conducted a major re-targeting exercise at the start of the 2014/15 school year. WFP continued to target nine departments out of ten (the Southern department is not included as it is covered by the Government) with more emphasis on schools in rural areas. In addition, WFP and the government concentrated their activities on the pre-primary and primary grades in public schools in lieu of private schools.

Responding to the deteriorating food security situation caused by the drought, WFP decided in collaboration with the PNCS in January 2015 to include in the programme some schools that were targeted in 2013/14 but were subsequently excluded on the grounds that they were not public institutions. Vulnerability and food insecurity criteria (based on IPC results and assessments in schools) demanded the re-inclusion of these schools, increasing the number of targeted children by 43,000.

WFP provided food assistance in 1,781 schools, out of which 78 percent were public, 13 percent privately-run, and 9 percent semi-public community institutions. The overall targeting of the project was deemed appropriate in the mid-term evaluation (MTE) of the DEV conducted in December 2014. Therefore WFP decided to keep to the same targeting in the 2015-2016 school year. Preschool children represented 12 percent and primary schoolchildren 88 percent of all programme beneficiaries. Apart from the new focus on rural public schools, the government approved criteria for the selection of schools for the programme have not changed since 2013. Schools must be recognized by the government and have adequate infrastructure in place (canteens, storage, and proper kitchens), access to water and sanitation for the beneficiaries and for the cooks, functioning school committees.

WFP distributed 62 percent of the planned commodities while reaching more beneficiaries than planned because delays in schools' opening, strikes, water shortages due to the drought and insecurity prevented children from receiving meals every day of the week. Children in the targeted schools received daily hot meals based on a daily ration of 165 grams composed of cereals, pulses, fortified vegetable oil and iodized salt. Children included in the Nippes home-grown pilot project (funded under a Trust Fund) also received this ration from October to December. While micronutrient powders (MNPs) were initially included in the food basket in order to address the high levels of anemia among Haitian children, their distribution was postponed pending finalization of a new strategy for re-introducing MNPs with the Ministry of Health.

Parents contributed complementary items to diversify and enrich the school meal such as condiments, tomatoes and other fresh vegetables or fruits. Parents also supported the canteen through school committees by cooking meals, and providing fuel for cooking. WFP provided all new schools with the necessary eating and cooking utensils. Securing the community contribution remains an important challenge for the implementation of the programme, particularly in rural communities affected by the drought.

WFP has been supporting MENFP and the PNCS in drafting the first national policy on school feeding. The policy will provide clear guidance on geographical targeting, selection of schools and beneficiaries for the years to come.

Beneficiary Category	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Number of children 5 to 18 years of age	240,813	247,687	488,500	246,306	236,647	482,953	102.3%	95.5%	98.9%
Number of children below 5 years of age	0	0	0	29,837	28,667	58,504	-	-	-
Total number of beneficiaries in 2015	240,813	247,687	488,500	276,143	265,314	541,457	114.7%	107.1%	110.8%
Total number of beneficiaries in 2014	339,144	345,856	685,000	448,963	446,339	895,302	132.4%	129.1%	130.7%
Total number of beneficiaries in 2013	339,144	345,856	685,000	326,088	324,433	650,521	96.2%	93.8%	95.0%
The total number of beneficiaries includes all targeted persons who were provided with WFP food during the reporting period - either as a recipient/participant in one or more of the following groups, or from a household food ration distributed to one of these recipients/participants									

Beneficiary Category	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Children receiving school meals	240,813	247,687	488,500	276,143	265,314	541,457	114.7%	107.1%	110.8%

Commodity Distribution

Commodity	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual v. Planned
Beans		169	
Iodised Salt	399	253	63.5%
Maize Meal		1	
Peas	2,386	1,425	59.7%
Rice	9,545	6,309	66.1%
Vegetable Oil	798	524	65.6%
Total for 2015	13,128	8,681	66.1%
Total reported in 2014 SPR	17,583	9,318	53.0%
Total reported in 2013 SPR	17,231	10,225	59.3%
Total reported in 2012 SPR	15,205	2,964	19.5%

'Story Worth Telling'

In a country where food insecurity is getting worse due to ongoing drought, for many parents it is a permanent struggle to feed their children and most of them do not have access to drinking water. At the National School of Vaudreuil in the community of Ganthier, the school meal is a valuable source of food for children. Current enrollment totals one hundred and fifty students, eighty girls and seventy boys. The principal, Gervais Marie Gladys Julien says enrollment has steadily been increasing since the school began participating in WFP's school feeding programme in 2013, for this fact motivated many parents to enroll their children at this school. In a community that subsists on agriculture, where many fields have yielded below average harvests this year, the prospect of a warm meal at school is encouraging. On the school grounds there is a rare commodity, a well, equipped with a manual pump and a storage system for the groundwater. Both children and cooks are taught hygiene and food safety, enabling them to share their acquired knowledge with their families, which is a lasting benefit for the whole community.

Progress Towards Gender Equality

As evidenced by the Education For All initiative, the Government of Haiti made efforts to provide equal opportunities for boys and girls in acquiring basic education. Accelerated learning programmes were also introduced by the government through PSUGO schools (Free and Compulsory Universal Schooling Program) to reach primary school children who dropped out of school. These special schools offer over-age children of both sexes a second chance. Unlike many countries where WFP works, the gender gap in Haitian kindergarten and primary schools is not wide. Education is highly valued by Haitians for boys and girls alike. Haiti met the Millennium Development Goal for parity in primary education as early as 2000, and has now surpassed that goal. Nonetheless, the percentage of young women who have not completed their primary education is still very high. WFP works with partners to ensure that girls and young women enroll in and remain at school by exploring incentives to keep adolescent girls in school.

WFP supported government efforts and, in line with its own gender policy, promoted gender parity in the enrollment in, and attendance of, primary school. The national policy on school feeding, in the development of which WFP played an essential role, includes gender equality as a main guiding principle. Joint efforts undertaken together with the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development (MARNDR) to link school feeding with local purchases incorporate a gender equality component in developing the capacity of both men and women farmers to provide commodities to the programme.

WFP helped achieve a balanced membership of men and women and the active participation of women in school meal management committees. In August 2015, WFP organized a training for all its cooperating partners to prepare the 2015/16 school year. To increase gender parity, one of the selection criteria for new cooperating partners was their previous experience with involving of women in decision making. The importance of women in leadership roles was discussed in several training sessions. Special emphasis was placed on the equal inclusion of men and women at all levels of decision making and in the programme. Cooperating partners reproduced gender trainings at school level.

The local staff of the PNCS were also trained in each of the nine departments where WFP operates. Guidance was given to the government staff on the importance of including women in the execution of the programme, with a particular focus on women's increasing involvement in monitoring activities.

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project end Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
	Target Val	(at start of project or benchmark)	(penultimate follow-up)	(latest value measured)
Proportion of women beneficiaries in leadership positions of project management committees				
Base value: Jun-2014, Focus Group, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Focus Group, Programme monitoring.	50	47		46
Proportion of women project management committee members trained on modalities of food, cash, or voucher distribution				
Base value: Jun-2014, Focus Group, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Focus Group, Programme monitoring.	60	42.52		42.43

Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

From January to June 2015, WFP conducted a survey in all targeted areas and interviewed over 1,500 students in the age group 6 to 14 years to ascertain the level of their satisfaction with the assistance received. This survey is unique in the region. It offers valuable feedback from beneficiaries and allows for cross-reference of information collected from directors, committees, schools, communities and partners.

Only 12 percent of the children assisted by the programme were well informed about the programme. This finding corresponds to the 2014 results. Despite efforts by WFP and its partners to encourage communication on this issue, more innovative ways are needed to communicate to children what their rights and entitlements are, and how to avoid abuse and wrongdoing. WFP and its cooperating partners are working together with the government to produce materials adapted for children. Songs, children's books, mathematics exercises to calculate the rations, competitions, etc. are explored and applied to improve children's knowledge. In 2015, WFP asked parents and teachers to post weekly menus and daily rations on bulletin boards or other visible areas in the schools, as well as to set up suggestion boxes for feedback on programme performance from the children, their parents and the community. Committees also comprise various community members including the kitchen staff, which allows the interests of all involved persons to be taken into account when it comes to decision making.

Because of social unrest during the election period, the number of surveyed beneficiaries who experienced security problems on the way to school rose from 1 percent in 2014 to 16 percent in 2015. The extensive coverage of the programme ensured that children did not have to walk long distances to the institutions where school meals were provided. Some temporary school closures occurred due to civil demonstrations. This generated a feeling of insecurity, however, no grave incidents were reported.

To enhance awareness on protection issues and children's rights, WFP partners initiated training sessions for more than 800 school principals and teachers on how to identify abuse, violence and exploitation of children and how existing legislation for child protection, social equity, and gender issues can be invoked. This activity will be extended in 2016 to offer these trainings to all school principals. Specifically, entitlement to protection against public violence needs to be reinforced as it appears to be the major cause of insecurity in the communities where WFP's school feeding programme is being implemented.

WFP works with its partners on setting up an efficient complaint mechanism in schools and in communities for the 2015/16 school year enabling beneficiaries, school staff and parents to voice concerns and report irregularities experienced in connection with the programme. Discussions with partners and beneficiaries revealed the importance of an easily accessible anonymous system, including a way for WFP to respond and carry out concrete actions following complaints should be. Presently WFP is working with the government's National School Meals Program on setting up such a system, relying on the experiences gained in the hotline system of the Nippes Home Grown School Feeding Pilot project.

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project end Target	Base Value <i>(at start of project or benchmark)</i>	Previous Follow-up <i>(penultimate follow-up)</i>	Latest Follow-up <i>(latest value measured)</i>
Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain) Base value: Jun-2014, Process - Post Distribution Monitoring, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Outcome - Post Distribution Monitoring, Programme monitoring.	90	13		12
Proportion of assisted people (men) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain) Base value: Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Outcome - Post Distribution Monitoring, Programme monitoring.	90	13		11
Proportion of assisted people (men) who do not experience safety problems travelling to/from and at WFP programme sites Base value: Jun-2014, Process - Post Distribution Monitoring, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Outcome - Post Distribution Monitoring, Programme monitoring.	100	99.7		75
Proportion of assisted people who do not experience safety problems travelling to/from and at WFP programme sites Base value: Jun-2014, Process - Post Distribution Monitoring, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Outcome - Post Distribution Monitoring, Programme monitoring.	100	99.7		84
Proportion of assisted people (women) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain) Base value: Jun-2014, Process - Post Distribution Monitoring, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Outcome - Post Distribution Monitoring, Programme monitoring.	90	13		13
Proportion of assisted people (women) who do not experience safety problems travelling to/from and at WFP programme sites Base value: Jun-2014, Process - Post Distribution Monitoring, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Outcome - Post Distribution Monitoring, Programme monitoring.	100	99.7		88

Outputs

From January to June 2015, all targeted schools were assisted as planned. However, strikes and school closures, security issues and poor road conditions delayed deliveries and led to gaps in the availability of food at schools, also reducing the number of actual feeding days. At the beginning of the 2015/16 school year, the review of all partnerships and the subsequent contracting of new partners also led to delays, in some cases until October. As a result, school meals could only be provided on 73 percent of planned school days. Because of poor food management at school level, strikes, missing cooks and lack of water schools could distribute only four meals a week on average instead of the planned five.

Deworming was undertaken in 391 schools in five departments, supported by complementary activities of UNICEF, the World Health Organization (WHO), PNCS and the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP). This involved more than 20 percent of WFP assisted schools in the country. Unfortunately, lack of funds prevented wider coverage.

To prevent the further destruction of trees and vegetation, WFP launched a tender to local NGOs and companies to distribute fuel-efficient stoves in several semi-urban schools. Fuel-efficient stoves reduce cooking time by as much as 40 percent and create a healthier environment for food preparation than wood burning stoves. WFP began reviewing its energy strategy and started looking into the possibility of partnerships with the private sector and local partners in providing natural gas and sustainable charcoal. WFP began assessing a large number of producers of stoves and briquettes in the country at the beginning of the 2015/16 school year. These extensive preparations will be completed in 2016 by long-term agreements with local partners for the provision of efficient sources of energy for school feeding.

WFP continued to implement the recommendations of the 2014 external evaluation and to reinforce the achievements of the school feeding programme. The launching of the Nippes home-grown school feeding pilot introduced locally produced seasonal foods into school meal menus. WFP enhanced the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) capacity of its partners, resulting in the improved programme quality.

WFP worked with the MARNDR to meet its goal to procure 20 percent of the food it distributes from the 14 local farmers associations it supports. The ongoing drought did not, however, allow WFP to fully reach this goal: locally produced food was only available in limited amounts while prices went up. The MARNDR extended the review of farmers associations to new departments to find new providers for WFP, not only of rice but also beans, peas, maize and salt.

WFP formalized its partnership with the PNCS in December. The two organizations concluded their first official agreement and planned the reinforcement of the capacity of the PNCS and joint monitoring. WFP offered PNCS staff training in monitoring and evaluation, maintenance of databases, data analysis and budgeting. In addition, PNCS staff in the departments benefited from trainings in capacity needs assessment, quality control and M&E. The Minister of Education participated in the Latin American and the Caribbean school feeding seminar hosted by the Government of Peru in August 2015.

To enhance the performance management of school feeding, a database was designed and made available to cooperating partners to facilitate data entry. This database was linked to a second database in WFP suboffices where WFP staff consolidated partner reports. This improved the efficiency of the data flow. WFP has started exploring the possibility of using electronic devices for data collection in the field to reduce the time spent on data entry by food assistance monitors. In addition, WFP tested, under the PRRO, monitoring activities through phone surveys, a technique that could be expanded to monitoring school feeding activities.

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
SO 4: Capacity Development: Strengthening National Capacities				
Number of government counterparts trained in data collection and analysis on food and nutrition security	individual	15	13	86.7%
Number of technical assistance activities provided	activity	3	4	133.3%
SO 4: Local Purchase				
Food purchased locally, as percentage of total food purchased	%	20	18	90.0%
Number of farmer groups supported through local purchases	farmer group	13	14	107.7%
SO 4: School Feeding				
Deworming: Number of boys in WFP-assisted schools who received deworming treatment at least once during the year	Individual	0	44,528	-
Deworming: Number of girls in WFP-assisted schools who received deworming treatment at least once during the year	Individual	0	47,916	-
Kcal transferred to school children (kcal/child/day)	kcal/child/day	621	621	100.0%
Number of feeding days as % of actual school days	%	100	73	73.0%
Number of pre-school boys assisted by WFP	Individual	0	29,837	-
Number of pre-school girls assisted by WFP	Individual	0	28,667	-
Number of primary school boys assisted by WFP	Individual	241,856	246,306	101.8%
Number of primary school girls assisted by WFP	Individual	246,644	236,647	95.9%
Number of schools assisted by WFP	school	1,650	1,781	107.9%
Quantity of kitchen utensils distributed (plates, spoons, cooking pots etc.)	utensil	400	376	94.0%

Outcomes

The school feeding programme in Haiti provided a reliable safety net to the families of the 541,549 beneficiaries. In addition to children's improved attendance, concentration and food security, school meals represented an important resource transfer since many of the targeted poor households live on less than USD 1.25 a day. Based on interviews with parents, the average household in the targeted population contains seven persons, including two to three schoolchildren. Consequently, school feeding assistance represents a major contribution to household income. According to the Emmus-V (2012) report from MSPP, the national school attendance rate in 2015 is around 77 percent but above 95 percent for the WFP-supported schools. This highlights the important role of school meals in bringing and keeping children at school.

In 2015, WFP and its cooperating partners conducted over 1,400 school monitoring visits. 5 percent of WFP's joint missions were carried out in collaboration with PNCS and approximately 20 percent with cooperating partners. This is real progress compared to 2014 but still inadequate to what is needed for enhancing the monitoring capacities of government institutions and for a better involvement of the communities. While 75 percent of the school feeding management committees were found to be functional, food preparation still needs to be improved. The infrastructure in the schools remains a serious issue, with water supply, hygiene and sanitation well below international standards.

The food basket provided by WFP was adapted to local dietary habits and well received by the children. According to a WFP survey conducted in 2015 and covering more than 1,500 children, 94 percent of the children continued to be satisfied with the meals received, even if they wished them to be better prepared and more diversified, including also fresh food. WFP promoted the contributions of parents and partners to complement the rations and diversify the food basket. The government policy on free education had led, however, to a decrease in parents' contributions and this had not been counteracted by subsidies or financing alternatives. WFP is working with the government on its local purchase policy and is identifying schools that could participate by using vouchers to buy local vegetables.

From 2014 to 2015 the number of schools assisted by WFP dropped from 2,871 to 1,781. WFP used this opportunity to measure the impact of phasing out school feeding. Late in 2015, a qualitative survey was conducted in 30 schools no longer assisted during the 2015/16 school year. Results reveal a significant degradation of indicators. School feeding was discontinued in 85 percent of the schools; most of the schools that maintained school feeding were supported by religious associations. In those schools, meal preparation frequency dropped to one or two days per week and the meal size was random. Teachers noted a serious decrease in children's concentration and attendance (90 percent and 65 percent, respectively) compared to the previous year. According to school principals, a large number of pupils had dropped out of school. This data is strong evidence in support of increased participation of parents and the community in school feeding management and sustainable solutions to enable the handover of school feeding to the government and/or the communities.

Outcome	Project end Target	Base Value <i>(at start of project or benchmark)</i>	Previous Follow-up <i>(penultimate follow-up)</i>	Latest Follow-up <i>(latest value measured)</i>
Strategic Objective 4: Reduce undernutrition and break the intergenerational cycle of hunger				
Average number of school days per month when multi-fortified foods or at least 4 food groups were provided				
Base value: Jun-2015, Process - Post Distribution Monitoring, Programme monitoring.	16	18		
Enrolment: Average annual rate of change in number of children enrolled in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2014, Monthly School Reports, Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Monthly School Reports, Secondary data.	6	9		-0.7
Enrolment (boys): Average annual rate of change in number of boys enrolled in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2014, Monthly School Reports, Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Monthly School Reports, Secondary data.	6	10		-0.3
Enrolment (girls): Average annual rate of change in number of girls enrolled in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2014, Monthly School Reports, Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Monthly School Reports, Secondary data.	6	8		-1.1
Food purchased from regional, national and local suppliers, as % of food distributed by WFP in-country				
Base value: Jun-2015, Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring.	20	10		18
NCI: School Feeding National Capacity Index				
Base value: Aug-2015, SABER/Stakeholder Workshop 25-26 August 2015, Programme monitoring.	2	1.4		
Retention rate (boys) in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2014, Monthly school report, Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Monthly school report, Secondary data.	95	96		93
Retention rate (girls) in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2014, Monthly school report, Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Monthly school report, Secondary data.	95	95		92
Retention rate in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2014, Monthly school report, Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Monthly school report, Secondary data.	95	95		93

Sustainability, Capacity Development and Handover

The institutionalization of school feeding in Haiti has been a challenge since the creation of the PNCS in 1997. After a major drop in activity between 2001 and 2004, school feeding interventions restarted in 2005. Unfortunately, efforts by WFP and the government to institutionalize the programme were halted by the 2010 earthquake. Although the government's financial commitments to the school feeding programme enshrined in the Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Haiti in 2012 have not been fully met, the newly appointed Minister of Education acknowledged school feeding as a priority for Haiti and urged for national strategies and policies to be drafted before the next elections. WFP, supported by donors, reinstated therefore the drafting process of the first national policy for school feeding that would provide the framework for the institutionalization, funding and sustainability of the largest safety net in Haiti.

In June 2015, the Minister of Education created the first school feeding task force to elaborate the policy and its implementation plan. The task force brought together MNEFP, MARNDR, MSPP, Canada, the World Bank, USAID, WFP, EU, UNICEF, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and PNCS. Several NGOs involved in school feeding were then added to the group. The task force launched a large consultative process to design a strategy based on the experiences of all participating actors. Several workshops, field visits and regular meetings took place, including a SABER (Systems Approach for Better Education Results) workshop in August 2015, organized by WFP and the MENFP. It brought together over 60 stakeholders. The results constitute one of the foundations for the policy. The participants from the government, the UN, NGOs, the private sector, civil society, the donor community, and the schools agreed that Haiti is either in an emerging stage (as regards the policy and the involvement of communities) or in a latent stage (as to financial capacity, coordination and institutionalization, design and implementation) that predicts a the long road ahead leading to handover. The task force built on these recommendations and structured the policy around the need to set up a clear framework for coordination, financing and implementation. As the policy foresees an increased and renewed role for the PNCS, WFP pursued the reinforcement of their capacity by providing central and local staff with essential skills in monitoring and quality control in order for this institution to be ready to take on the role of a regulatory agency.

WFP worked with its six cooperating partners to increase the knowledge of local authorities and in the communities required for the programme, especially in monitoring, protection and gender, in order to ensure the full integration of these issues in the day-to-day management of schools. The school feeding policy envisions an important role for communities and local authorities in the management and funding of the programme.

WFP also worked very closely with the MARNDR to develop the possibilities of local purchases for school feeding. For the second year in a row, UFAPAL (the government unit in charge of the local purchases) is a key partner for both the Nippes pilot programme and the development project. It supported the organization and training of more than 25 local small farmers' associations on how to prepare their produce for sale to the school feeding programme. WFP was able to purchase cereals and beans from 13 local farmers' associations. The pilot programme in Nippes is also expected to provide crucial lessons in local procurement and the organization of small farmers' groups. This will then be utilized in the next phase of the school feeding project of WFP.

WFP also worked closely with the Ministry of Health (MSPP) to develop a strategy for the re-introduction of micro-nutrient powders in the programme. The ministry proposed to reintroduce MNPs to a small number of schools first, in order to be able to plan joint WFP / MSPP awareness campaigns about the product and ensure its acceptance by the schools and communities. WFP / MSPP also plan to jointly monitor the results of the pilot and use them as a base in scaling up the provision of MNPs to the whole school feeding programme.

INPUTS

Resource Inputs

The DEV was generally well-resourced, thanks to cash and in-kind contributions received. Early confirmation of contributions enabled WFP to improve the cost efficiency of its food supply chain. While the government of Haiti could not provide funds as previously expected, it contributed funds for the functioning of the local purchase unit, notably through the increased contribution to the payment of salaries for staff in the unit. The government renewed its willingness and efforts to create a budget line for school feeding in the near future as expressed in the discussions of the national policy for school feeding.

Donor	Resourced in 2015 (mt)		Shipped/Purchased in 2015 (mt)
	In-Kind	Cash	
Canada		5,003	4,727
France	210		209
Union of South American Nations			59
USA	6,910		771
Total:	7,120	5,003	5,766

See Annex: Resource Inputs from Donors for breakdown by commodity and contribution reference number

Food Purchases and in-kind Receipts

WFP's goal was to increase the proportion of locally purchased food to 20 percent of the programme's food purchases. This goal was reached in 2015.

Commodity	Local (mt)	Developing Country (mt)	Other International (mt)	GCMF (mt)
Beans	10	0	0	
Bulgur Wheat	0	0	771	
Iodised Salt	0	168	0	
Maize Meal	29	0	0	
Micronutrition Powder	0	2	0	
Peas	0	0	1,006	
Rice	1,150	2,400	0	
Vegetable Oil	0	138	93	
Sum:	1,189	2,707	1,870	

Food Transport, Delivery and Handling

Commodities were received through Port-au-Prince and transported to WFP warehouses in Port au Prince, in Gonaives and Cap Haitian. Deliveries to schools were undertaken by cooperating partners that possessed the required capacity to manage logistics operations and deliver the food in good condition to beneficiaries. WFP reduced costs by reducing the storage capacity in Port-au-Prince and Jacmel.

Post-Delivery Losses

Losses were kept minimal, thanks to systems and strategies in place for warehouse and transport management. Most losses occurred during transfer to distribution points. The cost, insurance and freight value of losses were recovered from transporters.

MANAGEMENT

Partnerships

WFP had 17 cooperating partners during the 2013/14 school year, 12 during the 2014/15 school year and only six for the 2015/16 school year. This decrease in partners is related to a decrease in beneficiaries of the programme and a reassessment of partners' performance and cost-efficiency. Partners are regularly reviewed to ensure strong technical and administrative capacities for the sustainability of the school feeding programme. Cooperating partners were encouraged to provide or increase their own contributions: NGOs funded 10 to 30 percent of the field-level agreement budgets and their overall contribution increased by 25 percent compared to 2014/15. NGO partners were responsible for food deliveries and for monitoring and training school canteen management committees and kitchen staff.

Following the recommendations of the 2014 evaluation, WFP reviewed its partnerships to enhance synergies. Complementary activities by NGOs such as the creation of school gardens, the dissemination and training on the use of improved cooking stoves, training in child protection, social equity and gender issues were further aligned and linked to WFP activities. Partners selected have ongoing projects in nutrition, hygiene, water and sanitation that complement school feeding activities.

In addition to regular monthly meetings and trainings of partners at sub-office levels, a strategic school feeding workshop brought together cooperating partners and sub-offices to discuss key features of effective school feeding programmes, the importance of sound complementary partnerships for achieving programme objectives, and a variety of strategic, policy and operational issues in order to facilitate transition to national ownership. WFP also brought together all stakeholders (government, NGOs, civil society, private sector, schools management) to conduct a SABER workshop to assess the country's capacity to set up a sustainable school feeding programme.

WFP collaborated with the Ministries of Education and of Agriculture in the quality control of the programme. Collaborating with UFAPAL, WFP extended assistance to 14 smallholder farmers' associations to organize and commercialize their produce. WFP is the main humanitarian actor involved in local food purchase that crucially impacts the local economy, increases market opportunities for smallholder farmers, improves commodity acceptance by beneficiaries, and augments the capacity building of local agro-economic actors. Additional capacity development activities for local farmers will be carried out in partnerships with FAO, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the Ministries of Agriculture and Commerce. They will support production, harvesting, improved storage, handling, packaging and other activities.

In October, a home grown school feeding pilot project was launched in Nippes. Parents participated in the purchase and quality control of products as well as in the preparation and distribution of the meals. Greater community involvement is expected to develop a participatory system for the use of resources made available to schools. Small local farmers receive support to increase their agricultural surplus and augment their income from sales. Access to equipment, credit and training is provided. In the school years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017, the pilot project will test the operational validity of such multi-sector approach, and potentially serve as basis for a large scale sustainable school feeding model. Working with the Ministries of Education and of Agriculture, plus civil society organizations, this pilot aims towards a more autonomous planning and implementation of locally-sourced school meals in Haiti.

One of the main achievements of WFP this year in connection with partnerships was the support it lent to MENFP in drafting the national school feeding policy, bringing all major stakeholders together (MENFP, MARNDR, MSPP, World Bank, Canada, UNICEF, FAO, PNCS, NGOs, USAID, EU) for the first time in Haiti since the creation of the PNCS in 1997. This unique partnership reviewed the school feeding programmes implemented in the country, initiated a study on the costs of school feeding and organized field visits and a workshop leading to the finalization of the draft of the first national school feeding policy.

Partnerships	NGO		Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement	UN/IO
	National	International		
Total	10	1		

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project end Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
	Target Val	(at start of project or benchmark)	(penultimate follow-up)	(latest value measured)
Amount of complementary funds provided to the project by partners (including NGOs, INGOs, Civil Society, Private Sector organizations, International Financial Institutions, Regional development banks)				
Base value: Jan-2015, WFP/FLAs Data recorded in 2014, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring.	1,500,000	515,840		689,692
Number of partner organizations that provide complementary inputs and services				
Base value: Dec-2014, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring.	15	17		12
Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners				
Base value: Jun-2014, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring.	30	8		12

Lessons Learned

2015 provided opportunities to identify and correct weaknesses and strengthen the areas of good performance. Experiences gathered and the lessons learnt from past implementation are important in the context of the expected approval of the national school feeding policy.

WFP continued to follow recommendations from the 2014 independent external evaluation of school feeding activities, particularly in the following areas:

(i) Intensification of support to the government in the development of a school feeding policy. The partnership of WFP with the government and other partners allowed to review all the school feeding models being implemented in Haiti, to weigh their pros and cons, as well as costs and bottlenecks of each model. The review also led to an identification of what works and what does not work in Haiti and to the elaboration of the guiding principles of action by the government and its partners. The school feeding policy will define WFP's role and provide a model for school feeding for the next 15 years. The start of the Nippes home-grown school feeding pilot is a step in that direction.

(ii) Formalization of the technical support to PNCS in developing their internal control mechanisms, training packages and other capacity building initiatives. A formal field agreement with PNCS for the implementation of the school meals programme that clearly identifies the roles of all involved parties has been drafted and should be signed in 2016. The agreement is in line with the recommendations of the national policy.

(iii) Continuation of the current targeting of the programme: WFP kept the same targeting in 2015 ensuring the continuity of assistance in order to make possible evidence-based reports for impact measurement. WFP continued to survey the state of food insecurity by conducting the first IPC chronic analysis in the country, and continued to ensure that its targeting was as accurate as possible. WFP also worked with the PNCS in harmonizing targeting criteria for schools.

(iv) WFP reviewed its partnership agreements leading to more complementarity and a strengthening of the existing partnerships. The systematic evaluation of partnerships entailed more accountability on the side of cooperating partners. Moreover, it allowed WFP to review the costs of its interventions and, notably, decrease costs linked to transportation by entrusting this aspect of the programme to its partners. In this way certain risks connected to transport by WFP could also be transferred. The change from two to three-month food deliveries also allowed for timely deliveries and continuous stocks at school level. Partners spent less time on deliveries and more on planning, monitoring and reporting activities.

(v) WFP worked with the Ministry of Health on a strategy to reintroduce MNPs into the food basket to address, among others, the high prevalence of anaemia. The strategy builds on the lessons learnt from the introduction of MNPs in 2013. It recommends joint WFP / MSPP sensitization campaigns prior to distribution to assess the acceptability of the product by beneficiaries and communities. It also recommends to prepare for the larger scale introduction of the product by first distributing the product in a pilot area at the end of the 2015/16 school year. It proposes a phased approach to bringing that component to scale.

(vi) WFP reinforced its monitoring procedures for the third year in a row by training partners on new tools, objectives and technics for monitoring activities and reporting abuses or wrongdoings. WFP continued collecting feedback from beneficiaries, gathering 1,400 testimonies from children about the programme. WFP has started working on an efficient complaint mechanism to avert frauds and abuses, which will be fully functional in 2016.

(vii) Regular visits to schools jointly with PNCS contributed to enhancing PNCS capacity on monitoring techniques as well as to strengthening links, facilitating decision making and, mutually learning from the experiences of the other organization. In 2016, WFP plans to realize 10 percent of all field monitoring jointly with PNCS.

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Annex: Resource Inputs from Donors

Donor	Cont. Ref. No	Commodity	Resourced in 2015 (mt)		Shipped/ Purchased in 2015 (mt)
			In-Kind	Cash	
Canada	CAN-C-00369-01	Micronutrition Powder		2	2
Canada	CAN-C-00434-01	Rice			141
Canada	CAN-C-00473-01	Iodised Salt		100	
Canada	CAN-C-00473-01	Peas		200	200
Canada	CAN-C-00473-01	Rice		550	550
Canada	CAN-C-00473-01	Vegetable Oil		138	138
Canada	CAN-C-00473-02	Iodised Salt			168
Canada	CAN-C-00473-02	Rice		949	780
Canada	CAN-C-00514-01	Iodised Salt		125	
Canada	CAN-C-00514-01	Micronutrition Powder		4	
Canada	CAN-C-00514-01	Peas		806	806
Canada	CAN-C-00514-01	Rice		1,850	1,850
Canada	CAN-C-00514-01	Vegetable Oil		279	93
France	FRA-C-00185-01	Maize Meal			29
France	FRA-C-00230-01	Beans	40		10
France	FRA-C-00230-01	Rice	170		170
Union of South American Nations	UNA-C-00002-01	Rice			59
USA	USA-C-01182-01	Bulgur Wheat	860		771
USA	USA-C-01201-01	Bulgur Wheat	3,600		
USA	USA-C-01201-01	Nuts	1,180		
USA	USA-C-01201-01	Peas	940		
USA	USA-C-01201-01	Vegetable Oil	330		
Total:			7,120	5,003	5,766