

# International Technical Webinar on Home Grown School Feeding

**21 October 2020- FAO Webinar**

**IFAD's Intervention:** *HGSF programmes, local agricultural production and the impact on community resilience: highlighting the overall positive contributions of HGSF on stimulation of local agriculture and enhance incomes of communities.*

- The homegrown school feeding initiative provides an excellent opportunity for RBA collaboration because it enables the three agencies to come in within their comparative advantages and complimentary actions towards achieving a number of targets related to food and nutrition security.
- The comparative advantage of IFAD is that it links its investment projects, which address smallholder farmers' production and market constraints - with schools serving as a potential market for their produce. It is therefore an opportunity to help smallholders to also access public purchasing programs (institutional procurement) which are otherwise more likely to be exploited by large scale farmers or by imports. Key entry points of interest to IFAD would include: nutrition sensitive value chains – creating linkages from the farm to the school and school meals.
- HGSF also provides an opportunity to improve community engagement and organizational capacity building, smallholders market access and increased income. This is particularly important to note since there are schools almost everywhere including in marginal areas.

- The integrated school meal programmes may therefore open new prospects of relevance to IFAD's rural transformation agenda, that include promotion of youth and empowerment of women, promoting resilience and nutrition of the rural people. IFAD aims to look at HGSF holistically along agricultural value chains and within food systems approach.

## **Concrete examples of your school feeding initiatives**

*Burundi: Value Chain Development Programme- 2016-2022:*  
Beneficiaries are **5,341 HH**

The **overall objective** is to promote increases in incomes and improvements in food security for poor households in the programme area. Specifically, the project intends to:

- increase physical productive capital by building the resilience of production systems to climate change;
- intensify crop and livestock farming to improve nutritional status and, ultimately, structure the milk and rice value chains,
- Promote youth employment and strengthen capacity of the actors.

The RBAs together with the private sector are working collectively along the milk value chain in Gitega, Burundi to provide milk in school meals.

- IFAD provided farmers with cows (more than 3,000) training and other relevant inputs, including improved animal husbandry practices
- Also supported the establishment of local milk collection centres, which aggregate milk from 12 farmer cooperatives.

- From there, the milk is transported to the main collection centre, where the milk quality is tested and stored.
- Modern Dairy Burundi (MDB) collects the milk from the main collection centres and transports it to the factory where it is processed.
- FAO provides quality animal feed produced by a feed processing unit.
- WFP provides capacity building on milk quality standards, processing, controls and procurement.
- The milk utilized by WFP school meals programmes for 37,000 school children. The milk supplements the on-going school meals for children from Grade 1-5 benefit from this intervention on a daily basis (1.4 litre per child)
- Schools selected are those from regions with high malnutrition

### **What are the positive contributions?**

- Created 622 sustainable jobs for young people
- A total of 2206 young people benefited from loans in the amount of US 220,000
- Through the pass on system, 5577 households have now benefited from the cows, generating an annual increase in milk production- through the pass on system
- Women have organised themselves into associations and savings and credit schemes. Through these they have diversified their investments to include other livestock- pigs and poultry, procured land to grow vegetables
- Many small business have mushroomed, thereby diversifying incomes- such as milk kiosk/bars, sale of livestock fodder, food processing – cheese and yoghurt, milk bars- thanks to the creation of village community banks that have increased access to financial resources

- Care practices to children have improved, have money to pay school fees, buy food, build houses and even procure small pieces of land