National School Feeding Program in Rwanda

Global Child Nutrition Forum (GCNF)
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Background

• In 2019, the gov’t of Rwanda had three school feeding programs;
  ➢ Subsidised Secondary school feeding program

  ➢ One Cup of Milk per Child in some selected pre-primary, lower primary schools and all ECD centres

  ➢ Home Grown School Feeding program supported WFP in 104 schools (85,000 Students)

▪ To guide implementation of school feeding program in Rwanda, School Feeding Policy was revised to incorporate the components scale up of school feeding
Starting from 20/21 Fiscal year school feeding has been scaled up to the entire education system (from pre-primary to Secondary schools in the public and gov’t aided schools)

• School feeding in private schools is a mandatory and instruction were issued

• Central government (Ministry of Education) is responsible for overall coordination, policy formulation and strategic guidance

• School feeding program is managed and implemented by local authorities (Districts)
Rwanda’s School feeding institutional arrangements for implementation of school feeding program
Status of school feeding in Rwanda

• In 2019 school feeding program was implemented in secondary schools (Public & gov’t) with 680,000 students with gov’t subsidy on school feeding

• In 2020 school feeding was scaled up to the entire education sector by subsidizing Public and gov’t aided schools with 3,372,600 Students and this gives an increment of 396%

• With this scale up school feeding budget was increased by 583%

• Gov’t gives subsidy of 40% of meal cost the rest is contributed by parents
Recent Developments

- School feeding has been scaled up to 3.3 million pre-primary, primary and secondary students in public and gov’t aided schools.

- In scale up parent contributions will be supplemented by government subsides.

- In 2020/21 Fiscal school feeding budget that was approved increased from $8 to $54.7 million.

- School Feeding Unit was created within the Ministry of Education for proper implementation of School feeding scale up.
Recent Developments

- Construction of kitchens in 2,648 schools did not have school feeding program

- Provision of energy saving cooking stoves to all schools without school feeding program
Recent development in school feeding with Technical support by partners

- Development of School Feeding Operational Guidelines
- Development of menu modelling of nutritious and locally-sourced meals for school feeding
- Support in the design of low-cost permanent handwashing stations and kitchens
- Integration of school feeding indicators into School Data Management System
- Design of capacity strengthening training materials for school feeding implementation
Activities during COVID-19/School closures

- Global partnership for education has provided support of 5 Million USD to School feeding in 11 out of 30 total Districts with highest poverty rates to support families with low income affected by COVID-19.

- The total number of Children in only 11 District is equivalent to 807,694 students of Pre- primary to Primary six only.
Activities during COVID-19/School closures

- Global Partnership for Education awarded $1 million for **construction of permanent handwashing stations** in 1,348 schools to enhance hygiene standards and help to prevent COVID-19 infection.
Activities during COVID-19/ School closures

- Government coordination with schools and partners to distribute food in school storerooms to students at home to avoid expiration during school closures

- Development of Heath Guidelines ahead of schools reopening
Simplified model of procurement of school food stuffs

The government of Rwanda has established a simplified mode of procuring food stuffs for students.

- This method of procurement will have various advantages including;
- Creation of Local Market for local small holder farmers
Simplified model of procurement of school food stuffs

- Availability of fresh and nutritious meal to students from locally sourced
- Involvement of parents in the purchase of food for students
- Involvement and ownership of school feeding program by parents
Thank you