



# LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CHILD SFP



**GPE** Transforming Education

**ETHIOPIA SCHOOL MEAL INITIATIVE**  
SFP (WFP & PVE DDC)

**Save the Children**

## Introduction

CHILD-SFP has drawn lessons through monitoring and different assessment approaches during its implementation period. The following are the major ones:

### Importance of assessments contextualization

The findings from these assessments were used to map the existing resources and identify the gaps in terms of feasibility to start the project. The adaptation of Home-grown school feeding manual, Volunteer's engagement at schools to support the school feeding exercise, the strong emphasis given to WaSH, appropriation of the kitchen size in the target schools are key examples of the integration of assessment findings into its implementation approach.

### Constructing sex segregated pit latrines improve girls enrollment/ attendance

Building separate latrines for boys and girls can promote gender equality in the schools. In certain regions such as Sidama, for example, some schools have witnessed a boost in girls' enrollment/ attendance just by constructing toilets for girls.

### Providing menstrual hygiene kit and availing a private changing room(MHM room) in the schools

Adolescent girls may often experience embarrassment and discomfort during menstruation because they lack access to affordable and preferred sanitary products. Some of these girls use rags and pieces of clothes to stop sudden menstrual blood leakage; As a result, the girls will

be exposed to different problems including poor health, poor school attendance and weak academic performance as well as high school dropout. CHILD-SFP has been working to improve the attendance of girls' students through different approaches. These include supporting girls' students in upper primary classes with menstrual hygiene kits and establishing MHM rooms in the school compounds. Anecdotal evidences show this interventions have greatly improved the attendance and decreased the dropout of girls students.

### Importance of Community Involvement

It is important to develop and apply a more systematic approach such as involving the PTAs as a platform to meet and interact. Further, communities need to be informed and educated about the social, economic, health benefits of the school feeding in order to be adequately engaged and provide assistance to the change processes.

### Need to Improve Involvement of Public Sector Stakeholders

Stakeholder engagement through the quarterly and monthly review meetings among regional and woreda steering committee members are used to share experiences from the interaction with the school communities and other stakeholders and to identify feasible innovative ideas and to learn from each other.

This kind of collaboration among woreda and kebele level government officials and the program team has been invaluable and helped to establish partnerships based on trust and collaboration.



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