



Report of Findings: Baseline Assessment of Home Grown School Feeding Programme in 4 Local Government Areas in Ogun State.

INTRODUCTION

The National Home Grown School Programme (NHGSFP) is a government led ₦70 per day school feeding programme that aims to improve the health and educational outcomes of public primary school pupils. Ogun State started the Home Grown School Feeding Programme (HGSFP) in January 2017 in public primary schools across the 20 Local Government Areas (LGAs) of the state.

Action Health Incorporated (AHI) with funding from the MacArthur Foundation and in collaboration with the Ogun HGSFP Team commenced an initiative to strengthen the HGSFP by promoting accountability through community stakeholders' participation in monitoring the effective implementation of the programme across project schools in 4 LGAs. To commence this initiative, a baseline survey was conducted to assess the status of the school feeding programme across 60 schools in the four (4) LGAs that will be the focus of AHI activities.

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

The baseline assessment had the following objectives:

- To determine the status of implementation of the HGSFP in four (4) project LGAs of Ado-Odo/Ota, Ifo, Ijebu Ode and Sagamu.
- To identify gaps/weaknesses in the current operational procedures of the HGSFP in the project LGAs that require strengthening.

METHODOLOGY

A total of 24, 14, 12 and 10 schools were randomly selected across Ado-Odo Ota, Ifo, Ijebu Ode and Sagamu LGAs respectively. Data was collected using qualitative (in-depth interviews) and quantitative (semi-structured interviewer administered questionnaires) data collection methods.

Specifically, data was collected via:

- 16 in-depth interviews with Parents of HGSFP beneficiaries
- 4 in-depth interviews with LGEA Education Secretaries/Desk Officers on HGSFP

- Questionnaires for 168 vendors, 60 head/health teachers and 60 School-Based Management Committee/Parent Teachers' Association (SBMC/PTA) members

ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

i. Population of Target Programme Beneficiaries

| S/ N | LGA | Number of Project Schools | Total Population of Pupils in Pry 1 – 3 |
|---------|--------------|------------------------------|--|
| 1. | Ado-Odo Ota | 24 | 4,883 |
| 2. | Ifo | 14 | 3,560 |
| 3. | Ijebu Ode | 12 | 2,695 |
| 4. | Sagamu | 10 | 2,438 |
| | Total | 60 | 13,576 |

ii. Community Awareness and Involvement in the Programme:

- All stakeholders interviewed are aware that pupils from Primary 1 – 3 are the main beneficiaries of the HGSFP, however, there is a low involvement of SBMC/PTA members in monitoring the programme in their respective schools.

iii. Existing Monitoring Mechanism for the HGSFP

- Most (93%) of the vendors' attendance and performance registers were up to date across the schools.
- Majority (72%) of the head teachers are aware of the mechanism for monitoring and reporting of food vendors' misconduct through the weekly monitoring and evaluation report.
- Approximately 1 in every 3 of SBMC members/PTA representatives are aware of the power of the committee to report defaulting vendors.

iv. Food Delivery and Distribution

- Approximately 2 in every 3 of the vendors serve between 71 and 110 pupils daily.
- Bulk procurement of protein content for vendors is done by the State at the rate of ₦25 for beef and ₦21 for fish and this sum is deducted at source from the payment to cooks.
- Majority (95%) of the schools did not record any case of the sickness after food consumption in one month preceding the survey.
- There has only been a few occasions where some vendors in 3 out of 24 schools in Ado-Odo Ota LGA and 2 out of 14 schools in Ifo LGAs failed to supply food to assigned schools.
- The study revealed that across the schools, there are discrepancies in the actual population of the target beneficiaries (Primary 1 - 3) in relation to the total number of pupils assigned to food vendors for feeding. In situations where the actual number of pupils in the school is lower than the number of pupils assigned to the vendors for feeding, the remaining food is distributed to pupils in other classes, while in situations where the actual number of pupils in the school is higher than the number of pupils assigned to the vendors for feeding, the food quantity is

reduced in order to cover the total number of students, or pupils are substituted so that some eat in one day while others eat in the following day.

Below is a table showing comparison of actual population of target beneficiaries (Primary 1 – 3) with total number of pupils assigned to food vendors [March 2018]

Ado-Odo/Ota LGA

| S/N | Name of School | Actual Population of Primary 1-3 | Total Number of Pupils Assigned to feed | Balance |
|-----|--|----------------------------------|---|---------|
| 1. | Local Govt. Sch II Otun Ota | 164 | 188 | 24 |
| 2. | Local Govt. Sch I Otun Ota | 217 | 174 | -43 |
| 3. | N.U.D Pry School Iju Ota | 212 | 352 | 140 |
| 4. | Methodist Central School II Ado-Odo Ota | 159 | 204 | 45 |
| 5. | Community Pry Sch. Onipanu | 318 | 279 | -39 |
| 6. | St. Peter A/C School II Iyesi Ota | 120 | 135 | 15 |
| 7. | St. Peter Anglican Pry Sch, Agoro Ota | 224 | 280 | 56 |
| 8. | N.U.D Pry School I Ijoko Ota | 122 | 132 | 10 |
| 9. | Community Primary School Owode Titun | 114 | 77 | -37 |
| 10. | A.U.D Pry School I Alagba , Ota | 224 | 232 | 8 |
| 11. | N.U.D Pry School II Ijoko Ota | 132 | 104 | -28 |
| 12. | St. Peter A/C School Odan Otun | 216 | 230 | 14 |
| 13. | A.U.D Pry School Ado-Odo Ota | 356 | 339 | -17 |
| 14. | Methodist Central School I Ado-Odo Ota | 184 | 206 | 22 |
| 15. | A.U.D Pry School II Alagba | 231 | 222 | -9 |
| 16. | Local Govt. School I, Sango Ota | 132 | 186 | 54 |
| 17. | A.U.D Practising School I Ota | 230 | 237 | 7 |
| 18. | Ebenezer African Chu. Pry. Sch. Ijoko Ota | 216 | 264 | 48 |
| 19. | Local Govt School II Sango Ota | 256 | 246 | -10 |
| 20. | Local Govt School III Sango Ota | 305 | 255 | -50 |
| 21. | St. Michael's African Church Pry Sch. I Ota | 128 | 194 | 66 |
| 22. | St. Michael's African Church Pry Sch. II Ota | 139 | 156 | 17 |
| 23. | Ilupeju Community Pry Sch I Iyana Iyesi | 146 | 193 | 47 |
| 24. | A.U.D Pry School Iju Ota | 338 | 300 | -38 |

Ifo LGA

| S/N | Name of School | Actual Population of Primary 1-3 | Total Number of Pupils Assigned to feed | Balance |
|-----|------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---------|
| 1. | C.P.S. Olomu Agosi | 248 | 328 | 80 |
| 2. | Baptist Day Pry School | 234 | 320 | 86 |
| 3. | C.P.S Bungalow | 277 | 392 | 115 |
| 4. | F.A.C.M Pry Sch I, Adenrele | 343 | 338 | -5 |
| 5. | F.A.C.M Pry Sch II, Adenrele | 376 | 376 | 0 |
| 6. | L.G Pry School I, Abekoko | 246 | 246 | 0 |
| 7. | L.G Pry School II, Abekoko | 222 | 222 | 0 |
| 8. | N.U.D Pry School I, Ifo | 208 | 192 | -16 |
| 9. | N.U.D Pry School II, Ifo | 285 | 285 | 0 |
| 10. | C.P.S Igbusi | 162 | 184 | 22 |
| 11. | R.C.M Pry Sch I, Ifo | 291 | 291 | 0 |
| 12. | R.C.M Pry Sch II, Ifo | 257 | 291 | 34 |
| 13. | A.C Pry Sch I, Ilepa | 189 | 276 | 87 |
| 14. | A.C Pry Sch II, Ilepa | 222 | 225 | 3 |

Sagamu LGA

| S/N | Name of School | Actual Population of Primary 1-3 | Total Number of Pupils Assigned to feed | Balance |
|-----|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---------|
| 1. | St. Paul's Sch I, Makun | 255 | 385 | 130 |
| 2. | O.G.D Model Sch Ewu- Oluwo | 166 | 309 | 143 |
| 3. | A.U.D Pry Sch, Makun | 364 | 384 | 20 |
| 4. | St. Paul's N/P Sch, Ofin Alagbo | 401 | 602 | 201 |
| 5. | U.A.M.C School Eleja, Sagamu | 214 | 279 | 65 |
| 6. | Local Govt. Sch I Temdire | 353 | 408 | 55 |
| 7. | Local Govt. Sch II Temidire | 181 | 242 | 61 |
| 8. | Wesley Sch I Oko Sagamu | 141 | 216 | 75 |
| 9. | Wesley Sch II, Oko Sagamu | 113 | 180 | 67 |
| 10. | Local Govt. Sch III Sabo | 250 | 348 | 98 |

Ijebu Ode LGA

| S/N | Name of School | Actual Population of Primary 1-3 | Total Number of Pupils Assigned to feed | Balance |
|-----|--|----------------------------------|---|---------|
| 1. | Moslem Pry School, Imepe. | 228 | 412 | 184 |
| 2. | Our Lady of Apostle Pry School | 453 | 540 | 87 |
| 3. | School for Child with Special Needs, Bisi Onabanjo Way | 207 | 213 | 6 |
| 4. | Local Govt. Pry School, Obalende | 250 | 357 | 107 |
| 5. | Christ Church Pry School III | 152 | 322 | 170 |
| 6. | Madhiyat Memorial Pry school, onirugba. | 175 | 270 | 95 |
| 7. | A.U. D Pry. School, Onirugba | 134 | 192 | 58 |
| 8. | St. Augustine Catholic Pry Sch, Talbot Road, Ijebu Ode | 178 | 256 | 78 |
| 9. | Moslem Pry School I, Isoku. | 204 | 320 | 116 |
| 10. | Moslem Pry School II, Isoku. | 124 | 225 | 101 |
| 11. | Christ Church Pry School, Sabo Molode. | 333 | 332 | -1 |
| 12. | Olu-ola Pry School, Igbeba | 197 | 184 | -13 |

v. Challenges Reported

▪ Administrative Issues:

- Delays of approximately 2-3 weeks in the commencement of the feeding programme at the beginning of every school term.

▪ Payment Logistics Issues:

- Majority of the vendors could not ascertain the exact amount being paid into their accounts because they do not receive bank alerts.
- Difficulty in accessing funds after payment, especially from the ATM points, and also facing long queues at the bank when making withdrawals.
- Some vendors reported unexplained deductions from their payments for which they required clarification.

- **Community Participation:** Low participation by SBMC/PTA Executives due to limited knowledge of the programme's operational procedures and their expected roles to report defaulting vendors.

- **Food Registers:** A significant number of schools *Vendors' Attendance and Performance Registers* do not have the appropriate state reporting format, hence relevant data showing the quality and quantity of food are missing.

- **Supply of Food Bowls:** 11 out of 14 schools in Ifo LGA and 11 out of 12 schools in Ijebu Ode LGA) have been supplied with food bowls for all pupils compared to only 3 out of 24 schools

Ado-Odo/Ota LGA and only 3 out of 10 schools in Sagamu LGA. In schools that do not have bowls supplied, pupils bring various types of bowls to schools and some pupils do not bring bowls.

- **Ratio of vendors to number of pupils to be served:** There are inadequate numbers of food vendors in some schools. 51 out of the 168 vendors interviewed across the 60 schools reported they were assigned to feed more than 100 pupils. Some schools have vendors feeding up to 188 pupils (Ifo LGA) and 232 pupils (Ado-Odo/Ota LGA). On the other hand, there are high numbers of food vendors in some schools. Some food vendors feed as low as 35 pupils (e.g 3 vendors in Ilupeju Community Pry Sch I Iyana Iyesi, Ota).
- **Transportation Issues:**
 - Some (9%) of the vendors do not reside within the allotted school communities.
 - Some vendors complained of high cost of transportation for the collection of fish and meat, as the points from which they collect these items are very far.
- **Protein Content of Meals:** A major drawback of the food being provided is the size of the protein content. The size of meat and fish being provided in most of the schools was very small (sim-card sized).
- **Hygiene and Sanitation:** Half (50%) of the schools do not have a source of portable water within the school compound.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Conduct re-orientation session for the vendors to provide clarity of the financial payment process and deduction of loans.
- Promote active participation of head teachers, SBMC/PTA members in monitoring the programme.
- A more efficient banking system should be put in place for the food vendors. They should be able to receive bank alerts, which should include the number of pupils to be fed.
- The size of protein content in foods should be increased, as this is essential for growing children. The use of eggs can also be considered as protein content in food.
- A uniform format for Food Register should be provided and distributed across all the schools, so relevant data can be filled for monitoring and evaluation processes.
- Government should involve and partner with private individuals and institutions to support the programme through cash and/or in-kind contributions.
- Food Vendors residing far away from the schools should be reassigned schools closer to their places of residence.
- Government should take measures to provide sources of portable water to affected schools.
- Government should reconcile ratio of vendors to number of pupils to be served, especially in addressing the case of more vendors who were assigned to feed less than 70 pupils in the same school.