

Assessment of World Food Programme (WFP) Pakistan's School Feeding Programme

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Abstract

WFPs School Feeding Programme (SFP) in Pakistan has been designed as a multifaceted programme with the objective of increasing access to education, reducing short term hunger and provision of social-safety nets. The SFP is run in designated government primary schools in conflict and disaster affected areas providing a combination of conditional Take Home Rations in the form of Vegetable Oil and on-site snacks in the form of High Energy Biscuits. This study fills existing gaps in knowledge regarding the programme's impact, and provides an understanding of the effectiveness of the approach adopted by WFP through a review of project documents and policies and using data from a primary qualitative survey conducted in each of the four provinces. Alignment of the SFP's goals with national social and development policy objectives are also discussed along with recommendations to further strengthen the programme.

The evidence shows an increase in enrolment in response to the programme while other objectives have been achieved in varying degrees. The study finds that the SFP represents a relatively effective intervention in an otherwise poorly functioning public educational system in Pakistan and that the success of the SFP in addressing multiple policy goal should be seen as a model worth scaling up in the future.