

Slidedecks all presentations

School Food for the Future -
what the School Meal Coalition and Denmark can learn from each other

Wednesday April 24, 10.00 – 12.00.
Folketinget Christiansborg (Danish Parliament)

Content:

- The School Meals Coalition and the World Food Programme - setting the global agenda on school meals. Andreas Hansen, Nordic Director, World Food Programme
- The Research Consortium of the School Meals Coalition – creating evidence to inform policy. Donald Bundy, Professor Epidemiology and Development, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. Director of the Research Consortium for School Health and Nutrition under the School Meals Coalition
- Food at school in Denmark - results from the Danish case study. Bent Egberg Mikkelsen, Professor, Urban Food Systems Transformation, Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management, University of Copenhagen



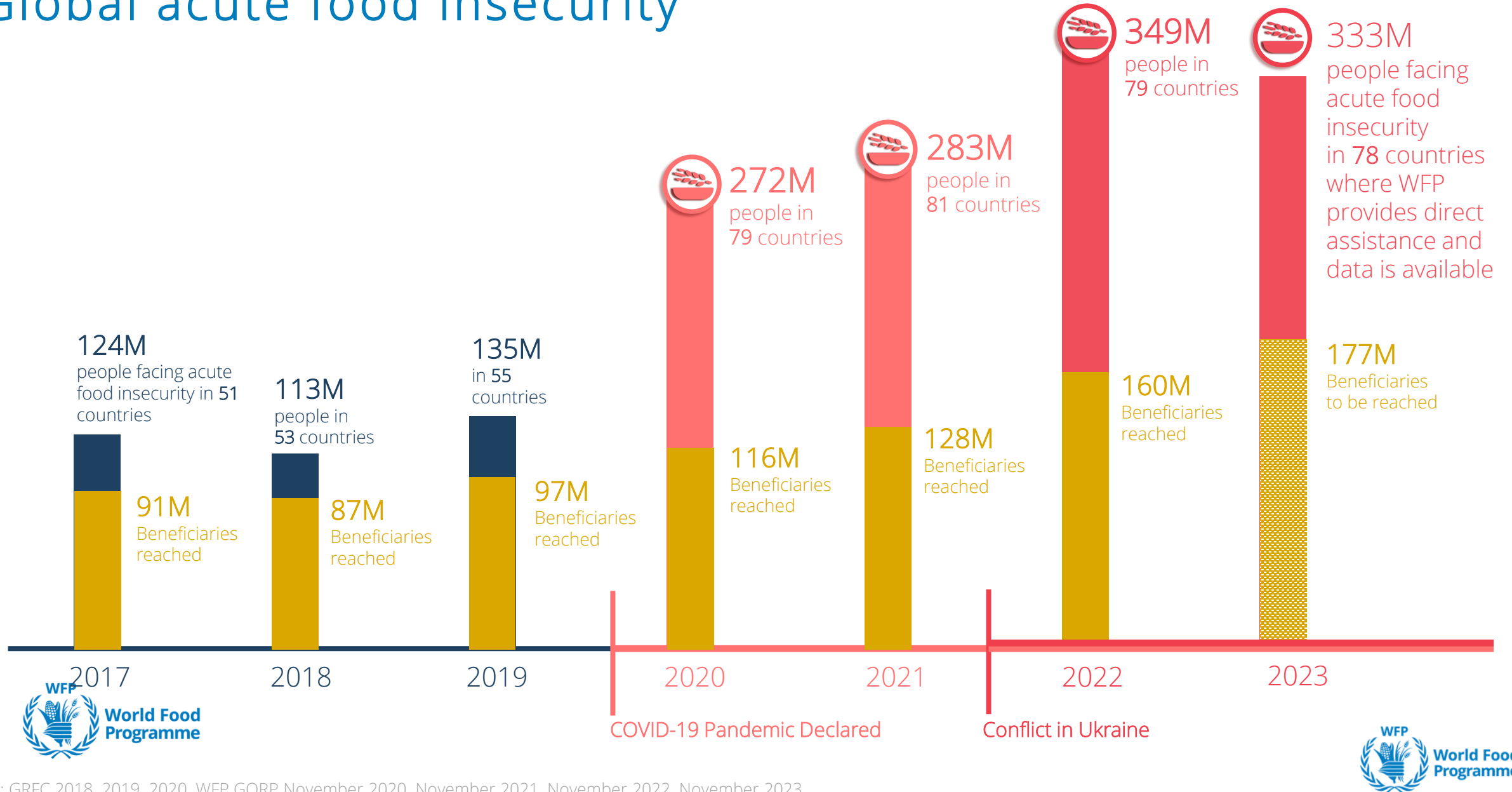
School Food for the Future - what the School Meal Coalition and Denmark can learn from each other
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Andreas Hansen
World Food Programme // WFP Nordic Office
School Food for the Future



Global acute food insecurity



A person wearing a dark headscarf is sitting in a makeshift shelter made of wood and fabric. A fire is burning in a small stove in the foreground. The background shows more of the shelter and some debris.

CONFLICT & INSECURITY

A close-up shot of hands counting Malawian Kwacha banknotes. The notes are in various denominations, including 200 and 1000 Kwacha. The notes are being held and counted in a purple bowl.

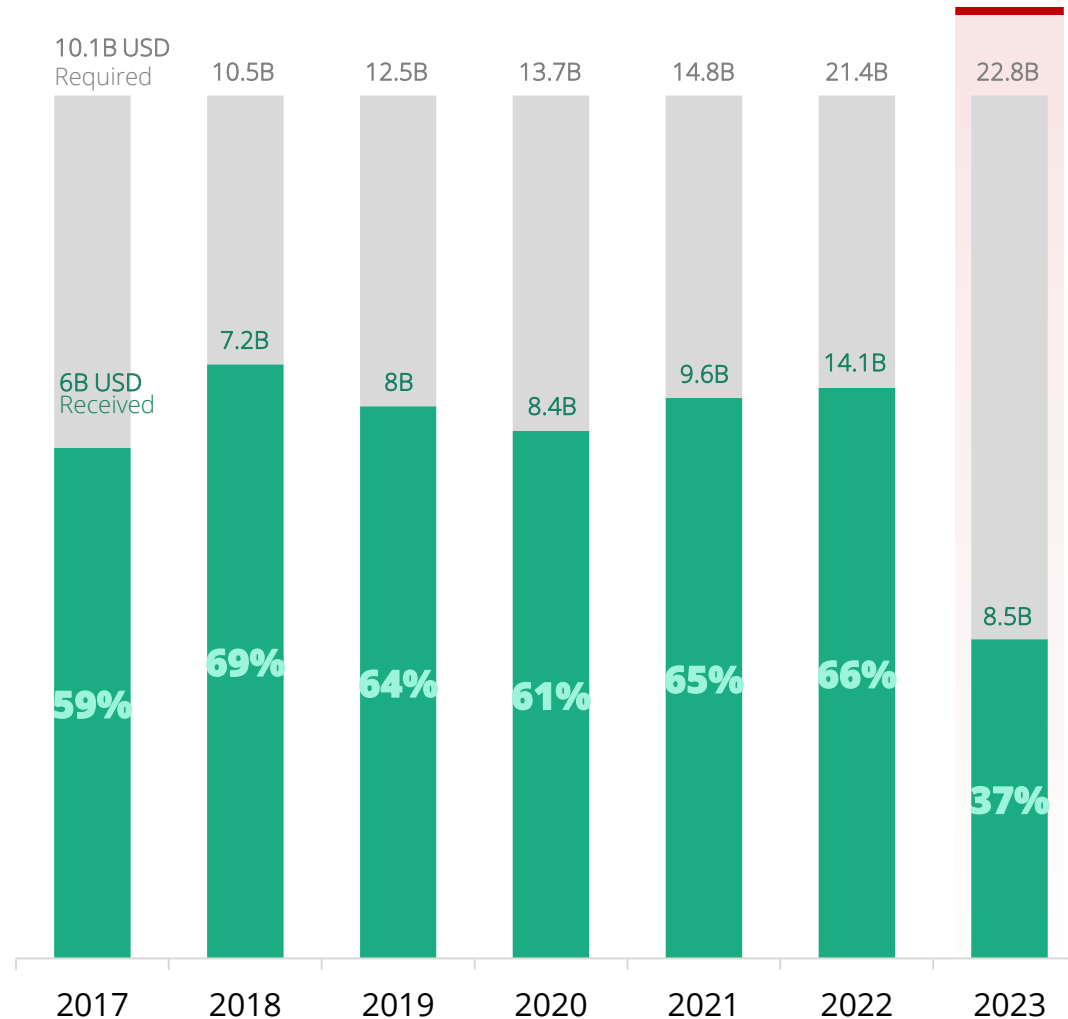
ECONOMIC SHOCKS

An elderly man and a young child are wading through floodwaters. The man is wearing a dark red shirt and the child is wearing a pink shirt. They are holding hands and looking at each other. The water is deep and reflects the surrounding greenery.

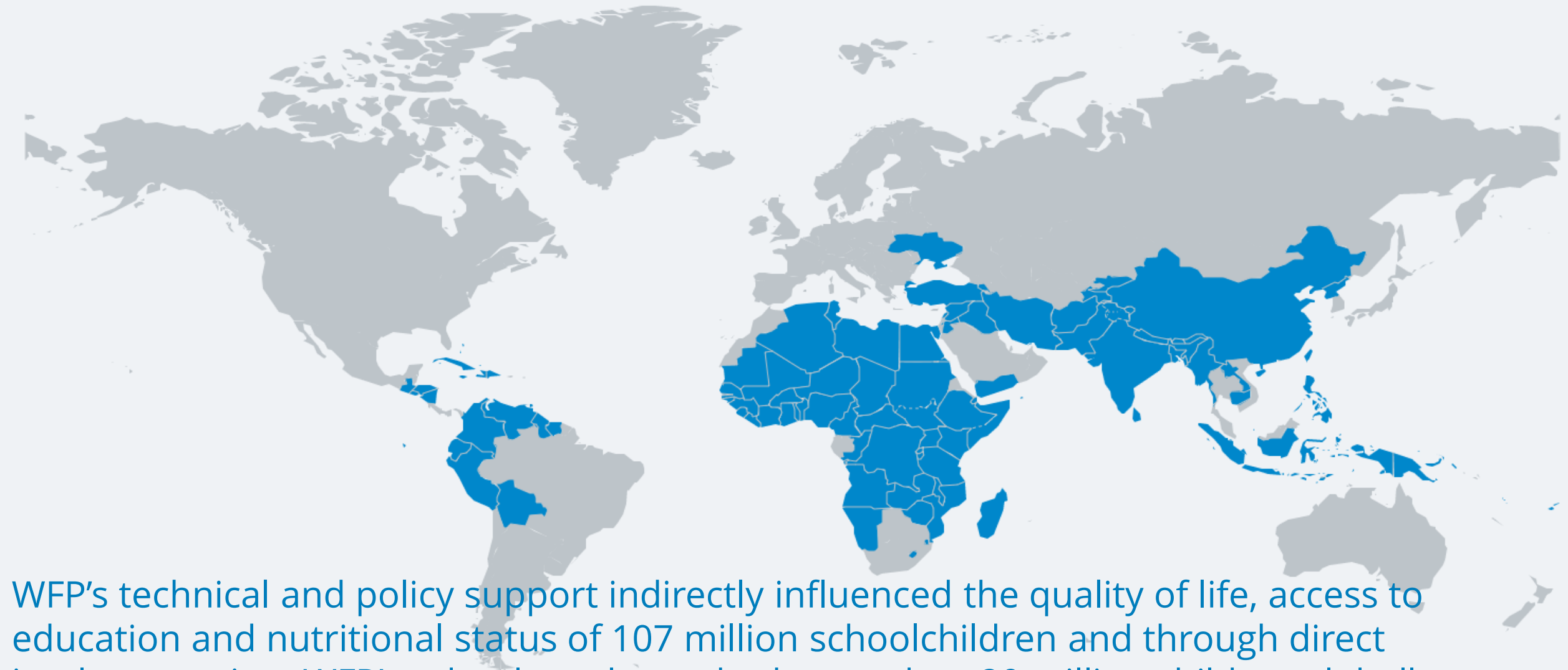
CLIMATE CRISIS

Funding Overview

WFP faces the **largest funding gap** recorded in our 6-decade history



In 2023, we assisted 150 million people in over 120 countries and territories



WFP's technical and policy support indirectly influenced the quality of life, access to education and nutritional status of 107 million schoolchildren and through direct implementation, WFP's school meals reached more than 20 million children globally.

Partnerships with the Nordic Countries

The Nordics (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway & Sweden) ranked as WFP's fourth largest donor in 2023 providing more than USD 500 million:

- Strong supporters of flexible funding
- Ukraine: Grain from Ukraine initiative, humanitarian and food systems
- Climate Action
- Scaling up Innovative Solutions
- School Meals



School meals









What is the Coalition

WHAT THE COALITION IS ...

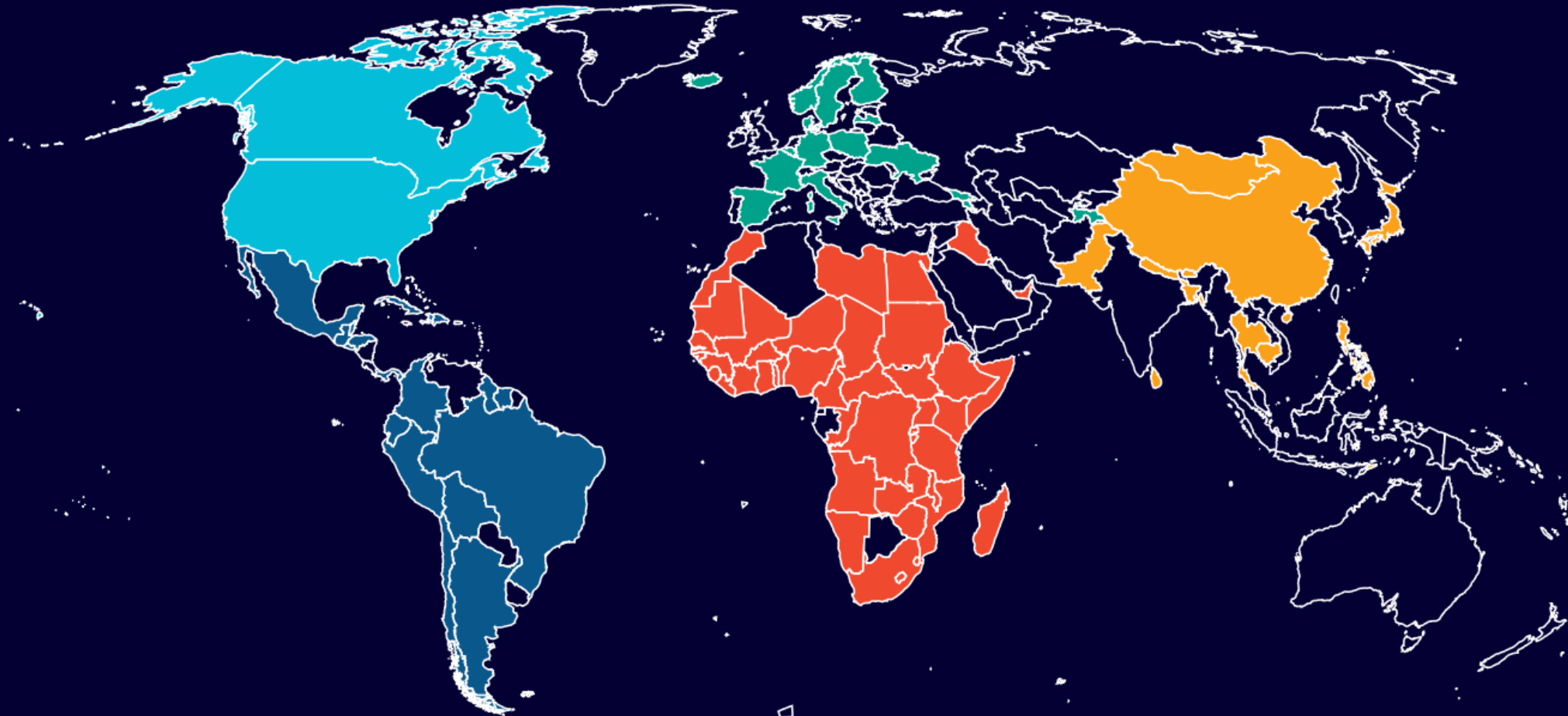
- Government-led, partner-supported
- It has a country level focus
- Focused on multisectoral action and partnerships
- Focused on evidence-based action
- Creates networks, not institutions

AND WHAT IT IS NOT

- **Not** a UN led initiative
- **Not** a new structure, new organization or institution
- **Not** a fund or a fundraising mechanism



97 countries and 3 regional bodies are committed to the Coalition



127

Partners are supporting the Coalition

NGOs



ACADEMIA AND THINK TANKS



FOUNDATIONS AND NETWORKS



MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS, DEV BANKS & AGENCIES AND IFIS



CITIES AND CITY NETWORKS



UN



Taking stock State of School Feeding Worldwide



418 MILLION
CHILDREN

4 MILLION
DIRECT JOBS



Number of school feeding programmes
in 2020



5 BILLION
US\$

15%

INCREASED
DOMESTIC
FINANCING





Early success thanks to country leadership



President Lula da Silva of Brazil committed to exercising global leadership on school meals as co-chair School Meals Coalition's Task Force and through international cooperation.



President William Ruto of Kenya committed to introduce universal coverage, meaning a scale up from 1.8 million to 10 million children by 2030. In 2023 the President has more than doubled the budget for school meals to ~ US\$35 million. The country is incorporating school meals into its national climate change efforts, integrating planet-friendly measures such as clean cooking initiatives.



President Paul Kagame of Rwanda scaled up the national school meals program from 660,000 million children in 2020 to 3.8 million children in 2022.



Government of Bangladesh committed to increase the annual budget for the national programme to USD 456 million for 2023-2026, expanding coverage from 2.7 million to 3.5 million children.



Government of Tajikistan committed to double the budget for school meals for the school year 2023/2024 and to reach more than 50% of primary students with nutritious hot meals by 2027.



President Biden of USA of the United States announced in 2022 the provision of US\$1 billion in additional funds to national school meals.



Government of France will expand initiatives like the "1€ school meal" and "free school breakfast". France has increased financial support for school feeding in vulnerable countries and commits to maintaining or exceeding the 2024 funding level.



Federal Government of Germany committed €22 million in multi-year funding to support holistic home-grown school feeding programmes in Laos and Sierra Leone to catalyze food systems transformation, promote clean cooking in schools and advance gender equity.



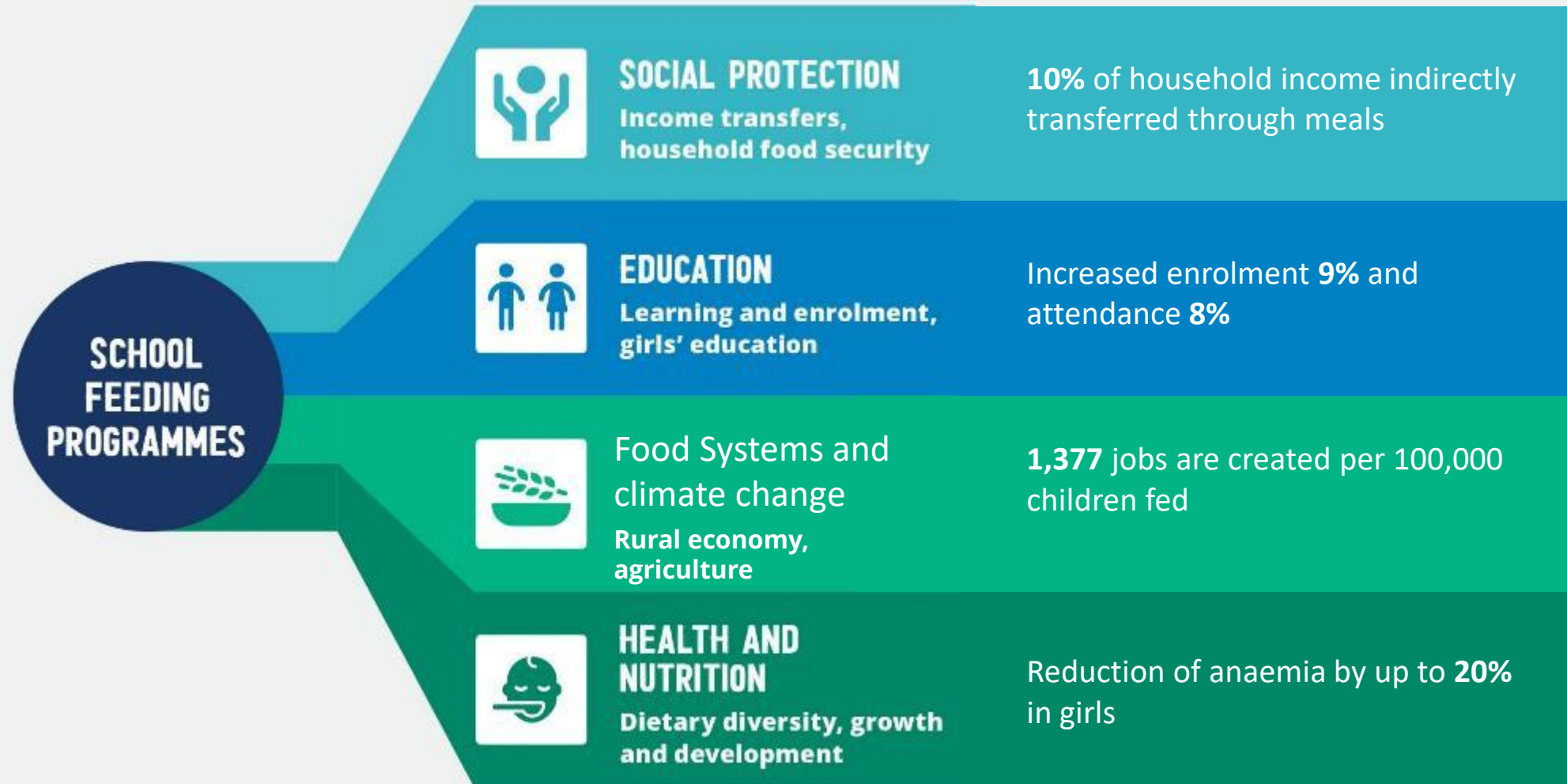
Government of Norway committed to support a US\$40 million multi-year funded project that aims to leverage home-grown school meals to accelerate food systems transformation in Ethiopia, Malawi and Niger.



Government of United Arab Emirates launched their School Meals Initiative, aimed at providing free nutritious school meals to all students in public schools within the next two years, moving from 0% to 100% national coverage.

School meals go far beyond the plate of food

Every USD1 invested yields up to USD9 in returns



Thank you!





Research Consortium for School Health and Nutrition

An initiative of the School Meals Coalition

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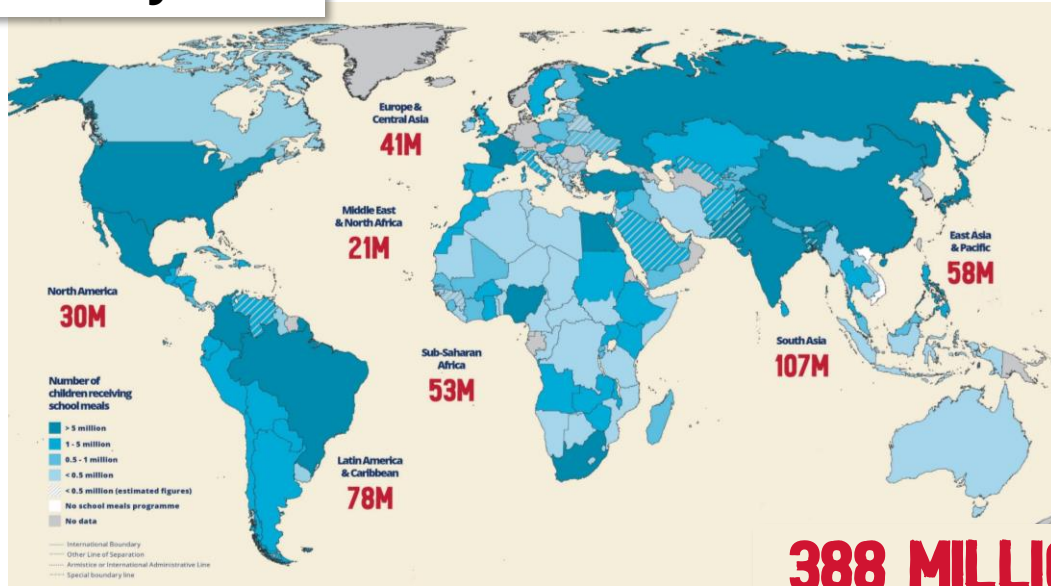


**School
Meals
Coalition**

Nutrition, Health and
Education for Every Child

School Meals: Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic

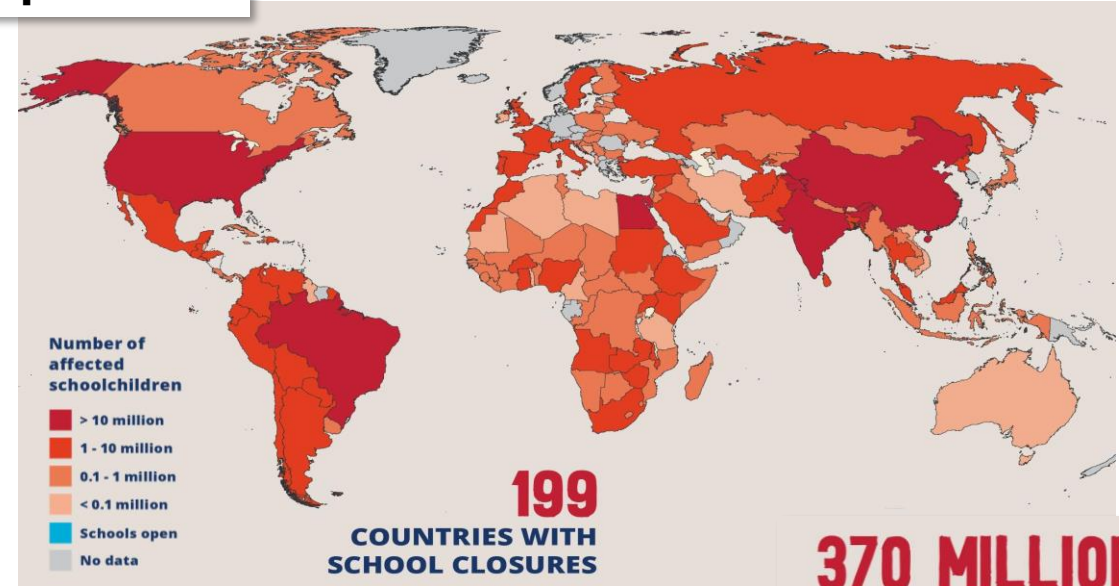
January 2020



388 MILLION CHILDREN
RECEIVING SCHOOL MEALS GLOBALLY

Unprecedented global reach

April 2020



School closures deprived children of education and school meals, and facilitated an awareness of the value of the school platform for health service delivery

370 MILLION CHILDREN
MISSING OUT ON SCHOOL MEALS GLOBALLY

Building the member-state led coalition



97 countries have now signed the Declaration of Commitment to the School Meals Coalition, representing **62%** of the global population.



School Meals Coalition: Goal and Objectives

Goal

Ensure that every child has the opportunity to receive a healthy, nutritious meal in school by 2030

Objectives

1

Restore or improve national school meal programmes to 400m children by 2023

2

Reach the 73 million most vulnerable children who were not reached previously by 2030

3

Raise the quality of school health and nutrition programmes globally by 2030

Research Consortium for School Health and Nutrition launched in May 2021 as the first initiative of the SMC



Support from UN organizations for the formation of a dedicated Research Consortium to support the School Meals Coalition

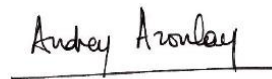
Endorsement of the Research Consortium

5. In partnership and coordination with the Research Consortium for School Health and Nutrition led by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine support the collection, analysis and dissemination of more and better data and evidence on school-age children and adolescents' health, nutrition and wellbeing, including the development of validated metrics, indicators and necessary tools for countries to monitor progress, measure effectiveness and impact and take corrective action for school meal integrated programmes.

Heads of UN Agencies



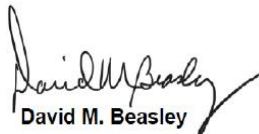
QU Dongyu
Director-General
FAO



Audrey Azoulay
Director-General
UNESCO



Henrietta Fore
Executive Director
UNICEF



David M. Beasley
Executive Director
WFP



Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director-General
WHO

Research Consortium for School Health and Nutrition: Mandate and Objectives

Mandate

Promote credible and independent research to inform evidence-based decision-making on school health and nutrition

Objectives

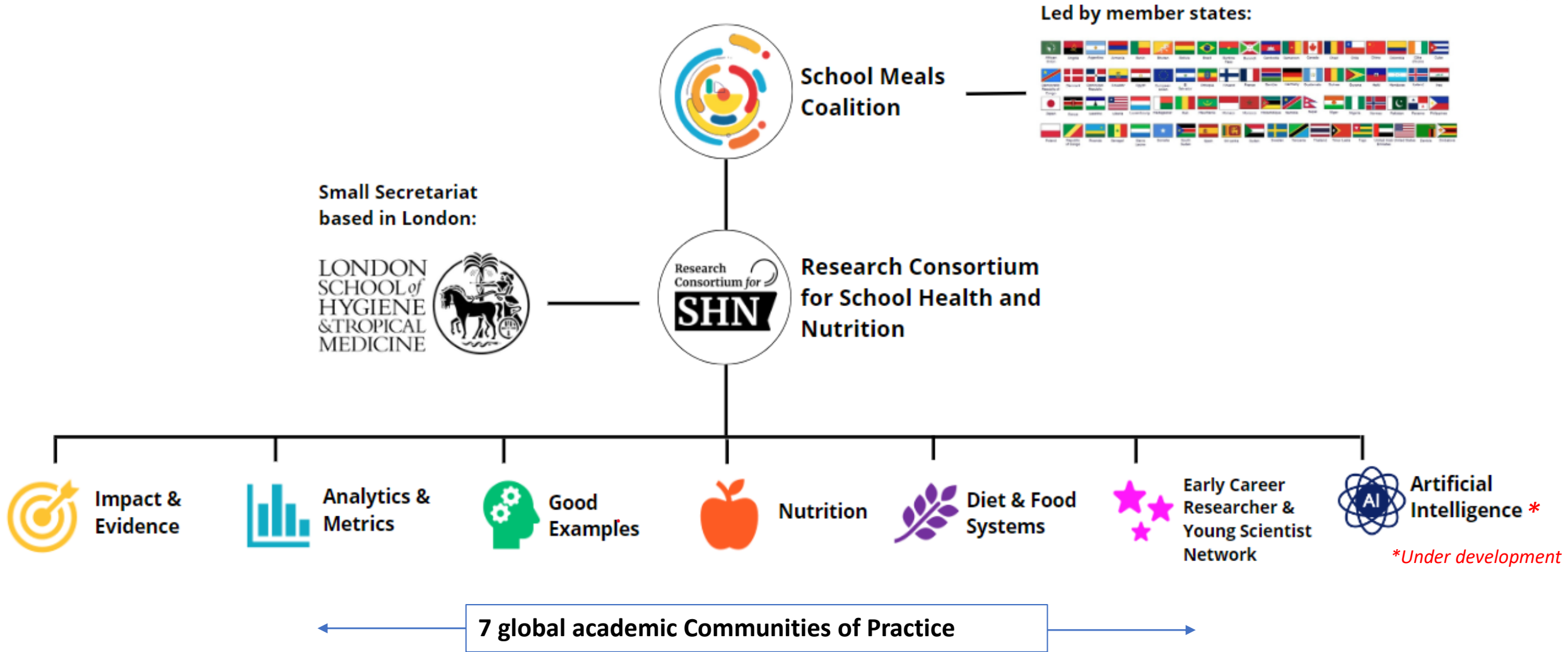
1

Generate evidence on the effectiveness of school health and nutrition programmes and make the case for investment

2

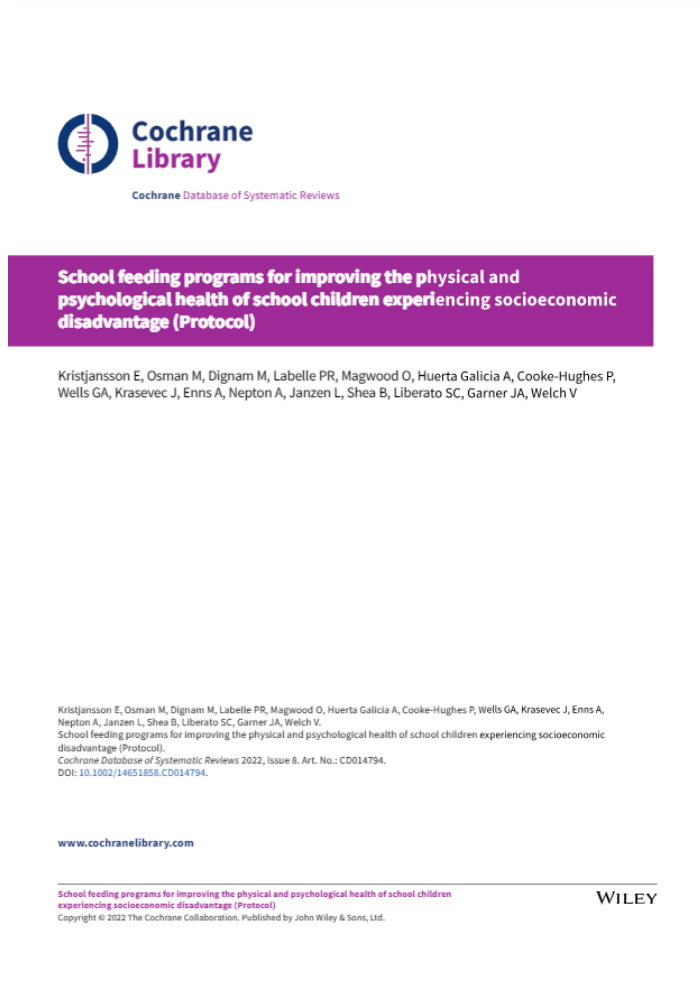
Provide policymakers of Coalition countries with programmatic guidance on school health and nutrition

The Research Consortium for School Health and Nutrition: An initiative of the School Meals Coalition



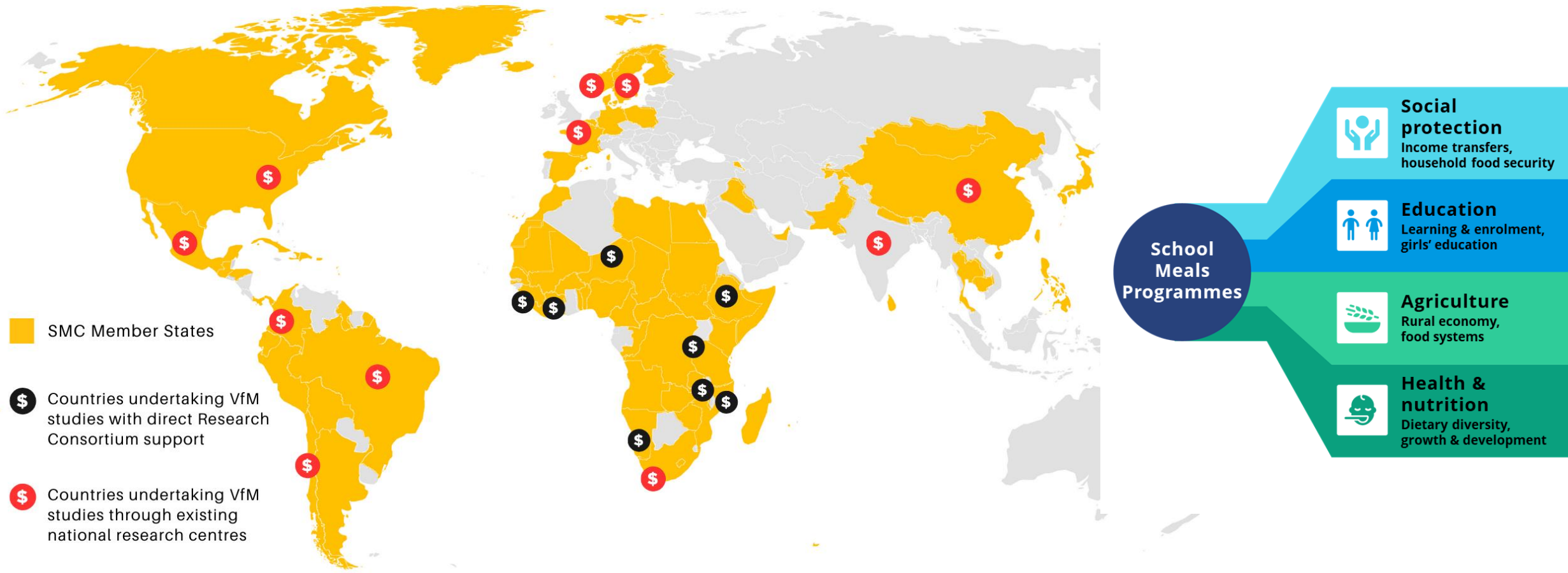
Impact & Evidence CoP:

A systematic review of the evidence on the impact of school health interventions on physical and psychological wellbeing



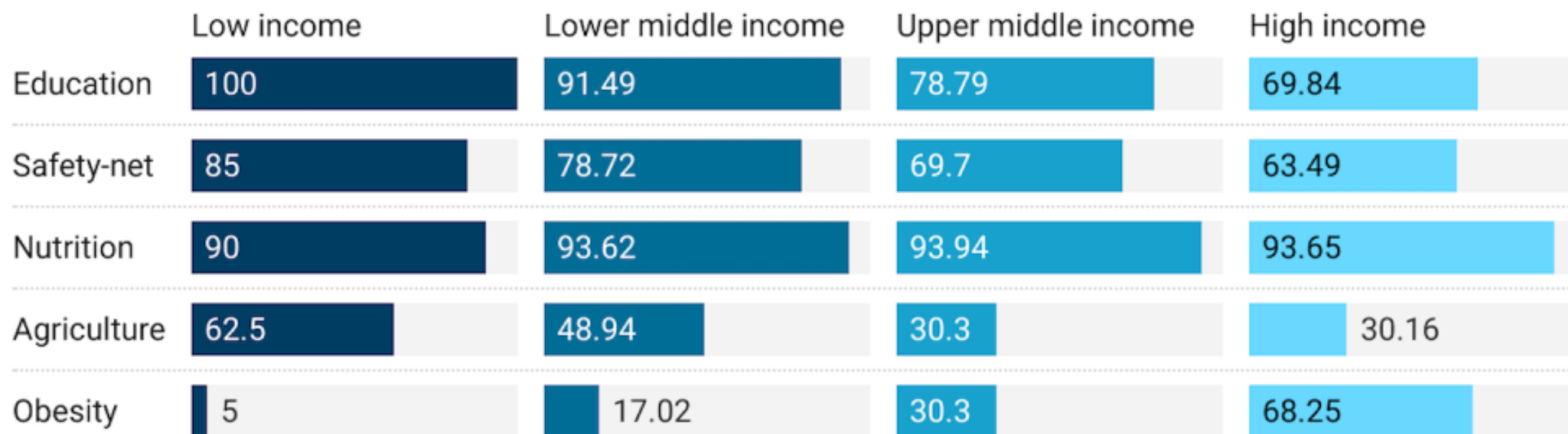
- Second Cochrane Systematic Review of the impact of school meals, following initial review in 2007
- Includes 50+ studies, compared with 18 in first review
- Publication anticipated Q3 2024
- To be accompanied by further analyses of what the data tells us about the impact of school health and nutrition programmes

Analytics & Metrics CoP: Determining the value for money of school meals programmes



School meals for pursuing multiple policy objectives

Percentage of countries identifying domain as objective




*2021 USDA-sponsored global survey of school meals programmes,
Global Child Nutrition Foundation (GCNF)*

Good Examples CoP:

Developing national case studies for every School Meals Coalition member state

Building regional peer-to-peer school meals networks through developing national case studies.

 SMC Member States

 Countries that have completed or are undertaking school food case studies



Nutrition: The “next 7,000 days” and indicators for school-age children

Phase I: Assembling the evidence

Four papers to be published in the *Journal of Nutrition*, Spring 2024:

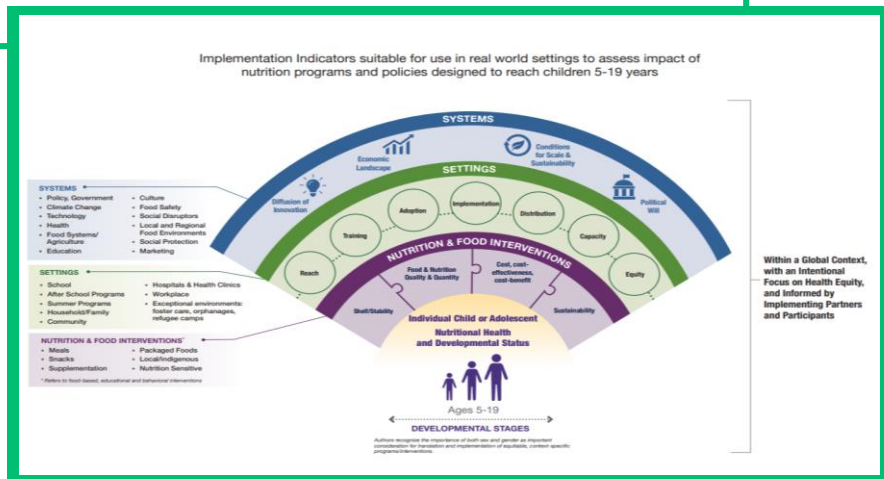
1. **Biology/nutritional needs** of school-age children
2. **Impact** of a child’s psychosocial and related environments
3. **Assessment** of the child’s internal and external ecologies
4. **Framework for translation and implementation** of evidence



Phase II: Translating research into practice

- Special interest group on SHN in **UK Nutrition Society**
- Collaborating with the SMC’s **Data & Monitoring Initiative** by proposing list of relevant nutrition indicators to track
- Building a **global network of expert nutritionists on school-age children**, starting in Africa and India through:
 - Federation of Nutrition Societies of Africa
 - African Nutrition Society
 - Regional meeting in Ghana, October 2024
 - Nutrition Society of India
 - MSSRF

Developed in collaboration with NIH and USDA, with 50+ experts from academic institutions globally.



Diet & Food Systems CoP:

White paper on school meals and food systems



CONTEXT:

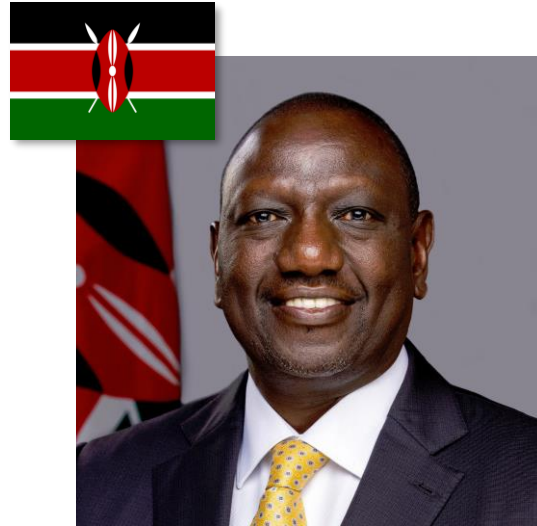
- Produced in response to interest from SMC member states
- Developed in collaboration with **164 contributors** from **87 organizations** worldwide for **COP28**
- Finds **four key policy areas** in which governments can drive food systems transformation through planet-friendly national school meals programmes:
 1. Menu changes
 2. Clean and efficient cooking methods
 3. Prevention of food loss and waste
 4. Holistic food education in schools
- Co-creation of a **toolkit** to support countries to implement and track food systems transformation.

Translating evidence to policy: National country-level commitments to scale up school meals



Benin

Benin made a **national budget commitment of \$270 million** dollars over the next five years to scale up its national program. Coverage of school meals has **risen from 30% to 75%**, with 100% expected by the end of the five-year commitment.



Kenya

Kenya has committed to a **countrywide school feeding program** in all public primary schools. The government together with partners are establishing a **Kenyan national School Meals Coalition**.



Rwanda

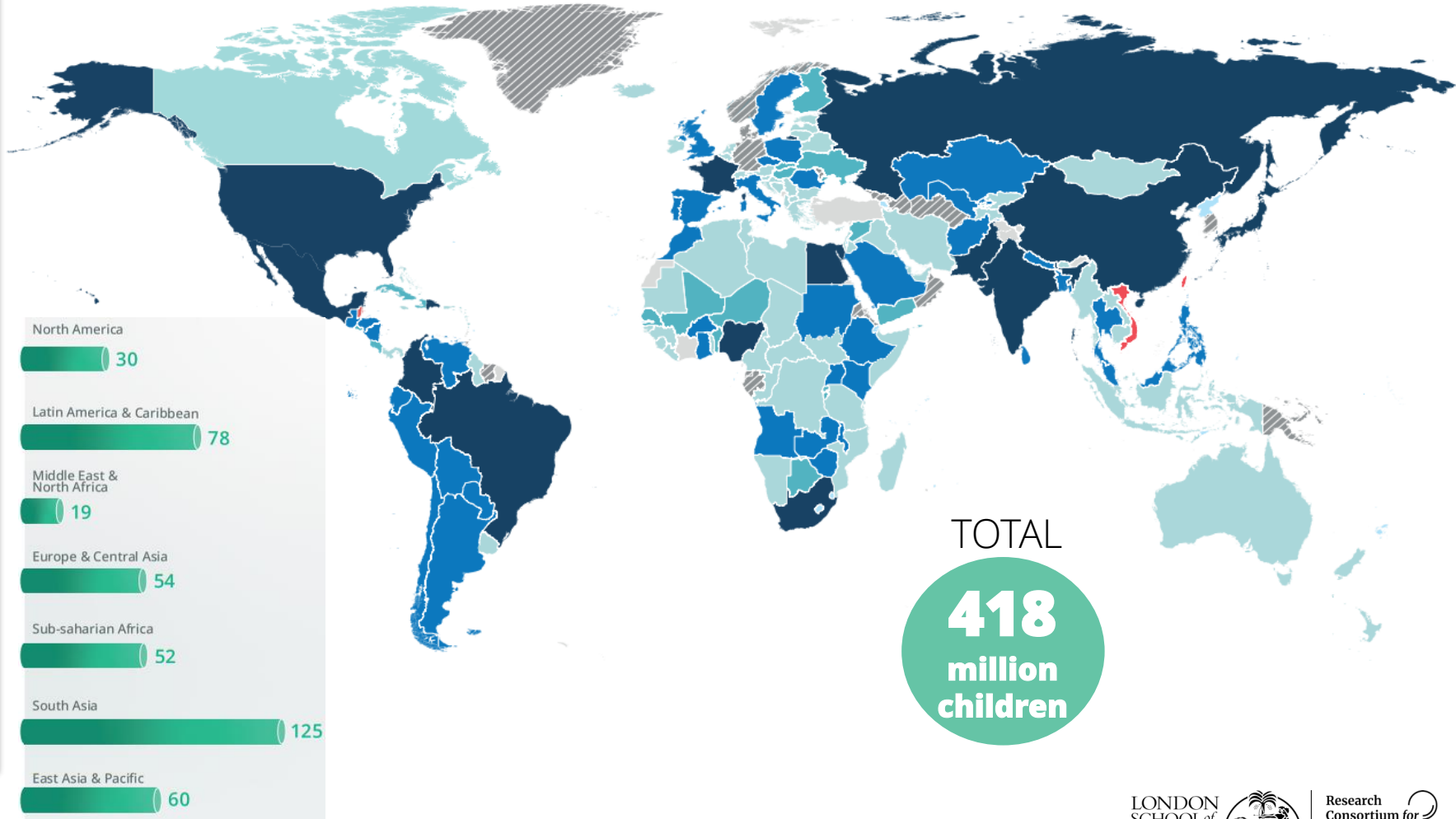
Rwanda **increased its national budget** for school meals from US\$8 million in 2020 to US\$80 million in 2022, increasing coverage from 660,000 children to 3.8 million pupils in two years.

Where are we now?



Published March 2023

► **Map: Children receiving school meals around the world**





 www.lshtm.ac.uk/shn
 shnconsortium@lshtm.ac.uk

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mailing list:



Food at school in Denmark

- results from the Danish case study

School Food for the Future - what the School Meal Coalition and Denmark can learn from each other, Christiansborg April 24. 2024

Bent Egberg Mikkelsen, Professor, Urban Food Systems Transformation,
Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management,
University of Copenhagen



KØBENHAVNS UNIVERSITET



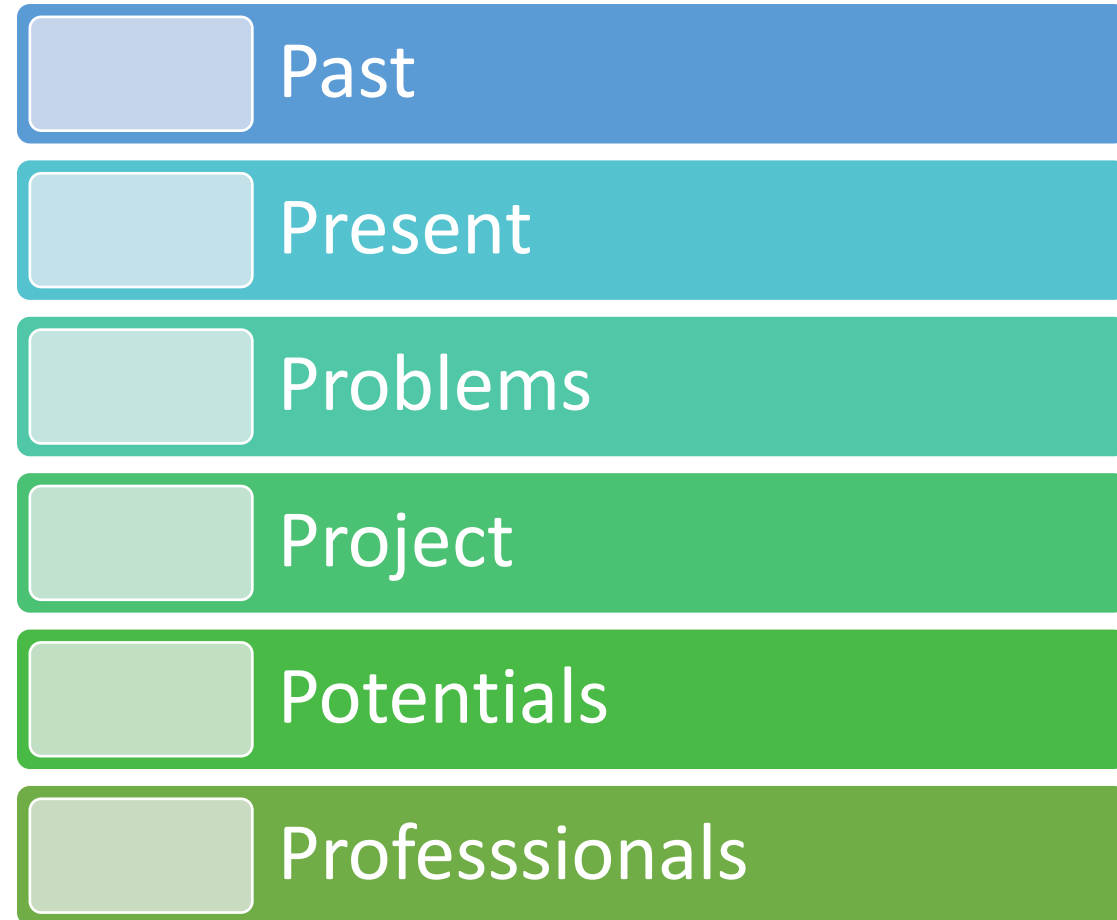
Eating at school

the Danish way

“between Lunchpacks,
Libetarianism & Localness”

Methodology

- **Past.** Historical sources – the making of school food.
- **Present.** The frozen history of the SMP Socio Technical system
- **Problems.** What writings identify as barriers and challenges
- **Potentials.** What are promising solutions
- **Professionals.** Opinions & motivations of stakeholders



The rise & fall of the lunchpack

*“the little symbol of love
between mother and child.”*



Municipal & other actions

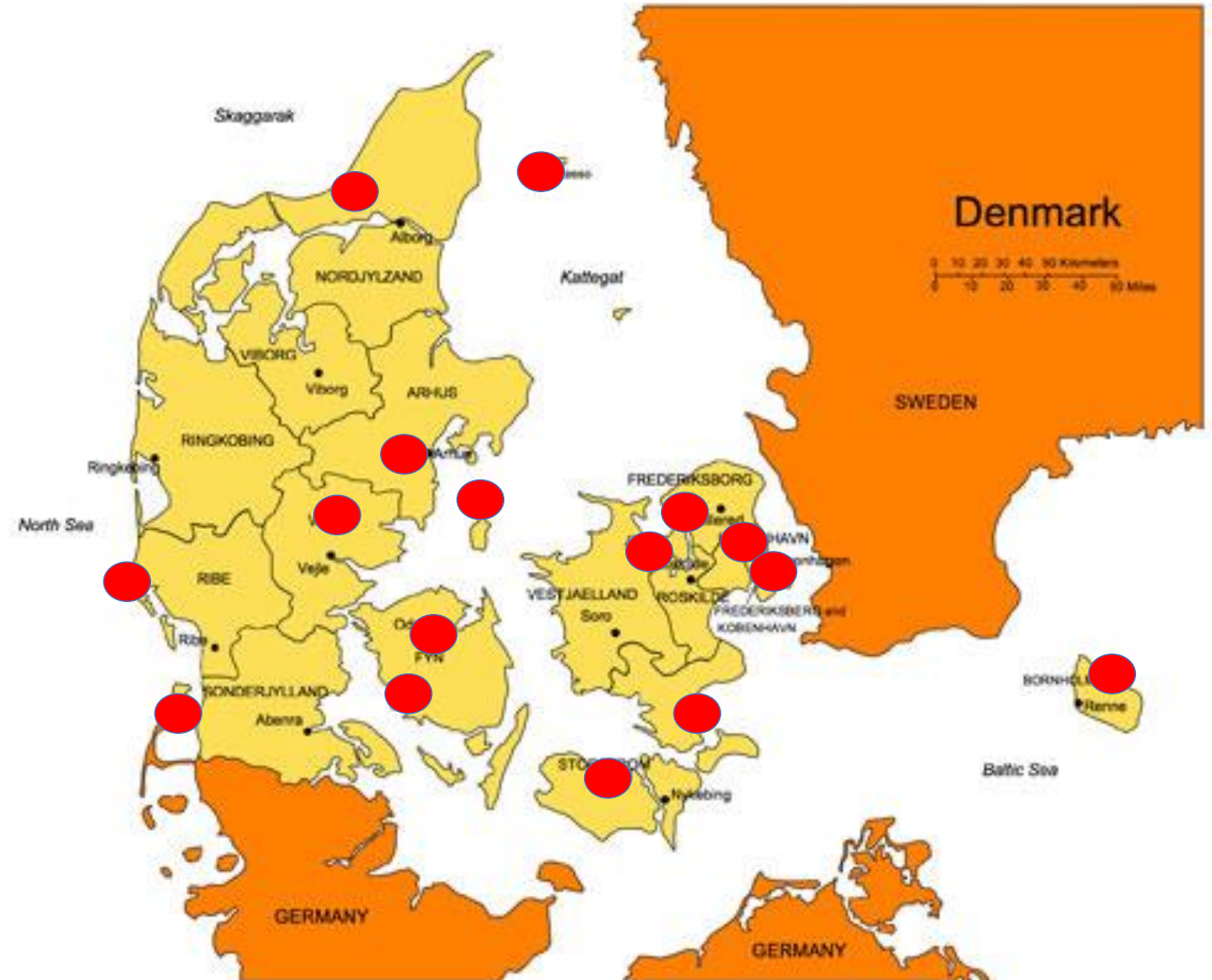
Municipal

1. [Copenhagen](#)
2. [Frederiksberg](#)
3. [Gladsaxe](#)
4. [Høje Taastrup](#)
5. [Bornholm](#)
6. [Lolland](#)
7. [Guldborgsund](#)
8. [Århus](#)
9. [Aalborg](#)
10. [Samsø](#)
11. [Læsø](#)
12. [Tønder](#)
13. [Horsens](#)
14. [Esbjerg](#)
15. [Odense](#)
16. [Svendborg](#)

22/08/2024

Commercial

1. Skolemad.dk
2. Skolemad.nu
3. Kanpla
4. Godskolemad
5. ØJN
6. Madvognen



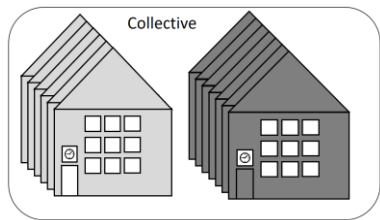
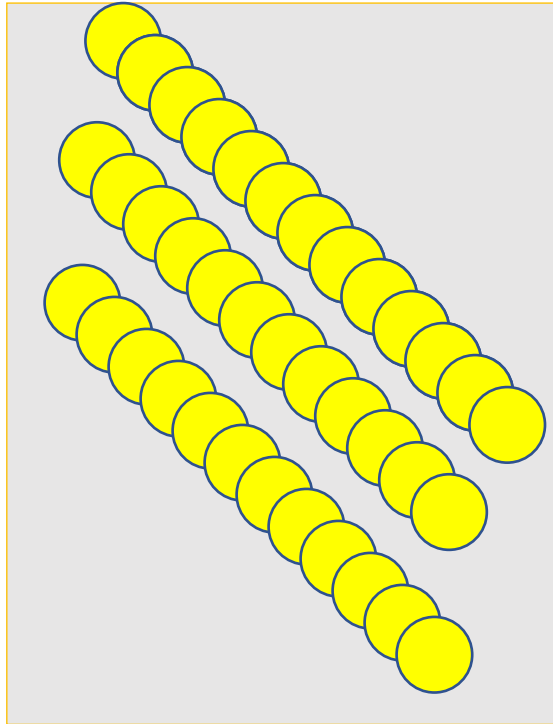
Collective, semi- or non collective

By far the most important strategic decision

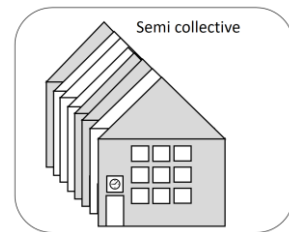
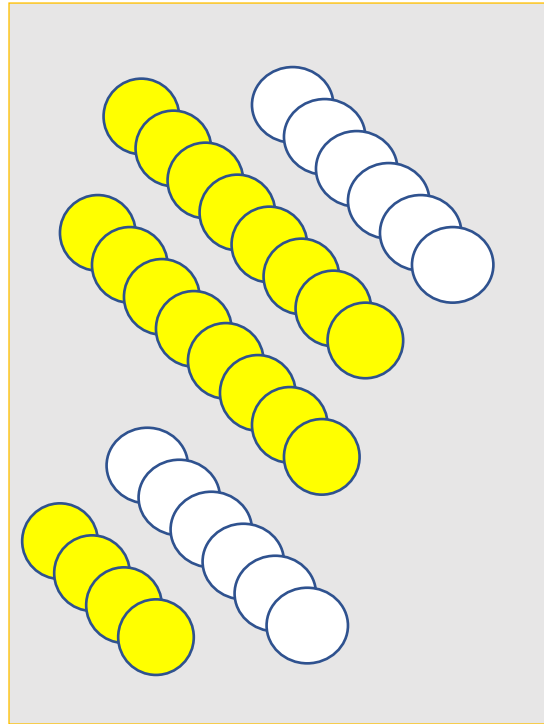
- Alle Børn Spiser (ABS) creates commensality
- Makes large scale long lasting contracts possible
- Decreases foodwaste
- Saves bureaucracy (50 mill/y)
- Free service provision is always slightly risky unless
Can be counteracted by participation strategies

- three configurations

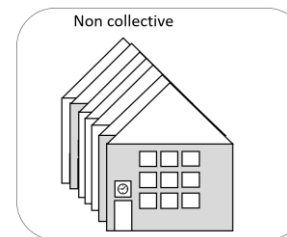
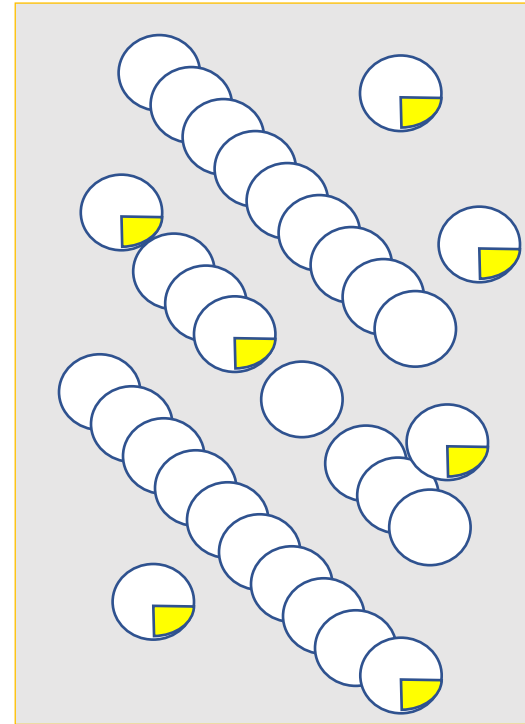
Collective






Semi-Collective



Non-Collective



-  Institutions with meal provision for all
-  Institutions with no meal provision
-  Institutions with meals for some



Seneste nyt

svinges over skoler i Brønderslev

I DAG KL. 06:14

Lun septem

Skole skriver danmarkshistorie - når eleverne spiser sammen og gratis



Lunch break in a school ne

1. Teacher leaves
2. Curtains drawn
3. YouTube screen turned on
4. Mobile phones activated
5. Noise level increase
6. Lunch packs are thrown



A non collective approach

*some pupils taking school
food at some schools – from
time to time”*

Typology of configurations

Central solutions	
Private subcontracting	Central solutions faced all schools having only satellite kitchens reception facilities.
Municipal institutional food service units	Central solutions faced all schools having only satellite kitchens and reception facilities.
Decentral solutions	
Decentral production configuration	A local food service unit with locally employed staff
Pedagogical integration	a local food service unit adapted and extended with teaching facilities and involvement of pupils in the food service operation
Pedagogical integration and attachment to STEM classes	a local food service unit adapted and extended with teaching facilities and involvement of pupils in the food service operation and integration and bridgebuilding to makerspaces and science teaching
Integration of volunteers	a local food service unit adapted and extended with teaching facilities and involvement of volunteers in the food service operation
Integration of growing facilities	a local food service unit or a centrally based set-up extended with gardening and cultivation

What are challenges?

- unhealthy eating and high intake of ultraprocessed food
- suboptimal intake of fruit & vegetables (VF)
- lunch skipping and lunch pack throwing
- poor learning climate due to adverse eating patterns
- lack of social cohesion due to unorganized meal situations with no teacher involvement
- out dated food teaching practices due to lack of modernized food literacy training materials
- lack of growing and cultivation literacy due to food systems alienation
- lack of application of whole school approaches and local community involvement

How many take a meal at school

- Skolemad.dk: 5000/day (43 operators, 280 schools)
- Skolemad.nu
- Godskolemad.dk
- Kanpla.dk (160 schools)
- Other than Skolemad: estimate = 15.000/day
- KK Eat: 6.500
- KK Madskoler: 5.000
- Others: 10.000
- **65.000 = ca 10%**

Schools that offer a meal

- Skolemad.dk: 280 schools)
- Kanpla.dk (160 schools)
- Skolemad.nu*
- Godskolemad.dk*
- In total 620
- Læsø: 1
- KK Food Schools: 15
- KK Eat: 49
- In total 65

Grand total
705 = 65%

*2/08/2024
* Estimated at 180 in total

Extras +/-

Decrease

- Volunteers
- Pupil co-kitcheners
- Food Sharing
- Pedagogical integration
- Co-production

Increase

- Lunch supervision
- Pedagogical extras
- Gardening integration

How kids eat at school at random day*

- Take a school meal: 65.000
- Throw the lunchpack: 130.000
- Allowed to leave school: 200.000**
- Do something else: 300.000 ***

* Estimated figures

** Potential cornerstore customers

*** Majority will take a lunch pack and some will skip lunch

Recommendations

- 1. Teacher agreements and eating environments.**
- 2. Pedagogical integration.**
- 3. Food service infrastructure.**
- 4. Eating facilities.**
- 5. Labelling schemes and monitoring.**
- 6 Local community integration and benefits.**
- 7. Pupil, parents & teachers involvement and engagement.**
- 8. Applying a multistakeholder approach.**
- 9. Financing & payment.**
- 10. Build on existing body of knowledge.**

Acknowledgements

In the development of the case study we received input and assistance from a number of different actors in the school food domain. They are: Julie Bastholm, Aalborg Municipality, Lene Nørgaard Hansen, Tønder Municipality, Gitte Breum, Økokonsulentent Consultancy, Lotte Keller, Læsø Municipality; Rosa Langhof, Integrated food Studies, University of Copenhagen, Mia Lundby Kragelund, Aarhus Municipality, Lone Loklindt, Frederiksberg Municipality, Camille Fogtdal, WPF, Subash Rana and Mukti Chapagain, University of Copenhagen, Angela Chang, University of Southern Denmark, Kirsten Vestergaard Hansen, Læringshuset school, Municipality of Høje Taastrup and Kirsten Skovsby, Food service unit Fælleskøkkenet; Tommy Johansen, Skolemad.dk

Whats next?

- 26 experts consulted
- Endless editorials
- Two political salons
- Danish press text – 7 pager
- Presentation April 24
- Consultation
- Updating
- Submission to SMC (June 6-10)



- Revisions: bemi@ing.ku.dk

