

Inter-State Consultative Workshop on Mid-Day Meal Implementation

27th-28th February 2020

KTDC Mascot Hotel, Trivandrum, Kerala

An Inter-State Regional Consultative Workshop with key MDM Implementation Functionaries across Southern States to generate discussions and derive insights from scheme implementation was organised by Government of Kerala. It was a two-day consultative workshop, with in house discussions on existing best practices among participating States, field visits to schools and facilities in host State and thematic sessions by experts in related fields such as Agriculture, Food Safety and Hygiene practices.

The objective of the workshop was to

- Trigger conversation on the changing landscape of Mid-Day Meal scheme implementation in partner States
- Unravel and share emerging best practices
- Document best practices and share with participating states and the Union Government

At the end of the two-day consultation, all participants were expected to take back key lessons that can be contextualized and imbibed in their own states. The detailed agenda is present at Annexure 1.

Participation: Participants from State Governments of Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Goa, Telangana, and Lakshadweep working directly in MDM implementation. Along with this, stakeholders such as representatives from IPE Global, GCNF, UNWFP and FSSAI participated in the workshop.

Day 1:

The workshop was inaugurated by The day was mainly dedicated to sharing the best practises by the State. Kerala has a tremendous history of transformative governance. Over the last two decades, Kerala's experience in decentralisation has been accepted globally as one of the most significant institutional reforms in public governance. The



process of development witnessed in the socio-economic sector in the State is well known as the “Kerala Model of Development”. Through participatory decentralization planning and processing, all social and economic issues confronting the State are being solved with the help of genuine people’s participation backed by strong administrative and political measures. The achievements of the State in public health care and education are comparable to that in some of the developed countries.

Mid-day meal provisioning has its roots in the pre-Independence period in the State and has one of the best decentralized modalities across the country. The practice of sanctioning funds over and above the mandatory state share that further results in a higher rate of cooking cost and CCH honorarium, prepositioning of funds to

Headmasters, formation of an exclusive committee at school level for MDMS, active role of the community in designing locally palatable menus that include leafy vegetables and fruits, providing additional items such as eggs, milk and bananas, provision of breakfast to school children, provision of safe drinking water and hand wash facilities in all schools, creation of



school nutrition gardens in almost all schools, maintenance of a “taste register”, regular quality control practices etc can serve as a model for other States that seek to deepen decentralization. The state also undertakes periodic certification and health check-ups for its cooking personnel, thus ensuring quality of food preparation.

Similar best practices abound in participating states; for instance, Karnataka has many lessons to share on how to operationalize supportive schemes such as KsheeraBhagyaYojana and ShalegegiNaavuNeevu. Goa has lessons on how to effectively leverage State resources and augment central contribution beyond the required proportion. Andhra Pradesh has lessons on including additional food items and working with women SHGs in midday meal implementation. Tamil Nadu has undertaken significant steps towards modernizing noon meal facilities and providing variety meals to its school children, Telangana has included improved quality of rice in its midday meals at greater cost to the State. Andaman & Nicobar provides additional eggs and bananas to students. Lakshadweep provides additional items such as fish, chicken, fruits and eggs as part of the midday meal. All these initiatives have various scheme nuances

that need further deliberations. Suitable lessons from peer sharing can then be taken back to home states for ideation and policy design.

The state presentations are placed at Annexure 2.

Day 2:

The day started with the half day field visit to observe schools under Midday Meal schemewhere interaction with school stakeholders was done and preparation and distribution of mid-day meal was observed. Best practises such as using food waste to produce biogas, involving parent's association in school welfare program, using steam in food



preparation, giving egg once a week and fortified milk twice a week, etc was seen. After the visit, technical Sessions on topics such as innovations in MDM, food fortification and Eat Right Movement was presented by the presenters as per the agenda. Detailed discussions were held on Eat Right India Movement, food fortification, FSSAI licensing and registration, food testing, DART, FoSTaC and FSSAI video library.

The workshop concluded by summarising the best practises of each State with Kerala being the forerunner and vote of thanks.

Annexure 1:

State Government of Kerala

Inter-State Regional Consultative Workshop on emerging best practices in the implementation of Mid-Day Meal Scheme

Participating States and Union Territories: *Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Puducherry, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep*

Facilitated by *IPE Global*

Venue: - The Mascot Hotel, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala

Date: -- February 27-28, 2020

Table 1: Brief 2 Day Agenda- Consultative Workshop

Timing		Session	Facilitator/Speaker
Day 1			
9:00	9:30	Registration	Partners
Inaugural Session			
9.30	9.40	Welcome Speech	Shri JeevanBabu K IAS Director, General Education (DGE) Government of Kerala
9.40	10:00	Inaugural Address	Shri A Shajahan IAS Secretary to Government General Education, GoK
10.00	10.10	Address	Mr. Eric Kenefick Deputy Country Director, UNWFP
10:10	10:20	Address	Ms. Arlene Mitchell Executive Director, GCNF
10.20	10.30	Key Remarks & Objectives of the Workshop	PushpendraK.Mishral, Associate Director, IPE Global
10:30	11:00	Self-Introduction by the Delegates	Personnel, DGE
11:00	11:20	Tea Break	
11:20	11:40	Emerging Space of Child Nutrition	Personnel, IPE Global
State-wise presentation on Best/Innovative Practices			
11:40	12:00	Karnataka	State Representative
12:00	12:20	Tamil Nadu	State Representative
12:20	12:40	Telangana	State Representative
12:40	13:00	UT of Lakshadweep	Representative of the UT
13:00	13.15	Open House Discussion	
13:15	14.15	Lunch	

14.15	14:35	Goa	State Representative
14:35	14:55	Kerala	State Representative
14:55	15:30	Open House Discussion	
15:30	16:00	Tea Break	
Enhancement of Nutritional Value of MDM- Presentation			
16:00	16:20	Global Perspective on School Meals Program	Mamta Gurung Nyangmi, Program Coordinator: Asia Pacific, GCNF
Ensuring a nutritive, safe and healthy meal - Presentation			
16:20	16:40	Changing the Landscape to Achieve SDG Targets	Dr. Prema Ramachandran Director, NFI
16:40	17:00	Open House Discussion	
17:00	17:15	Wrap up and debriefing for Field Visit on Day 2	IPE Global
Day 2			
09:00	09:30	Departure for Field Visit- Schools	IPE Global
09:30	09:45	Welcome Address by Principal	School
09:45	10:30	Tour of facility and interaction	School
10:30	12:00	Interaction with key MDM stakeholders at the school	School and DGE
12:00	12:30	Observe meal distribution	School
12:30	13:00	Travel back to Hotel	IPE Global
13:00	14:00	Lunch	
14:00	14:20	Sharing of Insights from visit	IPE Global /DGE
14:20	14:40	Thematic Session 1: Integration of Fortified Commodities in MDM	Ms. Sakshi Jain, Coordinator FFRC, FSSAI
14:40	15:00	Thematic Session 2: Innovations in MDMS	Dr. Shariqua Yunus Khan, Head, Nutrition Division UNWFP India
15:00	15:20	Thematic Session 3: The role of Eat Right Movement in MDMS	Dr. Sreejith N Kumar, IMA
15:20	15:40	Open House Discussion	IPE Global
15:40	16:00	Concluding session	IPE Global
16:00	16:10	Vote of thanks	Director, General Education(DGE) Government of Kerala
16:10	16:30	High Tea	
****End of Workshop****			