ISRCTN76705891 https://doi.org/10.1186/ISRCTN76705891

Evaluation of a school feeding programme linked to agriculture production in Mali

Submission date
14/05/2012

Recruitment status
No longer recruiting

Registration date
12/07/2012

Overall study status
Completed

Last Edited
19/05/2015

Condition category
Other

[_] Prospectively registered
[X] Protocol
[_] Statistical analysis plan
[_] Results
[_] Individual participant data
[_] Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims
Providing food through schools has well documented benefits in terms of the education, health and nutrition of school children. However, there is limited evidence regarding the benefits of sourcing the food from small-holder farmers through 'home-grown' school feeding approaches. This study aims to evaluate the impact of school feeding programmes sourced from small-holder farmers on small-holder food security, as well as on school children's education, health and nutrition in Mali.

Who can participate?
Primary school age children and small-holder farmer households in targeted villages in Mali.

What does the study involve?
Households and schools will be randomly assigned to one of the following three groups:
1. Regular school feeding programme group: these are schools and villages where the standard Government programme is implemented, with Mayors responsible for sourcing the food.
2. Home-grown school feeding and social accountability group (HGSF+): these are schools and villages were the programme is implemented in addition to training of community organisations and local government on food sourcing, nutrition education, and feedback monitoring.
3. Control group: these are schools and household from villages were the intervention will not be implemented.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?
School feeding programmes have been shown to have benefits in terms of school enrolment, attendance and drop-out. The main risks are issues related to inappropriate food management and preparation. Training activities will be provided to reduce this risk.

Where is the study run from?
The Partnership for Child Development offices in Bamako, Mali.

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?
The study is underway and will be completed in December 2014.

Who is funding the study?
The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (USA).

Who is the main contact?
Dr Lesley Drake
Lesley.Drake@imperial.ac.uk

Contact information

Type(s)
Scientific

Contact name
Dr Lesley Drake

Contact details
Partnership for Child Development, Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology
Imperial College London
London
United Kingdom
W2 1PG
-
Lesley.Drake@imperial.ac.uk

Additional identifiers

Study information

Scientific Title
Community participation and the links between agriculture, nutrition and education: design of a randomised field experiment of 'home-grown' school feeding in Mali

Study objectives
School feeding programmes provide well documented direct benefits to school children and their families. Emerging evidence also suggests that they can provide a stable market for goods and services. This is the first randomised control trial that will examine this in detail.

Ethics approval required
Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)
Not provided at time of registration

Primary study design
Interventional

Study design
Randomised control trial

Study type(s)
Quality of life

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied
School health and nutrition

Interventions
The evaluation will measure outcomes at child, household and school level. Households and schools will be randomly assigned to the intervention. Three treatment arms are envisaged:

Control group:
These are schools and household from villages were the intervention will not be implemented. The intervention will be delayed by at least two years in these villages, preferably without informing schools and households.

Regular school feeding programme group:
These are schools and villages where the standard Government programme is implemented, with Mayors responsible for the food procurement.

Home grown school feeding and social accountability group (HGSF+):
These are schools and villages were the programme is implemented in addition to a capacity building component including training of community-based organisations and local government on food procurement, nutrition education, and feedback monitoring.

Intervention Type
Other

Phase
Not Applicable

Primary outcome(s)
Small-holder farmer income, school participation and learning, and community involvement in the programme

Key secondary outcome(s)
1. Nutritional status (anthropometry)
2. Diet-diversity

Completion date
01/04/2014

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria
Primary school age children (aged 5-15) and their families, small holder farmers

Participant type(s)
Healthy volunteer

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group
Mixed

Sex
All

Key exclusion criteria
Households with children not of primary school age

Date of first enrolment
01/02/2012

Date of final enrolment
01/04/2014

Locations

Countries of recruitment
United Kingdom

England

Mali

Study participating centre
Imperial College London
London
United Kingdom
W2 1PG

Sponsor information

Organisation
Imperial College London (UK)

ROR
https://ror.org/041kmwe10

Funder(s)

Funder type

Charity

Funder Name
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Alternative Name(s)
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Gates Foundation, Gates Learning Foundation, William H. Gates Foundation, BMGF, B&MGF, GF

Funding Body Type
Government organisation

Funding Body Subtype
Trusts, charities, foundations (both public and private)

Location
United States of America

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Protocol article	protocol	21/02/2013		Yes	No