

An Assessment of the Implementation of Guidelines in School Canteens: A case study of the Western Province

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Outline

- Objectives
- Methodology
- Key findings
- Discussion & way forward

General Objective

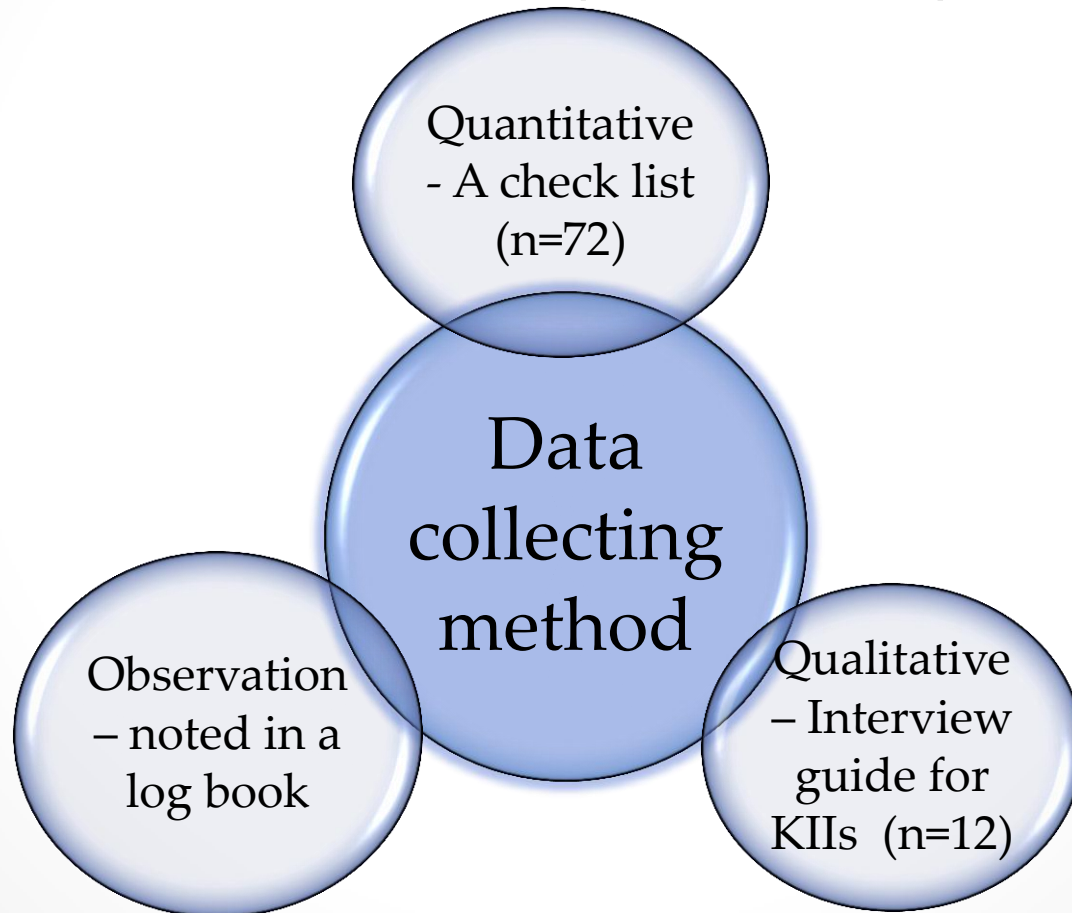
To evaluate selected aspects of implementation of the guidelines in strengthening school canteens in two Districts

Specific Objectives

- To identify existing facilities in the schools to operate a canteen maintaining appropriate standard
- To identify food items sold in school canteen
- To record prices of selected food items in school canteens
- To assess availability of safe drinking water in school premises
- To describe the availability of selected food items in food stalls located close proximity to the school
- To assess provider perspective of implementation of healthy school canteen

Methodology

- Cross sectional descriptive study



Key findings of the quantitative component

- More than 95 % of the sample had a canteen.
- Of them, More than 85 % are located in appropriate place.
- No adequate facilities available for dining area for 50 % of the canteens.
- Facilities available for food preparation area is poor (e.g. place, furniture, ventilation etc.).
- Availability of drains for waste water was 81 %.
- Though 80 % have bins for waste disposal, only 30% are kept closed.
- Proper food handling is very poor (e.g. wearing gloves 2.9%, wearing apron 5.9%).

Cont.;

- All the canteens have safe drinking water.
- Though rice is the main meal, majority sell 'fried rice' with chili paste (used stock cubes and MSG).
- Availability of wheat flour based products was high.
- Restricted food items are also available in greater extent. (e.g. fatty, sugary, deep fried stuff etc.)
- Vegetables in the rice packet are rarely available.
- Egg was the main source for animal protein.
- Selling milk packets and yoghurt is prohibited due to dengue issue.
- Presence of other Local food stalls in the school perimeter of 200m is 87 %.
- Only 3 schools had H 800 forms.
- Average amount a student can spend is Rs. 25.00

Major findings in the KII

- Healthy Vs unhealthy food
- Skipping breakfast
- Awareness of guidelines
- Food habits and home environment
- Demand and supply
- Tender procedure and viability of canteen
- Lack of alternatives
- Lack of facilities

Discussion and way forward

Barriers for implementation

At canteen level

- Unawareness - healthy and unhealthy food and making healthy food appealing
- Unfavorable attitudes and wrong practices
- Lack of healthy alternatives at lesser prices

At school level

- Inadequate motivation to monitor
- Lack of resources
- Inadequate support from students and parents

Barriers for implementation...

Educational authorities

- Present procedure for selecting a canteen operator
- Lack of resources has prevented priority funding for school canteens

Health authorities

- Lack of support to establish healthy school canteens through practical solutions and continuous supervision

National level

- Lack of trade and fiscal policies that supports healthy food habits and healthy food industry

Thank You