

GLOBFIELD INTERNATIONAL

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Regional Workshop Launches Momentum Toward Resilient and Sustainable School Food Systems in West Africa

Washington, D.C. – July 8, 2025 – Globfield, an independent company registered in the state of Virginia, marked a critical step toward resilient and sustainable school food systems through a high-level regional workshop held on July 8 in Cotonou, Benin.

This event—the first in Globfield’s strategic analytic “Pause & Reflect” in support of the USDA Food for Education programming—brought together forty five participants from Benin, Burkina Faso, and Côte d’Ivoire – including representatives from Ministries of Education, Agriculture, and Livestock, as well as officials from local governments, international organizations, NGOs, FAO, and European Union.



Globfield regional workshop participants from Burkina Faso, Benin and Côte d’Ivoire - July 2025 – Photo credit: Ange Gnimadi

The workshop’s objectives were to:

- **Identify and share innovative, context-specific school feeding practices** tailored to the challenges of Benin, Burkina Faso, and Côte d’Ivoire
- **Foster regional, cross-sectoral collaboration** among education, agriculture, nutrition, and health stakeholders
- **Explore sustainable governance and financing models** to institutionalize local, nutritious, and shock-resilient school canteens
- **Develop a shared regional roadmap** with concrete commitments, harmonized tools, and gender-sensitive indicators for collective monitoring

Globfield is working hand-in-hand with government institutions, civil society, and local communities to strengthen school food systems through three strategic pillars:

- Endogenous school canteens powered by local food ecosystems
- Integrated programs for sustainability and long-term systems transformation
- Cooperative linkages between producers and schools to support local procurement and robust supply chains



Key pathways identified during the workshop to advance school food system resilience included:

1. **Nutrition-sensitive procurement strategies**
2. **Agriculture-based sourcing and localized value chains**
3. **Gender equity policies** embedded across planning and delivery

Globfield designs and implements low-cost, high-impact strategies that promote inclusive socioeconomic development and long-term resilience across multiple sectors. Its areas of focus include food aid programming, health and nutrition, agriculture and food security,

WASH, education, natural resource management, environmental compliance, and resilient infrastructure, leveraging a system-of-systems approach.

Globfield's mission is to support national and international institutions, communities, and governments in achieving their development and humanitarian goals through scalable models that enhance efficiency, sustainability, and climate-smart resilience.

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