

HATUTAN – Health and Hygiene

Key Results from Phase I's Endline Evaluation

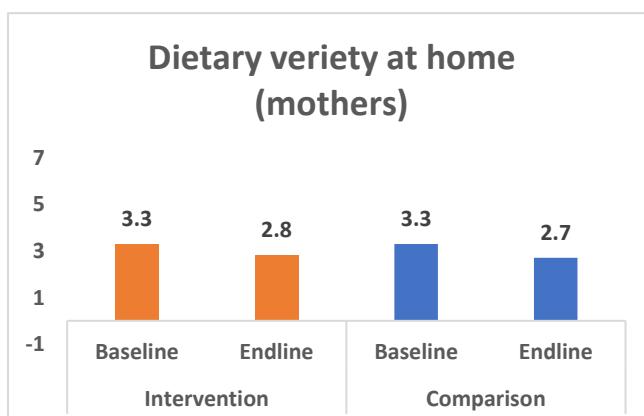
HATUTAN – or Hahán ne'ebé Atu fó Tulun ho Nutrisaun no Edukasaun / Food to Support Nutrition and Education - is a USDA McGovern-Dole Food for Education and Child Nutrition-funded initiative which aims to



improve literacy, health and nutrition outcomes for children and adults in Timor-Leste. HATUTAN is working with the government of Timor-Leste to support 449 school communities in Ainaro, Ermera, Liquica, and Manatuto municipalities of Timor-Leste. The program focuses primarily on rural and remote schools.

NUTRITION

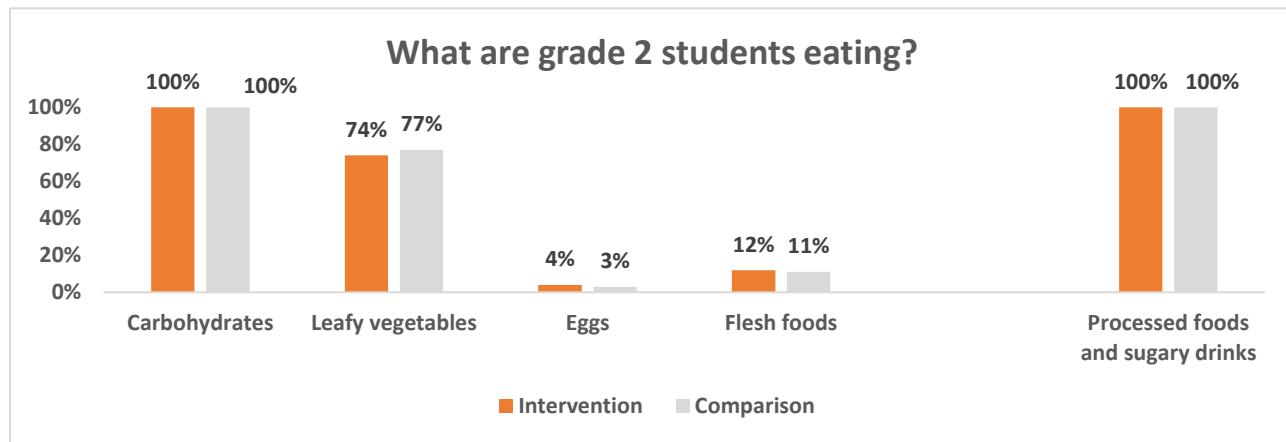
Household dietary variety has further declined since the COVID-19 crisis in both HATUTAN and comparison communities.



Among grade 2 students, only 36% have consumed protein-rich foods of any origin (animal or vegetable).

However, 100% of them have consumed carbohydrate-rich processed foods and sugary drinks - dry noodles, Ale-Ale, and others.

Very few students consume protein at home:



EXCLUSIVE BREASTFEEDING

HATUTAN has improved exclusive breastfeeding of babies under six months of age.

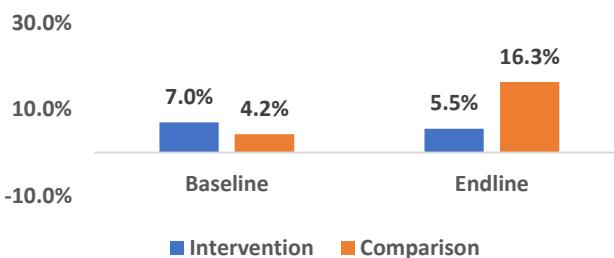
The proportion of mothers who fed formula milk to babies under six months of age has declined over time in HATUTAN areas, while increasing sharply in comparison communities.

STUDENT MALNUTRITION

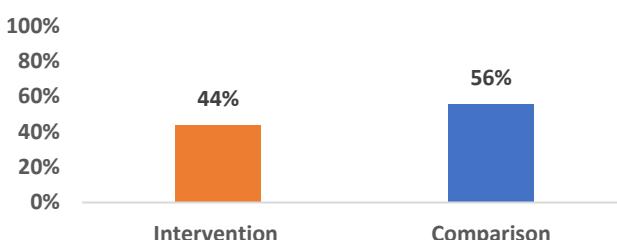


Among grade 2 students, 44% of those in HATUTAN-supported schools and 56% of those in comparison areas are underweight.

% Mothers feeding formula to babies under six months of age



% Underweight grade 2 students

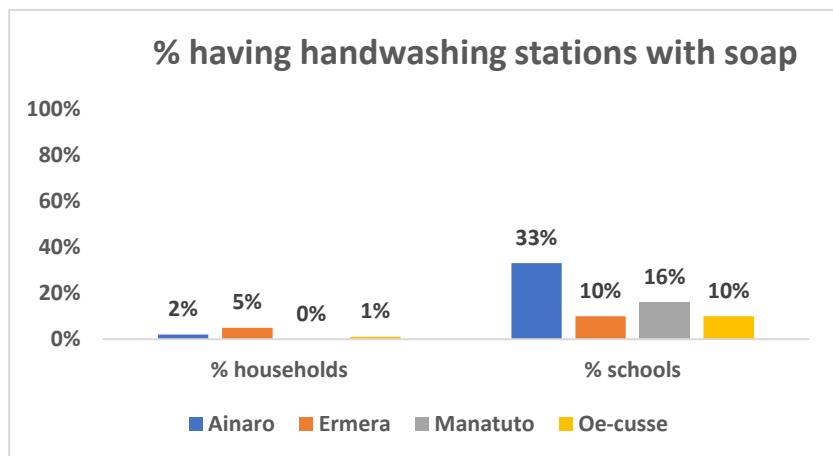


The proportion of grade 2 students who did not eat before coming to school remained stable in HATUTAN-supported areas but increased significantly in comparison sites – from 12% to 17%. This result shows that HATUTAN has reduced hunger among school-aged children.

HYGIENE PRACTICES

The proportion of households having handwashing stations with soap is extremely low in both HATUTAN and comparison areas.

The proportion of schools having handwashing stations with soap is also very low.



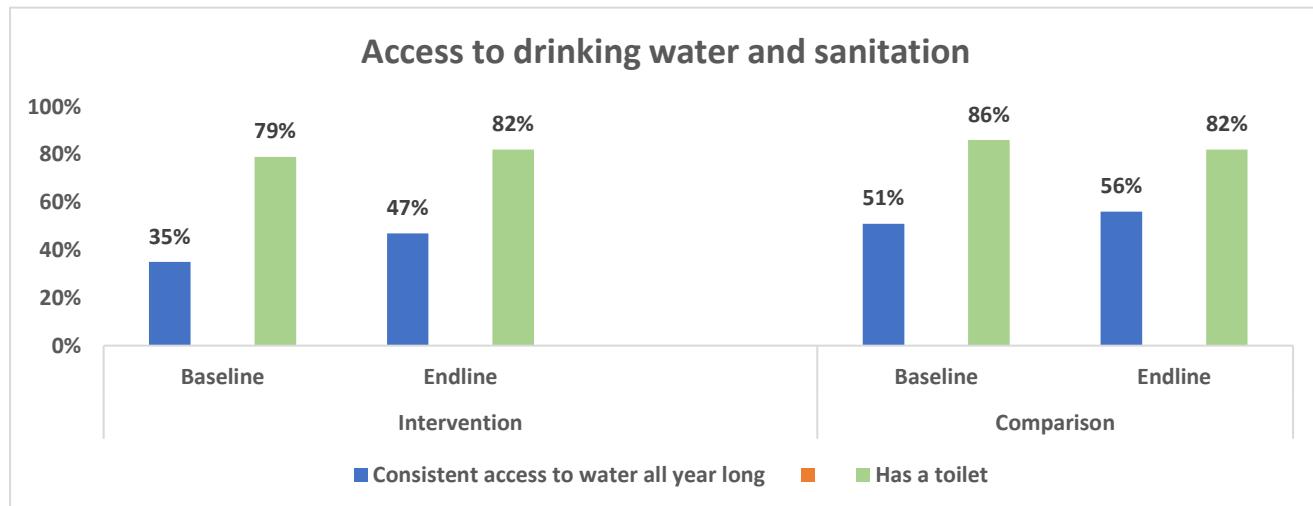
KNOWLEDGE OF HYGIENE

Most mothers have good knowledge of hygiene practices: 92% of those in HATUTAN areas and 90% of those in comparison locations could identify good hygiene practices correctly.

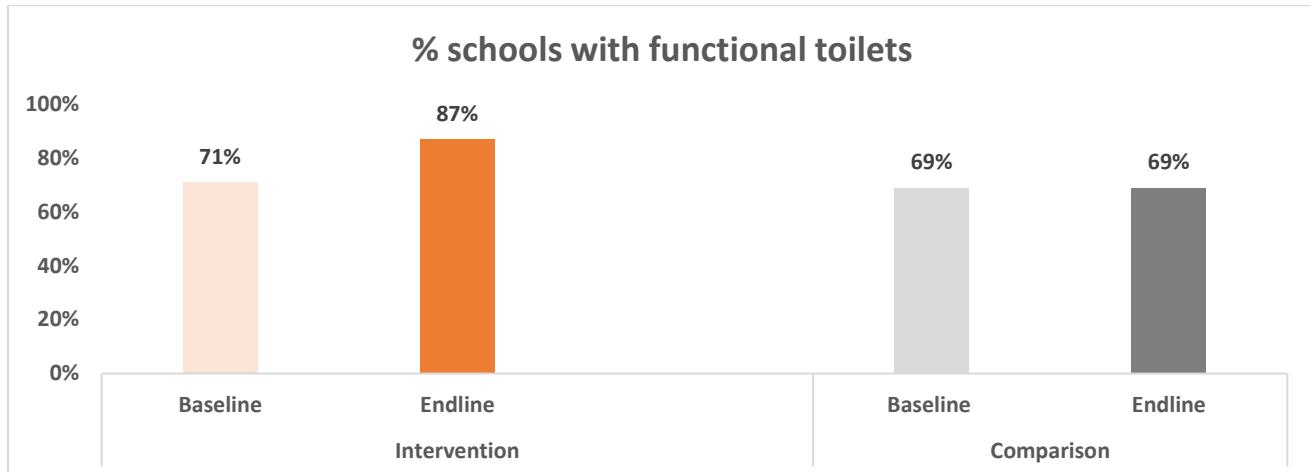
Therefore, knowledge is not the problem – the key issues are lack of implementation of good hygiene practices and limited access to water.

SANITATION AT SCHOOL AND HOUSEHOLDS

Household access to water and sanitation has increased in HATUTAN areas, but not in comparison sites.



School sanitation has improved in intervention locations, but not in comparison sites.



IMPACT OF MALNUTRITION AND POOR HYGIENE PRACTICES

- A large proportion of grade 2 students are missing class due to illness: 24% in intervention schools and 19% in comparison sites.
- In average, grade 2 students **miss one school day per week due to illness** in intervention schools.
- Illness-related absenteeism is strongly related to poor hygiene practices and malnutrition.



For further Information on the HATUTAN program, please contact Nicole Seibel – Nicole.Seibel@careint.org



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