**The Kyrgyz Republic**

**COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES**
- Handwashing with soap
- Hearing testing/treatment
- Height measurement
- Dental cleaning/testing
- Weight measurement
- Menstrual hygiene
- Deworming treatment
- Drinking water
- Eye testing/eyeglasses
- Water purification
- Other: School orchards

**MEALS/SNACKS/MODALITY**
- Breakfast
- Snacks
- Lunch
- Take-home rations
- Dinner
- Conditional cash transfer
- Grains/cereals
- Fish
- Roots, tubers
- Green, leafy vegetables
- Legumes and nuts
- Other vegetables
- Dairy products
- Fruits
- Eggs
- Oil
- Meat
- Salt
- Poultry
- Sugar

**FOOD SOURCES**
- Purchased (domestic)
- In-kind (domestic)
- Purchased (foreign)
- In-kind (foreign)

**PROHIBITED FOOD ITEMS**
- Canned food, processed food, lemon salt, pickles, products with short shelf life

**SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Level</th>
<th>Total #</th>
<th># Enrolled</th>
<th># Receiving Food</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>602,000</td>
<td>595,000</td>
<td>595,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>716,209</td>
<td>660,063</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,318,209</td>
<td>1,255,063</td>
<td>595,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SCHOOL Meal/Feeding Program(s)**
- Most recently completed school year: September 2018 – May 2019 (170 school days)
- National School Feeding Program:
  - a) Government operated
  - b) WFP and Mercy Corp operated Optimisation of the School Feeding Program
- Lead Agency: Ministry of Education and Science

**National Laws, Policies, and Standards**
- National school feeding policy
- Nutrition
- Food safety
- Agriculture
- Private sector involvement

**Budget**
- Total: USD 13,940,463
  - National government: USD 8,040,463
  - International donors*: USD 5,900,000
  - Private sector: USD 0
  - Other donors: USD 0

**Infrastructures**
- Most schools in the Kyrgyz Republic have electricity, piped and clean water, dedicated eating areas/cafeterias and kitchens. Some have latrines and flush toilets. School meals are prepared on school grounds in closed cooking areas that have electricity, refrigeration, electric or gas stoves, and storage areas.

**Special Notes**
- Information used in this report is from third-party sources, primarily the United Nations World Food Program and Mercy Corps, both of which are involved with the National School Feeding Program in the Kyrgyz Republic. Some data from UNESCO was used to complete this report.

GCNF is a non-political, non-profit entity incorporated in 2006. Funding for this survey and a follow-up survey in 2021 is being provided, in part, by the United States Department of Agriculture under agreement number FX18TA-109600002.
NUTRITION

School feeding program(s) include/involve the following:

- Fortified foods
- Bio-fortified foods
- Micronutrient supplements
- Nutritionists involved
- Special training for cooks/caterers in nutrition
- Objective to meet nutritional goals
- Objective to meet educational goals
- Objective to provide a social safety net
- Objective to reduce obesity

Food items fortified:
Grains/cereals, oil

Micronutrients added to fortified foods:
Iron, Vitamin A, Zinc, Folate, Vitamin B12, B1, B2, B3

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This program used nutrition, food and health education to prevent or mitigate overweight/obesity. Special training or certification programs on nutrition, portions/measurements, menu planning, food safety/hygiene and basic cooking skills were required for cooks/caterers.

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Jobs created by school feeding programs

1,082
- Cooks and food preparers
- Transporters (NR)
- Off-site processors (NR)
- Food packagers and handlers (20+)
- Monitoring (NR)
- Food service management (NR)
- Safety and quality inspectors (NR)
- Other (NR)

Farmers were involved with the school feeding program(s)...

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ NR

Other private sector (for profit) actors were involved...

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ NR

There was a focus on creating jobs or leadership or income-generating opportunities for...

☐ Women
☐ Youth
☐ Other groups

There was community engagement (by parents or others) in the school feeding program(s)

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ NR

CONTACTS: THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

Agency: Ministry of Education and Science
Website: https://edu.gov.kg
Email: minedukg@gmail.com

SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

The Kyrgyz Republic has a universal national school meal program that covers all 95,000 students enrolled in schools. 215,000 school children receive optimized hot meals with support from international organizations, while 380,000 students receive basic bun and tea as snack since the schools do not have adequate kitchen infrastructure to independently prepare hot meals.

The government initially funded the school feeding on the basis of 5 Kyrgyz Som (.07 USD) per child per day and then increased the funding to 7 Som (.10 USD) per child per day (.14 USD per day per child in remote or high-mountainous areas).

(This information is from https://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/communications/wfp288645.pdf)

Both the ministry and the public support the goal of improving school meals nationwide. There are multiple state-level standards and requirements, however, which are not yet uniformly and universally implemented.

STUDIES CONDUCTED

Mercy Corps study in process

RESEARCH NEEDED

NR
NATIONAL SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM

Lead implementer(s): Ministry of Education and Science

OBJECTIVES:
- To meet educational goals
- To provide a social safety net
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:
- In-school meals (snack of bun and tea or hot meal)

TARGETING:
Universal

HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School level</th>
<th># Students</th>
<th>% Girls</th>
<th>% Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-school</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school receiving hot meals</td>
<td>210,000</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school receiving bun and tea</td>
<td>380,000</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>595,000</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOOD ITEMS:
- Grains/cereals*
- Legumes and nuts
- Roots/tubers
- Meats
- Poultry
- Dairy products
- Eggs
- Green, leafy vegetables
- Other vegetables
- Fruits
- Salt
- Sugar
- Oil*
- Fortified

FOOD SOURCES:
- Yes - Purchased (domestic)
- Yes - In-kind (domestic)
- 0 - Purchased (foreign)
- Yes - In-kind (foreign)

NOTES:
The government program serves as the umbrella and provides a bun and tea to more than half of the primary school students in the country. The United Nations World Food Program and Mercy Corps provide hot meals for 215,000 students—including 5,000 pre-schoolers. Combined, these activities achieved universal coverage for enrolled primary school students. Government per-student spending was higher for students in remote and highly-mountainous areas.