SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)
Most recently completed school year:
August 2018 - May 2019 (184 school days)
• Food Service Program
Lead Agency: Ministry of Education

NATIONAL LAWS, POLICIES, AND STANDARDS
National school feeding policy
Nutrition
Food safety
Agriculture
Private sector involvement

Line item in the national budget...

Yes  No  NR

INFRASTRUCTURE
Most schools have electricity, piped water, clean water, flush toilets, dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias, and all have on-site kitchens. Very few schools have latrines.

SPECIAL NOTES
Private schools are not included in this report for topics such as enrollment and students receiving food; some data used in the report is from the “2015 census: Population, Housing and Agriculture”, published by the Office of Planning and Statistics Bureau of Budget and Planning, Republic of Palau.

BUDGET
Total: USD 846,000
National government: USD 846,000
International donors*: USD 0
Private sector: USD 0
Other donors: USD 0

*Contributions by United Nations agencies or non-governmental organizations often represent funding from multiple donors.

MEALS/SNACKS/MODALITY

Breakfast
• Snacks
• Take-home rations
• Conditional cash transfer

Lunch
• Grains/cereals
• Roots, tubers
• Legumes and nuts
• Dairy products
• Eggs
• Meat
• Poultry

Dinner
• Fish
• Green, leafy vegetables
• Other vegetables
• Fruits
• Oil
• Salt
• Sugar

Prohibited food items: Sweet drinks and canned meat.

FOOD SOURCES

• Purchased (domestic)
• Purchased (foreign)

SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2018/19

<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>1,973</td>
<td>1,729</td>
<td>1,729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>982</td>
<td>535</td>
<td>535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,955</td>
<td>2,264</td>
<td>2,264</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES

• Handwashing with soap
• Height measurement
• Weight measurement
• Deworming treatment
• Eye testing/eyeglasses
• Hearing testing/treatment
• Dental cleaning/testing
• Menstrual hygiene
• Drinking water
• Water purification

EDUCATION
• Nutrition
• Health
• Food and agriculture
• Reproductive health
• Hygiene
• HIV prevention

OTHER
• School gardens
• Physical education

The checked and highlighted items are reported as required, though they may not be uniformly implemented.

COVERAGE:
 PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN
Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 2,955
Receiving school food: 2,264

Food was also provided to some students in:
• pre-schools
• vocational/trade schools
• University/higher education
• Other

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 reduce obesity

Food items fortified:
- Dairy

Micronutrients added to fortified foods:
- Calcium

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Two volunteer nutritionists were involved in the program. Training for cooks included cooking skills, nutrition, menu planning, food safety and hygiene, and portions/measurements. To mitigate obesity the following strategies were used in the Palau program: food and nutrition education, health education, physical education, and some food restrictions on/near school grounds.

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Jobs created by school feeding programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cooks and food preparers</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transporters</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-site processors</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food packagers and handlers</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring</td>
<td>NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food service management</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety and quality inspectors</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The competitive tendering procedures for the program gave preferential treatment for small-scale farmers/small farmer organizations/small companies. School-meals were prepared on school grounds. Mechanisms for limiting food waste included: sealed food storage, fumigation/pest control and processes for using usable but “imperfect” commodities or produce. Re-use of bags/containers and recycling were actions employed to limit packaging waste.

CONTACTS: PALAU

Agency: Ministry of Education
Website: https://www.palaugov.pw/executive-branch/ministries/education/
Email: N/A

SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

Positive developments reported for the Palau program include:
- Canned meats were replaced with frozen or fresh meat
- Fruit and vegetable portions increased from none or less than 1/4 cup of vegetables to half or 1 cup of fruits and vegetables now
- Increased number of staff
- More training for the staffs and cooks

Strengths include:
- Sustainable local farms
- Consistent international support (examples are: The Hiroshima Rotary Club provided kitchen equipment, the Japan-Palau Society and ICDF provided some funding; ICDF and JICA provided nutritionists)
- Strong Management Team

Major setbacks and challenges reported for the program:
- Budget
- Lack of professionally-trained cooks
- Lack of communication between the central office and each school
- Lack of healthy eating practices in homes, meaning that students are unused to—and even opposed to—eating vegetables

STUDIES CONDUCTED

None

RESEARCH NEEDED

Relations between students' health and the school lunch program

NR = No Response
FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

Lead implementer(s): Ministry of Education

OBJECTIVES:
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals
- To prevent or mitigate obesity

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:
- In-school meals

TARGETING:
Universal & Geographic

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>N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>1,729</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>535</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,264</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOOD ITEMS:
- Grains/cereals
- Dairy products*
- Poultry
- Meat
- Fish
- Fruits
- Green, leafy vegetables
- Other, vegetables
- Roots/tubers
- Sugar
- Oil
- Salt

* fortified

FOOD SOURCES:
- 2% In-kind (domestic)
- 5% In-kind (foreign)
- 93% Purchased (foreign and domestic)

NOTES:
Palau has a policy of no snacks and water only for the program; any sweet is not allowed at schools, except on special occasions.