**SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)**

Most recently completed school year:
March 2018 – December 2018 (185 school days)

- Programa De Alimentación Escolar Del Ceip (PAE)

**Lead Agency:**
The National Administration for Public Education (ANEP) Preschool and Primary Education Council (Consejo de Educación Inicial y Primaria)

**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

**BUDGET**

Total: USD 60,423,713

- National government: USD 60,423,713
- 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.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

All schools have electricity, latrines and bathrooms. Most schools have running and potable water, dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias, and kitchens. Food is prepared on site (on school grounds) in 93% of the schools, and off site (by catering services) in other cases.

**SPECIAL NOTES**

2020 will mark the 100th anniversary of school feeding in Uruguay!

NR = No Response

**COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES**

- Handwashing with soap
- Hearing testing/treatment
- Handwashing with soap
- Hearing testing/treatment
- Handwashing with soap
- Hearing testing/treatment

- Height measurement
- Dental cleaning/testing
- Eye testing/eyeglasses
- Menstrual hygiene
- Eye testing/eyeglasses
- Water purification

- Weight measurement
- Fruits
- Deworming treatment
- Green, leafy vegetables
- Eye testing/eyeglasses
- Sugar

- Deworming treatment
- Other vegetables
- Eye testing/eyeglasses
- Salt
- Eye testing/eyeglasses
- Water purification

Prohibited food items: Ultraprocessed and fried foods, those high in sugar and salt, sausages, and others per Ministry of Public Health guidelines.

**FOOD SOURCES**

- Purchased (domestic)
- In-kind (domestic)
- Purchased (foreign)
- In-kind (foreign)

**COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

**EDUCATION**

- Nutrition
- Health
- Food and agriculture
- Reproductive health
- Hygiene
- HIV prevention

- School gardens
- Physical education

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

**MEALS/SNACKS/MODALITY**

- Breakfast
- Snacks
- Take-home rations
- Snacks
- Take-home rations
- Snacks

- Lunch
- Take-home rations
- Take-home rations
- Take-home rations
- Take-home rations
- Take-home rations

- Dinner
- Conditional cash transfer
- Conditional cash transfer
- Conditional cash transfer
- Conditional cash transfer
- Conditional cash transfer

**SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS**

**CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2018**

<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>478,538</td>
<td>332,048</td>
<td>201,309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>328,257</td>
<td>270,421</td>
<td>5,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>806,795</td>
<td>602,469</td>
<td>206,629</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COVERAGE:**

Approximately 25% of these were pre-school children

206,629

Food was also provided to some students in

- Pre-schools
- Vocational/trade schools
- University/higher education
- Other

26%

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-10960002.
**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 products and flour

Micronutrients added to fortified foods:
- None

**AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

Jobs created by school feeding programs
- 2,200 Cooks and food preparers
- NR Transporters
- 380 Off-site processors
- NR Food packagers and handlers
- NR Monitoring
- 2,300 Food service management
- 300 Safety and quality inspectors
- NR Other

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 Uruguay school meal program’s cooks were paid and 75–100% were women. The program involves local businesses in activities ranging from food purchasing and processing to catering services and as sources of supplies. Uruguay implemented mechanisms to limit food waste including: sealed food storage, fumigation/pest control, use of food near expiration date, and a marketing campaign to reduce how much food students throw away.

**CONTACTS: URUGUAY**

Agency: Consejo de Educación Inicial y Primaria (CEIP)
Website: http://www.ceip.edu.uy/actividades-pae
Email: pae@ceip.edu.uy

**SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES**

Key successes reported by Uruguay include: Formation of a Technical Guidance Group for the program, with expertise in nutrition and chemical food engineering; implementation of quality and safety controls using a Laboratory Analysis Plan; and integration of an Inter-Agency Advisory Group for evaluating program functioning, impact on nutritional status, and the program’s impact on families that enroll their children.

Uruguay also reported improvements in the nutritional quality and diversity of school menus, with new standards for the frequency of providing meats, legumes, raw and cooked vegetables, seasonal produce, and fruit. Three reported strengths of the program are:
1. specialized professional advice for all school canteens;
2. financing, supported by the citizens of Uruguay through the Primary Tax; and
3. coordination and integration of nutrition education.

Challenges faced by the program included: The need for more licensed nutritionists in each department; and the need for a better ratio between the number of students being served and auxiliary service personnel. Difficulties were also reported regarding administrative burdens on school offices managing the food services and inadequate personnel to respond to the large number of requests for licenses for the staff of school canteens.

Uruguay reported a goal of achieving the resources needed for expanding the program to cover all middle school students who need it.

**STUDIES CONDUCTED**

Evaluation of the School Feeding Program and Monitoring of the Nutritional State of Children of Public and Private Schools by PAE, CODICEN, and the Institute of Economics at the University of the Republic, begun in 2015 and still in process: The study showed notable reduction of malnutrition and improvements in class attendance and academic performance. Families valued the program, and the program is seen both as making a positive social contribution and helping to improve eating habits.

**RESEARCH NEEDED**

Uruguay plans to repeat the study described above.
PROGRAMA DE ALIMENTACIÓN ESCOLAR DEL CONSEJO DE EDUCACIÓN INICIAL Y PRIMARIA (PAE)

Lead implementer(s):
The National Administration for Public Education (ANEP)
Preschool and Primary Education Council (Consejo de Educación Inicial y Primaria)

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

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:
- In-school meals, In-school snacks
- Five times per week during the school year

HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2018 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>67,103</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>201,309</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>5,320</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>273,732</strong></td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOOD ITEMS:
- Grains/cereals*
- Legumes and nuts
- Dairy products*
- Eggs
- Meat
- Poultry
- Fish
- Green, leafy vegetables
- Other vegetables
- Roots/tubers
- Fruit
- Salt
- Sugar
- Oil
- * fortified

FOOD SOURCES:
- 99% Purchased (domestic)
- 1% In-kind (domestic)
- 0% Purchased (foreign)
- 0% In-kind (foreign)

NOTES:
Floods and tornados in some parts of the country caused an increase in the number of children fed. The program uses a competitive tendering process with preferential treatment for small-scale farmers and small business organizations.