

SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

Most recently completed school year:
September 2017 – May 2018 (180 days)

- School Meal Program

Lead Agency: Ministry of Education & Training,
Ministry of Health

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: NR

- ☐ National government: Yes
- ☐ International donors*: Yes
- ☐ Private sector: Yes
- ☐ Other donors: Yes

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

INFRASTRUCTURE

All schools have electricity. Piped water, clean water and latrines are available in most of the schools, flush toilets and dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias are available in some schools.

SPECIAL NOTES

Vietnam reported that there is more than one program in the country but data provided focused on the one program listed above; no numbers were provided for the number of children receiving food in the most recently completed school year.

Some 2017 data from the General Statistics Office of Vietnam and from the World Bank was used to complete this report. (https://www.gso.gov.vn/default_en.aspx?tabid=782, and <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SE.SEC.ENRR?end=2019&start=2014>)

NR = No Response

MEALS/SNACKS/MODALITY

- ☐ Breakfast
- ☒ Lunch
- ☐ Dinner
- ☐ Snacks
- ☐ Take-home rations
- ☐ Conditional cash transfer

- ☒ Grains/cereals
- ☒ Roots, tubers
- ☒ Legumes and nuts
- ☒ Dairy products
- ☒ Eggs
- ☒ Meat
- ☒ Poultry
- ☒ Fish
- ☒ Green, leafy vegetables
- ☒ Other vegetables
- ☒ Fruits
- ☒ Oil
- ☒ Salt
- ☒ Sugar

Prohibited food items: Foods harmful to health (e.g., foods high in sugar, fat; some processed foods; or school-based snacks, depending on the locality).

FOOD SOURCES

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

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

COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- 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.

☒ = mandatory

SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF Vietnam



SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2017-18

School level	Total #	# Enrolled	# Receiving Food
Primary school	8,041,842	8,041,842	—
Secondary school	7,881,876	5,942,934	—
Total	15,923,718	13,984,776	—

COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 15,923,718

Receiving school food: NR

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-10960G002.

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:

NR

Micronutrients added to fortified foods:

NR

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

To prevent or mitigate overweight/obesity this school feeding program used nutritional requirements for food baskets, food restrictions on or near school grounds, nutrition, physical, food and health education. Special training or certification programs required for cooks/caterers included nutrition, portions/measurements, menu planning and food safety and hygiene.

CONTACTS: VIETNAM

Agency: National Institute of Nutrition, Ministry of Education and Training, Ministry of Health

Website: <https://en.moet.gov.vn>

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Jobs created by school feeding programs

40	Cooks and food preparers
NR	Transporters
NR	Off-site processors
NR	Food packagers and handlers
NR	Monitoring
NR	Food service management
NR	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

Besides subsidies and extension support given to all farmers, medium- and the large-scale farmers received school feeding-specific training, mobile and electronic payments, and forward contracts. Given preferential treatment, small-scale farmers and/or companies successfully competed to sell food to the program. Most (75–100%) of the cooks/caterers were women and were paid by implementing partners. Families contributed to the program, and companies of all sizes were involved – in food trading, food processing transport, catering, and supply of utensils.

SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

The Government of Vietnam supports the cost of school meals for disadvantaged areas around 10,000–12,000/day or 220,000–700,000 Vietnamese Dong per student, per year for public school. Resources are mobilized from the government and family contributions. The program covers pre-primary and primary students of private and public schools.

Vietnam reported that the country was affected by natural disasters, conflict and a health epidemic during the 2017–18 school year, causing a decrease in the number of students fed, frequency of school feeding, level of food basket variety, and the size of rations. Survey responses indicate that the disasters led to changes in the targeting approach, changes in feeding modality, and – in at least one case – school feeding ceased operations.

STUDIES CONDUCTED

NR

RESEARCH NEEDED

NR

Program report: Vietnam

All data from the 2017-18 school year

SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAM

Lead implementer(s): Ministry of Education & Training,
Ministry of Health

OBJECTIVES:

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

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:

- In-school meals, five times per week for the nine month school year

TARGETING:

Geographically targeted

HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR?

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	NR		
Primary school	NR		
Secondary school	N/A		
Total	NR		

FOOD ITEMS:

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

FOOD SOURCES:

Yes - Purchased (domestic)	0 - In-kind (domestic)
0 - Purchased (foreign)	Yes - In-kind (foreign)

NOTES:

Some students' parents paid all or part of the cost of the meal; some contributed in-kind to the school feeding program. The program used some packaged and processed foods which were bought from within the country.

