

SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

Most recently completed school year:
January–December 2018 (198 school days)

- Home Grown School Meals Program
- Mary's Meals School Feeding Program

Lead Agency: Ministry of General Education

NATIONAL LAWS, POLICIES, AND STANDARDS

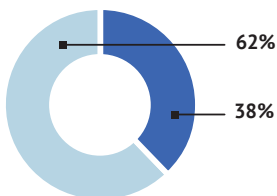
- ☐ National school feeding policy
- ☒ Nutrition
- ☒ Food safety
- ☐ Agriculture
- ☐ Private sector involvement

Line item in the national budget... ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ NR

BUDGET

Total:
USD 5,895,482

- ☒ National government:
USD 3,659,652
- ☒ International donors*:
USD 2,235,830
- ☐ Private sector: N/A
- ☐ Other donors: N/A



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

INFRASTRUCTURE

All schools in Zambia have latrines and some schools have electricity, clean water and flush toilets, though very few schools have kitchens and dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias. School meals/snacks are prepared on school grounds, with approximately 50% of schools having on-site kitchens. They have open or closed cooking areas with storage, on-site water (not piped), charcoal or wood stoves, and serving utensils.

SPECIAL NOTES

Some data from UNESCO and Zambia's Education Statistical Bulletin (re numbers of children and enrollment) were used to complete this report.

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: Genetically modified foods

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

☒ = mandatory

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



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.

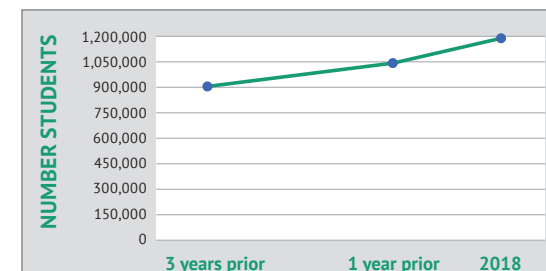
REPUBLIC OF Zambia



SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2018

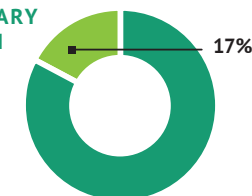
School level	Total #	# Enrolled	# Receiving Food
Primary school	4,728,181	3,284,841	1,032,250
Secondary school	1,826,529	915,756	103,902
Total	6,554,710	4,200,597	1,136,152



COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 6,554,710

Receiving school food:
1,136,152



- Food was also provided to some students in
- ☒ Pre-schools
- ☐ Vocational/trade schools
- ☐ University/higher education
- ☐ Other

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:

Grains (Corn soya blend)

Micronutrients added to fortified foods:

Iron, Niacin, Vitamin A, Vitamin B6, Iodine, Vitamin C, Zinc, Calcium, Folate, Vitamin B12, Potassium, Phosphorous, Biotin

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

At least seven nutritionists were involved in the school meal programs in Zambia in 2018. Health and nutrition education were used to prevent or mitigate overweight/obesity. Mechanisms for limiting food waste include sealed food storage, fumigation/pest control in storage area, the use of nearly-expired food and adherence to feeding rations. The mechanism for limiting packaging waste is re-use of bags/containers.

CONTACTS: ZAMBIA

Agency: Ministry of General Education, Zambia

Website: www.moge.gov.zm

Email: info@MOGE.gov.zm

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Jobs created by school feeding programs

6,354+	Cooks and food preparers
39	Transporters
NR	Off-site processors
156	Food packagers and handlers
28	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

There is a focus on creating jobs or income-generating opportunities for women as schools procure food from small-scale women farmer organizations, and through the newly piloted fresh vegetables procurement initiative in two districts. Leadership positions (paid or unpaid) are also provided for women. For example, women farmers are trained in best practices in agriculture, food production management, and financial management. Jobs or income-generating opportunities are also made available for youths. For example, youths are encouraged to form groups and undergo skills trainings in various agricultural value and supply chains prior to being provided with soft loans. Vulnerable groups are supported by the Government through the Farmer Input Support (FISP) Program to engage themselves in different agricultural ventures. In addition, there is community engagement (by parents or others) in the school feeding programs in Zambia. The programs thrive on the support of community members in the provision of water, firewood, serving of food and construction of infrastructure (kitchens and eating spaces) in the schools. Community members also form part of the Food Management Committees.

SUCCESSSES AND CHALLENGES

School feeding in Zambia is undertaken through a multi-sectoral approach to program implementation. The school feeding strategy has been developed for effective program management, the procurement strategy is based on a highly decentralized model. The school feeding programs effectively encourage children, particularly from poor communities, to enroll and attend school. Students also benefit from education on food safety and nutrition, and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH).

Nevertheless, the school feeding programs have also experienced some recent setbacks. For the Home Grown School Feeding program, the World Food Program's support has ceased, and there remains inadequate funding. Rather, the program is funded solely by the government through the budget of the Ministry of General Education. There is limited stakeholder participation in resource mobilization or management of the program. There are also serious concerns regarding mismanagement of food and funds at the sub-regional level. Nationally, there is insufficient appreciation of the program's importance.

STUDIES CONDUCTED

None specified (although studies have been conducted)

RESEARCH NEEDED

- Increasing multi-sectoral involvement
- Making school feeding a profitable business, particularly for private sector actors
- Institutionalization of the program within the Ministry of General Education

HOME GROWN SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAM (HGMF)

Lead implementer(s): The Ministry of General Education and the World Food Program

OBJECTIVES:

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

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:

- In-school meals

TARGETING:

Geographic targeting towards districts with high poverty levels, high levels of school dropouts, and high rates of absenteeism

HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2018 SCHOOL YEAR?

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	49,200	49%	51%
Primary school	921,579	50%	50%
Secondary school	103,902	46%	54%
Total	1,074,681	—	—

FOOD ITEMS:

Grains/cereals*	Green, leafy vegetables
Legumes and nuts	Oil
* fortified	

FOOD SOURCES:

Yes - Purchased (domestic)	Yes - In-kind (domestic)
Yes - Purchased (foreign)	No - In-kind (foreign)

NOTES:

Pulses (including cowpeas) are purchased from small-scale farmers, and other food items are procured from the Food Reserve Agency. There are tentative plans (discussed in the national media) to make school feeding universal in Zambia.



MARY'S MEALS SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM

Lead implementer(s): Ministry of General Education through District Education Offices

OBJECTIVES:

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

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:

- In-school meals

TARGETING:

Geographic targeting towards districts with poor enrollment rates

HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2018 SCHOOL YEAR?

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	8,644	53%	47%
Primary school	110,671	49%	51%
Secondary school	N/A		
Total	119,315	—	—

FOOD ITEMS:

Grains/cereals*
* fortified

FOOD SOURCES:

Yes - Purchased (domestic)	No - In-kind (domestic)
No - Purchased (foreign)	No - In-kind (foreign)

NOTES:

Mary's Meals School Meal Program began operating in Zambia in 2014. In 2018, this program operated in 222 schools, providing students with breakfast five times per week during the school year. In 2019, the program anticipates reaching 190,000 learners.