

## SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

**Most recently completed school year:**  
**September 2017 - June 2018**  
**(174 days for Primary; 160 days for Secondary Education)**

Program 1: Providing Free Breakfast to Pupils in Need  
 Program 2: All-Day Optional Primary Schools

### Lead Agencies:

Program 1: The Cyprus Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth  
 Program 2: Department of Primary Education/ Office of All-Day Schools

## 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

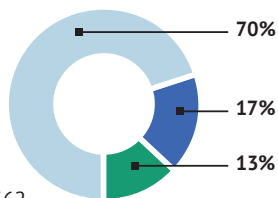
Total: USD 2,740,322

☒ National government:  
 USD 1,915,811

☒ International donors\*:  
 USD 471,149

☒ Private sector: N/A

☒ Other donors: USD 353,362



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

## INFRASTRUCTURE

The school meals/snacks were prepared on school grounds or off-site in private facilities. About 20% of schools had on-site kitchens with piped water, electricity, refrigeration, and electric stoves. None of the schools have dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias. All schools in the country have electricity, piped water, clean water, latrines or flush toilets. All latrines are gender-private.

## SPECIAL NOTES

The name of the Ministry of Education and Culture (MOEC) was recently changed to Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth. School feeding covers vocational schools in Cyprus. About 13% of the overall budget comes from local sponsors.

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:** Any foods not on the approved list for school canteens per national law.

## 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.

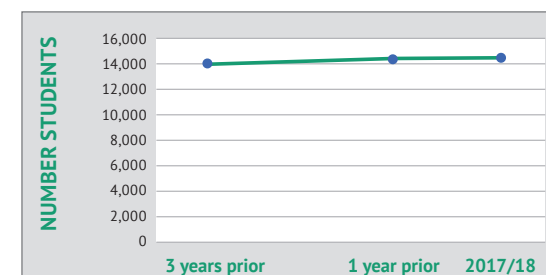
# REPUBLIC OF Cyprus



## SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

### CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2017-18

School level	Total #	# Enrolled	# Receiving Food
Primary school	66,000	59,000	7,642
Secondary school	55,000	46,000	4,800
<b>Total</b>	<b>121,000</b>	<b>105,000</b>	<b>12,442</b>

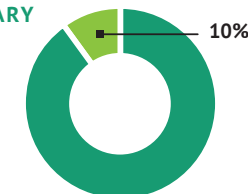


### COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 121,000

Receiving school food: 12,442

- ☒ 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:**

N/A

**Micronutrients added to fortified foods:**

N/A

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived also funded for this school feeding program. Approximately 500 school canteen staff were involved in the "Providing Free Breakfast to Pupils in Need" Program.

## AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

**Jobs created by school feeding programs**

<b>195</b>	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

The Parents' Association was involved in Program 2 (community engagement).

## CONTACTS: CYPRUS

**Contacts:** 0035722800918, Cyprus

**Agency:** Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth

**Website:** www.moec.gov.cy

**Email:** registry@moec.gov.cy

**Fax:** 0035722809513

## SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

**Positive Developments:**

1. Although the program started in 2013, after the financial crisis in Cyprus, in order to offer free breakfast to pupils from families in need due to economic criteria, it was expanded to families which meet social criteria as well. The intention of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth is that all pupils in need will have fresh and quality breakfast at school.
2. The program budget was supported by private sponsors in order to cover the required cost for all needy pupils.
3. Although at the beginning of the program a sandwich was offered every day, the program was changed to give pupils the choice of another snack (i.e. olive pie, cheese pie or other snack from the approved list of items for school canteens) twice a week, so as to have variety.

**Strengths:**

1. Ensures that pupils from disadvantaged families- as a consequence of the recent financial crisis in Cyprus- are offered a nutritious breakfast so as to minimize the possibility of detrimental consequences from possible malnutrition which can affect the pupils' school performance and their overall physical and mental health.
2. The key to the successful implementation of the program is the co-operation and contribution of all parties (MOEC, School Administration and Staff, School Boards, Parents' Association, Canteen staff).
3. The free breakfast is offered with great discretion and respect to pupils' dignity.

**Challenges:**

1. Difficulty by the School Committees to determine which pupils are in real need.

## STUDIES CONDUCTED

NR

## RESEARCH NEEDED

NR

## PROVIDING FREE BREAKFAST TO PUPILS IN NEED

**Lead implementer(s):** Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth

### 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 Snacks (Breakfast)

### TARGETING:

Individual Student Characteristics (Children from disadvantaged families who are in danger of malnutrition, according to financial and social criteria, e.g. children who are orphaned or are from: 1. Families that receive the Guaranteed Minimum Income; 2. Unemployed households; 3. Single-parent families 4. Multi-child families; or are from 5. Families with an especially inadequate income due to other reasons)

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

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	1,000	—	—
Primary school	6,800	—	—
Secondary school	4,800	—	—
Vocational/Trade school	1,100	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,700</b>	—	—

### FOOD ITEMS:

NR

### FOOD SOURCES:

100% Purchased (domestic) 0% In-kind (domestic)  
0% Purchased (foreign) 0% In-kind (foreign)

### NOTES:

The school snacks (sandwich or snack) are prepared in the school canteens in 90% of the schools. If there are no canteens in the schools, the sandwiches/snacks were provided through licensed suppliers (eg: bakers). The program did not use any packaged or processed foods. To limit food waste, breakfasts are made in the mornings according to the number of pupils present in school that day.

## ALL-DAY OPTIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS

**Lead implementer(s):** Department of Primary Education/Office of All-Day Schools

### OBJECTIVES:

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

### MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:

- In-school meals (Lunch)

### TARGETING:

Individual Student Characteristics (Family income)

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

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	175	51%	49%
Primary school	842	50%	50%
Secondary school	N/A		
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,017</b>	—	—

### FOOD ITEMS:

Legumes and nuts	Poultry	Green, leafy vegetables
Roots and tubers	Meat	Other vegetables
Dairy products	Fish	Fruits
Eggs	Oil	Salt

\* fortified

### FOOD SOURCES:

100% Purchased (domestic) 0% In-kind (domestic)  
0% Purchased (foreign) 0% In-kind (foreign)

### NOTES:

About 20% of the schools had on-site kitchens with provisions such as piped water, electric stove, refrigeration, closed cooking areas, serving utensils and electricity. 195 cooks/caterers were involved in the program and a special training on food safety/hygiene was required for them.

The students were provided with food, health and physical education to prevent or mitigate obesity/overweight. Apart from this, the students were also provided with nutrition, hygiene, food and agriculture and reproductive health education. A handwashing with soap complementary program was provided to the recipients.