

## SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

Most recently completed school year:  
June 2018 – June 2019 (About 180 days)

- The National School Feeding Project in Nineveh Governorate

Lead Agency: Ministry of Education and 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: USD 17,000,000

- ☒ National government: USD 17,000,000
- ☒ International donors\*: Yes
- ☒ Private sector: NR
- ☒ Other donors: NR

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

## INFRASTRUCTURE

School meals and snacks for the program are purchased in processed form. All schools have electricity, piped water, and latrines. Most schools have clean water. Some schools have flush toilets. None of the schools have dedicated eating spaces.

## SPECIAL NOTES

Iraq was the first country to complete the 2019 Global Survey of School Meal Programs in Arabic. The program is supported by the UN World Food Program (WFP). Some data from UNESCO was 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: Candy, canned food, artificially flavored food, cooked food

## 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
- ☒ Other: Awareness programs around nutrition and waste management
- ☐ 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

☒ = mandatory

### OTHER

- ☐ School gardens
- ☒ Physical education

*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.

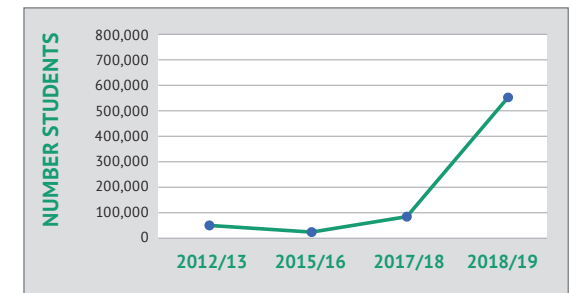
## REPUBLIC OF Iraq



## SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

### CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2018-19

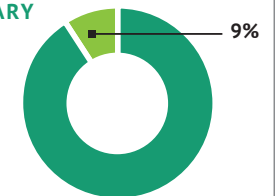
School level	Total #	# Enrolled	# Receiving Food
Primary school	NR	NR	550,000
Secondary school	NR	NR	NR
<b>Total</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>550,000</b>



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

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 6,000,000 (est.)

Receiving school food: 550,000



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:**

NR

**Micronutrients added to fortified foods:**

NR

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The program set nutritional requirements for the food provided, and includes nutrition and health education, as well as physical education.

## AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

### Jobs created by school feeding programs

NR Cooks and food preparers

NR Transporters

20 Off-site processors

≈300 Food packagers and handlers

NR Monitoring

NR Food service management

2 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 (National-scale companies in Food Processing and transport)

☐ 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

Most of the employees involved in the program are women, hired for the purpose of empowering them in their society. There was also a focus on creating opportunities for youth in order to reduce youth unemployment and to empower youth. Communities were engaged to create awareness around the topic of school feeding and to encourage their involvement in inspecting the food in schools.

## CONTACTS: REPUBLIC OF IRAQ

**Agency:** Directorate General of Physical Education and School Activity

**Website:** school\_health@yahoo.com

## SUCCESSSES AND CHALLENGES

The school meal program in Iraq has led to an increase in student enrollment, girls' education and empowerment, and a positive step towards recovery of local markets. In addition, the program has helped in fighting poverty and hunger in the country.

Challenges for the program reported by Iraq include poor government investment, lack of interest in the program from some parties, and differing opinions of the program. An additional challenge is the poor infrastructure.

## STUDIES CONDUCTED

- Pre and post survey study regarding the project
- The impact of school feeding on educational and physical wellbeing of students

## RESEARCH NEEDED

- Health Research
- Field research about school feeding programs in the Arab world and region

## THE NATIONAL SCHOOL FEEDING PROJECT IN NINEVEH GOVERNORATE

**Lead implementer(s):** Ministry of Education with the 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 snacks

### TARGETING:

Other: Areas of lowest food security (Most poor areas)

### HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR?

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	83,351	NR	NR
Primary school	550,000	45%	55%
Secondary school	N/A		
<b>Total</b>	<b>633,351</b>	—	—

### FOOD ITEMS:

Grains/cereals      Fruits      Dairy products  
\* fortified

### FOOD SOURCES:

**80% Purchased (domestic)**      **20% In-kind (domestic)**  
0% Purchased (foreign)      0% In-kind (foreign)

### NOTES:

The Government of Iraq reported that this program is underway and that two additional programs are planned. Those are the Chibayish Pilot (food basket) Program, and the High Energy Meals National School Feeding Project.

