

SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

Most recently completed school year:
September 2018 – June 2019 (175 days)

- WFP-funded School Feeding Program

Lead Agency: Ministry of Education with 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

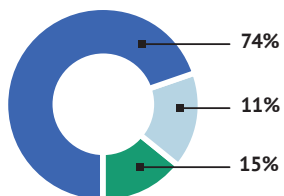
Total:
USD 9,422,169

☐ National government:
USD 1,057,006

☒ International donors*:
USD 7,000,000

☐ Private sector: NR

☒ Other donors: USD 1,365,153



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

INFRASTRUCTURE

All schools in Tajikistan have electricity and latrines. Most have gender-private latrines, clean water, and dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias. Some have piped water, flush toilets and kitchens. School meals were prepared on school grounds.

SPECIAL NOTES

Tajikistan reported that the government plans to have a national school feeding program developed by 2020. Currently the Russian Federation provides the bulk of the funding for the program; the UN World Food Program (WFP) is the implementing partner. About 26% of the program's resources are contributed by local government authorities, communities, and parent-teacher associations.

Most data for this report was received from WFP/ Tajikistan upon consultation with the government; some 2013 UNESCO data was used as well, to estimate the number of secondary school-age children.

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: Food such as pork, that is prohibited per cultural norms

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: Nutrition monitoring in few schools
- ☐ 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



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.

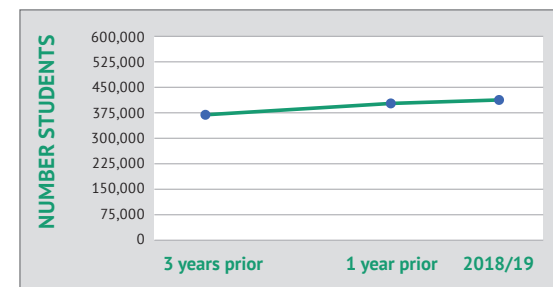
REPUBLIC OF Tajikistan



SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2018-19

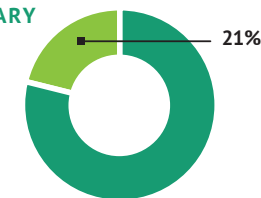
School level	Total #	# Enrolled	# Receiving Food
Primary school	886,579	886,579	410,000
Secondary school	1,062,975	1,062,975	0
Total	1,949,554	1,949,554	410,000



COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 1,949,554

Receiving school food:
■ 410,000



Food was also provided to some students in

- ☐ Pre-schools
- ☒ Primary
- ☐ 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 meet educational goals
- ☒ **Objective to provide a social safety net**
- ☐ Objective to reduce obesity

Food items fortified:

Wheat flour

Micronutrients added to fortified foods:

Iron, Vitamin A, Iodine, Zinc, Calcium

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In school year 2018-19, WFP provided school lunches for 410,000 primary students in Tajikistan for 165 of the 175 school days. Nutrition monitoring was done in some schools and most or all of the students received nutrition, hygiene, and health education as well as physical education.

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Jobs created by school feeding programs

3,917	Cooks and food preparers
NR	Transporters
NR	Off-site processors
1,939	Food packagers and handlers
59	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 cost per student per meal is USD 21.50 per year. Additionally, the communities contribute to the operational cost of the school feeding program.

CONTACTS: TAJIKISTAN

Agency: Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health
UN WFP Tajikistan

Website: <http://schoolmeals.tj/>

SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

Three positive developments reported for the program in Tajikistan:

1. The policy document of *SF Strategy 2017–2027* was approved at the highest level of the Government.
2. A recipe book was developed and published, which contains over 100 meals with locally available and nutritious food ingredients.
3. The Inter-ministerial Coordination Council on school feeding was established, which regularly discusses ongoing issues affecting the program at the national level.

The key reported challenges to Tajikistan's school feeding activities are:

1. Lack of ownership from key national ministry counterparts.
2. Lack of devoted financial support in the national budget (i.e. budget line item).
3. Canteen facilities at most schools require renovation.
4. Legislative barrier to promoting income-generating activities within the schools.
5. Remoteness of schools causes an additional burden on communities to maintain the feeding process during the winter season.

STUDIES CONDUCTED

- Filling Nutrient Gap, 2018.
- Exploring the legislative base for SF program, 2018.
- Micronutrient Survey 2016: Testing of schoolchildren at WFP supported schools and schoolchildren beyond the SF program.
- Systems Based Approach for Better Education Results (SABER), 2016.

RESEARCH NEEDED

- Impact of SF program to the nutrition status of children as well as their cognitive skills;
- Costing exercise of SF program. Because the SF Strategy anticipates funding gradually will start from 2021 from the state budget;
- Potential opportunities for farmers and food processors through promotion of the Home-grown SF program.