

SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

Most recently completed school year:
May 2018 - March 2019 (200 school days)

National School Meals Program:

- 1) National School Lunch Feeding Programme (SLP)
- 2) National School Milk Program (SMP)

Lead Agency: Ministry of Interior and Ministry of 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

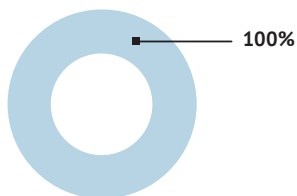
Total:
USD 747,992,872

☒ National government:
USD 747,992,872

☒ International donors*:
USD 0

☐ Private sector: USD 0

☐ Other donors: USD 0



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

INFRASTRUCTURE

All schools in Thailand have electricity, dedicated eating areas/cafeterias, piped water, latrines and kitchens. Most of the schools have clean water and flush toilets. All the toilets are gender-private. Some or all school meals were prepared off-site in centralized (not private) kitchens in closed cooking areas that have piped water, storage, electricity, refrigeration, electric stove and serving utensils.

SPECIAL NOTES

Some data from UNESCO, FAO, and other sources were used to complete this report, and data provided is in part from the 2017-18 school year and in part from the 2018-19 school year. Student numbers are from 2017-18.

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: Unhealthy food; food that is too sweet or salty (e.g., soft drinks, candies and snacks)

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.

Kingdom of Thailand



SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2017-18

School level	Total #	# Enrolled	# Receiving Food
Primary school	4,952,685	4,952,685	4,081,643
Secondary school	7,269,571	6,335,213	N/A
Total	12,222,256	11,287,898	4,081,643

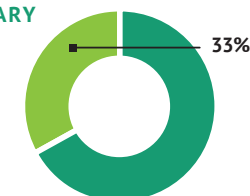


COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 12,222,256

Receiving school food:
☒ 4,081,643

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 meet educational goals**
- ☒ **Objective to provide a social safety net**
- ☒ **Objective to reduce obesity**

Food items fortified:

Dairy products (milk, yogurt, cheese), Salt with either potassium iodate or potassium iodine

Micronutrients added to fortified foods:

Fluoride and Iodine

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This school feeding program used nutritional requirements for food baskets, food restrictions on or near school grounds, nutrition, food, health and physical education to mitigate obesity and overweight.

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Jobs created by school feeding programs

- NR 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 school feeding program involved small-scale farmers, using subsidies and inputs, agriculture extension efforts, and purchase agreements set prior to harvest (forward contracts) with support from the Government. In some cases, the private sector was involved, including sub-national companies that were engaged to supply utensils. Various ministries, department and agencies involved in decision making for the program mostly worked together. Mahidol University and the Ministry of Public Health were involved at the national level.

CONTACTS: THAILAND

Agency: Office of the Basic Education Commission Ministry of Education

Website: www.obec.go.th

SUCCESSSES AND CHALLENGES

Thailand reported positive developments related to the school meal program in the most recently completed school year as: the program resulted in more good health, saved budget for students' families, and increased involvement from private sections.

Reported strengths of the program were that every student in the country can have their lunch for free and that the program also supported the local careers, health and literacy.

Thailand did not report being affected by any kind of emergencies in the most recently completed school year.

STUDIES CONDUCTED

The Report of Growing and Health of Children; Program Thai School Lunch On Line

RESEARCH NEEDED

School feeding manual

Program report: Thailand

Data for this section are from 2017–18 or 2018–19 school year

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH FEEDING PROGRAM (SLP); NATIONAL SCHOOL MILK PROGRAM)

Lead implementer(s): Ministry of Education with support from the Ministry of Interior

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 days per week for the nine-month school year

TARGETING:

The target is universal and 50–75% of the target is achieved.

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

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	NR		
Primary school	4,081,643	48%	52%
Secondary school	N/A		
Total	4,081,643	48%	52%

FOOD ITEMS:

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

* fortified

FOOD SOURCES:

Yes - Purchased (domestic)

0 - Purchased (foreign)

Yes - In-kind (domestic)

0 - In-kind (foreign)

NOTES:

The SLP is supported with non-perishable food from government food stocks. Perishable items are purchased locally. The program has different approaches depending on each school's management. For some schools, parents of the students serve as volunteers to prepare the food. The program is supplemented by a National School Milk program. Only plain milk in either UHT or pasteurized format is provided; the country is divided into three-school milk zones to ensure balance of supply and demand and support an equal allocation of resources. Consumers and the suppliers of milk must be within the same zone, such that raw milk in Zone 1 must be processed by a dairy in Zone 1 and be consumed by schools in Zone 1.

