

## SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

Most recently completed school year:

October 2017 – June 2018 (180 school days)

- School Feeding Program/McGovern-Dole (Programme des Cantines Scolaires/McGovern-Dole)

Lead Agency: Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education and Literacy

## 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

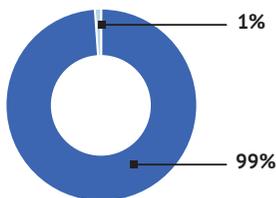
Total:  
USD 6,138,096

National government:  
USD 50,406

International donors\*:  
USD 6,087,690

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 the Republic of Congo have kitchens (cooking areas). Some schools have latrines and eating areas, while very few have electricity, running water, or drinking water. No school has flush toilets.

## SPECIAL NOTES

Some data from UNESCO and UNICEF were used in the preparation of 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: None

## 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.



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GCNF is a non-political, non-profit entity. Funding for this survey and a follow-up survey in 2021 is provided, in part, by the United States Department of Agriculture; agreement number FX18TA-10960G002.

# REPUBLIC OF Congo



## SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

### CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2017-18

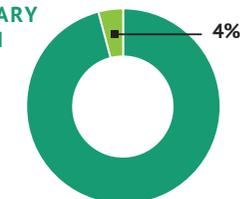
School level	Total #	# Enrolled	# Receiving Food
Primary school	800,000	800,000	57,656
Secondary school	865,000	865,000	NR
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,665,000</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>57,656</b>



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

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 1,665,000

Receiving school food:  
 57,656



- 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, oil, salt

### Micronutrients added to fortified foods:

Iodine, Vitamin A, Vitamin B12

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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Two nutritionists are dedicated to the program and are paid by the government. The cooks are trained in business management, portions/measurements, menu planning, and food safety quality.

## AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

### Jobs created by school feeding programs

<b>3,180</b>	Cooks and food preparers
<b>8</b>	Transporters
NR	Off-site processors
<b>60</b>	Food packagers and handlers
<b>0</b>	Monitoring
<b>1,500</b>	Food service management
<b>1</b>	Safety and quality inspectors
<b>0</b>	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

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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Parents' committees were involved in managing the school meals program. Parents also contributed by supplying water and wood to school sites. Although a large share of the food was received as in-kind donations, some small-scale farmers were involved in the program and were offered agricultural subsidies and forward contracts. The survey noted that the 3,180 cooks were not paid in cash nor in kind but were provided training. Also noted was the fact that a private sector entity contributed by rehabilitating a school.

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## CONTACTS: REPUBLIC OF CONGO

**Agency:** School Food Directorate / Cabinet MEPSA

**Website:** NR

## SUCSESSES AND CHALLENGES

Positive developments related to school feeding in the Congo included: the existence of a national school feeding policy, the validation of the Systems Approach for Better Education Results (SABER) action plan, the organization of a national forum on school meals, a decree facilitating education access for autochthonous (indigenous) children and literacy for adults, and a tripartite agreement between the Government of Congo, Japan, and the World Food Program.

The challenges associated with school feeding were that the national policy on school meals has not yet been endorsed and needed financial contributions from the government are still to be mobilized.

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## STUDIES CONDUCTED

Cost-benefit analysis of school food in Congo

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## RESEARCH NEEDED

- Impact assessment of school canteens in Congo
- Feasibility study of national coverage of school feeding in Congo

## PROGRAMME DES CANTINES SCOLAIRES (MCGOVERN-DOLE SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM)

**Lead implementer(s):** Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education and Literacy

### 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
- Five times per week during the school year

### TARGETING:

Geographic, targeted toward rural, vulnerable, and autochthonous children

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

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	639	44%	56%
Primary school	57,656	50%	50%
Secondary school	N/A		
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,295</b>	–	–

### FOOD ITEMS:

Grains/cereals*	Oil*	Salt*
Legumes and nuts	Fish	

\* fortified

### FOOD SOURCES:

2% Purchased (domestic)	2% In-kind (domestic)
0% Purchased (foreign)	96% In-kind (foreign)

### NOTES:

This program is funded by donations from the United States Department of Agriculture, the Government of Japan, and the Government of Congo. A financial crisis in Congo has meant that funding for the school feeding program has been insufficient. Both the financial situation and a crisis of post-electoral violence meant that the frequency with which students received food was reduced in the 2016/17 school year.

