THE REPUBLIC OF Armenia

COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES
- Handwashing with soap
- Hearing testing/treatment
- Height measurement
- Dental cleaning/testing
- Weight measurement
- Menstrual hygiene
- Eye testing/eyeglasses
- Drinking water
- Water purification
- Deworming treatment
- Drinking water
- Water purification
- Other vegetables
- Fruits
- Oil
- Salt
- Sugar

Prohibited food items: Meat and eggs of aquatic birds, fruits and vegetables prone to spoilage, some canned or improperly processed foods

FOOD SOURCES
- Purchased (domestic)
- In-kind (domestic)
- Purchased (foreign)
- In-kind (foreign)

MEALS/SNACKS/MODALITY
- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner
- Snacks
- Take-home rations
- Conditional cash transfer

INFRASTRUCTURE
All schools in Armenia have electricity, latrines and flush toilets. Most have piped and clean water, dedicated eating areas/cafeterias and kitchens. School meals are prepared on-site (on school grounds) in closed cooking areas that have storage, refrigeration, and charcoal, wood, or electric stoves.

SPECIAL NOTES
Some UNESCO data was used to complete this report.

NR = No Response

COVERAGE:

CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2017-18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School level</th>
<th>Total #</th>
<th># Enrolled</th>
<th># Receiving Food</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>153,415</td>
<td>137,306</td>
<td>100,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>283,002</td>
<td>240,291</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>436,417</td>
<td>377,597</td>
<td>100,270</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The checked and highlighted items are reported as required, though they may not be uniformly implemented.

The Global Survey of School Meal Programs is the property of GCNF and is protected by copyright. It may not be reproduced or distributed without prior written consent. Contact: info@gcnf.org ©2019. The Global Child Nutrition Foundation. All rights reserved.

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.
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
- To provide a social safety net

Food items fortified: No
Micronutrients added to fortified foods: No

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Approaches used in the program to mitigate obesity included food education and physical education. In addition, although school gardens were not required as a complementary education activity, Armenia reported that some students ate the produce from school gardens. Handwashing with soap and health education were also implemented in the program, though not a requirement.

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 survey highlighted the importance of parents' associations, whose role has greatly expanded and had a very positive impact on the Armenia program in recent years. It also indicated that food for the program was purchased using competitive procedures through which small-scale farmers/farmer organizations/companies were able to successfully compete.

CONTACTS: ARMENIA
Agency: Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia
Website: https://www.gov.am/en/
Email: info@edu.am

SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES
Major developments attributed to school feeding—apart from direct impact on the nutritional status of children and major improvements in their cognitive capacity—are:
- a) community mobilization; b) rehabilitation of school kitchens and cafeterias and other infrastructure improvements; and c) increased demand for local products. Strategic and multi-partner support for capacity development in various domains helped to make all of this possible.

Some 70% of schoolchildren currently receive nutritionally balanced hot meals, which is a serious achievement, and every attempt is being made to increase the number of schools providing hot meals in Armenia, because assessments have indicated that most children attended school without any breakfast/meal.

Certain healthy eating habits are created through school meals. If accompanied by nutrition education initiatives, this can generate lifelong, sustainable effects. In addition, tremendous increases in the role of parents' associations have led to improvements in the motivation and mobilization of school headmasters. This is critical for successful program implementation.

Armenia was happy to report that there was no major setback over the past five years of the program, thanks to the consistent commitment of the major stakeholders (including State and International communities), backed by financial contributions and technical support directed to sustainable nationalization of the school feeding program in the country.

STUDIES CONDUCTED
1) Assessing Poverty Alleviation Through Social Protection: School Meals and Family Benefits in a Middle-income Country
2) Case study (with IFPRI) re the extent to which poverty reduction or other measures of social welfare respond to the in-kind income transfer of school feeding programs

RESEARCH NEEDED
Two planned studies will look into the school meal program's impact in terms of nutritionally-sensitive programming and policy development needs for the education sector.
SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL FEEDING

Lead implementer(s):
The Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia

OBJECTIVES:
• To meet educational goals
• To provide a social safety net
• To prevent or mitigate obesity

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:
• In-school meals, in-school snacks; 5 times per week for 9 months

TARGETING:
Schools with adequate infrastructure; only pre-primary and primary-age students

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School level</th>
<th># Students</th>
<th>% Girls</th>
<th>% Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-school</td>
<td>2,831</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>100,270</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>103,101</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOOD ITEMS:
- Grains/cereals
- Roots, tubers
- Meat
- Fish
- Dairy products
- Oil
- Salt
- Sugar

FOOD SOURCES:
- 100% Purchased (domestic)
- 0% In-kind (domestic)
- 0% Purchased (foreign)
- 0% In-kind (foreign)

NOTES:
Meals were prepared on site and did not include any packaged, processed food. Handwashing with soap and health education were provided; physical education was required.