Most recently completed school year: September 2017 – July 2018 (224 school days)

- Nutrition Improvement Program for Rural Compulsory Education Students
- Free Lunch for Children
- School Feeding Program of the China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation

Lead Agency: Ministry of Education

National school feeding policy: Yes
Nutrition: Yes
Food safety: Yes
Agriculture: Yes
Private sector involvement: No

COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN
Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 216,000,000
Receiving school food: 140,000,000

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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.
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: Not specified
Micronutrients added to fortified foods: Vitamin B12, Vitamin B6

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
At least 257 nutritionists were involved with China's school feeding programs. Programs also incorporate nutrition education. School feeding programs in China do not actively seek to mitigate obesity because obesity is not considered to be a problem.

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION
Jobs created by school feeding programs
- 305,000 Cooks and food preparers
- 3,357 Food packagers and handlers
- 515 Food service management
- 512,000 Safety and quality inspectors

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

SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES
School feeding programs in China are responsible for a reduction in the number of undernourished people and enhanced food safety for students. The programs are characterized by strict supervision and efforts to control waste.

However, challenges remain related to reaching out-of-school children.

STUDIES CONDUCTED
Studies have been conducted regarding the number of undernourished people and the role of school feeding programs in reducing the family burden.

RESEARCH NEEDED
Studies of students’ physical (health-related) outcomes in school feeding programs

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION
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- Women
- Youth
- Other groups

There was community engagement (by parents or others) in the school feeding program(s)... Yes No NR

CONTACTS: CHINA
Agency: Ministry of Education
Email: moe@moe.edu.cn

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Both small-scale and larger-scale farms are involved in school feeding programs in China with agricultural subsidies, agricultural extension, school feeding-specific trainings, mobile or electronic payments, and purchase agreements set prior to harvest. Efforts are made to employ people with disabilities.
**NUTRITION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR RURAL COMPULSORY EDUCATION STUDENTS**

**Lead implementer(s):** Ministry of Education

**OBJECTIVES:**
- To meet educational goals
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals

**MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:**
- In-school meals (breakfast and lunch) and take-home rations during the school year
- In-school snacks

**TARGETING:**
Targeting is based on geography and individual student characteristics.

**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>N/A</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>19,000,000</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>18,000,000</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>37,000,000</strong></td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FOOD ITEMS:**
- Grains/cereals
- Legumes & nuts
- Roots/tubers
- Dairy products
- Eggs
- Meats
- Poultry
- Fish
- Green leafy vegetables
- Other vegetables
- Fruits
- Oil
- Salt
- Sugar
- Green leafy vegetables
- Salt
- Sugar

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

**NOTES:**
Nearly all (95%) of food items are purchased locally. The remaining amount is procured within the region or from national food reserves.

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**FREE LUNCH FOR CHILDREN**

**Lead implementer(s):** Ministry of Education

**OBJECTIVES:**
- To meet educational goals
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals

**MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:**
- In-school meals during the school year

**TARGETING:**
Not specified

**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>N/A</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>90,000</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>190,000</strong></td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FOOD ITEMS:**
- Grains/cereals
- Legumes & nuts
- Roots/tubers
- Dairy products
- Eggs
- Meats
- Poultry
- Fish
- Green leafy vegetables
- Other vegetables
- Fruits
- Oil
- Salt
- Sugar

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

**NOTES:**
Nearly all (97%) of food items are purchased locally. The remaining items are procured from within the region or from national food reserves.
SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM OF THE CHINA FOUNDATION FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION

扶贫办学校午餐项目

Lead implementer(s): China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation

OBJECTIVES:
- To meet educational goals
- To provide a social safety net
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:
- In-school meals during the school year

TARGETING:
Geographic

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>NR</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOOD ITEMS:
- Grains/cereals
- Legumes & nuts
- Roots/tubers
- Dairy products
- * fortified
- Meats
- Poultry
- Green leafy vegetables
- Other vegetables
- Eggs
- Oil
- Salt
- Sugar

FOOD SOURCES:
- 0% Purchased (domestic)
- 65% In-kind donation (domestic)
- 0% Purchased (foreign)
- 35% In-kind donation (foreign)

NOTES:
A number of complementary programs are provided with the School Feeding Program of the China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation. These include water purification, handwashing with soap, and monitoring of protein intake. Several educational programs are also incorporated into the program, including nutrition, hygiene, health, reproductive health, and HIV prevention, as well as physical education.