SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

Most recently completed school year: Sept 2017 to June 2018 (175 school days)
- National School Lunch Program
- Food Aid and Promotion of Healthy Nutrition Program-DIATROFI

Lead Agency:
- Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs
- Prolepsis Institute

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 1,454,375
- National government: USD 541,619
- International donors*: NA
- Private sector: USD 912,756
- Other donors: NA

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

INFRASTRUCTURE

All schools have electricity, piped water, clean water and flush toilets but very few schools have dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias or kitchens. Most toilets are gender-private.

SPECIAL NOTES

Third party survey response. Information provided mostly by http://diatrofi.prolepsis.gr/en/ and secondary data review. Prolepsis receives funds from regional and local government for program however the government is not responsible for management of the program.

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: Prohibited food items: Processed meat (except for turkey ham), brioches, croissant, pies prepared with puff pastry (only pastry prepared with olive oil exclusively as the added fat is permitted), chewing gum and candies, sugar sweetened beverages. Prohibition is primarily for health-related reasons.

FOOD SOURCES

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

- Nutrition
- Health
- Food and agriculture
- Reproductive health
- Hygiene
- HIV prevention

EDUCATION

- School gardens
- Physical education

OTHER

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

SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

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>824,248</td>
<td>604,497</td>
<td>3,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>761,053</td>
<td>617,280</td>
<td>1,758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,585,301</td>
<td>1,221,777</td>
<td>4,868</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NUMBER STUDENTS

3 years prior 1 year prior 2018/19
0 1,500 3,000 4,500 6,000 7,500 9,000 10,500 12,000

COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 1,585,301
Receiving school food: 4,868
Food was also provided to some students in
- Pre-schools
- University/higher education

0.3%
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: No
Micronutrients added to fortified foods: No

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

School meals were prepared off-site in private facilities by caterers.

CONTACTS: HELLENIC REPUBLIC

Agency: Government: Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs
Non Government: Prolepsis Institute
Website: http://diatrofi.prolepsis.gr/en/

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

Greece reports childhood overweight/obesity prevalent in the country. Greece’s School Food Policy include objectives to improve child nutrition, learn healthy habits, reduce prevent obesity, reduce/prevent malnutrition and improve attainment. The provision of food at school is government’s response to meeting some of these challenges.

Regarding food-based standards for lunch, the Mediterranean diet pyramid based on dietary guidelines for Greece (Ministry of Health, 1999) is in place and applies only to schools with dining halls, which offer school lunches to students; no other recommendations included; school lunches are offered only by specific private schools in Greece, for which the Mediterranean diet menu applies.

The results gathered so far indicate that in schools where the DIATROFI Program is implemented:

SUCCESSES

1. Food insecurity has decreased
2. Children's eating habits have improved
3. The number of underweight, as well as overweight and obese, children has decreased.

Additionally, the school principals, teachers and parents of the students report that:

4. Social cohesion, collegiality and solidarity has strengthened within the school community
5. The educational work of the school and cooperation and communication between parents and the school has enhanced
6. School dropouts have decreased

CHALLENGES

1. Securing adequate funding each school-year is a major challenge, in order to provide a healthy meal for as many as possible students in need.
2. Evaluating and cooperating with various suppliers nationwide, not only demanded highly coordinated actions to ensured timely delivery, but also required an ongoing effort to sustain equal standards of quality among them.
3. Covering schools in remote areas demanded overcoming logistics difficulties, so as to ensure timely delivery to all schools.
4. Controlling and monitoring the processes and the conditions under which the meal was preserved in schools was also a great challenge, since correct preservation was of primary importance for the meal quality and students’ safety.
5. Monitoring and testing of products in order to ensured abidance to the technical standards of the meal, was an ongoing process that required often visits to suppliers’ facilities and periodically sampling of meals to be tested.
6. Continuously improving meal quality by testing and combining ingredients to ensure not only the provision of a highly nutritional meal that covered approximately 25–30% of students needs in energy, but also enhance variety of choices to satisfy students preferences was also a challenge.
STUDIES CONDUCTED


RESEARCH NEEDED

Further research aiming to evaluate the nutrient intake, as well as the measured (and not only the self-reported) weight and height of all students.
DIATROFI PROGRAM

Lead implementer(s): Prolepsis Institute

OBJECTIVES:
• To meet educational goals
• To provide a social safety net
• To meet nutritional and/or health goals
• To prevent or mitigate obesity
• Other: to reduce food insecurity/hunger

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:
• In-school meals

TARGETING:
Geographic: The program was universal at school level, meaning that in each school enrolled, all students received the meal. However, not all schools in Greece were enrolled. Schools were selected according to socioeconomic criteria.

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>1,262</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>3,110</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>1,758</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6,130</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOOD ITEMS:
Grains/cereals  Poultry  Fruits
Eggs           Green, leafy vegetables  Oil
Dairy products  Other vegetables  *
* fortified

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

NOTES:
A very small percentage was in kind food donations (≈3,000€), in particular olive oil and sandwiches.