SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)
School year: 2020
- Additional School Meal Programme
- Boarding School Meal Programme
- Pre-School Meal Programme

Lead Agency: Ministry of Education

NATIONAL LAWS, POLICIES, AND STANDARDS
- National school feeding policy
- Nutrition
- Food safety
- Health
- Agriculture
- Private sector involvement

Line item in the national budget...
Yes  ☐ No  ☐ No response

BUDGET
Total: USD 335,756,371
- Government: USD 335,756,371
- International donors*: USD 0
- Private sector: USD 0
- Other donors: USD 0

Includes funding from the United States Department of Agriculture  ☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ No response

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

INFRASTRUCTURE
Most schools in Malaysia have electricity, piped and clean water, flush toilets, dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias, and kitchens. The school kitchens are typically equipped with storage facilities, refrigeration, and gas stoves.

SPECIAL NOTES
None

MALAYSIA

COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES
- Handwashing with soap
- Height measurement
- Weight measurement
- Testing for anemia
- Deworming treatment
- Eye testing/eyeglasses
- Hearing testing/treatment
- Dental cleaning/testing
- Menstrual hygiene
- Drinking water
- Water purification

COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS
- Food and nutrition
- Agriculture
- School gardens
- Hygiene
- Health
- Reproductive health
- HIV prevention
- Physical education

The checked items were provided in most or all participating schools.

SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School level</th>
<th>Total # Enrolled</th>
<th># Receiving food</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-school</td>
<td>1,538,024</td>
<td>984,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>3,006,685</td>
<td>2,953,324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>2,364,388</td>
<td>2,183,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6,909,097</td>
<td>6,121,934</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NUMBER STUDENTS RECEIVING FOOD

- Pre-school: 1,538,024
- Primary school: 3,006,685
- Secondary school: 2,364,388
- Total: 6,909,097

COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

- Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 5,371,073
- Receiving school food: 806,987
- Food was also provided to some students in...
  ☐ Pre-schools  ☐ Vocational/trade schools  ☐ Other

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GCNF is a non-political, non-profit entity. Funding for the 2019 and 2021 surveys is provided, in part, by the United States Department of Agriculture agreement number FX18TA-10960G002.
**NUTRITION**

School feeding program(s) included/involved 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/biofortified:
Not applicable

Micronutrients:
Not applicable

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Packaged, processed foods are generally not served in school feeding programs in Malaysia. In the Additional School Meal Programme, there are nutritionists working in every district, and efforts to prevent or mitigate overweight/obesity include food and nutrition education, health education, and physical education in schools.

**STUDIES CONDUCTED**

Additional School Meal Program Effectiveness Study
(2016, authored by the Educational Policy Planning and Research Division, Ministry of Education Malaysia)

**RESEARCH NEEDED**

None specified

**AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

Jobs created by school feeding programs*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jobs</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cooks and food preparers</td>
<td>23,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transporters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-site processors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food packagers and handlers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food service management</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety and quality inspectors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*If blank, no response was provided.

**FARMERS INVOLVED WITH THE SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM(S)...**

- Yes
- No
- No response

**OTHER PRIVATE SECTOR (FOR PROFIT) ACTORS INVOLVED...**

- Yes
- No
- No response

**THERE WAS A FOCUS ON CREATING JOBS OR LEADERSHIP OR INCOME-GENERATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR...**

- Women
- Other groups
- Youth
- No response

**THERE WAS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (BY PARENTS OR OTHERS) IN THE SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM(S)...**

- Yes
- No
- No response

**WERE THERE LINKS BETWEEN FOOD BANKS AND THE SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM(S)?**

- Yes
- No
- There are no food banks in this country.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

In the Boarding School Meal Programme, students’ families pay an amount for school meals that is based on the parents’ salary scale. Applications for employment in the programs are open to Malaysian Certificate of Education (SPM) school leavers through the Education Services Commission (SPP).

**CONTACTS: MALAYSIA**

Agency: Ministry of Education
Website: www.moe.gov.my

**SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES**

Recent successes related to school feeding in Malaysia include improvements in food quality when the school feeding budget was increased, a transition toward prioritizing to nutrition safety when preparing school meals, and the development of a blueprint for implementing school feeding universally. Challenges related to school feeding in Malaysia include the need to transition students towards healthier eating habits and a need to improve food quality even while costs of ingredients/raw materials have increased. The risk of mismanagement/corruption in school feeding programs is limited through continuous monitoring of the programs and a well-organized operational management system.

**EMERGENCIES/COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Schools in Malaysia were closed but operating remotely for several months during the 2020 school year. In response to the COVID-19 crisis, the amount of funding and the number of students increased in 2020 in the Additional School Meal Programme. The crisis prompted a change in venue (location) of distributing/receiving food. Specifically, students now eat their meals in the classroom instead of the school canteen, and students are served packed foods according to the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) set during the pandemic. The COVID-19 crisis has resulted in a greater emphasis on hygiene and cleanliness in schools. In 2020, Malaysia was also affected by natural disasters.
ADDITIONAL SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMME

Lead implementer(s): Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health

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

FREQUENCY AND DURATION:
• 5 times per week during the school year

TARGETING:
Targeted towards children from low income households, children with special needs, and Indigenous children.

HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2020 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>0</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>473,679</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>473,679</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

Grains, cereals
Dairy products
Eggs
Meat
Fish
Green, leafy vegetables
Other vegetables
Fruits
Oil
Salt
Sugar
Dairy milk
Fruit Juice
Water

FOOD SOURCES:

100% Purchased (domestic)
0% In-kind (domestic)
0% Purchased (foreign)
0% In-kind (foreign)

If blank, no response was provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
The Additional School Meal Programme began in 1971. Mechanisms to limit food waste include a marketing campaign to reduce how much food students throw away.

BOARDING SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMME

Lead implementer(s): Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health

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

FREQUENCY AND DURATION:
• 7 days per week during the school year

TARGETING:
Universal (students of boarding schools)

HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2020 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>0</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>333,308</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>333,308</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

Grains, cereals
Dairy products
Eggs
Meat
Fish
Green, leafy vegetables
Other vegetables
Fruits
Oil
Salt
Sugar
Dairy milk
Fruit Juice
Water

FOOD SOURCES:

100% Purchased (domestic)
0% In-kind (domestic)
0% Purchased (foreign)
0% In-kind (foreign)

If blank, no response was provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
The Boarding School Meal Programme began in 1974. Mechanisms to limit food waste include a marketing campaign to reduce how much food students throw away.
PRE-SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMME

Lead implementer(s): Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health

OBJECTIVES:
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals

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

FREQUENCY AND DURATION:
- 5 times per week during the school year

TARGETING:
Universal (all public pre-schools)

HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2020 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>215,641</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>215,641</strong></td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:
- Grains, cereals
- Legumes, pulses, nuts
- Dairy products
- Eggs
- Meat
- Poultry
- Fish
- Green, leafy vegetables
- Fruits
- Oil
- Salt
- Sugar
- Dairy milk
- Fruit Juice
- Water

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

If blank, no response was provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
The Pre-School Meal Programme began in 1994 and operates in all public pre-schools. Although the Ministry of Education Malaysia does not financially support school meals in private pre-schools, school feeding activities in private schools are closely monitored.