**SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)**

School year: 2020-2021

- School Feeding Program funded by WFP (Программа Школьного питания, финансированная ВПП ООН)

**Lead Agency:**
Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population; Ministry of Education and Science

**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 9,491,186

- Government: USD 1,114,977
- International donors*: USD 6,670,622
- Private sector: USD 0
- Other donors: USD 1,705,588

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**

All schools in Tajikistan have electricity; most have clean water and dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias; some have piped water and kitchens; and very few have flush toilets. School meals are prepared on-site (on school grounds), and kitchens are typically equipped with storage facilities, refrigeration, and either charcoal/wood, gas, or electric stoves.

**SPECIAL NOTES**

Population and enrollment numbers from the UNESCO Institute of Statistics (UIS) were used to complete this report.

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**MEALS/SNACKS/MODALITY**

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner
- Snacks
- Take-home rations
- Other

**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.

**FOOD SOURCES**

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

**CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2020-2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School level</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th># Enrolled</th>
<th># Receiving food</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-school</td>
<td>1,028,677</td>
<td>91,081</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>879,893</td>
<td>771,040</td>
<td>433,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>1,210,861</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>3,119,431</td>
<td>862,121</td>
<td>433,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COVERAGE:**

- Primary and secondary school-age children: 2,090,754

Receiving school food:

- Yes
- No
- No response

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:

- Grains/cereals

Micronutrients:

- Iron, iodine, zinc, calcium, vitamin A

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Foods produced in school gardens are either consumed by students or sold.

STUDIES CONDUCTED

Testing students in schools with and without the school feeding program (2016); Studying the legal framework of the System of School Feeding (2018); Filling nutritional deficiencies (2018)

RESEARCH NEEDED

1. The impact of school feeding on the nutritional status and cognitive abilities of children.
2. Calculation of the costs of implementation of school meals, as the School Feeding Strategy provides for gradual funding from the state budget, effective 2022.
3. Identification of opportunities for food producers and processors through the promotion of local produce.

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Jobs created by school feeding programs*

- 5,653 Cooks and food preparers
- 59 Transporters
- 62 Off-site processors
- 11 Food packagers and handlers
- 5 Monitoring
- 8 Food service management
- 2 Safety and quality inspectors
- 1 Other

*If blank, no response was provided.

Farmers were involved with the school feeding program(s)...

- Yes
- No
- No response

Other private sector (for profit) actors were 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

Through committees comprised of parents, the local community contributes additional food for the School Feeding Program, and also contributes non-food items and services, such as the renovation of kitchens.

CONTACTS: TAJIKISTAN

Agency: Ministry of Education & Science
Website: www.maorif.tj

SUCCESES AND CHALLENGES

Recent successes related to school feeding in Tajikistan include the national approval of the School Feeding Strategy for 2017–2027, the publication of a Recipe Book that contains over 100 dishes using local and nutritious ingredients, and the establishment of an Interdepartmental Coordinating Council for School Nutrition. Challenges include a lack of management by national partners, the lack of a dedicated budget line item, the need for repairs in most school canteens, the legislative barrier to the development of income-generating activities in schools, and the remoteness of schools which creates an additional burden on communities to maintain the feeding process in the winter.

EMERGENCIES/COVID-19 PANDEMIC

In Tajikistan, schools were open for nearly all of the 2020/2021 school year. However, due to food shortages within the World Food Program (WFP), meals in schools were reduced from five days to four days per week during some intervals. In 2020, some areas also experienced a loss of electricity for several months.
**SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM FUND BY WFP**
**ПРОГРАММА ШКОЛЬНОГО ПИТАНИЯ, ФИНАНСИРУМАЯ ВПП ООН**

Lead implementer(s): Ministry of Education and Science

**OBJECTIVES:**
- 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 toward primary school students based on a vulnerability assessment, focused mostly on remote rural areas

**HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2020–2021 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>433,000</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>433,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>50%</strong></td>
<td><strong>50%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:**
- Grains, cereals*
- Roots, tubers
- Legumes, pulses, nuts
- Dairy products
- Eggs
- Meat
- Green, leafy vegetables
- Other vegetables
- Fruits
- Oil
- Salt
- Sugar
- Dairy milk
- Tea
- Fortified

**FOOD SOURCES:**
- 15% Purchased (domestic)
- 0% Purchased (foreign)
- 15% In-kind (domestic)
- 70% In-kind (foreign)

If blank, no response was provided.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**
The School Feeding Program funded by the World Food Program (WFP) began operating in 1999. While food is provided to schools by the WFP, parent committees and local authorities complement and support the organization of meals. In the 2020/2021 school year, 16,914 public schools participated in the program.