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

**School year:** 2020

- **School Lunch Program (Programa Merenda Escolar – PME)**

**Lead Agency:** Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport; Ministry of State Administration

**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: Unknown
- Government: USD 10,000,000
- International donors*: Unknown
- Private sector: Unknown
- Other donors: Unknown

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.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture lists Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE) as receiving support from the McGovern-Dole Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program in 2018 for school feeding activities in Timor Leste.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

Most schools in Timor Leste have latrines and kitchens, some schools have electricity and piped and clean water, and very few schools have flush toilets or dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias. The school kitchens are typically equipped with storage facilities, serving utensils, and either charcoal/wood stoves or gas stoves.

**SPECIAL NOTES**

Population and enrollment numbers from the UNESCO Institute of Statistics (UIS) were used to complete this report. This may account for some misalignment between the number of students enrolled and fed in each school level.

**MEALS/SNACKS/MODALITY**

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

**FOOD SOURCES**

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

**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**

**CHILDMREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2020**

<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>95,664</td>
<td>24,006</td>
<td>21,399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>183,594</td>
<td>206,512</td>
<td>302,447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>186,814</td>
<td>161,660</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>466,072</td>
<td>392,178</td>
<td>323,846</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number provided for primary school students receiving food may be inclusive of other school levels, as well.

**COVERAGE:**

**PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN**

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 370,408

Receiving school food: 302,447

Food was also provided to some students in...

- Pre-schools
- Vocational/trade schools
- Other
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
Food items produced in school gardens are consumed by the students.

Studies Conducted
None reported

Research Needed
None specified

Agriculture, Employment, and Community Participation

Jobs created by school feeding programs

- 1,600
- Cooks and food preparers
- Transporters
- Off-site processors
- Food packagers and handlers
- Monitoring
- Food service management
- Safety and quality inspectors
- 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
- Youth
- Other groups
- 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
Funds are distributed to schools to buy food, and small-scale farmers provide many of the food products for the School Lunch Program, including vegetables, fruit, eggs, meat, fish, grains, tubers, and legumes. Cooks in the program are predominantly women, and they are paid in cash by local governments.

Contacts: Timor Leste
Agency: Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport
Website: http://www.moe.gov.tl/en/
SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM
PROGRAMA MERENDA ESCOLAR – PME

Lead implementer(s): Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport; Ministry of State Administration

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

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

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

TARGETING:
Universal (primary and pre-school levels)

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>21,399</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>302,447</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>51%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>323,846</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

FOOD SOURCES:
- [ ] Purchased (domestic)
- [ ] Purchased (foreign)
- [ ] In-kind (domestic)
- [ ] In-kind (foreign)

If blank, no response was provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: