**REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA**

**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**

**CHILDERN 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>1,354,946</td>
<td>254,008</td>
<td>163,179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>2,841,658</td>
<td>3,128,079</td>
<td>1,871,913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>1,813,612</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>40,539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>6,010,216</td>
<td>3,382,087</td>
<td>2,075,631</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of primary students listed here is inclusive of 1,057 children with disabilities.

**BUDGET**

Total: USD 7,716,931
- Government: USD 2,016,931
- International donors*: USD 5,700,000
- Private sector: USD 0
- Other donors: USD 0

Includes funding from the United States Department of Agriculture

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

**SPECIAL NOTES**

None

**MEALS/SNACKS/MODALITY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breakfast</th>
<th>Lunch</th>
<th>Dinner</th>
<th>Snacks</th>
<th>Take-home rations</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grains, cereal</td>
<td>Roots, tubers</td>
<td>Legumes, pulses, nuts</td>
<td>Dairy products</td>
<td>Eggs</td>
<td>Meat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grains, cereal</td>
<td>Roots, tubers</td>
<td>Legumes, pulses, nuts</td>
<td>Dairy products</td>
<td>Eggs</td>
<td>Meat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green, leafy vegetables</td>
<td>Other vegetables</td>
<td>Fruits</td>
<td>Oil</td>
<td>Salt</td>
<td>Sugar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FOOD SOURCES**

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

Prohibited food items: Genetically modified foods

Grains, cereals
- Green, leafy vegetables
- Other vegetables

- Fruits
- Oil
- Salt
- Sugar

- Dairy milk
- Yogurt drink
- Fruit juice

Tea
- Water
- Other

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

All schools in Zambia have latrines, while just some have electricity, piped and clean water, dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias, and kitchens. School meals are prepared on-site (on school grounds), and the school kitchens are typically equipped with storage facilities, serving utensils, and charcoal or wood stoves.

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

School year: 2020
- Home Grown School Meals Programme
- Mary’s Meals School Feeding Programme

**LEAD AGENCY:** School Health and Nutrition Department within the 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

**NUMBER STUDENTS RECEIVING FOOD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3 years prior</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,500,000</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COVERAGE:**

**Primary and secondary school-age children**

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 4,655,270

Receiving school food: 1,912,452

Food was also provided to some students in...

- Pre-schools
- Vocational/trade schools
- Other: Children with disabilities

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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:
- Salt, Grains (Corn-soya blend)

Micronutrients:
- Iodine and vitamins A, B12, C, and D

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Food items produced in school gardens are consumed by the students, and the school meal menu does not include packaged, processed foods. Efforts to prevent or mitigate overweight/obesity include food and nutrition education, health education, and physical education offered in schools.

**STUDIES CONDUCTED**

None reported

**RESEARCH NEEDED**

None specified

**AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

Jobs created by school feeding programs*:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cooks and food preparers**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transporters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Off-site processors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food packagers and handlers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monitoring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food service management</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Safety and quality inspectors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* If blank, no response was provided.
**24,610 cooks are engaged in school feeding programs in Zambia, though they are not paid.

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**

For the Home Grown School Meals Programme, funds are disbursed to District Education Boards to procure food for schools. Open bid (competitive) procedures are then followed to secure contracts, and small-scale farmers/small farmer organizations/small companies are able to successfully compete. Farms of all sizes provide cereals/grains and green, leafy vegetables for the school meals. The Government of Zambia also strategically purchases food for the Home Grown School Meals Programme from the National Food Reserve Agency. Students’ families contribute to the school meal programs by providing cooking fuel, fetching water, constructing cooking and feeding shelters, and cooking for the students. School-based committees to run the school feeding activities are comprised of 70% women and 30% men.

**SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES**

Recent successes related to school feeding in Zambia include the political will within Government to support school feeding, consistent Government funding in the past two years to scale up the program, and the technical support offered by the World Food Program to facilitate the smooth implementation of the Home Grown School Meals Programme during its transition to Government ownership. However, the COVID-19 pandemic presented a setback to school feeding in Zambia. In 2020, the budget for the Home Grown School Meals Programme was not considered adequate to meet the program targets, with the program unable to procure the full food basket.

**EMERGENCIES/COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

The COVID-19 pandemic temporarily disrupted school feeding in Zambia. The amount of funding for school feeding increased in response to the crisis. Nevertheless, the number of students fed decreased, as did the frequency of school feeding.

**CONTACTS: ZAMBIA**

Agency: Ministry of Education
Website: https://www.moge.gov.zm

GCNF GLOBAL SURVEY 2021
HOME GROWN SCHOOL MEALS

**Lead implementer(s):** School Health and Nutrition Department in the Ministry of Education (national level), Provincial Education Office (provincial level), District Board Office (district level)

**OBJECTIVES:**
- To meet educational 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:**
- Geographic targeting by district

**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>127,442</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>1,571,779</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,699,221</strong></td>
<td><strong>55%</strong></td>
<td><strong>45%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:**
- Grains, cereals
- Green, leafy vegetables
- Salt*

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

*If blank, no response was provided.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**
The Home Grown School Meals Programme began in 2011 when the World Food Program began to hand over the school feeding program to the Government and reverted to offering technical support. The program now operates in 4,322 schools.

MARY’S MEALS SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME

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

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

**MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:**
- In-school meals
- Take-home rations

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

**TARGETING:**
- Criteria for targeting not specified

**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>35,737</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>300,134*</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>40,539</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>375,353</strong></td>
<td><strong>52%</strong></td>
<td><strong>48%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The number of primary students listed here is inclusive of 1,057 children with disabilities.

**FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:**
- Grains, cereals*
- Legumes, pulses, nuts
- Salt*

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

*If blank, no response was provided.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**
The Mary’s Meals School Feeding Programme began operating in Zambia in 2014. Corn-soya blend is procured from local suppliers, and students’ families contribute to the program by preparing the meals on a volunteer basis.