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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:
Biscuits (rice, oil, salt)

Micronutrients added to fortified foods:
Iron, Vitamin A, Iodine, Zinc, Vitamin B12, Thiamine, Riboflavin, Niacin, Vitamin B6, Vitamin C, Calcium, and others

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Jobs created by school feeding programs

180 Cooks and food preparers
600 Transporters
1,600 Off-site processors
700 NGO staff members
15 Food service management
15 Safety and quality inspectors
NR Other

Farmers were involved with the school feeding program(s)...  
☐ Yes ☐ No

Other private sector (for profit) actors were involved...

☐ Yes ☐ No

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The government, with support from the World Food Program, has identified a set of minimum nutritional requirements for school meals.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The school feeding program includes an essential learning package (ELP), in which one focus area is Social and Community Mobilization Activities for successful implementation and monitoring of the program. The ELP also promotes women’s leadership in School Management Committees (SMC). Around 180 women are employed as cooks and kitchen helpers, earning USD $75-85 per month. Additionally, 2,200 local women farmers supply vegetables for the school meals modality, supplementing their income by $15-25 a month.

CONTACTS: BANGLADESH

Agency: Ministry of Primary and Mass Education (MoPME)  
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SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

Strengths of the school feeding program in Bangladesh include the government ownership of, and contribution to, the program; the level of inter-ministerial coordination and engagement; and the level of community participation.

Positive developments include the endorsement of the draft nutrition-sensitive National School Meal Policy and the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare’s recommendation of the minimum nutritional requirements for school meals.

In addition, the school feeding program has been expanded to 104 sub-districts.

School feeding in Bangladesh is mostly based on the fortified biscuits modality, though school meals would be preferable. The Directorate of Primary Education intends to introduce school meals in 16 sub-districts soon.

STUDIES CONDUCTED

Studies carried out by IFPRI (2003), Tufts University (2004), Impact Study (2009, 2011, & 2017), IMED report (2014), Outcome Study (2015), and baseline and endline evaluation

RESEARCH NEEDED

Studies related to nutrition, economic and community development, and community engagement in school feeding
SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME IN POVERTY PRONE AREAS (SFPPPA)

Lead ministry: Ministry of Primary & Mass Education (MoPME); Implementing agency: Directorate of Primary Education (DPE); World Food Program provides technical assistance to MoPME & DPE

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
- In-school snacks
- Six days per week when school is in session

TARGETING:
Geographic, based on the prevalence of extreme poverty and local levels of educational attainment

HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2018 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>419,608</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>2,544,920</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,964,528</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOOD SOURCES:

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

NOTES:

The high-energy biscuits served in the school feeding program are purchased in processed form. These are centrally procured by the Directorate of Primary Education from enlisted biscuit manufacturers and delivered to primary schools by various NGOs. To reduce packaging waste, biscuit cartons are commonly sold and re-used at the local level. Other food items served in school meals are purchased from farmers, and all purchased food items are procured through a competitive tendering process.