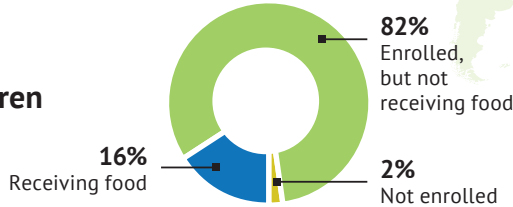
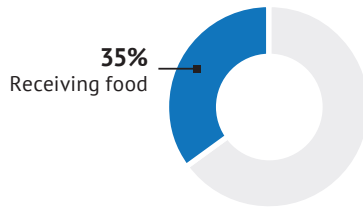


## School Meal Coverage (2022-2023)

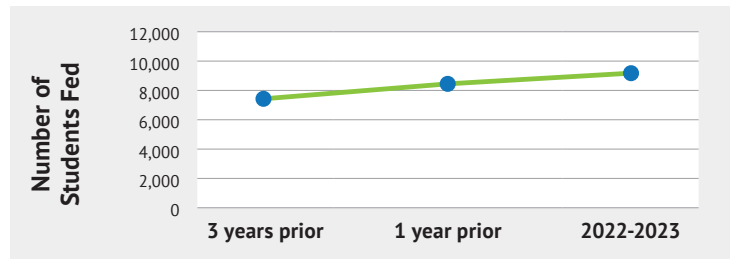
### All Primary and Secondary School-age Children



### Only Enrolled Primary Students



School Level	Total	# Enrolled	# Receiving Food
Preschool	9,696	9,316	0
Primary School	28,908	26,941	9,370
Secondary School	30,571	31,334	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>69,175</b>	<b>67,591</b>	<b>9,370</b>



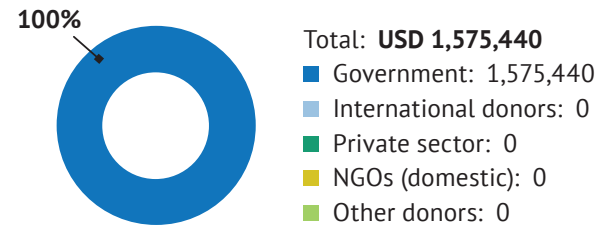
## National Laws, Policies, and Standards

- National school feeding policy
- Nutrition
- Health
- Food safety
- Smallholder farms
- Agriculture (apart from smallholders)
- Climate/environment policy
- Private sector involvement

### The country had ...

- Inter-sectoral coordination committee for school feeding
- National system for monitoring school feeding

## Budget



- Line item in the national budget for school feeding

## School Foods and Beverages

- Whole grains
- Refined/milled grains
- Blended grain-based products
- Legumes
- Nuts and seeds
- Eggs
- Dairy
- Poultry and game meat
- Red meat
- Processed meat
- Fish and shellfish
- Deep orange vegetables and tubers
- White roots and tubers
- Fruits
- Dark green leafy vegetables
- Cruciferous vegetables
- Other vegetables
- Deep-fried foods
- Sweets
- Liquid oils
- Semi-solid and solid fats
- Salt
- Dairy milk
- Yogurt drink
- 100% fruit juice
- Other fruit drink
- Tea
- Other sugar-sweetened beverages

### Prohibited food items

Food that was high in sugar and/or high in fat.

### Food Sources

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

**Special Notes:** Population and school enrollment numbers from the UNESCO Institute of Statistics were used to complete this report. The E.U. School Scheme for Fruits & Vegetables and School Milk was not operational during the 2022-2023 school year.

## 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

### Limitations on food and beverage marketing...

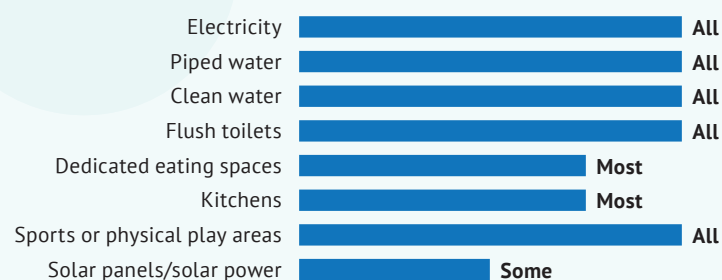
- On school grounds
- To school age children

## Additional Information

Nutritionists at the Ministry of Health were engaged with school meal programs in Malta. Efforts to prevent or mitigate overweight/obesity included nutritional requirements for food baskets, as well as food and/or beverage restrictions on or near school grounds, limitations on food and/or beverage marketing to children, food and nutrition education, and physical education.

## Infrastructure, Employment, and Complementary Features

### Share of Schools with ...



### Employment

Total number of cooks/caterers: **Unknown**

- At least 100% paid
- Percent women: Unknown

There was a focus on creating job opportunities for...

- Women**
- Youth
- Other Groups**

### 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
- School gardens

### Complementary Education Programs

- Food and nutrition**
- Agriculture
- Environment/climate/sustainability**
- Hygiene**
- Health**
- Reproductive health**
- HIV prevention
- Physical education**
- Mental health

### Additional Information

Caterers were contracted through open-bid (competitive tendering) procedures. The private sector was involved in food processing, transport, and catering, as well as the sale or rental of supplies (e.g., utensils). Cooks/caterers received special training in nutrition, portions/measurement, menu planning, food safety/hygiene, and business/management.

## Environmental Sustainability

### Targeted climate-friendly foods

- Yes  No

### Steps taken to limit food waste

- Sealed food storage
- Fumigation/pest control in storage area
- Use of hermetic bags or larger hermetic storage system
- Routine testing/monitoring of dry food storage
- Use of nearly-expired food
- Use of usable but “imperfect” commodities or produce
- Campaign to reduce how much food students throw away

### Steps taken to limit package waste

- Re-use of bags/containers
- Recycling
- Use of compostable materials
- Use of “bulk serve” containers
- Prohibiting specific types of packaging

### Additional Information

To limit food waste in the Scheme 9 program, lunches were provided according to the number of eligible students, and to limit packaging waste, students used reusable utensils.

## Emergencies

### Experienced disruptions to school feeding due to emergencies

- Yes  No

### Strategies to address the impact of emergencies

- Seek alternative food sources or suppliers
- Changes in numbers of students fed
- Negotiate better prices with existing suppliers
- Establish alternative supply routes or transportation methods
- Source different or alternative food
- Release of food reserves
- Increase funding or budget allocation for school feeding
- Collaborate with local producers or suppliers to reduce dependence on global supply chains
- Changes in delivery method
- Changes in feeding modality
- Changes in feeding frequency
- No particular strategy was used

### Additional Information

Malta did not experience any emergencies during the 2022-2023 school year, and there were no interruptions to school meal activities.

## Successes and Challenges

### Successes

1. Increased interaction with children;
2. Children are taught about food nutrition from an early age;
3. Parents who are both in employment or full-time students receive support through the school meal programs.

### Challenges

1. Trying to strike a balance between the healthy eating policy and the tastes of students can be challenging. Young children do not always eat the food that is offered.

# Breakfast Club for Primary State School Students

## Management

- Lead implementer(s): Transport Unit, Department for Educational Services, Ministry for Education
- The national government managed the program (Centralized decision-making).
- National government procured the food

## How Many Students Received Food

School Level	# of Students	% Girls	% Boys
Preschool	2,730	–	–
Primary School	6,392	–	–
Secondary School	0	–	–
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,122</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>

## Foods and Beverages

- Whole grains
- Refined/milled grains
- Eggs
- Dairy
- Fruits
- Other vegetables
- Salt
- Yogurt drink

## Elements of Home-Grown School Feeding

- Objective for small-scale farmers to benefit from access to a stable market
- Local food sourcing
- Small-scale farmers involved by selling directly (or through their farmer organization) to the program or the schools
- Additional support provided to small-scale farmers
- Country had a law/policy/standard related to small-scale farmers and school feeding programs
- Preferential treatment for small-scale farmers/small farmer organizations/small companies in tendering procedures
- Effort is made to reduce food miles

## Objectives

- To provide a social safety net
- To reduce hunger
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals

## Modalities of Providing Students With Food

- In-school meals

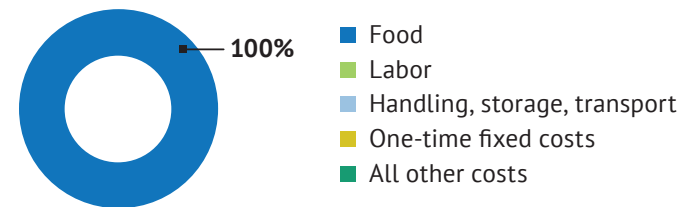
## Frequency and Duration

- 5 times per week
- During the school year

## Targeting

- Grade level (kindergarten and year 1 to year 6); school type (public schools); individual characteristics (students with both parents in employment or full-time students)

## Expenses



## Food Sources

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

## Additional Information

The Breakfast Club for Primary State School Students targets public school children. The breakfast scheme particularly enables female parents to drop off their children early at school. Educators are paid extra for supervision duties for this program.

# Scheme 9

(Skema 9)

## Management

- National School Support Services, Department for Educational Services, Ministry for Education.
- The national government managed the program (Centralized decision-making).
- Caterers procured the food

## How Many Students Received Food

School Level	# of Students	% Girls	% Boys
Preschool	0	–	–
Primary School	248	–	–
Secondary School	0	–	–
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>

## Foods and Beverages

- ✓ Whole grains
- ✓ Refined/milled grains
- ✓ Blended grain-based products
- ✓ Legumes
- ✓ Nuts and seeds
- ✓ Eggs
- ✓ Dairy
- ✓ Poultry and game meat
- ✓ Red meat
- ✓ Processed meat
- ✓ Fish and shellfish
- ✓ Deep orange vegetables and tubers
- ✓ White roots and tubers
- ✓ Fruits
- ✓ Dark green leafy vegetables
- ✓ Cruciferous vegetables
- ✓ Other vegetables
- ✓ Deep-fried foods
- ✓ Sweets
- ✓ Liquid oils
- ✓ Semi-solid and solid fats
- ✓ Salt

## Elements of Home-Grown School Feeding

- Objective for small-scale farmers to benefit from access to a stable market
- ✓ Local food sourcing
- Small-scale farmers involved by selling directly (or through their farmer organization) to the program or the schools
- Additional support provided to small-scale farmers
- Country had a law/policy/standard related to small-scale farmers and school feeding programs
- Preferential treatment for small-scale farmers/small farmer organizations/small companies in tendering procedures
- Effort is made to reduce food miles

## Objectives

- To provide a social safety net
- To reduce hunger
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals

## Modalities of Providing Students With Food

- In-school meals

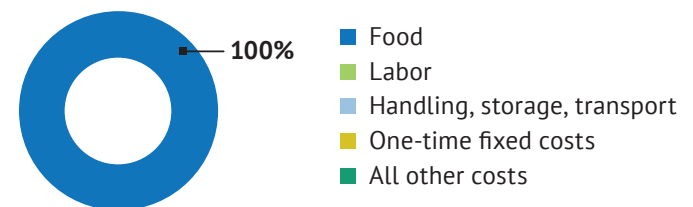
## Frequency and Duration

- 7 times per week
- During the school year

## Targeting

- Individual characteristics (students from ages 3 to 16 can benefit from the program if their families meet certain income criteria); school type (public schools)

## Expenses



## Food Sources

100% Purchased (domestic)  
0% Purchased (foreign)

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

## Additional Information

Scheme 9 provides lunches to students from families of low income that meet certain criteria. Scheme 9 includes provision of a free uniform, free healthy school lunch on a daily basis, free stationery, free photocopies, and free extracurricular activities. Regarding the school meal menu, schools gathered feedback from students on an ongoing basis, and the menu was modified according to preference.

The Global Survey of School Meal Programs® collects data from government sources and is funded, in part, by the United States Department of Agriculture. Contact [info@gcnf.org](mailto:info@gcnf.org) for more information.

**Citation:** Global Child Nutrition Foundation (GCNF). 2024. Global Survey of School Meal Programs Country Report, Malta.

<https://gcnf.org/country-reports/>