

SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

School year: 2020

- Botswana School Feeding Programme
- Secondary School Feeding Programme

Lead Agency: Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, Ministry of Basic 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

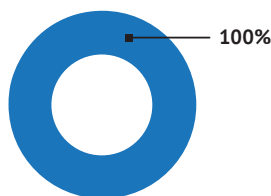
BUDGET

Total: USD 119,676,342

- Government: USD 119,676,342
- International donors*: USD 0
- Private sector: USD 0
- Other donors: USD 0

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 Botswana have clean water and kitchens; most have electricity, piped water, and flush toilets; and very few have dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias. School meals are prepared on-site (on school grounds) in kitchens typically equipped with closed cooking areas, on-site water and piped water, storage facilities, electricity, serving utensils, and gas or electric stoves.

SPECIAL NOTES

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

MEALS/SNACKS/MODALITY

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

- Grains, cereals
- Roots, tubers
- Legumes, pulses, nuts
- Dairy products
- Eggs
- Meat
- Poultry
- Fish
- Green, leafy vegetables
- Other vegetables
- Fruits
- Oil
- Salt
- Sugar

- Dairy milk
- Yogurt drink
- Fruit juice
- Tea
- Water
- Other

Prohibited food items: "Junk foods"

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.



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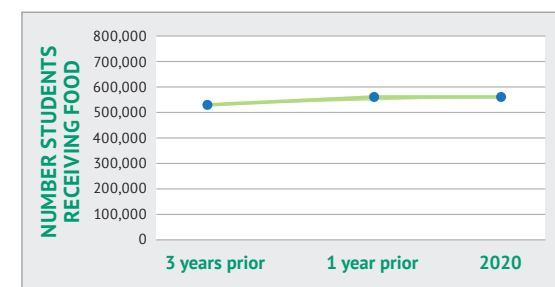
REPUBLIC OF Botswana



SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2020

School level	Total	# Enrolled	# Receiving food
Pre-school	164,156	33,425	24,000
Primary school	363,218	364,108	364,108
Secondary school	234,108	0	181,406
Total	761,482	397,533	569,514



COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

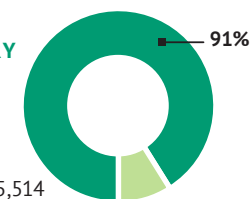
Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 597,326

Receiving school food: 545,514

Botswana has achieved universal coverage of the student population.

Food was also provided to some students in...

- Pre-schools
- Vocational/trade schools
- Other



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:

Not applicable

Micronutrients:

Not applicable

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

There are at least 239 nutritionists involved with school meal programs in Botswana. Cooks/caterers receive special training in nutrition and food safety/hygiene. Obesity is not generally considered to be a problem in Botswana.

STUDIES CONDUCTED

UNICEF assessment of the supply chain for Vulnerable Groups Primary School Feeding Programs in Botswana (May 2019); Botswana National Primary School Feeding Programme: A Case Study, led by the Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis (BIDPA) in conjunction with NEPAD, PCD, and WFP (2013)

RESEARCH NEEDED

Not specified

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Jobs created by school feeding programs*

4,516	Cooks and food preparers
300	Transporters
1,000	Off-site processors
2,000	Food packagers and handlers
	Monitoring
300	Food service management
50	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** **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

Food is procured locally through competitive open bidding, with preferential treatment for small-scale farmers/small farmer organizations/small companies. Suppliers then supply schools either monthly or termly, depending on the need. Farms of all sizes provide grains/cereals, dairy products, eggs, fruits, green, leafy vegetables and other vegetables, among other items, to the programs. All food commodities are procured locally except for cooking oil. The community is engaged with school feeding activities through parent teacher associations, village development committees, feeding committees, farmers committees, and district and village extension teams. The private sector is engaged in food trading, food processing, transport, and catering.

SUCCESSSES AND CHALLENGES

Recent successes related to school feeding in Botswana include the introduction of eggs, fruits and vegetables, and the serving of breakfast. Challenges include delays in implementation of a home grown school feeding program and delays in the procurement of food items. There is some concern related to corruption/mismanagement and pilferage.

EMERGENCIES/COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Schools in Botswana were mostly open during the 2020 school year, but were closed and not operating for at least two months. In response to COVID-19 protocols, the pandemic generated employment opportunities (for additional cooks and cleaners) to augment the staff available for the school meal programs. To better support getting food to children during a pandemic, it would be helpful for the government to fast-track the development/implementation of the feeding policy.

CONTACTS: BOTSWANA

Agency: Ministry of Basic Education

Website: <https://www.gov.bw/ministries/ministry-basic-education>

BOTSWANA SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME

Lead implementer(s): World Food Program

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

HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2020 SCHOOL YEAR?

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	24,000	–	–
Primary school	364,108	–	–
Secondary school	0	–	–
Total	388,108	–	–

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

Grains, cereals	Other vegetables	Sugar
Eggs	Fruits	Dairy milk
Meat	Oil	Tea
Green, leafy vegetables	Salt	

* fortified

FOOD SOURCES:

99.5% Purchased (domestic) 0% In-kind (domestic)
.5% Purchased (foreign) 0% In-kind (foreign)

If blank, no response was provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Botswana School Feeding Programme began in 1966 and covered 758 public schools in the 2020 school year. To limit food waste, fumigation/pest control is implemented in sealed food storage areas; to limit packaging waste, bags/containers are re-used or sold as fundraising for parent teacher associations.



SECONDARY SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME

Lead implementer(s): Ministry of Basic Education

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:

- Not specified
- During the school year

TARGETING:

Universal

HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2020 SCHOOL YEAR?

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	0	–	–
Primary school	0	–	–
Secondary school	181,406	–	–
Total	181,406	–	–

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

Grains, cereals	Poultry	Salt
Roots, tubers	Fish	Sugar
Legumes, pulses, nuts	Green, leafy vegetables	Dairy milk
Dairy products	Other vegetables	Tea
Eggs	Fruits	Water
Meat	Oil	

* fortified

FOOD SOURCES:

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

If blank, no response was provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Secondary School Feeding Programme began operating in 1960. Efforts to limit food waste include fumigation/pest control in sealed food storage areas, as well as a marketing campaign to reduce how much food students throw away.