

## SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

School year: 2020–2021

- Home-Grown School Feeding Program
- Traditional School Feeding Program

Lead Agency: Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport

## 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 7,233,478

Government:  
USD 2,205,400

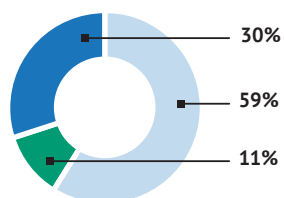
International donors\*:  
USD 4,241,238

Private sector: USD 786,840

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

Most schools in Cambodia have clean water and kitchens; some have electricity, piped water, and flush toilets; very few schools have dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias. School meals are prepared on-site (on school grounds) in kitchens typically equipped with open cooking areas, on-site water (not piped), storage facilities, serving utensils, and charcoal or wood stoves.

## SPECIAL NOTES

The U.S. Department of Agriculture lists the World Food Program as receiving support from the McGovern-Dole Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program in 2019 for school feeding activities in Cambodia.

## 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:** In areas with a large Muslim population, pork and other non-halal food are not served.

## 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.*



The *Global Survey of School Meal Programs* is the property of GCNF and is protected by copyright. It may not be reproduced or distributed without prior written consent. Contact: info@gcnf.org ©2019. The Global Child Nutrition Foundation. All rights reserved.

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-1096OG002.

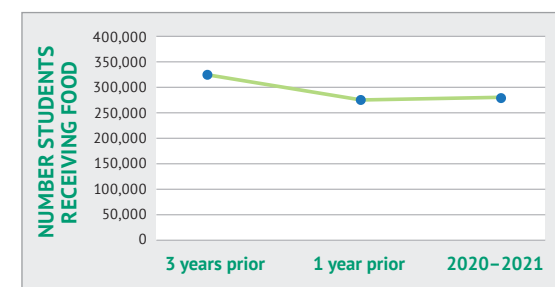
# KINGDOM OF Cambodia



## SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

### CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2020–2021

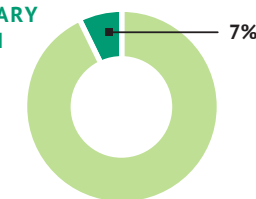
School level	Total	# Enrolled	# Receiving food
Pre-school	1,066,385	291,435	16,904
Primary school	2,055,437	2,165,444	260,977
Secondary school	1,806,618	990,576	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,928,440</b>	<b>3,447,455</b>	<b>277,881</b>



### COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 3,862,055

Receiving school food: 260,977



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:

Grains/cereals, fish, oil, and salt

### Micronutrients:

Iron, iodine, zinc, folic acid, thiamine, niacin, and vitamins A, B6, B12, and D

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

At least three nutritionists are engaged in school feeding activities in Cambodia, one supported by the WFP and two by the government. Cooks/caterers receive special training in nutrition, menu planning, and food safety/hygiene. Efforts to prevent or mitigate overweight/obesity include nutritional requirements for food baskets, food restrictions which prohibit the selling of unhealthy food on or near school grounds, food and nutrition education, health education, and physical education. Very few packaged and processed foods are used in the school feeding programs. Produce from school gardens is consumed by students, and any food that is left over from the school breakfast is brought home by students.

## STUDIES CONDUCTED

Research conducted in 2018 highlighted Home-Grown School Feeding's contribution in Cambodia to community coherence, household food security, better nutrition through enhanced knowledge of production and consumption diversification, and local economic development.

## RESEARCH NEEDED

Studies that support improvement of the Home-Grown School Feeding Program and studies on institutional capacity.

## AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

### Jobs created by school feeding programs\*

2,077	Cooks and food preparers
60	Transporters
	Off-site processors
90	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**  **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 for the program is purchased through open-bid (competitive tendering) procedures in which farms of all sizes successfully compete. Farms provide grains/cereals, legumes, eggs, meat, fish, and vegetables, among other items. Private sector companies are engaged in food trading, food processing, transport, and the supply of utensils to the school feeding programs. Students' families and other community members contribute in-kind to the school feeding programs. Community members contribute to program implementation and management (e.g., providing incentives for the cooks in cash or in kind (for WFP-supported schools), providing utensils, infrastructure/renovation, etc.). Most of the school cooks are women, and at least one woman is assigned as a member of each school support committee. The Home-Grown School Feeding Program has an objective of supporting local economies and empowering women through their engagement in supplying food to schools.

## SUCCESSSES AND CHALLENGES

Recent successes related to school feeding in Cambodia include improvements in education (learning and enrollment, particularly for girls); increases in health and nutrition, dietary diversity, and the growth and development of students/children; strengthened rural economies; and improvements in social protection (providing income transfers and bolstering household food security). However, findings from the NSPC audit team suggested the following: (1) The current Home-Grown School Feeding Program is not yet fully aligned with national social protection priorities; (2) The Home-Grown School Feeding Program management and operations are still very dependent on World Food Program (WFP) mechanisms; (4) There is limited participation from authorities and communities in some areas; (5) The program experiences difficulties hiring properly trained cooks; and (6) There is insufficient school infrastructure (e.g., poor condition of the kitchens and stoves, no proper dining spaces). There is some concern related to corruption/mismanagement and misuse of food.

## EMERGENCIES/COVID-19 PANDEMIC

During the 2020–2021 school year, schools were closed but operating remotely for several months due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, students could only attend school for 136 days, rather than the usual 210 days in a school year. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, school feeding operations were temporarily suspended, and there was a decrease in the number of students fed as well as the frequency of school feeding. There were also temporary changes in beneficiaries (e.g., switching from targeting students to targeting families), in the venue (location) of distributing/receiving food, and in feeding modality (e.g., switching from in-school meals to take-home rations). The WFP and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MoEYS) distributed take-home rations 5 times (three times in 2020 and twice in 2021). Overall, the COVID-19 crisis resulted in the strengthening of hygiene, food safety, nutrition, and health promotion for children. Cambodia was also affected by natural disasters during the 2020–2021 school year, and the government provided cash-based transfers for flood victims in the Banteay Meanchey, Battambang, Kampong Thom, Pursat, and Siem Reap Provinces.

## CONTACTS: CAMBODIA

**Agency:** Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport/World Food Program (WFP)

**Website:** <http://www.moeys.gov.kh/en/>

## HOME-GROWN SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM

**Lead implementer(s):** Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS)

### 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
- Take-home rations

### FREQUENCY AND DURATION:

- 6 times per week for in-school meals during the school year; quarterly or biannually for take-home rations
- During the school year

### TARGETING:

Targeted based on geographic characteristics (areas with high food insecurity, high malnutrition, and low education performance) and individual student characteristics (based on government classifications of income and vulnerability)

### HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2020–2021 SCHOOL YEAR?

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	13,660	49%	51%
Primary school	206,914	49%	51%
Secondary school	0	–	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>220,574</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>51%</b>

### FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

Grains, cereals*	Meat	Oil*
Roots, tubers	Fish*	Salt*
Legumes, pulses, nuts	Green, leafy vegetables	Water
Eggs	Other vegetables	

\* fortified

### FOOD SOURCES:

**60% Purchased (domestic)**    **15% In-kind (domestic)**  
**0% Purchased (foreign)**    **25% In-kind (foreign)**

If blank, no response was provided.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Home-Grown School Feeding Program began operating in 2014, and in the 2020–2021 school year, 887 public schools participated in the program. Take-home rations are not a regular part of this program, but were implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure school children and their families still received support. The Home-Grown School Feeding Program has two models that fully or partially procure food commodities from local producers/suppliers. For those schools that partially procure foods locally (e.g., meat/fish/eggs, fresh vegetables), WFP provides other complementary food from its own warehouse (rice and oil).



## TRADITIONAL SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM

**Lead implementer(s):** Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) with technical assistance support from WFP

### 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
- Take-home rations

### FREQUENCY AND DURATION:

- 6 times per week for in-school meals during the school year; quarterly or biannually for take-home rations
- During the school year

### TARGETING:

Geographic (targeted towards areas of high food insecurity and poor performance in primary education)

### HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2020–2021 SCHOOL YEAR?

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	3,243	49%	51%
Primary school	54,063	49%	51%
Secondary school	0	–	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>57,306</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>51%</b>

### FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

Grains, cereals*	Fish	Salt
Legumes, pulses, nuts	Oil*	Water

\* fortified

### FOOD SOURCES:

**0% Purchased (domestic)**    **20% In-kind (domestic)**  
**10% Purchased (foreign)**    **70% In-kind (foreign)**

If blank, no response was provided.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Traditional School Feeding Program began in 1999 and shifted in the direction of a home-grown model of local procurement by 2020. The in-school meals were suspended for most of the 2020–2021 school year, though some resources were reallocated to deliver take-home rations during this time. About 70% of the food for the program is donated in-kind from the U.S. In addition, canned fish are donated by the Government of Japan, and community members/parents contribute salt. Take-home rations are not a regular part of the Traditional School Feeding Program, but were implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic to support school children and their families.