



20th
GLOBAL CHILD
NUTRITION FORUM
TUNIS ★ 2018

Forum Report



REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA



Ministry of Education



**World Food
Programme**
Centre of Excellence
against Hunger

 **global child nutrition**
F O U N D A T I O N

Acknowledgements



2018

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 20th annual Global Child Nutrition Forum was an opportunity to reflect on how much the global community has achieved over the past two decades and to plan how to capitalize on those gains in the future. Hosted for the first time in the Middle East and North Africa Region, the Forum drew on experiences of the region to address two topics: how food and nutrition security contribute to social stability and how well-designed and managed school meal programs support multiple social benefits. The Forum was a joint collaboration of the Global Child Nutrition Foundation (GCNF), the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger, and the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Tunisia, with critical support from the WFP Tunisia Country Office. The Opening Ceremony featured messages from leaders of GCNF, WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger, and H.E. Youssef Chahed, Prime Minister of the Republic of Tunisia as well as a keynote from David Beasley, Executive Director of the UN World Food Programme. Speakers called on participants to capitalize on the excellent opportunity afforded by the gathering—to take respective turns as both student and teacher, simultaneously learning and sharing about programs that span the globe.

Tunisia used its host status to showcase its own school meal program and to convene leaders from the region to discuss how school meals represent an opportunity to address not only food and nutrition security but national security and economic development goals. The Forum offered a total of seven workshops for participants to gather in small groups to digest and engage with the messages from plenary sessions. Workshops included Resources for Homegrown School Feeding; Menu Solutions: Improving Food Policies; Fortification and Bio-Fortification; Food and Nutrition Education; Investing in Rural, Adolescent Girls; Engaging the Private Sector; and Fundraising for National School Meal Programmes. Practical applications in workshops were further complemented by messages from plenary panels: New Initiatives for School Meal Programs featured UN WFP's new Office of School Feeding; new data and insights from Mary's Meals Impact Evaluations; updates from the USDA's McGovern-Dole International Food for Education Program; and GCNF's Global Survey of School Meal Programs.

The plenary also convened world-class experts in child development, agriculture, and nutrition to discuss how the agriculture-nutrition nexus can be strengthened. The highlight of every Forum are the school visits and this year proved no exception. The school visits took messages from plenary and breakout and demonstrated the hands-on, practical ways to implement school meal programs. Tunisia featured schools with centralized and decentralized models as well as a food bank to highlight connections with broader food security initiatives. Countries rounded out the Forum with an opportunity to present about their program in plenary presentations featured thematic groupings of countries to highlight how similar initiatives play out over diverse geographies. The Forum culminated with an opportunity to celebrate 20 years of the Global Child Nutrition Forum- two decades of capacity building, south-south cooperation, and partnership building. The Closing Ceremony again featured messages from the leadership of GCNF, WFP Centre of Excellence, and the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Tunisia along with an energizing keynote speech from H.E. the Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Professor Yemi Osinbajo, that recapped key points of the Forum: that school meals are an investment in economic and social development and that they thrive with multi-sectoral support and strong partnerships.

About the Global Child Nutrition Forum



The Global Child Nutrition Forum is a learning exchange and technical assistance conference held annually to support countries in the development and implementation of sustainable school feeding programs. Since 1997, the annual Global Child Nutrition Forum has united leaders from countries around the world for five days of intensive training, technical assistance and planning, all directed toward establishing country-operated sustainable school feeding programs. By sharing their insights, experiences, and challenges, an informal worldwide alliance of leaders dedicated to advancing school feeding has evolved. As a result, the Forum has become a global catalyst for school feeding development.

Held in Tunis, Tunisia, the 20th Annual Global Child Nutrition Forum was organized by the Global Child Nutrition Foundation in partnership with the World Food Programme Centre of Excellence against Hunger, and the Government of the Republic of Tunisia, with support from partners, experts from governments, non-government organizations, UN agencies, civil society, academics, researchers, private sector, media, and other organizations. The Forum encourages open dialogue and the sharing of experiences, best practices, lessons learned, challenges and options to sustainably support nutritious home-grown school meal programs. Upon returning home, participants serve as resources in their countries and often for neighboring countries developing school feeding programs.

The Forum is hosted in a different country each year, affording participants the opportunity to visit local schools and see one another's programs in action. This was the first time the Forum was held in the Middle East and North African region. The Forum brought together 363 participants (197 women), from 59 countries, including 30 high-level government officials around the theme "National School Meal Programs for Food and Nutrition Security and Multiple Social Benefits"

ABOUT THE CO-ORGANIZERS



The Global Child Nutrition Foundation (GCNF) is a global network of governments, businesses, and civil society organizations working together to support school meal programs that help children and communities thrive. GCNF provides training, technical assistance, and sharing opportunities to help governments build national school meal programs that are nutritious, locally-sourced, and ultimately independent from international aid.



The WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger (WFP Centre) results from the joint engagement of Brazil and WFP to spur South-South cooperation and strengthen the global efforts to end hunger. The WFP Centre supports governments in Africa, Asia and Latin America to forge sustainable solutions of their own, via knowledge building, capacity development, and policy dialogue regarding food and nutrition security, social protection, and school meals. The WFP Centre supports countries in a long-term basis to help create innovative approaches to address the multi-dimensional issues of poverty and hunger.”

REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA



Ministry of Education

The Ministry of Education of Tunisia is responsible for guaranteeing the right to education and learning opportunities for all Tunisian girls and boys. The 2016 Education Sector Reform aims at enabling school children to access the highest forms of knowledge and skills to adequately respond to today society’s needs. It defines a set of strategic objectives, which give special attention to the prevention of drop-outs and the improvement of school life, encompassing school meals, lodging, school transport and extra-curricular activities.





TUNISIA SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS



The Government of the Republic of Tunisia has recognized school meals as a social safety net that can enhance stability and social protection, contribute to greater access to education and nutrition, and to rural development. With support from World Food Programme (WFP) Tunisia, the Government has made steady progress to enhance Tunisia's National School Meals Programme (NSMP) at central, regional and local levels.

In 2013, at the Government's request, WFP supported Tunisia's enhancement of its National School Meal Program to feed 250,000 students in 2,500 primary schools. The following year, the Government of Tunisia released its "Sustainable School Meal Strategy" emphasizing the importance of adapting the home-grown school feeding model (HGSF), which connects local farmers with markets for their goods, and creates local jobs. Today, Tunisia's Ministry of Education and Ministry of Agriculture partner to foster links between women-led canteens and community organizations to promote the usage of local food in school meal programs while creating local jobs.

In 2015, the Government of Tunisia took a leadership role in feeding its school children and by 2016 established the Ministry of Education's Office of School Services (OOESCO) for the management of school meals. Currently, Tunisia's school feeding program provides hot meals for 240,000 students in 2,500 schools across the country. The program is run by the Ministry of Education in partnership with WFP and support from the Italian Development Cooperation.

In 2017, the Tunisian Institute for Strategic Studies (ITES) led Tunisia's Strategic Review on Food Security and Nutrition to support achievement of SDG 2. The importance of strengthening Tunisia's social protection system emerged as a key theme, with school meals as an important component to address of SDG 2: Zero Hunger.

Plenary Panel 1:



Tunisia's National School Meals Program; and a Regional Perspective: School Meals and Social Protection in MENA

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region provides many examples of how education and school feeding programs can function as platforms for multiple benefits in both crisis and more stable yet vulnerable contexts. In fragile and conflict-affected contexts, school meals programs provide essential emergency social safety nets to families, facilitate enrollment and retention, support girls' education and contribute to the fight against child labor, while promoting nutrition and educational outcomes. In relatively stable contexts, national school meal programs can be designed to contribute to social inclusion and cohesion, as well as to community development and resilience building, especially among communities in marginal and vulnerable areas.

In the MENA region, evidence shows that, in addition to improving education, nutrition, and social inclusion and protection outcomes, integrated and innovative approaches to school feeding enable national governments to build resilient communities and healthy food systems, promote food security, and provide opportunities for more inclusive and sustainable development pathways.

Invited by H.E. the Minister of Education of Tunisia, participants from several MENA region countries were encouraged to discuss current trends and developments in the MENA region in relation to the surging demands for social protection and safety nets among vulnerable communities, and the role of school feeding programs therein, both in emergency and more stable contexts.



Participants included:

- Ms. Maria Lukyanova, Head of Country Office, World Food Programme Tunisia
- H.E. Hatem Ben Salem, Minister of Education of the Republic of Tunisia
- H.E. Abdullah Lamlas, Minister of Education of the Syrian Arab Republic
- Mr. Fadi Yarak, H.E. the Director General of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education of the Lebanese Republic
- Hon. Gulmira Kudaiberdieva, Minister of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic
- Ms. Maysoun Chebab, Representative of UNESCO Regional Office in Beirut
- Ms. Eleonra Fiorello, Specialist on Local Development and Decentralization of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation

Plenary Panel 2:



In this panel, the speakers highlighted how school meals play an important role in shaping food systems that integrate and prioritize nutrition, agriculture, and child development. **Prof. Don Bundy** discussed the findings of the Child and Adolescent Health and Development volume of the recently published 3rd Edition of the Disease Control Priorities and its focus on the first 8,000 days of a child's life as they develop into an adult. Investments are currently prioritized for the first 1,000 days but often neglected in the following 7,000 days of middle childhood and adolescence during which secondary growth spurts and consolidation occurs and brain development changes dramatically as neural pathways are refined. Currently, interventions for this age group are mostly focused on education benefits while nutrition and health are not. School feeding programs are known to be high return investments that can improve nutrition, health, and education outcomes during that development period of children."

In order for school feeding programs to deliver improvements on health and nutrition, they need to rely on a healthy sustainable food system. Both **Ms. Boitshepo "Bibi" Giyose** and **Mr. João Bosco Monte** emphasized the importance of a holistic food system that prioritizes nutrition and agriculture. Ms. Giyose echoes Prof. Bundy's call for governments to look beyond infrastructure and invest in the nutrition and health of its population. Not only does child malnutrition yield up to 16.5% GDP loss, but the broader socioeconomic impacts include loss of nutrition, health, education, and productivity over the long term.

Benefits of National School Meal Programmes – Nutrition and Agriculture

- Prof. Don Bundy, Professor of Epidemiology and Development, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
- Ms. Boitshepo "Bibi" Giyose, Senior Nutrition and Food Systems Officer and Advisor to the CEO, NEPAD
- Mr. Joao Bosco Monte, President, Brazil Africa Institute

The challenge of hunger and malnutrition can be addressed through improving food systems that see nutrition and healthy diets as an objective of agriculture, are inclusive of traditional and indigenous food systems, and involve the entire community from the children to the female farmers. **Mr. João Bosco Monte** also emphasized a more inclusive view of food systems that bring together communities, government, private sector, and civil society. He noted the importance of educating our children about where food comes from and seeing the private sector not only as multinational corporations but inclusive of small-scale farmers with the potential to increase production with more support.

Additionally, current food systems that push for large production of maize, rice, and wheat and minimally invest in child nutrition have resulted in issues of overnutrition and relevant NCDs, which are heavy weights on government budgets. Ms. Giyose also noted that "absence of evidence is not evidence of absence." We should not be so caught up in proof by data when the benefits are evident in countries invested in school feeding, nutrition, and health. Ms. Giyose's cited her own home country Botswana's fully funded government school feeding program that utilizes a multi-sectoral approach with benefits felt by the pupils, community, and nation at large.

New Initiatives for National School Meal Programmes



In this presentation school feeding experts shared updates on key initiatives and strategies that had the potential to improve outcomes, efficiencies, and collaboration in national school meal programs.

- **Return on Investments in School Feeding:** Carmen Burbano, WFP Director of School Feeding Division, highlighted the launch of the latest companion edition to DCP3 on School Feeding, *Re-Imagining School Feeding: A High Return Investment in Human Capital and Local Economies*. This report is a call to action for more coordinated efforts by multi-sectoral partners to take on issues around food security, education, and health. Ms. Burbano pointed out that investing in improving the efficiency and quality of national school feeding programs yields returns, not only in health and nutrition, but also fosters economic growth, through the value of the food transfer to the household and market creation for local farmers. Increased country-led demand for school feeding shows that school feeding is reimagined as a cost-effective investment in human capital development and in local economies. It is increasingly recognized as a major investment of relevance to all countries in terms of social stability, peace-building, and national development.
- **Expanding Services:** Ms. Jocelyn Brown, Deputy Administrator, Office of Capacity Building and Development, USDA, shared news and updates on the McGovern-Dole program and the expansion of services to 35 priority countries.
- **New Methodologies in Measuring and Demonstrating Impact:** Gillian McMahon, Mary's Meals Director of Strategic Partnerships and Policy, shared the organization's theory of change model as well as lessons learned from control studies conducted in schools in Malawi, Zambia, and Liberia over a three-year time period. Mary's Meals theory of change expected that long-term commitments from local communities would improve key outcomes for children. The studies found that key outcomes for youth development included increased inclusivity of classrooms, increased total enrollment rates, increased happiness in schools, and reduced anxiety.
- **Global Survey of School Meal Programs:** Arlene Mitchell, Executive Director of the Global Child Nutrition Foundation, shared some early survey results from the United States, Nepal, and Benin to highlight key information being gathered from participating countries. The Global Survey of School Meals captures a wide breadth of data that will be collected every two to three years, and aims to encourage governments to systematically collect this data in the future. The survey results will serve as an invaluable resource in creating an evidence based approach to investing in school meal programs and encourage further research to confirm the returns on investment achieved in the first 8,000 days of a child's life.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Homegrown School Feeding Workshop

Implementing efficient, impactful and scalable programmes is complex, requiring the organization and involvement of stakeholders at all levels. WFP, in collaboration with FAO, IFAD, NEPAD, GCNF and Imperial College of London, has created the HGSF Resource Framework, a systematic analysis and planning approach to designing and implementing HGSF programs across contexts. In this workshop, presenters showcased how HGSF can improve nutrition while generating immediate returns to local economies, and educational outcomes of students that help promote their future success and contribution to society. This was done both by sharing country experiences, and also by offering Governments a concrete tool to implement HGSF programmes in their country context.

Menu Solutions: Improving Food Policies

This session presented innovative nutrition and health components of school feeding programmes of the Nordic Region and selected countries from the Global South. Presenters



based the discussion of the experiences of Finland, Brazil, South Africa on the Food Policy Lab “Solutions Menu” methodology, covering nutrition, health, food culture and identity, public food and meals, and sustainable diets. The session shared each solution as tangible knowledge that can become a mechanism to address a specific issue that can affect any country, despite its development level. This informs not only South-South and North-South knowledge exchange, but also leverages South-North exchanges as a valuable tool for development. Together with the audience, the session created a credible and leveraged dialogue to enable schools as environments that provide nutrition and health interventions to school-aged children. WFP Centre and the Nordic Council consider solutions issuing not only for developed countries, but also from the Global South as a testament to the fact that soft policies can deliver solutions and play a significant role in pursuing ambitious national and international goals.

Fortification and Bio-Fortification

The private sector has a wealth of experience and knowledge in developing innovative products, and designing cutting edge fortification programs. During this session, representatives from DSM and HarvestPlus shared information about how to make school meals more nutritious through fortification and bio-fortification and how to address micronutrient deficiencies among school-age children. After gaining basic technical knowledge about how to implement point of use fortification, bio or industrial fortification in their countries, participants were asked to brainstorm which tool would be most suitable for their country and potential for implementation.

Food and Nutrition Education

Through food and nutrition education programs, students can improve and diversify their diets, while developing healthier food practices. Leaders from the National Farm to School Network, FAO, WFP,

and United Arab Emirates University led a workshop that provided participants a holistic view of the role of Food and Nutrition Education in contributing to various goals of school feeding programs (from healthy diet promotion to supporting more sustainable choices).

Investing in Rural, Adolescent Girls

Alesha Black of the Chicago Council for Global Affairs and Sam Sternin (independent consultant) led a workshop to discuss recent literature and crowdsource ideas from participants about the best ways to reach and support the crucial demographic of rural, school-age girls. The discussion highlighted the role that take-home rations can play to encourage girls' attendance and called for greater support systems, including setting up a Community of Practice, for administrators and government officials working on girls' issues. While school meals effectively target girls attending

school, participants wanted to ensure that school meal structures and funding also support out-of-school girls. Participants called for school meal funders to better delineate how funding can be used to support out-of-school girls, addressing issues like child marriage and child labor. Effective school meal programs should be designed to help to address larger social and cultural issues.

Engaging the Private Sector

Engaging private sector players in times of food crisis can be a core component of resilience building process and capacity development initiatives. In the long term, countries are expected to phase out from food aid and assistance. For that, national private sectors need investments that connect local markets and smallholder farmers to development programmes, helping to diversify their crops and broaden their business prospects. As a large buyer of commodities and services,



school feeding programs' purchasing power allows private sector players to strengthen markets in a way that promotes development and resilience to shocks, while addressing the root causes of food insecurity. Engaging private sector also leads to job creation, funds being invested in local infrastructure, and providing a local sense of ownership in periods that are so often dominated by international actors. Joy Mamili-Mbangu of the Namibian Ministry of Education discussed their private sector strategy. Taylor Quinn of JUST Inc. discussed private sector engagement, and WFP's Bing Zhao shared lessons from WFP's Purchase for Progress program.

Fundraising for National School Meal Programmes

Governments often face many challenges when funding their national school meal programs, such as competing national priorities, communicating the return on investment, high implementation costs, and lack of coordination across ministries. Participants worked in groups of five to eight people to address five key issues: fundraising challenges school meal programs face; new and existing funding sources and partners; value proposition to various funding sources and partners; strategies for engaging funding sources and partners; and preliminary work plans.



20 YEARS

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF THE GLOBAL CHILD NUTRITION FORUM



Over the last 20 years, the Global Child Nutrition Forum has provided national governments around the world with the knowledge, resources, and network they need to build school meal programs that ensure children receive the adequate nutrition for learning and achieving their potential. While it is now recognized as the largest international school feeding conference in the world, it did not start out that way.

20 years ago, the Global Child Nutrition Foundation hosted a meeting for American school food practitioners. Participants came from across the United States to share information, learn through case studies, and receive guidance for developing country policy and capacity to support school feeding.

Over the years, we have invited more and more countries to learn with us. The inaugural Global Child Nutrition Forum, then known as the American School Food Service Association International Child Nutrition Forum was held in July 1997 in Orlando, Florida. Invitations were distributed to child nutrition and school-based feeding professional from every corner of the world. In attendance were 29 individuals representing 23 countries: Barbados, Republic of China, Germany, India, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Republic of South Africa, Sweden, Trinidad & Tobago, Uganda, and the United Kingdom/Wales

The first International Child Nutrition Forum hosted outside of the United States was held in Stellenbosch, South Africa in May 2009, where 35 delegates from 15 countries learned around the theme “A Catalyst for Development: Linking Sustainable School Feeding & Local Farm Production.” After this event, GCNF began hosting the Forum in a different country every year, allowing participants to experience a wide range of programs in a variety of contexts.

Since then, the Forum has been held in the following countries:

- 2010 Accra, Ghana**
- 2011 Nairobi, Kenya**
- 2012 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**
- 2013 Salvador, Brazil**
- 2014 Vanderbijlpark, South Africa**
- 2015 Sal Island, Cape Verde**
- 2016 Yerevan, Armenia**
- 2017 Montreal, Canada**

In 2018, we celebrated the largest Forum yet. The 20th Annual Global Child Nutrition Forum hosted 363 participants from 59 nations in Tunis, Tunisia.

SCHOOL VISITS

Every year at the Forum, participants are invited to explore the host country's school meal programs in action. In Tunisia, participants visited three schools and an innovative food bank to learn more about the national program.



Henchir El Jadid Primary School

Henchir El Jadid Primary School is piloting a new centralized model, serving 1,500 primary school children. The meals are delivered from a central kitchen to five surrounding schools. The newly constructed central kitchen offers children hot meals complemented with fresh fruits and vegetables from the school garden, produced by a school-affiliated group of rural women, contributing to gender equality and local economic development.



Jeradou Primary School

The school lunches programme in Jeradou is an example of a decentralized model, providing daily hot nutritious meals to 165 primary school children. Jeradou is a small farming village, overlooking the Mediterranean Sea. The school lunch program is designed to improve school life supporting nutrition and environmental education through the use of the school garden.



Zaghouan Pilot Middle School

The Pilot Middle School kitchen and canteen have been newly refurbished with high-end equipment and school staff trained in nutrition, hygiene, and meal preparation to comply with international school meals standards. The school kitchen operates on a centralized procurement system and produces more than 500 hot meals per day responding to the nutritional needs of middle school students.

Mahmoud Messaadi Middle School, School Food Bank site

The Mahmoud Messaadi Middle School will accommodate the first School Food Bank (BAS, Banque Alimentaire Scolaire) regional warehouse. The BAS project is providing a sustainable solution to the occasional ruptures of food supplies to the school canteens. BAS provides strategic food stocks using blockchain innovation, a transparent and more accountable tracking system for meal deliveries. The food stocks allocated in the warehouse of Mornag, Grand Tunis region, is donated by private sector partners.



COUNTRY DISCUSSIONS AND GLOBAL SURVEY PILOT

At the 2018 Forum, GCNF piloted its new initiative, the Global Survey of School Meal Programs with Forum participants. The Global Survey will be used to identify trends, gaps, and opportunities to guide government and stakeholder decisions and investments related to national school meal programs. The survey will be repeated at regular intervals, providing a baseline description of school feeding and tracking developments over time.

As GCNF is committed to build upon and contribute to the work of our partners, the Global Survey database and reports will be made publicly available. The survey results will enable Forum participants to:

- Share information about school feeding programs with stakeholders and researchers around the world
- Identify strengths and weaknesses within programs
- Recognize and remedy gaps in program data collection
- Learn from the successes and challenges of other countries' school feeding programs
- Invest in school feeding with fuller knowledge of the sector globally, including trends, gaps, and opportunities
- Direct training, education, research, and funding efforts to the areas of greatest need

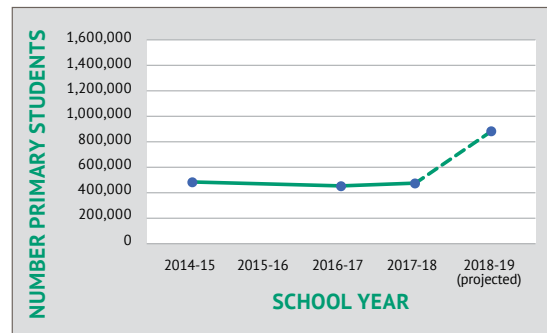
After participating in the Global Survey, countries will receive a detailed report with key findings about their school meal programs. With thanks to the countries of Benin, Nepal, and the United States, GCNF shared some of the initial results during the Forum Country Discussions session.

BENIN



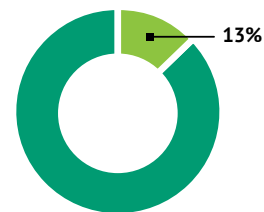
CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2017-18

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	N/A	—	—
Primary school	460,063	53%	47%
Secondary school	N/A	—	—
Total	460,063	53%	47%



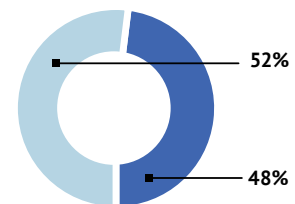
COVERAGE: PRIMARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Total number primary school-age children: 3,613,181
Receiving school food: 460,063



BUDGET

Total: USD 45,380,649
National government: USD 23,800,000
International donors: USD 21,580,649



MEALS/SNACKS/MODALITY

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Breakfast | <input type="checkbox"/> Snacks |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lunch | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Take-home rations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dinner | <input type="checkbox"/> Conditional cash transfer |
-
- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grains/cereals | <input type="checkbox"/> Fish |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roots, tubers | <input type="checkbox"/> Green, leafy vegetables |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legumes and nuts | <input type="checkbox"/> Other vegetables |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy products | <input type="checkbox"/> Fruits |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eggs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oil |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meat | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Salt |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poultry | <input type="checkbox"/> Sugar |

Prohibited food items: Genetically-modified foods

FOOD SOURCES

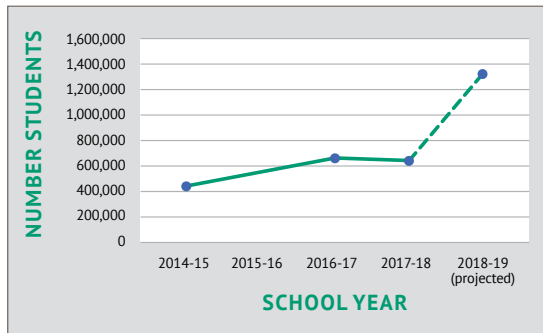
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Purchased (domestic) | <input type="checkbox"/> In-kind (domestic) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Purchased (foreign) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-kind (foreign) |

NEPAL



CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2017-18

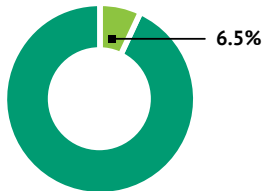
School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	113,900	53%	47%
Primary school	483,600	53%	47%
Secondary school	38,500	52%	48%
Total	636,000	53%	47%



COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 8,065,260

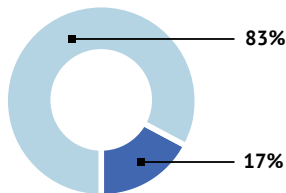
Receiving school food: 522,100



BUDGET

Total: USD 25,104,971

National government: USD 20,877,427
International donors**: USD \$4,227,544



**The World Food Program with support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and various other bilateral and multilateral donors.

MEALS/SNACKS/MODALITY

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner
- Snacks
- Take-home rations
- Conditional cash transfer

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

Prohibited food items: "junk food" (processed, packaged foods with high sugar and fat content)

FOOD SOURCES

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

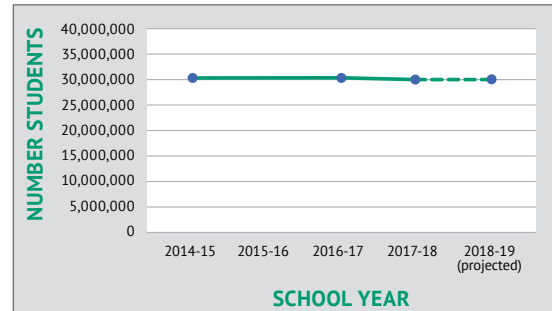
USA



CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2017-18

Program	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
National School Lunch Program	30 million		
School Breakfast Program	14.66 million		

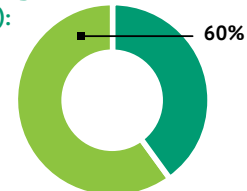
NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM ONLY



COVERAGE: TOTAL # SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN (PRIMARY & SECONDARY):

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 50 million

Receiving school food: 30 million



BUDGET

Total: USD 18.7 billion (government only)

National government*: USD 18.7 billion
International donors*: USD 0

*This includes federal cash reimbursement and commodities provided. It does not include administrative funds for states, state expenditures, local expenditures or parental payments, which the federal government does not track regularly but which would add significantly to the total.

MEALS/SNACKS/MODALITY

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner
- Snacks
- Take-home rations
- Conditional cash transfer

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

Prohibited food items: Federal regulations prohibit the sale of certain foods, determined to be of minimal nutritional value, as well as fluid milk with fat content greater than one percent milk fat, in the foodservice area during meal periods.

FOOD SOURCES

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

CLOSING CEREMONY

The 20th Global Child Nutrition Forum was closed by HE Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo; Arlene Mitchell, Executive Director of the Global Child Nutrition Foundation; and Daniel Balaban, Director of the WFP Centre of Excellence Against Hunger.

Keynote by His Excellency the Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Professor Yemi Osinbajo

In a presentation to the plenary in the concluding portion of the Forum in Tunis, Professor Yemi Osinbajo stressed the importance of governments investing in school feeding while sharing the story of Nigeria to iterate his point. As we enter the 21st century, a century set to be defined by knowledge and skills, it is more important now more than ever to invest as governments in the tools that allow our people to develop the skills and intelligence necessary to thrive in the modern era. School feeding does this and if we miss this opportunity, we can lose a generation.

Since 2015, when the Nigerian government began adding a line item for School Feeding in their national budget, Nigeria's school feeding program has grown to be one of the largest on the African continent and it is on course to become the largest as it currently feeds millions of children while creating thousands of new jobs for women and engaging thousands of smallholder farmers, adding value across the entire value chain. Through this commitment and growth there have been lessons learned on the keys to growing a school feeding program as a country as well as what obstacles stand in the way of reaching targets of 100% coverage and zero hunger.

Keys to a Successful School Feeding Program from Lessons Learned in Nigeria

1. Buy in at the highest levels of political leadership.
2. Strong government structure and a robust procurement and funds disbursement process to ensure transparency, accountability, and trackability.
3. Multi-sectoral collaboration in which different ministries are involved in the steering process at the national, state, and local levels.
4. Maintaining and utilizing diverse partnerships to help guide investment and strategy to move the program forward.
5. The program must add value to all parties involved and lead towards measurable outcomes in school enrollment, student performance, and financial inclusivity.

Key Challenges to Navigate Moving Forward

1. Addressing how to scale programs to reach 100% coverage and zero hunger will require careful work with smallholder farmers and aggregators to ensure that post-harvest loss is minimized and growth in services is efficient and transparent.
2. Navigating the challenges of delivering services to conflict affected areas.
3. Ensuring that the national government continues to commit funds to school feeding annually and is willing to increase that total as targets change.



“It is becoming clearer that the 21st century will be defined by knowledge and skill. And the nations that are the most able to present the most knowledgeable and most skillful citizens will prevail in commerce, in science, in technology, and will of course experience the greatest of parity and the longevity to enjoy that prosperity. Nations that do not invest enough to produce the required level of talent and skills will be left behind a further distance than ever before in human history.”

--H.E. Professor Yemi Osinbajo, VP of Nigeria, on the importance of national governments investing in school feeding programmes)

Communiqué

The twentieth Forum was organized by the Global Child Nutrition Foundation in partnership with the World Food Programme Centre of Excellence against Hunger and the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Tunisia, with support from WFP country office in Tunisia.

The Global Child Nutrition Forum (GCNF) brought together 363 participants (197 women), from 59 countries, including 30 high-level government officials, different governments, donors, private sector, NGOs and media institutions.

The present Communiqué recalls the theme of the 2017 Global Child Nutrition Forum held in Montreal, Canada: ‘Bridge to Sustainable Development through School Meal Programs: Engaging Local, National, Regional, and Global Communities’.

The Forum acknowledges the importance of the establishment of the School Feeding Cluster by the African Union Commission. It also acknowledges the adoption of the Tunis Declaration under the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Regional Initiative during the Tunis Dialogue on the Centrality of School Feeding for Education, Inclusive Development and Stability.

The twentieth Global Child Nutrition Forum recognizes that:

1. School feeding is a vital cross cutting agenda contributing to achieving countries’ socio-economic sustainable development goals including Goals 1 (No Poverty), 2 (Zero Hunger), 3 (Good Health & Well Being), 4 (Quality Education), 5 (Gender Equality), 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), 17 (Partnership to achieve goals) among others;
2. High-level political will and inter-ministerial integration among the governments is important to implement sustainable school feeding programmes at national level;
3. Nutrition-sensitive school feeding programmes serve as an important gender equality, equity and inclusion strategy to support adolescents, students with disabilities and children from marginalized groups to access school;
4. School feeding programmes should be designed to meet the needs of children from early childhood and beyond;
5. Nutrition-sensitive school feeding programmes are strong service delivery platforms to address micronutrient deficiencies through proven fortification strategies and a diversified food basket, including biofortified, fresh and locally produced foods;
6. It is important to pay more attention to shock-responsive, school feeding programmes to provide social protection and other safety net mechanisms in non-crisis and crisis situations;
7. For sustainable and stable national school feeding programmes it is important to ensure robust organisational arrangements and institutional architecture and to strengthen capacities and institutional knowledge management systems;
8. School feeding programmes should be included in the national development agenda and relevant existing platforms and sectoral policies such as education, health, nutrition, agriculture, social protection and others;
9. Coordination and harmonization are key guiding principles to avoid fragmentation in the process of successful school feeding programmes;
10. It is critical to catalyze multi-sectoral partnerships for successful, transformative school feeding programmes, strengthening private sector participation and empowering community, civil society, academia and the media;
11. South-South cooperation is an effective means to share learnings and enhance sustainable school feeding programmes with links to nutrition and local agriculture production;
12. Well-designed home-grown school feeding programmes provide considerable benefits for smallholder farmers and enhance local economies.

The Forum recommends that:

- Governments take ownership of national school feeding programmes and gradually provide sufficient and regular funds, from national budgets or other sources to reach all children and adolescents.
- Government and partners make deliberate efforts to promote local procurement to ensure school feeding serves as a market for smallholder farmers and for small food enterprises, benefiting local economies.
- Country-specific legal frameworks and comprehensive strategies for school feeding programmes are created and enabled.
- Context-specific food and nutrition education are integrated into all grade level curriculum including a focus on skill development and behaviour change.

- School feeding programmes have robust nation-led Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) systems that inform decision making and enhance quality and accountability.
- School feeding programmes be based on country national development plans and policies and strategies;
- Food served in school feeding programmes are diverse, nutritiously adequate, and meet quality standards.
- Micro-nutrient rich foods are integrated into programmes.
- Countries should map their achievements against their commitments on School Feeding annually and report at the Global Child Nutrition Forum (GCNF).
- Countries complete the School Feeding Global Survey.



MARKET PLACE

The Forum Market Place provided participating businesses and organizations an opportunity to showcase how their activities, services, and products contribute to the fight against child hunger, improve child access to primary education, and increase the promotions of small-scale farmer agricultural production. The following organizations shared their work in the Forum Market Place 2018:



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