

SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

School year: 2020–2021

- Karamoja School Feeding Program
- SNV School Milk Program (SMP)
- Kakira School Feeding Program (Kakira Sugar Corporation Social Responsibility Initiative)
- Parent-Led School Feeding Program

Lead Agency: Ministry of Education and Sports

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 2,272,456*

Government: USD 272,456

International donors: USD 2,000,000

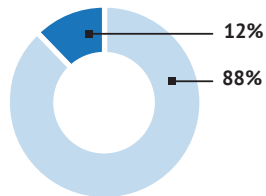
Private sector: USD 0

Other donors: USD 0

Includes funding from the United States Department of Agriculture Yes No No response

*This budget is inclusive only of the Karamoja School Feeding Program. The Parent-Led School Feeding Program does not have a budget associated with it.

**International donations by United Nations agencies or non-governmental organizations often represent funding from multiple donors.



INFRASTRUCTURE

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

SPECIAL NOTES

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: Pork is prohibited in Islamic schools.

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 Uganda



SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2020–2021

School level	Total	# Enrolled	# Receiving food
Pre-school	4,515,627	608,973	0
Primary school	9,409,201	8,840,589	414,746
Secondary school	6,649,090	1,975,553	13,130*
Total	20,573,918	11,425,115	427,876**

*The number of secondary students receiving food includes 1,050 vocational school students.

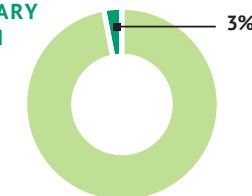
**See note on next page.



COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 16,058,291

Receiving school food: 414,746



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:

Oil, salt

Micronutrients:

Iodine, vitamins A and D

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

At least one nutritionist, paid by an implementing partner of the school feeding program, is involved in the program. Obesity is generally not considered a problem in Uganda. Cooks/caterers receive special training in portions/measurements, as well as food safety/hygiene.

STUDIES CONDUCTED

Parent-Led School Feeding: A Tested Approach to Improve Learning in Schools (2019); SABER Country Report 2014 (100075) on School Feeding in Uganda (2014)

RESEARCH NEEDED

Research on community participation as a key driver of sustainable school meals and school nutrition programs.

CONTACTS: UGANDA

Agency: Ministry of Education and Sports

Website: www.education.go.ug

*** The number of students fed through school meal programs in Uganda is treated here as being inclusive of the Karamoja School Feeding Program, the SNV School Milk Program, and the Kakira School Feeding Program. A large number of school children also benefit from the Parent-Led School Feeding Program, in which parents/guardians are formally given the responsibility to provide food for their children. However, as this latter mandate is not characterized by resources being allocated/expended outside of the students' families, it is not considered to be a large-scale school meal program. The government estimates that 4.9 million children (3.5 million children in primary school and 1.4 million students in secondary school) receive food from their parents because of the Parent-Led School Feeding Program.*

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Jobs created by school feeding programs*

700	Cooks and food preparers
5	Transporters
3	Off-site processors
10	Food packagers and handlers
12	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 school meal programs is purchased through open-bid procedures involving direct negotiations, with preferential treatment for small-scale farmers/small farmer organizations/small companies. The private sector is contracted to assist with food trading, transport, and the provision of supplies (utensils). Students' families contribute to school meal programs by paying for evening meals for students in boarding schools, and by contributing salt and firewood for meal preparation, as well as money for grinding maize grain. Civil society organizations engage with school feeding in Uganda by mobilizing parents to provide meals for their children, supporting school gardening activities, and engaging in advocacy.

SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

Recent successes related to school feeding in Uganda include the formation of the Multi-stakeholder Technical Working Group in 2017 to ease coordination and mobilization of resources for the school meals programs; the ongoing development of the School Feeding and Nutrition Policy; strong political will and presence of supportive development partners; and current efforts to transform the Karamoja School Feeding Program from a donor-led program into a Home-Grown School Feeding program. Challenges include inadequate funding (e.g., funding for school gardens and agroforestry was reduced, thereby lowering the number of schools with school gardens); lack of comprehensive data on the Parent-Led School Feeding Program; high food prices; lack of commitment on the part of some parents; and the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, which affected the coordination and mobilization of resources.

EMERGENCIES/COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Some schools in Uganda were open while other schools operated remotely for most of the 2020/2021 school year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, school feeding operations temporarily ceased, and there was a decrease in the number of students fed, the frequency of school feeding, and the amount of funding. There was also a change in beneficiaries (e.g., switching from targeting students to targeting families), and meals were no longer prepared at school, though some ingredients were provided to students or their parents to pick up at school to prepare and eat at home. Specifically, take-home rations intended for 60 days were provided in July/August and November/December. To be better prepared for a future emergency, the government could develop a framework on food distribution during emergency and crisis situations; identify vulnerable families to provide adequate support; establish food reserves/food banks at the district level to use during emergencies such as COVID-19; strengthen coordination between government agencies, development partners, civil society organizations, and the private sector; and waive excess taxes on national utilities such as water and electricity bills. A positive outcome from the pandemic is that take-home rations were reintroduced, which had earlier been discontinued due to inadequate resources. In addition to the pandemic, Uganda was also affected by a slow-onset emergency (e.g., drought), with emergency responses hindered by COVID-19 lockdowns that impacted transport and finance.

KARAMOJA SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM

Lead implementer(s): Karamoja School Feeding Program Management Unit (PMU)

OBJECTIVES:

- To meet educational goals
- To provide a social safety net
- To meet agricultural goals

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:

- In-school meals
- Take-home rations

FREQUENCY AND DURATION:

- 5 times per week for in-school meals; Biannually for take-home rations
- During the school year

TARGETING:

Geographic

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

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	0	–	–
Primary school	106,244	49%	51%
Secondary school	13,130*	45%	55%
Total	119,374	49%	51%

*The number of secondary students receiving food includes 1,050 vocational school students.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

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

* fortified

FOOD SOURCES:

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

If blank, no response was provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Karamoja School Feeding Program began operating in 1983, and in the 2020/2021 school year, it covered 269 public schools, 8 private schools, and 26 community schools. For the upcoming school year, the program plans to serve 134,000 students. To limit food waste, fumigation/pest control is used within sealed food storage areas, training is provided on storage management, and there are processes for using usable but “imperfect” commodities or produce.

PARENT-LED SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM

(Inclusive of the SNV School Milk Program and the Kakira School Feeding Program)

Lead implementer(s): Ministry of Education and Sports

OBJECTIVES:

- To meet educational goals
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:

In the Parent-Led School Feeding Program, children carry food to school for an in-school meal and/or return home for lunch.

FREQUENCY AND DURATION:

- 5 times per week during the school year

TARGETING:

Universal (for the parent-led program); Geographic (for the SNV School Milk Program and the Kakira School Feeding Program)

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

Under the **Parent-Led School Feeding Program**, in which parents/guardians are entirely responsible for ensuring children are fed, **4,919,143** students eat lunch at school (or at home during the school day). This includes **3,536,256** primary school students and **1,382,887** secondary school students. This program is also reported as being inclusive of the **SNV School Milk Program (SMP)**, which reaches **305,002** children in several districts in southwestern Uganda, and the **Kakira School Feeding Program (Kakira Sugar Corporation Social Responsibility Initiative)**, which reaches **3,500** children in the Kakira Sugar Corporation schools.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

Grains, cereals Salt* Dairy milk
 Green, leafy vegetables Sugar Water
 Oil*

* fortified

FOOD SOURCES:

95% Purchased (domestic) **5% In-kind (domestic)**
0% Purchased (foreign) **0% In-kind (foreign)**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Parent-Led School Feeding Program began in 1997. The Education Act 2008 assigns the responsibility of feeding children while at school entirely to their parents/guardians. Hence, the Parent-Led School Feeding Program is a national mandate that covers the entire country with the

(continued on next page)



Program report: Uganda

All data from the 2020–2021 school year

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION *(continued)*

exception of the Karamoja sub-region. The government is responsible for mandate, though school administrators and local governments manage its direct enforcement. The Parent-Led School Feeding Program has four options: packing food for pupils, children returning home for mid-day meals (for students who reside near school), cash contribution, and/or in-kind contribution. A lack of data associated with the parent-led program is a major challenge, a situation that was worsened by the disruptions to in-person schooling caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. This program is reported as being inclusive of two additional sub-programs, including the SNV School Milk Program (in Bushenyi, Isingiro, Kiruhura, Mbarara, Ntungamo, and Sheema districts) and the Kakira School Feeding Program.

