WFP's new flagship report: State of School Feeding Worldwide 2020

Donald Bundy London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine 24 February 2021



At the beginning of 2020, national school feeding programmes delivered school meals to more children than at any time in human history, making school feeding the most extensive social safety net in the world.

Unprecedented global reach



Greatest increase in low/middle-income countries



Exceptional growth of school feeding in Africa





There are 65.4 million children receiving school feeding in Africa, a massive increase from 38.4 million in 2013

90% of funding is from the countries themselves





In April 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic brought an end to a decade of global growth in school feeding programmes.

COVID-19 school closures suddenly deprived children of education and school meals

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COUNTRIES WITH

SCHOOL CLOSURES

370 MILLION CHILDREN MISSING OUT ON SCHOOL MEALS GLOBALLY

Number of affected schoolchildren

> 10 million
1 - 10 million
0.1 - 1 million
< 0.1 million
Schools open
No data

More than 1.5 billion children suddenly deprived of schooling and schoolbased services

Massive coping and mitigation efforts could not replace delivery through schools: WFP programmes could reach only 40% of their previous caseload

Early marriage and inappropriate child labour increased globally, disrupting girls' education and life chances

The **digital divide** opened up, **exacerbating inequalities** in access to distance learning

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The COVID-19 pandemic has sharpened global resolve to build back better, and highlighted school feeding as a priority for safely opening schools, creating human capital and promoting economic development.

School feeding supports education



School feeding increases girls' education and self-agency

- It improves not only access to education but also learning outcomes
- Improved wellbeing and better learning help build human capital, especially for girls

Better health and education together create Human Capital

- 93% of countries use the school feeding platform to deliver health interventions
- Sustaining investment throughout the 8,000 days to adulthood:
 - secures early gains and supports development during puberty and adolescence
 - offers lifelong and intergenerational benefits
 - helps realize individual potential and create human capital for the nation

Essential health and nutrition interventions during school years Ages 5-9 Ages 10-14 Ages 15-early 209 Infections and Significant Brain restructuring malnutrition are physiological and and initiation of behavioural changes key constraints on behaviours are development are associated with lifelong determinants puberty of health Tetanus toxoid and HPV vaccination

Comprehensive sexuality education

Adolescent-friendly health services

Mental health education and counselling

Menstrual hygiene management

Nutrition education

Oral health promotion

Vision screening and treatment

promotion and use

with micronutrients

Deworming

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Insecticide-treated mosquito net

274

School meals and school feeding fortified

School feeding benefits many sectors, including the local economy



Efficient programmes yield returns of up to **USD9** for every **USD1** invested.

2,000 jobs created per 100,000 children fed

It's launched! State of School Feeding Worldwide 2020

Available at **wfp.org** in 6 languages:

- حالة التغذية المدرسية في جميع أنحاء العالم لعام 2020 Arabic
- **Chinese** 2020年全球学校供餐状况
- **English** State of School Feeding Worldwide 2020
- French La situation de l'alimentation scolaire dans le monde en 2020
- Russian Состояние школьного питания в мире в 2020 году
- Spanish El Estado de la Alimentación Escolar a Nivel Mundial 2020

