SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES



Armenia Annual Country Report 2018



Country Strategic Plan 2018 - 2019

ACR Reading Guidance

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Summary

In 2018, Armenia underwent a major political reform, resulting in the change of the national constitution and subsequently, the political system. A change of Government in May 2018, as a result of peaceful mass protests, is widely considered to be a positive step towards establishing a more democratic society and accelerating the achievement of the goals under the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

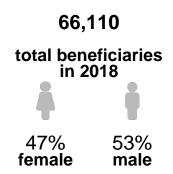
Throughout the year, Armenia continued to make good progress towards achieving its primary Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets such as good health and well-being in terms of child and maternal health, access to safe and reliable water, and sanitation in urban areas. Despite this, there are areas where Armenia had slow or mixed progress. These include eradicating child poverty, quality education, food security and nutrition, gender equality, and access to sanitation in rural areas. The National Strategic Review (NSR), which was completed in January 2018, was based on an analysis of the situation related to the four pillars of food security: availability, access, utilisation and stability. These were taken as a basis for identifying gaps and challenges that need to be addressed in order to achieve SDG 2 (Zero Hunger).

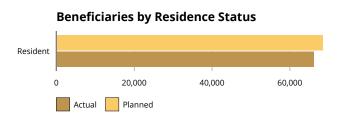
WFP continued the implementation of the highly successful school feeding programme that has become an important contributor to, and played a critical role in, food security, nutrition, and education of children and their families. According to the cost-benefit analysis and return on investment conducted in 2017, for each USD 1 invested in school meals, there are USD 7 in return through improved health and lifestyle, education and learning, and professional productivity. The programme contributed significantly to maintaining a high level of enrollment and retention, and reducing absenteeism, as well as improving the healthy habits of assisted children.

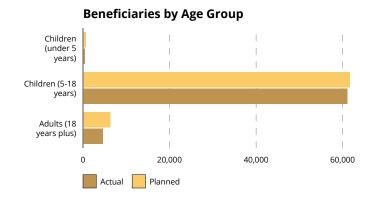
The Government of Armenia is fully committed towards the full nationalisation of WFP's school feeding programme. Concrete steps, such as the transition to cash-based transfers, investments in school infrastructure rehabilitation, and direct transfer of programme management capacities, have facilitated the gradual handover of WFP programme, as well as enabled the inclusion of the national school feeding programme in the national budget. Thanks to WFP's support, the national school feeding programme is now implemented in five out of ten provinces. WFP will continue its support in the remaining five provinces with a clear vision and strategy for a gradual and full handover by 2023.

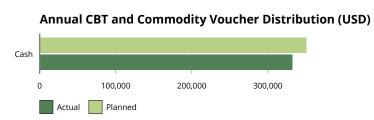
The strategic direction of the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) for Armenia for 2019–2024 was discussed with the Government of Armenia, other national and international partners, as well as the donor community in early 2018. The current Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan was extended for six months until June 2019 to pave way for additional consultations with the newly appointed

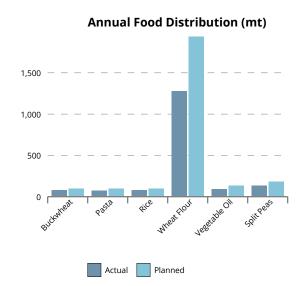
government administration. In the next strategic phase, WFP will continue to support the Government in designing sound policy and strategic frameworks that ensure a school feeding programme that promotes local production, gender equality, and social inclusiveness, while acting as a driver for broader community development.



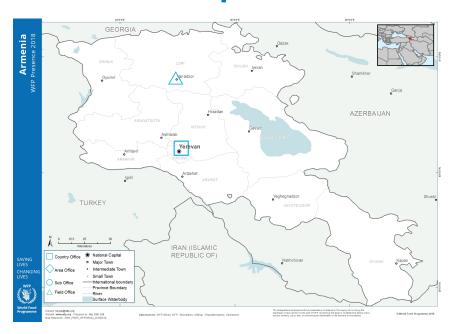








Context and Operations



Armenia is an upper-middle income, landlocked country that is a net food importer. Following a decade of strong economic growth, the gross domestic product (GDP) contracted by 14.1 percent in 2009 as a result of the global economic crisis but has since gradually improved year-on-year. According to the International Monetary Fund, the forecasted GDP growth of 3.4 percent in 2018 and 3.5 percent in 2019 will remain stable, albeit with a persisting high risk of volatility [1]. In May 2018, a new administration took office and proclaimed the launch of wide-ranging reforms aimed at increasing transparency and accountability in public governance, reducing corruption, and improving rule of law and human rights [2].

Despite economic gains made during the last decade, many Armenians leave the country each year in search of more favourable economic opportunities overseas. One in four households was involved in internal or external migration between 2013 and 2016, with 76 percent of migration being external. Migrant remittances account for 12 percent of per capita monthly incomes among the non-poor population, 8 percent among the poor, and 5 percent among the extremely poor. Limited sources of revenue and weakening economic growth have strained the Government's budget, hindering implementation of effective social safety net programmes, and reducing expenditure on the education sector to 2.4 percent of GDP and on the health sector to 1.7 percent. Almost one in three Armenians lives below the poverty line, with women and girls making up 57 percent of the poor, while 16 percent of households are food insecure. Some 34.2 percent of children living in low-income households were identified as being affected by poverty. Poverty has negative effects on household expenditure and on education, which shrank from 3.7 percent of total household expenditure in 2004 to 2.2 percent in 2017 [3].

High levels of poverty, inequality and unemployment, as well as low and unstable incomes cause significant differences in food security and nutrition indicators among different population groups and across the country. The 2015/2016 Armenia Demographic and Health Survey (ADHS) highlights that stunting decreased from 18 /19 percent in 2005 and 2010 to 9 percent in 2015–2016. Conversely, the levels of wasting have not changed and remained high since 2005. A notable increase in the number of people categorised as being overweight has become a critical concern among the Armenian population, especially among children aged 10–19 years. The ADHS revealed that 4.2 percent of children under 5 were wasted while 13.6 percent were overweight [4].

Under the current Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP), WFP's activities in Armenia combine in-kind and cash-based transfers with school rehabilitation, food basket optimisation, and capacity strengthening on nutrition, food procurement and preparation, management, logistics, communication and

results monitoring. Furthermore, it supports the Government of Armenia in building a permanent and sustainable framework for the national school feeding programme. The Country Strategic Plan 2019–2024, which is currently being drafted, will further build on successes of the TICSP, reflecting a shift in function and mindset of WFP from a major implementer to a credible enabler.

Following the official launch and publication of data on the prevalence of stunting, the ADHS concluded that further investigation would be required to better understand the causal factors of stunting and how improvements can be made to reverse the rates of stunting, especially for children between 0 and 6 years old. The Government of Armenia continues to appreciate WFP's contribution to this area and maintains a high level of interest in working with WFP to assess the root causes and appropriate responses to malnutrition. Discussions with government partners and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) have already taken place, with fruitful results towards designing a common roadmap to analyse, identify and tackle the current malnutrition challenges in the country.

WFP will continue to support the Government of Armenia in designing and implementing the appropriate governance frameworks and financially viable solutions that ensure the continuation and possible expansion of the decentralised innovative school feeding programme that is co-owned and co-managed by the community. The Government is in the process of drafting the Armenia Development Strategy 2030 to incorporate Sustainable Development Goal principles and targets through a participatory process involving various stakeholders from the public and private sectors, and the civil society. WFP and its partners, such as UNICEF, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Populations Fund, have been at the forefront of these efforts and continued to support the Government of Armenia at strategic and policy levels. Revisions to the current national Sustainable School Meals Strategy were proposed. Amendments included a detailed mapping of the handover process and confirms the role of the Sustainable School Feeding Foundation as the main national body for the implementation, management, and monitoring of the national school feeding programme.

Programme Performance - Resources for Results

WFP Armenia has achieved substantial results due to the multi-year, multilateral contributions from its single donor, the Russian Federation, coupled with firm commitment from the Government of Armenia, which continued funding the internal transport, storage, and handling costs of the WFP-supported school feeding project. The Russian Federation's contribution so far amounted to a total of USD 28 million, fully covering the period from 2010 to 2019, including the critical implementation of the Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP) in 2018 and the extension of six months until June 2019. These multi-year and predictable contributions from the Russian Federation have allowed WFP and the Government of Armenia to strategically plan and support a smooth handover process and sustainable national school feeding programme. Under the TICSP, WFP Armenia reached close to 100 percent achievement when measured against planned outputs and outcomes benchmarks.

In 2018, WFP Armenia introduced cash-based transfers for 12,000 beneficiaries in Shirak province as part of a transitional model that facilitates the smooth handover of the implementation of the school feeding programme to the Government of Armenia. Additional activities include infrastructure rehabilitation and capacity strengthening, particularly at school, community and regional levels. As a result, in 2018, WFP Armenia continued the provision of in-kind food to 48,000 primary school children and to 7,000 household members of 1,400 women kitchen staff in five provinces. Some 75 percent of the food was procured locally, contributing to and supporting local production and economy. WFP Armenia Furthermore, continued scaling up capacity strengthening activities, and formulated the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) based on the results of the National Strategic Review, the Systems Approach for Better Education Results, and other evidence-building studies.

As in previous years, the national school feeding programme continued to receive substantial support from the Government of Armenia. The expansion of the national school feeding programme is among the main priorities identified by the Government, and has thus provided contributions over the years. For the period 2016–2020, the Government allocated a total of USD 9.7 million from its national budget to support the programme. As a result, the national school feeding programme continued to be smoothly implemented in the provinces of Ararat, Syunik, Vayots Dzor, Tavush, Shirak, Aragatsotn, and Gegharkunik after the handover process was finalised in these provinces. The Government also remained committed to funding WFP's internal transport, storage and handling (ITSH) costs amounting to USD 104,000 annually.

During the year, WFP met the corporate commitment of 15 percent of the funds allocated to gender equality activities. Vulnerable women in rural areas were prioritised through either cash or in-kind food incentives to contribute as kitchen staff for food preparation at schools. Significant investment went into

assessments to analyse and better understand gender aspects affecting food security and nutrition, feeding into the design of the CSP 2019-2024.

WFP's fundraising efforts in 2018 focused on the CSP for 2019-2024. A budget revision was approved in October 2018, extending the TICSP until June 2019 in line with the ongoing consultations between WFP and the Government, as well as additional stakeholders on longer-term collaboration under the proposed CSP. The support from the state budget for the national school feeding programme, as well as other national and international donors, will be instrumental for the sustainability of the programme, and realigning the school feeding programme with local nutrition-sensitive agricultural production and social protection systems. WFP Armenia will continue to explore the possibility of engaging with non-traditional donors, the private sector, and the Armenian diaspora.

Programme Performance

Strategic Outcome 01

All primary school students in Armenia have reliable access to safe, adequate and nutritious food by 2023.

Under the Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan, WFP Armenia has one Strategic Outcome that is designed to scale up the handover and strengthen the Government's capacity to independently and reliably deliver nutritious, locally sourced school meals through partnerships with the international community, civil society, and the Government. Activities contributing to Strategic Outcome 1 were focused on school feeding through in-kind and cash-based transfers, (CBT) and the provision of technical, policy and institutional support to the Government of Armenia.

The programme achieved close to 100 percent against the planned benchmarks, including the number of beneficiaries, CBT, and in-kind food distributions. These results were achieved due to generous multi-year funding and WFP's vigorous efforts to improve programmatic planning and implementation. The CBT modality, which was introduced in 2017 in Tavush region, was extended in Shirak region in 2018 as part of the "transitional model". Through the "transitional model", WFP and cooperating partners delivered tailored training to local-level actors, improved school infrastructure, such as kitchen and cafeterias, and provided modern equipment. The model also mobilised partners, including state agencies, to coordinate interventions for nutrition, gender, hygiene and sanitation, school rehabilitation, finance, and education. The introduction of CBT significantly improved the nutritional diversity of the school menu and fostered local food purchasing. The outcome monitoring survey showed a high engagement of parents in the decision-making at school level, particularly with regard to the implementation and management of the school feeding programme on such decisions as which food items to procure, menu compositions, meal quality control, and promotion of healthy child behaviour habits.

Equitable access to primary education, including gender-equitable child enrollment, attendance, and pass rates remained consistently high throughout WFP-assisted schools. Combined with the state regulation on compulsory education for primary grade students, these positive trends might also be attributed to the social protection impact on family budgets, generated through the value transfers from the school feeding programme.

Particular attention was given to gender-sensitive activities within the school feeding programme. WFP staff encouraged the participation of men in parent-teacher associations, promoting the importance of men's engagement in children's development and upbringing. Periodic meetings were organized with parent councils, headmasters and communities, where challenges of programme

implementation were discussed. WFP highlighted the important role of fathers in coordination and management of the programme at school level, including resource mobilisation to complement the meals with nutritious fruits and vegetables.

WFP's drastic increase in expenditure for technical-, strategic- and policy-level assistance to strengthen national capacities motivated the Government to secure funds for the expansion of the national school feeding programme. The decision to increase and maintain stable budgetary allocations from the state budget for the programme was considered an essential milestone, especially as it was done amid the trend of cutting expenditures for development programmes and public services. Currently, the school feeding programme covers five out of ten provinces in Armenia. Preparations have already started for the handover of the programme in Aragatsotn province in September 2019.

As a result of enhanced advocacy efforts and WFP-led analysis, the Armenian Government bolstered its commitment towards the sustainability of the national feeding programme. The continuous support to the newly established Sustainable School Feeding Foundation (SSFF), which institutionalised governmental functions related to programme administration, is a key indicator of the commitment of the Government towards full ownership and sustainability of the programme. The South-South cooperation study tour of a delegation of the Government and SSFF to South Korea, as well as SSFF's participation in the Global Child Nutrition Forum, motivated the Government to pursue stronger-than-ever ownership of the school feeding programme.

With a series of ongoing and completed studies, WFP Armenia continued investing in research and analysis to underpin policy formulation and programme design. Of particular importance was the close collaboration with national and international research institutions in order to enhance food security analysis and impact reviews. The Food Security Analysis report is now updated on an annual basis by the Caucasus Research Resource Center Armenia and the National Statistical Service, with WFP support, demonstrating commitment towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

A government-led National Strategic Review (NSR) of food security and nutrition in Armenia revealed that improving the situation of the most deprived population groups will require well-targeted policies that address immediate needs. The NSR findings and recommendations, endorsed by the Steering Committee members, have supported the design of the WFP Armenia Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2019–2024 and identified key priorities for the Government and other stakeholders working on SDGs.

In collaboration with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), WFP Armenia launched a decentralised impact evaluation of the nutrition-sensitive

aspect of the "Development of Sustainable School Feeding" with a primary focus on learning. The impact evaluation will assess the potential role for school meals in preschools, providing evidence-based findings to inform operational and strategic decision-making regarding school snacks. Results are expected in mid-2019 and will inform WFP's alignment with national policy/planning processes and serve as evidence to further strengthen the handover process and strategy.

Another key study in collaboration with IFPRI, "Assessing Poverty Alleviation Through Social Protection: School Meals and Family Benefits in Armenia", which was published in 2018, found that the school feeding programme resulted in positive welfare gains for the Armenian population. Key recommendations on better targeting and design of effective transfer values have been taken into consideration in the design of the CSP 2019–2024, as well as the inclusion of such recommendation in social welfare national policies.

During the 30th anniversary of the Spitak earthquake in December 2018, WFP participated in the Regional Earthquake Response Exercise organized by the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group and the Armenian Ministry of Emergency Situations. The simulation exercise aimed to increase awareness and practice in the use of disaster response methodologies among national and local authorities in Armenia. The exercise also helped support WFP Armenia to strengthen its emergency preparedness and response mechanisms in carrying out its leading role during emergencies in key sectors such as food security and nutrition, information, communication and technologies, and logistics.

Cross-cutting Results

Progress towards gender equality

Improved gender equality and women's empowerment among WFP-assisted population

Armenia ranked 83rd in the 2018 United Nations Development Programme's Human Development Index and 55th in the 2017 Gender Inequality Index out of 189 countries. As indicated by the Voluntary National Review report, Armenia has made good progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals such as good health and well-being, and access to safe and reliable water supply, among others. Yet, there are areas where Armenia had slow or mixed progress, particularly ending extreme poverty, quality of education, and gender equality. Although gender equality is guaranteed by the Armenian Constitution and laws, women have low participation in economic, business and political decision-making positions. Women's wages on average are lower than men's wages by around 36 percent. Furthermore, although the share of women in the labour force is higher compared with men, only 54.3 percent of women are economically active compared with 72.6 percent of men.

These findings are in line with those from the WFP report, "Gender Analysis in Food security Areas, Republic of Armenia", which was published in early 2018. Furthermore, the report highlights that due to a more limited range of employment and income opportunities for women, particularly in rural areas, and continuing gender inequality in income and salary levels, women-headed households are significantly more likely to be food insecure than men-headed households. Limited access to land ownership and credit schemes that can support women entrepreneurship, particularly in the agriculture and food processing sectors, further aggravate women's food security and nutrition levels.

WFP Armenia allocated some 15 percent of its annual budget to gender equality activities. In an effort to support the mitigation of gender imbalance in the labour market, WFP provided the opportunity for 1,400 women kitchen helpers under the school feeding programme to contribute to their households' food security by receiving food or cash entitlements calculated for five family members. The programme encouraged the enrollment of unemployed women from local communities. As reported by post-distribution focus group discussions, women's confidence and self-esteem increased by being employed in the programme.

Aiming to strengthen the capacity of education professionals in analysing the gender dimensions of food and nutrition security, WFP, in cooperation with the Armenia Young Women Association, conducted a series of workshops entitled "Gender Equality as a Precondition for Food Security and Nutrition Workshop", targeting school headmasters in provinces and schools implementing the school feeding programme. The workshop included sessions on gender equality, the importance of mainstreaming gender into food security and nutrition, as well as

personal and professional commitment to ensure equal rights and opportunities for boys and girls, women and men.

In order to enhance internal awareness towards gender equality in 2018, WFP Armenia held various workshops and events, as well as communications campaign and disseminated information among the various functional units. In addition, two gender focal points from WFP Armenia successfully participated in the Training of Trainers in Masculinities in HQ and delivered the same training for all the country office staff.

Protection

Affected populations are able to benefit from WFP programmes in a manner that ensures and promotes their safety, dignity and integrity

Armenia is regarded as one of the safest countries as per the Gallup's Law and Order Index of 2018, with 82 percent of adult Armenians feeling quite safe while walking home alone at night in the city or area where they live. In 2018, there were no incidents reported related to the safety of children travelling to and from schools, and no significant safety incidents of public concern took place in schools. These outcomes are determined by the fact that there are schools in almost all villages, even in very small ones, which reduces the travelling distance to and from schools.

In coordination with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), WFP focused on accommodating the specific needs of boys and girls living with disabilities through ensuring accessibility of schools and canteens. WFP will continue to coordinate efforts with the Ministry of Emergency Situations, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the United Nations Development Programme, and UNICEF, which have various initiatives, especially related to disaster risk reduction, in and around schools.

WFP also gave particular attention to food safety and, in closer collaboration with the Regional Departments of the State Service of Food Safety, conducted regular monitoring visits to the schools to ensure compliance of the school feeding organization with food safety norms and regulations. Involvement of the State Services of Food Safety in the training sessions for the headmasters and kitchen staff has decreased the risks of non-compliance with the regulations and the number of food safety incidents at school level.

Accountability to affected populations

Affected populations are able to hold WFP and partners accountable for meeting their hunger needs in a manner that reflects their views and preferences



WFP is committed to ensuring full transparency of its assistance to the people it serves, and continued strengthening the mechanisms for collecting and analysing feedback from direct and indirect participants of the school feeding programme. WFP equipped all schools with 'information corners', where children, parents, and teachers are provided with information on WFP's programme, the weekly menu, and the food entitlement for children and kitchen helpers. All stakeholders in the school feeding programme were encouraged to avail of the confidential hotline to report any issues or concerns related to the activity. The most common queries reported through the hotline were related to the parents' voluntary contributions in support of specific school meals needs, including the provision of salt and sugar, fresh vegetables, detergents and other housekeeping supplies. WFP advised that the decisions on expenditures related to these contributions were made by the parent-teacher associations (PTAs) based on the ongoing needs of the programme. Interested parents, especially fathers, were encouraged to join and actively participate in these associations to be informed of the expenditures and to influence the decisions on budget management.

WFP conducted periodic meetings separately with parents, PTAs, kitchen helpers, headmasters, and regional authorities on the quality of the food provided, children's food consumption and cultural food preferences, hygiene and sanitation, as well as any potential risks to the protection, safety and integrity of beneficiaries.

The WFP Outcome Monitoring report, which was published in June 2018, revealed a high level of satisfaction with the school feeding programme among the key stakeholders. All covered schools reported a high level of attendance rates, especially among the primary grades. The majority of the school headmasters and local authorities noted the positive impact that the school meals particularly have on the attendance rate.

The active involvement of the parents is of vital importance for the successful implementation of the school feeding programme as highlighted strongly by the majority of the school headmasters. Parents were the main contributors to the school feeding programme. Yet, their awareness of entitlements and organizational details of the school feeding programme, were rather low. WFP is increasingly investing in the effectiveness of the information desk corners that are present at every school. Several awareness-raising campaigns were conducted with partners such as United Nations Children's Fund, the Social and Industrial Food-Service Institute, and the Children of Armenia Fund, as well as major Armenian media outlets.

Environment

Targeted communities benefit from WFP programmes in a manner that does not harm the environment

Armenia is party to multiple international environmental conventions and agreements, and undertook a broad set of commitments related to environmental protection and sustainable development. The Armenia Development Strategy (ADS) 2014–2025 states that "parallel to the Government's efforts for improving the rates of economic growth, measures should be taken to reduce as much as possible the associated environmental risks". Priorities outlined in the ADS include legislative reforms, management and governance capacity building (including for specially protected areas, forests, and water basins), environmental impact assessment and monitoring capacity, legal mechanisms for promoting "green" innovation, education and awareness, among others.

Through increased investment in ensuring access to clean, affordable energy (CEE), the Government of Armenia is paying particular attention to protecting children from possible negative effects of climate change, recognising the fact that environmental degradation threatens children's well-being. Many children in Armenia are exposed to CEE conditions that impact their basic rights to safe, nutritious and sufficient food, a clean and healthy living environment, care and protection, and quality education — all of which undermine Armenia's progress towards meeting national development ambitions and the Sustainable Development Goals.

In support of sustainability and minimising environmental impacts, WFP and its donor partners have agreed to launch projects in support of renewable energy, in combination with the establishment of greenhouses, which can substantially support the energy needs for schools and generate additional funds to support the sustainability of the school feeding programme. At the same time, the home-grown school feeding approach has demonstrated to have significant potential in Armenia, not only in diversifying diets and providing livelihood opportunities, but also in introducing particularly efficient irrigation system, environment-friendly supply chains and agricultural practices.

WFP's school rehabilitation and infrastructural repairs are carefully assessed in coordination with the Government of Armenia, taking into consideration the environmental risks and impacts of these projects.

Boosting Development

The secondary school of Horom village in Shirak Province of Armenia has been part of WFP's school feeding programme since 2010, serving hot meals to 95 primary school students every school day. In January 2018, along with 150 other schools in the province, the Horom Secondary School transitioned from receiving WFP's direct food assistance of six commodities to cash-based transfers (CBTs). Prior to handing over the implementation and management of the school feeding programme in the province to the Government, CBT was introduced as a new modality, the schools' kitchen and cafeterias were rehabilitated and equipped, and the headmasters and kitchen staff were trained. Some of the key components of the training modules included food safety, the legal framework on procurement processes, reporting on CBT expenditures, menu diversification and nutrition as well as gender related topics.

According to Ms. Anahit Galstyan, the headmistress of the Horom Secondary School, transitioning from direct food to cash transfers was difficult at the beginning, particularly in the selecting the best suppliers. The school was successful in finding a supplier that was highly responsive to the school's needs. CBT allowed the schools to immensely diversify the menus; the school could purchase 20 food items from local suppliers, instead of the previous six through the direct food transfer modality. According to Ms. Galstyan, "the difference is obvious as you see smiling faces of children in cafeteria eating fast to get second helpings". The headmistress encourages the cooks to enrich the weekly menus from the Recipe Book developed by WFP Armenia and its partners.

Enriched menus were not the only improvements under the CBT modality. Infrastructural issues previously plagued the Horom Secondary School. There were visible cracks in the outer walls from the 1988 earthquake. Teaming up with WFP's long-time partner Children of Armenia Fund (COAF), extensive renovation works were done in the kitchen and cafeteria. Community participation has been paramount in these rehabilitation efforts. Ms. Galstyan had mobilised all her networks, including the alumni of the school, parents and the local municipality. The kitchen has been fully equipped by WFP, and the school welcomed children in the new cafeteria in September 2018.

"It is more than just food assistance, for the village community, the school feeding programme really boosts the development and community engagement", said Ms. Galstyan.

Figures and Indicators

Data Notes

Summary

Cover page photo © WFP/Abeer Etefa Children enjoy nutritious meals at a school supported by WFP Armenia.

Context and operations

[1] IMF Office in Armenia://www.imf.org/en/Countries/ResRep/ARM#At%20a%20Glance

[2] The SDG Implementation Voluntary National Review (VNR) Armenia, July 2018.

https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/19586Armenia_VNR_2018.pdf.

[3] The SDG Implementation Voluntary National Review (VNR) Armenia, July 2018.

https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/19586Armenia_VNR_2018.pdf.

[4] National Statistical Service. 2017. Armenia Demographic and Health Survey 2015–16. https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR325/FR325.pdf.

Progress towards gender equality

(1) WFP gender Analysis Report 2017

Beneficiaries by Age Group

Beneficiary Category	Gender	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
Total Beneficiaries	male	36,650	35,028	95.6%
	female	31,850	31,082	97.6%
	total	68,500	66,110	96.5%
By Age Group				
Adults (18 years plus)	male	3,060	2,108	68.9%
	female	3,230	2,480	76.8%
	total	6,290	4,588	72.9%
Children (5-18 years)	male	33,250	32,672	98.3%
	female	28,365	28,416	100.2%
	total	61,615	61,088	99.1%

Beneficiary Category	Gender	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
Children (under 5 years)	male	340	248	72.9%
	female	255	186	72.9%
	total	595	434	72.9%

Beneficiaries by Residence Status

Residence Status	Residence Status Planned		% Actual vs. Planned	
Resident	68,500	66,110	96.5%	

Annual Food Distribution (mt)

Commodities	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual vs. Planned									
Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food												
Strategic Outcome: All primary school st	Strategic Outcome: All primary school students in Armenia have reliable access to safe, adequate and nutritious food by 2023.											
Buckwheat	96	80	83.0%									
Pasta	96	75	78.5%									
Rice	96	80	83.0%									
Wheat Flour	1,938	1,281	66.1%									
Vegetable Oil	137	92	67.2%									
Split Peas	185	137	74.0%									

Annual CBT and Commodity Voucher Distribution (USD)

Modality	Planned Distribution (CBT)	Actual Distribution (CBT)	% Actual vs. Planned								
Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food											
Strategic Outcome: All primary school st	Strategic Outcome: All primary school students in Armenia have reliable access to safe, adequate and nutritious food by 2023.										
Cash	350,526 332,265		94.8%								



Output Indicators

Detailed Indicator	Unit	Target Value	Actual Value	% Achieved							
Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food											
Strategic Outcome 01: All primary school students in Armenia have reliable access to safe, adequate and nutritious food by 2023.											
Output A: Children in WFP-supported schools receive meals every school day to contribute to their adequate nutrition and to maintain high attendance rates.											
Act 02. 2. Conduct school meals activities (in-kind and cash-based transfer) to	targeted schools and ch	nildren									
Number of primary schools assisted by WFP	school	623.0	596.0	95.7							
Value of non-food items distributed	US\$	285477.0	285477.0	100.0							
Output C: All primary school children in Armenia benefit from improved capa meals programme aiming to improve nutrition.	city of national authoriti	es to design, manage	and implement the n	ationwide school							
Act 01. 1. Provide and facilitate technical, policy and institutional support to g	overnment.										
Number of partners supported	partner	-	-	0.0							
Number of cooks trained in nutrition and healthy cooking	individual	366.0	366.0	100.0							
Number of studies and assessments supported	assessment	4.0	1.0	25.0							
Output L: Children in WFP assisted schools benefit from improved schools fa	cilities to prepare safe ar	nd nutritious meals.									
Act 01. 1. Provide and facilitate technical, policy and institutional support to government.											
Amount of investments in equipment made US\$ 445955.0 445955.0 100.0											
Number of infrastructure works implemented	unit	70.0	71.0	101.4							

Outcome Indicators

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection	
Strategic Result 1	1 - Everyone has acce	ess to food							
Strategic Outcom	ne 01: All primary sch	nool students in Armenia have reliable a	ccess to safe	, adequate	and nutritiou	us food by 2	023.		
Outcome Indicat	or: Attendance rate								
Armenia	SMP: 2. Conduct school meals activities	Cash, Food	male	98.12	98.00	≥98.12	≥98.00	Base Value: 2017.12, WFP survey, PDM Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, WFP	
	(in-kind and cash-based transfer) to		female	97.36	98.00	≥97.36	≥98.00	survey, PDM Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2019.06	
	targeted schools and children		overall	97.56	98.00	≥97.56	≥98.00		
Outcome Indicat	or: Drop-out rate								
Armenia	SMP: 2. Conduct school meals activities (in-kind and cash-based transfer) to	Cash, Food	male	0.02	0.03	≤0.02	≤0.02	Base Value: 2018.01, Secondary data, Desk-based Latest	
		(in-kind and	n-kind and ash-based	female	0.02	0.03	≤0.02	≤0.02	Follow-up: 2018.12, Secondary data, Desk-based Year end
	targeted schools and children		overall	0.02	0.03	≤0.02	≤0.02	Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2019.06	
Outcome Indicat	or: Pass rate			1			1		
Armenia	enia SMP: 2. Cash, Food Conduct school meals activities (in-kind and cash-based transfer) to targeted schools and children	Cash, Food	male	99.65	99.78	≥99.65	≥99.78	Base Value: 2018.01, Secondary data, Desk-based Latest	
		(in-kind and cash-based	ind and -based female	female	99.56	99.81	≥99.56	≥99.81	Follow-up: 2018.12, Secondary data, Desk-based Year end
			overall	99.61	99.79	≥99.61	≥99.79	Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2019.06	

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection
Outcome Indicat	or: Retention rate							
Armenia	SMP: 2. Conduct school meals activities	Cash, Food	male	97.16	97.57	≥97.16	≥97.57	Base Value: 2018.01, Secondary data, Desk-based Latest
	(in-kind and cash-based transfer) to		female	97.38	97.63	≥97.38	≥97.63	Follow-up: 2018.12, Secondary data, Desk-based Year end
	targeted schools and children	o	overall	97.26	97.60	≥97.26	≥97.60	Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2019.06

Cross-cutting Indicators

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection	
Progress toward	s gender equality								
Improved gende	r equality and wome	en's empowerment among WFP-assisted	population						
Cross-cutting Ind	licator: Proportion c	f food assistance decision-making entity	– committee	es, boards, to	eams, etc. –	members w	ho are wome	en	
Armenia	Cash, Food	SMP: 2. Conduct school meals	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2017.12 Latest	
		activities (in-kind and cash-based transfer) to targeted schools and	female	-	-	-	-	Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP	
		children	overall	92.00	94.00	≥95.00	≥95.00	end Target: 2019.06	
		f households where women, men, or bo made by women and men	th women a	nd men mak	e decisions	on the use o	f food/cash/	vouchers, disaggregated by	
Armenia	Food	SMP: 2. Conduct school meals activities (in-kind and cash-based transfer) to targeted schools and	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2017.12 Latest	
			female	-	-	-	-	Follow-up: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2019.06	
		children	overall	0	0	-	≥0		
	licator: Proportion o	f households where women, men, or bo by men	th women a	nd men mak	e decisions	on the use o	f food/cash/	vouchers, disaggregated by	
Armenia	Food	SMP: 2. Conduct school meals	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2017.12 Latest	
		activities (in-kind and cash-based transfer) to targeted schools and	female	-	-	-	-	Follow-up: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2019.06	
		children	overall	0	0	-	≥0	141864. 2013.00	
	dicator: Proportion o	f households where women, men, or bo by women	th women a	nd men mak	e decisions	on the use o	f food/cash/	vouchers, disaggregated by	
Armenia	Food	SMP: 2. Conduct school meals	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2017.12 Latest	
		activities (in-kind and cash-based transfer) to targeted schools and	female	-	-	-	-	Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP	
		children	overall	100.00	100.00	=100.00	=100.00	end Target: 2019.06	
Cross-cutting Inc	licator: Type of trans	sfer (food, cash, voucher, no compensati	on) received	by participa	nts in WFP a	ctivities, dis	aggregated l	by sex and type of activity	
Armenia	Cash, Food	SMP: 2. Conduct school meals	male	0	0	=0	=0	Base Value: 2017.12 Latest	
		activities (in-kind and cash-based transfer) to targeted schools and	female	100.00	100.00	=100.00	=100.00	Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP	
		children	overall	100.00	100.00	=100.00	=100.00	end Target: 2019.06	



Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection
Protection								
Affected populat	ions are able to be	nefit from WFP programmes in a manner	that ensures	s and promo	otes their saf	ety, dignity	and integrity	,
Cross-cutting Inc	licator: Proportion	of targeted people accessing assistance v	vithout prote	ction challe	nges			
Armenia	Cash, Food	SMP: 2. Conduct school meals	male	100.00	100.00	≥95.00	≥95.00	Base Value: 2017.12 Latest
		activities (in-kind and cash-based transfer) to targeted schools and	female	100.00	100.00	≥95.00	≥95.00	Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP
		children	overall	100.00	100.00	≥95.00	≥95.00	end Target: 2019.06
Accountability to	affected populatio	ns						
Affected populat	ions are able to ho	d WFP and partners accountable for mee	eting their hu	nger needs	in a manner	that reflects	s their views	and preferences
Cross-cutting Inc	dicator: Proportion	of assisted people informed about the pr	ogramme (w	ho is includ	ed, what pec	ple will rece	ive, length o	f assistance)
Armenia	Cash, Food	Cash, Food SMP: 2. Conduct school meals activities (in-kind and cash-based transfer) to targeted schools and	male	100.00	100.00	≥95.00	≥95.00	Base Value: 2017.12 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP
			female	100.00	100.00	≥95.00	≥95.00	
		children	overall	100.00	100.00	≥95.00	≥95.00	end Target: 2019.06
Cross-cutting Inc	licator: Proportion	of project activities for which beneficiary	feedback is c	locumented	, analysed a	nd integrate	d into progr	amme improvements
Armenia	Cash, Food	SMP: 2. Conduct school meals	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2017.12 Latest
		activities (in-kind and cash-based transfer) to targeted schools and	female	-	-	-	-	Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP
		children	overall	100.00	100.00	=100.00	=100.00	end Target: 2019.06
Environment								
Targeted commi	unities benefit from	WFP programmes in a manner that does	not harm th	ne environm	ent			
Cross-cutting Inc	licator: Proportion	of activities for which environmental risks	have been s	creened an	d, as require	d, mitigation	n actions ide	ntified
Armenia	Cash, Food	SMP: 2. Conduct school meals	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2017.12 Latest
		activities (in-kind and cash-based transfer) to targeted schools and	female	-	-	-	-	Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP
		children	overall	100.00	100.00	≥95.00	≥95.00	end Target: 2019.06

World Food Programme

Contact info

Gerd Buta gerd.buta@wfp.org

Country director

Jelena Milosevic

Cover page photo © WFP/Abeer Etefa Children enjoy nutritious meals at a school supported by WFP Armenia.

https://www1.wfp.org/countries/armenia

Annual Country Report - Donor Version

Armenia Country Portfolio Budget 2018 (2018-2019)

Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2018 (Amount in USD)

Strategic Result	Strategic Outcome	Activity	Needs Based Plan	Allocated Contributions	Advance and Allocation	Allocated Resources	Expenditures	Balance of Resources
		Provide and facilitate technical, policy and institutional support to government.	1,788,053	2,474,635	0	2,474,635	1,423,124	1,051,512
1	All primary school students in Armenia have reliable access to safe, adequate and nutritious food by 2023.	2. Conduct school meals activities (in-kind and cash-based transfer) to targeted schools and children	2,839,653	2,406,311	0	2,406,311	2,088,117	318,194
		Non Activity Specific	0	2,176,050	0	2,176,050	0	2,176,050
Subtotal St Target 2.1)	trategic Result 1. Everyone has a	access to food (SDG	4,627,706	7,056,996	0	7,056,996	3,511,241	3,545,756
Total Direct	t Operational Cost		4,627,706	7,056,996	0	7,056,996	3,511,241	3,545,756
Direct Supp	Direct Support Cost (DSC)		444,322	368,455	0	368,455	161,538	206,918
Total Direct Costs			5,072,028	7,425,452	0	7,425,452	3,672,779	3,752,673
Indirect Sup	Indirect Support Cost (ISC)			488,061		488,061	488,061	0
Grand Total			5,401,710	7,913,513	0	7,913,513	4,160,840	3,752,673

This computer generated report is certified by the Chief of Contribution Accounting and Donor Financial Reporting Branch (RMFC)

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Columns Definition

Needs Based Plan

Latest Approved Version of Needs Based Plan in USD

Allocated Contributions

Allocated contributions include confirmed contributions with exchange rate variations, multilateral allocations, miscellaneous income, resource transferred, cost recovery and other financial adjustments (e.g. refinancing); excludes: internal advances.

Advance and allocation:

Internal advanced/allocated resources but not repaid in USD.

This includes different types of internal advance (IPL or MAF) and allocation (IRA).

Allocated Resources

Sum of Allocated Contributions, Advance and Allocation

Expenditures

Cumulative monetary value of goods and services received up to the reporting period.

Balance of Resources

Allocated Resources minus Expenditures

Annual Country Report - Donor Version

Armenia Country Portfolio Budget 2018 (2018-2019)

Annual Financial Overview for the period 1 January to 31 December 2018 (Amount in USD)

	Needs Based Plan	Implementation Plan*	Expenditures
Armenia	5,401,710	5,419,602	3,796,749
*Original Implementation Plan as per the Management Plan 2018			