

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES



School Meals Programme

Background

WFP is the largest provider of school meals in Malawi, supporting Government of Malawi's National Social Support Programme (MNSSP II) and the National Education Sector Plan. Since 1999, millions of school children have received school meals to enable them to stay in school, concentrate, and learn better.

Studies in Malawi estimate that for every USD 1 spent on school feeding, at least USD 6 are returned in better health and productivity when these learners reach adulthood.

Different models

The Centralised Model: WFP distributes in-kind food commodities to provide daily nutrition meals of Corn Soya Blend Plus (CSB+) to reduce short-term hunger and improve attention span in class.

Home-Grown School Meals (HGSM): Through district councils, WFP partners with schools to purchase food locally. Participating schools sign contracts with farmer organisations to procure specific quantities of diversified foods. It empowers schools to be autonomous in managing their own funds for successful decentralisation.

The United Nations Joint Programme on Girls Education (JPGE): JPGE is a collaborative effort implemented by the Government of Malawi with technical support from three United Nations agencies (WFP, UNICEF and UNFPA) and financial support by the Royal Norwegian Government.

WFP is responsible for the provision of nutritious school meals and take-home rations. About **210,000 learners are currently benefiting from HGSM in 169 schools.**

Looking ahead

WFP Malawi is committed to creating the most positive impact by enhancing synergies between WFP programmes. Therefore, WFP Malawi has reviewed its prioritization strategy for the provision of school meals to strengthen linkages.

WFP plans to focus on districts showing high poverty rates and vulnerability, poor food security and nutrition indicators, and opportunities for linkages with nutrition and livelihoods interventions by WFP.

Four districts (Chikwawa, Nsanje, Phalombe and Zomba) are prioritized given the presence of farmers organizations and linkages with WFP livelihood programmes, thus enhancing the potential for transition to HGSM models. For areas where HGSM is not feasible, WFP will implement a mixed approach of the centralized model. This approach would cover **over 151,000 beneficiaries under HGSM and 217,000 learners under the centralized model.**

USD 6.1 million required to provide school meals to 369,000 learners until December 2020.

In numbers

369,000 pre- and primary school students targeted across 4 districts

90% average attendance rate in supported schools, 15% higher than non-supported schools



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