

SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

School year: 2020–2021

- McGovern-Dole School Feeding Program
(*Cantines Scolaires McGovern-Dole – en Nature*)
- Home Grown School Feeding
(*Cantines Scolaires Basées sur la Production Locale*)

Lead Agency: Ministry of Pre-school, Primary, Secondary and Literacy Education (MEPPSA)

NATIONAL LAWS, POLICIES, AND STANDARDS

- National school feeding policy
- Nutrition
- Food safety
- Health
- Agriculture
- Private sector involvement

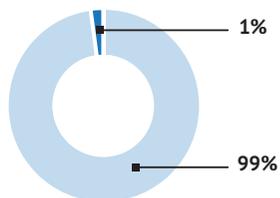
Line item in the national budget...

- Yes No No response

BUDGET

Total: USD 5,764,683*

- Government: USD 40,000
- International donors**: USD 5,724,683
- Private sector: USD 0
- Other donors: USD 0



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

*The government additionally supports school feeding with in-kind donations.
**International donations by United Nations agencies or non-governmental organizations often represent funding from multiple donors.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Some schools in the Republic of Congo have kitchens, but few have electricity, piped water, or clean water, and no schools have dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias. School kitchens are typically equipped with storage facilities, 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: None

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 Congo



SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2020–2021

School level	Total	# Enrolled	# Receiving food
Pre-school	478,594	67,208	1,747
Primary school	879,262	728,672	140,703
Secondary school	835,437	—*	0
Total	2,193,293	—*	142,450

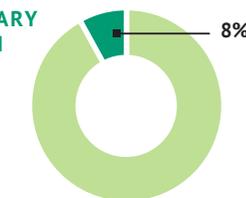
*Unknown



COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 1,714,699

Receiving school food: 140,703



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:

Grains/cereals, legumes, oil, salt

Micronutrients:

Iron, iodine, calcium

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

At least three nutritionists are engaged in school feeding in the Republic of Congo, and foods produced in school gardens are consumed by the students. Although obesity is viewed as a problem in the country, school feeding programs/activities are not designed with the specific intent to prevent or mitigate overweight/obesity.

STUDIES CONDUCTED

Review of the education sector strategy to expand school canteens.

RESEARCH NEEDED

Research on the feasibility of empowering small producers to supply school canteens; research on the links between producers, producers' groups, and schools in the food value chain.

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Jobs created by school feeding programs*

Cooks and food preparers
Transporters
Off-site processors
Food packagers and handlers
Monitoring
Food service management
Safety and quality inspectors

3,900 3,900 cooks work for the school feeding programs, though they are not paid.

**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

Small-scale farmers provide roots/tubers, legumes, vegetables, and oil for the school feeding programs. The programs also provide income-generating opportunities for unemployed youths who form themselves into cooperatives in order to work on food delivery. Special consideration in hiring is given to people with disabilities. Parents provide water and firewood for the program and assist in the construction of kitchens and storage sheds, and cooks work on a volunteer basis.

SUCCESSSES AND CHALLENGES

Successes related to school feeding in the Republic of Congo include the adoption of a national school feeding policy and the establishment of a Department of School Feeding Services. Challenges include a need for greater government synergy. It follows that there is need for a National Multisectoral School Food Council and an inter-ministerial committee to oversee school feeding activities in the country. At the local level, where oversight is weak, there are some concerns regarding mismanagement and corruption in the school feeding programs.

EMERGENCIES/COVID-19 PANDEMIC

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, the budget for school feeding in the Republic of Congo increased, with donations received from private donors and the Global Partnership for Education. Overall, the pandemic has had the effect of generating more donors to contribute to school feeding programs in the country. In addition, the COVID-19 crisis prompted a temporary change in feeding modality (e.g., a shift from in-school meals to take-home rations). The Republic of Congo was also affected by flooding in the 2020–2021 school year.

CONTACTS: REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Agency: Ministry of Pre-school, Primary, Secondary and Literacy Education (MEPPSA), School Feeding Department
Website: www.gouvernement-education.cg

MCGOVERN-DOLE SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM

CANTINES SCOLAIRES MCGOVERN-DOLE – EN NATURE

Lead implementer(s): Department of In-kind Assistance

OBJECTIVES:

- To meet educational goals
- To provide a social safety net
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals
- To meet agricultural goals

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:

- In-school meals

FREQUENCY AND DURATION:

- 5 times per week during the school year

TARGETING:

Geographic targeting towards rural, vulnerable, and indigenous areas

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

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	1,747	55%	45%
Primary school	76,809	47%	53%
Secondary school	0	–	–
Total	78,556	47%	53%

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

Grains, cereals*	Fish	Oil*
Roots, tubers	Other vegetables	Salt*
Legumes, pulses, nuts*		

* fortified

FOOD SOURCES:

4% Purchased (domestic)	0% In-kind (domestic)
0% Purchased (foreign)	96% In-kind (foreign)

If blank, no response was provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The McGovern-Dole School Feeding Program operates in 354 public schools, and funding for the program is managed by the World Food Program.



HOME GROWN SCHOOL FEEDING

CANTINES SCOLAIRES BASÉES SUR LA PRODUCTION LOCALE

Lead implementer(s): Department of In-kind Assistance

OBJECTIVES:

- To meet educational goals
- To provide a social safety net
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals
- To meet agricultural goals

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:

- In-school meals

FREQUENCY AND DURATION:

- 5 times per week during the school year

TARGETING:

Geographic targeting towards rural and vulnerable areas

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

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	0	–	–
Primary school	63,894	48%	52%
Secondary school	0	–	–
Total	63,894	48%	52%

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

Grains, cereals	Fish	Oil
Roots, tubers	Other vegetables	Salt*
Legumes, pulses, nuts		

* fortified

FOOD SOURCES:

100% Purchased (domestic)	0% In-kind (domestic)
0% Purchased (foreign)	0% In-kind (foreign)

If blank, no response was provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Farmers that supply the Home Grown School Feeding program receive electronic payments, and the program recently underwent a shift away from the use of vouchers to the use of mobile money transfers. An estimated 97% of the costs associated with the program are allocated to food, with the remaining 3% used for one-time fixed costs.