



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP School Meals Policy Update

5 September 2024

WFP's policy has evolved and strengthened over 15 years



1st School Meals Policy

Introduced multisectoral benefits & cost-effectiveness of school meals

2nd School Meals Policy

Strengthened evidence on benefits & identified key programme tradeoffs

Introduced WFP's shift to a government-led approach



School Feeding Strategy 2020-2030

Introduced the 8,000 days paradigm

Strengthened approach to transitioning school meal programmes

Focused on linkages between school meals & food systems

3rd School Meals Policy

Introduces the School Meals Coalition as a global movement that WFP supports

Institutionalizes WFP's global leadership role in school meals

Strengthens approaches to working with governments in partnership with others

Clarifies the roles and added value of WFP, grounded in country context

2009

2013

2020

2024

Context underpinning WFP's policy framework

2009 World Bank's *Rethinking School Feeding*

2012 WFP's school feeding policy evaluation

2013 State of School Feeding

2015 Adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals

2017 World Bank's *Disease Control Priorities Volume 8*

2020 State of School Feeding

2021 Launch of the School Meals Coalition

2022 State of School Feeding

Number of children reached worldwide

368 million

388 million

418 million

WFP believes that school meals are a multi-sectoral game-changer

SOCIAL PROTECTION



Increase the resilience of children and families facing poverty, food insecurity, and social exclusion (including due to gender and disability)

EDUCATION & GENDER EQUALITY



Improve children's access regardless of gender and age to education and boost their ability to concentrate, participate and learn.

HEALTH & NUTRITION



Support growth and improve macro- and micronutrient adequacy of a child's diet.

LOCAL AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS



Provide a stable market for smallholder farmers and enhance local gender-sensitive value chains.

RESPONDING TO SHOCKS & EMERGENCIES



Help meet basic food needs, reduce short-term hunger, support continuity of education and provide income transfer incorporating protection concerns.

WFP will step up support for countries in improving their programmes

VISION



Ensuring that all children have access to healthy and nutritious meals in school



OBJECTIVES

1

Support governments in expanding the scale and quality of nationally owned school meal programmes as platforms for human capital development and inclusion

2

Enhance children's nutrition, health and well-being



3

Support food system transformation and climate action




4

Support responses to shocks and emergencies



WFP will provide leadership globally, regionally and at country level to support governments by using a strategic prioritization framework

Role 1: Hosting the School Meals Coalition and helping to create a global movement of support

 Countries at all income levels

What success looks like:

-  # of countries committing to the school meals agenda
-  # of partners supporting governments
- Strengthened regional partners



Strategic shifts required:

- Connecting across silos
- School meals as a multisectoral platform
- Supporting partners to lead in critical areas

Role 2: Providing technical assistance and policy support to governments so they can run sustainable, nationally owned programmes

 Stable low- and lower-middle-income countries


What success looks like:

-  WFP caseload
-  # of children reached by national programmes and domestic funding
-  resources and partners for technical assistance



Strategic shifts required:

- Right technical support at the right time
- Expanding countries' fiscal space
- Enhancing WFP's systems strengthening capacities

Role 3: Providing direct operational support in low-capacity settings or countries affected by shocks and crises

 Countries that require operational support, including those affected by fragility, low capacity, conflict, climate extremes or other shocks

What success looks like:

-  # of children reached by WFP
-  programme quality, efficiency and integration

Strategic shifts required:

- Working at the humanitarian-development-peace nexus
- Increasing national capacities to support transition

How will the policy be implemented?

PARTNERSHIPS



NGOs



ACADEMIA AND THINK TANKS



FOUNDATIONS AND NETWORKS



MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS, DEV BANKS & AGENCIES AND IFIs



UN



DATA AND MONITORING



RESEARCH