

Dominican Republic

Dominican Republic joined the Coalition and submitted its [commitment](#) in September 2021 through the Institute of Student Welfare in the Ministry of Education. The commitment was updated in May 2025. The Dominican Republic submitted commitments around the following areas: Financing, Institutional framework, Programme design and coverage, Evidence and data generation.

Achievements

A research project was conducted in 2021-2022 on the nutritional status of children receiving school feeding, and a training programme was developed for teachers and technical staff on food and nutrition in schools in 2023.

To promote intersectoral coordination and provide comprehensive care for students, a School Health Programme is being developed in coordination with the Ministry of Public Health, the National Health Service and the Ministry of Education. An agreement will be signed between the National Institute for Student Welfare and the Ministry of Agriculture to support the purchase of products from family farmers.

The School Feeding Programme now provides an average of 60% of the Daily Dietary Requirements. The number of new beneficiaries under the Extended School Day modality rose from 54,145 to 113,681 between the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years.

In 2021, all school menu recipes were standardized, and saturated fats and sodium content were reduced. In 2022, fruit nectar was removed from school snacks (which contributed an average of 23 grams of sugar daily), and fresh fruits were introduced universally in the Extended School Day modality in 2024.

Nutritional evaluations of schoolchildren benefiting from the programme are routinely scheduled, with annual increases in the number of students evaluated from 2022-2024.

Nutrition and Food Education activities expanded their reach from 97,743 to 206,273 beneficiaries during 2022-2024 following programme strengthening and the easing of pandemic-related restrictions. A national campaign, "Give Yourself Life, Eat Healthy!" was launched in 2024 to reduce high obesity rates by promoting fruit and vegetable consumption and reducing intake of foods high in sugar, fat and sodium.

Dominican Republic also aims to establish a legislative framework that guarantees school feeding and nutrition as a national policy. In support of this goal, a draft "Law on School Feeding and Nutrition" was submitted to the National Congress in 2023 and is under review by both the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate.

Highlights

- Collaboration across ministries to stimulate purchase of products from family farmers.
- Programme provides an average of 60% of Daily Dietary Requirements for schoolchildren.
- The number of new beneficiaries under the Extended School Day modality rose from 54,145 in 2022-2023 to 113,681 in 2023-2024.
- School menu recipes standardized in 2021 and quality improved to eliminate unhealthy content and integrate healthy foods like fresh fruit.
- Nutritional evaluations of schoolchildren benefiting from the programme increased each year from 2022-2024.