

Lebanon



Lebanon joined the Coalition and submitted its [commitment](#) through the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in August 2023 around the following areas: Policy, Financing, Institutional framework, Programme design and coverage, Evidence and data generation, Advocacy and Partnerships.

Achievements

Lebanon's school meal programme has expanded its coverage from 78,000 students in 2023 to 135,000 students in 2025, including daily in-school snacks in 272 primary public schools, healthy cold meals prepared on-site in 24 school kitchens and catering for an additional 43 nearby schools. An expansion plan aims to establish 10 additional kitchens for the 2025-2026 academic year, with dual functionality to serve affected populations in the case of a national emergency based on recent experiences.

92% of food consumed through the programme is locally produced, of which 68% are fruits and vegetables. Additional efforts to promote Home Grown School Feeding have connected local retailers and agri-food businesses to school kitchens. A digital tracking system has been developed to streamline and monitor distribution.

The government has developed guidelines around food safety and to regulate food items that cannot be sold on school premises. It is working with development partners to review and update nutrition education materials for all age groups, to be rolled out in 2026. The first-ever national assessment on school nutrition and food in Lebanese public schools was conducted in 2024 with a report to be issued in 2025.

As part of the government's school health programme, school gardens are established where feasible, WASH programmes are initiated, and vaccination campaigns are carried out.

Next steps

The government continues to work toward a national strategy and policy.

Given the impacts of the confluence of crises experienced by Lebanon, the food security situation remains fluid and the government's resources are stretched thin, including in the public education sector. Lebanon is therefore not able to allocate funds for a national programme, but is keen to work with partners to understand how to sustain the programme and diversify funding sources.

Specifically, the government seeks support for:

- Exploring financing models for a sustainable, national programme and cost coverage strategies including through procurement efficiencies, local food production and community or private sector contributions.
- Developing materials that promote healthy eating habits and national school meals guidelines that draw on international best practices.
- Strengthening monitoring and evaluation systems, including technical support to scale up the newly developed digital tracking tool.
- Design of a national school meals budget to support long-term planning, cost analysis, and integration into public finance systems.
- Identifying and engaging with donors, including support with fundraising strategies.

Highlights

- Expanded its coverage from 78,000 students in 2023 to 135,000 students in 2025.
- 92% of food is locally produced. Promotion of Home Grown School Feeding has directly connected local retailers and agri-food businesses to school kitchens, and a digital tracking system has been developed to streamline and monitor distribution.
- First-ever national assessment on school nutrition and food in public schools conducted in 2024 – report to be issued in 2025.