

Namibia



Namibia joined the Coalition in August 2021.

Achievements

Namibia's National School Food Programme, launched in 1991, is governed by a comprehensive national policy that ensures all learners in public schools from Grade one to Grade 7 (Primary Schools) and Grade 8-12 in public schools are all eligible for meals. The policy promotes inclusive access, improved nutrition, and stronger learning outcomes, while also supporting local food systems and smallholder farmers in some selected schools.

The programme currently reaches over 500,000 learners, with more than USD 7.56 million (N\$140 million) allocated annually by the Ministry of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture.

The National School Feeding Programme is decentralized, with schools managing implementation at regional level (locally). While the programme primarily targets learners from pre-primary upwards in public schools, it has recently expanded to include Early Development Centers as of July 2025. This follows the 2021 pilot of the Home-Grown School Feeding Programme (HGSFP), in partnership with WFP aimed at diversifying the diet of the National School Feeding Programme in selected schools.

To strengthen evidence-based implementation and monitoring, Namibia is investing in digital data systems. The Namibia School Feeding Information System (NASIS), developed in partnership with WFP, will provide real-time data on meals served, attendance, and food stock levels. A recent Value for Money study will further support advocacy and investment in the programme.

The government emphasizes strong coordination across ministries and stakeholders, and the National School Feeding Programme is aligned with national development plans and international commitments, including the SDGs.

Next steps

Namibia aims to expand its school meals programme to include all secondary learners, but limited financial resources remain a key challenge. Strengthening the capacity and reliability and incentives for volunteer cooks is also a priority, as is improving the timeliness of food deliveries to schools.

The government is seeking support for capacity strengthening for various key stakeholders of the NSFP (Cooks, supply chain management) and roll out its new digital monitoring system across all schools to better track meals, attendance, and food stocks.

Highlights

- National School Meals Policy ensures inclusive access to meals for all learners in public schools, with recent expansion to kindergartens.
- Over USD 7.56 million (N\$140 million) allocated annually to reach more than 500,000 learners.
- Development of a real-time school feeding data system and recent Value for Money study to guide future investments.
- Expansion of school feeding programme to Early Childhood Centers in all 14 regions.