



New Members & Partners

The School Meals Coalition continues to grow, with 112 Member States, 6 regional bodies and over 150 partners working together to ensure every child has access to nutritious meals. This month, the Coalition welcomes three new partners:

- [Corus International](#) advances health, food security and livelihoods.
- [Prolepsis Institute](#) promotes equitable, sustainable policies for healthier living and working environments.
- [Fortified Whole Grain Alliance](#) expands global access to and consumption of fortified whole grains.
- [NOW Partners Foundation](#) supports governments and farmers to leverage the production of healthy and regenerative school meals to transform agriculture to strengthen food and water security, biodiversity, the climate, social equity, farmer incomes and rural economic development.
- **Soluções Naturais (Nature Solutions)**: supports food system transformation, scaling highly innovative agriculture, value addition and blended finance solutions that regenerate nature, strengthen farmer incomes and provide healthy food, including for school meals.

Highlights

Upcoming Key Moments & Milestones



Students wash their hands for lunch at Chekorti primary school, one of the school's served students with nutritious food under WFP's school meals programme in Amhara region of Ethiopia.

11th African Day of School Feeding – 28 February-1 March

This year's ADSF will also spotlight the powerful role that school meals play at the intersection of nutritious meals, clean water, and hygiene for children and their communities. With school meals in Africa expanding by more than 20 million children in just two years, countries are now working to secure sustainable financing, improve infrastructure and better integrate education, health, nutrition, agriculture and water policies.

With 44 African countries represented to date in the School Meals Coalition, and over 60 governments with [national commitments](#), the ADSF offers a key moment to drive progress and advance school meals as a transformative contributor to Agenda 2063.

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International School Meals Day - 12 March

The School Meals Coalition uses International School Meals Day as a global moment to champion the impact of school meal programmes. Each year, this observance helps sustain political momentum, raise public awareness, and strengthen coordination across governments, partners and communities.

International School Meals Day is a global moment to champion the impact of school meal programmes. The School Meals Coalition uses this occasion to highlight how school meals serve as a proven catalyst across sectors. These observances help sustain political momentum, foster coordination and showcase how government-scale, multisectoral results that improve children's lives and strengthen community-led school meal programmes scale, multisectoral results that improve children's lives and strengthen communities.

Join us in amplifying Africa Day of School Feeding and International School Meals Day!

Use the Coalition's social media [toolkit](#) and advocacy messaging [pager](#) to raise awareness, share key resources, and help drive meaningful engagement across your networks.



Save the Date

Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week



From Hunger to Hope: Advancing School Meals Programming in Fragile and Conflict Settings

11 March - (11:00 - 12:30 UTC+1)

[Join the hybrid HPNW session](#)

As part of Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week (HPNW), the School Meals Coalition, World Vision, Save the Children, International Development Institute, Luxembourg Aid and Development and International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the World Food Programme will host a hybrid (online and in person) webinar to explore the challenges faced by crisis-affected children, lessons from school meals in emergencies, new research on their role in social cohesion, and pathways to expand these programmes across humanitarian, development and peace efforts.

A new Coalition advocacy brief is being developed to highlight how school meals contribute to enhancing interconnected national priorities. Visit the Coalition [events](#) page for updates.

Keeping School Meals High on Global Agendas

High-Level Political Forum: Elevating school meals in voluntary national reviews

The School Meals Coalition is encouraging member countries presenting Voluntary National Reviews at the [UN High-Level Political Forum](#) in July to highlight their support for school meals and engagement with the Coalition.

By including progress on school meals, governments can demonstrate concrete action toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and reinforce the global momentum behind ensuring every child has access to healthy, nourishing meals in school.

Learn more about the School Meals Coalition's own voluntary national progress reporting [here](#).



Key Insights for Strengthening School Meal Systems

Promoting home-grown school meals and domestic financing

The latest edition of the State of School Feeding Worldwide report shows the role home-grown school meals play in strengthening and connecting national systems. Lesotho, for example, has mandated sourcing 80 percent of food commodities for school meals from local smallholder farmers and in Haiti, direct sourcing produced over 4,750 tons of local food worth more than US \$9 million for school meals. Members can draw on these examples, and any recent national research, when preparing inputs for the Islamic Development Bank (16–19 June 2026) and African Development Bank (25–29 May 2026) Annual Meetings to reinforce the case for investing in sustainable, locally anchored school meal systems.

Learn more from our [resources section](#), including Case Studies on Procurement and Financing and other resources.



We would like to hear from you!

If this newsletter was forwarded to you and you would like to be on our regular mailing list, please [visit this link](#). If you would like to join the School Meals Coalition, you can find the Declaration of Commitment for governments or the Declaration of Support for partners [here](#).



School Meals Coalition Newsletter

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