

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Philippine Department of Education's School-Based Feeding Program

Country: Philippines

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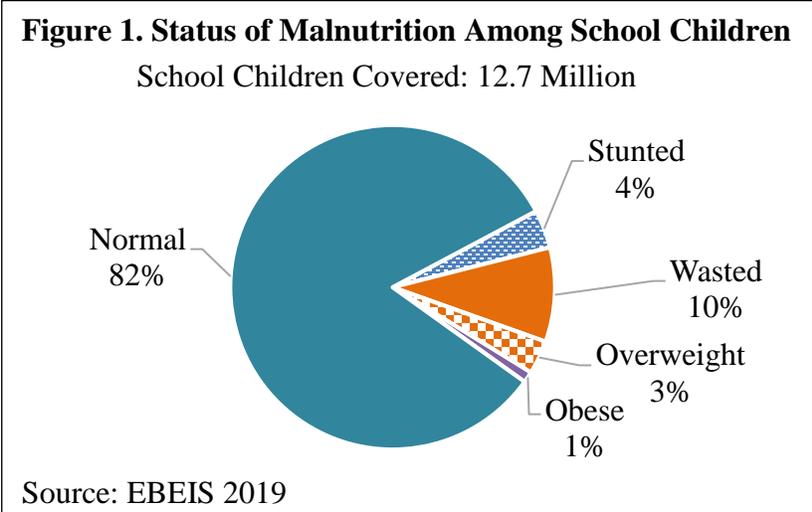
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Report Highlights:

Malnutrition is still prevalent in the Philippines. Among 12.7 million school-aged children assessed in 2019, 13.2 percent were stunted or wasted. The School-Based Feeding Program (SBFP) is one intervention to address undernutrition of school children. The Philippine Department of Education (DepEd) partners with various organizations to implement the SBFP. In 2022, the allocated budget was P3.3 Billion (\$60 Million), way below the P6 Billion (\$109 Million) budget allocation in 2021, as program funding shifted to local government units. The Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028 included the SBFP in the implementation of its strategy framework to improve education and lifelong learning. The proposed budget for 2023 is P5.7 Billion (\$104 Million) to cover 1.6 million students. It targets stunted and wasted children.

Malnutrition is still prevalent in the Philippines and has become a common hindrance for children. Based on the 2019 Nutritional Assessment, Enhanced Basic Education Information System ([EBEIS](#)), among the 12.7 million school children assessed, 13.2 percent met the standards for stunted or wasted (See Attachment 2). Without intervention, millions of school children would continue to face the risk of undernutrition (or worse malnutrition) and likely suffer with poor school performance and low adult productivity. School children need a good diet to grow, develop, be protected from disease, and have the energy to study, learn, and be physically active. This is being addressed through interventions such as feeding programs.



The School-Based Feeding Program (SBFP) provides hot meals/nutritious food products (NFP) and milk to undernourished K-6 public school learners to encourage enrollment, improve classroom attendance, provide nourishment for growth and development, contribute to the improvement of their nutritional status, help boost immune systems, and enhance and improve health and nutrition values. The healthy meals provided are expected to contribute to the readiness of the learner to participate and benefit in the education process, complete their elementary education, and improve their nutritional status.

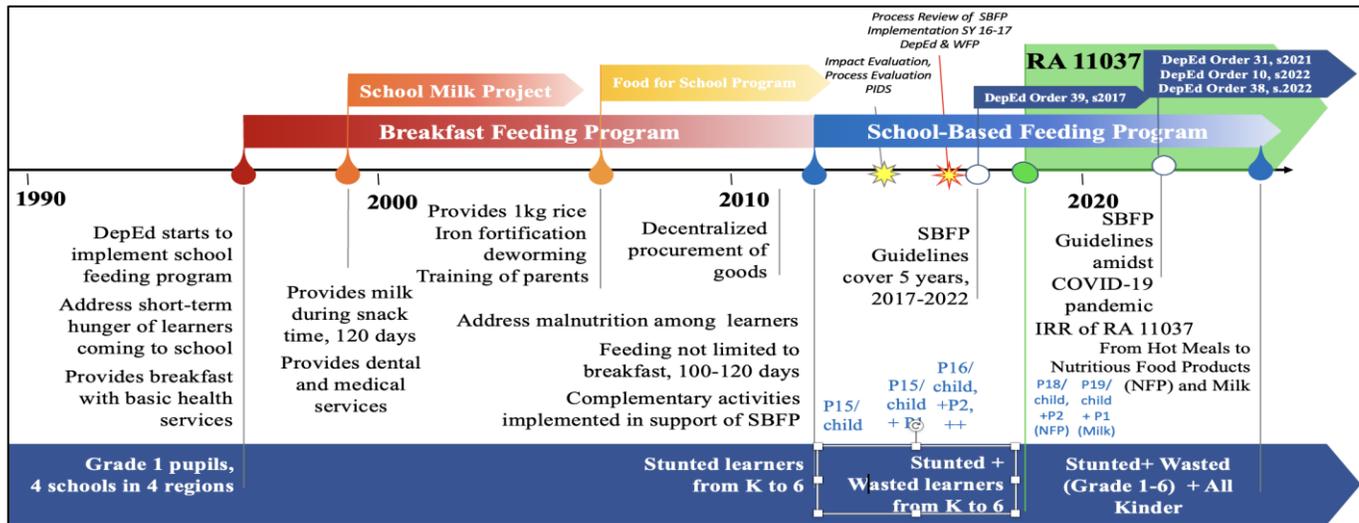
Background

Formerly known as Breakfast Feeding Program (BFP), the SBFP was conceptualized and launched in 1997 to address the “short-term-hunger syndrome” among public elementary school children. In 2011, the Department of Education (DepEd) issued [DepEd Order \(DO\) 80, Series of 2011](#), which provided the guidelines for the implementation of the BFP to rehabilitate at least 70 percent of the beneficiaries at the end of 100 to 120 feeding days. The BFP was initially implemented in three division/regions in the Philippines: Pangasinan in Region 1, Bohol in Region 7, and Lanao del Norte in Region 10. In 2012, the BFP was renamed, and relaunched as the School-Based Feeding Program (SBFP), and for school year (SY) 2012-2013 catered to stunted and wasted beneficiaries from Kindergarten to Grade 6 pupils.

In 2018, [Republic Act \(RA\) No. 11037](#) known as the “*Masustansyang Pagkain para sa Batang Pilipino Act*” institutionalized the national feeding program and created a five-year plan to fully implement the SBFP. The [DO 31, s 2021](#) provides operational guidelines on the implementation of SBFP.

Note: Exchange rate = \$1: P55

Figure 2. School-Based Feeding Program at a Glance



Source: DepEd

Providing Nutritious Food Products (NFP)

The DepEd partners with the Department of Science and Technology – Food and Nutrition Research Institute (DOST-FNRI) technology adaptors, farmers groups, and cooperatives assisted by the Department of Agriculture, Department of Agrarian Reform, National Irrigation Administration, and Department of Social Welfare and Development, as well as small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and local corporations for the supply of food and milk products. As of November 27, 2022, these organizations supplied P2.5 Billion (\$45 Million) worth of food and food products to SBFP, 54 percent of which was allocated to the Enhanced Nutribun program. The DOST-FNRI’s Enhanced Nutribun (E-Nutribun) is a ready-to-eat bread launched in July 2020. The E-Nutribun is an

Table 1. Contract Amount NFP Suppliers

NFP Supplier	No. of SDOs Supplied	Contract Amount (P'000)
E-Nutribun adopters	162	1,360,103
Farmer Groups	3	1,880
Cooperatives	33	215,166
SMEs	25	176,830
Private Corporations	107	968,778
Total		2,507,037

Note: As of November 27, 2022

Source: DepEd

Table 2. E-Nutribun Nutrition Facts

Serving size: 160 grams/piece : 1

Amount per serving	% RENI	
Calories (kcal)	500	32
Protein (g)	18	59
Calcium (mg)	254	40
Iron (mg)	6	60
Potassium (mg)	481	30
Zinc (mg)	2	30
Vitamin A (mcg)	223	60

Source: DepEd

example of a science-driven solution that government is pursuing to address hunger and malnutrition. It comes in different variants – squash, carrot, sweet potato (yellow, orange, purple). The squash variant is made from bread flour, squash puree, sugar, skim milk, shortening, salt, bread improver, and yeast, weighs 160-165 grams per piece, contains micronutrients, has zero trans-fat, and no cholesterol. The nutrition facts indicated are based on Adequate Intakes 2015 Philippine Dietary Reference Intakes (PDRI), 6 to 9-year-old males. PDRI 2015 updated the 2002 Recommended Energy and Nutrition Intake (RENI).

Figure 3. Food Commodities for FY 2022, DepEd-SBFP



The DepEd provided the list of NFP for the SBFP developed by the DOST-FNRI. These products, particularly E-Nutribun and rice-mongo are also mentioned in the [Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028](#) for the government and private sector to intensify the development of safe, affordable, nutritious, and energy-dense products to address malnutrition.

Figure 4. Nutritious Food Products, DepEd-SBFP



For FY 2023, the DOST-FNRI has developed various recipes with corresponding costings as shown in Attachment 1. The ingredients are mainly pork, chicken, fish, and vegetables.

Table 3. Sample Recipe (6 days) Developed by DOST-FNRI

NAME OF RECIPE		COST PER SERVING		
		6-9 y.o	10-12 y.o	Average Cost
1	Pork-veggie embutido	24.0	31.0	27.50
2	Chicken with pork and beans	32.0	41.0	36.50
3	Potato soup & fish fillet	33.5	43.5	38.50
4	Ground pork with string beans, and quail egg	26.0	33.5	29.75
5	Veggie patties with liver	24.0	31.0	27.50
6	Pork sour soup (<i>sinigang</i>)	27.5	35.5	31.50

Milk Component

In 2022, the local dairy industry supplied 92 percent of the milk requirement of SBFP, amounting to P1.04 Billion (\$19 Million) shared by the National Dairy Authority (NDA) and the Philippine Carabao Center (PCC). This translates to about 5 million liters of cow milk from NDA, and 4.5 million liters of toned carabao milk from PCC. The remaining nine percent was augmented by imported commercial milk. SBFP received a higher budget in 2021 with a milk allocation of P2.2 Billion (\$40 Million), 20 percent of which was allocated for commercial milk. With a higher budget, SBFP requires more allocation for commercial milk, mostly from imported ingredients, to augment the needed supply.

Table 4. Milk Source and Budget Allocation

Milk Type/Source	Approximate Contract Amount (P'000)		Estimated* Volume of Milk (liters)
	2021	2022	2022
Pasteurized Fresh Milk			
NDA	1,058,625	410,450	4,104,502
PCC	344,039	289,407	2,894,071
Flavored Sterilized Milk			
NDA	17,589	87,789	877,888
PCC	336,875	164,292	1,642,919
Commercial Milk	443,072	91,530	
TOTAL	2,200,199	1,043,468	

Note:* Based on 200 ml serving per child at P20/200ml.

PCC provided toned milk with 10 percent carabao milk.

Source of basic data: DepEd

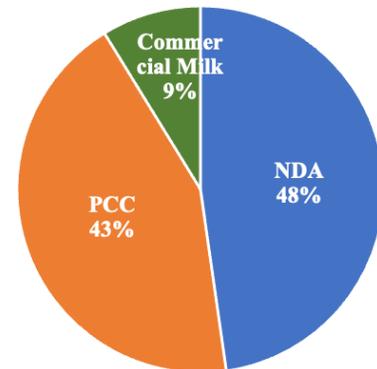
Fund Allocation

In 2022, there was a big reduction in total fund allocation for the SBFP from the General Appropriation Act (GAA). The significant reduction was due to the [Mandanas ruling](#) which transfers the budget to local government units (LGUs). It lowers the GAA budget, thereby reducing the fund allocation for the SBFG.

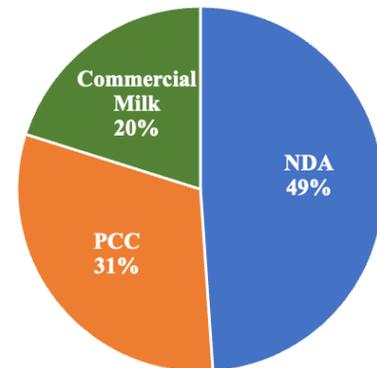
The DepEd issued [DO 10, s 2022](#) or the supplemental guidelines in the implementation of SBFP to ensure that its target beneficiaries will still be covered despite the huge decrease in budget allocation from P6 Billion (\$109 Million) to P3.3 Billion (\$60 Million). Funding support from the LGU is

Figure 5. Budget Allocation

2022



2021 Budget Allocation



Source: DepEd

Table 5. SBFG Fund Allocation

Year	Actual Budget From GAA
2016	4,143,882,240
2017	3,938,636,880
2018	4,866,333,120
2019	4,967,472,880
2020	5,974,518,000
2021	6,044,788,000
2022	3,321,709,000
	Proposed
2023	5,688,567,000

Source: DepEd

necessary to widen the implementation of SBFP in the various localities. Additional budget for SBFG is needed to implement the strategy framework to improve education and lifelong learning as indicated in the [Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028](#) (page 46).

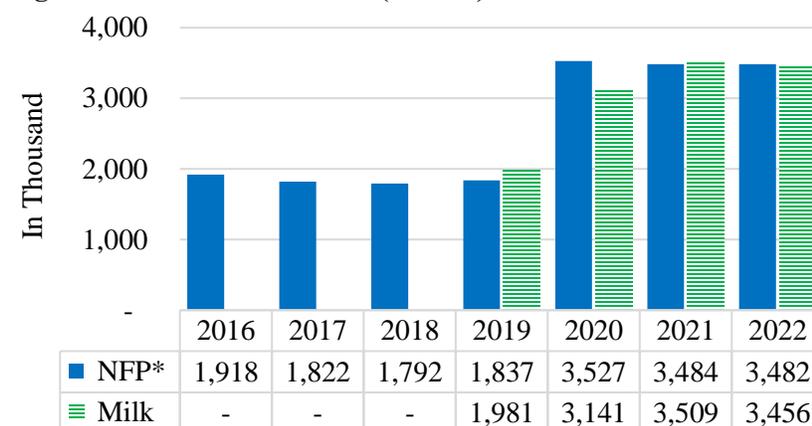
SBFG Benefits

The SBFP served an annual average of more than 1.8 million learners from SY 2016-2019 and around 3.5 million learners from SY 2020-2022. The DepEd targets all stunted or wasted children, which is about 14 percent of the enrollment on average.

SBFP has improved the nutritional status of its beneficiaries from 32

percent in SY 2016-2017, the stunted and wasted (S+W) went down to 22 percent in SY 2019-2020. Not included in the chart are overweight and obese school children. Results of the SBFP feedback and evaluation survey conducted in 2021 revealed positive responses among respondents.

Figure 6. SBFG Beneficiaries (In '000)



Source: DepEd

Table 6. Improvement in Nutritional Status, Feedback, and Evaluation

Feedback & Evaluation, 2021			Improvement in Nutritional Status	
Impact	No. of Responses	%	S+W	Normal
Became enthusiastic and energetic	180,136	57.71		
Gained weight	163,142	52.26		
Improved body condition	142,106	45.53		
Strengthened immune system	161,849	51.85		
Became eager in studying the module	116,937	37.46		
No effect at all	8,460	2.71		

Year	S+W	Normal
SY 2016-2017	32.13	67.12
SY 2017-2018	28.15	71.60
SY 2018-2019	26.62	72.80
SY 2019-2020	22.35	76.64

Note: S+W = stunted, and wasted

Source: DepEd

Note: Total number of respondents:

312,152 parents/guardians

19,114 school feeding coordinators

Source: DepEd Bureau of Learners Support Services-School Health Division (BLSS-SHD)

2023 Implementation Targets

For 2023, the target budget for milk is P2.1 Billion (\$38 Million) with supply mapping to be conducted in April 2023 to identify sources and allocate the budget. The DepEd has released its three-year requirements for the SBFP for SY 2023-2025 as shown below.

The DepEd has proposed Tier 2 planning parameters increasing the cost to P30 (\$0.55)/120 days) food and P22 (\$0.40)/60 days milk. The justification for the increase in food per child was based on the discussions with legislators to increase the quality of food and to cover the increasing cost of raw materials.

Figure 7. Increase Food Cost Per Child



Source: DepEd

Table 7 SBFG Three-Year Targets, FY 2023-2025

Tier 1: Planning Parameters:				Tier 2: Planning Parameters:			
For 2023: P20/100 days Food and P20/ 63 days Milk and PSF @ 3.2%				P30/120 days Food and P22/ 60 days Milk and PSF @ 3.5%			
For 2024: P20/100 days Food and P20/45 days Milk and PSF @ 3.2%				Assumptions:			
For 2025: P20/100 days Food and P20/44 days Milk and PSF @ 3.3%				For 2023: Beneficiaries are all S + W learners, K to Gr.6 from EBEIS 2019 NS;			
Assumptions:				For 2024 & 2025: Beneficiaries are all S + W learners, K to Gr.6 from Projected Enrollment by SDO multiplied by average prevalence of wasting from 2016-2019			
For 2023: Beneficiaries are all S + W learners, K to Gr.6 from EBEIS 2019 NS;							
For 2024: Beneficiaries are all S + W learners, K to Gr.6 from Projected Enrollment by SDO multiplied by average prevalence of wasting from 2016-2019;							
For 2025: Beneficiaries are all S + W learners, K to Gr.6 from Projected Enrollment by SDO multiplied by average prevalence of wasting from 2016-2019							
Physical Targets			Financial Requirement	Physical Targets			Financial Requirement
Year	K/Elem	Total		Year	K/Elem	Total	
2023	1,678,704	1,678,704	5,688,567,000	2023	na	1,678,704	3,599,512,966
2024	1,888,386	1,888,386	5,688,567,000	2024	na	1,888,386	4,754,063,993
2025	1,897,291	1,897,291	5,688,567,000	2025	na	1,897,291	4,803,096,705
Per Capita Cost Used: P2000 for NFP & P1,260 for Milk				Per Capita Cost Used: P3,600 for NFP & P1,320 for Milk			

Note: S = stunted, W = wasted

PSF = Program Support Fund, SDO = School Division Office

EBEIS = Enhanced Basic Education Information System

Source: DepEd

The SBFP must continue to achieve its objective of addressing undernourished learners to achieve better health and nutrition. Support to continue coherent school programs and policies to provide nutritious food, and education is vital. The Philippines has joined the school meals coalition established under the United Nations Food Systems Summit. Participation in the SBFP support agriculture, strengthen, and diversify food systems with the aim of moving farmers out of poverty by providing food for SBFP.

As an example, the Enhanced Nutribun with a P1.3 Billion (\$24 Million) budget in 2022, used up an estimated of 5,400 metric tons (MT) of flour, and 1,100 MT of skim milk, which are mostly imported.

**Table 8. Sample Calculation of Raw Materials Used
SBFG Enhanced Nutribun – Squash Variant**

2022 Budget (P)	1,360,102,982	
Price/piece (P)	20	
No. of pieces	68,005,149	
In lot of 10,000 pcs	6,801	
	Raw materials (in kilos)	
Ingredients	Per 10,000 pcs	Total Used
Flour	794	5,399,609
Squash Raw	640	4,352,330
Sugar	179	1,217,292
Salt	10	68,005
Shortening	60	408,031
Margarine	20	136,010
Yeast	8	54,404
Bread Improver	4	27,202
Skim milk	159	1,081,282
Evaporated milk	30	204,015

Source of basic data: DOST-FNRI

Attachments:

[Attachment 1- Food Commodities Covered.docx](#)

[Attachment 2 - Regional Distribution of Malnutrition.docx](#)