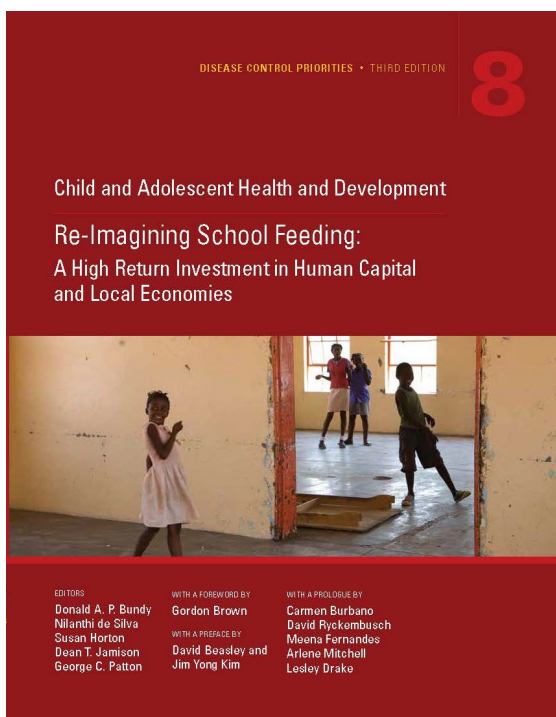


Re-Imagining School Feeding

A High Return Investment in Human Capital and Local Economies



Edited by:

- Donald Bundy • Susan Horton • Dean Jamison • George Patton • Nilanthi de Silva

Developed in partnership with the World Food Programme

Re-Imagining School Feeding: A High Return Investment in Human Capital and Local Economies is the newest companion publication of the *Disease Control Priorities*, 3rd edition (DCP3) series. This compendium draws on the latest available evidence and analyses of the impact of school feeding and healthy nutrition for children and adolescents, provided in DCP3 Volume 8: *Child and Adolescent Health and Development*.

With a **Foreword** by Gordon Brown, United Nations Special Envoy for Global Education, a **Preface** by David Beasley, Executive Director of the World Food Programme and Jim Yong Kim, President of the World Bank Group, and a **Prologue** by Carmen Burbano, David

Ryckembusch, Meena Fernandes, Arlene Mitchell, and Lesley Drake, this volume ties together the chapters in the *Child and Adolescent Health and Development* volume that are most relevant to understanding the synergies between health and nutrition, with a particular focus on the efficacy of school feeding programs.

Key Messages

- School feeding offers benefits from multiple sectors, providing substantial returns to human capital development through improved health and education outcomes, while at the same time growing the local economy through the value of the food to the household and the creation of markets for local farmers.
- Early investment in the first 1,000 days of life is critical but not sufficient. A package of investments, including school feeding, throughout the 8,000 days of childhood and adolescence is essential to sustain the early investment and to help young people achieve their potential and thrive.
- The evidence provided in this book helps explain the paradigm shift in school feeding that has occurred over the last ten years and fueled demand-led growth in national programs in rich and poor countries alike.

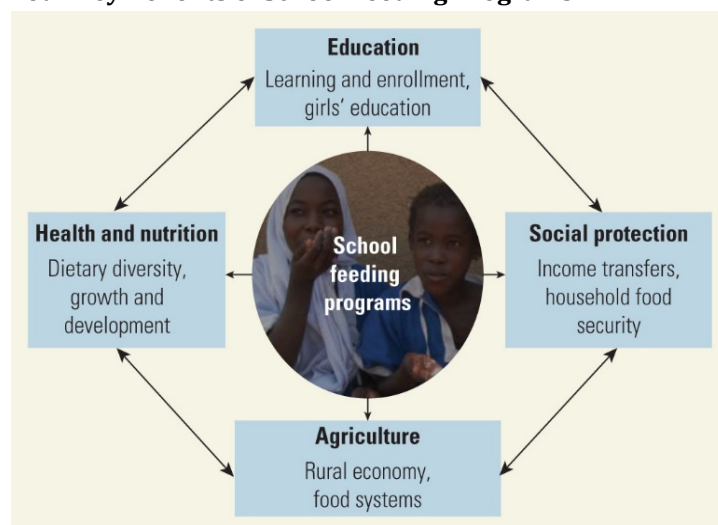
For more information, and to download the full volume, visit www.dcp-3.org/schoolfeeding

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Reimagining school feeding as a cost-effective investment in human capital development and in local economies has resulted in an acceleration in country-led demand for these programs. A school feeding program provides direct benefits for education through increased attendance, especially of girls, and indirect benefits for education modulated via improvements in health that in turn benefit cognition and learning. The programs also improve health and development directly through better quality and quantity of diet. Together, these health and education benefits contribute to human capital development. The programs also provide an investment in local economies, first, as a safety net with a transfer value of about 10% to 15% of income, and second, through the local purchase of food. Together, these benefits add up to a significant return on investment.

Four Key Benefits of School Feeding Programs



“We hope [this edition] will serve as a call to action for a more coordinated effort to tackle food security, education, and health—with the goal of galvanizing support and improving the efficiency and quality of national school feeding programs. Failure could sentence millions of children to lives of poverty and suffering, but success can lead to a more stable, peaceful, prosperous world, where all children have a chance to thrive and reach for their highest aspirations.

Time and time again, our experiences show that health and education are two sides of the same coin, and investing in one requires investment in the other.”

David Beasley

Executive Director, World Food Programme

Jim Yong Kim

President, World Bank Group

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