

Mozambique School Lunch Initiative

December 2017 – Newsletter



Year-end overview
Timeline of key events



Year-end overview

Over the last six months, the Mozambique School Lunch Initiative has made significant strides in serving school lunches to more children, increasing the nutritional impact of those school lunches, and strengthening local agricultural development to improve our sustainability.

School Lunches

In August 2017, a new grant allowed us to launch our school lunch program in an additional school in Chokwe District, serving an additional 400+ children daily nutritious meals. This brings our total to five primary schools and just over 1,000 children served by MSLI. An evaluation by a certified nutritionist found that our school meals provide over 1/3 of a child's weekly energy needs, 50% of their required protein, and many other important micronutrients. The teachers have reported huge increases in school attendance and students that are focusing better in classes.



Students at Duvane School during a visit by the District Education Services.



Students writing an exam at Cumba School (left). School lunches help keep girls coming to school (right).

Partnering with the District Health Services

To complement our school lunch program and increase the nutritional gains for children, in October 2017 we partnered with the Chokwe District Health Services to deliver bi-annual deworming and weekly iron supplementation for the students in the schools served by the Mozambique School Lunch Initiative.



A young girl taking her weekly iron supplement (left). Students receiving deworming pills (right).

Local Agricultural Development

Our school meals include local ingredients such as chicken, beans, and vegetables. In order to increase our sustainability and create additional positive impacts for the local community, we have continued supporting farmer groups in the local community to produce the crops used in the school lunches. This saves the school lunch program money, creates income for farmers, and produces fresh, nutritious food for the children to eat in school.



Weighing kale for the school lunch program (left). Farmers aggregating their bean harvest (right).

Timeline of Key Events

To see how we've evolved since our beginning, check out this timeline of key events.

