

# **The Success Story of Osun Elementary School Feeding and Health Programme (O-MEALS)**

**By  
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**At the  
National Home Grown School Feeding Programme  
Strategy Launch**



**9 June 2016 Banquet Hall, State House, Abuja**

# Home Grown School Feeding & Health Programme in Nigeria - Introduction

- Home Grown School Feeding and Health Programme (HGSFHP) was introduced through the Universal Basic Education (UBE) 2004 Act
- Federal Government of Nigeria in collaboration with New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD), World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF), and other International Development Partners, developed the Home Grown School Feeding and Health Programme (HGSFHP). The programme was launched on Monday 26 September, 2005
- Designed for minimum of one meal a day to each primary school pupil.

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## Home Grown School Feeding & Health Programme in Nigeria – Introduction (2)

- Of the 13 original pilots, the State of Osun is the only state currently implementing the programme
- Osun has since 2012 redesigned and scaled up its programme considerably
- The Osun State HGSHFP, now known as Osun Elementary School Feeding and Health Programme (O-MEALS) commenced as a pilot programme in May 2006

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## Home Grown School Feeding & Health Programme in Nigeria – Introduction (3)

- At inception of the Aregbesola Administration, an education summit chaired by Professor Wole Soyinka was convened.
- A key Summit Objective was to:
  - Critically examine the problems hampering growth and progress and proffer workable solutions
- Some of the recommendations of the summit led the Administration to vigorously pursue:
  - School Infrastructural development
  - Provision of unified school uniform
  - Schools Reclassification
  - **School Feeding Programme transformation**

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# Osun Elementary School Feeding and Health Programme (O-MEALS)

- The Aregbesola administration completely overhauled the programme and officially launched O-MEALS on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2012.
- Implementation in all 1,378 Public Primary Schools till date.
- The State Government endorsed and signed the **Osun Elementary School Feeding Transition Strategy Plan** with representatives of the Board of **Partnership for Child Development (PCD)**, Imperial College, London, on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2012.

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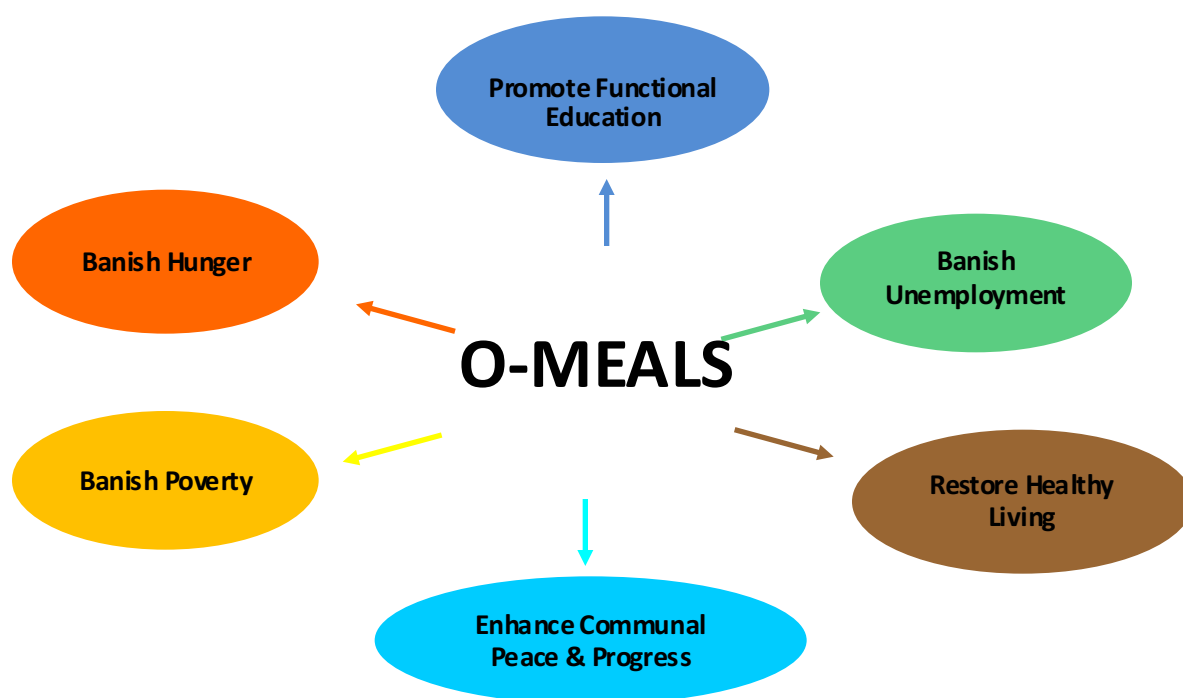


## **Objectives of O-MEALS**

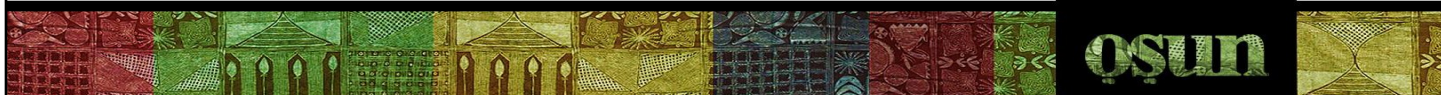
- Increase enrolment and retention of pupils
- Improve nutritional and health status of pupils
- Address specific micronutrient deficiencies in school-age children for better school performance
- Alleviate hunger and malnutrition
- Stimulate job creation, local food production and boost income of local farmers
- Reduce poverty and stimulate development of small and medium scale enterprises



## **O-MEALS relates to every aspect of the Aregbesola Administration's Six-Point Integral Action Plan**



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# **O-MEALS Beneficiaries**

- **Primary beneficiaries**

- Pupils enrolled in grades (primaries) 1-4 of all government-owned (elementary) schools

- **Secondary beneficiaries**

- Food Vendors
- Farmers
- Transporters
- Food produce sellers

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## Lunch Time



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# Implementation of O-MEALS

- **Preliminaries**

- State Government worked with nutritionists in Obafemi Awolowo University for **menu development**
- Food vendors were identified from all LGAs, trained, kitted and empowered to prepare the meals in conducive and hygienic environments
- Food materials are sourced from local farmers associations directly by food vendors

- **Roll-out**

- **Phase I:** April 2012 with feeding of pupils in grades 1, 2, & 3
- **Phase II:** Extended in December 2012 to include pupils in grade 4.

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# O-MEALS Menu

| DAY       | APPROVED MEAL   |
|-----------|---|
| MONDAY    | BREAD + STEW + WHOLE EGG + ORANGE   |
| TUESDAY   | RICE + BEANS + STEW + CHICKEN + ORANGE  |
| WEDNESDAY | YAM + FISH STEW + BANANA  |
| THURSDAY  | RICE + EGUSI garnished with VEGETABLE + CHICKEN + BANANA  |
| FRIDAY    | COCOYAM POTTAGE + VEGETABLE + BEEF + ORANGE   |
|           | <p>*Beans to be served when Yam is off-season</p> <p>**Egbo (maize) with beans to be served when Cocoyam is off-season.</p> |





# Food Vendors Weighing Cocoyam



# O-MEAL Protein Consumption

The table below shows the quantity of animal proteins consumed by pupils through the O-MEALS Programme

| ITEM    | WEEKLY CONSUMPTION               |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| FISH    | 10 metric tonnes consumed weekly |
| CHICKEN | 15,000 birds consumed weekly     |
| EGGS    | 8,400 crates consumed weekly     |
| BEEF    | 35 cows consumed weekly          |

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**A Cattle Ranch**  
(Oloba Cattle Hub)



**A Catfish Farm**  
(Kayolad Fish farm,  
Okuku)

## Engagement of Food Vendors

- 3,007 food vendors engaged and provided with a one-off soft loan for procurement of cooking utensils. Loan already re-paid
- For transparency, funds are transferred directly into the accounts of food vendors and other contractors by approved mandate.
- This is done to curb leakages of funds (intentional or inadvertent)
- Funds are received in advance for preparation of meals for school pupils 2 weeks (10 school-days) ahead.
- Funds are allocated in proportion to the number of pupils fed.
- Food transportation allowance (N1,000) is paid weekly.

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# Funding of O-MEALS

## Yearly Contribution to O-MEALS BUDGET (For School Meals at N50 per pupil daily)

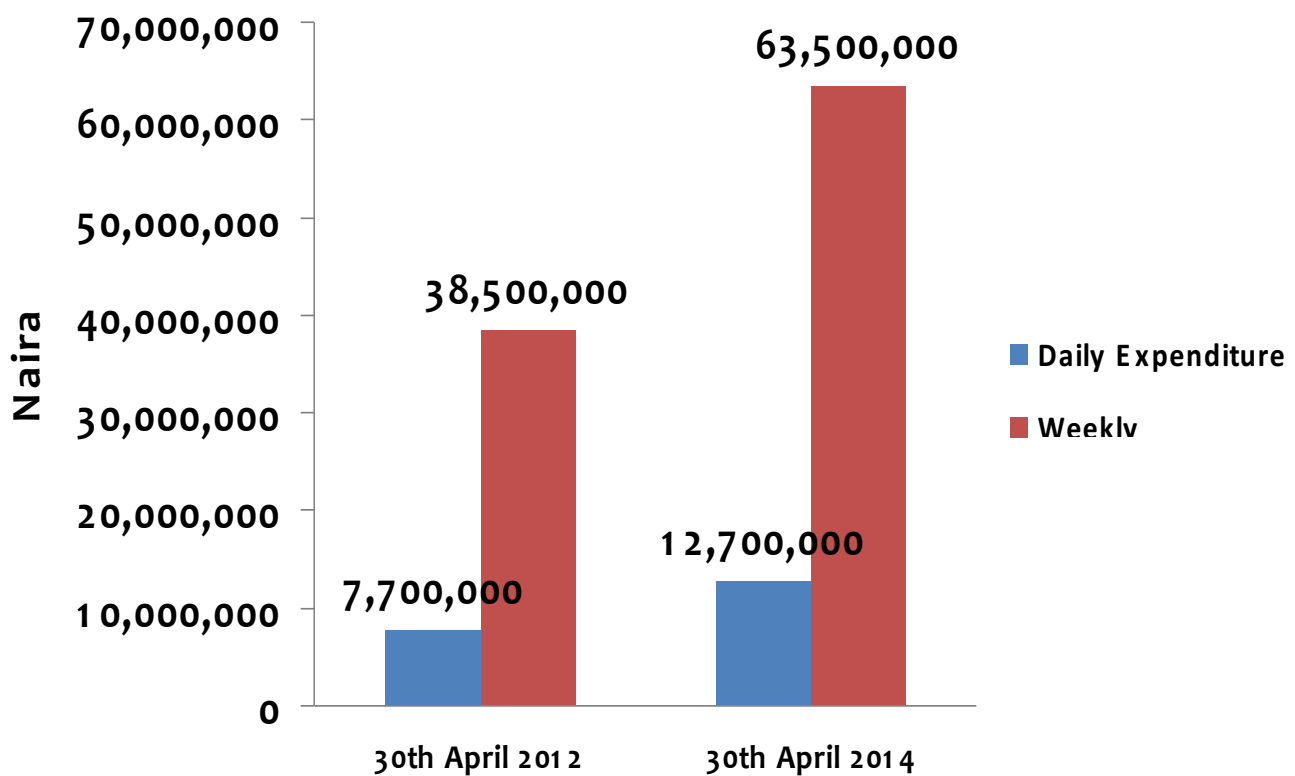
|                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| STATE GOVERNMENT    | 40% (N 1.21 billion)  |
| LOCAL GOVT COUNCILS | 60% (N 1.812 billion) |
| TOTAL               | 100% (N 3.21 billion) |

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# Comparative Expenditure



# Monitoring of O-MEALS

- **At State level -**

Steering and Monitoring Committee members:

- Ministries
- Retired civil servants
- NGOs
- Parent Teachers Association
- Community leaders

- **At Zonal level** – Inspectors drawn from incumbent education officers monitor the LGA level.

- **At LGA level** – **Officers of SUBEB and MoE** responsible for carrying out implementation logistics and acting as liaison between the O-MEALS Office and the food vendors.



## Effect of O-MEALS Programme on School Enrolment

- Between April and November 2012, school enrolment of pupils in grades 1, 2, & 3 **increased by 25%** (from 155,318 pupils to 194,253 pupils)

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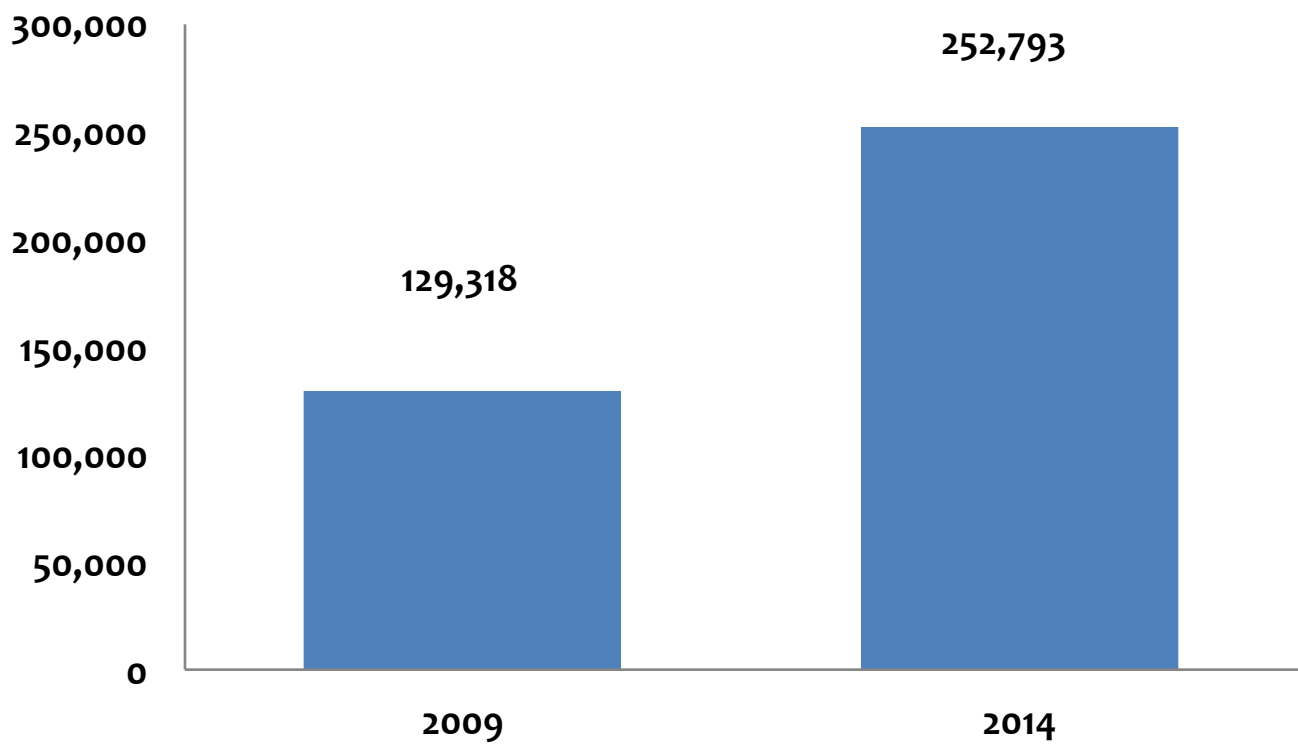
# **O-MEALS Expansion**

- Grade 4 pupils included in O-MEALS in 2012/2013 school year
- Beneficiary pupils rose to 252,793

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## Number of Pupils Fed Daily



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**OSUN**

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# Socio-economic Impact

- Low incidence of absenteeism
- Increased enrolment in elementary schools by about 40%
- **Osun** now has the highest rate of primary school enrolment in Nigeria - **National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)**
- Improved pupil attention span
- Better health status of pupils. Drastic reduction of incidence of malnutrition amongst school children, contributing to fulfilling Goal 2 of UN MDGs [*Achieve Universal Primary Education*]
- Reduced incidence of child labour on market days, seasonal farm harvests, etc.

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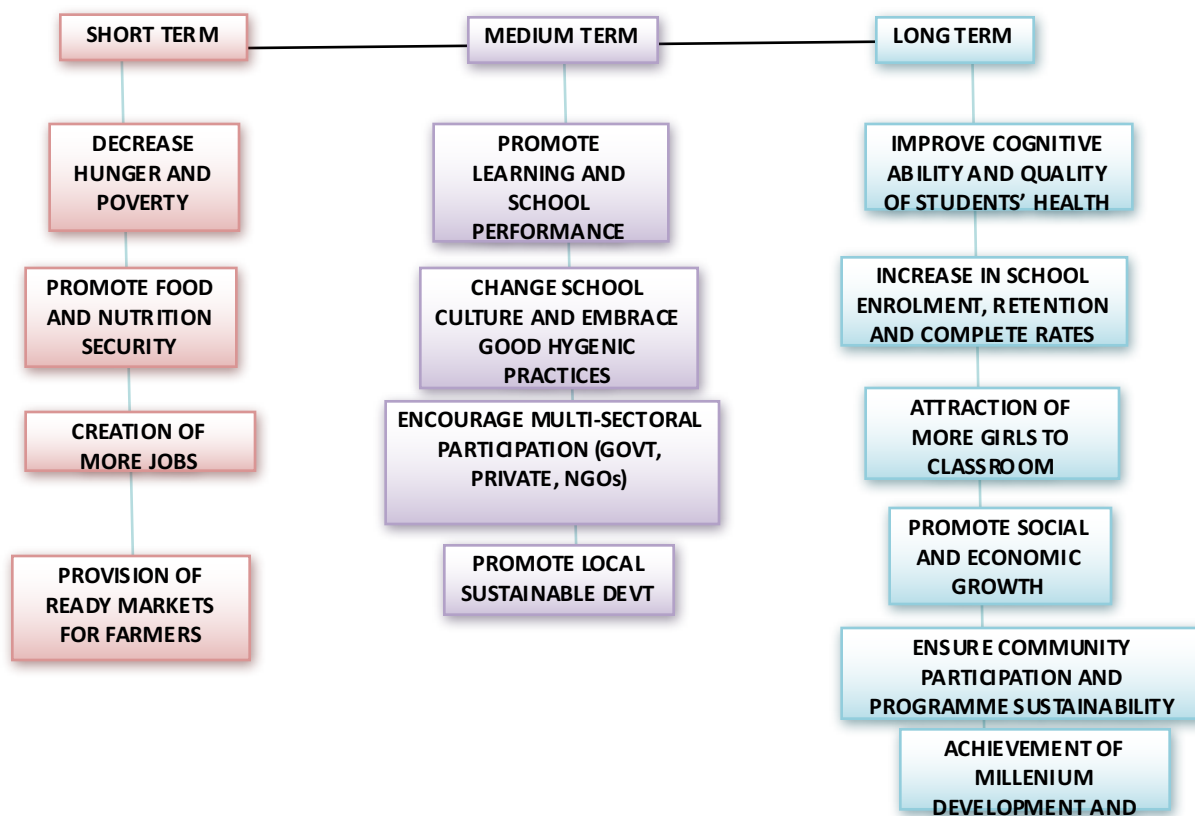


## Socio-economic Impact (2)

- Increased income of smallholder farmers in different commodity sectors.
- Improved production capacity of farmers and suppliers of farm produce. Guarantee of local demand (**OBOPS, OFOPS**)
- Rapid economic empowerment of 3,007 women who were initially unemployed, among whom are widows (contribution towards achieving Goals 1 and 3 of MDGs, i.e. *eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; promote gender equality and empower women*)
- Empowerment of over 900 cocoyam farmers with cocoyam seedlings
- Improved commercial activities for farmers through direct purchase of their produce



# Summary of Outcomes





# Challenges

- Funding
- Political Will for sustainability after the present regime

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# Next Steps

- Explore opportunities for increased funding
- Increase capacity for programme monitoring
- Improve food supply logistics

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# **Thank You for Your Attention**

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