



mary's
meals

a simple solution
to world hunger

Mary's Meals

Portfolio report to Fondation Eagle
December 2017



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We continue to be encouraged by the wonderful support of Fondation Eagle for our vital work. Thanks to your kindness, many thousands of impoverished children are receiving a nutritious meal in a place of education every school day. We greatly value your continued partnership.

We are pleased to present this annual portfolio report to provide an update from your sponsored schools in Malawi and Zambia. Recent photographs and quotes from children, teachers and volunteers at the schools are included. We also include information on the developments in the wider work of Mary's Meals throughout the world.

Mary's Meals continues to make an impressive and sustained impact, bringing measurable change and increasing access, engagement and progression within primary education.

Reaching out to include many more hungry children around the world

Mary's Meals is now providing a nutritious meal every school day to a total of 1,230,171 impoverished children in 15 countries. The great majority of children receiving Mary's Meals live in sub-Saharan Africa – particularly in Malawi, Liberia and Zambia – but we also work in Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and the Caribbean.

Supporting children throughout a severe food crisis in Malawi: In Malawi, where we are now supporting more than 928,000 children in the country every school day, Mary's Meals' school feeding programme played a vital role in the provision of humanitarian assistance during the largest food insecurity crisis in more than a decade. More than 6.5 million people – half the rural population, were affected across huge areas, particularly in southern and central Malawi.



Our programme acted as a social safety net for families living in extreme poverty, particularly during the height of the crisis in February and March this year, and provided a powerful incentive to attract children into the classroom. Thankfully, reports from this year's maize harvest in Malawi are very positive, with local food security improving across the country.

Successful expansions in Zambia: Mary's Meals continues to make good progress with our core vision - that every child receives one daily meal in their place of education and that all those who have more than they need, share with those who lack even the most basic things. During the past year we successfully completed a series of expansions of our programme to reach more children within schools in the Chipata and Mambwe districts of Zambia's Eastern Province.

By directly addressing chronic hunger among children, Mary's Meals is making a significant contribution to improve wellbeing and to draw children into the classroom. We are currently conducting quasi-experimental impact assessment research in Malawi, Liberia and Zambia that is providing robust, independently verified evidence to demonstrate that our work is bringing measurable change and is increasing access, participation and progression within primary education.

For example, our research in Zambia found that almost all children (99%) said they have more energy after eating their meal at school. Two years after the introduction of the school feeding programme, 88% of teachers said that fewer children in the local community are out of school and all the teachers we spoke with said that children are more able to concentrate in class.



Meals are provided free of charge to every child enrolled in the schools we serve. This has an enormous impact in enabling marginalised children to attend school.



Celebrating one billion meals: In October, we celebrated the remarkable achievement of serving our billionth meal, a dish of vegetable curry and rice, to 12-year-old Mohsin at an informal education centre in Noida, India. He and his classmates marked the joyful occasion with dancing and songs.



Mohsin, pictured in the photograph on the left, relies on Mary's Meals for his guaranteed daily meal. He says: "From the food, we get strength. It's like life comes back to my body."

Working in close collaboration with our delivery partner, BREAD, Mary's Meals is currently supporting more than 19,900 vulnerable and marginalised children in 68 places of education across India, a country which is home to one-third of the world's poorest people.

With the help of many local volunteers, our programme in India provides a powerful incentive which encourages children, particularly girls, to attend school regularly, providing them with a safe place to learn and play.

A new beginning in Ethiopia: In October, we were proud to launch our newest school feeding programme in the Tigray region of northern Ethiopia. Prompted by crisis levels of food insecurity caused by prolonged droughts, Mary's Meals is currently providing a nutritious meal to more than 1,500 chronically hungry children in three schools. Our programme in Ethiopia is being delivered in collaboration with our partners, Daughters of Charity Tigray.

The children in the photograph on the right, from Barka Primary School, are among the very first in Ethiopia to receive Mary's Meals.

At this school, the playground at lunch time now looks and sounds the way a playground should, with happy children eating a nutritious meal. We hope to expand the programme to reach a total of 5,700 children in ten schools in Tigray next year.



A vital lifeline for children in South Sudan: At the beginning of this year, we became aware of the heart-breaking plight of desperately hungry children in South Sudan, where many are on the brink of starvation due to conflict and famine. The ongoing civil war is disrupting livelihoods, affecting food production, and has resulted in a humanitarian catastrophe.

Mary's Meals is currently the only active NGO providing a consistent school feeding programme in South Sudan and our work is providing a vital lifeline for vulnerable children in desperate need of nourishment. Amid this terrible situation, Mary's Meals is delivering real hope through the outstanding work of our partner, the Diocese of Rumbek. The provision of school meals is playing a vital role in keeping schools open when so many others are closing. School feeding is not only helping to tackle malnutrition but is also drawing children into school where they can gain a sense of normality.



Mary's Meals' school feeding programme is providing a nourishing meal to more than 18,000 children in 33 schools in South Sudan. Over recent months we have been able to expand our work to reach other schools and we are also serving meals during school vacation periods, providing continuous support.

Moses Kopurot Kenyi, the education coordinator with the Diocese of Rumbek says: "I know that without Mary's Meals, there would be no hope for thousands of children in this region."

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, Mary's Meals continues to make great progress with our life-changing vision – that every child receives one daily meal in their place of education.



Reports from the schools supported by Fondation Eagle

In this section of our report, we provide recent information from schools where Fondation Eagle has sponsored kitchen shelters in recent years. The table below gives information on your funding received since 2013 together with the reporting status of each grant.

Fondation Eagle funding						
School group	Date funding received	Amount received	Your Ref.	Country	Details	Reporting status
Group 4	January 2013	£30,815	-	Malawi	5 kitchens in four districts	Final year
Group 5	July 2013	£33,694	-	Malawi	5 kitchens in Balaka district	Final year
Group 6	August 2014	£48,172	308	Malawi	7 kitchens in Karonga district	Current
Group 7	July 2015	£34,784	351	Malawi	7 kitchens in Machinga district	Current
Group 8	June 2016	£59,166	382	Malawi	20 kitchens in Mwanza district	Current
Group 9	July 2017	£62,049	422/019	Zambia	10 kitchens in Chipata district	Current

This report includes information from the schools in groups 4 to 9. We understand that all reporting requirements have been met for schools in groups 1, 2 and 3 and therefore information from these groups has not been provided.

We have included photographs from some of the schools in Malawi and Zambia in this section, together with quotes from children, volunteers and teachers. Current enrolment numbers for each school are also provided.

Malawi

Group 4					
Funding awarded January 2013 £30,815 for school kitchens in four districts, Malawi					
School name	Total pupils at last report	Current enrolment boys	Current enrolment girls	Total current enrolment	Percentage change
Pheleni	813	338	359	697	- 14%
Chiyendausiku	1,562	846	768	1,614	3%
Chizungulire	422	222	199	421	0
Kanje	643	327	274	601	- 6%
Tunthama	1,290	695	720	1,415	10%
TOTALS	4,730	2,428	2,320	4,748	4%

Group 5					
Funding awarded July 2013 £33,694 for school kitchens in Balaka district, Malawi					
School name	Total pupils at last report	Current enrolment boys	Current enrolment girls	Total current enrolment	Percentage change
Kankao	1,368	750	642	1,392	2%
Rivirivi	1,464	667	698	1,365	- 7%
Nsaluzawana	1,203	549	594	1,143	- 5%
Mseche	1,154	594	615	1,209	5%
Chidalala	1,310	726	736	1,462	12%
TOTALS	6,499	3,286	3,285	6,571	1%



Group 6

Funding awarded August 2014 £48,172 for school kitchens in Karonga district, Malawi

School name	Total pupils at last report	Current enrolment boys	Current enrolment girls	Total current enrolment	Percentage change
Tumbi	260	149	120	269	3%
Old Mission	732	404	387	791	8%
Chipake	483	260	266	526	9%
Chilambiro	624	310	317	627	0
Demonstration	631	302	300	602	- 5%
Kasindile	1,326	696	668	1,364	3%
Masoko	869	422	378	800	- 8%
TOTALS	4,925	2,543	2,436	4,979	1%

Group 7

Funding awarded July 2015 £34,784 for school kitchens in Machinga district, Malawi

School name	Total pupils at last report	Current enrolment boys	Current enrolment girls	Total current enrolment	Percentage change
Chikala 1	1,587	824	875	1,699	7%
Chilimba	1,630	699	761	1,460	- 10%
Lingamasa	1,129	572	583	1,155	2%
Lingoni	632	318	340	658	4%
Madziamera	1,795	918	1,023	1,936	8%
Matanda	1,302	621	619	1,240	- 5%
Shukurani	332	140	157	297	- 10%
	8,407	4,087	4,358	8,445	0

Group 8

Funding awarded June 2016 £59,166 for school kitchens in Mwanza district, Malawi

School name	Total pupils at last report	Current enrolment boys	Current enrolment girls	Total current enrolment	Percentage change
Chidoole	1,021	495	528	1,023	0
Chikudzu	326	165	166	331	1%
Ching'ombe	544	226	246	472	- 13%
Chitapule	216	130	109	239	11%
Chizumbi	918	452	500	952	4%
Fumbe	667	224	224	448	- 33%
Futsa	1,304	377	432	809	- 38%
Kachere	497	223	218	441	- 11%
Kadole	936	445	458	903	- 4%
Kanjedza	818	357	468	825	1%
Kapphirikamodzi	401	193	199	392	- 2%
Maye	808	490	468	958	19%
Mkantho	605	262	298	560	- 7%
Michiru	623	234	248	482	23%
Mphingwe	1,031	483	579	1,062	3%
Mtsamika	679	304	301	605	- 11%
Mwembedzi	1,235	637	670	1,307	6%
Namisi	533	219	171	390	- 27%
Nthomba	200	103	79	182	- 9%
Thetula	374	190	182	372	0
TOTALS	13,736	6,209	6,544	12,753	- 7%



We spoke to staff, volunteers and pupils at **Chikudzu Primary School** (pictured) who told us of the tremendous impact the project is having for children there. The Headteacher, Jerome Kalimbuka, told us: "Learners attend classes regularly compared to when there was no porridge, they stay in class because they get full after eating porridge therefore they pass well", and Annie Bandala, a volunteer cook told us: "Porridge has brought a lot of wonders at this school, children are happy to come to school because of the motivation from eating porridge, I am happy to cook for them".



Emmanuel Ben is 16 years old and is now in third grade at Chikudzu Primary School. He told us: "I would like to become a Teacher and I love learning Mathematics and English. School is important because it helps people to get rich in future after learning well and getting good paying jobs. I walk for about four kilometres from my home to school because I want to be a Teacher one day and for me to learn and listen in class I eat porridge every day at school.

Feckner Mkwapatira, Head Teacher at **Ching'ombe Primary School** told us: "School has become interesting for learners as they get motivated with porridge, they come with the heart to learn because they eat porridge." Mr Mkwapatira also told us that he has seen an improvement in children's participation in netball and football activities since the programme began. This echoes the findings from our impact assessment research in Malawi, which found that teachers reported a significant increase in children playing active games or sports after school once Mary's Meals began feeding.



James Kamleka, a 13-year-old, grade six pupil at Ching'ombe Primary School said: "I like learning English and I would like to become a Doctor, I got position 12 out of 72 learners in my class. Porridge has Vitamins that help me to have strength for learning, it is my favourite food. School is important and I will finish school to become a Doctor, I will not drop out.



Your support is also having a great impact for children at **Chitapule Primary School** (pictured right and below). Alickado Dinesi, Head Teacher, told us: "The attendance of learners is good because of the porridge that they eat here, it really helps children not to be hungry."

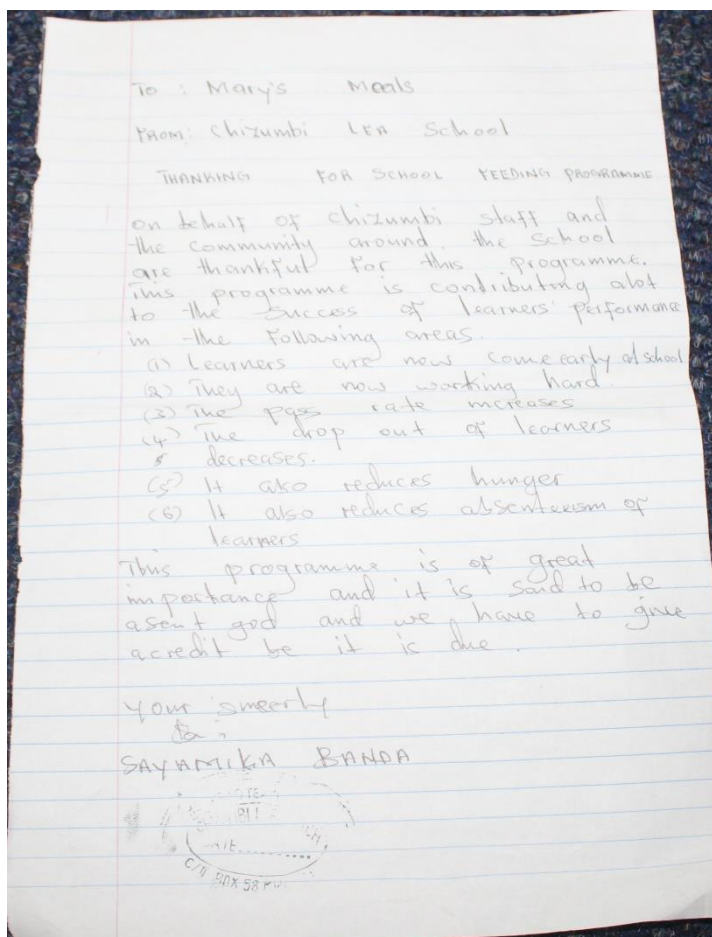
Our research in Malawi found that 96% of teachers said that children's attendance at school had improved since the Mary's Meals programme started at their school, and this result was consistent after both one year and two years.



Spiwe Chizombo is eight years old and in grade three at Chitapule Primary School, she says: "I like learning Mathematics and I would like to become a Teacher. Porridge is delicious, it gives me Nutrients to be healthy. I would like to get selected to Mwanza Secondary School."

The Headteacher at **Chizumbi Primary School** gave us this letter about the Mary's Meals project in their school, also telling us: "I teach children because they are tomorrow's future, when they get educated they would become professional and help their community. Porridge motivates a lot of children to come to school and work hard"

AS you know, the sentiments in the letter are consistent with the message we receive again and again about the impact of our programme at schools in Malawi.





Maggie Chaganda is a volunteer cook at Chizumbi Primary School. She says: "I am a Committee member for the feeding programme and I come to cook with 11 other ladies so that children learn without hunger and stay in school to pass as in future, they will get good jobs and develop our area."

Kings Sizaliyo Mwendetsa, is 13 years old and in seventh Grade at Chizumbi Primary School. He says:

"I would like to become a Doctor when I finish school and I like to learn Mathematics, English and Science. School is important because when one gets educated they get good jobs and get good money as salary. Porridge is my food, I come without eating anything from home and when I eat porridge I feel good, I am never hungry until later"



Magdalene Ignassio, is nine years old and in third grade. She says:

"I love learning Mathematics, Chichewa and English, I aspire to become a Nurse. School is important because it teaches me how to write. Porridge is important because I get full when I eat, I learn without feeling weak and I pass in class."



Group 9

Funding awarded July 2017 £62,049 for school kitchens in Chipata district, Zambia

School name	Total pupils at May 2017	Current enrolment boys	Current enrolment girls	Total current enrolment	Percentage change
Chalumbe	856	467	402	869	2%
Chamasongwe	473	223	243	466	- 1%
Chisitu	1,094	528	542	1,070	- 2%
Dambe	649	383	374	757	17%
Katandala	812	411	440	851	5%
Mburwe	344	170	172	342	0
Mchenja	826	423	432	855	4%
Mtewe	795	405	405	810	2%
Ngónzi	224	85	85	170	- 24%
Nsanjika	1,161	581	645	1,226	6%
TOTALS	7,234	3,676	3,740	7,416	3%

Many teachers tell us of the wonderful transformations they have seen in their pupils since they began to receive Mary's Meals – they are happier, pay more attention in class and can concentrate longer.



One of the schools included in group 9 is Chisitu Primary School in Chipata district. When we spoke with the head teacher there, Mrs Sinbogani (pictured on the left), she told us: "Ever since Mary's Meals began feeding at the school, absenteeism has reduced dramatically and the school enrolment figure has doubled. We have more students who are hungry to learn. Mary's Meals is feeding that hunger so they can grow to be healthy, independent and intellectual individuals."

By enabling children to enrol and actively engage in school, our programme supports them as they progress through the grades and ultimately complete their primary education.

Thank you so much

On behalf of all the children, thank you so much for your continuing support.