

UDN HOSTS MEDIA BRIEFING TO HIGHLIGHT NATIONWIDE SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION



Today Uganda Debt Network (UDN), in collaboration with the Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG) and other stakeholders, hosted a media briefing to spotlight the government's groundbreaking decision to implement a Nationwide School Feeding Program by 2026. The initiative, championed by the Ministry of Education and Sports, is seen as a transformative milestone for Uganda's education system and community development.

Uganda Debt Network (UDN) applauds the recent announcement by the Minister of Education and Sports on the implementation of a nationwide school feeding program 2026. This landmark decision reflects the government's dedication to addressing SDG 2 of Zero hunger and enhancing learning outcomes for Uganda's children. The initiative marks a significant achievement for UDN and partners such as Save the Children, who have tirelessly advocated for this policy to become a reality.

A study conducted by the World Bank indicated that school feeding has the potential to enhance school enrollment by up to 29% in Uganda. Today, over 64% of school-going children in Uganda are estimated to spend a day without food which compromises their

ability to effectively participate in school programs. The delay in passing the National School Feeding Policy and failure to enforce feeding regulations has worsened the situation

CSOs Recommendations



Addressing Challenges

While the nationwide school feeding program is a promising initiative, several challenges must be addressed to ensure success. Corruption and misuse of funds pose significant risks, making it essential to implement transparent financial processes and conduct independent audits. Infrastructure deficits, including the lack of kitchens and storage facilities, could also hinder implementation. Effective collaboration among ministries, local governments, and partners is vital to avoid duplication of efforts and ensure smooth coordination.

Conclusion

The Uganda Debt Network thanks the government of Uganda for making school feeding a national priority. This program is not just an investment in education but a commitment to the holistic development of Uganda's children and communities. It builds upon existing frameworks such as the National Development Plan IV and Sustainable Development Goals, emphasizing inclusiveness, gender responsiveness, and human capital development. Together, we can create a future where no child in Uganda learns on an empty stomach. Let this milestone inspire us to achieve even greater strides in education and development.

UDN appreciates support by: UDN Membership; [DCA](#); [Save the Children in Uganda](#); [OSIEA](#), [Inspectorate of Government](#); [IBP](#), [UNICEF](#); [Bill and Gates Foundation](#) and [NDI](#).

EDITORIAL TEAM:

Gilbert Musinguzi- gsuminguzi@udn.or.ug; Ishimimaana Jenice- communications@udn.or.ug

Please visit/ talk to us at; Uganda Debt Network ,

P.O. Box 21509, Kampala -Uganda,

Plot 153/155 Ntinda—Nakawa Road , Tel +256-414-533840/543974

Website: www.udn.or.ug

