

**SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM IN INDONESIA**  
**(School Feeding Program Experienced in East Java Province)**

**Present in Global Child Nutrition**  
**Los Angeles, California, USA, July 12 – 20, 2005**

**Introduction**

Indonesia is committed to achieve the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for development and poverty eradication. This strong commitment is demonstrated by on-going efforts on the reduction of malnourished children and maternal morbidity and mortality in the development of health sector, as stated in the National Development Program (Propenas).

Indonesia is world largest archipelago with area around 1, 9 million km<sup>2</sup>, and has more than 18.000 islands, divided into 33 provinces, 440 districts, 5117 sub-districts and 72.000 villages. The total population in Indonesia is estimated at 219.9 million in 2005, an increase of 41% from the 1971 census. The proportion of adult population (15-49 years old) is 55% and of children 0-4 years old 8.9%. Over 90 million (42%) of population live in urban areas. With an annual growth of 1.3%, the total population is estimated to reach 280 million by 2025.

Composition of Indonesian population base on age group, shows:

- Children population (0-14 years old): 29,57%
- Productive age population (15-64 years old): 65,90%
- Elderly population (>65 years old): 4,53%

**Health Status.**

- Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) is 35 per 1.000 live births.
- Under 5 years Mortality Rate (U5MR) is 46 per 1.000 live births.
- Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) is 307 per 100.000 live births.
- Crude Death Rate (CDR) is 7, 4 per 1.000 population.
- Life Expectancy is 66, 2 year old.

- Nutritional Status is one of the indicators that shows people's welfare, following are the data: Low Birth Weight Infant is 7,6% and in under 5 years population 19,19% of them are undernourished according to Susenas 2003.

The year 2005 is marked with the increasing reported severe malnutrition cases across the country. It is estimated that 8.3% of children < 5 years old are severely malnourished.

### **School Feeding Program Experience**

In 2001, the government of Indonesia launched the school feeding program for elementary school student, its called " Pemberian Makanan Tambahan pada Anak Sekolah (PMT-AS). By that time the school feeding program focused on eastern Indonesia. Previously the budget comes from the National Budget, but at present, on Decentralization Era, the budget shares between Central Government and Local Government Unit (Province and District), and some district, collaborates with International Non Government Organization (NGO) such as World Food Program (WFP) and UNICEF.

With the support from World Food Program (WFP), Indonesia is implementing a pilot project for improving the micronutrient status of children <5 years old, pregnant women and lactating mothers as well as school feeding program for the children through distribution of biscuits and dried noodles. Biscuits and dried noodles are fortified with 9 vitamins (vitamin A, B1, B2, B6, B12, D, E, niacin and folic acid) and 4 minerals (iron, zinc, iodine and calcium).

### **General objective of school feeding program :**

Improvement of physical stability among the school children as part of health and nutrition improvement program, so it can increase the quality of study as well as nine years basic education program.

**Specific objective of school feeding program :**

1. Improvement of school attendance among the school children.
2. Improvement the physical stability among the school children.
3. Socialization of local food preferred as well as " I Love Indonesian Food ".
4. Improvement of healthy life and healthy eat.
5. Improvement of community participation to provide diversified food based on local food.
6. Improvement of community participation on health and nutrition education and also family welfare.

**Basic principle of school feeding program :**

1. Use local food produced by one of the family or food vendors.
2. Content of calorie 300 kcal and protein 5 gram or minimal 15 % from total calorie per day.
3. As a snack and not full meal, and given around 9 – 10 am, during break time.
4. School feeding program to be given combined with health and nutrition education in the same time and also de-worming tablet.
5. Assessment of nutritional status , before and after school feeding program is needed to know the impact of school feeding program and can do periodically (monthly based).

**Lessons learned from school feeding program :**

1. Since 2006, particularly in East Java Province, the government policy of school feeding program under responsible by district government, the Province Government only support the school feeding program, and its call "Milk Drinking Program" 3 times a week for elementary school.
2. Some of the beneficiaries like if the school feeding program as a breakfast, so they prefer full meal not as a snack, particularly in the rural area, which they never have a breakfast before go to school.

3. School feeding program can increase the school attendance among the children, particularly in the rural area.
4. During school feeding program, de-worming tablets should be given in the same time, as part of Health School Effort, how to reduce the worm infection among school children.
5. To achieve the program, the role of teacher is very important to give a health and nutrition education, so it is needed the training for the teacher about health and nutrition.
6. Nutritional status assessment among school children should be done before and after school feeding program, its important to know, how the school feeding program can increase the nutritional status among school children.
7. All expertise in school feeding program, comes from Local Government Official particularly from Health Office, Community, University, NGO, Community Empowerment Board of Local Government, Family Welfare Movement (PK) member, Health and Nutrition Worker, under supervise by Ministry of Health and Ministry of Internal Affairs of Indonesia.
8. Monitoring and evaluation of school feeding program must be done regularly, due to know the successful and threat of school feeding program.
9. In Decentralization Era, the sustainability of school feeding program requires strong political support at every level of administration, start from village up to the provincial level, so it is needed advocacy and socialization to the stakeholders – including the legislative bodies - about the importance of school feeding program related to prevent malnutrition among school children.