Overview

Since 2010, Project Concern International (PCI), a Global Communities Partner, has implemented integrated school feeding programs in Tanzania with funding from USDA’s McGovern–Dole International Food for Education (FFE) and Child Nutrition (McGovern–Dole) program. In 2016, PCI began the third phase of its McGovern–Dole project, called FFE III, which continues to be implemented with the Government of Tanzania’s Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST), Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children (MoHCDGEC), President’s Office, Regional and Local Government (PORALG), and other Government of Tanzania (GoT) ministries at all levels. Over the life of the project, FFE III will provide 4,560 metric tons (MT) of USDA–donated commodities – rice, beans, vegetable oil – for daily school meals, benefitting 265,938 preschool and primary school students from 231 schools within three districts in the Mara Region.

“With or without PCI, our school feeding program in the Mara Region must continue to be implemented and it will be our main agenda in the region.”
—Adam Malima, Mara Regional Commissioner, addressing the Regional Consultative Council

Objectives & Key Activities

- **Improved literacy of school-aged children** by promoting teacher attendance; recognizing high-performing teachers; distributing school supplies (i.e., materials for “talking walls”); training teachers on improved literacy teaching and learning methods; establishing teachers’ communities of practice for peer learning and support; strengthening capacity of school administrators and government officials in supportive monitoring; conducting education and reading promotion (i.e., reading competitions); establishing school libraries and reading corners; and providing nutritious school meals.

- **Increased use of health, nutrition, and dietary practices** by establishing school demonstration gardens and farms; rehabilitating/constructing school infrastructure (i.e., latrines, handwashing stations, water systems); strengthening capacity of teachers and government officials to conduct school health screenings; training teachers on promotion of health, nutrition, and hygiene messaging through school health clubs; equipping teachers and cooks with safe food preparation and storage practices; and providing technical assistance to the MoHCDGEC to develop and operationalize the National School Health Guide based on FFE III’s school health club model.

- **Sustained impact and transition to a community-led school feeding program** by empowering schools, communities, and local government to gradually take ownership of key responsibilities; supporting the MoEST to develop Tanzania’s first National School Feeding Guideline based on FFE III’s community-led school feeding model; supporting the development of the Mara Regional School Feeding Strategy; developing partnerships between schools, farmer groups, Women Empowerment savings and loan groups, parents, and other community members to contribute to school feeding; linking schools and farmer groups with private sector companies; measuring schools’ sustainability readiness; and facilitating school sustainability action planning.