

# Tiger Brands Foundation celebrates serving up 100m meals to learners

The Tiger Brands Foundation (TBF) is celebrating serving its 100th million in-school meal this December, achieving this milestone in about a decade since launching its in-school breakfast programme.



Source: [Pexels](#)

The programme complements the daily lunch provided by the Department of Basic Education as part of the National Schools Nutrition Programme (NSNP), ensuring that the country's most vulnerable learners have access to a nutritious meal on a daily basis.

The operations manager, Karl Muller, notes that the breakfast programme now reaches 104 schools across all nine provinces in South Africa and provides nutrition to over 79,593 learners per day, with a total of 83,897 beneficiaries. The Tiger Brands Foundation was established in 2010 and started serving in-school breakfasts in 2011.

Muller commented: "Firstly, reaching 100 million meals served is a phenomenal achievement and I would like to thank and congratulate everyone involved in reaching this milestone for their hard work, dedication and professionalism. I can safely say that we are making a difference," says Muller.



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22 Dec 2021



## Covid-19 delay

Prior to the outbreak of the pandemic, the foundation had projected that it would reach 100 million in May this year, however, it is now on target for reaching this number in December 2021. He explains that the speed with which the last 50 million meals were served is proof that the foundation has worked tirelessly to streamline the programme, boosting

efficiencies and improving processes to ensure that vulnerable learners have access to good nutrition.

One of the main drivers for the establishment of the Tiger Brands Foundation was to offer support to previously disadvantaged communities that struggle with perpetual poverty. The Foundation aims to make a noticeable socio-economic impact in these communities by ensuring that learners have access to good nutrition.

“Many young learners in South Africa are exposed to multiple risks, including malnutrition, poverty, poor health and poorly stimulating home environments that could be detrimental to their cognitive, motor and socio-emotional development. The Foundation's mandate is to facilitate economic transformation in South Africa through improving learner health and education outcomes,” says Muller.



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23 Dec 2021



## Other initiatives

The foundation also supports education through building nutrition centers, thought leadership activities, research and capacity building. Since its inception, it has also built 44 new kitchens at schools and refurbished a further 11 to ensure that meals can be prepared in a more hygienic environment.

The total number of kitchen constructions that the foundation has facilitated for its stakeholder partners is eight, with two of those being refurbishments. The foundation has also facilitated the replacement of 199 pit latrines at schools with cistern toilets.

The foundation has distributed a total of 129,560 food hampers since 2011, with 75,273 distributed up to 2019 and another 54,287 Covid-19 food hampers handed out from April 2020 to date (4 729 of these were donated by sponsors).

In addition to these initiatives, the foundation started food handler training in 2017 and has since conducted 10 food handling courses, across all nine provinces, training a total of 446 food handlers and 39 monitors.

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