# STRATEGY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHOOL SCHEME IN GERMANY. FROM 2017/2018 TO 2022/2023 SCHOOL YEAR REGION: BERLIN AND BRANDENBURG

DATE: 30.06.2017, AMENDED ON 01.03.2018 AND ON 28.08.2019 (STRATEGY FOR BERLIN AND FOR BRANDENBURG, RESPECTIVELY), MOST RECENTLY AMENDED ON 25.09.2020





**Federal State/Region:** 

Berlin and Brandenburg

Amendment of the strategy from the:

25.09.2020

Main content and *iustification* for the amendments:

Regarding agriculture and rural development, the federal states of Berlin and Brandenburg form a region with close interrelations, especially among agricultural production and sales of agricultural products. Since the start of the EU school scheme, both federal states have been taking part in the school milk component. However, they already form a common delivery region. With the transfer of administrative organisation of the EU school scheme component school milk from Berlin to Brandenburg based on an agricultural treaty ("Landwirtschaftsstaatsvertrag") in 2003, and recently again in 2020, the administrative procedures to implement these subjects have been harmonised. Now the opportunity to formally form a joint funding region as was opened up with the letter of the EU commission of 07.07.2020 (Ref. Ares (2020) 3562472) shall be used.

This joint funding region shall simplify the administrative procedures for authorities and stakeholders (administration, suppliers) and also enable optimal use of EU funds for the region of Berlin/Brandenburg. Region specific differences, concerning accompanying educational measures, will be considered and implemented adequately.

The previous strategies of Berlin and Brandenburg are unified with the beginning of school year 2020/2021. Differences will remain at least partially regarding the accompanying educational measures. These differences are made clear in the relevant paragraphs of the common strategy. Moreover, some minor editorial changes were

made to keep the strategy up-to-date.

Involvement of authorities and stakeholders in this amendment (see paragraph 7.7 of the Strategy):

- Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Climate Protection of the State of Brandenburg
- Berlin Senate Department for Justice, Consumer Protection and Antidiscrimination
- Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport of the State of Brandenburg

- Berlin Senate Department for Education, Youth and Family
- Federal Office for Rural Development, Agriculture and Reorganisation of Land
- School milk suppliers

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# 1. ADMINISTRATIVE LEVEL

Article 23(8) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 as amended by Regulation (EU) 2016/791 (hereafter, the basic act) and Article 2(1)a of the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/39 (hereafter, implementing regulation)

National	
Regional	1) In Germany, 15 of the 16 Federal States are participating in either one or both components of the EU school scheme from the 2017/2018 school year onwards.  In addition to the provisions of European law, the German Act for the Implementation of Provisions of Union Law on the
	School Fruit, Vegetables and Milk Scheme (Agricultural products - School Scheme Act - LwErzgSchulproG) and the Regulation Implementing Participation by the Federal States in the School Agricultural Product Scheme (Agricultural products - School scheme - Participation Regulation - LwErzgSchulpro - TeilnV) have been adopted as a legal basis for the participation of Federal States and coordination of the EU school scheme in Germany.
	Regular meetings of experts are also held at Federal and State level under the chairmanship of the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture to clarify issues over the implementation and performance of the EU School Scheme and ensure that information is shared between Federal States.
	The Federal States submit their regional strategies to the EU Commission via the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture.
	2) Central contact for relations with the Commission: Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture Department 212 - Nutritional Competence, Life-Phase Oriented Healthy Nutrition, Prevention in the Nutrition Sector, Communal Catering, Rochusstraße 1, 53123 Bonn
	E-mail: 212@bmel.bund.de

#### 2. NEEDS AND RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED

#### 2.1. Identified needs

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)b of the implementing regulation

# 1) Healthy diet

The dietary recommendations given to schoolchildren and adolescents are essentially the same as those given to adults (MAYATEPEK, E.: *Pädiatrie*, Elsevier-Verlag, 2007). Milk and milk products are the most important sources of calcium in our diet and also provide us with magnesium, zinc and vitamins B1, B2 and B12. The D-A-CH reference values recommend 600 mg of calcium for children between 1 and 4 years of age, rising to 1200 mg for 13- to 19-year-olds, then 1000 mg after that. Since just 100 g of milk contain 120 mg of calcium, the recommended calcium intake can easily be achieved through the consumption of milk and milk products (KASPER H.: *Ernährungsmedizin und Diätetik*, Elsevier-Verlag, 2009). Because they are sometimes high in fat, low-fat products are preferable. In its 10 rules for what it describes as an adequate diet, the German Nutrition Society recommends, amongst other things, drinking 0.25 1 of milk a day (STANGE R. and LEITZMANN C.: *Ernährung und Fasten als Therapie*, Springer-Verlag, 2010). The school scheme therefore contributes to an adequate diet.

The percentage of children reaching the recommended daily amount of milk should be more than 15% at the end of the six-year scheme.

# 2) Market relevance

Dietary habits become engrained at an early age. To ensure that a healthy diet is also maintained throughout a person's life, the right course has to be set early on (today's children are tomorrow's consumers). In this respect, the school scheme also influences subsequent consumer behaviour and the sales of agricultural products.

The federal states of Berlin and Brandenburg, respectively, have taken a political decision in 2019 to participate furthermore only in the school milk component of the school scheme

The federal state of Berlin has taken the political decision to improve the school lunch supply in Berlin and adopted a law in 2013 to improve the quality of the school lunch. On this basis, a daily proportion of fresh fruit and vegetables for meals to be distributed in all-day primary and special needs schools has been agreed, which is already going beyond the recommendations of the German Food Society.

In 2017, Brandenburg has implemented a federal state programme with an annual budget of 100.000 € to distribute fresh apples in primary schools and nursery schools to reach better food provision for children. The programme has been accepted very well and therefore shall be extended. It also includes accompanying educational measures.

# 2.2. Objectives and indicators

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)c of the implementing regulation

General objective(s)	Impact indicator(s)	Specific objective(s)	Result Indicator(s)	Output Indicator(s)
Preventing the further decrease	Change in the direct and indirect consumption of milk by children above 6 years of age  The scheme aims to reach as many	Continuity of milk consumption in children  The statistics of the previous school scheme showed that the tendency of	Percentage of children participating in the school scheme per school year compared to the total number of children	Number of children participating in the school scheme per school year
in milk consumption	children as possible on an ongoing basis. Its attractiveness can only be triggered by the aid per portion (250 ml) and/or the maximum possible number	school milk consumption was constantly falling. In this respect, continuous school milk consumption is considered as a first step in	Percentage of institutions participating in the school scheme per school year compared to the total number of institutions in the target group	Number of institutions participating in the school scheme per school year
	of portions. This depends on the resources provided and thus cannot be quantified. <sup>1</sup>	order to stop the negative trend.		Average consumption of milk per child and per school year (quantity or portions)
	The increase in knowledge is determined based on the number of educational events and on interviews with children.	Increase in knowledge of schoolchildren about the variety of agricultural products and about healthy	Percentage of children participating in accompanying educational measures per school year compared to the	Number of children participating in accompanying educational measures per school year
		eating habits	total number of children in the target group	Expenditure on educational measures per school year

Increasing aid per portion means reaching fewer children while lowering the aid may theoretically lead to a higher number of children drinking milk but is likely to reduce the attractiveness of the milk. Therefore, the State of Brandenburg has set maximum selling prices which should reflect the optimum.

The main aim of Berlin's and Brandenburg's participation in the EU school scheme is to take active steps to counter the downward trend in school milk consumption.

#### 2.3. Baseline

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)d of the implementing regulation

Looking at the last 5 years of the EU school milk scheme in the most recent funding period, there has been a continuous decrease in school milk consumption in the Berlin-Brandenburg region. According to the latest figures, there were 77 318 schoolchildren and nursery children participating in the EU school milk scheme in Berlin and Brandenburg in the 2015/2016 school year, with these children having 3 150 t of milk distributed to them at 1 857 institutions. In this respect, a new approach through the school scheme is to be welcomed.

The territory of the Federal States of Berlin and Brandenburg is one delivery region to which the products are supplied. Four out of seven suppliers of school milk deliver the products in both federal states. Therefore, it is factually legitimate to make use of equal aid proportion and standardised maximum selling prices for the same products that are eligible with the national strategy. The EU school scheme in the Berlin-Brandenburg region is based on standardised administration and control processes against the background of the agricultural treaty of Berlin and Brandenburg.

#### 3. BUDGET

# 3.1. Union aid for the school scheme

Article 23a of the basic act and Article 2(1)e of the implementing regulation

Period: school years 2017/2018 to 2019/2020 EU aid for the school scheme in Berlin (BE) School School milk Common fruit and elements if (in EUR) vegetables applicable Distribution of school milk BE 1.357.105,50 Accompanying educational measures 0 Monitoring, evaluation, publicity<sup>2</sup> BE 0 Total BE 1.357.105,50 Overall total BE 1.357.105,50

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Member States wishing to provide a more detailed breakdown (monitoring, evaluation, publicity, costs for transport and distribution insofar as they are not covered by expenditure for the supply/distribution of school fruit and vegetables/milk) may add lines for the estimated sub-total expenditure.

EU aid for the school scheme in	Period: school years 2017/2018 to 2019/2020					
Brandenburg (BB) (in EUR)	School fruit and vegetables	School milk	Common elements if applicable			
Distribution of school milk BB		805 853 90				

Total BB

Overall total BB

0

0

805.853,90

805.853,90

Accompanying educational measures

Monitoring, evaluation, publicity BB

BE

Period: school years 2020/2021 to 2022/2023				
School fruit and vegetables	School milk	Common elements if applicable		
	2.162.959,40			
	0			
	0			
	2.162.959,40			
	2.162.959,40			
	School fruit and	2022/2023  School fruit and vegetables  2.162.959,40  0  2.162.959,40		

# 3.2. National aid granted, in addition to Union aid, to finance the school scheme<sup>3</sup>

Article 23a(6) of the basic act and Article 2(2)d of the implementing regulation

No					
Yes					
If yes, amount (in national currency)	Milk/milk produc				
	Fruit/vegetables	Milk/milk products other than Annex V	Annex V products		
Supply/distribution BE+BB		0	0		
Accompanying educational measures BE+BB		€ 32.000 p.a.	0		
Monitoring, evaluation, publicity BE+BB		€ 30.000 p.a.	0		
Total BE+BB		€ 62.000 p.a.			

# Comment/explanatory text:

In line with the school curricula, in Berlin and Brandenburg further subjects like healthy diet, production of food and appreciation of agricultural products and food were included in the school lesson's design. Due to the federal responsibilities regarding educational content und curricula and also the different geographical conditions (with Berlin being a high-density urban area, whereas Brandenburg has a high proportion of rural areas), further accompanying educational measures for participating schools are conducted separately in Berlin and Brandenburg .

The state of Berlin proposed a nutrition strategy for Berlin in 2019. One of the main topics is nutritional education of different target groups, i.e. children in schools and nurseries. Another topic is the extension of regional market relationships between Berlin and Brandenburg. In Brandenburg, accompanying educational measures are provided through the initiative Land-Aktiv (for further explanations, see sections 6 and 7.2).

#### Legal bases:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> National or regional level

The higher level of detail than in table under section 3.1, with a separate category for Annex V products, is meant to capture more precisely information on implementation of the school scheme: the limitation of Union aid to the milk component of Annex V products, set out in Article 23(5) of the basic act, entails per se national aid if a parental contribution is not required. This may not be the case for other milk products, hence the separate column.

Budgets of the federal states of Berlin and Brandenburg Federal State Budget Regulations of Berlin and Brandenburg

3.3. Existing national schemes								
Article 23a(5) of the basic act and Article 2(2)e of the implementing regulation								
No								
Yes								
If yes (=existing national schemes extended or made more effective through Union aid under the school scheme), please indicate the arrangements to ensure added value of the school scheme through <sup>5</sup> :								
- Extension of the target group								
Extension of the range of production								
Increased frequency or duration								
− Enhanced educational measures (increased number or frequency or duration or target group of those measures)								
<ul> <li>Other: please specify (eg. if products originally not free of charge and that are provided free of charge)</li> </ul>								
Comment/explanatory text								
none								

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> One or more

# 4. TARGET GROUP/S

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)f of the implementing regulation

School level	Age range of children	School fruit and vegetables	School milk
Nurseries	1 to 6		$\boxtimes$
Pre-schools			
Primary	6 to 12		$\boxtimes$
Secondary	> 12 - 18		$\boxtimes$

Comments

In Brandenburg, one to six-year-old children are cared for in day-care nurseries (KITAS). After that, children move to primary school.

In order to avoid stigmatisation, no social or earnings-related differentiation is made at the various school levels.

# 5. LIST OF PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTED UNDER THE SCHOOL SCHEME

Article 23(9) of the basic act and Article 2(1)g of the implementing regulation

# 5.1. Fruit and vegetables

5.1.1. Fresh fruit and vegetables - Article 23(3)a of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

Apricots, cherries, peaches,	Carrots, turnips, salad beetroot, salsify, celeriac,	
nectarines, plums	radishes and other edible roots	
Apples, pears, quinces	Cabbages, cauliflowers and other edible brassicas	
Bananas		
Berries	Cucumbers, gherkins	
Figs	Lettuces, chicory and other leaf vegetables	
Grapes	Lentils, peas, other pulses	
Melons, watermelons	Tomatoes	
Citrus fruit	Other vegetables: please specify <sup>6</sup>	
Tropical fruit <sup>7</sup>		
Other fruit: please specify		
(eg. kiwis, persimmons, nuts)		

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Other agricultural products than fruit and vegetables, as referred to in Article 23(7) of the basic act (eg. olives), should not be reported here but under section 5.3.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Pineapples, Avocados, Guavas, Mangos and Mangostines

# 5.1.2. Processed fruit and vegetables – Article 23(4)a of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013<sup>8</sup>

Products distributed u the school scheme	Added salt		Added fat			Comments (optional)		
the school scheme		No	,	Yes	No	Y	/es	(optional)
Fruit juices								
Fruit purées, compotes				If yes, please indicate the limited quantity			If yes, please indicate the limited quantity	
Jams, marmalades								
Dried fruits								
Vegetable juices								
Vegetable soups								
Other: please specify								

1) Please tick the box for the products to be distributed under the school scheme (eg. soups) and 2) please tick the box no/yes to indicate if they may contain added salt and/or fat – nb. added sugar is not allowed for those products, according to Article 10 of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/40 - and remove the box for added salt and/or fat where not relevant (eg. fruit juices). 3) If yes, please indicate the percentage of added salt and/or fat on the total weight of the product, where such a percentage is set at national level, according to national provisions or for the purposes of the school scheme, or comment.

# 5.2. Milk and milk products

5.2.1. Milk - Article 23(3)b of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

0.2.11 11.11.11 22 (b) 0 01 11.08 unuvion (2 0) 110 12 00/2012	
Drinking milk and lactose-free versions	$\boxtimes$

5.2.2. Milk products - Article 23(4)b of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013<sup>9</sup>

Products distributed under the school scheme		Added salt			Added fat			Comments (optional)
under the school sen	CIIIC	No		Yes	No	No Yes		(0) 11011111
Cheese and curd				If yes, please indicate the limited quantity			If yes, please indicate the limited quantity	
Plain yoghourt								
Fermented or acidified milk products without added sugar, flavouring, fruits, nuts or cocoa								

There is no distribution of those dairy products defined in 23(4) (b) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013.

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Please tick the box for the products to be distributed under the school scheme and the box no/yes to indicate if they may contain added salt and/or fat (the table does not mention added sugar, to reflect Article 10 of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/40 ); please remove the box for added salt and/or fat where not relevant). If yes, please indicate the percentage of added salt and/or fat on total weight (where such a percentage is set according to national provisions or for the purposes of the scheme) or comment.

# 5.2.3. Milk products - Annex V to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

Products to be distributed under the school scheme		Added salt			Added fat			Added sugar
		No		Yes	No		Yes	S
Category I (milk component ≥90%). Fermented milk products without fruit juice, naturally flavoured				If yes, please indicate the limited quantity			If yes, please indicate the limited quantity	%
Category I (milk component ≥90%). Fermented milk products with fruit juice, naturally flavoured or non-flavoured								%
Category I (milk component ≥90%). Milk-based drinks with cocoa, with fruit juice or naturally flavoured								max. 7%
Category II (milk component ≥75%). Fermented or nonfermented milk products with fruit, naturally flavoured or nonflavoured								%

# 5.2.4. Prioritisation of fresh fruit and vegetables and drinking milk

Article 23(3) of the basic act

- The granting of aid to the supply region Berlin/Brandenburg is designed to use 100% of the available funds for drinking milk and lactose-free drinking milk.
- The national funding for accompanying measures is used exclusively for drinking milk and lactose-free drinking milk.

# 5.3. Other agricultural products in the educational measures

Article 23(7) of the basic act and Article 2(1)g of the implementing regulation

Yes	No
Please list the products	$\boxtimes$

<ul><li>5.4. Criteria for the choice of products distributed under the scho any priorities for the choice of those products</li><li>Article 23(11) of the basic act and Article 2(2)a of the implementing regulation</li></ul>			
Health considerations	$\boxtimes$		
Environmental considerations			
Seasonality			
Variety of products			
Availability of local or regional produce			
Any comments: Health policy considerations according to section 2.1.			
Any priority/ies for the choice of products:			
Local or regional purchasing	$\boxtimes$		
Organic products			
Short supply chains			
Environmental benefits (please specify: e.g. food miles, packaging)			
Products recognised under the quality schemes established by Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012			
Fair-trade			
Other: please specify			
Any comments:			
The terms local and regional are defined as follows:			
Berlin/Brandenburg ► Germany ► EU Based on the information on the homepage of the competent body, all potential suppliers of school milk products can apply throughout the EU and be approved if the recognition criteria are met. Experience has shown that suppliers of school milk apply in the ranking: regional (Berlin/Brandenburg) — Germany — EU. Suppliers from other EU Member States have not yet applied.			

#### 6. ACCOMPANYING EDUCATIONAL MEASURES

Article 23(10) of the basic act and Article 2(1)j of the implementing regulation

With the distribution of milk products, various materials produced by the Federal Centre for Nutrition are made available to educational institutions. These include, for example, "For milk explorers and yoghurt detectives", "Exploring milk with inclusive children's groups", "AID nutrition licence", "Agriculture for primary schools", "Food pyramid" and "Good prospects – Nutritional education at nursery school".

For the implementation of the nutrition strategy of Berlin, various projects, e.g. "Where does your food come from?", are carried out. One project in cooperation with the Sarah Wiener foundation with particular regard to ecological production of food and the regional marketing is in the planning.

Moreover, various projects in line with established programmes concerning healthy lifestyles such as "Good healthy school" and "Good healthy nursery" are carried out in a target group specific way. This includes subjects like nutrition, production of food and consumption as well as the appreciation of food, or food waste.

Since the 2019/2020 school year, in Brandenburg nursery school educators are trained to be multipliers in their institution for projects with nursery children.

The table below shows various activities that may be carried out as accompanying educational measure. Selection and realisation lie in the responsibility of the participating institutions. In Brandenburg, the measures below may be carried out in cooperation with the initiative "Land-Aktiv".

Title	Objective	Content
Visits to farms/ farmers' markets/dairies	Real-life encounter with agriculture	Class outings / project days: 1d*
Tasting classes/cooking workshops, etc.	Introduction to diversity of milk products,  Appreciation of food	Project days: 2h to 1d*
Lessons, lectures, workshops	Teaching about a healthy diet	Activities in nursery schools, teaching in schools:  0.5 h to 2h*
Other activities (e.g. competitions, games, quizzes, themed periods <sup>10</sup> .)	Emotional introduction to the subject of a healthy diet, food production,	Project weeks, farm festivals:  1 - 4 h/week; 0.5 days *

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Eg. Food dude programme in Ireland, an evidence-based incentivised behaviour-changing programme.

School gardens (only BE)	Awareness raising of origin and production processes	Care of school gardens within school lessons
		1 h*
Nature protection sites	Environmental and nutritional	Class outings / project days:
(only BE)	education	1d*
Visits of a children's		Class outings / project days:
farm or a farm (only BE)	of animal farming, production of milk etc.	1d*

<sup>\*</sup> Estimates

#### 7. ARRANGEMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

#### 7.1. Price of school fruit and vegetables/milk

Article 24(6) of the basic act and Article 2(1)h of the implementing regulation

No further national resources are being made available for the granting of aid for products in Berlin and Brandenburg. Free provision through Union aid alone would considerably restrict the number of participants. As a result, parental contributions are being levied and pure drinking milk and lactose-free drinking milk are not being provided absolutely free of charge. The level of aid is checked and if necessary adjusted before the start of each school year.

The prices charged by each supplier are constantly monitored (comparative tables of identical products that are ineligible or eligible for aid) until the 2018/2019 school year. The average portion price was compared here with the latest consumer prices published by the agricultural market information company Agrarmarkt Informationsgesellschaft mbh (AMI). Since the 2019/2020 school year, in the delivery region Berlin-Brandenburg the selling prices will be based on standard portion prices determined by the AMI as part of a procurement contract. The resulting maximum selling prices are to be understood as scientifically founded flat rates.

# Frequency and duration of distribution of school fruit and vegetables/milk and of accompanying educational measures Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(2)b of the implementing regulation Envisaged <u>frequency</u> of distribution: School fruit and vegetables School milk Once per week $\Box$ П Twice per week Three times per week П П Four times per week Daily $\boxtimes$ Other: please specify11 Any comments: Envisaged duration of distribution: School fruit and vegetables School milk $\leq 2$ weeks > 2 and $\le 4$ weeks > 4 and $\leq$ 12 weeks > 12 and $\leq 24$ weeks > 24 and < 36 weeks Entire school year $\boxtimes$ Any comment: The aim is the provision throughout the school year. The provision period may be reduced as a result of unquantifiable fluctuations in demand. Envisaged duration of accompanying educational measures during the school year:

# ☑ (please indicate the number of hours or shortly explain/comment)

To support the accompanying educational measures, various brochures of the Federal Centre for Nutrition detailing active measures are distributed to educational institutions during the National Strategy period (see comments made under section 6). Active measures involving schoolchildren and nursery children are linked to the distribution of brochures to educational institutions. These measures are combined with the framework curricula concerning nutritional and consumer education in schools (in application in Berlin and Brandenburg since school year 2017/2018) and care plans for nursery schools. The framework curriculum may include, for example, "Food labelling/food waste", "Global market/fair trade", "Food pyramid", "Shaping the world - Humankind between nature and culture", "Nutrition, health and consumption" and "Food processing". It is impossible to quantify subjects in the framework curriculum owing to the independence of the teaching structure and the educational autonomy of individual educational institutions. The measures are documented.

The choice of the projects and their extent in accordance with the Berlin strategy for nutrition and further measures (see section 6) is in the responsibility of the participating institutions.

In Brandenburg, the initiative Land-Aktiv carries out so called milk projects in schools. About 100 activities are planned per school year. Each activity costs about € 200. Considerable importance is attached to schoolchildren getting actively involved. These activities take between two lessons and a whole project day. Reference is also made here to the table under section 6.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Eg. Distribution once every two weeks

#### 7.3. Timing of distribution of school fruit and vegetables/milk

Article 23(8) – and 23a(8) if supply in relation to the provision of other meals – of the basic act and Article 2(2)b of the implementing regulation

Envisaged timing of distribution during the day:

	School fruit and vegetables	School milk
Morning/morning break(s)		$\boxtimes$
Lunchtime		$\boxtimes$
Afternoon/afternoon break(s)		$\boxtimes$

#### Comments:

The choice of target groups according to section 4 of this strategy means that school milk will certainly be distributed throughout the care period.

For logistical reasons (distribution costs, lack of staff, synergies as a result of midday distribution, space requirements), it is reasonable and logical to distribute milk products during regular school mealtimes (breaks). Through undertakings given by suppliers and educational institutions on application forms, it is ensured that school milk is not used for the preparation of regular school meals and does not replace any part of the regular school meal. The EU school milk poster and other additional materials are provided by the Federal Centre for Nutrition as information tools for publicity purposes.

The following information can be found on the homepage of the LELF:

School milk products shall not be used for the preparation of regular school meals and/or to replace parts of those school meals. The educational establishment must refer to the EU school milk poster and to any other appropriate information material in the framework of participation in the Scheme.

Participating educational establishments and school milk suppliers undergo administrative and on-the-spot checks. Non-compliance leads to proportional reimbursement of aid by the supplier or to suspension of the approval.

The same facts are taken into account in the application documents.

7.4. Distribution of milk products in Annex V to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013
Article 23(5) of the basic act, Article 5(3) of the fixing regulation (No 1370/2013), Article 2(2)f of the implementing regulation
$oxed{oxed}$ No
□ Yes
Until the end of the 2018/2019 school year, alongside pure drinking milk and lactose-free drinking milk, products according to Article V of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 containing 90 per cent milk ingredients were also supplied in Berlin and Brandenburg. From the 2019/2020 school year onwards, only pure drinking milk and lactose-free drinking milk is distributed to educational institutions in Berlin and Brandenburg.

# 7.5. Selection of suppliers

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)l of the implementing regulation

Those entitled to file applications according to Article 5(2)(a) to (c) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/40 of 03.11.2016 are named on the LELF website (www.lelf.brandenburg.de). Concurrently, an application form is uploaded there. They can use it to make an informal application for a licence to supply school milk. If the licensing conditions according to Article 6 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/40 of 03.11.2016 have been met, a licence is granted.

# 7.6. Eligible costs

#### 7.6.1. Reimbursement rules

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)i of the implementing regulation

Since the 2019/2020 school year, 100% of the aid are used for the supply of drinking milk and lactose-free drinking milk.

The costs arising from the implementation of the school scheme for the distribution of products will be reimbursed on the basis of a maximum selling price. The maximum selling price is reviewed annually and adjusted if necessary.

In Berlin and Brandenburg, the distributed products are not delivered free of charge. This also contributes to the appreciation of agricultural products. The aid to be granted was calculated on the basis of the school milk products sold in the previous school year and on the new funding period on the EU funds earmarked for Berlin and Brandenburg by the EU for the 2020/2021 school year. The highest priority is to reach as many children as possible. For the following school years, the new annual calculations will be based on the volumes sold in the previous years and on the allocated funds.

The expenditure levels are monitored permanently by the State Office for Rural Development, Agriculture and Land Reorganisation (LELF).

Further provisions in relation to reimbursement are provided in section 7.1.

# 7.6.2. Eligibility of certain costs

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(2)b of the implementing regulation

There are currently no plans to use EU aid to cover the costs of acquiring, renting or leasing equipment used for the delivery and provision of products.

No special national conditions have been established.

#### 7.7. Involvement of authorities and stakeholders

Article 23(6) and (9) of the basic act and Article 2(1)k of the implementing regulation

- Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL): Central contact
- Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Climate Protection (MLUK): Specialist authority and supervisory body
- Berlin Senate Department for Justice, Consumer Protection and Antidiscrimination: Coordination with the State of Brandenburg and within Berlin
- Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and for Consumer Protection (MSGIV): Health issues, consumer issues, approval of products
- Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MBJS): School and education issues, school server
- Berlin Senate Department for Education, Youth and Family: School and education issues, school server
- Federal Office for Rural Development, Agriculture and Reorganisation of Land (LELF): Office responsible for implementation
- Network unit day-care and school catering Berlin e.V.
- Network unit day-care and school catering Brandenburg, product licensing
- Land-Aktiv (provider: Adult education centre): additional accompanying measures in Brandenburg
- Suppliers: Applicants that have been granted licences

Information and knowledge is exchanged between the authorities involved. Consultations with licensed suppliers are also planned. The State Office monitors school milk components under the EU school scheme. Evaluation is carried out for Berlin and Brandenburg externally by a third party. Specialist supervision is provided here by the MLUK. The adult education centre draws up an annual report on its activities including the activities of Land-Aktiv.

# 7.8. Information and publicity

Article 23a(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)m of the implementing regulation

- MLUK website (EU school milk scheme notice)
- Senate Department for Justice, Consumer Protection and Antidiscrimination (SenJustVA) website (link to LELF)
- LELF website (EU school milk scheme notice + implementation)
- Berlin-Brandenburg education server (EU school milk scheme notice)
- EU poster (publicity, compulsory for the institutions involved)

#### 7.9. Administrative and on-the-spot checks

Article 2(2)g of the implementing regulation

Administrative checks in Berlin and Brandenburg are carried out by employees of LELF department 41. They check for completeness and establish eligibility (see section 7.1).

On-the-spot checks are carried out by employees of the LELF's Central Technical Examination Service (ZtP) and formally documented. The number of institutions to be checked is determined according to Article 10(3) of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/39 of 03.11.2016.

#### 7.10. Monitoring and evaluation

Article 2(2)g of the implementing regulation

Annual monitoring measures are carried out by the Federal Office for Rural Development, Agriculture and Reorganisation of Land (LELF). Educational institutions are monitored to check, amongst other things, whether they are meeting their documentary obligations regarding accompanying measures. The undertakings given by suppliers when they were licensed are monitored. These include, in particular, the fact that the supplier actually passes the aid on to beneficiaries when milk products are not provided free of charge.

The states of Berlin and Brandenburg have jointly chosen a scientific institution (ILU e.V.) for the evaluation of the school scheme. It is carried out in limited form each year, more comprehensively halfway through the ongoing scheme and as a final evaluation after the first five years of the six-year strategy. Workshops to present and discuss the results of evaluation attended by representatives involved in the school scheme are carried out. This means that the National Strategy can be adapted on the basis of the results of evaluation if need be.