



World Food Programme

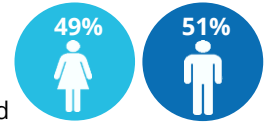
WFP Tajikistan Country Brief

January 2024

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



In Numbers



435,342 people were assisted

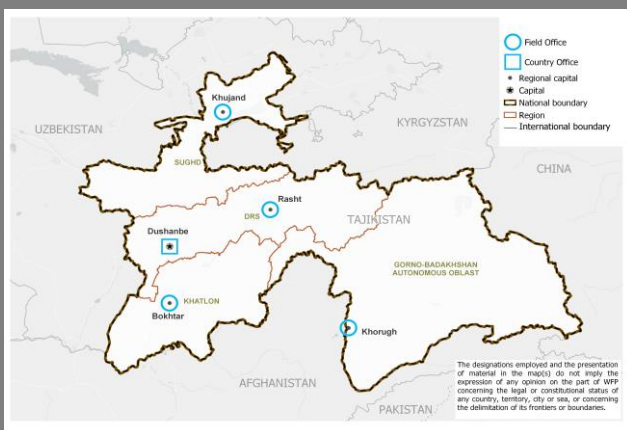
692 mt of food was distributed

US\$38,694 cash-based transfers made

Operational Context

Tajikistan is a landlocked, mountainous country and its population of 10.07 million people is growing at a rate of nearly 2 percent per year – the highest rate in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Half the population is under the age of 25, and a quarter lives in urban areas (Statistical Agency under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, 2020). Despite the decrease in the prevalence of stunting in children under the age of 5 years from 26.5 percent in 2012 to 5.3 percent in 2020 (The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021), malnutrition continues to be widespread. WFP is contributing to the Government’s progress on the Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger, by providing access to appropriate nutritional support and healthcare, promoting school feeding, building resilience to the impacts of climate change, and ensuring preparedness for recurring natural disasters.

WFP has been present in Tajikistan since 1993. WFP currently operates under the country strategic plan (2023–2026) launched in January 2023.



Population: **10.07 million**

2022 Human Development Index: **122 out of 191**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **18% of children between 0-59 months**

Operational Updates

School Feeding

- WFP is supporting the capacity building of local schools through various initiatives, including the renovation, and equipping of school kitchens and canteens. A total of 55 schools were selected for the renovation of their kitchens and canteens, as well as the provision of kitchen equipment, canteen furniture, and kitchen utensils. Phase 1 of the project - renovating kitchens and canteens – has seen significant progress. Phase two - the delivery of modern kitchen equipment, furniture, and utensils – will commence once renovation is completed.

Nutrition

- WFP is implementing its prevention and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) programme. In 2023, the programme effectively served 5,202 children under the age of 5 years, making a significant 23 percent decrease in beneficiaries compared to 2022. Additionally, the programme offered consultations on proper child-feeding practices to over 5,000 parents/guardians and provided on-the-job training to nearly 500 healthcare workers. Overall, during the last five years of programme implementation, more than 40,000 children received treatment, achieving a remarkable recovery rate of over 99 percent.

Resilience

- In partnership with the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP), an ICT-based mechanism for delivery of climate information and agro-advisory to smallholder farmers was initiated. In January 2024, 4,134 smallholder farmers from 11 districts were included in the SMS-based climate information and advisory system and received an introductory SMS message about the ICT-based mechanism. WFP will use the channel to provide climate information and tailored advisories to farmers for next nine months until August 2024.

Photo: In 2023, WFP provided hot meals to 552,800 primary grade schoolchildren under its school feeding programme. ©WFP/Guljahon Hamroboyzoda

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Country Strategic Plan (2023 – 2026)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month (Feb - Jul 24) Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
91.9 m	38.26 m	3.43m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: By 2026, food-insecure and vulnerable populations in urban and rural areas have strengthened livelihoods, resilience and adaptive capacities through improved climate-resilient and nutrition-sensitive agri-food value chains.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Carry out climate adaptation, asset creation, market access support and livelihoods building activities through nutrition-sensitive and ecological approaches aimed at fostering resilience to shocks and stressors and increasing smallholder farmer production and income.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: By 2026, rural and urban populations in targeted areas have improved food security and nutrition for inclusive human development.

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- Provide nutritionally-balanced school meals to targeted schoolchildren.
- Treat moderate acute malnutrition in children aged 6–59 months and strengthen local capacity to manage nutrition programmes.
- Provide social behaviour change communication interventions to targeted groups to improve dietary diversity and prevent malnutrition.

Strategic Result 3: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome 3: By 2026, crisis-affected and nutritionally vulnerable populations are better able to meet urgent food needs, and national systems and subnational capacities are strengthened to address cumulative impacts of disasters and crises and enable affected communities to build back better.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide food assistance, nutrition-focused social behaviour change communication, post-crisis reconstruction and livelihoods building activities to refugees and food-insecure populations affected by crises or natural disasters.

Strategic Outcome 4: Government institutions are strengthened to accelerate and sustain results contributing to inclusive social protection programmes and strengthened national and subnational food systems by 2026 in Tajikistan.

Activities:

- Strengthen the capacity of government and private sector institutions to implement social protection through nationalized school feeding, nutrition programmes and local fortification that enhance diets and reduce acute and other forms of malnutrition.

Focus area: Root causes

Resilience (Continued)

- Under Green Climate Fund (GCF) project, WFP continued to support construction of productive and protective assets including 17 community storage structures, nine drinking water systems, rehabilitation of 28 km of irrigation canal, installation of drip irrigation in 43 ha of orchards, 12 household storage and 23 community storages, 11 solar water pumps and establishment of agroforestry in 175 ha of land. With cash assistance for assets, 254 beneficiary households received cash transfers equivalent to USD 20,600.
- Under the GCF project, a training of trainers (TOT) on Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture (PICSA) was organised in Fayzobod district on 15-19 January 2024. A total of 21 trainers, including two women, who will be involved in conducting community level PICSA workshops in 2024, received the training on PICSA.
- Under the USAID supported Tajikistan Food Security Safety Net project (TFSSN), the construction of 40 greenhouses with vertical agriculture, and 10 mushroom production facilities are ongoing in four districts and towns (Varzob, Sharinav, Vahdat, Yovon), and will be completed in February. In addition, rehabilitation of 130 km of irrigation canal and establishment of 30 ha of agroforestry have also begun in January.

Humanitarian Operations Support for Afghanistan

- In January, WFP Tajikistan dispatched about 1,300 mt of food commodities to Afghanistan. The UN Humanitarian Air Service, managed by WFP, undertook six international passenger flights between Dushanbe and various airports in Afghanistan. Thirty five passengers benefited from the flights and 175 kg of cargo was delivered.

Monitoring

- WFP conducted around 600 monitoring visits to project sites. During the visits, on-the-job trainings were provided to improve project implementation. WFP issued [regular updates](#) on the Tajikistan market situation that were widely shared with partners and donors.

Donors

Denmark, Germany, Green Climate Fund, Russian Federation, USAID, and private donors (Japan Association for WFP)