



WFP Tajikistan Country Brief

July 2024

World Food Programme

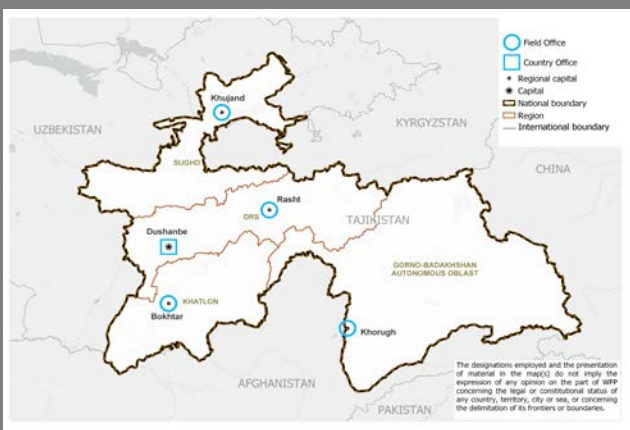
SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



Operational Context

Tajikistan is a landlocked, mountainous country and its population of 10.27 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 million**

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

Income Level: **Low**

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

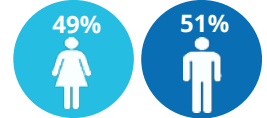
In Numbers

7,633 people were assisted in July 2024

US\$132,800 cash-based transfers made

2 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$4.1 million six-month (August-January 2024) net funding requirements



Operational Updates

- WFP received a US\$10 million contribution from the Government of the Republic of Korea through the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), to support activities aimed at improving sustainable agricultural production in Tajikistan, aligned with the Government's priorities on food security and nutrition. This support will allow WFP to reach 200,000 people, including 40,000 youth participants with i) learning interventions to develop their skills and knowledge on digital technologies in agribusiness and rural development, and ii) creating income-generating activities for vulnerable youth. WFP will also focus on conducting asset creation activities, providing market access support, and supporting livelihoods-building programmes for smallholder farmers, while integrating digital solutions to strengthen their food and nutrition security and increase their resilience to shocks and stressors.
- With support from the Russian Federation, WFP handed over 975 mt of food commodities (fortified wheat flour, fortified sunflower oil, and pulses) to the Ministry of Education and Science for the School Feeding Programme. Under this programme, 450,000 students in grades 1-4 from 2,000 schools in 53 districts and cities receive regular hot meals. During the handover ceremony, stakeholders discussed i) issues related to food security and school feeding, and ii) preparation for the school feeding implementation in the upcoming school year.
- Representatives from WFP and the National Inter-Ministerial Coordination Council (IMCC) conducted a joint monitoring mission in Sughd Region for the implementation of the State Programme on Development of School Feeding, including the

Photo: WFP Representative and Country Director Adham Musallam and KOICA Country Director in Tajikistan Jeong Minyoung announce the new contribution from the Republic of Korea. ©WFP / Guljahon Hamroboyzoda

Contact info: Nasrullo Ramazonov (nasrullo.ramazonov@wfp.org)
Country Director: Adham Musallam
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/tajikistan



Country Strategic Plan (2023 – 2026)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month (Aug 24- Jan 25) Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
91.9 m	45.6 m	4.1 m

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

Donors

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

rational use of pre-school land plots in the region. It was recognized that land plots can play a significant role in diversifying school meals in the country. The IMCC was established under the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population to coordinate and implement of the Strategy of Sustainable Development of School Feeding in the Republic of Tajikistan until 2027.

- WFP reached 849 households in eight targeted districts through the Food Assistance for Assets activities. FFA participants constructed and/or rehabilitated three drinking water supply systems, 10 km of irrigation canals, and three storage buildings across the 11 districts of the country. These assets will support vulnerable households in adapting to the impacts of climate change. As they develop these assets, WFP provided US\$85,900 cash assistance to meet their immediate food and other household needs.
- WFP supported the delivery and installation of 20 fruit dryers, 83 greenhouses, and 95 solar cookers to contribute in improving the resilience and diversifying the income of the targeted population. In addition, drip irrigation systems were installed in 49 ha of orchards. Drip irrigation will allow beneficiaries to optimize water consumption and reduce land erosion as they conduct agricultural activities.
- WFP in cooperation with UN Women conducted a series of training on cultivation techniques in greenhouses, food processing which aims to contribute in increasing market access and women empowerment of who own greenhouses. The training sessions were conducted in Fayzobod, Muminobod, Nurobod and Rasht districts.

Humanitarian Operations Support for Afghanistan

- In July, WFP Tajikistan dispatched 1,725 mt of food commodities to Afghanistan. The UN Humanitarian Air Service, managed by WFP, undertook eight international passenger flights between Dushanbe and various airports in Afghanistan. Fifty-three passengers benefited from the flights.

Monitoring

- WFP issued its regular updates on the [Tajikistan market situation](#). In July, general prices of food items increased by two percent driven by higher prices for rice, sugar, and proteins like beef and mutton. On the other hand, prices of vegetables slightly decreased by two percent due to lower prices of potatoes and carrots. Fuel prices, specifically petrol increased by two percent compared to June, while gas prices went up by 17 percent.