



WFP Tajikistan Country Brief

August 2024

World Food Programme

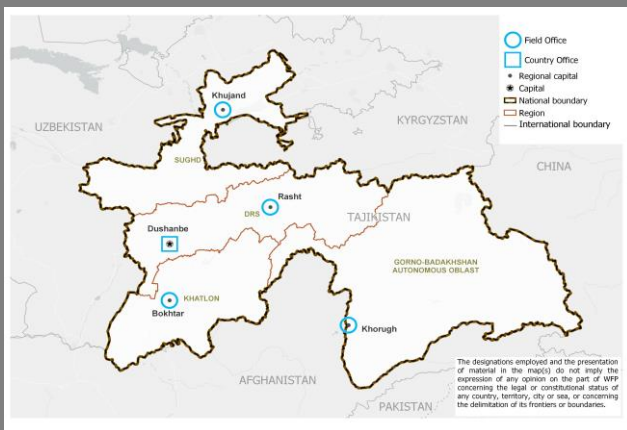
SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



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**

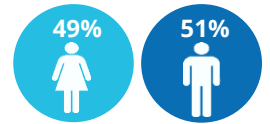
In Numbers

6,048 people were assisted

17 mt of food was distributed

US\$91,100 cash-based transfers made

US\$4.3 million six-month (September 2024 - February 2025)



Operational Updates

- WFP participated in the regional forum of the heads of emergency situations authorities of Central Asian countries conducted in the Kyrgyz Republic. The heads of emergency situations authorities of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, along with the heads of international organizations including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Civil Defence Organization, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and WFP, were present in the forum. The forum provided a platform for dialogue, exchange of practices, and the development of common approaches to expand cooperation and deepen integration processes between Central Asian countries in mitigation and response to emergencies. Key highlights of the event include:
 - The adoption of the action plan for the implementation of the Strategy for Strengthening Cooperation between Central Asian Countries in Disaster Risk Reduction (2025-2026).
 - WFP and the Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction (CESDRR) signed a long-term Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen cooperation to effectively contribute in the implementation of i) the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, ii) the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and iii) national strategies for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.
 - WFP Representative and Country Director Adham Musallam and the First Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Emergency Situations and Civil Defense Colonel Latifzoda Hotamsho discussed bilateral cooperation.

Photo: WFP and the Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction (CESDRR) signed a long-term MoU to strengthen cooperation. ©WFP

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



Country Strategic Plan (2023 – 2026)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month (Sept 24- Feb 25) Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
91.9 m	45.6 m	4.3 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

- WFP supported construction and furnishing of a new school canteen in Khuroson District (Khatlon Region) that will benefit 1,100 schoolchildren under WFP’s School Feeding Programme. This is the 20th school canteen where WFP supported the construction. The canteen was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Tajikistan, the Ministers of Education and Justice, the head of Khatlon Region, and representatives from WFP.
- WFP reached 906 households in four districts through food assistance for assets (FFA) activities. FFA participants constructed and rehabilitated 50 ha of drip irrigation system and established five storages in 11 districts. These assets will support vulnerable households adapt to the impacts of climate change. While developing these assets, WFP distributed a total of US\$93,900 (TJS996,000) to the participants, supporting them to meet their immediate food and other household needs.
- WFP successfully completed the implementation of Social Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) interventions promoting hand hygiene in 64 target schools across four regions of the country. As part of this project, WFP works with UNICEF to finalize a joint work plan in 10 target schools.

Humanitarian Operations Support for Afghanistan

- In August, the UN Humanitarian Air Service, managed by WFP, undertook nine 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](#). General prices of food and non-food commodities (including fuel) increased by one percent in August. Prices of vegetables recorded the largest increase, particularly onions (13 percent). The prices of meat and poultry rose to eight percent, with a significant increase for beef and eggs. Dairy prices remained relatively stable, with milk prices slightly decreasing. Grains and flour showed minor changes. Meanwhile, fruit prices dropped. Fuel prices recorded minimal changes: diesel with an increase of 1.55 percent and gas with a slight decrease of less than one percent, contributing to overall stability in fuel costs.

Donors

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