



# WFP Tajikistan Country Brief

September 2024

World Food Programme

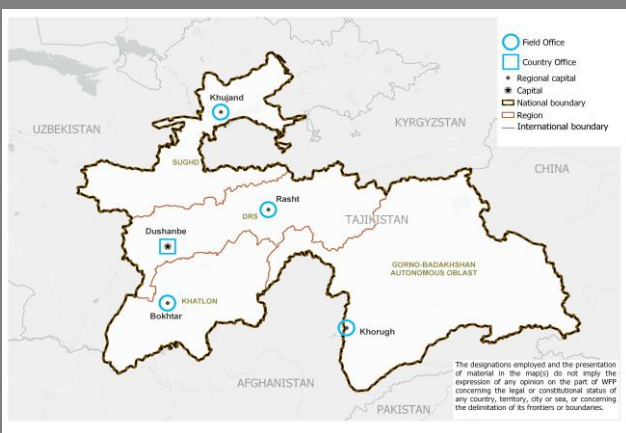
SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## Operational Context

Tajikistan is a landlocked, mountainous country. 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 years, 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 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**

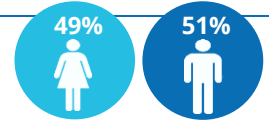
Chronic malnutrition: **18% of children between 0-59 months**

## In Numbers

**431,019** people were assisted

**751.4 mt** of food was distributed

**US\$152,900** cash-based transfers made



## Operational Updates

- WFP Representative and Country Director in Tajikistan Adham Musallam had bilateral discussions with the newly appointed Ambassador of the Republic of Korea in Tajikistan Jeon Sung Sik. This year, WFP received US\$10 million from the Republic of Korea, which will support activities to improve sustainable agriculture in Tajikistan.
- WFP provided support to the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defence (CoES) under the Government of Tajikistan in conducting their inter-agency simulation exercise (SIMEX) for government agencies, members of the Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team (REACT). The SIMEX was aimed at testing the preparedness of the Government of Tajikistan and humanitarian partners to respond to potential emergency situations. The exercise was made possible due to the financial support from the WFP-led Global Logistics Cluster.
- WFP received confirmation on the in-kind donation of 2.5 mt of premix for nutrition supplementation from DSM – Firmenich. The in-kind donation will enable fortification of 12,500 mt of wheat flour for 150,000 people in areas with high rate of malnutrition. To ensure sustainability and greater engagement from the Government, the Agency on State Material Reserves and the Government's flour mills that are part of the strategic grain reserve will be WFP's main partner for the fortification of wheat flour. The mills were established to provide wheat flour during an emergency to stabilize the market price. This donation will boost the implementation of the wheat flour fortification law.

*Photo: WFP Representative and Country Director in Tajikistan Adham Musallam and Ambassador of the Republic of Korea in Tajikistan Jeon Sung Sik. ©WFP*

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## Country Strategic Plan (2023 – 2026)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month (Oct 24- Mar 25) Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
91.9 m	46.88 m	4.42 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

- Under WFP’s cash-based transfer initiative, schools purchase food commodities from local farmers. Within the framework of home-grown school feeding, women’s production groups harvested 440 kg of green vegetables, carrots and potatoes and sold to schools in Bobojon Ghafurov and Spitamen districts at lower prices in comparison with the market. Under income-generating activities, 694 kgs of various green vegetables, tomatoes, eggplant, cucumber, pumpkin, cabbage, zucchini, sweet pepper, and beetroot, were harvested from school greenhouses in 43 schools in Sughd Region.
- WFP resumed its school feeding programme on September 2, following the resumption of schools for the new academic year 2024-25. During the reporting period, WFP provided 749,511 mt of food to 1,866 schools. This distribution covered 16 feeding days for 422,660 school children. In addition, WFP completed renovation and construction of school canteens in 55 schools.



### Humanitarian Operations Support for Afghanistan

- In September, the UN Humanitarian Air Service, managed by WFP, undertook nine international passenger flights between Dushanbe and various airports in Afghanistan. Fifty-nine passengers and 60 kg of cargo was transported by the flights.

### Monitoring

- WFP issued its regular updates on the [Tajikistan market situation](#). The overall percentage change in prices for all commodities (including fuel) between August and September 2024 in Tajikistan was an increase of 1.02 percent. The meat and poultry category rose between 2-6 percent, with a significant jump in price for eggs (6 percent). Dairy prices rose by 2 percent. Vegetables experienced price increases, particularly cabbage (8 percent). Meanwhile, fruit prices dropped. For fuel prices, there were minimal changes. Petrol has a small increase of 1.92 percent, while gas shows increase by 4.6 percent. The market monitoring updates are widely shared with stakeholders including the government, donors and the media to provide strategic insights and inform decisions.

### Donors

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