



# WFP Tajikistan Country Brief

October 2024

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

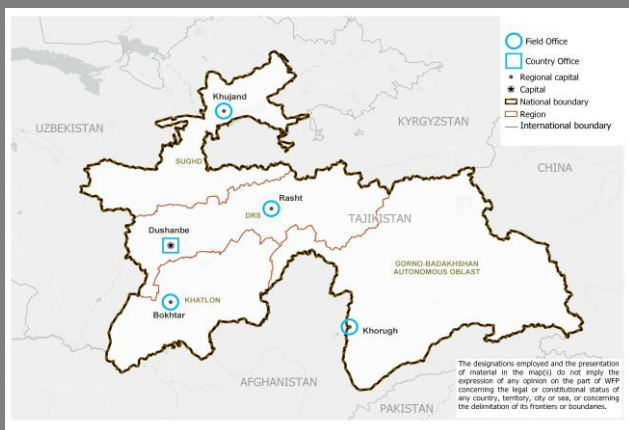


Inauguration ceremony of renovated canteen in school number 30 in Dushanbe City. ©WFP

## 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**

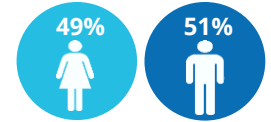
## In Numbers

751.4 mt of food distributed

US\$152,900 cash-based transfers distributed

US\$4.46 million net funding requirements (November 2023-April 2025)

431,019 people were assisted



## Operational Updates

- With US\$800,000 in funding from the Russian Federation, 55 school canteens in 31 districts across Tajikistan were upgraded. In Dushanbe, WFP and the Government of Tajikistan inaugurated a renovated canteen in school number 30 alongside the handover of kitchen equipment to boost the city's school feeding programme. This initiative improves the quality, safety, and efficiency of meal preparation, directly enhancing students' nutrition and well-being. The school feeding programme is WFP's largest operation in Tajikistan, providing 430,000 students with regular nutritious meals in grades 1-4 across 2,000 schools in 52 districts and towns. Since the Government's approval of the 2022-2027 State Programme on School Feeding Development, WFP has been supporting the transition of school meals towards national ownership of the programme by strengthening capacity through initiatives like connecting schools to local agricultural producers and bakeries, introducing cash transfers, and renovating school canteens.
- WFP, in collaboration with UN Women, UNICEF, UNHCR, IOM, and the UN Resident Coordinator's Office, conducted a training workshop "Navigating Partnerships with the United Nations: Understanding the [UN Partner Portal](#) and Collaboration Opportunities". The event convened representatives from local non-governmental and civil society organizations to better understand partnership processes and opportunities for collaboration with UN agencies. The workshop provided interactive sessions on the opportunities for direct engagement with UN agencies in Tajikistan, and networking activities to strengthen cooperation between civil society and the UN system for the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2023-2027).

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

## Country Strategic Plan (2023 – 2026)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month (Nov 24- Apr 25) Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>91.9 m</b>	<b>46.89 m</b>	<b>4.46 m</b>

### 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, in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Science, successfully conducted a "Week for Sharing Knowledge and Experience - Pathways of Effective Management of Agribusiness for Ensuring the Sustainability of Income Generating Activities". This event was specifically designed for representatives of selected schools participating in income-generating activities supported by WFP. During the training, participants gained valuable insights and strategies to ensure the long-term success and sustainability of their income-generating initiatives. The week covered topics such as managing greenhouses, livestock breeding, and beekeeping in schools, providing participants with best practices for ensuring the longevity of these income-generating activities.
- With support of WFP, 926 children aged 6-59 months suffering from moderate acute malnutrition received treatment. Since the beginning of the year, 8,815 children have been treated by providing them with a specialized nutritious food, Acha Mum (a ready-to-use supplementary food). The Prevention and Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) programme covers Jaloliddini Balkhi, Dusti, Shahrituz and Kulob districts of Khatlon Region and Ayni district of Sughd Region.
- With the support of WFP, a national-level training for trainers was conducted at the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Tajikistan on the Impact of Climate Change on Health and Nutrition for health professionals from 11 districts and cooperating partners as part of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) project. The training aimed to provide concise, up-to-date information to enhance understanding of the health and food risks posed by climate change, along with effective responses. It covered the basics of weather and climate change, how these factors can affect human health and nutrition, and strategies to address these challenges, including leveraging local opportunities. Twenty-two participants completed the national training. In collaboration with cooperating partners, trainers then conducted district-level trainings in Fayzobod, Muminobod, and Khovaling. Community-level trainings are planned for November to December in other project areas.

### Humanitarian Operations Support to Afghanistan

- In October, WFP Tajikistan dispatched about 114.907 mt of food commodities to Afghanistan. The UN Humanitarian Air Service, managed by WFP, undertook nine international passenger flights between Dushanbe and various airports in Afghanistan. Fifty-six passengers benefited from the flights.

### Donors

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