



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
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LIVES

WFP Tajikistan Country Brief

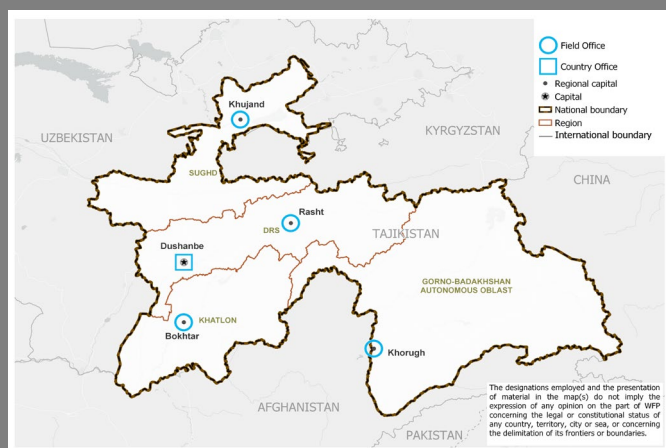
December 2024



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**

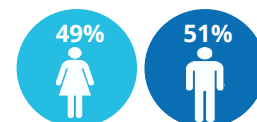
In Numbers

782.7 mt of food distributed

US\$50,850 cash-based transfers made

US\$4.4 million six-month net funding requirements
(Jan-Jun 2025)

424,616 people were assisted



Operational Updates

- WFP and representatives from the Government of Tajikistan joined over 400 participants from 80 countries at the 2024 Global Child Nutrition Forum, which took place in Osaka, Japan from December 9–12, bringing together representatives from governments, NGOs, UN agencies, and the private sector. The Tajikistan School Feeding Programme was presented, showcasing the country's efforts and progress. The interactions focused on reviewing current programmes, exploring opportunities for future collaboration, and strengthening partnerships to enhance the impact and sustainability of Tajikistan's school feeding initiatives. The knowledge and experience gained during the forum will play a crucial role in improving and scaling the country's school feeding programme, contributing to better nutrition and educational outcomes for children in Tajikistan.
- WFP, in collaboration with local authorities conducted a contest for the best school garden in the country. The contest was open to all schools participating in WFP's school feeding programme's income-generating activities, where WFP provided continuous technical guidance. The participating schools shared photos and videos showcasing their work on their greenhouses and gardens, ensuring transparency, and fostering motivation among participants. The winners from four schools were awarded with cash prizes and certificates.

Photo: To prevent diarrhea and other diseases linked to inadequate hygiene among children, WFP promotes health through proper hygiene among schoolchildren across all regions of Tajikistan. ©WFP/Guljahon Hamroboyzoda

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Country Strategic Plan (2023 – 2026)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month (Jan - Jun 25) Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
91.9 m	47.3 m	4.4 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

- Within the framework of income-generating and home-grown school feeding activities introduced by WFP, 220 kg of vegetables were harvested, and 370 litres of milk were produced. The products were sold to schools covered by the school feeding programme and other community members in Sughd Region with cheaper prices in comparison with market. The income-generating and home-grown school feeding activities were initiated by WFP to complement school meals and boost the local economy.
- WFP, in partnership with the National Centre for Healthy Lifestyle Formation under the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population of Tajikistan finalized the development of a social media campaign focused on encouraging healthy eating habits and supporting climate action. The campaign is set to launch in January 2025, with its content strategically scheduled for dissemination through social media, as well as radio and television.
- WFP and the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population of Tajikistan conducted a training on the Impact of climate change on health and nutrition for health professionals in Ishkoshim, Rushon and Roshtqala districts. More than 60 trainers at district level were trained and will be responsible for sharing their knowledge to community in their districts in January 2025.

Market Monitoring

- WFP issued its regular updates on the Tajikistan market situation. The overall percentage change for all commodities (including fuel) between November and December 2024 in Tajikistan shows an increase of 1 percent. The meat and poultry category rose on average by around 2 percent. For fuel prices, there are no changes, except gas, which showed 6 percent increase. The market monitoring updates are widely shared with stakeholders including the government, donors and the media to provide strategic insights and help inform decisions.

Humanitarian Operations Support for Afghanistan

- In December, the UN Humanitarian Air Service, managed by WFP, undertook seven international passenger flights between Dushanbe and various airports in Afghanistan. Four passengers benefited from these flights.

Donors

Germany, Green Climate Fund, Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), Russian Federation, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and private donors (Japan Association for WFP)