



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
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LIVES

# WFP Tajikistan Country Brief

April 2025

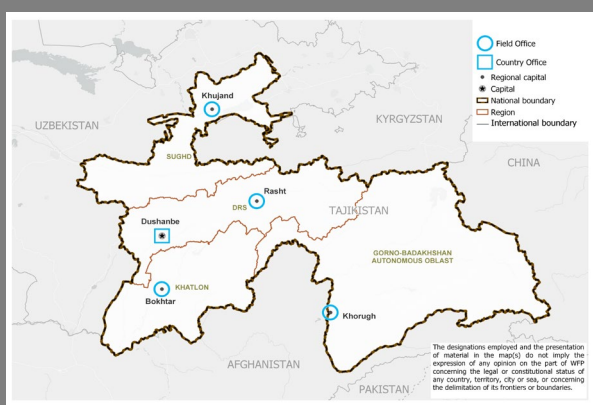


Handover ceremony of fortified wheat flour to the Government of Tajikistan by WFP, with the support of the Russian Federation. WFP warehouse in Dushanbe City.  
©WFP/Guljahon Hamroboyzoda

## 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). The percentage of children under the age of five with stunting (low height-for-age) decreased from 26 percent in 2012 to 14 percent in 2023, while the percentage of children with wasting (low weight-for-age) decreased from 10 percent in 2012 to 6 percent in 2017 and 2023 (Tajikistan Demographic and Health Survey, 2023). 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**

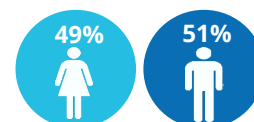
## In Numbers

**1,274.3 mt** of food was distributed

**US\$2,500** cash-based transfers made

**US\$2.32 million** net-funding requirements (May–October 2025)

**409,688** people were assisted



## Operational Updates

- In a ceremony held in Dushanbe, the Embassy of the Russian Federation in the Republic of Tajikistan and WFP handed over 200 mt of fortified wheat flour to the Government of Tajikistan to support the school feeding programme. This is part of the contributions that provides daily hot meals to more than half a million primary grade students across the country. The ceremony was attended by the Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Tajikistan, Muzaffarzoda Badriddin Sangali, Chargé d'Affaires of the Russian Federation in the Republic of Tajikistan Vera Valeryevna Khutorskaya and WFP Representative and Country Director in Tajikistan Adham Musallam.
- The Joint SGD Fund confirmed its contribution for the joint “Transforming Food Systems for Better Nutrition” project to be implemented by WFP, the Food and Agriculture Organizations of the United Nations, the United Nations Children's Fund, and the World Health Organization. This initiative focuses on improving regulations and building institutional capacities to create a robust policy environment that will help revolutionize food systems in Tajikistan. By strengthening government capacities to develop the National Food-Based Dietary Guidelines and enhancing the community's knowledge on healthy nutrition, the programme seeks to stimulate greater demand for locally sourced healthy food. At the community level, it promotes innovative solutions to boost the production and consumption of nutritious food. The Joint SDG Fund is an inter-agency mechanism that incentivizes transformative policy and financing to shift and stimulate strategic investments required to catalyze and accelerate progress against the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the country level.

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Country Strategic Plan (2023 – 2026)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month (May - Oct 25) Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
91.9 m	68.38 m	2.32 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

- On 13 April, a 5-8-magnitude earthquake hit several regions of Tajikistan. Its epicenter was located 160 kilometers northeast of Dushanbe, 21 kilometers east of the Rasht Valley (Rasht and Tojikobod districts). Nearly 500 households in Tojikobod District were affected by the earthquake, with 33 residential houses completely damaged, and 164 residential buildings partially damaged. In addition, two educational institutions, one recreational centre, two medical centres, and the district hospital were damaged. WFP provided 9 mt of food assistance (composed of fortified wheat flour, vegetable oil, and pulses) to 160 households affected by the earthquake. WFP plans to provide food assistance to affected households in Rasht District in May.



WFP delivered food assistance to distribute among households affected by the recent earthquake in Tojikobod District. ©WFP

Humanitarian Operations Support for Afghanistan

- In April, WFP Tajikistan dispatched 548.3 mt of food commodities to Afghanistan. The UN Humanitarian Air Service, managed by WFP, undertook seven international passenger flights between Dushanbe and various airports in Afghanistan. Fifty passengers benefited from these flights.



WFP supports Tajik women to deal with greenhouses to improve family life by offering numerous benefits. ©WFP

Donors

Joint SDG Fund, Government of Ireland, Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), Russian Federation, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and private donors (Japan Association for WFP)