



World Food Programme

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LIVES

# WFP Tajikistan Country Brief July 2018



## Operational Context

Tajikistan is a landlocked, lower-middle income, food deficit country. The mountainous landscape confines arable land to just seven percent of the country's surface and poses enormous food security challenges during the winter period. The country is the poorest in the Commonwealth of Independent States, with 47 percent of the population living on less than USD 1.33 a day and 17 percent subsisting on less than USD 0.85 a day.

WFP has been present in Tajikistan since 1993. Moving away from crisis assistance, WFP is focusing its strategy on supporting national social protection and safety nets; nutrition; and resilience building and disaster risk reduction.

WFP is currently operating under the Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP) since January, and is in the process of preparing the Country Strategic Plan (CSP), which is expected to be approved by mid-2019.



Population: **8.8 million**

2015 Human Development Index: **129 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **27% of children between 6-59 months**

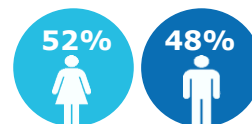
## In Numbers

**5,480 mt** of food assistance distributed

**US\$7,500** cash based transfers made

**US\$ 4.2 m** six months (August 2018 – January 2019) net funding requirements, representing 15% of total needs

**4,077 people assisted**  
in July 2018



## Operational Updates

- On 5 July, WFP conducted a consultation meeting with government and development stakeholders to introduce the findings from two key studies: The Zero Hunger Strategic Review and Fill the Nutrient Gap. These studies will inform and underpin the five-year Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2019-2024. The plan will support Tajikistan's efforts to achieve Zero Hunger. WFP received valuable inputs on improving the key findings of the presented studies and plans to hold a second consultation meeting in mid-October.
- On 18 July, WFP held a ceremony to mark the handover of technical equipment to strengthen the Government's capacity to monitor disaster-prone areas and create situational maps to improve search and rescue operations during emergencies.
- WFP provided the Government's Committee of Emergency Situations and Response (CoES) with two unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) in addition to cutting-edge mapping and spatial analytics software, and two lighting towers. Additionally, WFP conducted a two-day training on the functions and the use of the provided drones for CoES staff on 30-31 July.
- In the frame of the capacity-strengthening component of the School Meals Programme, WFP in partnership with its technical partner Social and Industrial Food Services Institute (SIFI), has provided construction materials for renovation of canteens. These will be used for improving 47 schools of the Khatlon Region and Rasht Valley. The renovation is anticipated to be completed by the end of August 2018.

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**Photo:** A drawing by Shahlo Abduhayeva, a winner of the Children's Design Competition 2018

### Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (1 January 2018 – 30 June 2019)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Months (August 2018 – January 2019) Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
28.3 m	15.1 m	4.2 m

#### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Primary school children in targeted districts and people with special health needs meet their basic food requirements by 2021.  
**Focus area:** School Meals

##### Activities:

- Implement the nutrition-sensitive school meals programme in food insecure areas and test novel approaches like home-grown school feeding. Meanwhile national authorities' capacity will be strengthened to take over and expand the current WFP-supported school meals programme into a sustainable, country-owned programme with educational, social protection and nutritional objectives.
- Provide food assistance to TB patients registered under the DOTS programme and their families in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection to build capacity

#### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Children, pregnant and lactating women and girls in districts with high malnutrition rates have improved nutritional status in line with national standards by 2019.

**Focus area:** Nutrition

##### Activities:

- Treat moderate acute malnutrition for children 6-59 months in pilot districts while building Government capacity to address nutrition gaps.
- Implement Social and Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC) activities related to nutrition

#### Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Vulnerable communities in areas exposed to recurrent shocks increase their resilience by 2019.

**Focus area:** Food for Assets

##### Activities:

- Asset creation and livelihood activities to support resilience to natural and man-made shocks and stressors. (in kind, cash-based transfer)
- Assessment, disaster risk reduction, emergency preparedness and response activities to improve capacity and readiness of institutions and civil society.

percent of the planned entitlement, which is 120 g/day of mixed commodities instead of 198 g/day. This has resulted in a low macro and micro-nutrient intake provided to schoolchildren.

- WFP has 40 mt of food commodities allocated for emergency response as a preparedness measure, which is sufficient to support 1,500 people over a period of two months. WFP urgently requires more funding to better prepare for a potentially larger emergency response.

## Resourcing

- WFP Tajikistan urgently requires an additional USD 4.2 million to implement its planned activities from August 2018 until January 2019. The main priority for funding remains the School Meals Programme, the largest WFP activity in the country. Resources are required to ensure the continuation of the assistance to 395,000 people including children without interruption and with full ration entitlements. The other priority is the Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) Resilience programmes in the areas with high level of food insecurity.

## Success Stories

- WFP School Meals Programme beneficiary Shahlo Abduhayeva won a prize in the WFP Worldwide Children's Design Competition 2018. Shahlo, a 4th grader from Rasht district became one of the 20 finalists that made it through thousands of artworks from all over the world.

## Donors

Russian Federation, Private Donors (the Earth Group, Japan Association for WFP); USA; UN Peacebuilding Fund, Green Climate Fund

## Monitoring

- During July 2018, WFP carried out 100 percent of the planned monitoring visits to 79 project sites.
- No beneficiary feedback was received for the month of July. In all project areas, WFP has provided the relevant WFP office phone numbers to its beneficiaries, as part of the feedback mechanism in place.

## Challenges

- Due to funding constraints since 2012, WFP was forced to further reduce the daily food entitlement to children under the School Meals Programme. Every child receives only 61