



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## WFP Kyrgyz Republic Country Brief November 2018

WFP  
SAYS  
NO to  
GENDER  
BASED  
VIOLENCE

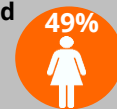
### In Numbers

517 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 135,658 cash-based transfers made

US\$ 0 six months (December 2018 – May 2019) net funding requirements

61,019 people assisted  
in November 2018



### Operational Context

The Kyrgyz Republic is a land-locked, mountainous country located at the centre of the Eurasian continent with a territory of 199,000 sq. km. The country borders China, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. Two-thirds of the country's multi-ethnic population live in rural areas, which are the poorest areas, and a quarter of the population lives below the national poverty line of USD 1.3 per day. As of 2017, GDP per capita stands at USD 1,272.

The country's high dependency on imported basic food items, particularly wheat, continues to negatively affect the most vulnerable food-insecure households, who spend over half of their household income on food-related expenses. Poor food diversification can lead to malnutrition; in the Kyrgyz Republic, this translates to 13 percent of children aged 2 to 5 years suffering from stunting and 43 percent of children are affected by anaemia.



Population: **6.1 million**

2018 Human Development Index:  
**122 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

2017 Gender Inequality Index: **91 out of 189**

### Operational Updates

- Between 12-15 November, WFP conducted a Cash-Based Transfers (CBT) End-to-End Assurance Systems joint review within the framework of a Regional Bureau CBT mission and the Finance Oversight Mission. This participatory cross-functional review enabled a joint assessment of the effectiveness of tools and systems for the implementation of the CBT operation and alignment with corporate policies and procedures on financial management.
- Between 14 and 23 November, WFP hosted a mission from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) to carry out evidence-based research on how WFP's programming contributes to WFP's peacebuilding policy and to advise on how WFP can enhance its contribution to peacebuilding. The mission members conducted a field visit to the border area with Tajikistan, met with the several NGOs, local administration and communities' representatives as well as with the main stakeholders on the national level.
- On November 20, WFP Country Director, the Minister of Education and Science, and the Deputy Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the Kyrgyz Republic participated in the launching ceremony of the Sixth Round of WFP pilot schools (more than 80 schools) at the Krasnaya Rechka School in Chuy province.
- On 22 November, WFP conducted an open lecture for "16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence" with the topic of "Orange the World – Support GBV survivors" for the students of World Languages and Culture Department in Osh State University.
- Between 12 and 16 November, Global Coordinator of the Rural Women's Economic Empowerment (RWE) project Ms. Azzurra Chiarini visited the Kyrgyz Republic and participated in a monitoring mission jointly with the project implementing agencies WFP, FAO and UN WOMEN. She recommended the assessment of the current financial capacity of the four-province level-associations that were created under the project to put more effort on policy-level work as well as to build the leadership potential of the self-help groups.

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## Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Months (December 2018 - May 2019) Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
58.9 m	26.4 m	-

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

**Strategic Outcome 1:** All primary school-aged children in the Kyrgyz Republic have access to safe, adequate and nutritious food all year round  
**Focus area:** *Optimizing School Meals*

**Activities:**

- Provide school meals to primary school-aged children and strengthen the capacity of government institutions and schools to implement school meals

### Strategic Result 3: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition through improved productivity and incomes

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Vulnerable and food insecure smallholders, in particular women, in the most vulnerable geographic areas of the Kyrgyz Republic, have enhanced livelihoods and increased resilience to shocks to better support food security and nutrition needs all year round  
**Focus area:** *Supporting smallholders*

**Activities:**

- Provide support in productive assets creation to vulnerable communities and food insecure smallholders
- Provide capacity strengthening to food insecure smallholders

### Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Food-insecure communities in areas that are highly vulnerable to climate change have strengthened food systems and are more resilient to shocks all year round  
**Focus area:** *Resilience building*

**Activities:**

- Provide capacity strengthening to local community members and authorities
- Provide support for protective and risk reduction assets creation and rehabilitation to communities vulnerable to climate-change and natural disasters

### Strategic Result 4: Developing countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Government institutions at central and decentralized levels have strengthened capacities for comprehensive food security and nutrition management by 2030  
**Focus area:** *Capacity building*

**Activities:**

- Provide capacity strengthening to national institutions
- Provide evidence-based analysis to relevant national institutions

## Monitoring

- In November, 174 beneficiary households of the Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) projects were randomly visited prior to inclusion in the final beneficiary lists and verified eligibility criteria per project such as income levels, ownership of productive assets and livestock, and whether they are among those who are directly benefiting from the project results. All visited

households were found eligible to participate in FFA project activities.

- WFP conducted activity implementation status checks in 58 WFP-supported schools that started providing hot meals to its primary school children. 12 of these schools are self-replication schools that were able to switch to the hot meals provision without WFP's kitchen equipment inputs. During these visits, school representatives received coaching and recommendations from WFP specialists on technical issues related to the provision of hot, diversified and quality meals.
- Post-project monitoring was conducted through phone-based interviews and covered 1,000 households. This represented around 10 percent of beneficiary households that were covered under Food Assistance for Asset activities in 2018. Results will be available in December 2018.

## Challenges

- There is a significant funding gap in Strategic Outcome 4 that focuses on strengthening the capacities of government institutions in the field of food security and nutrition management.

## Partnerships

- In November, WFP Country Director met with the Ambassadors of the United States of America, Federal Republic of Germany, Republic of Turkey, and the Delegation of the European Union in the Kyrgyz Republic. It was an opportunity to explain the activities under the Country Strategic Plan 2018-2022, to strengthen partnerships and to explore prospects for collaboration.
- Between 26-29 November, WFP in partnership with FAO supported the four-day training course "Strengthening National Food Security and Nutrition Policy" led by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Industry and Melioration of the Kyrgyz Republic in collaboration with the Eurasian Center for Food Security of Moscow State University M. V. Lomonosov. 35 members of government institutions, academy and civil society participated in the training and received certificates.

## Donors

Japan, Norway, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, and Sweden.