

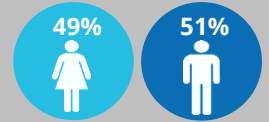


SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Tajikistan Country Brief July 2019

In Numbers

2,315 people assisted
in July 2019



5.1 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 0 cash-based transfers made

Operational Context

Tajikistan is a landlocked, low-income and 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 29.5 percent of the population living in poverty and 14 percent living in extreme poverty (TajStat, 2017).

Malnutrition rates remain the highest in Central Asia, and the number of undernourished people has remained stagnant. Tajikistan faces different environmental challenges, and is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, which has further negatively affected food security and livelihoods of vulnerable communities.

The Government has identified food security and access to quality nutrition as one of its development priorities.

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 as well as disaster risk reduction. WFP was operating under the Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP) since January 2018 and the new Country's Strategic Plan (CSP) was approved in July 2019.



Population: **8.8 million**

2018 Human Development Index:
127 out of 188

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **18% of children between 0-59 months**

Operational Updates

- In July, WFP started implementing its new CSP. A total of 2,315 people were assisted so far. The low number of people assisted is mainly because school feeding activities were not implemented, because of the summer holidays (June – August). In addition, the implementation of Food Assistance for Assets activities under the TICSP was completed in June and will resume in August under the CSP.
- In July, four Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) project proposals prepared by cooperating partners were reviewed and endorsed by WFP Country Office for the implementation. The implementation of the endorsed projects will commence in August 2019. The projects will support communities to rehabilitate irrigation systems, drinking water supply systems and construct greenhouses.
- On 3-4 July, WFP in partnership with UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM, WHO and other international partners provided support to the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defence under the Government of Tajikistan (CoES) to conduct their joint Refugee Emergency Preparedness Simulation Exercise (SIMEX). SIMEX aimed at testing the preparedness of the Government of Tajikistan and humanitarian partners to respond to potential massive refugee influxes into Tajikistan. During the exercise, WFP tested its capacity to provide food assistance during emergencies as well as its logistics capacity by delivering and setting up a Mobile Storage Unit (MSU) with a capacity of 400 mt of food commodities and a Prefabricated Office that served as an Emergency Coordination Office in the field.
- WFP and the National Scientific-Clinical Centre of Pediatrics and Children's Surgery conducted a joint monitoring for the pilot implementation of the SCOPE CODA (Conditional On Demand Assistance) application in Balkhi District of Khatlon Region. Joint monitoring aimed at providing to primary health care centers staff technical and consultative support on SCOPE CODA.

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Photo Caption: Refugee Emergency Preparedness Simulation Exercise (SIMEX). ©WFP

Country Strategic Plan (July 2019 – June 2024)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
82 m	6.3 m
2019 Requirements (in USD)*	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (August 2019 – January 2020)
18.3 m*	3.8 m

* Includes 2019 requirements for both the TISCSP (January 2018 – June 2019) and the new CSP (July 2019 – June 2024).

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Food-insecure vulnerable people, including primary schoolchildren, in targeted districts meet their basic food requirements by 2024..

Focus area: Root causes of food insecurity

Activities:

- Provide nutritionally balanced school meals to targeted schoolchildren

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable groups, especially children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls - in districts where the national Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) protocol is being rolled out have reduced levels of malnutrition by 2024.

Focus area: Root Causes

Activities:

- Treat moderate acute malnutrition in children aged 6-59 months and implement malnutrition prevention activities using social and behaviour change communication with vulnerable groups while building the Government's capacity to manage nutrition programmes.

Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome 3: Targeted food-insecure communities in areas vulnerable to climate change have increased their resilience to shocks by 2024.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Carry out climate adaptation, asset creation, and livelihood activities aimed at fostering resilience to shocks and stressors, and conduct early response activities in the event of a small-scale disaster

Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 4: Government institutions at the central and decentralized level have strengthened capacities to target, design and implement effective food security and nutrition strategies by 2024.

Focus area: Root Causes

Activities:

- Provide policy advice and technical assistance to public institutions and private sector stakeholders involved in advocating for and implementing food security and nutrition programmes, including emergency preparedness.
- Strengthen the capacity of government institutions and schools to implement social protection programmes

- To assist health workers in the detection and assessment of malnutrition cases and counselling for treatment, WFP provided 170 health care centers with printed copies of the National Protocol on Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition and posters. This will improve the management of new emerging cases and develop outpatient support plan.

Monitoring

- During July 2019, WFP carried out monitoring visits in 107 project sites out of the 114 planned.
- With the launch of cash assistance in new districts, WFP closely monitored the cash distribution and beneficiaries' access to the banking service. No beneficiary feedback was received for the month of July for any activity site.

Challenges

- Since 2012, WFP has been forced to reduce the daily food entitlement for schoolchildren under the School Feeding Programme due to funding constraints. WFP has continued to assist schoolchildren with 61 percent of the planned food entitlement for the 2018/19 school year.
- As a preparedness measure, WFP has 40 mt of food commodities allocated for emergency response, sufficient to support 1,500 people over a period of two months. WFP requires additional funding to increase its preparedness efforts.

Resourcing

- WFP Tajikistan requires USD 3.8 million to continue its operations throughout January 2020. Resources are urgently required to preposition food for the School Feeding Programme starting in October 2019. Considering food lead time, which is 85 days, urgent funding is required to start procuring the food, or the pipeline will break in October.



Monitoring SCOPE CODA implementation in Balkhi District by WFP and National Scientific-Clinical Centre of Pediatrics and Children's Surgery. ©WFP

Donors

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