



World Food Programme

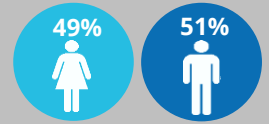
SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Tajikistan Country Brief October 2019

In Numbers

442,387 people assisted
in October 2019



955.337 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 158,811 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).

In Tajikistan, despite significant improvements in recent years, malnutrition rates remain high. WFP is contributing to the Government's progress on SDG 2, by providing access to appropriate nutritional support and health care, promoting school feeding, building resilience to the impacts of climate change, and ensuring preparedness for recurring natural disasters.

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. 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 October, WFP in collaboration with FAO, the Social and Industrial Food Service Institute (SIFI) and the Government of Tajikistan conducted the World Food Day celebrations at national and regional level to highlight the importance of individual actions in achieving a world free of hunger and poverty by 2030. The events were attended by government counterparts, ambassadors, donors, non-governmental partners and media representatives along with university students and schoolchildren.
- On 10-11 October, WFP joined the Government of Tajikistan, UNICEF, WHO and other international organisations to conduct the National Forum on Nutrition in Dushanbe. The forum participants particularly discussed the implementation of the School Feeding Programme and SCOPE Conditional-On-Demand-Assistance (CODA) piloting in pilot districts and ways to ensure their sustainability.
- On 15-16 October, WFP provided support to the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defence (CoES) under the Government of Tajikistan (CoES) in conducting their inter-agency simulation exercise (SIMEX) of the government agencies, members of Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team (REACT). SIMEX was aimed at testing the preparedness of the Government of Tajikistan and humanitarian partners to respond to potential emergency situations.
- On 24 October, WFP and CoES signed an agreement to facilitate greater cooperation in strengthening the country's capacity to respond to disasters and climate-related shocks.
- WFP launched the implementation of two resilience projects in Fayzobod and Muminobod districts to build greenhouses and fruit drying facilities.

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Photo Caption: Ceremony of signing agreement on cooperation between WFP and CoES. ©WFP

Country Strategic Plan (July 2019 – June 2024)	
Total Requirements (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)
82 m	7.3 m
2019 Requirements (in US\$)*	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (Dec 2019 – May 2020)
18.3 m*	6.9 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

Monitoring

- During October 2019, WFP carried out monitoring visits to 177 project sites out of the 186 planned.
- With the launch of cash assistance modality in new districts, WFP closely monitors the cash distribution and beneficiaries' access to the banking service. No beneficiary feedback was received for the month of October for any activity site.

Challenges

- Since 2012, WFP has been forced to reduce the daily food entitlement to children under the School Feeding Programme due to funding constraints. WFP has continued the distribution of 61 percent of the planned ration for the 2018/19 school year. Further, the number of feeding days is reduced from 5 to 4 per week, for period September – November 2019, and no feeding is planned for December 2019.
- WFP has 40 mt of food commodities allocated for emergency response as a preparedness measures, which is sufficient to support 1,500 people over a period of two months. WFP requires more funding to increase its preparedness efforts.

Resourcing

- Overall funding constraints for period of December 2019 – May 2020 amount to US\$6.9 million. Resources are urgently required to preposition food for School Feeding Programme January 2020. Considering food procurement lead time, which is 85 days, CO requires urgent allocation of resources to start food procurement, as otherwise the food pipeline will break in January 2020.



Awarding the winners of 2019 Children's Design Competition during national event on the World Food Day in the town of Hisor. ©WFP

Donors

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