



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Tajikistan Country Brief

November 2021



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 27.4 percent of the population living in poverty and 11.8 percent living in extreme poverty (Tajikistan Agency of Statistics).

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 currently operates under the Country's Strategic Plan (CSP) that was launched in July 2019.



Population: **9.3 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **125 out of 189**

Income Level: **Low**

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

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DAYS OF ACTIVISM
AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



In Numbers

533 mt of food assistance distributed

443,969 people assisted

US\$ 4.8 m six months (December 2021-May 2022) net funding requirements



Operational Updates

- WFP started delivering food to Afghanistan from Tajikistan in support of the emergency response for Afghan families facing hunger this winter. The first convoy of trucks left WFP warehouses in Dushanbe on 26 November, heading to Afghanistan's Badakhshan province in the northeast. Some 1,200 mt of wheat flour procured from the region were delivered and used by WFP Afghanistan in its lifesaving operations.
- In a ceremony attended by the representatives of WFP, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan and the Committee for Emergency Situation and Civil Defense under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, WFP Representative and Country Director thanked the Government of Tajikistan for standing with the Afghan people at this critical juncture. The opening of a logistics corridor is extremely timely in helping WFP bring food into Afghanistan through border crossings.
- WFP continued to operate regular flights between Tajikistan and Afghanistan through the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) managed by WFP. With the support of the Tajik Government, flights are connecting Dushanbe with Kabul and other destinations in Afghanistan and are open to the entire humanitarian community.
- In November, the Emergency Preparedness Capacity (EPCI) Workshop was conducted with the support of WFP to focus on hazard analysis, early warning systems and national preparedness and response. Representatives from Tajik governmental ministries and agencies, including REACT members, participated in the workshop. The partners discussed the gaps and opportunities regarding these two focus area. The final EPCI report will be shared with key recommendations which will inform WFPs future capacity building strategies in emergency preparedness.

Photo caption: Food dispatchment to Afghanistan's Badakhshan.
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Country Strategic Plan (2019 – 2024)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
84.9 m	37.8 m
2021 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month (Dec 21-May 22) Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
17.3 m	4.8 m

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

- WFP is planning to introduce a new product, Acha-Mum, as supplementary food for the treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) in children aged 6 to 59 months. To this end, professional development trainings are being conducted by trainers from the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population (MoHSPP) for the personnel of primary healthcare centres (PHCs). The first training was conducted in November in Ayni district of Sughd Region with the participation of 60 doctors and nurses who are involved in the MAM treatment project in more than 50 villages and communities. Similar trainings are planned for December in Dusti, Jaloliddini Balkhi, Kulob and Shahritus districts of Khatlon Region involving about 220 doctors and nurses.
- Following the launch of the Green Climate Fund project entitled "Building climate resilience of vulnerable and food insecure communities through capacity strengthening and livelihood diversification in mountainous regions of Tajikistan", 1,241 participants were selected in Khatlon Region and the districts of Rasht Valley. Beneficiary identification, verification and selection is on-going in Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region (GBO) and is expected to be completed by mid-December.

Monitoring

- In November, monitoring for the Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) treatment and prevention activities started. In total, 100 primary healthcare centres and 450 beneficiary households in five districts of Khatlon and Sughd regions were visited through outsourced monitoring. In addition, WFP conducted a total of 161 monitoring visits to school feeding, nutrition and resilience sites.

Resourcing

- Considering the current needs, the total net funding requirements for the period of December 2021 – May 2022 stand at USD 4.8 million.



Photo: WFP supported the construction and rehabilitation of houses affected by earthquakes in Tajikobod District. ©WFP

Donors

Russian Federation, USA, Green Climate Fund, Swiss Agency for Cooperation and Development (SDC) and Private Donors (Japan Association for WFP).