

Crisis response revision of Tajikistan country strategic plan (2019–2024) and corresponding budget increase

| | Current | Change | Revised |
|---|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Duration | 1 July 2019– 30 June 2024 | No change | No change |
| Beneficiaries | 976,113 | 75,600 | 1,051,713 |
| <i>(USD)</i> | | | |
| Total cost | 84,918,367 | 18,415,424 | 103,333,791 |
| Transfers | 63,685,722 | 14,635,800 | 78,321,522 |
| Implementation | 9,220,280 | 1,971,881 | 11,192,162 |
| Adjusted direct support costs | 6,865,307 | 683,560 | 7,548,866 |
| Subtotal | 79,771,310 | 17,291,241 | 97,062,550 |
| Indirect support costs (6.5 percent) | 5,147,057 | 1,124,183 | 6,271,241 |

Gender and age marker code*: 3

* <http://gender.manuals.wfp.org/en/gender-toolkit/gender-in-programming/gender-and-age-marker/>.

Rationale

1. This budget revision will enable WFP to respond to a potential influx of refugees from Afghanistan through the new crisis response strategic outcome 6.
2. Following the announcement of the withdrawal of the remaining international military forces from Afghanistan in May 2021, the security situation in the country deteriorated rapidly, with a rapid Taliban advance and the eventual collapse of the Government on 16 August 2021. From January to mid-October 2021, around 680,000 people were internally displaced due to intensified conflict and livelihood-related factors, adding to the 3.5 million prolonged internally displaced people in December 2020.
3. Up to half a million people could be forced to leave Afghanistan and may require assistance according to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), including 50,000 people to Tajikistan. Although relatively few people have sought refuge thus far, the Government of Tajikistan has asked humanitarian community plan assistance for a potential refugee influx. The refugee contingency response plan covers 50,000 possible new arrivals, 20,000 food-insecure host community members and an estimated 5,600 Afghan refugees already in Tajikistan.
4. According to government preparedness plans, refugees would be received at seven transit centres established at border crossings by the Main Directorate of Border Troops of the State Committee on National Security and, after verification, relocated to three camps established by the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense. The Ministry of Internal Affairs has identified additional camp locations to host Afghan refugees in Khatlon should they arrive.



Changes

Strategic orientation

5. This budget revision introduces a new crisis response strategic outcome 6 and two new activities (7 and 8) that will enable WFP to respond to a potential refugee crisis and assist vulnerable members of the host community. The refugee response preparedness plan considers the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework, which underscores that refugees should be included in communities from the beginning and their skills and self-reliance built to contribute to the local economy and stimulate development in host communities. When refugees benefit from national services and integration into national development plans, the universal values of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are better achieved for both refugees and host communities.
6. There has been one previous budget revision (budget revision 1) which introduced activity 6 under strategic outcome 5 to ensure the provision of on-demand services and cash-based transfers (CBTs) under activity 2 of strategic outcome 2. Budget revision 1 increased the budget by USD 2,881,485 and was approved by the country director in September 2020.

Strategic outcomes

7. Under the new strategic outcome 6, WFP will ensure that people affected by crises in the targeted areas are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of shocks. The new outputs and activities are outlined below:
 - Activity 7: Provide potential refugees and food-insecure households in host communities with food assistance and supplemental livelihood skills-building and income-generating activities.
 - Output 7.1: Food-insecure refugees that may arrive in Tajikistan receive food assistance to meet their basic food and nutrition needs (output A).
 - Output 7.2: Children age 6–59 months, pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) and other nutritionally vulnerable refugees receive specialized nutritious food to prevent and treat malnutrition (outputs A and B).
 - Activity 8: Provide nutrition prevention and treatment packages, including social behaviour change communication, to children age 6–59 months, PLWG, other nutritionally vulnerable populations and/or caretakers among the targeted populations.
 - Output 8.1: Children age 6–59 months, PLWG and other nutritionally vulnerable refugees receive social behaviour change communication (output E).
 - Output 8.2: Food-insecure, crisis-affected people, including refugees in targeted areas – women and youth in particular – benefit from nutrition-sensitive messaging and livelihood, skills-training and income-generation support to facilitate early recovery, self-reliance and access to markets (output A).

Targeting approach and beneficiary analysis

8. Under the preparedness plan, food-insecure civilian Afghan refugees and asylum seekers (regardless of gender, age, or other defining factors) will receive general food assistance from WFP for the first three months upon arrival. Refugee children under 5 years of age and PLWG will receive specialized nutritious food to prevent malnutrition – or treatment for moderate acute malnutrition if required upon screening. WFP will seek new platforms and partnerships to deliver nutrition support to refugees who are vulnerable, older or living with specific needs. Targeted livelihood and skills-building support will contribute to refugee and



host community self-reliance in line with the WFP/UNHCR Joint Strategy for Enhancing Self-Reliance in Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Refugee Situations.

9. In case of a protracted period of displacement, WFP will follow the WFP/UNHCR Joint Guidance for Targeting of Assistance to Meet Basic Needs¹. During the planning process, WFP will conduct assessments to determine the appropriateness of cash transfers beyond the first three months.
10. A gender and diversity inclusion analysis in potential host communities is underway. In case of a refugee influx, WFP will conduct rapid assessments of gender, protection, and accountability to affected populations whose findings will be used to further refine targeting criteria for food assistance.

Transfer modalities

11. In the event of a refugee influx, WFP will provide relief, in-kind food assistance for the first three months after arrival and livelihood and skills-building support. In-kind assistance is deemed to be the best option for the initial period except for the provision of hot meals at transit centres as requested by the Government of Tajikistan. To enable a potential response, WFP will assess transit centre sites and potential camp settings to determine whether CBTs may be a feasible and appropriate modality beyond an initial three-month period. Additionally, WFP will undertake analysis to set the minimum expenditure basket. Discussions are ongoing with UNHCR to establish a common platform for registration and extend WFP contractual arrangements with financial service providers to other United Nations agencies, if required.

Partnerships

12. To enable a potential refugee response, WFP will engage with humanitarian and development actors best suited to support refugee and host community needs in Tajikistan. This will require efficient coordination and sharing of resources, information and tools for efficient and effective delivery of humanitarian assistance.

Country office capacity

13. WFP envisions an augmentation of its emergency response and coordination capacity with temporary surge support in the areas of emergency coordination and preparedness capacity, supply chain, CBTs and protection, gender and accountability to affected populations. WFP will increase its support services capacity including administration and finance. The team will ensure all relevant planning and contingencies are accounted for and will develop a staffing plan for a potential response.

Supply chain

14. WFP created a roster of local wheat flour (non-fortified) suppliers and is exploring options for expedited international commodity deliveries. WFP will store non-food relief items (e.g., shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene, etc.) for UNHCR in its warehouses and ensure readiness to support other humanitarian actors. To enable a potential refugee response WFP will engage with national and international logistics actors to establish a common information-sharing platform for effective communication among organizations during the preparedness activities and onset of emergencies.

¹ Basic needs comprise basic services and assistance in health, nutrition, water, sanitation, and hygiene, food, shelter, energy, education, as well as domestic items and specialized services for persons with specific needs.



Monitoring and evaluation

15. In the event of a refugee response, WFP will expand coverage of outsourced monitoring services, complementing WFP direct monitoring, for process and outcome monitoring. WFP staff will conduct site monitoring and spot checks of the outsourced monitoring service provider. Joint monitoring with humanitarian partners, cooperating partners, and other stakeholders including UNHCR will be undertaken. In the event of an influx, WFP will ensure that monitoring and reporting requirements are met.

Accountability to affected populations, protection risks, restrictions of gender and disabilities

16. Should an influx occur, WFP will assist both refugees and host communities to improve their fragile food security and avoid the fuelling of potential tension through in-kind food assistance, livelihoods skills-building, and nutrition-sensitive interventions.
17. As a preparedness measure, WFP is undertaking a gender and disability inclusion of persons with disabilities (women, girls, men and boys) analysis and a privacy impact assessment. Findings will inform more detailed preparedness planning to consider the needs of different groups and ensure personal data protection and privacy in case of a refugee response. In addition, rapid gender, protection, and accountability to affected populations assessments will be undertaken.
18. WFP is conducting research to establish a community feedback mechanism for its existing operations that could also be extended to a refugee response. Suggestion boxes and help desks may be installed across the camps and transit centres as key tools to collect, manage and respond to feedback. Townhall meetings, facilitated by UNHCR, may be held and project management committees established with gender and age balanced membership to be representative of refugee communities.

Risk management

19. Should there be a refugee response, WFP will continue ensuring strong compliance with internal controls and monitoring those of its partners. WFP will use the UN Partner Portal to conduct due diligence before implementation. WFP will regularly update its risk register to capture changes in the environment and adjust corresponding mitigation measures.

Social and environmental safeguards

20. The potential influx of refugees raises concerns about possible exploitation and depletion of natural resources, environmental degradation and social tensions with host communities. As a preparedness measure, WFP will screen for potential consequences of its activities on the environment and society in accordance with its social and environmental safeguards. Any risks identified will be mitigated or minimized.



Beneficiary analysis

| TABLE 1: DIRECT BENEFICIARIES BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME, ACTIVITY AND MODALITY | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Strategic outcome | Activity and modality | Period | Women (18+ years) | Men (18+ years) | Girls (0-18 years) | Boys (0-18 years) | Total |
| 1 | 1 (in-kind) | Current | 4,500 | 1,500 | 357,000 | 357,000 | 720,000 |
| | | Increase/ (decrease) | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| | | Revised | 4,500 | 1,500 | 357,000 | 357,000 | 720,000 |
| 2 | 2 (in-kind) | Current | | | 12,000 | 12,000 | 24,000 |
| | | Increase/ (decrease) | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| | | Revised | | | 12,000 | 12,000 | 24,000 |
| | 2 (CBT) | Current | 17,300 | | 6,100 | 6,100 | 29,500 |
| | | Increase/ (decrease) | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| | | Revised | 17,300 | | 6,100 | 6,100 | 29,500 |
| 3 | 3 (in-kind) | Current | 15,946 | 15,946 | 7,504 | 7,504 | 46,900 |
| | | Increase/ (decrease) | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| | | Revised | 15,946 | 15,946 | 7,504 | 7,504 | 46,900 |
| | 3 (CBT) | Current | 28,220 | 28,220 | 13,280 | 13,280 | 83,000 |
| | | Increase/ (decrease) | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| | | Revised | 28,220 | 28,220 | 13,280 | 13,280 | 83,000 |
| 4 | 4 (CBT) | Current | | | 41,250 | 41,250 | 82,500 |
| | | Increase/ (decrease) | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| | | Revised | | | 41,250 | 41,250 | 82,500 |
| 6 | 7 (in-kind) | Current | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| | | Increase/ (decrease) | 20,812 | 18,032 | 18,378 | 18,378 | 75,600 |
| | | Revised | 20,812 | 18,032 | 18,378 | 18,378 | 75,600 |
| | 8 (in-kind) | Current | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| | | Increase/ (decrease) | 5,400 | n/a | 4,950 | 3,850 | 14,200 |
| | | Revised | 5,400 | n/a | 4,950 | 3,850 | 14,200 |
| Total (without overlap) | | Current | 38,645 | 35,510 | 450,979 | 450,979 | 976,113 |
| | | Increase/ (decrease) | 20,812 | 18,032 | 18,378 | 18,378 | 75,600 |
| | | Revised | 59,457 | 53,542 | 469,357 | 469,357 | 1,051,713 |



Transfers

| TABLE 2: FOOD RATION (g/person/day) BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME AND ACTIVITY | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Strategic outcome 6 | | | |
| | Activity 7 - refugees | Activity 7 - host populations | Activity 8 - MAM prevention | Activity 8 - MAM treatment |
| Beneficiary type | Tier 1 | Tier 1 | Tier 1 | Tier 1 |
| Modality | Food | Food | Food | Food |
| Cereals | 500 | 400 | n/a | n/a |
| Pulses | 50 | 40 | n/a | n/a |
| Oil | 30 | 15 | n/a | n/a |
| Salt | 5 | 5 | n/a | n/a |
| Super Cereal | n/a | n/a | 200 (PLWG) | 200 (PLWG) |
| Super Cereal Plus | n/a | n/a | 200 (children under 5) | n/a |
| Acha Mum | n/a | n/a | n/a | 100 (children under 5) |
| High energy biscuits | 300 | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Number of feeding days per year | 90 | 90 | 90 | 120 |

| TABLE 3: TOTAL FOOD/CASH-BASED TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS AND VALUE | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | Current budget | | Increase | | Revised budget | |
| | Total (mt) | Total (USD) | Total (mt) | Total (USD) | Total (mt) | Total (USD) |
| Cereals | 42,968 | 22,634,096 | 15,858 | 6,367,355 | 58,826 | 29,001,451 |
| Pulses | 8,430 | 5,356,879 | 1,586 | 807,842 | 10,015 | 6,164,721 |
| Oil and fats | 4,194 | 4,292,102 | 848 | 1,453,768 | 5,042 | 5,745,870 |
| Mixed and blended foods | 432 | 442,013 | 1,287 | 1,711,370 | 1,719 | 2,153,384 |
| Other | 847 | 86,682 | 170 | 12,098 | 1,017 | 98,780 |
| Total (food) | 56,871 | 32,811,772 | 19,749 | 10,352,433 | 76,620 | 43,164,206 |
| Cash-based transfers | | 10,204,000 | | | | 10,204,000 |
| Total (food and cash-based transfer value) | 56,871 | 43,015,772 | 19,749 | 10,352,433 | 76,620 | 53,368,206 |



Cost breakdown

TABLE 4: COST BREAKDOWN OF THE REVISION ONLY (USD)

| | Strategic Result 1/ SDG Target 2.1 | Strategic Result 2/ SDG Target 2.2 | Strategic Result 4/ SDG Target 2.4 | Strategic Result 5/ SDG Target 17.9 | Strategic Result 8/ SDG Target 17.16 | Strategic Result 1/ SDG Target 2.1 | Total |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| | Strategic outcome 1 | Strategic outcome 2 | Strategic outcome 3 | Strategic outcome 4 | Strategic outcome 5 | Strategic outcome 6 | |
| Focus area | Root causes | Root causes | Resilience building | Root causes | Crisis response | Crisis response | |
| Transfers | | | | | | 14,635,800 | 14,635,800 |
| Implementation | | | | | | 1,971,881 | 1,971,881 |
| Adjusted direct support costs | | | | | | | 683,560 |
| Subtotal | | | | | | | 17,291,241 |
| Indirect support costs (6.5 percent) | | | | | | | 1,124,183 |
| Total | | | | | | | 18,415,424 |

TABLE 5: OVERALL CSP COST BREAKDOWN, AFTER REVISION (USD)

| | Strategic Result 1/ SDG Target 2.1 | Strategic Result 2/ SDG Target 2.2 | Strategic Result 4/ SDG Target 2.4 | Strategic Result 5/ SDG Target 17.9 | Strategic Result 8/ SDG Target 17.16 | Strategic Result 1/ SDG Target 2.1 | Total |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| | Strategic outcome 1 | Strategic outcome 2 | Strategic outcome 3 | Strategic outcome 4 | Strategic outcome 5 | Strategic outcome 6 | |
| Focus area | Root causes | Root causes | Resilience building | Root causes | Crisis response | Crisis response | |
| Transfers | 37,643,364 | 4,346,883 | 7,791,713 | 13,393,763 | 510,000 | 14,635,800 | 78,321,522 |
| Implementation | 4,767,631 | 838,042 | 1,640,336 | 1,949,495 | 24,777 | 1,971,881 | 11,192,162 |
| Adjusted direct support costs | 3,714,827 | 453,710 | 829,831 | 1,365,133 | 47,146 | 1,138,220 | 7,548,866 |
| Subtotal | 46,125,821 | 5,638,634 | 10,261,880 | 16,708,391 | 581,923 | 17,745,901 | 97,062,550 |
| Indirect support costs (6.5 percent) | 2,998,178 | 366,511 | 667,022 | 1,086,045 | | 1,153,484 | 6,271,241 |
| Total | 49,123,999 | 6,005,145 | 10,928,903 | 17,794,436 | 581,923 | 18,899,385 | 103,333,791 |

Acronyms

| | |
|-------|---|
| CBT | cash-based transfer |
| PLWG | pregnant and lactating women and girls |
| UNHCR | Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees |

