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 winter. 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).

Despite significant improvements in recent years, malnutrition rates remain high. WFP is contributing to the Government’s progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (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.

In August, WFP Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, Mr. John Aylieff, visited Tajikistan to observe the implementation of WFP projects in the country. WFP Regional Director accompanied by WFP Tajikistan Country Director and Representative, Mr. Adham Musallam, met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Mr. Sirojiddin Muhridhin, the First Deputy Minister of Education and Sciences, H.E. Mr. Jurazoda Jamshed Habibullo, and the Deputy Minister of Health and Social Protection of the Population, Ms. Zulfya Abdusamadzoda, and discussed current collaboration and strengthening the partnership between WFP and the Government of Tajikistan. WFP Regional Director thanked the Government of Tajikistan for the fruitful cooperation and support for the successful implementation of WFP activities in the country.

During his visit, WFP Regional Director also travelled to Rasht and Tojikobod districts to visit school feeding sites, as well as the villages struck by earthquakes in July 2021 where WFP supported the construction and rehabilitation of the affected houses in Tojikobod District.

Climate Change Adaptation

- WFP, in partnership with the Committee of Environmental Protection and other government authorities at national and regional levels, is currently implementing a project on climate change adaptation with the financial support of the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The project includes the establishment of orchards and other agroforestry activities for soil/water conservation and food production covering 400 hectares of land across 11 targeted districts. WFP consulted with the local community to collect feedback on their needs, which highlighted the importance of hard fencing to ensure sustainability of the orchards. WFP started the delivery of fencing materials to the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region and the districts of Rasht Valley to cover at least 300 hectares of orchards.

Operational Updates

- In Numbers
  - 6,596 people assisted in August 2022
  - 2.5 mt of food assistance distributed
  - US$ 19,480 cash-based transfers made
  - US$ 12.2 million six-month net funding requirements (September 2022 – February 2023)

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Photo: WFP Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific Mr. John Aylieff and WFP Tajikistan Country Director and Representative Mr. Adham Musallam visited Rasht District to observe the implementation of school feeding projects. ©WFP/Guljahon Hamroboyzoda
WFP Country Strategy

**Country Strategic Plan (2019 – 2024)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirements (in US$)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>78.3 m</td>
<td>44.8 m</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>2022 Requirements (in US$)</th>
<th>Six-Month (Sep 22-Feb 23) Net Funding Requirements (in US$)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31.9 m</td>
<td>12.2 m</td>
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</table>

**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

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**School Feeding Programme (SFP)**

- WFP signed memorandum of understandings (MoUs) with regional and district local authorities respectively on the implementation of SFP for the academic cycles from 2022 to 2025. WFP will cooperate with local administrations to arrange daily hot meals for over 450,000 primary school children in 2,000 schools in 53 districts and towns across the country. Beyond regular food assistance, the new MoU package includes a pilot of SFP through Funds Transfer modality in 17 schools across the country. In two semi-urban schools in Vahdat Town, where refugee students are enrolled, WFP will implement SFP through FT for the first time.

- A total of 1,852.87 MT of assorted food commodities were delivered to SFP project sites for the new academic year starting from September.

**Supply Chain**

- WFP Tajikistan facilitated the delivery of some 1,703 mt of food commodities under WFP Afghanistan operations to the north-eastern provinces of Afghanistan. As of August, some 2,941,250 MT of food items to be dispatched to Afghanistan via Tajikistan were stored at the WFP warehouse in Dushanbe, and daily operations are ongoing.

**Monitoring**

- WFP issued regular updates on market situation that were widely shared with partners and donors. According to [WFP market monitor](https://marketmonitor.wfp.org) in August, prices of most food commodities remained stable compared to July.

- WFP conducted a mission to the districts of the republican subordination (DRS) to carry out focus group discussions on Privacy Impact Assessment and Community Feedback Mechanisms.

- In August, 128 (98 percent) out of planned 130 school feeding, nutrition and resilience projects, were monitored by WFP in all regions of the country. The number of monitoring visits decreased due to school summer holidays.

- WFP conducted a monitoring training for staff and third-party monitoring service providers. The main objective of the training was to provide a solid foundation on WFP’s monitoring principles and ensure that all monitoring activities are carried out in accordance with WFP guidelines. The training also provided a platform for WFP and third-party monitoring staff to interact closely with each other.

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**Donors**

Germany, Japan, Green Climate Fund, Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and Private Donors (Japan Association for WFP).