



# WFP Tajikistan Country Brief

December 2022

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



Participants in the school cooks contest in Khatlon Region. 2  
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## 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 the Sustainable Development Goal (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: 9.5 million

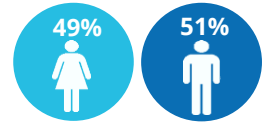
2021/2022 Human Development Index: 122 out of 191 countries

Income Level: Low

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

## In Numbers

451,117 people assisted in December 2022



553.5 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$39,718 cash-based transfers made

## Operational Updates

### School Feeding Programme (SFP)

- WFP completed regional level school cooks competitions in the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBO), Sughd and Khatlon regions and the Districts of the Republican Subordination (DRS). This is the first school cooks competition among 2,000 schools participating in WFP's SFP in 52 towns and districts in Tajikistan. The competition aims to encourage school cooks to improve their knowledge and skills in preparing school meals and to diversify school meals. The competition is held in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Science of Tajikistan, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population, as well as the Social and Industrial Foodservice Institute (SIFI) of the Russian Federation. The finals of the cooking competition will be conducted in Dushanbe in January 2023.
- In December, WFP Tajikistan received US\$4 million contribution from the Russian Federation to support its School Feeding Programme. This will enable WFP to provide 450,000 primary schoolchildren with daily hot meals in 2,000 schools across the country.

### Gender and Protection

- WFP, in partnership with local authorities and the Association of Women and Society, organized an awareness raising event on gender-based violence in Bobojon Ghafurov District. Participants including 100 women and schoolchildren attended sessions on women empowerment, highlighting their role in food security and climate change adaptation. Participants of the event displayed their exhibition dedicated to this day. WFP Country Office also organized various events to sensitize its staff and social media posts to highlight this campaign.



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Assessment and Monitoring

- WFP completed a food security survey on 7,000 households for the analysis of Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) in the country. The IPC analysis aims to classify each district's food security status, providing the Government of Tajikistan and development partners with vital information for planning interventions in the upcoming year. The final IPC workshop is planned for January 2023.
- WFP completed the last round of outcome monitoring of its resilience and nutrition support projects in 2022. Overall, household food security and dietary diversity of people assisted by WFP have improved.

Climate Change Adaptation

- Under the Green Climate Fund (GCF) project, WFP started distributing 40,000 tree seedlings (apple, pear, apricot, cherry and nut) for plantation in 400 hectares of orchards to be established in six districts, which will help reduce erosion in the targeted areas. The GCF project aims to diversify the income for the most food-insecure populations, thereby bolstering their resilience to climate events. It will also help create assets through the engagement of participants in community works in order to improve their food security and nutritional status, and to manage land and natural resources in a sustainable manner.

Humanitarian Operations Support for Afghanistan

- In December, WFP Tajikistan dispatched 2,575 mt of food commodities (wheat flour, vegetable oil and pulses) to WFP Afghanistan. During the reporting period, WFP received 724 mt of food commodities and will be further delivered to Afghanistan.
- The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), managed by WFP, operated 18 international passenger flights connecting Dushanbe to Afghanistan and transported 57 passengers.

Donors

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

*Note: Names of donors are listed alphabetically.*

Country Strategic Plan (2019 – 2022)

| Total Requirements (in USD) | Allocated Contributions (in USD)                             |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>78.3 m</b>               | <b>47.4 m</b>  |
| 2023 Requirements (in USD)  | Six-Month (Jan – Jun 2023) Net Funding Requirements (in USD) |
| <b>25.9 m</b>               | <b>1.8 m</b>   |

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