



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
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LIVES

WFP Kyrgyz Republic Country Brief October 2024



WFP supported National Climate Dialogue, "Path to COP-29: Adaptation to Climate Change" © WFP/Photo Library

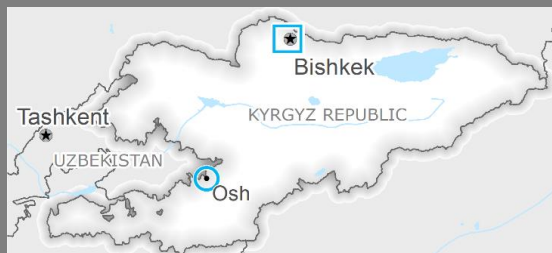
Operational Context

The Kyrgyz Republic is a landlocked and mountainous country, with two-thirds of its 7-million population residing in rural areas. The poverty level in the country remains the highest in the Central Asian region. In 2023, the poverty rate was 30 percent, which is 10 percent higher than the pre-pandemic level (2019), highlighting a setback in progress towards SDG 1 (No Poverty). Moreover, an additional 10 percent of the population were at risk of falling into poverty. With 60 percent of the population being food insecure or only marginally food secure, the progress towards achieving SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) is currently stagnant.

Despite the positive economic development in 2024, the well-being and food security of the Kyrgyz Republic, remains fragile due to its dependence on remittances, food, and fuel imports, as well as climate change and government reforms (IMF, SOFI). The further development of remittances remains uncertain, due to the new migration law in the Russian Federation.

The Kyrgyz Republic, with over 94 percent of its territory covered by high mountains, is classified as 'at high risk' for disaster exposure. In the first half of 2024, floods and mudflows have been occurring more frequently, resulting in USD 4.4 million worth damages, which is already 30 percent higher than the total damage for 2023.

According to the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2023, half (51 percent) of children aged 6-23 months do not receive a minimum acceptable diet, with the majority (75 percent) having unhealthy eating habits. The situation highlights the need for nutrition-sensitive and shock-responsive social protection.



Population: **7 million**

2022 Human Development Index:
117 out of 193 countries

Income Level: **Lower-middle**

2022 Gender Inequality Index:
81 out of 193 countries

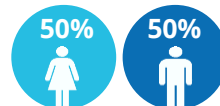
In Numbers

30,535 people assisted

553 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$198,450 of cash assistance distributed

US\$2.16 m - six-month net funding requirements (Nov 2024 – April 2025)



Operational Updates

WFP's Support to Strengthening Climate-Adaptive and Nutrition-Sensitive Social and Civil Protection Systems

Enhancing Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation

- In the lead-up to the upcoming 2024 UN Climate Change Conference (COP-29) in Baku, WFP supported the Government in organizing the National Climate Dialogue, "**Path to COP-29: Adaptation to Climate Change**". The dialogue focused on concrete actions to strengthen national climate policies, mobilize financial resources, and build partnerships to boost resilience of systems and communities across the country. WFP is also supporting the Kyrgyz delegation to COP29 to present jointly developed solutions to tackle shocks and stressors in landlocked mountain context. The event was attended by over 120 representatives from the government, UN, civil society, private sector, and international organizations.
- WFP participated in the 5th scientific and practical conference organised by the Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES), which was dedicated to the month-long celebration of Disaster Risk Reduction Day. WFP presented on integrated approaches to disaster risk management to national stakeholders, development organizations, and funding partners. The presentation highlighted the critical importance of shifting focus from response and recovery to disaster risk prevention, mitigation, and preparedness, including risk analysis and early warning.
- WFP conducted a field visit with representatives from the Government of Switzerland to one of the two gabion production workshops established with their support in 2023. This workshop has enabled the MES to transition from manual to automated gabion production, resulting in a seven-fold increase in production capacity. The produced gabions are used by the MES and local authorities to strengthen riverbanks and mountain slopes, thereby protecting community houses and livelihoods from the risks of mudflows, landslides, and soil erosion.

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)
100.13 m	56.6 m
2024 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (Nov 2024 – April 2025)
12.67 m	2.16 m

SDG target 2.1: Access to food

Strategic outcome 2: People have better nutrition, health and education outcomes

CSP Outcome 1: By 2027, food-insecure and vulnerable populations in the Kyrgyz Republic have enhanced access to diversified employment, income opportunities and human capital development

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide resource transfers, knowledge and technical assistance to the most vulnerable and the Government through more inclusive social protection systems and active labour market programmes

Strategic outcome 1: People are better able to meet their urgent food and nutrition needs

CSP outcome 2: Vulnerable populations in crisis-affected areas in the Kyrgyz Republic can meet their food and nutrition needs, enabling their early recovery during and in the aftermath of crises

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide emergency food assistance to shock-affected vulnerable populations

SDG target 2.4: Sustainable food system

Strategic outcome 3: People have improved and sustainable livelihoods

CSP outcome 3: By 2027, vulnerable communities in the Kyrgyz Republic exposed to the impacts of climate variability and change are better able to cope with shocks and benefit from more resilient food systems

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide resource transfers, knowledge and technical assistance to the most vulnerable and the Government in order to enhance climate change adaptation and disaster risk management capacity at the central and local levels

SDG target 17.9: Capacity building

Strategic outcome 4: National programmes and systems are strengthened

CSP outcome 4: By 2027, schools in the Kyrgyz Republic have strengthened capacity to provide healthy meals to children and create sustainable school feeding solutions for improved health, nutrition, education and food security outcomes

Focus area: Root causes, Nutrition-sensitive

Activities:

- Provide technical assistance to national partners to institutionalize national school-based programmes and improve their sustainability

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Further information: <https://www.wfp.org/countries/kyrgyz-republic>

School Meals for Human Capital Development

WFP supported the Ministry of Education and Science in organizing a three-day workshop to assess the National School Meals Programme using the Systems Approach to Better Education Results (SABER) tool. The event brought together key stakeholders to evaluate the programme's (i) policy and regulatory framework, (ii) financial capacity, (iii) institutional capacity and coordination, (iv) design and implementation, and (v) community participation. This assessment will identify the necessary actions and resources needed to enhance the programme.

- WFP participated in the 10th Life in Kyrgyzstan Conference, where development and academic partners presented critical research studies that inform the country's sustainable development agenda. WFP presented its ongoing evaluations aimed at informing the school meals development strategy, including SABER and a study on how school meal choices contribute to healthy diets and a healthy planet.

Partnerships for Advancing Food Systems

- WFP, in collaboration with the Association of Flour Mills and the Ministry of Water Resources, Agriculture, and the Processing Industry, held a workshop for flour millers. Experts presented research findings on the nutrition situation, including the [National Integrated Micronutrient and Anthropometric Survey](#) and [Fill the Nutrient Gap](#). Participants discussed the consequences of micronutrient deficiencies in children and women, highlighting the critical role of milling companies in flour fortification as an effective mechanism for addressing the nutrient gap in communities.
- To celebrate UN Day and World Food Day, WFP joined the Government, UN, and other partners in organizing activities including thematic fairs. WFP shared information about its projects and demonstrated the agro-meteorological equipment provided to the government to improve climate services and diversify climate-sensitive livelihoods in communities. These events raised public awareness of food security and nutrition issues, as well as the efforts required for agri-food systems to become climate-resilient and inclusive. The Ambassador of Japan visited Japan-funded project sites in Kara-Suu district of Osh province. The project aims to develop human capital, build community infrastructure, and create climate-resilient food systems. The ambassador also met with project participants and partners to discuss critical issues. WFP will continue to strengthen its relationships with Japan and other partners.

Donors

Green Climate Fund, Japan, Kyrgyz Republic, the private sector, Russian Federation, Switzerland, and World Bank/GAFSP