Evaluation of Tajikistan WFP country strategic plan 2023 - 2026

Terms of reference

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World Food Programme

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1. Introduction

1.1. Introduction

1. These terms of reference (ToR) were prepared by the WFP Office of Evaluation based upon an initial document review and consultation with stakeholders.

2. The purpose of these terms of reference is to provide key information to stakeholders about the evaluation, to guide the evaluation team and to specify expectations during the various phases of the evaluation.

3. The ToR are structured as follows: section 2 presents the rationale, objectives, stakeholders and main users of the evaluation; section 3 presents the context and the WFP portfolio; section 4 defines the evaluation scope, criteria and questions; section 5 identifies the evaluation the methodological approach and ethical consideration; and section 6 indicates how the evaluation will be organized.

2. Reasons for the evaluation

2.1. Rationale

4. Country strategic plan evaluations (CSPEs) are mandatory and conducted in line with the WFP Policy on Country Strategic Plans (2016) and the Evaluation Policy (2022). They provide an opportunity for the country office (CO) to benefit from an independent assessment of its programme of work; and generate evidence to help inform the design of the new Country Strategic Plan (CSP).

2.2. Objectives

5. Evaluations serve the dual objectives of accountability and learning. As such, this evaluation will: 1) provide evaluation evidence and learning on WFP performance for country-level strategic decisions, specifically for developing the future engagement of WFP in Tajikistan, scheduled to be presented for Executive Board's approval in November 2026; and 2) provide accountability for results to WFP stakeholders.

2.3. Key stakeholders

6. The evaluation will seek the views of, and be useful to, a broad range of internal and external WFP stakeholders. The key stakeholders of the CSPE are the WFP Tajikistan country office, regional bureau for Asia and the Pacific and headquarters technical divisions. Other key stakeholders include the Executive Board (EB), the Government of Tajikistan, WFP target populations groups, local and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the United Nations country team and the WFP Office of Evaluation (OEV) for synthesis and feeding into other evaluations.

7. The CSPE will seek to engage with affected populations and direct beneficiaries of WFP assistance. Special attention will be given in hearing the voices of women and girls, and potentially marginalised population groups.

8. The Government of Tajikistan is WFP's main partner and has formal partnerships with various ministries and committees. The evaluation will seek to engage with WFP's main governmental partners, such as the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of

Agriculture, the Agency of Land Reclamation and Irrigation, the Agency for Forestry, the Agency on Statistics and the National Agency for Hydrometeorology, the Committee for Environmental Protection, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population, the Committee of Emergency Situation and Civil Defence, the Ministry of Industry and New Technologies and the Agency on Standardization, Metrology, Certification and Trade Inspection, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

9. Other key stakeholders of the evaluation include UN partners, including the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Health Organization, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

10. Other partners include the Aga Khan Health Services, Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Agency for International Cooperation, or GIZ), the World Bank, and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). WFP is an active member of the SUN movement.

11. The evaluation will also consult with key donors of WFP in Tajikistan, such as the Russian Federation, the United States of America, and others.

3. Context and subject of the evaluation

3.1. Context

13. **General Overview:** Tajikistan is a landlocked mountainous country in the heart of Central Asia, bordered by Afghanistan, China, the Kyrgyz Republic and Uzbekistan. With a population of slightly over ten million¹ growing at nearly 2 percent per year² – the highest rate in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region – Tajikistan has a youthful demographic, with 68 percent of its population under the age of 30 and 70 percent living in rural areas.³

14. Over the past decade, Tajikistan has achieved significant economic and social progress. The economy has grown by an average annual rate of 7 percent,⁴ supported by exports of precious metals and remittances, which accounted for 38 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) in 2023.⁵ Gross national income per capita nearly doubled from USD 675 in 2013 to USD 1,189 in 2023.⁶ Poverty rates, passed from 32 percent in 2014 to 26.3 percent in 2019 (the latest available data).⁷ In 2020, the country was upgraded to a lower middle-income country.⁸ Despite significant progress, the country remains vulnerable to external shocks due to high dependency on remittances, limited economic diversification, and high debt distress risk.⁹

15. **Climate Change and Vulnerability:** Tajikistan is highly vulnerable to natural hazards and climate change. The country is prone to earthquakes, floods, drought, avalanches, landslides and mudslides. According to the INFORM 2025 Index for Risk Management, Tajikistan ranks 75th out of 190 countries, indicating a relatively high level of disaster risk.¹⁰ This risk is driven primarily by the country's exposure to drought, and earthquakes, with additional risks enhanced by moderate flood risks and relatively low coping capacity.¹¹ On the ND-GAIN Index, Tajikistan ranks 102nd out of 187 countries.¹² The country faces further challenges as climate change is projected to cause temperatures to rise significantly above the global average—potentially by as much as 5.5°C by the 2090s—intensifying its existing vulnerabilities and disaster risks.¹³

16. **Food and nutrition security:** The Global Hunger Index shows an improvement in the hunger situation. While Tajikistan was categorized as having an "alarming" hunger situation in the 2000, it has been rated as "moderate" since 2016.¹⁴ However, malnutrition remains a significant public health issue. The percentage of children under age 5 who are stunted decreased from 26 percent in 2012 to 14 percent in

¹ Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan (TAJSTAT). <u>Home page</u>. (consulted on 25 November 2024).

² World Bank. Population growth (annual %) – Tajikistan (consulted on 25 November 2024).

³ United Nations Tajikistan. 2023. <u>Common Country Analysis 2023</u>.

⁴ World Bank. <u>GDP growth (annual %) - Tajikistan</u> (consulted on 25 November 2024).

⁵ World Bank. Personal remittances, received (% of GDP) – Tajikistan (consulted on 25 November 2024).

⁶ World Bank. <u>The World Bank in Tajikistan</u> (consulted on 25 November 2024).

⁷ TAJSTAT. Open data portal Agency on statistics. <u>Summary of poverty data, 1999-2019, Percent</u> (consulted on 25 November 2024).

⁸ World Bank. <u>World Bank Group country classifications by income level for FY24 (July 1, 2023- June 30, 2024)</u> (consulted on 25 November 2024).

⁹ World Bank. <u>The World Bank in Tajikistan</u> (consulted on 25 November 2024).

¹⁰ European Commission. DRMKC – INFORM Risk, Results and data (consulted on 25 November 2024).

¹¹ The World Bank. 2021. <u>Climate Risk Country Profile, Tajikistan</u>. (consulted on 25 November 2024).

¹² The <u>ND-GAIN Country Index</u> summarizes a country's vulnerability to climate change and other global challenges in combination with its readiness to improve resilience (consulted on 25 November 2024).

¹³ The World Bank. 2021. <u>Climate Risk Country Profile, Tajikistan</u>.

¹⁴ Global Hunger Index. <u>Global Hinger Index Scores by 2024 GHI Rank</u> (consulted on 25 November 2024).

2023 and the percentage of children who are wasted has also declined, 10 percent in 2012 to 6 percent in 2017 and 2023. 15

17. According to the latest WFP food security assessment, 18 percent of the population, or 2 in 10 households, in Tajikistan are food insecure.¹⁶ The District of Republican Subordination (DRS) and Khatlon regions face the highest levels of food insecurity, with 24 percent of households affected, compared to 12 percent of households in Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO) and 14 percent and 15 percent in Sughs and Dushanbe (Figure 1). Larger cities are generally more food secure than small towns and rural areas, and female-headed households are more likely to be food insecure than male-headed households (21 and 17 percent respectively).¹⁷





Disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of WFP concerning the legal status of any country, territory, are a or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries.

Source: WFP Tajikistan: Food Security Monitoring System Highlights (May 2024)

18. **Gender:** According to the 2023 United Nations common country analysis, while the Constitution guarantees gender equality and non-discrimination, harmful social norms and practices continue to perpetuate gender inequality. In 2024, Tajikistan ranked 112 out of 146 countries in the Global Gender Gap Index, showing particularly low ranking in educational attainment, economic empowerment and opportunity, followed by political empowerment.¹⁸

19. **Education:** Tajikistan's Constitution guarantees free and compulsory general basic education. The net enrolment rate in primary education is high, with 98 percent of children enrolled¹⁹ and nearly equal access for boys and girls.²⁰ However, a gender gap persists in secondary school participation.²¹ As of 2023, the adult literacy rate in Tajikistan is near universal, with 99.7 percent of the adult population being literate.²²

20. Education expenditure in Tajikistan has consistently increased, reaching 5.8 percent of GDP in

 ¹⁵ Statistical Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Tajikistan (MoHSP). 2024. <u>Demographic and Health Survey 2023, Key Indicators Report.</u>
 ¹⁶ WFP Tajikistan. May 2024. <u>Food Security Monitoring System Highlights (May 2024)</u>.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ World Economic Forum. 2024. <u>Global Gender Gap Report 2024</u>. (consulted on 25 November 2024).

¹⁹ World Bank. <u>School enrollment, primary (% net) – Tajikistan</u> (consulted on 25 November 2024).

²⁰ World Bank. <u>School enrollment, primary, female (% net) - Tajikistan</u> and <u>School enrollment, primary, male (% net) –</u> <u>Tajikistan</u> (consulted on 25 November 2024).

²¹ United Nations Tajikistan. 2023. <u>Common Country Analysis 2023</u>.

²² World Bank. Literacy rate, adult total (% of people ages 15 and above) – Tajikistan (consulted on 25 November 2024).

2023,²³ surpassing the regional average of 4.5 percent in Europe and Central Asia.²⁴ This increase in funding reflects the government's commitment to improving the education system. However, challenges remain in the quality of education, and children from vulnerable groups or with special needs face significant barriers to accessing education.²⁵

21. **Migration, Refugees and Internally Displaced People:** Tajikistan hosts the largest number of refugees in Central Asia, primarily originating from neighbouring Afghanistan. As of June 2024, the country was home to 8,259 refugees, 2,122 asylum-seekers, and 3,629 stateless individuals.²⁶

22. **Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** Tajikistan is strongly committed to achieving the SDGs. A voluntary national review conducted in 2017, and Tajikistan's progress towards the SDGs is presented below (Figure 2). Overall the country has achieved 68 percent of SDGs achievements.



Figure 2: Progress under the Sustainable Development Goals in Tajikistan, November 2024

Source : <u>Snapshot from Sustainable Development Report, Country Profiles: Tajikistan</u> (Consulted on 28 November 2024)

 ²³ World Bank. <u>Government expenditure on education, total (% of GDP) – Tajikistan</u> (consulted on 25 November 2024).
 ²⁴ World Bank. <u>Government expenditure on education, total (% of GDP) – Europe and Central Asia</u> (consulted on 25 November 2024).

²⁵ United Nations Tajikistan. 2023. <u>Common Country Analysis 2023</u>.

²⁶ UNHCR. Central Asia – Tajikistan. https://www.unhcr.org/centralasia/en/tajikistan (consulted on 25 November 2024)

3.2. The subject of the evaluation

23. WFP has been present in Tajikistan since 1993, shifting from emergency response during the civil war to development activities, evolving from **direct delivery** to **supporting the Government's implementation**. Since the introduction of the WFP Country Strategic Plan framework, WFP actions in Tajikistan have been framed around three CSPs:

- The <u>Tajikistan Transitional Interim Country Programme (January 2018 June 2019)</u>.
- The Tajikistan Country Strategic Plan (2019-2024).²⁷
- The Tajikistan country strategic plan (2023-2026) the subject of the upcoming evaluation.

24. The CSP (2019-2022) was evaluated in 2022, and the evaluation report was presented to the EB in November 2022. The report provided the following key recommendations for WFP's work in the subsequent CSP (2023 – 2026):

- i. Strengthening the integration of humanitarian assistance and development efforts through country capacity strengthening (CCS).
- ii. Develop and implement a CCS strategy focusing on areas where WFP can add value.
- iii. Support the government's fiscal planning and optimization processes for school feeding and resilience-building initiatives.
- iv. Develop a school feeding transition plan for handover, ensuring a gradual transfer of responsibilities to national authorities and parent-teacher associations.
- v. Continue restructuring WFP's office to enhance the delivery of more integrated and impactful results.
- vi. Strengthen strategic and operational partnerships, while diversifying the donor base.

25. The report also highlighted the appropriateness of WFP's work and its strategic positioning in Tajikistan, particularly its focus on direct support for the delivery of school feeding, nutrition services, and disaster risk response, alongside the incremental integration of country capacity strengthening measures. In line with this, the CSP 2023-2026 builds on the foundations laid by the 2018 – 2019 Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (t-ICSP) and the 2019 – 2024 Country Strategic Plan and continues the strategic shift from direct implementation to strengthening the capacity of national institutions. The CSP aims to support livelihoods, improve agricultural production, strengthen value chains, improve health, education, and nutrition outcomes, and strengthen national institutions and systems. Additionally, it maintains the capacity to provide on-demand logistics and procurement services for the Government and development partners if required. Table 1 below lists the strategic outcomes (SOs), activities and modalities of the current CSP (see Annex III for an overview of SOs and activities for the CSP 2019 – 2024 and the CSP 2023 – 2026).

Strategic Outcomes	Activities	Modalities of intervention
SO 1: By 2026, vulnerable populations have strengthened livelihoods, resilience and adaptive capacities.	Activity 1: Carryout climate adaptation, asset creation and livelihood building.	CBT, CS
CO 2: Div 2026 rural and urban	Activity 2 : Provide nutritionally balanced school meals to targeted schoolchildren.	Food, CS
SO 2: By 2026, rural and urban populations have improved rural and urban food security and nutrition.	Activity 3 : Malnutrition treatment for children aged 6-59 months and strengthen local capacity.	Food, CS
urban loou security and nutrition.	Activity 4: Provide SBCC intervention to improve dietary diversity and prevent malnutrition.	CS
COR Du 2020 aviaia affactad and	Activity 5: Provide SBCC, asset and livelihood creation.	Food, CBT, CS
SO 3: By 2026, crisis-affected and nutritionally-vulnerable populations are better able to meet urgent food	Activity 6: Nutrition treatment for children aged 6-59 months age 6–59 months, PLWG, and other vulnerable people.	Food, CS

Table 1: Tajikistan CSP (2023-2026), overview of strategic outcomes and activities

²⁷ The evaluation timeframe will encompass the period since the data collection cutoff date of the 2022 CSPE. This means that the previous CSP (2019-2024) will also be included within the scope of the current CSPE, allowing an assessment of the design process of the current CSP and the extent to which insights from the previous evaluation were incorporated.

needs, and national capacities are strengthened.	Activity 7: Provide on demand services for stakeholders.	SD
SO 4: By 2026, national food systems	Activity 8: Social protection system support.	Food, CS
are strengthened to accelerate and sustain social protection programmes.	Activity 9: Technical assistance & emergency preparation.	CS

CBT= Cash Based Transfers; CS= Capacity Strengthening; SD = Service Delivery Source: CSP Line of Sight, Country Portfolio Budget

26. The CSP was approved with an original Needs Based Plan (NBP) of USD 91.9 million (Table 2), and was not subject to any budget revision. The largest portion of resources (38 percent) is allocated to SO2, which focuses on school meals and nutrition activities, with the majority of the budget dedicated to school meals. This is followed by SO1 (30 percent), which focuses on climate adaptation and resilience-building, including capacity strengthening for climate analysis.

27. As of October 2024, the NBP is funded at 53.6 percent (Table 2), with the primary funding contributions coming from the Russian Federation and the United States of America. SO1 receives the highest funding (72.2 percent), followed by SO3 (67.5 percent). SO2 and SO4, under the root causes focus area, are the least funded.

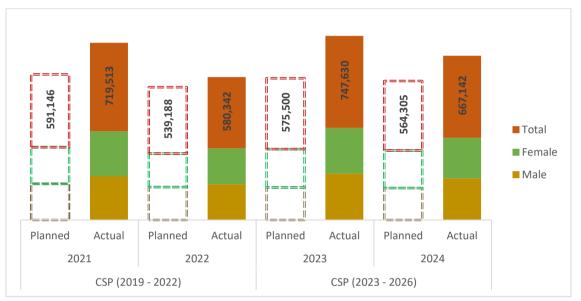
Focus Area	Strategic Outcome	Activity	Original NBP USD	% NBP on total op. costs	Cumulative allocated resources USD	Resourcing level (%)
Resilience	SO 1	Act. 1	3,891,177	30%	17,243,830	72.2%
Resilience	Sub-total SO	1	23,891,177	30%	17,243,830	72.2%
		Act. 2	23,813,106	30%	13,581,242	57.0%
Root	SO 2	Act. 3	4,092,886	5%	360,631	8.8%
causes		Act. 4	2,236,067	3%	446,740	20.0%
	Sub-total SO2		30,142,059	38%	14,388,613	47.7%
	SO 3	Act. 5	8,703,300	11%	6,319,779	72.6%
Crisis		Act. 6	515,057	1%	-	0.0%
response		Act. 7	200,000	0%	37,906	19.0%
	Sub-total SO3		9,418,357	12%	6,357,685	67.5%
	SO 4	Act. 8	14,605,732	18%	3,165,357	21.7%
Root	50 4	Act. 9	2,115,585	3%	258,407	12.2%
causes	Sub-total SO4	4	16,721,316	21%	3,423,763	20.5%
Non-SO Spe	Non-SO Specific				892,564	
Total operational costs		80,172,910	100%	42,306,456	52.8%	
Total direct support costs		6,132,000		4,560,479	74.4%	
Total indirect support costs		5,595,815		2,351,336	42.0%	
Grand total cost		91,900,725		49,218,271	53.6%	

Table 2: CSP Tajikistan (2023-2026) cumulative financial overview

Source: SPA Plus, Tajikistan for NBP; IRM Analytics for allocated resources as of 31 October 2024

28. Figure 3 provides an overview of planned and actual number of beneficiaries from 2021 to 2024, covering the current CSP and part of the preceding one. The annual planned beneficiary numbers remained relatively stable between 2022 – 2024, while the actual number of beneficiaries reached consistently exceeded the planned figures. The highest numbers of beneficiaries were reached in 2021 and 2023, with the majority of beneficiaries reached through school meals activities under both CSPs. As a result, children between 5 and 11 years accounted for the largest share of both planned and actual beneficiaries between 2020 and 2024 (see Annex IV).

29. The ratio of male and female beneficiaries has been broadly equal, with the number of planned female beneficiaries slightly surpassing that of male beneficiaries in 2023 and 2024. During the inception phase, the evaluation team will explore discrepancies between planned and actual beneficiaries by strategic outcome over time, and this analysis will contribute to inform the selection of evaluation methods.





Source: Tajikistan ACR 2021 -2023; 2024 planned - COMET report CM-P013, 2024 actual - COMET report CM-R001b as of Dec 2024, data extracted 24.01.2025

30. Regarding staffing, WFP country office in Tajikistan is located in Dushanbe, with four sub-offices in Bokhtar, Gharm, Khorog, and Khujand. As of November 2024, WFP Tajikistan has 111 employees, with 34 percent women. 93 percent of the employees are national staff and 49 percent are recruited under long-term contracts.²⁸

²⁸ WFP Dashboard - Tajikistan (Consulted on 29 November 2024).

4. Evaluation scope, criteria and questions²⁹

31. The unit of analysis of this evaluation is the country strategic plan, understood as the set of strategic outcomes, outputs, activities and inputs that were included in CSP document approved by WFP Executive Board (EB), as well as any subsequent budget revisions.

32. The evaluation will focus on assessing progress towards the CSP expected outcomes and cross cutting results, including any unintended consequences, positive or negative. In so doing, the evaluation will also analyse the WFP partnership strategy, including WFP strategic positioning particularly as relates to relations with national governments and the international community.

33. The evaluation scope will include all the expected outcomes of the CSP and cross cutting results, including any unintended consequences, positive or negative.

34. The temporal scope of the evaluation should cover the period since the cut-off date of the data collection of the previous **CSPE**, **September 2021**: while the evaluation will focus primarily on the current CSP 2023-2026, the tail-end of the previous CSP will be covered through a focus on strategic shifts/elements of continuity between the two CSPs, results trends, contextual evolutions, and the CSP 2023-2026 design process (including use of evidence).

35. The evaluation will address four main questions common to all WFP CSPEs (Table 3). Evaluation questions and sub-questions will be validated and refined during the inception phase, as relevant and appropriate to the country strategic plan and country context, including as they relate to assessing the response to any unforeseen crisis.

36. The evaluation will adopt standard UNEG and OECD/DAC evaluation criteria, namely: relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, coherence, and sustainability as well as connectedness and coverage as applicable. Moreover, it will give attention to assessing adherence to humanitarian principles, protection issues, Accountability to Affected Population, environmental impact of WFP activities, and to the extent feasible, differential effects on men, women, girls, boys, persons with disabilities, and other relevant socio-economic groups.

37. During the inception phase, the evaluation team in consultation with the Office of Evaluation and the Country Office, will identify a limited number of **key themes of interest**, related to the main thrust of WFP activities, challenges or good practices in the country. These themes could also be related to the key assumptions underpinning the logic of intervention of the country strategic plan. The themes of special interests identified should be described in the inception report and **translated into specific lines of inquiry** under the relevant evaluation questions and sub-questions.

38. At this ToR stage, following discussion with the CO, it was agreed that the CSP evaluation will not focus on the Green Climate Fund (GCF) project activities,³⁰ under SO1, Activity 1. This decision is informed by the understanding that the GCF project activities are already being assessed in an ongoing decentralized evaluation of the GCF for the period 2020 -2024, which is expected to be completed by the summer 2025. ³¹

²⁹ EQ1 Is focused on program design and its further adaptations to ensure internal programme coherence and integration, alignment, relevance, and strategic positioning. EQ2 Is focused on the results: what has changed or not at the outcome level and what are WFP contributions. EQ3 and EQ4 are about inputs (human and financial resources) and WFP processes, mechanisms and systems (the extent to which WFP is well equipped to deliver effectively and efficiently); and these elements should not be discussed under EQ 1 or 2.

³⁰ Development of climate-smart agricultural assets and strengthening the capacity of the National Agency for Hydrometeorology.

³¹ Final Evaluation of "Building climate resilience of vulnerable and food insecure communities through capacity strengthening and livelihood diversification in mountainous regions" of Tajikistan from 2020 to 2024.

The CSP evaluation will, however, assess other implementations under Activity 1, it will also incorporate evidence from the decentralized GCF evaluation to help inform the overall assessment of SO1 in the CSP evaluation.³²

Table 3: Evaluation Questions

EQ1 -	To what extent and in what ways is the CSP evidence based and strategically focused to
	ess the needs of the most vulnerable to food and nutrition insecurity?
1.1	To what extent was the CSP informed by existing evidence, including the evaluation of the previous CSP, on the hunger challenges, the food security and nutrition issues prevailing in the country while also strengthening national institutions and systems to ensure relevance at design stage?
1.2	To what extent is the CSP aligned to Tajikistan's national priorities, including the National Development Strategy for 2030 and the SDGs?
1.3	To what extent is the CSP coherent and aligned with the wider UN and includes appropriate strategic partnerships based on the comparative advantage of WFP in the country?
1.4	To what extent is the CSP (2023 – 2026) design internally coherent and based on a clear theory of change articulating WFP role and contributions in a realistic manner and based on its comparative advantages as defined in the WFP strategic plan?
1.5	To what extent has WFP's strategic positioning remained relevant throughout the implementation of the CSP considering changing context, national capacities and needs?
	What is the extent and quality of WFP's specific contribution to country strategic plan
strat	egic outcomes and the UNSDCF in Tajikistan?
2.1	To what extent did WFP activities and outputs contribute to the expected outcomes of the CSP and to the UN sustainable development cooperation framework for 2023 – 2026, particularly in improving food security and nutrition for vulnerable populations (SO2), enhancing their ability to meet urgent food needs, and strengthening national systems for disaster risk management (SO3), social protection, food systems, and emergency preparedness (SO4)? Were there any unintended outcomes, positive or negative?
2.2	To what extent did WFP contribute to the achievement of cross-cutting aims (protection and AAP; GEWE; nutrition integration; environment) and adhere to humanitarian principles?
2.3	To what extent are the enhancements achieved under the CSP likely to be sustainable, in particular from a financial, social and institutional and environmental perspective?
	To what extent has WFP used its resources efficiently in contributing to country strategic
plan	outputs and strategic outcomes?
3.1	To what extent were the outputs delivered within the intended timeframe?
3.2	To what extent does the depth and breadth of coverage ensure that the most vulnerable to food insecurity benefit from the programme?
3.3	To what extent were WFP's activities cost-efficient in delivery of its assistance?
3.4	To what extent were alternative, more cost-effective measures considered?
	What are the factors that explain WFP performance and the extent to which it has made the
strat	egic shift expected by the country strategic plan?
4.1	To what extent has WFP been able to mobilize adequate, timely, predictable, and flexible resources to finance the CSP?
4.2	To what extent were the monitoring and reporting systems useful to track and demonstrate progress towards expected outcomes and to inform management decisions?
4.3	How did the partnerships and collaboration with other actors influence performance and results?
4.4	To what extent did the CO have appropriate Human Resources capacity to deliver on the CSP?
4.5	What are the other factors that can explain WFP performance and the extent to which it has made the strategic shift expected by the CSP?

³² Homegrown school feeding and supporting smallholder producers' entry into markets.

5. Methodological approach and ethical considerations

5.1. Evaluation approach

39. The 2030 Agenda conveys the global commitment to end poverty, hunger and inequality, emphasizing the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. This calls for a systemic approach to development policies and programme design and implementation, as well as for a systemic perspective in analysing development change. WFP assumed the conceptual perspective of the 2030 Agenda as the overarching framework of its Strategic Plan (2022-2025), with a focus on supporting countries to end hunger (SDG 2).

40. The achievement of any SDG national target and of WFP strategic outcomes is the result of the interaction among multiple variables. In the context of the SDGs, the attribution of net outcomes to any specific organization, including WFP, may be extremely challenging or sometimes impossible. While attribution of results would not be appropriate at the outcome level, it should be pursued at the output and activity level, where WFP is meant to be in control of its own capacity to deliver.

41. The CSPE will use a **theory-based approach** to assess WFP's contribution to outcomes. This will entail the reconstruction of a theory of change (ToC) prior to the inception mission based on desk review, which will be discussed, adjusted and amended in discussions with the country office. The reconstructed ToC will show the intervention logic, i.e. the intended causal pathways from WFP activities to outputs to strategic outcomes, as well as the internal and external assumptions made for the intended change to take place along these pathways.

42. The CSPE will adopt a **mixed methods approach**, whereby data collection and analysis is informed by a feedback loop combining a deductive approach, which starts from predefined analytical categories, with an inductive approach that leaves space for lines of inquiry that had not been identified at the inception stage, including eventually the analysis of unintended outcomes, positive or negative. Data will be collected through a mix of primary and secondary sources with different techniques including desk review, semi-structured or open-ended interviews, surveys, focus groups and direct observation. Systematic data triangulation across different sources and methods should be carried out to validate findings and avoid bias in evaluative judgement.

43. Evaluation firms are encouraged to elaborate in their proposals on the qualitative methods they plan to apply for this evaluation, which may include, but are not limited to:

• Contribution analysis - to assess the extent to which WFP supported interventions have contributed, or are likely to contribute, to the expected outcomes. The evaluation will gather evidence to validate the initial CSP design, test assumptions, assess influencing factors, and explore alternative assumptions for pathways of change.

44. Outcome harvesting – given the CSP aim to strengthen national institutions and systems, and the limitations of WFP's corporate outcome indicators in measuring results in this area, this approach will collect evidence on actual capacity strengthening outcomes, analyse how these changes were achieved, and assess WFP's specific contributions.

OEV welcomes proposals that suggest other methodologies appropriate to the particularities of the operating context.

45. During the inception phase, the evaluation team will be expected to develop a detailed methodological design, including a detailed evaluation matrix, in line with the approach proposed in these terms of reference. The design will be presented in the inception report and informed by a thorough evaluability assessment. The latter should be based on desk review of key programming, monitoring and

reporting documents and on some scoping interviews with the programme managers.

46. The methodology should aim at data disaggregation by sex, age, disability status, nationality or other characteristics as relevant to, and feasible in, specific contexts. Moreover, the selection of informants and site visits should ensure to the extent possible that all voices are heard. In this connection, it will be very important at the inception stage to conduct a stakeholders' mapping and analysis that should be as detailed and comprehensive as possible.

47. The evaluation should be designed and conducted in a gender and inclusion-responsive manner, ensuring that diverse voices are included and heard throughout the evaluation process, and focusing on addressing and analysing the differential effects on men, women, girls, boys, persons with disabilities, and other relevant socio-economic groups.³³

5.2. Preliminary considerations on evaluability and methodological implications

Evaluability is the extent to which an activity or a programme can be evaluated in an independent, credible, and useful fashion. Beyond availability and access to reliable information on WFP performance, it necessitates that there is: (a) reliable information on the intervention context and the situation of targeted population groups before and during its implementation; (b) a clear statement of intended outcomes, i.e. the desired changes that should be observable once implementation is under way or completed; (c) a set of clearly defined and appropriate indicators with which to measure changes; and (d) a defined timeframe by which outputs should be delivered and outcomes should be occurring. It also requires the evaluation to be relevant and timely to feed into important strategic and/or operational decisions. Independence is required to ensure an unbiased and impartial assessment of performance and challenges met, which is needed for accountability but also to base lessons learned as much as possible on what was really achieved (or not achieved).

48. This CSPE will be able to build on several sources of secondary evidence. Annex 2 provides a list of previous CSPE and any evaluations covering the evaluation period. Furthermore, the country office is undertaking a mid-term review of the CSP, which will be an important source for informing the in-depth evaluability assessment that the evaluation team will be expected to perform during the inception phase.

49. During the inception phase, the evaluation team will be expected to perform an in-depth evaluability assessment and critically assess data availability, quality and gaps to inform its choice of evaluation methods. This will include an analysis of the results framework and related indicators to validate the pre-assessment made by the Office of Evaluation.

50. At this stage, a rapid evaluability analysis identified the following evaluability assessment considerations:

- Consistency of measurement and reporting at different level of results (see Annex 1, including information on the previous CSP):
 - The CSP (2023 2026) logframe was revised three times, with the most significant change being the addition of 13 new output indicators, primarily for livelihoods activities.
 - At the outcome level, most livelihood indicators under SO1, as well as nutrition indicators under SO3 present in the logframe were not reported on. However, the remaining indicators have baselines, targets and follow up values.
 - Most of the protection, nutrition and gender cross-cutting indicators are missing either baseline, follow-up or target values.
 - Overall, there is a balanced gender disaggregation across all indicators, but no geographical disaggregation which may be a challenge given possible regional distinctions

³³ In choosing the methods to evaluate the CSP, the evaluation team should refer to the Office of Evaluation's Technical Note for Gender Integration in WFP Evaluations and the Technical Note on Integration of Disability Inclusion in Evaluation.

if the evaluation should decide to look into specific regions.

- \circ ~ In the previous CSP, none of the outcome indicators for SO6 were reported.
- For SO1 under the COVID-19 response, all indicators had values except for baselines, with several other SO1 indicators also missing baselines or targets.

51. Finally, it should also be noted that the evaluation is conducted during the penultimate year of the CSP and this has implications for the completeness of results reporting and attainment of expected outcomes.

52. The evaluation team will review and assess these limitations and devise measures to mitigate them. Any other evaluability challenges identified by the team during the inception phase will be discussed in the inception report together with appropriate mitigation measures where possible.

5.3. Ethical considerations

53. Evaluations must conform to WFP and United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) ethical standards and norms.³⁴ Accordingly, the evaluation firm is responsible for safeguarding and ensuring ethics at all stages of the evaluation cycle in line with the UNEG guiding ethical principles for evaluation (Integrity, Accountability, Respect, Beneficence).³⁵ This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring informed consent, protecting privacy, confidentiality and anonymity of participants, ensuring cultural sensitivity, respecting the autonomy of participants, ensuring fair and inclusive participation of stakeholders (including women and socially excluded groups) and ensuring that the evaluation results do no harm to participants or their communities.

54. The commissioning office will ensure that the team and the evaluation manager will not have been involved in the design, implementation, financial management or monitoring of the Tajikistan CSP, have no vested interest, nor have any other potential or perceived conflicts of interest.³⁶

55. All members of the evaluation team will abide by the <u>2020 UNEG Ethical Guidelines</u> and the <u>2014</u> <u>Guidelines on Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluations</u>. In addition to signing a pledge of ethical conduct in evaluation, the evaluation team will also commit to signing a Confidentiality, Internet and Data Security Statement.³⁷

56. Should the evaluators uncover allegations of wrongdoing and misconduct in the implementation of a programme either by a WFP staff or a partner (including fraud, food diversions, misuse of WFP assets, harassment, sexual harassment, etc), the evaluation team should report those allegations to WFP Office of

³⁴ For further information on how to apply the UNEG norms and standards

^{(&}lt;u>http://www.unevaluation.org/document/detail/1914</u>) in each step of the evaluation, the evaluation team can also consult the Technical Note on Principles, Norms and Standards for evaluations (<u>https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000003179/download/</u>).

³⁵ Beneficence means striving to do good for people and planet while minimizing harms arising from evaluation as an intervention.

³⁶ "Conflicts of interest are typically identified by a lack of independence or a lack of impartiality. These conflicts occur when a primary interest, such as the objectivity of an evaluation, could be influenced by a secondary interest, such as personal considerations or financial gains" (UNEG 2020 Guidelines). There should be no official, professional, personal or financial relationships that might cause, or lead to a perception of bias in terms of what is evaluated, how the evaluation is designed and conducted, and the findings presented. A conflict of interest can also occur when, because of a person's possibilities for future contracts, the evaluator's ability to provide an impartial analysis is compromised. Cases of upstream conflict of interest are those in which consultants could influence the analysis or recommendations so that they are consistent with findings previously stated by themselves. Cases of downstream conflict of interest are those in which evaluator's for consideration in a downstream assignment. The potential for bias increases when an evaluator's work is solely focused on one agency. During the evaluation process, the evaluators are not allowed to have another contract with the evaluand/ unit subject to evaluation. To avoid conflicts of interest, particular care should be taken to ensure that independence and impartiality are maintained.

³⁷ If there are changes in the evaluation team or a sub-contracting for some of the planned evaluation activities, the confidentiality agreement, internet and data security statement, and ethics pledge should also be signed by those additional members.

Inspection and Investigation (OIGI) through WFP hotline (<u>http://www.wfphotline.ethicspoint.com/</u>). At the same time, the team leader should inform the Evaluation Manager and the Director and Deputy Director of Evaluation that there are allegations of wrongdoing and misconduct without breaking confidentiality.

5.4. Quality assurance

57. <u>The WFP evaluation quality assurance system</u> sets out processes with steps for quality assurance and templates for evaluation products based on quality checklists. This process does not interfere with the views or independence of the evaluation team but ensures that the report provides credible evidence and analysis in a clear and convincing way and draws its conclusions and recommendations on that basis. The evaluation team will be required to ensure the quality of data (reliability, consistency and accuracy) throughout the data collection, synthesis, analysis and reporting phases.

58. All evaluation deliverables (i.e., inception report and main evaluation report) must be subject to a thorough quality assurance review by the evaluation company in line with the WFP evaluation quality assurance system prior to submission of the deliverables to OEV. This includes reviewing the response-tocomments matrices and changes made to evaluation deliverables after OEV and stakeholder comments, and editorial review of deliverables. However, quality assurance goes beyond reviewing deliverables and should include up-front guidance to the evaluation team. The person(s) responsible for quality assurance should therefore attend OEV briefing sessions and key meetings with the evaluation team. It is essential that the evaluation company foresees sufficient resources and time for this quality assurance.

59. The Office of Evaluation will conduct its own quality assurance of all evaluation deliverables at two levels: the evaluation manager (QA1) and a senior evaluation officer (QA2). The evaluation manager, with QA2 support as needed, will provide guidance to the evaluation team on any aspects of the evaluation (substantive areas to be covered, methodology, interaction with stakeholders, organizational matters etc.) as required. They will both review all evaluation deliverables. The Deputy Director of OEV must approve all evaluation deliverables.

60. All final evaluation reports will be subjected to a post hoc quality assessment (PHQA) by an independent entity through a process that is managed by the Office of Evaluation. The overall PHQA results will be published on the WFP website alongside the final evaluation report.

6. Organization of the evaluation

6.1. Phases and deliverables

61. The evaluation is structured in five phases summarized in Table 4 below. The evaluation team will be involved in phases 2 to 5 of the CSPE. The country office and regional bureau have been consulted on the timeframe to ensure good alignment with the country office planning and decision-making so that the evidence generated by the CSPE can be used effectively.

Main phases	Timeline	Tasks and deliverables				
1.Preparation	Mid-January 2025 February - March	Final ToR Summary ToR Evaluation team and/or firm selection & contract				
	Mid-April	Inception mission to Dushanbe (team leader & EM) Meetings with selected colleagues from RBB Briefing with OEV Deputy Director and QA2				
	April - May	Inception report drafting				
2. Inception		OEV comments on IR draft 0 (RA+EM+QA2)				
	May - Early June	Revised IR draft 1				
	way - carry june	OEV comments on IR draft 1 (DDoE)				
		Revised draft 2				
		Final IR approved (DDoE)				
3. Data collection	end June – mid July	In-country data collection mission and exit debriefing (evaluation team – 3 weeks)				
	Early August	Analysis workshop (evaluation team & EM and RA) - one day and half in person (location to be decided depending on the location of the team members) otherwise two half days virtual + Preliminary findings debrief (3 weeks after the exit debrief)				
	Aug – Sep	Report drafting				
4. Reporting		OEV comments on draft 0 (RA+EM+QA2)				
4. Reporting	October	Revised draft 1				
		OEV comments on draft 1 (DDoE)				
		Revised draft 2				
	November	Stakeholders workshop in Dushanbe				
	November - December	Final evaluation report approved by DDoE				
	December 2025 January 2026	Summary evaluation report drafted by the EM Summary evaluation report validated by Team Leader Summary evaluation report QA 2				
5. Dissemination	Feb 2026	Summary evaluation report approved by DoE				
	Mid-2026 Late 2026	Management response and Executive Board preparation Wider dissemination				

Table 4: Summary timeline – key evaluation milestones

6.2. Evaluation team composition

62. To the extent possible, the evaluation will be conducted by a gender, geographically, culturally and linguistically diverse and balanced evaluation team of up to **four members, team leader (senior evaluator)**, a senior thematic expert, a research analyst (medium level expert) and one national expert with relevant expertise.

63. The selected evaluation firm is responsible for proposing a mix of evaluators with multi-lingual language skills (English, Tajik, and Russian) who can effectively cover the areas of evaluation. The team leader should have excellent synthesis and evaluation reporting writing skills in English. The evaluation team will have strong methodological competencies in designing feasible data capture and analysis as well as synthesis and reporting skills. The evaluation team should have good knowledge of gender, equity, wider inclusion issues. In addition, the team members should have experience in humanitarian and development contexts and knowledge of the WFP food and technical assistance modalities. Solid understanding of the Tajikistan context is also required within the team.

Table 5: Summary of evaluation team and areas of expertise required

Areas of CSPE	Expertise required
CSFE	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS
Team Leadership	 Team Management, coordination, planning, ability to resolve problems and deliver on time; Strong presentation skills and excellent writing skills; Experience in leading complex, strategic evaluations at country level, such as evaluations of country strategic plans, organisational positioning and nexus dynamics, including with UN organizations; Experience with applying theory based mixed methods approaches; Strong ability to navigate political sensitivities, and strong understanding of the complexity of the relation between UN and member states; Experience in middle income context, with specialization in at least one of the following areas: food assistance and nutrition, capacity strengthening, social protection, school feeding, and resilience building. DESIRABLE Previous experience leading or conducting WFP evaluation(s); In-depth knowledge of Tajikistan or similar contexts, including familiarity with key players within and outside the UN system.
Thematic expertise	 Food security Institutional Capacity Strengthening; School Meals and Nutrition; Resilience building; Social protection. Other technical expertise needed in the team: Service provision and supply chain management; Gender equality, equity, and inclusion; Humanitarian Principles and Protection; Accountability to Affected Populations.
National Evaluators	 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS Expertise in one or more of the technical areas above; In-depth knowledge of the political, economic and social context in Tajikistan; Proven experience in conducting data collection, including interviews and focus group discussions, for evaluations or research studies. DESIRABLE Experience working with the UN; Fluency in English.
Research Assistance	 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS Solid understanding of evaluation and research and knowledge of food assistance; Proven ability to support evaluation teams with qualitative and quantitative survey design, data cleaning and data analysis, including proficiency in Excel; Strong writing and presentation skills, with experience in proofreading, and note taking. DESIRABLE Previous experience with WFP evaluation(s).
Quality assurance and editorial expertise	 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS Experience in writing high-quality, complex evaluation deliverables, including detailed reports and summaries; Experience in quality assurance of written technical reports and briefs DESIRABLE Familiarity with WFP programmes and modalities of intervention. Previous experience with WFP evaluation(s).

6.3. Roles and responsibilities

64. This evaluation is managed by the WFP Office of Evaluation. Arianna Spacca has been appointed as evaluation manager (EM) and Aboh Anyangwe has been appointed as OEV research analyst. Both have not worked on issues associated with the subject of evaluation. The EM, assisted by the OEV RA, is responsible for drafting the ToR; selecting and contracting the evaluation team; preparing and managing the budget; setting up the Internal Reference Group; organizing the team briefing and the in-country stakeholder workshop; supporting the preparation of the field mission; drafting the summary evaluation report; conducting the first-level quality assurance of the evaluation products and soliciting WFP stakeholders' feedback on draft products. The evaluation manager will be the main interlocutor between the team, represented by the team leader, and WFP counterparts to ensure a smooth implementation process. Alexandra Chambel, Senior Evaluation Officer, will provide second-level quality assurance. The Deputy Director of Evaluation will clear the final evaluation products and present the CSPE to the WFP Executive Board for consideration in November 2026.

65. An internal reference group composed of selected WFP stakeholders at country office, regional bureau and headquarters levels will be expected to review and comment on draft evaluation reports; provide feedback during evaluation briefings; be available for interviews with the evaluation team.

66. The country office will facilitate the evaluation team's contacts with stakeholders in Tajikistan; provide logistic support during the fieldwork and organize an in-country stakeholder workshop. Charles Inwani, Tajikistan CO Deputy Country Director, has been nominated the WFP country office focal point and will assist in communicating with the evaluation manager and CSPE team, and setting up meetings and coordinating field visits. To ensure the independence of the evaluation, WFP staff will not be part of the evaluation team or participate in meetings where their presence could bias the responses of the stakeholders.

6.4. Security considerations

67. As an "independent supplier" of evaluation services to WFP, the contracted firm will be responsible for ensuring the security of the evaluation team, and for making adequate arrangements for evacuation for medical or insecurity reasons. However, to avoid any security incidents, the evaluation manager will ensure that the WFP country office registers the team members with the security officer on arrival in country and arranges a security briefing for them to gain an understanding of the security situation on the ground. The evaluation team must observe applicable United Nations Department of Safety and Security rules including taking security training (BSAFE & SSAFE) and attending in-country briefings.

6.5. Communication

It is important that evaluation reports are accessible to a wide audience, as foreseen in the Evaluation Policy, to ensure the credibility of WFP – through transparent reporting – and the usefulness of evaluations. The dissemination strategy will be based on the stakeholder analysis and consider whom to disseminate to, whom to involve and it will also identify the users of the evaluation, duty bearers, implementers, beneficiaries, including gender perspectives.

68. The summary evaluation report along with the management response to the evaluation recommendations will be presented to the WFP Executive Board in November 2026. The final evaluation report will be posted on the public WFP website and the Office of Evaluation will ensure dissemination of lessons through the annual evaluation report.

6.6. The proposal

69. Technical and financial offers for this evaluation should consider in-country inception and data collection missions, and travel of the evaluation team leader for the stakeholder workshop to be held in the country's capital.

- 70. Considerations for the preparation of the financial offer:
 - In-country inception mission budget for 5 working days plus travel days for the Team Leader only
 - Evaluation data collection mission and exit debriefing budget for 3 weeks plus travel days for the evaluation team (Team Leader, senior thematic expert(s), and national expert).
 - Should translators/ interpreters be required for data collection including virtual interviews, the evaluation firm will make arrangements and include the cost in the budget proposal.
 - Analysis workshop Evaluation Team + OEV Evaluation Manager and RA budget for one day and half in person (location to be decided depending on the location of the team members) otherwise two half days (virtual) should be budgeted.
 - Stakeholder workshop budget for 4 working days plus travel days for the Team Leader only.
 - While the Summary Evaluation Report is drafted by the Evaluation Manager, financial proposals should budget time for the Team Leader to review and validate the final draft before it is submitted to the Executive Board.
 - Proposals should build in sufficient flexibility to deal with possible risks restrictions or flare-up of civil unrest / conflict.
 - All evaluation products will be produced in English.³⁸

71. Following the technical and financial assessment, an improved offer could be requested by WFP to the preferred bid(s) to better respond to the TOR requirements. WFP may conduct reference checks and interviews with selected team members.

³⁸ Note: Some products such as survey; interview guides may have to be translated in the local language.

Annex I. Overview of performance data availability.

Consistency of measurement and reporting at different level of results:

- In the previous CSP, none of the outcome indicators for SO6 were reported.
- For SO1 under the COVID-19 response, all indicators had values except for baselines, with several other SO1 indicators also missing baselines or targets.
- **The CSP (2023 2026)** logframe was revised three times, with the most significant change being the addition of 13 new output indicators, primarily for livelihoods activities.
- At the outcome level, most livelihood indicators under SO1, as well as nutrition indicators under SO3, were not reported. However, the remaining indicators have baselines, targets and follow up values.
- Most of the protection, nutrition and gender cross-cutting indicators are missing either baseline, follow-up or target values.
- Overall, there is a balanced gender disaggregation across all indicators, but no geographical disaggregation which may be a challenge given possible regional distinctions if the evaluation should decide to look into specific regions.

Logframe version		Outcome indicators	Cross-cutting indicators	Output indicators
v 3.0 (Sep 2021)	Total nr. of indicators	32	10	60
	New indicators	0	0	0
v 4.0 (March 2022)	Discontinued indicators	0	0	0
(101010112022)	Total nr. of indicators	32	10	60
Total number of indicators that were included across all logframe versions		32	10	60

Table 1: Country Strategic Plan Tajikistan (2019-2022) logframe analysis

Source: COMET report CM-L010, data extracted 7.11.2024

Table 2: Country Strategic Plan Tajikistan (2023-2026) logframe analysis

Logframe version		Outcome indicators	Cross-cutting indicators	Output indicators
v 1.0 (March 2022)	Total nr. of indicators	49	17	95
	New indicators	0	0	13
v 2.0 (May 2023)	Discontinued indicators	0	0	0
(1110) 2023)	Total nr. of indicators	49	17	108
	New indicators	3	3	2
v 3.0 (Jan 2024)	Discontinued indicators	2	2	6
(Juli 2024)	Total nr. of indicators	50	18	104
Total number of indicators that were included across all logframe versions		50	15	90

Source: COMET report CM-L010, data extracted 7.11.2024

		ACR 2021	ACR 2022	ACR 2023				
	Outcome indicators							
	Total number of indicators in applicable logframe	32	32	50				
Baselines	Nr. of indicators with any baselines reported	10	15	27				
Year-end targets	Nr. of indicators with any year-end targets reported	19	18	27				
CSP-end targets	Nr. of indicators with any CSP-end targets reported	16	18	28				
Follow-up	Nr. of indicators with any follow-up values reported	19	18	27				
	Cross-cutting indicators							
	Total number of indicators in applicable logframe	10	10	18				
Baselines	Nr. of indicators with any baselines reported	9	9	14				
Year-end targets	Nr. of indicators with any year-end targets reported	9	8	8				
CSP-end targets	Nr. of indicators with any CSP-end targets reported	9	8	14				
Follow-up	Nr. of indicators with any follow-up values reported	9	8	6				
	Output indicators							
	Total number of indicators in applicable logframe	60	60	104				
Targets	Nr. of indicators with any targets reported	37	33	41				
Actual values	Nr. of indicators with any actual values reported	37	33	35				

Table 3: Analysis of results reporting in Tajikistan annual country reports (2021-2023)

Source: Tajikistan annual country reports 2021, 2022, 2023

Annex II. List of relevant previous evaluations and audits

Title	Year	Туре
Summary of Evaluation Evidence: Home-Grown School Feeding	2024	Summary of Evaluation Evidence
Summary of Evaluation Evidence: Systemic matters in CSP design and implementation in Asia and the Pacific	2024	Summary of Evaluation Evidence
Evaluation of WFP's Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Policies	2023	Policy Evaluation
Evaluation of Tajikistan WFP Country Strategic Plan 2019-2024	2022	Country Strategic Plan Evaluation

Annex III. Tajikistan CSP Comparison

Tajikistan CSP 2019 - 2022

Tajikistan CSP 2023 - 2026

By 2026, vulnerable populations have strengthened livelihoods, resilience and adaptive capacities.

Activity 1: Carryout climate adaptation, asset creation and livelihood building. (CBT, CS)

SQ2: By 2026, rural and urban populations have improved rural and urban food security and nutrition.

Activity 2: Provide nutritionally balanced school meals to targeted schoolchildren. (food, CS)

Activity 3: Malnutrition treatment for children aged 6-59 months and strengthen local capacity. (food, CS)

Activity 4: Provide SBCC intervention to improve dietary diversity and prevent malnutrition. (CS)

SO3: By 2026, crisis-affected and nutritionally-vulnerable populations are better able to meet urgent food needs, and national capacities are strengthened.

Activity 5: Provide SBCC, asset and livelihood creation to refugees and food-insecure populations affected by crises or natural disasters. (Food, CBT, CS)

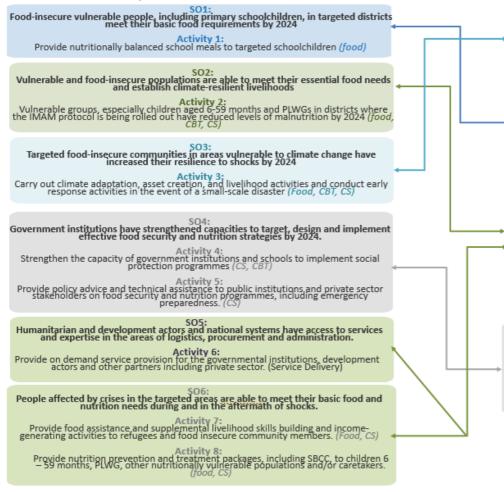
Activity 6: Nutrition treatment for children aged 6-59 months, PLWG, and other vulnerable people. (Food, CS)

Activity 7: Provide on demand services for governmental institutions, development actors and other partners. (Service Delivery)

SO4: By 2026, national food systems are strengthened to accelerate and sustain social protection programmes.

Strengthen the capacity of government and private sector institutions to implement social protection. (Food, CS)

Activity 9: Provide policy advice and technical assistance to public institutions, including emergency preparedness. (CS)



Source: CSP Line of Sight, Country Portfolio Budget, Tajikistan CSP (2019-2022) budget revision 3.

OEV/2025/014

1. The original NBP for the previous CSP was USD 82 million and has been subject to three budget revisions. The third budget revision, in July 2022, reduced the total cost to 78 million USD (Table 1, below). Under the CSP (2019 – 2022), SOs under the root causes focus area accounted for the largest share of the NBP budget (65 percent) followed by resilience focus area (SO3).

2. Table 1 below also presents the financial overview of the allocated resources over the CSP periods. Resilience has been the most funded focus area, while Crisis response activities were least funded.

Focus Area	Strategic Outcome	Activity	Original NBP		BP, budget evision 02	NBP, budget revision 03		Cumulative allocated resources	Resourcing level (%)
			USD		USD		USD	USD	
Root causes	SO 1	Act. 1	42,410,994	Ð	42,410,994	↓	31,325,982	16,954,932	<mark>54</mark> .1%
	Sub-total SO1		42,410,994		42,410,994		31,325,982	16,954,932	54.1%
	SO 2	Act. 2	2,978,328	Ŷ	5,184,924	•	3,358,270	1,297,113	38.6%
	Sub-total SO2		2,978,328		5,184,924		3,358,270	1,297,113	3 8.6%
Resilience	SO 3	Act. 3	9,432,049	Ð	9,432,049	4	6,634,359	8,111,011	122.3%
	Sub-total SO3		9,432,049		9,432,049		6,634,359	8,111,011	122.3%
Deet	SO 4	Act. 4	13,713,331	Ð	13,713,331	•	8,709,800	6,340,573	72.8%
Root causes		Act. 5	1,629,927	Ð	1,629,927	•	1,082,652	624,787	57 .7%
	Sub-total SO4		15,343,258		15,343,258		9,792,452	6,965,360	71.1%
Crisis response	SO 5	Act. 6	-	$\hat{\mathbf{r}}$	534,777	•	345,082	53,578	15.5%
	Sub-total SO5		-		534,777		345,082	53,578	15.5%
	SO 6	Act. 7	-	Ŷ	13,701,965	⇒	13,701,965	-	0.0%
		Act. 8	-	Ŷ	2,905,716	₽	2,905,716	694,397	23.9%
	Sub-total SO6		-		16,607,681		16,607,681	694,397	4.2%
Non SO Specific							1,902,988		
Total operational costs 70,16		70,164,629	Ŷ	89,513,684	•	68,063,826	35,979,379	52.9%	
Total direct support costs 6,86		6,865,307	Ŷ	7,548,866	•	5,494,724	4,701,411	85.6%	
Total indirect support costs 5,006,		5,006,946	Ŷ	6,271,241	•	4,757,064	2,147,914	4 <mark>5.2%</mark>	
Grand total cost 82,0		82,036,882	Ŷ	103,333,791	♦	78,315,614	42,828,704	54.7%	

Table 1: CSP Tajikistan (2019-2022) cumulative financial overview

Source: SPA Plus Tajikistan for NBP, Tajikistan Annual Country Report (2022) for allocated resources.

Annex IV. Additional information on beneficiaries

1. The majority of beneficiaries were reached through school meals activities under both CSPs. As a result, children between 5 and 11 years accounted for the largest share of both planned and actual beneficiaries between 2020 and 2024.

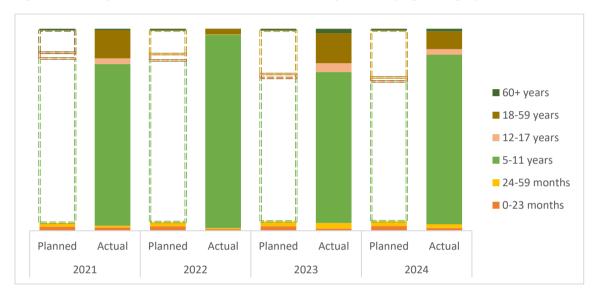


Figure 1: CSP Tajikistan (2021-2024) beneficiaries, composition by age category

Source: Tajikistan ACR 2021 -2023; 2024 planned - COMET report CM-P013, 2024 actual - COMET report CM-R001b as of Dec 2024, data extracted 24.01.2025

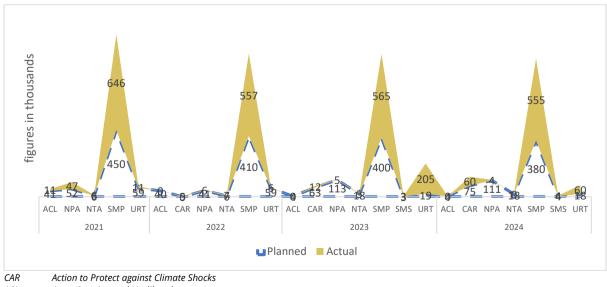


Figure 2: CSP Tajikistan (2021-2024) beneficiaries, composition by programme area

ACL Asset Creation and Livelihood

NPA Malnutrition Prevention

- NTA SMP Malnutrition Treatment
- School Based Programmes
- Smallholder Agricultural Market Support Unconditional Resource Transfers SMS
- URT

Source: Tajikistan ACR 2021 - 2023; 2024 planned COMET report CM-P015, 2024 actual COMET report CM-R023 as of Dec 2024, data extracted 24.01.2025

Annex V Acronyms and abbreviations

AAP	Accountability to Affected Populations
ACR	WFP Annual Country Report
BR	CSP Budget Revision
BSAFE	WFP online security awareness training
CBT	Cash Based Transfers
CCS	Country Capacity Strengthening
СО	WFP Country Office
COMET	WFP Country Office Tool for Managing (programme operations) Effectively
CSP	Country Strategic Plan
CSPE	Country Strategic Plan Evaluation
DRMKC	Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre
DRS	District of Republican Subordination
EB	WFP Executive Board
EM	Evaluation Manager
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
MoHSP	Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Tajikistan
ND-GAIN	Notre Dame-Global Adaptation Index
GBAO	Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEEW	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
GHI	Global Hunger Index
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
HQ	WFP Headquarters

IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IRM	Integrated Road Map
NBP	Needs Based Plan
OECD /DAC	The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee
OEV	WFP Office of Evaluation
OIGI	WFP Office of Inspection and Investigation
PHQA	Post hoc quality assessment
PLWG	Pregnant and Lactating Women and Girls
QA	Quality Assurance
RBB	WFP Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific
SBCC	Social & Behaviour Change Communication
SPA-Plus	System for Programme Approval PLUS
SSAFE	Safe and Secure Approaches to Field Environments
SUN	Scaling Up Nutrition
TAJSTAT	Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan
UN- Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNEG	United Nations Evaluation Group
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund

Office of Evaluation

World Food Programme

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