



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Kyrgyz Republic Country Brief

## February 2025



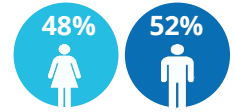
Training for farmers on conservation agriculture, including no-till practices. Jalal-Abad province © WFP/Photo Library

## In Numbers

19,438 people assisted

42.2 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$113,550 of cash assistance distributed



## Operational Updates

### Improving Healthy Diets for Preschool Children

- At the request of the Ministry of Education and Science, WFP initiated efforts to improve the quality, efficiency, and safety of meals for preschool children. WFP assessed 12 preschool institutions, pre-selected by the Ministry, to pilot enhanced meals. The assessment identified key needs in capacity building (such as training for cooks, menu development, safety standards, procurement procedures, etc.) and infrastructure upgrades (including water supply, sewerage, electricity, ventilation, heating, storage facilities, and kitchen equipment). The findings will inform WFP and its partners in preparing kindergartens to offer diverse and nutritious meals to children.

### Engaging Communities into Programme Design

- To promote community-driven programming and strengthen local ownership of WFP initiatives, WFP conducted community level consultations (CLCs) in 31 villages nationwide, engaging over 500 women and men through focus group discussions. The CLCs brought together a diverse range of local stakeholders, including community members, participants, women, youth, activists, persons with disabilities, and marginalized groups. These consultations provided valuable insights into community concerns, needs, and priorities, ensuring that WFP's support is better aligned with the green, sustainable, and resilient development of these communities. This approach aligns with the WFP Global Community Engagement Strategy for Accountability to Affected Populations.

### Enhancing Farmer Resilience with Conservation Agriculture Techniques

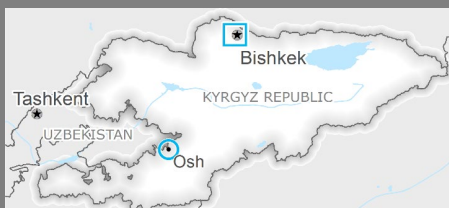
- WFP provided 120 mt of organic fertilizers to its local partners who support WFP in promoting climate-smart agricultural techniques among farmers in the Yssyk-Kul, Jalal-Abad, Osh, and Naryn provinces. The partners will establish and manage sustainable revolving funds to help smallholder farmers access essential agricultural inputs, including organic fertilizers and winter and spring wheat seeds necessary for implementing minimum tillage technology on rainfed lands. This project aims to improve wheat production and increase the incomes and resilience of smallholder farmers.

## Operational Context

The Kyrgyz Republic is a landlocked mountainous country, with two-thirds of its 7-million population residing in rural areas. The poverty level in the country remains among the highest in Central Asia. In 2023, the poverty rate was 30 percent, which is 10 percent higher than the pre-pandemic level (2019). 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. Half of children aged 6-23 months do not receive a minimum acceptable diet, and most have unhealthy eating habits.

Despite the significant economic development in 2024, the food security of the country remains fragile due to its dependence on remittances, food and fuel imports, geopolitical risks, as well as challenging global funding context, government reforms and climate shocks. The country, with over 94 percent of its territory covered by high mountains, is classified as 'at high risk' for disaster exposure. In 2024, floods and mudflows have been occurring more frequently due to heavy rains, resulting in a 354 percent increase in annual damages.

WFP supports the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic in strengthening climate-adaptive and nutrition-sensitive social protection, disaster risk management, and climate change adaptation. WFP focuses on expanding the enhanced school meals programme, complementing national Active Labour Market Programmes, providing technical support for the Government's poverty graduation programme, piloting climate insurance and anticipatory actions, and strengthening vulnerability analysis and climate forecasting to inform civil and social protection measures., among other initiatives



Population: 7.2 million

2022 Human Development Index:  
117 out of 193 countries

Income Level: Lower-middle

2022 Gender Inequality Index:  
81 out of 193 countries

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

**Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)**

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)
<b>110.2 m</b>	<b>60.65 m</b>
2025 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (Feb –July 2025)
<b>13.6 m</b>	<b>0 m</b>

**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

**17.16 Enhance Global Partnerships**

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

**CSP outcome 5:** Communities vulnerable to and affected by shocks and stressors benefit from improved services and enhanced capacities of Government and humanitarian and development actors contributing to an increasingly adaptive national social and civil protection system.

**Focus area:** Resilience building

**Activities:**

- Provide on-demand services including payment services, food and non-food procurement, and logistics supply chain capacity to the government and humanitarian and development partners

- WFP and WHO co-chaired a national consultation on Priority Area I: Quality Social Services (Education, Health, Social Protection) and Decent Work under the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), co-chaired and hosted by the Ministry of Labour, Social Security, and Migration. The event brought together government bodies, civil society organizations, UN agencies, and other stakeholders. Participants reviewed the achievements from 2024 and set targets for 2025, offering valuable insights that will be incorporated into the UNSDCF Work Plan to ensure alignment with national priorities.

- WFP, alongside other development partners, participated in a roundtable meeting organized by the Special Representative of the President for the implementation of the Five-Year Action Plan for the Development of the Mountain Region. WFP highlighted the need for support to the Mountain Agenda, focusing on mountain ecosystems, sustainable livelihoods, and risk-informed decision-making. In 2025, WFP will enhance efforts in reforestation, riverbank and land erosion protection, water infrastructure improvement, pastoralist support, and livelihoods, while prioritizing hazard forecasting and disaster monitoring.

- WFP held a meeting with other UN agencies to discuss on improving the nutrition situation in the country. Participants recognized the strong link between agriculture and nutrition, emphasizing the need to advance food system transformation for smallholders. The discussion also highlighted the need to improve dietary diversity through better policies and measures that facilitate access to nutritious food. Schools were identified as key platforms for promoting healthy diets, with recommendations to enhance school meals and school gardens, strengthen linkage with local farmers, and develop nutrition guidelines. Additionally, participants stressed the importance of continuous monitoring of food security and nutrition situation.

- WFP hosted its annual planning meeting with the Department of Social Protection, which plays a key role in facilitating WFP's operations, including the inland transportation of food from two central warehouses to project sites nationwide. The Ministry of Education and Science, responsible for ensuring that schools across the country receive wheat flour and kitchen equipment provided by WFP, also participated. The meeting reviewed lessons learned from 2024, identifying opportunities to optimize transport planning and digitize transport waybills. Plans for 2025 were discussed, including measures to prevent potential disruptions in the delivery of food to beneficiaries.

**Donors**

China, Global Agriculture and Food Security Program, Green Climate Fund, Japan, Kyrgyz Republic, Private Sector, Russian Federation, and Switzerland