



World Food Programme

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# WFP Kyrgyz Republic Country Brief March 2025



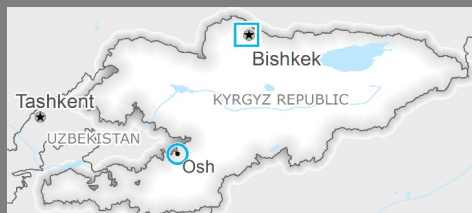
Women's self-help group planning the activities of their WFP-supported greenhouse in the Batken province.  
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## Operational Context

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**

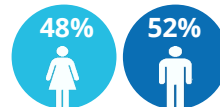
2022 Gender Inequality Index:  
**81 out of 193 countries**

## In Numbers

**15,660 people** assisted

**15.4 mt** of food assistance distributed

**US\$13,050** of cash assistance distributed



## Operational Updates

### Enhancing National Social Protection Programmes

- WFP, in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour, Social Security, and Migration, will strengthen the knowledge and skills of over 4,000 low-income individuals enrolled in the Government's "Social Contract" poverty graduation programme in 2025. These participants, who previously received a KGS 100,000 (US\$1,147) cash grant from the Government to start small businesses, will benefit from training in business management, marketing, finance, and IT, along with food assistance. This support aims to enhance the sustainability of their businesses and improve their chances of successfully graduating from poverty.
- WFP met with key government stakeholders in Alaudun, Ozgon, Osh and Sokuluk districts to launch a pilot for an enhanced Paid Public Works (PPW). Building on WFP's experience in community asset creation and livelihood skills development, the enhanced PPWs aim to go beyond traditional financial support by actively promoting employment opportunities. A key feature of the enhanced PPWs is the potential inclusion of other organizations as co-employers, alongside local authorities, which will enable low-income individuals to engage in productive work and achieve sustainable livelihoods. The Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Migration will use the results of the pilot to refine and scale up the PPWs, thereby expanding access to sustainable employment and economic stability for low-income populations.

### Bolstering the Government's Commitment to Disaster Risk Reduction

- WFP will implement community development projects to support the Government's construction and restoration over 350 infrastructure assets for disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation. These community assets—including irrigation canals, soil conservation structures, mudflow protection dams, and gabion-strengthened riverbanks—will help climate risk-prone communities protect, improve and adapt their livelihoods to climate variability. This will also reinforce the implementation of a recently signed [presidential decree](#) requiring local authorities to allocate at least 3 percent of their annual budget to disaster risk reduction.

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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>60.7 m</b>
2025 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (Apr–Sep 2025)
<b>13.8 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.

- As part of a project to enhance the incomes and resilience of low-income farmers in the Batken province, WFP supported the establishment of 12 greenhouses equipped with drip irrigation and other technologies. More than 300 women from self-help groups will be engaged in operating these greenhouses. To support their success, women received training in drip irrigation, advanced farming techniques, and post-harvest handling. This initiative not only creates employment opportunities for women but also supports the development of sustainable agricultural value chains.

- As part of a project to promote conservation agriculture, WFP collaborated with nine seed production farms to multiply high-quality wheat seeds, providing smallholder farmers with a sustainable and reliable supply for future cultivation. In the 2025–2026 season, more than 600 farmers will benefit from these improved seeds, which will be cultivated using minimum tillage technology to enhance soil health, conserve moisture, and promote sustainable farming practices.

### Advancing Partnerships for Sustainable Development

- WFP, alongside national and international partners, contributed to the second Voluntary National Review on the Kyrgyz Republic's progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The review assessed progress, challenges, and areas for further action to implement the UN's 2030 Agenda and the National Development Programme 2026, which integrates SDGs. WFP's activities support these priorities, focusing on human capital development, sustainable growth, and vulnerable populations. WFP also participated in several public discussions of the recently presented draft National Development Programme 2030.
- WFP and the Ministry of Education and Science met to discuss the sustainability of the school meals programme and its contribution to the national development agenda. They highlighted WFP's role in improving meal quality, promoting nutrition education, training school cooks, and strengthening food systems by enhancing linkages between farmers and schools.
- WFP presented the findings of its annual Food Security Outcome Monitoring study, revealing the positive impact of WFP's activities on the food security of targeted households, with fewer relying on negative coping strategies such as cutting expenses on education and health, selling assets, or seeking humanitarian assistance. Over 83 percent of households reported improved production, reduced hardships, better access to services, and other benefits from the community assets created.

### Donors

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