



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
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WFP Kyrgyz Republic Country Brief

July 2025



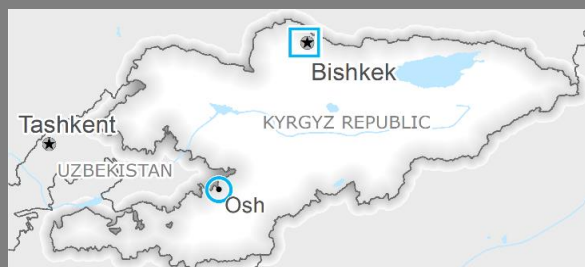
As part of a pilot initiative to strengthen national disaster relief capacities, 300 ready-to-eat food kits were distributed.
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Operational Context

The Kyrgyz Republic is a landlocked mountainous country, with two-thirds of its 7.2-million population residing in rural areas. The poverty rate in the country remains the highest in Central Asia, reaching 26 percent in 2024. Around two-thirds (61 percent) of the population are food insecure or only marginally food secure, with 75 percent of households resorting to negative coping strategies (such as using savings, taking on debt, or reducing spending on education and healthcare) to meet their basic needs. Malnutrition remains a major public health issue, affecting 44 percent of the population. Among children under five, 21 percent are anaemic and 14 percent are stunted.

Despite significant economic developments, the food security of the country remains fragile due to its dependence on migrants' remittances, high prices of food and fuel imports, geopolitical risks and climate shocks. The country, with 94 percent of its territory covered by high mountains, is classified as 'at high risk' for disaster exposure. Mudflows and floods are the most frequent natural disasters in the country, accounting for around 40 percent of all emergency situations.

WFP supports the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic in strengthening national social protection system, disaster risk and climate adaptation measures, and school meals programme. WFP enhances the Government's policy implementation capacities by supporting active labour market programmes, the poverty graduation programme, climate insurance, early warning systems, and vulnerability analysis. WFP also promotes the use of schools as platforms to improve nutrition and connect smallholder farmers to local markets.



Population: **7.2 million**

2023 Human Development Index:
117 out of 193 countries

Income Level: **Lower-middle**

2023 Gender Inequality Index:
83 out of 193 countries

In Numbers

18,205 people assisted

811.1 metric tons of food assistance distributed

US\$27,900 of cash-based transfers provided

US\$0.368m - six-month net funding requirements
(August 2025 – January 2026)

48%



52%



Operational Updates

Enhancing National Capacity for Emergency Preparedness and Response

- With support from the Government of Switzerland, WFP and the Ministry of Emergency Situations piloted an innovative food assistance approach to strengthen national disaster preparedness and response capacities. As part of the pilot, 300 ready-to-eat food kits, each designed to sustain one person for up to ten days, were pre-positioned in the Ministry's warehouses and later distributed to socially vulnerable groups. The kits are intended to help maintain food security among emergency-affected populations in remote and hard-to-reach areas, where standard food deliveries may be delayed or disrupted. WFP supported an assessment of the kits' quality, nutritional adequacy, and distribution efficiency. The findings will inform the planned pre-positioning of up to 7,000 kits to ensure timely and reliable food assistance during emergencies, particularly in mountainous and isolated regions.
- WFP supported the Ministry in renovating two warehouses to create standardized conditions for the proper storage, handling, and management of emergency food stocks. Additionally, WFP assisted in developing strategic plans to enhance food storage systems and streamline procedures for procurement, transportation, and distribution. This support will help ensure that food supplies remain fresh, safe, and readily available during emergencies, thereby strengthening the country's overall disaster response capacity.
- As part of the Green Climate Fund project, WFP and the Ministry conducted specialized training for people with disabilities and their families on emergency preparedness and response. Participants learned about various climate-induced and man-made disasters, their impacts on communities, and essential protection and safety measures. This knowledge, combined with additional support to diversify climate-sensitive livelihoods, aims to help them respond more effectively to climate-related risks, while strengthening resilience and maintaining food security during crises.

Contact info: WFP.Bishkek@wfp.org

WFP Representative Country Director: Kojiro Nakai

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

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)
110.2 million	60.87 million
2025 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (Aug 2025 – Jan 2026)
24.3 million	0.368 million

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

Coordinating with Partners on Climate Adaptation

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- WFP held the 6th National Steering Committee meeting to review progress on two key climate initiatives: strengthening community capacities for disaster risk reduction and enhancing climate services and climate-resilient livelihoods. The meeting brought together line ministries, government agencies, UN organizations, and civil society partners to share results, identify challenges, and gather feedback, shaping the 2025 action plan. The overarching goal of these initiatives is to build climate-resilient communities, while protecting food systems from climate risks to ensure national food security.

Improving National School Meals Programme

- WFP is supporting the Ministry of Education in developing an Information System to automate key processes of the school meals programme. This includes menu planning, procurement, food storage, quality control, meal organization, financial accounting, and supplier payments. The system aims to enhance the quality and efficiency of school meal management, improve transparency, and increase satisfaction among all stakeholders, including schoolchildren, their parents and education authorities. Building on this collaboration, the Ministry has requested WFP's support to integrate the school meals module into Kundoluk, the national education platform that currently tracks student attendance and school-related data across the country.
- WFP conducted an engineering assessment of canteen facilities in over 70 educational institutions in preparation for the rollout of improved menus scheduled for September 2026. The assessment identified key areas for improvement, including capacity strengthening such as training for cooks, menu development, application of safety standards, and procurement procedures. It also highlighted the need for critical infrastructure upgrades, including improvements to water supply, sewerage systems, electricity, storage, and kitchen equipment. These findings will guide WFP and its partners in assisting schools and kindergartens in providing more diverse, nutritious, and safely prepared meals for children.
- WFP completed its annual assessment of the school meals programme in WFP-supported schools, gathering feedback from schools, parents, and key national stakeholders. The findings confirmed the programme's continued relevance and the high quality of school meals in meeting children's needs. Majority of parents expressed satisfaction, with two-thirds noting improvements since the previous year. Parents also reported positive impacts on children's health and an increased awareness of nutrition. However, around 20 percent of schools highlighted challenges with food supply, which will help inform future programme improvements.

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