



World Food Programme

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WFP Kyrgyz Republic Country Brief

August 2025



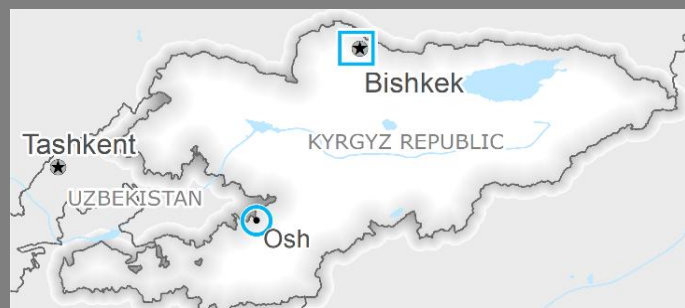
Japanese Ambassador and WFP Representative and Country Director visited joint project sites in Jalal-Abad province. © WFP/Photo Library

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% in 2024. A total of 61% of the population are food insecure or only marginally food secure, with 75% 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% of the population. Among children under five, 21% are anaemic and 14% 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% of all emergency situations.

WFP supports the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic in strengthening national systems on social protection, school meals and disaster risk management. WFP also enhances the Government's capacities of policy implementation by supporting joint programmes on active labour market, poverty graduation and joint projects including climate insurance, early warning, 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

36,727 people assisted

1,261.7 metric tons of food assistance distributed

US\$ 203,700 of cash-based transfers distributed

US\$ 0.38 million - six-month net funding requirements (September 2025 – February 2026)

49%



51%



Operational Updates

Enhancing Farmers' Livelihoods and Resilience

- WFP, in partnership with the Ministry of Water Resources, Agriculture and Processing Industry, held a seminar in Osh city to share best practices in adopting zero-tillage technology to improve wheat production across the country. The event gathered government stakeholders, civil society, and farmers who successfully adopted the technology, achieving higher yields despite drought conditions. Participants discussed results and challenges, highlighting the benefits of no-tillage practices in preserving soil fertility, preventing land degradation, and enhancing food security, incomes, and climate resilience for smallholder farmers. The newly developed No-Till Training Module was also presented. Under the Japan-funded project, over 400 farmers have adopted zero-tillage practices across 1,200 hectares of rainfed land.
- The Japanese Ambassador and WFP Country Director conducted a field visit to Jalal-Abad province to review progress on their joint project. The delegation visited newly constructed community infrastructure, including mudflow protection riverbanks and a drinking water system. They also met with the Social Contract participants who received WFP-supported training to launch small businesses, such as bakeries. The visit also included discussions with implementing partners and farmers who have adopted climate-smart no-tillage technology to boost yields and incomes. The visit offered a good opportunity to discuss challenges and showcase the project's impact on resilience and food security in Jalal-Abad.

Supporting Government's Social Protection Measures

- Aligned with the "leave no one behind" principle, WFP has supported the Ministry of Labor, Social Security and Migration in providing food assistance to individuals with limited productive capacities. In 2025, WFP plans to deliver food to 2,000 persons with disabilities to help address nutritional deficiencies. This initiative reinforces the Government's commitment to disability inclusion and contributes to expanding integrated social protection for people with diverse needs and vulnerabilities, including those lacking coverage through the national system.

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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\$)
110.2 million	60.9 million
2025 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (Sep 2025 –Feb 2026)
13.9 million	0.38 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 government and humanitarian and development partners.

Collaborative Planning for Sustainable Development

- WFP is working closely with line ministries to support the development of the Action Plan for implementing the newly endorsed National Development Programme 2030, ensuring its activities align with national priorities. The Plan will showcase our joint efforts to strengthen the national social protection system and registries, enhance disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation, and expand the school meals programme to improve nutrition and resilient food systems. WFP will continue to drive forward its key initiatives that strengthen national and local government capacities, support community-led actions, and promote inclusive, sustainable development at all levels.

Evidence-based Analysis for Food Security

- In partnership with the Ministry of Water Resources, Agriculture and Processing Industry, WFP continues to release monthly Price Monitoring Bulletins that provide up-to-date information on market trends for food commodities, fertilizers, and fuel, along with climate forecasts essential for agricultural planning. These bulletins are designed to help partners adjust programmes and policies in response to changing conditions. Available via WFP's online [platforms](#), the August edition highlights findings from a recent publication indicating that over 30 percent of the population cannot afford a healthy diet. This alarming figure underscores the urgent need for inclusive and sustainable reforms to the national food system.

Improving School Meals for Healthy Diets

- In preparation for the rollout of optimized hot meals for the 2025/26 school year, WFP conducted training for cooks from 34 schools and 12 kindergartens. The sessions focused on enhancing practical skills in cooking techniques, food safety, hygiene standards, and nutritional requirements. The training was held at the Republican Competency Centre in Bishkek, established in 2022 with WFP's support, as a national hub for strengthening capacities in school meal programme implementation. Additionally, WFP will provide on-the-job coaching for these cooks throughout the 2025/26 academic year. The enhanced capacities of cooks can help ensure that primary and preschool children receive diverse and nutrient-rich meals in a hygienic environment, contributing to the reduction of micronutrient deficiencies among children across the country.
- Additionally, the Republican Competency Centre trained 30 students from Chui Boarding School in culinary and baking techniques. Through hands-on training, the students strengthened their practical skills and improved their job readiness, preparing them for future careers in the food and nutrition sectors.

Donors: China, Green Climate Fund, Japan, Kyrgyz Republic, Private Sector, Russian Federation, Switzerland, and the GAFSP/World Bank