



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Tajikistan Country Brief

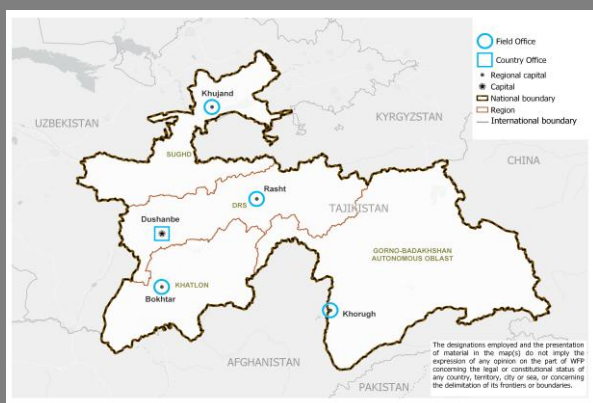
September 2025



Operational Context

Tajikistan is a landlocked, mountainous country and its population of 10.27 million people is growing at a rate of nearly 2 percent per year – the highest rate in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Half the population is under the age of 25, and a quarter lives in urban areas (Statistical Agency under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, 2020). The percentage of children under the age of five with stunting (low height-for-age) decreased from 26 percent in 2012 to 14 percent in 2023, while the percentage of children with wasting (low weight-for-age) decreased from 10 percent in 2012 to 6 percent in 2017 and 2023 (Tajikistan Demographic and Health Survey, 2023). WFP is contributing to the Government's progress on Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger, by providing access to appropriate nutritional support and healthcare, promoting school feeding, building resilience to the impacts of climate change, and ensuring preparedness for recurring natural disasters.

WFP has been present in Tajikistan since 1993. WFP currently operates under the Country Strategic Plan (2023–2026) launched in January 2023.



Population: 10 million

2022 Human Development Index: 122 out of 191

Income Level: Low

Chronic malnutrition: 18% of children between 0-59 months

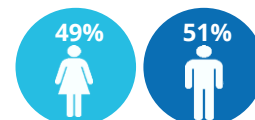
Numbers

230.3 mt of food was distributed

176,688 people were assisted

USD 6.7 million net-funding requirements (October 2025 – March 2026)

USD 8,400 cash transfers made



Operational Updates

- The Government of Tajikistan WFP, and the Government of the Republic of Korea completed the reconstruction of two schools, which were damaged by an earthquake this year in Rasht and Tojikobod districts. A ceremony to inaugurate the schools was attended by local authority representatives, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to the Republic of Tajikistan Jeon Sung Sik and WFP Representative and Country Director in Tajikistan Adham Musallam. The reconstruction of school No. 56 in Rasht District and school No. 33 in Tojikobod District was made possible through financial support from the Government of the Republic of Korea and WFP. The two schools will serve around 180 children. As part of the initiative, new kitchens and canteens were also built to support school feeding activities. The schools were reconstructed within WFP's emergency response and school feeding programs.
- A delegation from WFP and the Ministry of Education and Science of Tajikistan participated in the Second Global Summit of the School Meals Coalition held in Fortaleza, Brazil. The summit, hosted under the patronage of President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, brought together representatives from over 70 countries and 60 international organizations. Tajikistan, a member of the Coalition since 2023, joined strategic discussions aimed at enhancing school feeding programs globally. The Coalition has grown from 46 to 111 member countries since 2021, with 466 million children now benefiting from school meals—an increase of 80 million. The Tajik delegation engaged in high-level meetings with counterparts from Armenia, Finland, Brazil, Lebanon, Germany, Rwanda, Cambodia, and Japan. These interactions facilitated knowledge exchange on nutrition, education, and innovative approaches to school feeding. Tajikistan shared its best practices and strategic programs,

Representative/Country Director Adham Musallam
Contact info: Nasrullo Ramazonov (nasrullo.ramazonov@wfp.org)
 Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/tajikistan

Photo: Opening ceremony of school No.56 in Rasht District. ©WFP/Guljahan Hamroboyzoda

Country Strategic Plan (2023 – 2026)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month (Oct 25 – Mar 26) Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
95.3 m	74.9 m	6.4 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: By 2026, food-insecure and vulnerable populations in urban and rural areas have strengthened livelihoods, resilience and adaptive capacities through improved climate-resilient and nutrition-sensitive agri-food value chains.

Focus area: *Resilience building*

- Activities:**
- Carry out climate adaptation, asset creation, market access support and livelihoods building activities through nutrition-sensitive and ecological approaches aimed at fostering resilience to shocks and stressors and increasing smallholder farmer production and income.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: By 2026, rural and urban populations in targeted areas have improved food security and nutrition for inclusive human development.

Focus area: *Root causes*

- Activities:**
- Provide nutritionally-balanced school meals to targeted schoolchildren.
 - Treat moderate acute malnutrition in children aged 6–59 months and strengthen local capacity to manage nutrition programmes.
 - Provide social behaviour change communication interventions to targeted groups to improve dietary diversity and prevent malnutrition.

Strategic Result 3: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome 3: By 2026, crisis-affected and nutritionally vulnerable populations are better able to meet urgent food needs, and national systems and subnational capacities are strengthened to address cumulative impacts of disasters and crises and enable affected communities to build back better.

Focus area: *Crisis response*

- Activities:**
- Provide food assistance, nutrition-focused social behaviour change communication, post-crisis reconstruction and livelihoods building activities to refugees and food-insecure populations affected by crises or natural disasters.

Strategic Outcome 4: Government institutions are strengthened to accelerate and sustain results contributing to inclusive social protection programmes and strengthened national and subnational food systems by 2026 in Tajikistan.

Focus area: *Root causes*

- Activities:**
- Strengthen the capacity of government and private sector institutions to implement social protection through nationalized school feeding, nutrition programmes and local fortification that enhance diets and reduce acute and other forms of malnutrition.

contributing to mutual learning and collaboration. Key takeaways for Tajikistan include strengthening partnerships with local farms and civil society, enhancing Parent-Teacher (PTA) engagement and transitioning the School Feeding Unit into a financially autonomous center. The delegation also emphasized the importance of introducing nutritional standards and mobilizing additional funding. This mission laid the groundwork for scaling up school feeding initiatives in Tajikistan, aligned with SDGs and global best practices.

- WFP, in collaboration with the Social and Industrial Food Services Institute (SIFI), the Ministry of Education and Science of Tajikistan, and the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population of Tajikistan, successfully concluded the national "Best School Cook – 2025" contest. The event brought together culinary talents from across the country to highlight the critical role of nutritious and appealing school meals. Distinguished guests from the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Tajikistan, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population of Tajikistan, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population of Tajikistan, and the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Tajikistan participated in the awarding ceremony. This year's contest introduced significant innovations, featuring separate categories for urban and rural schools and establishing the symbolic "Golden Spoon" award. This legacy trophy will be passed on to future winners, creating a new tradition of culinary excellence.
- Under the framework of the SDG High Impact Target Fund, WFP supported the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population of Tajikistan in organizing a roundtable to review progress on the implementation of the National Multisectoral Action Plan for Nutrition (MAPN) 2021–2025. The roundtable served as a pivotal platform for assessing the implementation of MAPN, bringing together key stakeholders from various sectors to reflect on achievements, identify challenges, and share lessons learned. The insights and recommendations generated during the roundtable will directly inform the development of the new Multisectoral Action Plan for Nutrition 2026–2030. This upcoming plan will build on the achievements and lessons of the current MAPN, integrating evidence-based strategies and innovative approaches to accelerate progress toward improved nutritional outcomes for all, especially vulnerable populations.

Donors

Joint SDG Fund, Government of Ireland, Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), Russian Federation, USA, and private donors (Japan Association for WFP)