



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Tajikistan Country Brief

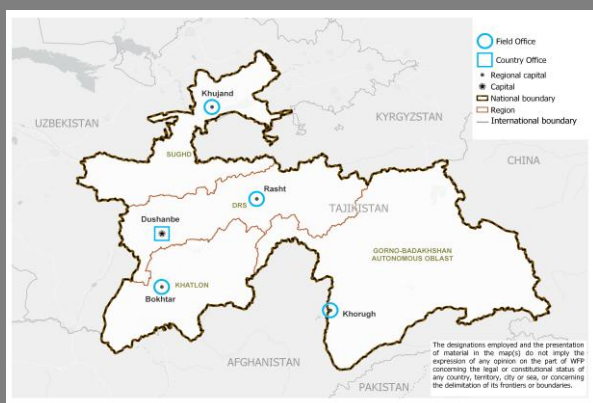
October 2025



Operational Context

Tajikistan is a landlocked, mountainous country and its population of 10.3 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 impact 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

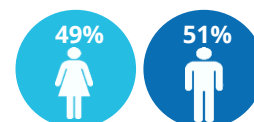
Numbers

846.2 mt of food was distributed

402,220 people were assisted

USD 6.7 million net-funding requirements (November 2025 – April 2026)

USD 9,900 cash transfers made



Operational Updates

- WFP and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan signed a Technical Assistance Agreement to jointly implement key activities under the project titled: “Engaging Youth Smallholder Farmers through Agri-Tech for Improved Food Security and Value Chains,” supported by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA). The agreement marks a significant milestone in Tajikistan’s efforts to modernize its agricultural sector through digital innovation, youth engagement, and inclusive partnerships. It aligns with the Government’s strategy for agricultural digitization (2025–2027), which prioritizes enhanced knowledge sharing, innovation, and value chain connectivity. The Ministry of agriculture of Tajikistan will co-chair the project’s Steering Committee and support the Technical Working Group on Digital Agriculture. Under the agreement, about 10,000 youths aged between 15-35 will benefit directly from training.
- Dushanbe hosted the first “Eat. Move. Grow” Child Festival, a family-oriented event focused on promoting healthy eating and active lifestyles for children aged 6 to 11 and their families. Organized by WFP alongside its technical partner, the Social and Industrial Foodservice Institute (SIFI), the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Republic of Tajikistan, and supported by the Dushanbe City Authority, the festival served as a pilot initiative to encourage sustainable health habits. The event brought together children, parents, educators, government officials, civil society organisations, and private sector partners, creating a platform for health education through engaging experiences. The festival included various thematic zones designed to involve participants in educational and entertaining activities.

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Photo: Signing Ceremony of the Technical Assistance Agreement between WFP and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan. ©WFP/Guljahon Hamrobozoda

Country Strategic Plan (2023 – 2026)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month (Nov 25 – Apr 26) Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
95.3 m	74.9 m	6.7 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.

- As part of the SDG High Impact Target Fund, a side event titled "Improving Nutrition by Leveraging Resources for Nutrition-Sensitive Food System Interventions in Tajikistan" took place during the International Investment Forum in Dushanbe. WFP actively participated in this event, presenting on wheat flour fortification under the theme of Transforming Agri-Food Systems for Sustainability and Resilience. WFP's presentation was aligned with the event's goal of promoting evidence-based, nutrition-sensitive investments aimed at strengthening the food system and enhancing public health outcomes. The presentation emphasized WFP's efforts in improving the nutritional quality of staple foods through fortification, illustrating successful models and lessons from Tajikistan and other regions. By showcasing how wheat flour fortification can be effectively scaled through strategic partnerships and integrated into national policies, WFP aims to promote multi-sectoral collaboration and resource mobilization. This contribution supported the broader objective of the event, which was to stimulate sustainable, inclusive, and nutrition-sensitive interventions that are economically viable and effective in tackling malnutrition and food insecurity in Tajikistan.

- A total of 16 training sessions on food processing were conducted in Istaravshan town, as well as in the Ayni and Shahrison districts, involving over 320 participants, including 120 women. The purpose of the trainings was to improve the knowledge and skills of farmers regarding effective harvesting, processing, and storage of fruits and vegetables at the household level. The sessions were delivered in an interactive format, addressing both traditional and modern techniques for drying and preserving agricultural products. Participants showed a strong interest in applying the skills acquired during the trainings at home and sharing them with others. These trainings were part of WFP Tajikistan's Food Security and Safety Net Activity, funded by the U.S. Government.



"Eat. Move. Grow" Child Festival in Dushanbe supported by WFP

Donors

Joint SDG Fund, Government of Ireland, Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), Latter-day Saints Charities (private sector), Republic of Korea (MoFA), Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, USA, and private donors (Japan Association for WFP)